

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

ACT-A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: GLOBAL COVID COMMUNITIES BOARD

Background

The ACT-Accelerator is a global collaboration to accelerate the development, production, and equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines. From research to rollout, the ACT-Accelerator remains the world's only end-to-end solution to end the COVID-19 pandemic. It was launched in April 2020. To learn more about ACT-A, please visit: <https://www.act-a.org/about>

In May 2020, the Platform for ACT-A Civil Society & Community Representatives (the Platform) – co-led by [WACI Health](#), [STOPAIDS](#) and [Global Fund Advocates Network](#), was set up and has been supporting community and civil society representatives in ACT-A, advocating for and ensuring that every aspect of the ACT-A has reserved space for communities and civil society to bring their expertise, experience and voices to the table. Currently, there are 47 community and civil society representatives who sit across the 4 “Pillars” (**Vaccines/COVAX, Diagnostics, Therapeutics and Health Systems Connector**), two representatives at the Facilitation Council who also participate in “ACT-A Principals” discussions as well as 6 representatives in the 3 Facilitation Council working groups.

- The **Facilitation Council** provides high-level political leadership and enables advice on global advocacy and resource mobilisation to facilitate the work of the ACT Accelerator. It is the most visible and political of the ACT-A structures and has two representatives from the platform, Dr Fifa Rehman representing civil society and Peter Oweti representing communities. They also participate in the “ACT-A Principals” discussions.
- The **vaccines pillar**, also called COVAX, is co-led by Gavi, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and WHO. Its aim is to accelerate the development and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines, and to guarantee fair and equitable access for every country in the world, contributing towards the 70% global vaccination target in 2022.
- The **diagnostics pillar** is co-convened by the Global Fund and FIND and has an overall objective to significantly increase access to COVID-19 tests and sequencing, which will ensure effective test, trace, isolate, and treat strategies, as well as early identification and containment of new variants.
- **The Therapeutics Pillar** plays an important role in all stages of COVID-19 disease: to prevent infection; suppress symptoms and spread of infection to others; treat or prevent symptoms; as a life-saving treatment for severe symptoms; and as a treatment that can speed up recovery. The Therapeutics Pillar supports access to safe and effective therapeutics of assured quality to save lives from COVID-19 and to minimise its global health and economic threat. The **therapeutics pillar** is led by Unitaid and Wellcome.
- The Health Systems & Response Connector (HSRC) pillar ensures all countries have the necessary technical, operational and financial resources to translate new COVID-19 tools into national response interventions to stop transmission and save lives. The

HSRC pillar is co-convened by the Global Fund, World Bank, and WHO along with UNICEF.

In January 2022, community representatives on the platform recognised that there was insufficient representation of communities impacted by COVID-19 engaged across all areas of work of the ACT-A and it was agreed to invite two community organisations to co-lead the platform with WACI Health, STOPAIDS and GFAN to ensure meaningful engagement and representation of communities most affected. A call for applicants was put out along with a detailed TOR. Although the platform received a number of very good applications and interviewed a shortlist, there were some limitations in geographic representation and communities impacted by COVID, particularly in their governance and decision-making bodies. This process also highlighted that there are very few organisations directly representing the voices of communities directly affected by COVID, including for those living with Long COVID and for those who have survived acute COVID, and that where these exist, they are not funded.

As a result, this process is designed to engage up to a maximum of 20 individuals from communities directly affected by COVID, including living with Long COVID, those who are part of community-based organisations, networks or groups who can represent the broader voices of communities experiencing severe impacts of COVID-19, or from communities with additional vulnerabilities to COVID-19 (eg health workers, educators, people in prison and other vulnerable populations like older adults with comorbidities, people living with diabetes, etc). Given the remit of ACT-A the members who will join the GCCB will principally represent the voices and needs of communities most impacted by COVID in LICs and LMICs, while drawing also on the emerging global understanding of community needs, including for the diagnosis and treatment of lingering symptoms, as well as the impact on systems of high rates of COVID. To learn more about our work, please visit: <https://covid19advocacy.org/>

Members of the Global COVID Communities Board are expected to;

- Hold space to ensure that information, tools and knowledge being generated both locally and at the global level are shared more broadly.
- Actively participate in ACT-A Platform discussions, regular meetings to ensure that the issues faced by communities most affected by COVID in the range of countries within ACT-A's remit are fed into broader ACT-A discussions, in the advocacy work of the Platform at every level and into the future of ACT-A.
- Represent the voice of communities, in a meaningful and impactful way in future pandemic preparedness discussions, as they progress.
- Engage in any onboarding, training and coaching opportunities provided for individuals, to support them to engage in the most effective ways and to prepare them to make interventions.

