



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **DONORS COMMIT VACCINE FUNDING TO ACHIEVE HISTORIC MILESTONE IN GLOBAL HEALTH**

#### ***GAVI Alliance poised to immunise more than 250 million children in developing countries by 2015***

LONDON, 13 June 2011 – Major public and private donors achieved a milestone in global health today by committing funding to immunise more than 250 million of the world's poorest children against life-threatening diseases by 2015 and prevent more than four million premature deaths.

Donors committed US\$ 4.3 billion at the first pledging conference held by the GAVI Alliance. This exceeds an initial target of \$3.7 billion, enabling GAVI to reach more children faster than planned and to accelerate the introduction of new vaccines. A portion of the pledges are conditional upon GAVI raising additional funds from new donors in the future. Today's pledges bring GAVI's total available resources for the period 2011 to 2015 to \$ 7.6 billion.

The increased support is timely. GAVI recently reported a record 50 countries applied for vaccine funding during the Alliance's latest application round – nearly double the previous record in 2007. This new support will allow GAVI to fully fund approved applications.

"Today is an important moment in our collective commitment to protecting children in developing countries from disease," said President of Liberia Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. "But every 20 seconds, a child still dies of a vaccine-preventable disease. There's more work to be done."

The meeting convened prime ministers, ministers and high-level officials from donor and developing countries, leaders of UN Agencies, CEOs from private companies and senior civil society leaders to make commitments to support GAVI's life-saving work. The meeting was hosted by the governments of the United Kingdom and Liberia and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Governments more than doubled their previous commitments and new donors will also give for the first time, including Japan and Brazil. GAVI's largest corporate donor, "la Caixa" Foundation, extended its financial commitment and new donors Anglo American plc and Absolute Return for Kids (ARK) made their first pledges.

Developing countries committed to maintain or increase the co-financing of their vaccine programmes and leverage the partnership to immunise their children. GAVI estimates that the total level of co-financing will triple to US\$ 100 million by 2015. Vaccine manufacturers announced last week they will contribute by offering lower prices on a range of life-saving vaccines supported by GAVI, including a two-thirds reduction on the rotavirus vaccine, which combats the leading cause of diarrhoea deaths. Co-financing and lower prices will enhance the sustainability of immunisation programmes.

"GAVI was one of the very top performers in our root-and-branch review of the agencies that deliver British aid because it demonstrates tangible results. Britain will play its full part and our support to GAVI will help vaccinate over 80 million children and save 1.4 million lives. That's one child vaccinated every two seconds for five years," said David Cameron, UK Prime Minister.



“For the first time in history, children in developing countries will receive the same vaccines against diarrhoea and pneumonia as children in rich countries,” said Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. “Together we must do more to ensure that all children – no matter where they live – have equal access to life-saving vaccines.”

Conference participants agreed that the momentum to reach more children with vaccines must be maintained and they encouraged GAVI to expand coverage of immunisation programmes and accelerate the introduction of new vaccines. It was also recognised that vaccine manufacturers should continue to deliver and expand on their promises to reduce vaccine prices and provide greater access, while the countries themselves should continue to meet their co-financing commitments. Participants also agreed to meet in two years time to review GAVI’s progress in immunisation and resource mobilisation.

“Today was a vote a confidence for GAVI. But it was also a challenge to us: to keep delivering on our mission and to do even more. Nearly two million children die from vaccine-preventable diseases every year. The day will come when malaria and other killer diseases can be beaten with a simple shot in the arm. We must prepare for that day. Working with partners, GAVI will need to continue to raise the necessary resources to tackle all vaccine-preventable diseases,” said GAVI Alliance Board Chair Dagfinn Høybråten.

# # #

The GAVI Alliance is a Geneva-based public-private partnership aimed at improving health in the world’s poorest countries. The Alliance brings together developing country and donor governments, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the World Bank, the vaccine industry in both industrialised and developing countries, research and technical agencies, civil society, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and other private philanthropists.

GAVI support consists of providing life-saving vaccines and strengthening health systems. In its first decade of work, GAVI has financed the immunisation of more than 288 million children and prevented more than five million premature deaths.

For more information, please visit: [www.gavialliance.org](http://www.gavialliance.org)

#### **Media requests**

Jeffrey Rowland  
+41 79 240 45 59 mobile  
[jrowland@gavialliance.org](mailto:jrowland@gavialliance.org)

Dan Thomas  
+41 79 251 8581 mobile  
[dthomas@gavialliance.org](mailto:dthomas@gavialliance.org)

Ariane Leroy  
+41 79 340 1878 mobile  
[aleroy@gavialliance.org](mailto:aleroy@gavialliance.org)

## GAVI Alliance pledging conference – Key Outcomes

### Resources Assured for 2011-2015

Proceeds to GAVI in US\$ millions	Pledged by Sep 2010	Pledged Oct-Dec 2010	New Pledges June 2011	Resources now Assured
Australia	52	64	149	264
Brazil			12	12
Canada	158	51	15	225
Denmark	5	4	19	29
European Commission	14	29	15	58
France	366		146	511
Germany			73	73
Ireland		13		13
Italy	481		25	506
Japan			9	9
Luxembourg		6		6
Netherlands	34		175	209
Norway	136	6	677	819
Republic of Korea	1			1
Russia	41			41
South Africa	4			4
Spain	48	3		50
Sweden	8		201	209
United Kingdom	1,114		1,335	2,449
United States			450	450
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	341		1,000	1,341
HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed			33	33
"la Caixa" Foundation			6	6
Anglo American plc			3	3
Absolute Return for Kids (ARK)			3	3
<b>Total</b>	2,802	176	4,345	7,324
Investment Income	80			80
Cash & Investment drawdown	195			195
<b>Assured Resources</b>	3,077	176	4,345	7,599
	<b>Prior to June 2011: \$3.3 bn</b>		<b>\$4.3 bn</b>	<b>\$7.6 bn</b>

(1) In addition, the United States is contributing \$90m in 2011 subject to Congressional approval

(2) \$250m of the \$1,000m commitment will be reserved to match new commitments by other donors after June 13 2011, and will be released as these commitments are made.

(3) Holy See will make a symbolic contribution of 5,000 euros

## Composition of Pledges for 2011-2015

Proceeds to GAVI in US\$ millions	Direct	IFFIm	AMC	Total
Australia	212	52		264
Brazil		12		12
Canada	66		158	225
Denmark	29			29
European Commission	58			58
France	146	366		511
Germany	73			73
Ireland	13			13
Italy		157	349	506
Japan	9			9
Luxembourg	6			6
Netherlands	175	34		209
Norway	684	92	43	819
Republic of Korea	1			1
Russia			41	41
South Africa		4		4
Spain	3	47		50
Sweden	201	8		209
United Kingdom	1,494	708	248	2,449
United States	(1) 450			450
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	(2) 1,300		41	1,341
HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed	33			33
"Ia Caixa" Foundation	6			6
Anglo American plc	3			3
Absolute Return for Kids (ARK)	3			3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,964</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>7,324</b>
Investment Income				80
Cash & Investment drawdown				195
<b>Assured Resources</b>				<b>7,599</b>

(1) In addition, the United States is contributing \$90m in 2011 subject to Congressional approval

(2) \$250m of the \$1,000m commitment will be reserved to match new commitments by other donors after June 13 2011, and will be released as these commitments are made

(3) The Holy See will make a symbolic contribution of 5,000 euros