



Report to the GAVI Alliance Board

21-22 November 2013

Subject:	Consent Agenda: Vice Chair nomination
Report of:	Debbie Adams, Managing Director, Law and Governance
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Agenda item:	02b
Category:	For Decision
Strategic goal:	Alliance operations

Section A: Overview

1 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 This report reviews the nomination of the Board Vice Chair.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Governance Committee recommended to the GAVI Alliance Board that it:

- (a) **Reappoint** Geeta Rao Gupta as Vice Chair of the Board with individual signatory authority until 31 December 2015.

The minutes will note that Geeta Rao Gupta did not participate in discussion and voting on her reappointment.

3 Executive summary

- 3.1 The Statutes state that “Board members will select the...Vice Chair of the Board from among their own voting members...” (Article 12) To do so, the By-Laws state that “the Nominating Committee shall nominate candidates for...Vice Chair” (Article 2.6.1); the Nominating Committee powers were delegated to the Governance Committee (Charter, Section 1).
- 3.2 On 19 September 2013, Orin Levine, Board member for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, informed the Secretariat that he “would like to nominate Geeta Rao Gupta for Vice Chair of the GAVI Board. She has performed admirably in her current term and her continuation in this role would provide welcome leadership and continuity at a pivotal time for the Alliance.” No additional nominations were received.

3.3 During its meeting on 4 November, the Governance Committee, in a session chaired by Olga Popova, considered and recommended Geeta Rao Gupta's reappointment.

4 Risk implication and mitigation

4.1 The Vice Chair is one of GAVI's key leadership positions and should not go unfilled. This appointment assures continuity of leadership.

5 Financial implications: Business plan and budgets

5.1 There are no financial implications.

Section B: Content

6 Geeta Rao Gupta's biography

6.1 Geeta Rao Gupta, Deputy Executive Director (Programmes), joined UNICEF in June 2011. She brings over 20 years of experience in international development programming, advocacy and research to the UN children's agency.

6.2 Prior to her appointment, Dr Rao Gupta served as a senior fellow at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation from 2010 to 2011. She acted as the senior advisor to the Global Development Programme on the strategic direction and management of a cross-cutting range of issues and projects.

6.3 From 1996 to 2010, Dr Rao Gupta was the president of the International Centre for Research on Women. She conducted and oversaw research on topics ranging from the social and economic factors that affect women's use of maternal nutrition and health care services, to girls' and women's vulnerability to HIV. Under her leadership, the ICRW catalyzed policy and programmatic change for women and children around the globe. Dr Rao Gupta has also led and participated in numerous high-level, global initiatives for women and children, including the U.N. Millennium Project's Task Force on Education and Gender Equality and the U.N. Secretary-General's Youth Employment Network.

6.4 Dr Rao Gupta is the recipient of numerous awards, including Harvard University's 2006 Anne Roe Award and the 2007 Washington Business Journal's "Women Who Mean Business" Award.

6.5 She earned a Ph.D. in Social Psychology from Bangalore University and an M.Phil. and M.A. from the University of Delhi, India. Dr. Rao Gupta is married and has a daughter. She was born in India, and is an American citizen.

Section C: Implications

7 Impact on countries

7.1 There is no programmatic impact on GAVI-eligible countries.

8 Impact on GAVI stakeholders

8.1 There is no impact on stakeholders.

9 Impact on Secretariat

9.1 There is no impact on the Secretariat.

10 Legal and governance implications

10.1 There are no additional legal or governance implications.

11 Consultation

11.1 The parameters for consultation required by the governing documents are outlined in section 3.

12 Gender implications

12.1 There are no issues contained in this report that have gender equality implications.