



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
UNITED NATIONS | GENEVA

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

11 March 2021

Mr Felipe Gonzalez Morales
Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants

Dear Mr Gonzalez,

I am pleased to inform you that Singapore will commence COVID-19 vaccinations for our migrant workers living in dormitories from tomorrow, 12 March 2021. This is part of our national COVID-19 vaccination strategy to protect all long-term residents of Singapore, including frontline workers of critical importance, irrespective of nationality, along with vulnerable and high-risk groups. This includes older persons and individuals with roles requiring prolonged contact with multiple people in the community, such as educators and public transport operators.

As I had informed you in my letter dated 22 December 2020, my Prime Minister had committed that Singapore's migrant worker population would have access to COVID-19 vaccines once they became available. Migrant workers living in dormitories have to be adequately protected as they fall within a high-risk group where COVID-19 clusters could rapidly develop and grow. While vaccinations will first be administered to a group of 10,000 migrant workers residing in the five largest dormitories in Singapore and who have never been infected by COVID-19, they will progressively be made available to other migrant workers residing in dormitories as well, numbering a total of 320,000. Only those who consent and are screened to be suitable will receive the vaccination.

Vaccinations are one of the many ways we assure and care for our migrant workers during this pandemic, just as we care for Singaporeans. Singapore recognises and deeply appreciates the innumerable contributions of migrants to our society and economy over the years. This is why protecting the health, well-being and livelihoods of our migrant workers, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, has been a consistent priority for Singapore. As Singapore continues to address the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we will continue to do so in an inclusive manner that aims to leave no one behind.

Yours sincerely,



UMEJ BHATIA

Ambassador and Permanent Representative

P.S. Thank you for your untiring efforts and crucial advocacy work on the rights of migrants which remains an inspiration for real concrete progress for Singapore and many states.