



GAVI Alliance Programme and Policy Committee Meeting

12 November 2013

Teleconference

FINAL MINUTES

1. GAVI engagement with graduating countries

- 1.1 Finding a quorum of members present, the meeting commenced at 16.05 Geneva time on 12 November 2013. Richard Sezibera, Programme and Policy Committee Chair, chaired the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chair reminded PPC members that he had convened this meeting due to concerns raised since the October PPC meeting in relation to the recommendation on GAVI engagement with graduating countries which excluded countries that are currently on the graduating track from accessing the same support as those entering the graduation track after 31 December 2013.
- 1.3 Hind Khatib-Othman, Managing Director, Country Programmes, outlined the proposed revisions to the October PPC recommendation.

Discussion

- PPC members agreed that they had not had sufficient time to discuss this item at their October meeting and appreciated the Chair's initiative to convene this additional meeting.
- PPC members noted that some of the more detailed information provided in the paper prepared for the November Board meeting was not in the paper for the October PPC meeting. The Secretariat clarified that it was not new information but was contained in the background information which had been put on myGAVI for PPC members in advance of the October meeting.
- PPC members noted that in relation to the recommendation made by them at their October meeting points a) and c) were new in the proposed revised recommendation and b) was simply a rewording for clarification purposes.
- The PPC noted that the Secretariat does not require additional resources to manage the new grants which may be awarded to countries and that the workload will be managed jointly by the Country Responsible Officers and the HSS team within the GAVI Secretariat and WHO colleagues.

- In response to a question from a PPC member the Secretariat clarified that graduating countries applying for HSS support would be expected to focus their grants on areas that would lead them to sustainability. The aim is not to increase dependency on GAVI funding nor to take away from activities in which countries are already engaging. It is planned that there would be a tailored approach for countries to ensure that the support is being used to address specific bottlenecks.
- In response to a question from a PPC member the Secretariat clarified that achieving equity is one of the issues which will be looked at with the graduating countries.
- PPC members noted that there are plans to conduct a review of the Immunisation Financing & Sustainability task team and one member of the PPC suggested that it might be useful to consider adjusting the current scope of the task team and add to its skill set.
- PPC members recognised the importance of taking a timely decision in particular in terms of the expectations of countries already on the graduation track. It was however acknowledged that it would be useful to have some additional information and in this context the PPC requested the Secretariat, working with the Immunisation Financing & Sustainability task team and key stakeholders, to conduct further analyses in relation to the procedures for implementation of graduation grants and HSS support for countries currently in the graduation track with DTP3 coverage below 90% and to report back to the PPC at its next meeting.
- The PPC noted that decisions made in relation to support for graduating countries would not pre-empt any decision to be made on graduation support in the 2016-2020 Strategy.
- PPC members noted a statement which had been submitted by email during the call from the PPC member from the UK stating that he was unable to endorse the suggested amendments to the original PPC recommendation to the Board but remained willing to engage in further discussions at the Board meeting. The Chair expressed his hope that any of the concerns which the UK had would have been addressed during the discussions at this meeting.

Decision One

The Programme and Policy Committee recommended to the GAVI Alliance Board that it:

- a) **Approve** that, to support time-limited catalytic investments in preparation for graduation, all graduating countries will be eligible to apply for a graduation grant on the basis of their graduation plan. A graduation grant covers the period until a country is graduated;
- b) **Approve** that countries entering the graduation process after 31 December 2013 will be eligible to apply for new support (HSS and vaccine support) until

the end of the next calendar year after the date they have informed of their expected graduation. Vaccine and HSS support may be provided to countries until they graduate. However, HSS support will only be available to such countries with a DTP3 coverage below 90%;

- c) **Approve** that, to address issues of low immunisation coverage, countries that have entered the graduation process prior to 31 December 2013 and that have a DTP3 coverage below 90% are eligible to apply for HSS support that may be provided until they graduate;
- d) **Request** the Secretariat to conduct analyses and consultations to develop and propose instruments to support access to affordable prices for all Lower Middle Income Countries (LMICs), including graduated countries and non-GAVI LMICs. Options would be brought to the Board for consideration in 2014;
- e) **Approve** an amount up to US\$ 2 million to be added to the 2014 Business Plan for the GAVI Secretariat and partners to scale-up engagement with graduating countries.

2. Review of decisions

- 2.1 Joanne Goetz, Senior Manager, Governance, reviewed the decision language with the Committee which was approved by them.

Ms Debbie Adams
Secretary to the Board

Attachment A

Participants

Committee Members

- Richard Sezibera, Chair
- Steve Landry
- Clarisse Loe Loumou
- Lene Lothe
- Susan McKinney
- Jean-Marie Okwo-Bele
- Klaus Stohr
- Jos Vandelaer
- Seth Berkley (non-voting)

GAVI

- Santiago Cornejo
- Helen Evans
- Joanne Goetz
- Hind Khatib-Othman

Regrets

- Jon Abramson
- Zulfiqar Bhutta
- Ahmad Jan Naeem
- Robert Oelrichs
- Salif Samake

Observers

- Stephen Karengera, Special Adviser to the PPC Chair