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The Dominican Republic is beginning a COVID-19 vaccine-sharing programme with a donation of some 505,000 doses to countries in the Greater Caribbean.

The Dominican government says that the immediate start of the international cooperation programme on vaccines is important as these countries in the region have been affected by the “unfair and unequal international distribution of vaccines.”

In this first sharing of the international cooperation programme for COVID-19 vaccines, Dominican Republic will share 100,000 doses with Haiti, 101,000 with Honduras and 304,000 doses with Guatemala.

A media release from the Dominican foreign ministry notes that the Dominican Republic benefitted from kind donations of vaccines from the governments of India and China, which helped start its vaccination programme. Now, the ministry says, it is time to extend the same solidarity that it received, starting with countries in the region.

Dominican Republic was chair of the ACS Ministerial Council 2020 - 2021.