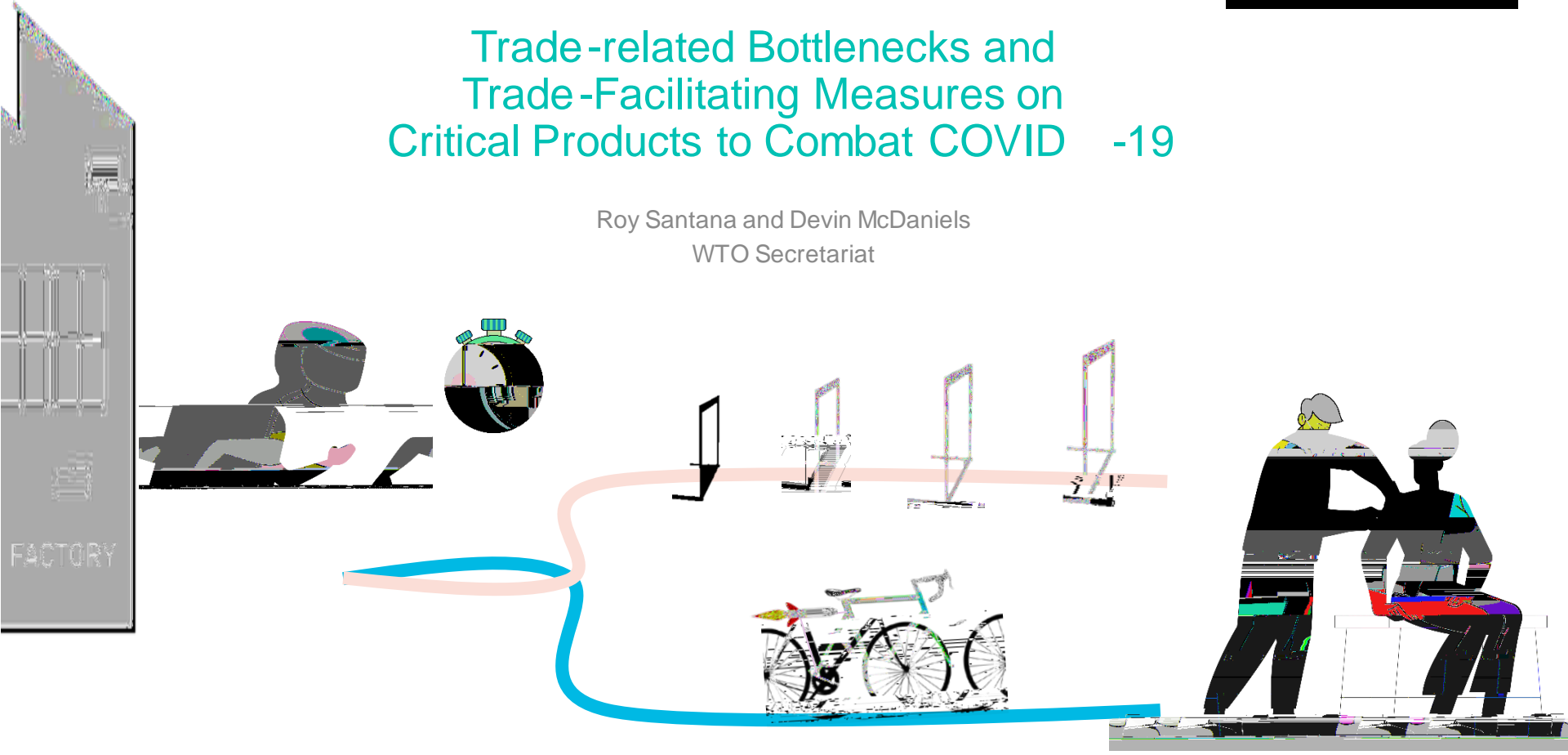


Geneva, Switzerland  
12 October 2021



# Trade-related Bottlenecks and Trade-Facilitating Measures on Critical Products to Combat COVID -19

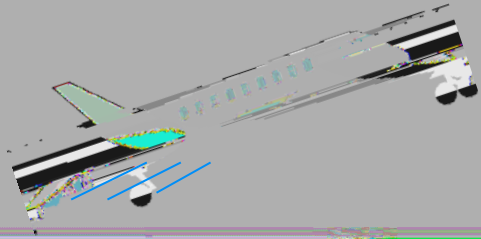
Roy Santana and Devin McDaniels  
WTO Secretariat





