



## **GAVI Alliance Executive Committee Meeting**

15 November 2011  
Dhaka, Bangladesh

### **FINAL MINUTES**

#### **1. Chair's report**

- 1.1 Finding a quorum of members present, the meeting commenced at 14.30 Dhaka time on 15 November 2011. Jaime Sepulveda, Executive Committee Chair, chaired the meeting.
- 1.2 Standing declarations of interest were tabled to the Committee (Doc #1 in the Committee pack). The Chair noted his new affiliation with the University of California, San Francisco but declared no conflicts associated with that affiliation. Rajeev Venkayya reported that he had accepted a senior position in Takeda Pharmaceuticals and would have an interest in any matter involving that company, though he was unaware of any current financial relationship between GAVI and Takeda. Ronald Brus noted Crucell's purchase by Johnson & Johnson and declared his interest in any matter involving either of these entities. Geeta Rao Gupta declared her interest in matters before the Committee involving UNICEF.
- 1.3 Dagfinn Høybråten, Board Chair, participated in the meeting but did not vote.

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#### **2. Financial forecast and programme funding**

- 2.1 Bakhuti Shengelia, Director of Country Reviews and Grant Renewals delivered an overview of the outcomes of the September 2011 Monitoring Independent Review Committee (IRC) meetings and sought the Committee's endorsement of the IRC recommendations in relation to the remaining 2011 Annual Progress Reports, and new pilot proposals for the Health Systems Funding Platform (HSFP) (Doc #2a).
- 2.2 Subsequently, Barry Greene, Managing Director of Finance and Operations informed the Committee of the updated financial forecast for 2011-2016, and requested that the Committee endorse budgets and approve funding for GAVI programmes (Doc #2b). The forecast incorporated the latest demand estimates, funding decisions taken to date, and the current level of resources. Notably, the latter figure reflected the results of the 13 June 2011 Pledging

Conference, additional contributions from donors, and foreign exchange rate adjustments. Also, the financial forecast was extended through 2016 to provide visibility through the next five calendar years.

- 2.3 In support of these recommendations, on 28 October 2011, the Audit and Finance Committee noted that it reviewed the financial implications of the Programme Funding Plan, and that it could be approved by the Board or Executive Committee in accordance with the Programme Funding Policy.

#### *Discussion*

- Discussion around the HSFP focused on the level and extent of harmonisation with all the relevant development partners and the approval rate of applications. Some Committee members felt that harmonisation around HSFP was too focused on the relationship between the Global Fund and GAVI, and should be broadened. It was also felt that approval of only one pilot proposal out of three did not meet expectations. However, it was explained that a larger sampling of pilot projects was required to make valid judgements about approval rates. The Committee thought that perhaps some fundamental thinking would be required for the scope of GAVI's HSS support and funding instruments through which such support could be provided to countries with diverse health system contexts. The Committee agreed the Board should discuss GAVI's approach to cash programmes during its pending meeting.
- The Committee again reviewed the reasons for the changes to the financial forecast since the July 2011 Board meeting: In July, the forecast signalled that funds pledged to GAVI were in excess of the country demand anticipated. However, the Board noted that demand could turn out to be higher than then forecast, because of the magnitude of the round of proposals that were being assessed at that time. Barry Greene confirmed that such higher demand had indeed emerged from those proposals resulting in an increase of approximately US\$ 700 million in forecast demand.
- There was discussion on the forecast for 2016. As it stands, GAVI would need additional resources in the amount of \$279 million in order to fully meet the demand forecast for that year. Of course, this figure will inevitably change as the Monitoring IRC evaluated programme progress leading to budget adjustments, as well as changes in vaccine prices, and other factors which could affect the ultimate cost of programmes in the intervening years.
- The forecast is valuable in analysing GAVI's resource needs though revisions upward in country demand, or potential arrears in donor pledge payments could pose a risk. It was noted that if either of these threats significantly materialised, that GAVI maintains a cash reserve which could be accessed and that the Board could make course corrections during 2011-2016. (Conversely, it was also acknowledged that increases in demand should be seen as a positive development.)

- In sum, the forecast demonstrated how GAVI can fulfil its promises through 2015, but diligence is required to make sure that pledges are fulfilled and continued in order to make that a reality.

### **Resolution One**

#### **The GAVI Alliance Executive Committee:**

- **Approved** six requests for active HSS grant renewals, subject to clarifications from countries listed in Doc 2a, table 3.
- **Approved** two requests for CSO service delivery grant extensions from countries listed in Doc 2a, table 3.
- **Approved** Vietnam's proposal for health system strengthening through the Health Systems Funding Platform.

### **Resolution Two**

#### **The GAVI Alliance Executive Committee:**

- **Endorsed** a net increase in programme budgets by US\$ 18,474,895.

*This endorsement constitutes acknowledgement of such budget amount but does not constitute a funding approval, decision, obligation, or commitment of the GAVI Alliance or its contributors.*

- **Approved** a net increase of near-term programme liabilities by US\$ 20,726,014.

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After reviewing the resolution language contained in these minutes and determining there was no further business, the meeting was brought to a close.

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Mr Kevin A. Klock  
Assistant Secretary

## **Attachment A**

### **Participants**

#### **Committee Members**

- Jaime Sepulveda, Chair (as indicated)
- Cristian Baeza
- Amie Batson
- Ronald Brus
- Ashutosh Garg
- Geeta Rao Gupta
- George W. Wellde Jr.
- Seth Berkley (non-voting)

#### **Other Board Members attending**

- Dagfinn Høybråten, Board Chair

#### **Alternates attending**

- Rajeev Venkayya\*

#### **Regrets**

- Wayne Berson
- Guillermo González González

\* Served as the eligible organisation's voting member per Section 2.6.5 of the By-Laws

#### **GAVI**

- Mercy Ahun
- Tony Dutson
- Helen Evans
- Barry Greene
- Kevin A. Klock
- Meegan Murray-Lopez
- Bakhuti Shengelia
- Daniel Thornton

#### **Guests**

- Aksel Jakobsen, Senior Advisor to the Board Chair