

GAVI/13/

The Minister of Public Health Ministry of Public Health Great Masoud Road Kabul Afghanistan

24 April 2013

Dear Minister,

## Afghanistan's Proposal to the GAVI Alliance

I am writing in relation to Afghanistan's proposal to the GAVI Alliance for New Vaccines Support for Pneumococcal, which was submitted to the GAVI Secretariat in August 2012.

Following a meeting of the GAVI Executive Committee (EC) on 15 February 2013 to consider the recommendations of the Independent Review Committee (IRC), I am pleased to inform you that Afghanistan has been approved for Pneumococcal support as specified in the Appendices to this letter.

In relation to your proposal for pneumococcal vaccine, Afghanistan has provided a satisfactory response to the clarifications that were required by the IRC.

#### Pneumococcal vaccine supply:

As you are aware, the global supply of pneumococcal vaccine will not meet all country requirements in the short term due to an unprecedented demand for the vaccines and the lead time required by manufacturers to increase vaccine production. In order to increase available supplies, a pneumococcal vaccine tender is underway; therefore we are currently unable to confirm when the first shipment of the vaccine will be available. We expect to send you an update on the status of supply in the second quarter of 2013, upon finalisation of the tender process.

In response to your letter dated 6 April 2013 in which you requested the disbursement of the Vaccine Introduction Grant, we are pleased to inform you that we have decided to release the Vaccine Introduction Grant in advance of the anticipated pneumococcal vaccine introduction. Please note that once the timing of supplies is confirmed and an introduction date is agreed, an additional Decision Letter will be issued with the number of doses to be funded by GAVI, as well as the co-financing amounts.

For your information, this document contains the following important attachments:

Appendix A: Description of approved GAVI support to Afghanistan

Appendix B: Financial and programmatic information for <u>Pneumococcal Vaccine Introduction</u>

**Grant** 

Appendix C: A summary of the IRC Report

Appendix D: The terms and conditions of GAVI Alliance support



On 26 of March 2013, a correspondence was sent to your team to introduce you to the Partnership Framework Agreement (PFA) designed to improve the ease and efficiency for countries to understand the GAVI requirements, all in one clear and standardised document. For ease of reference, the PFA will include Appendices in the same format as the Appendix B to this letter.

The following table summarises the outcome for each type of GAVI support applicable to Afghanistan:

New Vaccines Support Type of vaccine	Approved for 2013
Vaccine Introduction Grant – PCV13	\$1,185,000

Please do not hesitate to contact my colleague Anne Zeindl-Cronin - acronin@gavialliance.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Third H. Thatil

Hind Khatib-Othman Managing Director, Country Programmes

The Minister of Finance cc:

> The Director of Medical Services Director Planning Unit, MoH

The EPI Manager

WHO Country Representative **UNICEF Country Representative** 

Regional Working Group

WHO HQ

**UNICEF Programme Division** 

**UNICEF Supply Division** 

The World Bank





### Description of GAVI support to Afghanistan (the "Country")

# **New Vaccines Support (NVS)**

The GAVI Alliance has approved the Country's request for supply of vaccine doses and related injection safety material which are estimated to be required for the 2013 immunization programme as set out in Appendix B. Financing provided by GAVI for vaccines will be in accordance with:

- The GAVI Alliance Guidelines governing Afghanistan's proposal application; and
- The final proposal as approved by the IRC, including any subsequent clarifications.

The vaccines provided will be used for routine immunisation of children under 12 months of age. The principles of the WHO-UNICEF-UNFPA joint statement on safety of injections (WHO/V&B/99.25) shall apply to all immunisation provided with these vaccines.

Any required taxes, customs, toll or other duties imposed on the importation of vaccines and related supplies cannot be paid for using GAVI funding.

GAVI is not responsible for any liability that may arise in connection with the distribution or use of vaccines and related supplies after title to such vaccines and related supplies has passed to the country, excluding liability for any defect in vaccines and related supplies, which remain the responsibility of the applicable manufacturer.

### Country Co-financing

In accordance with the GAVI Co-financing Policy, the Country has agreed to make the required contribution to co-financing vaccine doses in 2013.

