



**THE HON NICOLA ROXON MP**  
**Minister for Health and Ageing**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Australia Supporting Vaccination Efforts of Developing Neighbours**

In September last year I announced that Australia would be joining a group of nations, led by President Obama, to support the rollout of the H1N1 vaccine to developing countries.

This week the first delivery of Australia's contribution to this initiative was made to Laos which has received 600,600 doses of the vaccine.

This donation is the first in a commitment to provide up to 10 per cent of our pandemic vaccine for use amongst developing neighbours.

Australia's donation of 2.1 million doses will also support Pacific Island countries, East Timor, Sri Lanka and Papua New Guinea.

In making this donation, Australia is contributing to an international effort to support the World Health Organization (WHO) in ensuring that sufficient pandemic vaccines are distributed to where they are most needed, recognising the many challenges developing countries face in accessing vaccines.

In addition, Australia has provided funds to the WHO to help distribute the vaccines to Papua New Guinea, the Pacific Islands and East Timor.

Deliveries to Sri Lanka are also expected to occur shortly, and over the coming weeks, the WHO and CSL will continue to roll out the donated vaccine to developing countries in the Asia Pacific region.

**For all media inquiries, please contact the Minister's Office on 02 6277 7220**