

Se Ministre

Nos Réf. Cab/OV - D-20-023996

Dear Minister, Dear Colleague,

COVID-19 has taken a heavy toll in terms of human lives and led to an unprecedented economic downturn in each of our countries. However, this once in a century pandemic has also led to unrivaled cooperation among our countries as we seek solutions to thwart the negative effects of this pandemic. We believe that together we can beat the pandemic and emerge more resilient than before.

Our citizens enjoy the privileges of working, pursuing education, training, travelling and trading across our national borders. Protecting and ensuring that those freedoms continue unencumbered by varying national strategies and outcomes in relation to the pandemic is of prime importance to all of us.

As promising vaccines become available we believe that each of our citizens, no matter where they are physically located, should have access to these lifesaving medications. To date we have achieved impressive results when we coordinate our strategies. But, we are of the opinion that additional coordination would be mutually beneficial to tackle trans-border issues relating to vaccine strategies.

Having this in mind, it would be my privilege to invite you to save the following date in your agenda to discuss this proposal:

## Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 3:15 – 4:15 pm (CET) for a virtual meeting bringing together Germany, Belgium, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland. In the last part of this meeting, UK is invited to discuss trans-border issues relating to vaccine strategies

Please note that a formal invitation including relevant virtual dial-in information and draft agenda will be circulated in due course.

In the meantime, I would be grateful if you would indicate your availability for the above-mentioned date by sending an e-mail to: <u>@sante.gouv.fr</u> by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020.

Yours sincerely,

5.1.2

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Paris le

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