Core Criteria for the position:

- Demonstrated expertise and understanding of communities most affected by COVID, including people living with Long COVID and recovering from acute COVID, and the capacity to represent this understanding in a high level global context.
- Ability to engage with and become familiar with the work of the ACT-A and the opportunities and challenges it presents.
- Demonstrated capacity and willingness to link and working with community networks on health and equity issues (local, national and/or regional, and/or global levels)
- Willingness, capacity and experience seeking input from other individuals and communities most affected by COVID on key issues and questions, and to always conduct their work in a consultative manner.
- Previous experience of facilitating and strengthening a community engagement group or network would be valuable.
- Be fully able to communicate orally and in writing in English (additional languages are valued and welcome)
- Commitment to a minimum level of effort of 20% per month or 8 hours per week, for GCCB related activities
- Demonstrate ability to work in collaboration with others, including networks in their own communities, and the Platform for Community and Civil Society Representatives in ACT-A to ensure that relevant information is shared across the partnerships and to develop strategies that can be implemented collectively as ACT-A evolves.
- Commitment to a high level of advocacy and accountability represented by fostering community engagement systems.

ACT-A seeks representatives from different global regions to join GCCB with specially prioritising from:

- Low- income Countries
- Middle- income Countries

Duration and compensation

The duration of this role, that starts Mid July 2022 is till end of Sept 2022. Although this is a voluntary role, members will be compensated based on the deliverables mentioned above.

How to Apply

You can nominate someone you know or fill the application form attached on/ before **6pm CET Friday, 29 July 2022**, outlining how you/nominee meet the criteria outlined in the Terms of Reference. Send all application including CV/resume not more than 2 pages to gccb06059@gmail.com with subject title “**Global Covid Communities Board**”

To nominate someone

- A profile of the nominee briefly outlining what unique skills and expertise from the communities affected by Covid
- CV/Resume not more than 3 pages

Community Representation
Act-A Call for Nominations: Global Covid Community Board
Application Form

IMPORTANT: This application should not exceed six pages. Extra pages will not be considered.

Personal details	
Name	
Address	
Social media handles (Twitter, Facebook etc)	
Email	
Telephone number(s)	
Gender	

Community details

<p>Please explain how you are connected to Covid Communities</p> <p>This call nomination is open for Community Representatives from all low- and middle-income countries impacted by COVID-19 in particular representatives of communities living with COVID-19 (including Long COVID) and those known to be highly vulnerable (eg health workers, educators, people in prison and other vulnerable populations like older adults with comorbidities, people living with diabetes, etc) in a low- or middle-income country.</p> <p>In addition, we highly encourage individuals living and working within countries or contexts where equitable access to COVID treatments, diagnostics and other tools is weakest to apply to be representatives in the Global Covid Communities Board.</p>	
<p>Name of Community Based Organisation of affiliation (If any)</p>	
<p>Brief description of the Community group, geographical scope, and engagement with Covid communities.</p>	
<p>Position in organisation (if relevant)</p>	

The Global Covid Communities Board Members will collectively bring skills and experience that include, demonstrating expertise and understanding of communities most affected by COVID, including people living with Long COVID and recovering from acute COVID, and the capacity to represent this understanding in a high-level global context

Direct experience/expertise in at least one area of work of the ACT-A at the community, regional or global level - please be specific about the focus of your COVID related work (if any) and your rationale for engaging in COVID work (for example this could be but is not limited to such things as: access to medicines/tools campaigning or advocacy, supporting Community Health initiatives providing COVID services or how the provision of services have changed to respond to the challenge of COVID, advocating to your government to invest in COVID responses nationally/globally, delivering COVID specific services, engaging in resource mobilisation for ACT-A, etc) **if applicable** share links to any media, briefs or advocacy campaign materials

Briefly describe how your experience background and current work match the GCCB criteria for this call

Ability to engage with global health issues and programmes, and related experience (eg working with national governments, multilateral organisations and/ or donors)

Briefly describe experience developing campaigns, advocacy briefs or other tools to engage communities and civil society actors to provide input and engage in issues related to those being addressed within ACT-A

Personal experience of COVID-19

The selection panel will also ensure representation of people with lived experience of (Long) COVID-19. If you have direct personal experience, eg you are currently living with, or recovering from, Long COVID and you are happy to disclose information as part of the nomination process please include this information here:

PLEASE DO NOT EXCEED 6 PAGES. ONLY THE FIRST SEVEN PAGES OF EACH APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED.

Please submit the following to gccb06059@gmail.com by 6pm CET on Friday 29 July 2022:

- Completed application form
- Short CV/resume (maximum 2 page)