

Annex A: Implications/Anticipated impact

Risk implication and mitigation: There are two key risks to the MICs Approach. The first is that the Secretariat does not have the capacity to deliver successfully given limited bandwidth. This is mitigated through the resources for implementation designated within the MICs Approach budget. Without these resources, the MICs Approach would not be able to reach its full potential.

The second risk is the continued uncertainty around the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on countries, potentially limiting the extent to which they are able to engage. This is mitigated by building and strengthening the enabling environment, investing at the regional and global level to address common challenges and shared bottlenecks, while standing ready to deploy targeted and catalytic tools at the country level.

Risk of inaction: As of early 2021, countries have started to express renewed interest in the introduction of PCV, rotavirus and HPV vaccines. Without the support through the MICs Approach, there is a risk that these introductions are not achieved, as countries would have less support to overcome the barriers impeding progress. Should these introductions be achieved, there is a risk that they are less sustainable and equitable than they could otherwise be with support through the MICs Approach, with marginalised and vulnerable population subgroups most at risk of being left behind.

Without the support through the MICs Approach there is also a risk of further backsliding in routine immunisation coverage in former-Gavi countries that would undermine prior investments and achievements. There is also a risk that the zero-dose population in former-Gavi countries would remain unreached, and potentially even continue to grow larger.

Impact on countries: The MICs Approach is critical to helping build the ecosystems necessary to introduce life-saving vaccines and sustain immunisation programme performance. When combined with targeted and catalytic tools, the Secretariat believes that the MICs Approach could drive the sustainable and equitable introduction of 8-10 new vaccines by 2025, reaching 4 million-6 million new children or adolescents. It could also help contribute toward the restoration of routine immunisation coverage in former-Gavi countries following the significant impact incurred within the context of the pandemic. With its specific focus on reaching zero-dose children in reinforcement of routine immunisation services, the MICs Approach could reduce the overall number of zero-dose children in former-Gavi countries by 15%, equivalent to approximately 230,000 children.

Finally, the MICs Approach could also have a significant impact on the lives of children in fragile MICs subject to countries meeting the conditions and receiving support.

Impact on Alliance: The Alliance continues to be strained amid the COVID-19 pandemic and may have limited capacity to implement the MICs Approach. This is mitigated by the provision of support, accessible to partners at the country and regional level, to enable delivery of the MICs Approach.