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For immediate release

HAI Statement on Spanish Research Institute Licence with C-TAP

Following the [announcement](#) of the first World Health Organization (WHO) COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (CTAP) licence agreement, Health Action International (HAI) Senior Policy Adviser, Jaume Vidal, made the following statement:

The decision by the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas ([CSIC](#)) and Spain's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to license a serological test to the World Health Organisations (WHO) Covid-19 Technologies Access Pool (C-TAP) is a milestone for global health and a major step toward achieving more equitable access to health technologies.

The first product ever to be licensed to C-TAP is an example of public return on public investment in action. It is also evidence of the political will necessary to address protracted issues currently affecting the global response to the pandemic, such as limited manufacturing capabilities or obstacles to technology transfer.

The Spanish government is leading by example. Not only are they pushing for non-exclusive licensing through the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) of a critical health technology and committing funding to C-TAP, but have also come out in support for the TRIPS waiver proposal currently under discussion at World Trade Organisation (WTO). The contrast with other European governments and regional organisations, who remain solidly behind the status quo, is striking.

For interview requests and further information, please contact:

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Health Action International is a non-profit organisation that conducts research and advocacy to advance policies that enable access to medicines and rational medicine use for all people around the world. We pursue advocacy from the patient level up to the highest levels of government through our 'official relations' status with the World Health Organization and respected relationship with the European Medicines Agency. To safeguard our objectivity and integrity, we are resolutely independent of the pharmaceutical industry and protect ourselves from all other conflicts of interest.

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