Countries may select to co-finance through UNICEF Supply Division, PAHO's Revolving Fund, or self-procure their co-financing requirement following their own procedures, except for the Pneumococcal vaccine that needs to be procured through UNICEF.

If the purchase of the co-financed supply is carried out through UNICEF or PAHO, the payment is to be made to UNICEF or PAHO (whichever is applicable) as agreed in the Procurement Services Memorandum of Understanding between UNICEF or PAHO (whichever is applicable) and the country, and not to the GAVI Alliance. Please keep in contact with UNICEF or PAHO (whichever is applicable) to understand the availability of the relevant vaccine(s) and to prepare the schedule of deliveries.

The total co-financing amount expressed in item number 14 of Appendix B does not contain costs and fees of the relevant Procurement Agency, such as contingency buffer and handling fees.

Information on these extra costs and fees will be provided by the relevant Procurement Agency as part of the cost estimate to be requested by the country.

UNICEF/PAHO will share information with GAVI on the status of purchase of the cofinanced supply. In accordance with the GAVI Co-financing Policy



(<a href="http://www.gavialliance.org/about/governance/programme-policies/co-financing/">http://www.gavialliance.org/about/governance/programme-policies/co-financing/</a>), the co-financing contribution is payable annually to UNICEF/PAHO.

If the purchase of the co-financed supply is carried out by the Government, following its own procurement procedures and not procuring from UNICEF Supply Division or PAHO, the Government must submit to GAVI satisfactory evidence that it has purchased its co-financed portion of the vaccines and related supplies, including by submitting purchase orders, invoices, and receipts to GAVI. GAVI strongly encourages that countries self-procuring co-financed products (i.e. auto-disable syringes and syringe and needle disposal boxes) ensure that products appear on the applicable WHO list of pre-qualified products or, for syringe and needle disposal boxes, that they have obtained a certificate of quality issued by a relevant national authority.

# GAVI support will only be provided if the Country complies with the following requirements:

<u>Transparency and Accountability Policy(TAP)</u>: Compliance with any TAP requirements pursuant to the GAVI TAP Policy and the requirements under any Aide Memoire concluded between GAVI and the country.

<u>Financial Statements & External Audits</u>: Compliance with the then-current GAVI requirements relating to financial statements and external audits.

<u>Grant Terms and Conditions:</u> Compliance with GAVI's standard grant terms and conditions (attached in Appendix D).

<u>Country Co-financing:</u> GAVI must receive proof of country co-payment from the Country such as invoices or shipment receipts if neither UNICEF nor PAHO is the procurement agent for country co-financed vaccine for the prior calendar year.

Monitoring and Annual Progress Reports: Afghanistan's use of financial support for the introduction of new vaccinations with Pneumococcal vaccine.

is subject to strict performance monitoring. The GAVI Alliance uses country systems for monitoring and auditing performance as well as other data sources including WHO/UNICEF immunization coverage estimates. As part of this process, National Authorities will be requested to monitor and report on the numbers of children immunised and the delivery of funds to co-finance the vaccine.

Afghanistan will report on the achievements and request support for the following year in the Annual Progress Report (APR). The APR must contain information on the number of children reported to have been vaccinated with DTP3 and 3 doses of pentavalent vaccine by age 12 months, based on district monthly reports reviewed by the ICC, and as reported to WHO and UNICEF in the annual Joint Reporting Form (JRF). The APRs will also contain information on country's compliance with the co-financing arrangements outlined in this letter. APRs endorsed by the ICC, should be sent to the GAVI Secretariat no later than 15 May every year Continued funding beyond what is being approved in this letter is conditional upon receipt of satisfactory Annual Progress Reports and availability of funds.





