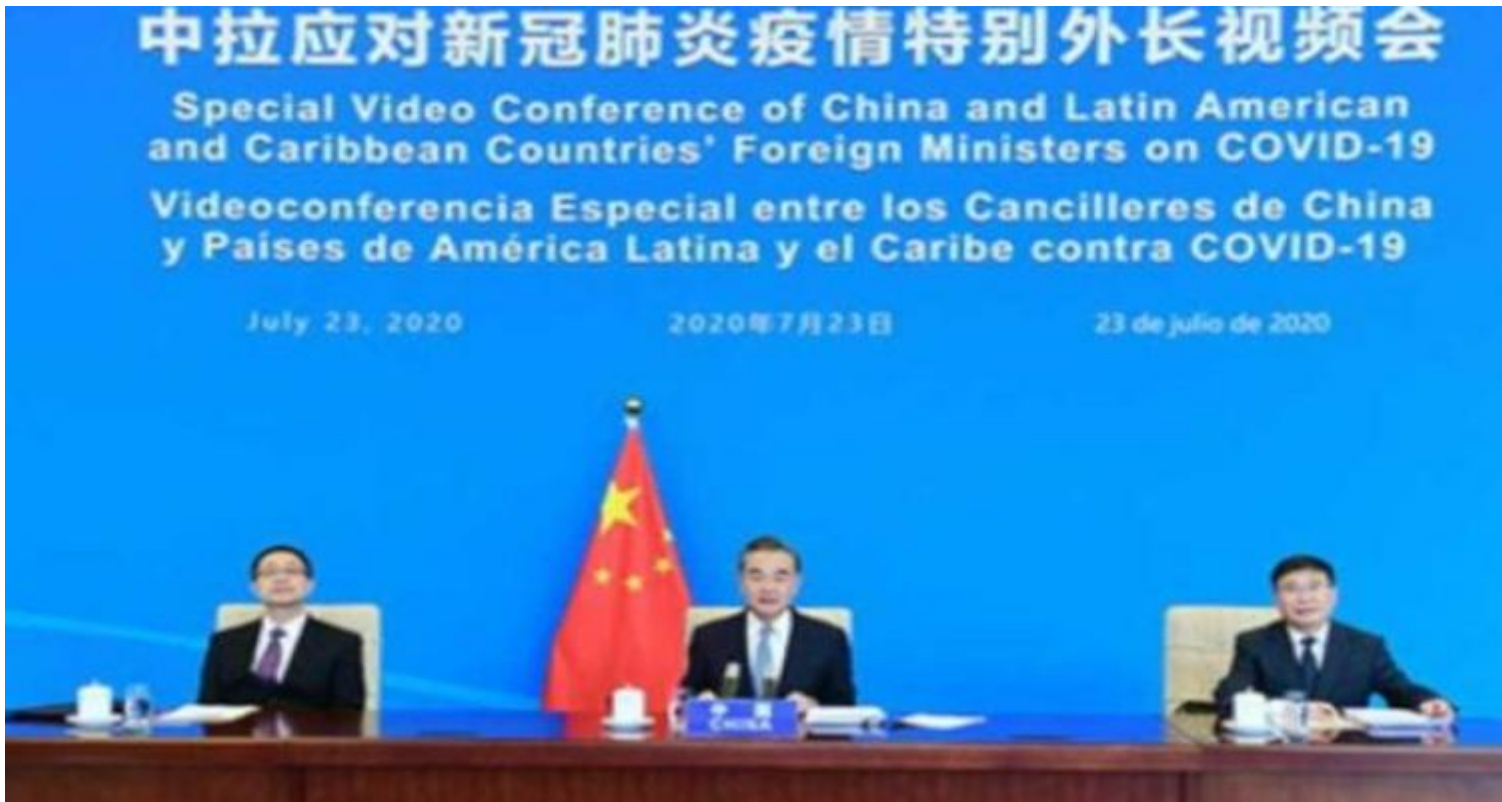


China to provide universal access to its COVID-19 vaccine



Beijing, July 23 (RHC)-- The Chinese government announced this Thursday, during a virtual meeting with Latin American and Caribbean foreign ministers, that the vaccine developed in their country against COVID-19 disease will be public property with universal access.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi held a videoconference with his colleagues from Latin America and the Caribbean with the aim of consolidating Beijing's cooperation links with the region, according to teleSUR correspondent in the Chinese capital, Iramsy Peraza.

Mexico's Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard, who participated in the virtual meeting, posted on his Twitter account that "Wang Yi - China's Foreign Minister - announced that the vaccine developed in his country will have universal access."

In a tweet, journalist Iramsy Peraza noted that Foreign Minister Wang said that "China will support the region with medical equipment, loans for vaccines and infrastructure works in public health and funds to ensure food security."

According to Mexico's Foreign Ministry, China has committed to providing a \$1 billion credit to Latin American and Caribbean countries so that they can buy a vaccine against COVID-19.

"The Chinese Foreign Minister stressed that the vaccine developed in his country will be a public good of universal access and that his country will allocate a loan of one billion dollars to support access of the nations of the region to the antidote," the agency said in a statement.

In addition to Wang and Ebrard, the heads of diplomacy from Argentina, Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay participated in the video conference.

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