



JAMHUURIYADDA FEDERAALKA SOOMAALIYA

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PRESS STATEMENT FOR OXFORD/ASTRAZENECA
VACCINE SAFETY

The Ministry of Health of Somalia would like to address the recent safety concerns of the Oxford/Astrazeneca vaccine: On Thursday 18th of August 2021, the European Medicines Agency, World Health Organization and many other international medical regulatory agencies have confirmed the safety of the Oxford/Astrazeneca vaccine through a thorough investigation in the past week.

Although many European Countries decided to temporarily suspend this vaccine during the investigation, most of those countries including **Germany, France, Italy and Spain** have officially stated they will resume Oxford/Astrazeneca vaccinations upon the official guidance from the European Medicines Agency issued on 18/03/2021.

Somalia has a successful history in implementing vaccination programs, and we understand the importance immunization are for reducing the spread of disease such as polio and measles. The Ministry of Health expects the Oxford/Astrazeneca vaccine will prove to be just as effective in the fight against the pandemic.

We strongly urge the public to adhere to advise from the Ministry of Health recommendations and to trust the vaccines' benefits against COVID-19 and to protect the health of our fellow citizens.

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20 March 2021