

Gavi Alliance Programme and Policy Committee Meeting

21 May 2015

Teleconference

1. Declarations of Interest

- 1.1 Finding a quorum of members present, the meeting commenced at 16.08 Geneva time on 4 May 2015. Richard Sezibera, Programme and Policy Committee Chair, and Jean-Marie Okwo-Bele, Alternate Board member and PPC member representing WHO, co-chaired the meeting. They referred to a document which had been sent to the PPC by Minister Kesetebirhan Admasu on behalf of Ghana.
- 1.2 Standing declarations of interest were tabled to the Committee (Doc 01a in the Committee pack).

2. Strengthening country transitions out of Gavi support

- 2.1 Seth Berkley, CEO, briefly introduced this item and Judith Kallenberg, Head of Policy, provided PPC members with a brief overview of the information presented to them in the paper for this meeting. They noted that in addition to the document sent to the PPC on behalf of Ghana, a further document had been sent by the Secretariat to the PPC following a request for clarifications from a PPC member.

Discussion

- PPC members agreed on the importance of the new policy being rules based in order to ensure credibility of the Gavi model.
- A number of PPC members expressed support for option 3a (GNI p.c. increase over 10%) as presented in the paper, while others expressed a preference for option 3b (GNI p.c. increase over 20%).
- One member of the PPC proposed, and was supported by other members, that there should be an additional focus on countries entering graduation much earlier than expected due to a sudden increase in GNI p.c. caused by rebasing.
- PPC members noted that while countries are supposed to rebase their national income every five years this does not always happen and it is one of the reasons why some countries have recently seen such a sudden increase.
- While some members favoured looking at increases in GNI p.c. over 20% linked to rebasing, others showed a preference for increases over 30% (regardless of

rebasings). In this context the Secretariat indicated that the expected average growth in the world this year is 3.3% and for Gavi countries it is expected to be at 4.7%.

- The Secretariat noted that if there is a focus on rebasing some of the countries would no longer qualify to receive additional support. Following discussion, PPC members agreed that immunisation coverage rates below a certain level could be added as an additional criteria for countries considered to be at high risk of successfully transitioning out of Gavi support and whose GNI p.c. had not been rebased. It was felt however that in order to enable them to come to a final agreement on this it would be necessary to see the corresponding analytics.
- One PPC member suggested that it would be useful to have a coherent strategy around earlier engagement with countries in view of their transition out of Gavi support. The Secretariat recalled that the PPC had discussed Gavi's approach to graduation during its May 2014 meeting.
- In relation to the proposed options to catalyse additional vaccine introductions funding during Phase 2, PPC members agreed on option 2 whereby limited catalytic support would be provided to a sub-set of current Phase 2 countries (those that missed the opening of a support window) for the introduction of 'late arrival' vaccines.
- It was agreed that based on the discussions at this meeting a proposed wording of the PPC recommendation to the Board would be circulated to the PPC by the end of the following day.
- The CEO confirmed to the PPC that, as requested during its previous meeting, he would be presenting a paper to the Board which would provide an overview of policy proposals and proposed strategic investments in support of the Gavi 2015-2020 strategy, and which would include information on potential costing and opportunity costs. He highlighted that this is somewhat difficult to do as the Board has not yet fully decided on all of the options going forward. In addition to the US\$ 500 million for strategic initiatives that was included in the replenishment ask it is possible that due to programme adjustments, potential savings from market shaping and additional donor commitments the resources available could be in the range of US\$ 1 billion.

Post meeting note: A proposed wording of the PPC recommendation to the Board was circulated to the PPC on Friday 22 May. An accompanying document outlined the implications in terms of countries and costs. Following comments received, further information was provided to the PPC on Saturday 23 May. It was subsequently agreed that the wording of the recommendation to the Board should reflect that additional support by way of two additional years in Phase 1 would be provided to countries entering graduation earlier due to i) a sudden single year GNI p.c. increase of more than 30% during the five years before entry into Phase 2, or ii) a sudden single-year GNI p.c. increase of more than 20% during the five years before entry into Phase 2 and a low-performing immunisation programme as measured by the most recent WHO/UNICEF penta3 coverage estimate being below 90%.

3. Review of decisions

- 3.1 As agreed the proposed decision language was drafted and circulated to the Committee by email for review.

4. Any other business

- After determining there was no further business, the meeting was brought to a close.

Mrs Joanne Goetz
Secretary of the Meeting

Attachment A

Participants

Committee Members

- Richard Sezibera, Chair
- Kesetebirhan Admasu
- Zulfiqar A. Bhutta
- Erik Bossan
- Mariam Diallo
- Jason Lane
- Clarisse Loe Loumou
- Susan McKinney
- Violaine Mitchell
- Robert Oelrichs
- Jean-Marie Okwo-Bele
- Rajinder Suri
- Jos Vandelaer
- Seth Berkley
- Jon Abramson

Regrets

- Ahmad Jan Naeem
- Andrei Usatii

GAVI

- Anuradha Gupta
- Joanne Goetz
- Hind Khatib-Othman
- Robert Newman
- Santiago Cornejo
- Judith Kallenberg
- Aurelia Nguyen
- Eelco Szabo

Observers

- Donal Brown
- Anders Molin
- Katie Taylor
- Stephen Karengera, Special Adviser to PPC Chair