# Cross border movement

Exporting country



Export authorizations & licenses

SLOW TRACK

Can also affect:

- Exports to “fill & finish” manufacturing sites
- Non-commercial samples for quality testing
- Reagents and equipment used for clinical trials

FAST TRACK



Standard export and transit procedures can take time (“business as usual” can be slow)

Green Channel



Simplification / waiving of export procedures, e.g. requirements, licenses, certificates

Export prohibitions



# Regulatory approval

## Registration and Authorization, Release

SLOW TRACK

Rely on WHO EUL or approval by another NRA; share regulatory documentation between NRAs

Different requirements for application and authorization

FAST TRACK

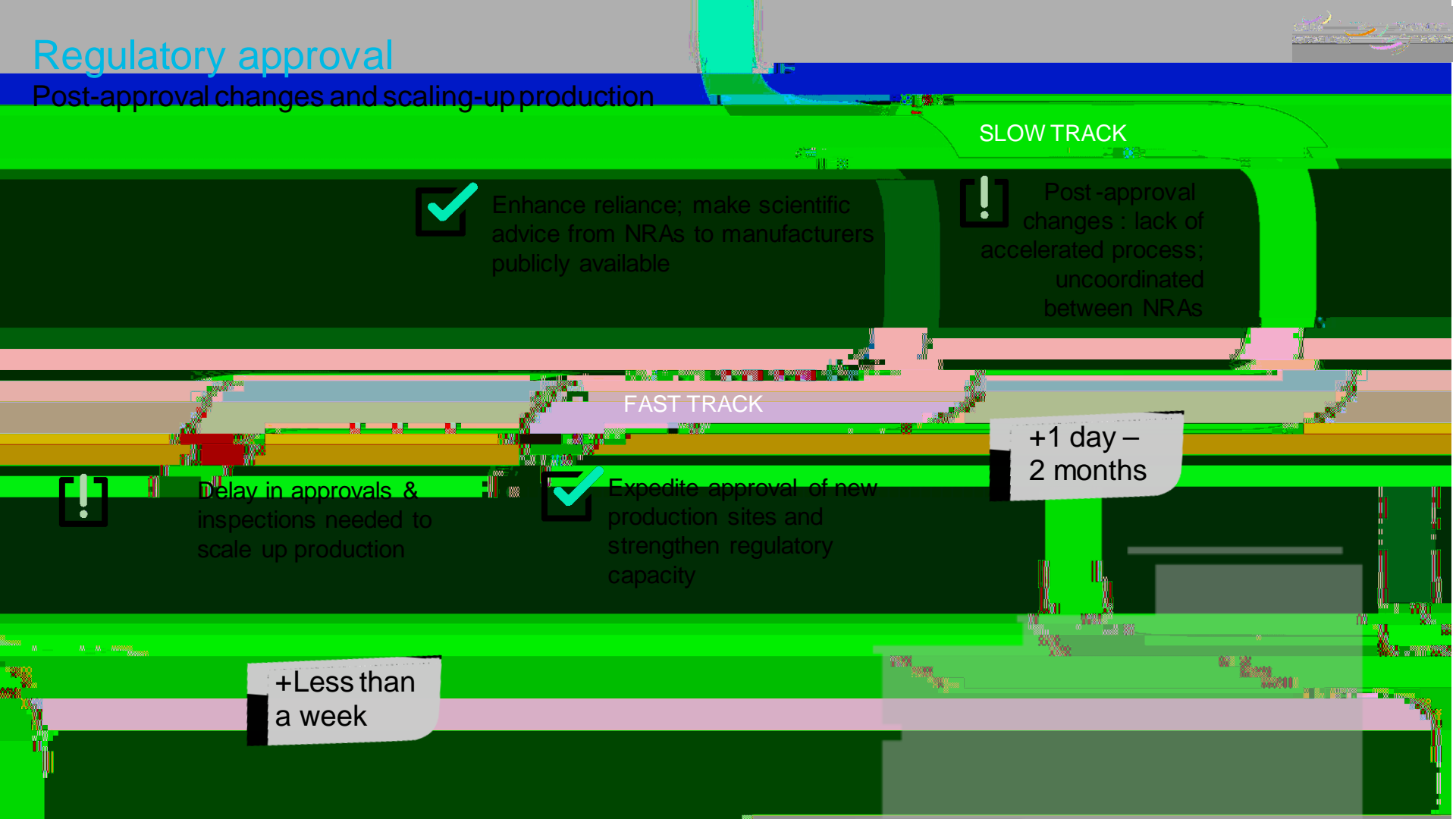
Retesting of vaccines prior to release

Use batch release from producing country

+2 weeks

# Regulatory approval

## Post-approval changes and scaling-up production



SLOW TRACK



