

Mr Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda  
Union Minister  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
155 - A, Nirman Bhawan  
New Delhi - 110108  
India

24 July 2017

Dear Minister,

**Re: Approval of Health Systems Strengthening Support for India**

We are writing in relation to India's application to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, for Health Systems Strengthening (HSS) support, which was submitted to the Gavi Secretariat in December 2016.

In line with the provisions stated in the Annex 6 of the Partnership Framework Agreement (PFA), the application was reviewed by an independent review team in country, who made recommendations to the country regarding the proposal. Following receipt of the revised proposal in response to these recommendations, we are pleased to inform you that **Gavi has approved India's application for HSS support**, as per the following Decision Letter. While approving the HSS support for India, Gavi management notes a set of comments as detailed below:

- Given that India will transition out of Gavi support at the end of the duration of this HSS support by 2021, Gavi requests a review of the status and plans for transitioning relevant Gavi-supported activities to the Government of India, at the time of annual Joint Appraisals, as noted in the Decision Letter (section 9).
- Gavi also notes the importance of the targeted interventions in the HSS proposal, to address health inequities in urban and tribal areas. Gavi recommends regular review of these activities, in context of a comprehensive set of activities funded by other sources, to draw lessons and maximise the impact of these Gavi-funded interventions.
- Gavi acknowledged receipt of a letter from the Government of India, dated 24 May 2017, to request for re-appropriation of funds from commodity support for Rotavirus vaccine to additional budget for HSS phase 2, in the amount of USD 2.2 million. This reconciles with the 5-year budget submitted with the HSS proposal for a total of USD 102M. While committing the 5-year amount approved by the Board in December 2015 and as provided under Annex 6 of the PFA (USD 100M), Gavi approved, as per its funding policy, only Annual Amounts for Years 1 and 2 of support. The Annual Amounts for Years 3, 4, and 5 shall be approved on annual

basis following annual renewal requests done by the country. Any funding adjustments, based on needs and taking into account observed savings and/or delays, will be done at these later occasions.

- In regards to the HSS baseline and mid-term evaluation, Gavi will retain (not transfer) USD 100,000 budgeted towards the costs of the HSS grant evaluation. Additional costs incurred for the evaluation beyond this USD 100,000 will be covered by the Gavi Secretariat, including the costs of conducting an external evaluation of the health economics impact of electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) during the first year of grant implementation, as noted in the Decision Letter (section 10)

Gavi shall monitor the implementation and any updates related to the above-listed comments and recommendations during the HSS2 implementation period. Your Gavi Senior Country Manager will follow up with more details as relevant.

Finally, we reiterate that the provisions of the PFA / Annex 6 shall apply to all Gavi programme funding and Decision Letters form an integral part of the PFA. Any capitalised terms used in this letter have the meaning given to them in the PFA. The Gavi Board's decision to provide support for India's HSS programme is also subject to the provisions of Annex 6 of the PFA, in particular the commitment of the Government of India to provide additional costs required as well as sustain the programme after the transition out of Gavi support, and to implement the programme as set out in the approved Performance Framework.

I would like to thank you for your continued commitment to strengthen the health systems in India and encourage you to not hesitate to contact the Senior Country Manager for India, Carol Szeto ([cszeto@gavi.org](mailto:cszeto@gavi.org)), if you have any questions or concerns.

We remain at your disposal for any further enquiry.

Yours sincerely,



Hind Khatib-Othman  
Managing Director, Country Programmes

Cc:  
PS, The Minister of Health and Family Welfare  
PS, The Minister of Finance  
Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Additional Secretary, MD NHM, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Joint Secretary (RCH), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Deputy Commissioner (Immunization); MoHFW  
Deputy Commissioner (UIP), MoHFW  
WHO Country Representative



UNICEF Country Representative  
WHO HQ  
UNICEF Programme Division  
UNICEF Supply Division  
UNDP Country Director  
JSI India Managing Director

## Decision Letter

### India Health Systems Strengthening Programme

This Decision Letter forms part of the PFA and together with the PFA sets out the Programme Terms of the Programme. Any term used in this Decision Letter but not defined shall have the meaning given to such term in the PFA.

