Amman, 13 March 2021 – On 12 March, Jordan received the first shipment of 144 000 doses of the AstraZeneca/SK Bioscience COVID-19 vaccine from COVAX Facility at Queen Alia International Airport, in Amman.

COVAX is a global facility representing partnership between the World Health Organization (WHO), Gavi- the Vaccine Alliance (GAVI) and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) working on the equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. It includes 190 countries with a population of more than 7 billion people and ensures fair and equal access to COVID-19 vaccines supplied through UNICEF. The European Union (EU), WHO and UNICEF are supporting the Government of Jordan's national vaccination campaign.

A total of €8 million has been made available by the EU to support the Ministry of Health's purchase of COVID-19 vaccines through COVAX Facility through its "Jordan Health Programme for Syrian Refugees and Vulnerable Jordanians," implemented by WHO and funded by the Madad Fund. A second shipment of COVID-19 vaccines from the COVAX Facility is expected to arrive in Jordan in April.

"We now see the results of partnership with the COVAX Facility where Jordan participates as a fully self-financing country. This supply is very timely to support our efforts to accelerate the COVID-19 national immunization campaign. We will continue offering the COVID-19 vaccines to the most vulnerable populations," said H.E. Professor Nathir Obeidat, Minister of Health.