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The Programme and Policy Committee (PPC) of the GAVI Alliance Board has held four meetings since the December 2009 board meeting. This paper provides a brief summary of issues discussed.

The Board will be requested to approve the PPC's recommendations with regard to prioritisation, co-financing, health systems strengthening programme allocations, and the advance market commitment.

Programme and Policy Committee Update

December 2009 – June 2010

The Programme & Policy Committee (PPC) serves as the principal advisory body to the board on all GAVI programme areas and leads the development of new policies. It is staffed by high-level technical experts from partner organisations and constituencies, with knowledge in areas such as epidemiology, public health, research, health systems and financing. Over the course of the reporting period, the chairing function of the committee passed from Sissel Hodne-Steen of Norway to Gustavo Gonzalez-Canali from France. The committee held two face-to-face meetings and two teleconferences since December 2009. Actions taken by the PPC and key discussion items from all three meetings are summarised below.

Policies Endorsed for Board approval

Prioritisation policy: The PPC endorsed the scope of work and appointed a time-limited task team to develop a policy on prioritisation in February 2010. The policy was endorsed in May 2010 for presentation to the board in June 2010 (see Doc 09).

Co-financing: In February 2010, the PPC endorsed the scope of work and appointed a time-limited task team to review the policy on co-financing and propose revisions, if necessary. The work of the task team is divided into two phases – the first focusing on policy objectives and the second in implementation. Objectives, principles and a definition of “financial sustainability” have been endorsed for presentation to the June 2010 board (see Doc 07).

Supply strategy: In February 2010, the PPC endorsed the scope of work and appointed a time-limited task team to review and update GAVI's vaccine supply strategy looking specifically at innovative procurement strategies and how to achieve the best value for money, while ensuring sufficient supply. The work of this team will commence in June 2010.

Advance market commitment (AMC): The PPC reviewed policy options to address the impact of the November 2009 board decisions (eligibility, graduation and funding pause) on the demand forecasts for pneumococcal vaccines that underlie the AMC. An endorsed option is being presented to the June 2010 board (see Doc 08).

Health systems strengthening: The PPC recommend moving forward with the platform, informing a board decision taken in April 2010. Further, a system for

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allocation of financial resources was endorsed for presentation to the board in June (see Doc 11).

Other Key Issues Discussed¹

Independent Review Committee (IRC) review: In Spring of 2009 the PPC requested the Secretariat conduct a review of the IRC process. This review was contracted to an independent consulting firm (HLSP) and completed in March 2010. The PPC reviewed the report and provided guidance to the Secretariat in May 2010 on how to address the issues raised by the external firm.

Country Programme update and IRC recommendations: The PPC reviewed country programmes and IRC policy recommendations and asked the Secretariat to formally track progress on addressing recommendations. They asked the Secretariat to explore the format of providing update dates, including reviewing performance indicators. They also recommended to the Executive Committee that countries be informed of the outcomes of the October meeting and that countries should be given at least six months advance notice for any new funding rounds.

GAVI Strategy 2011-2015: The PPC provided guidance on the development of strategy and was tasked by the Executive Committee with advising the Secretariat on key performance indicators (KPIs) and targets. KPIs were updated following the May meeting and will be presented to the Board for endorsement in June 2010.

Accelerated Vaccine Initiative (AVI): The Secretariat provided written and verbal updates to the PPC on the progress around AVI. This included a half day briefing on technical issues prior to the May 2010 meeting. Following a request of the PPC, the AVI project will be presented as a standing item at both PPC and GAVI board meetings.

CSO update: The PPC reviewed the Secretariat's proposals regarding the CSO windows, in particular a review of Type A support and requested an update at the October 2010 meeting.

Programme Funding Strategy: The proposed programme funding policy was discussed. The PPC recommended that the Audit and Finance Committee consider a 3 year minimum commitment to countries.

Performance-based funding: The PPC reviewed and provided guidance on various concepts to make GAVI's support to countries more explicitly performance based as proposed by the time-limited Performance Based Financing Task Team. Policy proposals will now be brought to the PPC's October 2010 meeting for endorsement.

Role of the PPC: The PPC initiated a discussion on its roles and responsibilities. This discussion will be followed up in October.

¹ Full PPC meeting minutes are available: <http://www.gavialliance.org/about/governance/boards/committees/index.php>