# Pneumococcal VACCINE SUPPORT

# This Decision Letter sets out the Programme Terms of a Programme.

1. Country: Afghanistan					
2. Grant Number: 13-AFG-0	)8c-Y				
3. Decision Letter no: 1					
4. Date of the Partnership Fi	amework Agreemen	t: N/A			
5. <b>Programme Title:</b> New Va	ccine Support				
S. Vaccine type: Pneumococc	al				
7. Requested product presen	tation and formulation	on of vaccine: N	/A		
B. Programme Duration <sup>1</sup> : 20	13				
9. Programme Budget (indic	ative): (subject to the	e terms of the Pa	rtnership Framev	vork Agreement)	
	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total <sup>2</sup>
Programme Budget (US\$)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
10. Vaccine Introduction Gra					
11. Indicative Annual Amoun	ts (subject to the terr	ns of the Partner	rship Framework	Agreement): <sup>3</sup>	
			T	1	
Type of supplies to be purcha	sed with GAVI funds	in each year		2013	
Number of Measles-Rubella vaccines doses			N/A		
Number of AD syringes				N/A	
Number of re-constitution syn	inges			N/A	
			ı		

**13. Self-procurement:** Not applicable.

Annual Amounts (US\$)

<sup>12.</sup> Procurement agency: Not applicable

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This is the entire duration of the programme.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This is the total amount endorsed by GAVI for the entire duration of the programme. This should be equal to the total of all

sums in the table.

<sup>3</sup> This is the amount that GAVI has approved. Please amend the indicative Annual Amounts from previous years if that changes subsequently. Ceci est le montant apprové par GAVI. Prière de modifier les montants annuels indicatifs des années précédentes si cela change ultérieurement



	2013	
Grant amount (US\$)	N/A	
5. Additional documents to be delivered for future Reports, documents and other deliverables	disbursements: Not applicable  Due dates	
N/A	N/A	

Signed by **On behalf of the GAVI Alliance** 

Third F. Thatil

Hind Khatib-Othman

Managing Director, Country Programmes

24 April 2013



# IRC NVS Country Report Second review of response to conditions

Country: Afghanistan

Type of support requested: NVS

Vaccines requested: Pneumococcal

Reviewed: Geneva, 8<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> October 2012

# Background:

This proposal was first submitted to GAVI for review in July 2011. The outcome of this review was 'Approval with conditions'. The two conditions were:

- 1. The country is requested to provide an ICC-endorsed communication that adequate and functional cold chain has been put in place at all levels prior to shipment of PCV vaccine.
- 2. Provide an Introduction Plan (either as a standalone document or integrated into cMYP) that shows clearly:
  - a. Rationale for PCV introduction
  - b. Programmatic implications of PCV introduction
  - c. List of activities necessary for the introduction of new vaccine with timeline, milestones and responsible agencies
  - d. New vaccine introduction budget (preferably linked to the activities mentioned above)
  - e. Implication of the PCV introduction on future resource requirements and financial sustainability of the NIP

In February 2012, the country submitted responses to the two conditions. The outcome of the February 2012 New Vaccine Proposals IRC found that one condition was met, while one was still yet to be met. The recommendation of Approval with condition was still upheld. As a condition the country was requested to provide an ICC-endorsed communication that adequate and functional cold chain had been put in place at all levels prior to shipment of PCV vaccine. The Government of Afghanistan submitted responses to the outstanding condition.

# The following documents were submitted in support of the response:

- Summary of invoices and expenditure for GAVI ISS;
- Letter/communication from the MOH stating that funding has been secured for the required 12m³ vaccine storage capacity at the national level to accommodate PCV introduction, as recommended in the EVMA. In addition to the letter, cold chain equipment has been ordered through UNICEF to increase vaccine storage space; and
- EVMA Improvement plan.

**Review of the response:** Based on the letter from the Ministry of Health submitted indicating that funding has been secured for cold chain expansion at national level and current efforts to expand cold chain at the national level, the IRC notes that there is adequate cold chain space at the national level.



The condition is met.

Vaccine: Pneumococcal

Recommendation: Approval



#### **GAVI Alliance Terms and Conditions**

Countries will be expected to sign and agree to the following GAVI Alliance terms and conditions in the application forms, which may also be included in a grant agreement to be agreed upon between GAVI and the country:

#### FUNDING USED SOLELY FOR APPROVED PROGRAMMES

The applicant country ("Country") confirms that all funding provided by the GAVI Alliance for this application will be used and applied for the sole purpose of fulfilling the programme(s) described in this application. Any significant change from the approved programme(s) must be reviewed and approved in advance by the GAVI Alliance. All funding decisions for this application are made at the discretion of the GAVI Alliance Board and are subject to IRC processes and the availability of funds.