<b>1. Country:</b> India					
<b>2. Programme payment grant number:</b> 1721-IND-10d-Y					
<b>3. Date of Decision Letter:</b> 24 July 2017					
<b>4. Date of the Partnership Framework Agreement (the “PFA”):</b> 12 June 2015					
<b>5. Programme: Health Systems Strengthening (HSS)</b>					
For further information about the Programme please refer to:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gavi HSS guidelines and HSS application form available by contacting your Gavi Senior Country Manager;</li> <li>• Country’s approved grant proposal together with any responses to the HSS independent review team request for clarifications;</li> <li>• The workplan and budget document circulated to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Deputy Commissioners for Immunization, by email on 14 July 2017, describing the expected Programme Activities and Programme Budget as at the Date of the Decision Letter.</li> </ul>					
<b>6. Programme Duration:</b> 2017 to 2021					
<b>7. Programme Budget:</b> This is the amount of an estimated multi-year budget endorsed by Gavi under the Programme.					
<b>Programme Year</b>	<b>2017 Year 1</b>	<b>2018 Year 2</b>	<b>2019 Year 3</b>	<b>2020 Year 4</b>	<b>2021 Year 5</b>
<b>Programme Budget (US\$)</b>	26,465,953	27,513,750	20,797,262	18,229,676	6,993,359
<b>TOTAL (US\$)</b>	<b>100,000,000</b>				

- 8. Annual Amounts:** This is the estimated annual amount Gavi has approved to be disbursed under the Programme. The Country acknowledges that:
- (a) the Annual Amount will be disbursed directly to agreed implementing agencies, rather than to the Country; and
  - (b) each Annual Amount may be disbursed in a number of tranches at quarterly or six-monthly intervals.

Programme year	Year 1 / 2017	Year 2 / 2018
Annual Amount (\$US)	US\$26,465,953	US\$27,513,750

**9. Outstanding comments/clarifications:**

The Country shall provide the new Multi-Year Strategic Plan for the Universal Immunisation Programme to Gavi, and engage Gavi in discussions around re-alignment between the HSS support and the objectives in the new planning cycle as necessary, at the time of annual joint appraisals for future renewal requests<sup>1</sup>.

Given the accelerated transition status of the Country, the Country should provide a clear plan with practical actions for transitioning relevant Gavi-supported activities to the Government of India, to be reviewed and updated annually at the time of the Joint Appraisal.

**10. Other conditions: The following terms and conditions shall apply to the Programme.**

**Documents to be submitted for future HSS cash disbursements**

The Country shall deliver the following documents by the specified due dates as part of the conditions for approval and disbursements of the future annual amounts.

Reports and other information	Due dates
Quarterly Progress Reports, as per the template to be shared with the Country.	Within 45 days after the end of each quarter
Grant performance framework reporting on progress against targets and baseline data, based on agreed-upon indicators.	As agreed with Gavi Secretariat
Annual Joint Appraisal report	As agreed with Gavi Secretariat
Interim unaudited financial reports. The Country will submit to Gavi unaudited financial reports from each implementing agency (funds recipient) on a quarterly basis, as part of the quarterly progress reports. Audited and consolidated statements will be provided on an annual basis as per agreements between Gavi and the implementing agencies. Failure to submit timely reports may affect future funding.	
An external evaluation of the health economics impact of electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN)	Within the first year of grant implementation, by August 2018

<sup>1</sup> Failure to provide the comments/clarifications requested may result in Gavi withholding further disbursements.

Any requested adjustments to the Annual Amounts will be subject to Gavi approval. It is essential that Country's Health Sector Coordination Committee (or its equivalent) be involved with this process both in its technical process function and its support during implementation and monitoring of the Programme.

Utilisation of Gavi support stated in this letter will be subject to performance monitoring.

If the bank account information most recently provided to Gavi has changed or changes prior to disbursement, the country will need to complete a bank account information form. Please contact [gavhss@gavi.org](mailto:gavhss@gavi.org) for the form.

Signed by,



**On behalf of Gavi**

Hind Khatib-Othman

Managing Director, Country Programmes

24 July 2017