



Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Circular note 1/2021

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Diplomatic Missions, Career Consular Posts and Offices of International Organisations in Sweden and has the honour to inform about the following.

The national COVID-19 vaccination process in Sweden is now under way. The vaccines that are available will be distributed to the highest prioritised groups according to recommendations from the Swedish Public Health Agency (Folkhälsomyndigheten). The distribution order can be changed due to, inter alia, the availability of vaccine. The Public Health Agency is working together with the Regions to implement the vaccination plan.

All vaccination in Sweden is voluntary.

The order of priority is currently as follows:

Phase 1

The first phase, which began late December 2020, includes people living in assisted housing for the elderly, people who receive assistance under the Social Services Act (socialtjänstlagen) and those working or living with such individuals.

Phase 2

The second phase will tentatively start in February 2021. It includes:

- People over the age of 70, where the oldest will be vaccinated first.
- Certain disabled people, including adults who receive assistance in accordance with the Act on Assistance and Service to Certain People

with Disabilities (lagen om stöd och service till vissa funktionshindrade).

- Staff in health and medical care and other staff who are working closely with people receiving care.

Phase 3

The third phase, which will be initiated thereafter, includes people between 18-69 years old with an increased risk of serious illness. The work to specify these risk groups is currently ongoing.

Phase 4

The fourth and final phase includes adults who are not included in phase 1-3.

Further information and updates regarding the vaccination plan is available on websites of the Public Health Agency www.folkhalsomyndigheten.se and Region Stockholm www.1177.se.

Mission staff and family members are included in the national vaccine plan and will hence be offered vaccination in phase 4. People older than 70 years or with increased risk of serious illness will, however, be included in phases 2 and 3.

The Ministry is currently ascertaining, together with the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, how the Regions intend to implement the vaccination programme in practice, including the need to address potential administrative hurdles. Additional information to this effect will follow.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Diplomatic Missions, Career Consular Posts and Offices of International Organisations in Sweden the assurances of its highest consideration.

Stockholm, 25 January 2021

