

PM speaking notes for the pledging conference

4 May 2020

Thank you for being with us this morning.

I would like to thank the President of the European Commission, Ms. von der Leyen, for her leadership and for her contribution to launching the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator.

[Pause]

We are facing the pandemic of the century.

This is not a challenge for just one country, one government, one group.

This is a threat to us all.

COVID-19 is a global crisis and it can only be solved through global cooperation.

To keep our citizens safe, to restart our economies, we must beat this disease everywhere.

And that will only be possible if we work together.

[Pause]

Today, we have the chance to collaborate as governments, international organizations, industry, foundations, and civil society with a common cause -

Accelerating the development and distribution of vaccines, testing, and treatment.

What we know is this:

\$8 billion is required to meet our immediate needs.

We must make every hour and every dollar count.

And we cannot leave anyone behind.

[Pause]

Our goal must be the affordable and equitable distribution of vaccines, testing, and treatment - to everywhere and to everyone.

And to help make that happen, Canada is stepping up.

Our contribution of more than \$850 million includes significant investments in Canadian medical research and development.

It also includes contributions to international vaccine development through the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, funding for the WHO's work on treatment, and support for developing countries.

We're ready to do our part.

And I hope others will join us.

[Pause]

COVID-19 is an unprecedented challenge for countries across the globe.

But it is a challenge that we can meet together.

Thank you.