#### AMENDMENT TO THIS PROPOSAL

The Country will notify the GAVI Alliance in its Annual Progress Report if it wishes to propose any change to the programme(s) description in this application. The GAVI Alliance will document any change approved by the GAVI Alliance, and this application will be amended.

#### RETURN OF FUNDS

The Country agrees to reimburse to the GAVI Alliance, all funding amounts that are not used for the programme(s) described in this application. The country's reimbursement must be in US dollars and be provided, unless otherwise decided by the GAVI Alliance, within sixty (60) days after the Country receives the GAVI Alliance's request for a reimbursement and be paid to the account or accounts as directed by the GAVI Alliance.

#### SUSPENSION/ TERMINATION

The GAVI Alliance may suspend all or part of its funding to the Country if it has reason to suspect that funds have been used for purpose other than for the programmes described in this application, or any GAVI Alliance-approved amendment to this application. The GAVI Alliance retains the right to terminate its support to the Country for the programmes described in this application if a misuse of GAVI Alliance funds is confirmed.

#### ANTICORRUPTION

The Country confirms that funds provided by the GAVI Alliance shall not be offered by the Country to any third person, nor will the Country seek in connection with this application any gift, payment or benefit directly or indirectly that could be construed as an illegal or corrupt practice.

#### **AUDITS AND RECORDS**

The Country will conduct annual financial audits, and share these with the GAVI Alliance, as requested. The GAVI Alliance reserves the right, on its own or through an agent, to perform audits or other financial management assessment to ensure the accountability of funds disbursed to the Country.

The Country will maintain accurate accounting records documenting how GAVI Alliance funds are used. The Country will maintain its accounting records in accordance with its government-approved accounting standards for at least three years after the date of last disbursement of GAVI Alliance funds. If there is any claims of misuse of funds, Country will maintain such records until the audit findings are final. The Country agrees not to assert any documentary privilege against the GAVI Alliance in connection with any audit.



#### CONFIRMATION OF LEGAL VALIDITY

The Country and the signatories for the government confirm that this application is accurate and correct and forms a legally binding obligation on the Country, under the Country's law, to perform the programmes described in this application.

# CONFIRMATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE GAVI ALLIANCE TRANSPARANCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY POLICY

The Country confirms that it is familiar with the GAVI Alliance Transparency and Accountability Policy (TAP) and will comply with its requirements.

#### **ARBITRATION**

Any dispute between the Country and the GAVI Alliance arising out of or relating to this application that is not settled amicably within a reasonable period of time, will be submitted to arbitration at the request of either the GAVI Alliance or the Country. The arbitration will be conducted in accordance with the then-current UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. The parties agree to be bound by the arbitration award, as the final adjudication of any such dispute. The place of arbitration will be Geneva, Switzerland. The language of the arbitration will be English.

For any dispute for which the amount at issue is US\$ 100,000 or less, there will be one arbitrator appointed by the GAVI Alliance. For any dispute for which the amount at issue is greater than US \$100,000 there will be three arbitrators appointed as follows: The GAVI Alliance and the Country will each appoint one arbitrator, and the two arbitrators so appointed will jointly appoint a third arbitrator who shall be the chairperson.

The GAVI Alliance will not be liable to the country for any claim or loss relating to the programmes described in this application, including without limitation, any financial loss, reliance claims, any harm to property, or personal injury or death. Country is solely responsible for all aspects of managing and implementing the programmes described in this application.

# USE OF COMMERCIAL BANK ACCOUNTS

The eligible country government is responsible for undertaking the necessary due diligence on all commercial banks used to manage GAVI cash-based support, including HSS, ISS, CSO and vaccine introduction grants. The undersigned representative of the government confirms that the government will take all responsibility for replenishing GAVI cash support lost due to bank insolvency, fraud or any other unforeseen event.