Enhance reliance; make scientific advice from NRAs to manufacturers publicly available



Post-approval changes : lack of accelerated process; uncoordinated between NRAs

FAST TRACK



Delay in approvals & inspections needed to scale up production



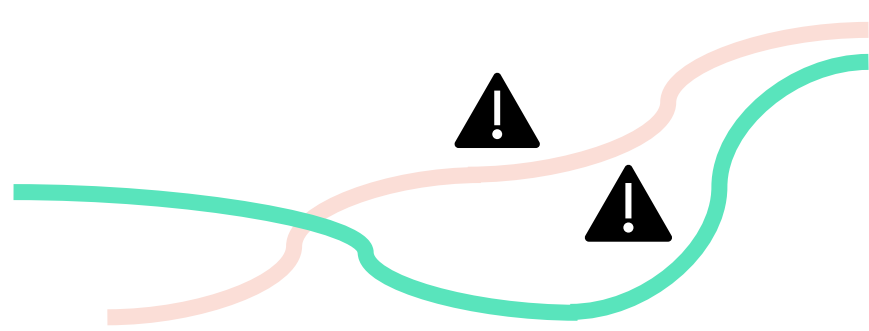
Expedite approval of new production sites and strengthen regulatory capacity

+1 day - 2 months

+Less than a week



# Emerging issues



Divergent approaches to approval of boosters

Variant vaccines

Mix and match approaches –  
liability, data



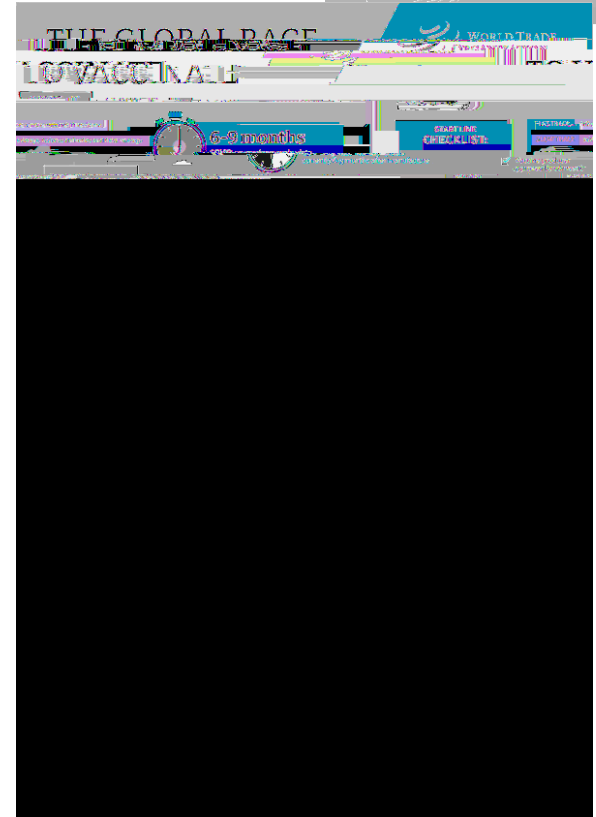
# Thank you!

## Resources:

WTO Reports on COVID-19: [Link](#)

Indicative list of trade-related bottlenecks and trade-facilitating measures on critical products to combat COVID-19 (10.2021): [Link](#)

Summary of notified export restrictions and trade facilitating measures relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic (10.2021): [Link](#)



Infographic – The global race to vaccinate: [Link](#)