
From: Ry Atkinson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 22 February 2022 1:44 PM
To: Gallagher, Katy (Senator)
Cc: Committee, COVID (SEN)
Subject: New Amnesty International Report
Attachments: POL4051402022ENGLISH.pdf

Dear Senator Gallagher,

I just wanted to reach out and share with you a copy of a new report from Amnesty International, entitled *Money Calls the Shots: Pharma's Response to the Covid-19 Vaccines Crisis* (attached). The most recent report is an update on Amnesty International's September 2021 report *A Double Dose of Inequality: Pharma Companies and the Covid-19 Crisis*.

The new report highlights that despite urgent calls to ensure the equal distribution of Covid-19 vaccines in 2021, pharmaceutical companies tragically failed to rise to the challenge of a once-in-a-century global health and human rights crisis. Instead, they monopolised technology, blocked and lobbied against the sharing of intellectual property, charged high prices for vaccines and prioritised supplies to wealthy countries.

At the end of 2021, only 4% of people in low-income countries were fully vaccinated, and although the report focuses mainly on the role of pharmaceutical companies, governments too have a role to play.

Of particular focus for Amnesty International Australia is the soon to expire contract between AstraZeneca, CSL and the Australian Government to produce vaccines domestically. We've been in contact with both AstraZeneca and CSL who have indicated their willingness to extend said contract.

I wanted to touch base and see if this was something that the Committee would be interested in exploring further?

Look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

--


Ry Atkinson, Strategic Campaigner (He/Him)
| d. [REDACTED] |
| a. Level 1, 79 Myrtle Street Chippendale NSW 2008

I acknowledge and respect the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation as the traditional owners of the land our office is located on. My home is located on Gayamagal land.

 

 