



Update

ON COUNTRY LEVEL GAVI & VACCINE FUND RELATED ACTIVITIES

*The information contained in this Update depends upon your contributions
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GENERAL NOTE ON THE VACCINE FUND APPLICATION PROCESS

- The country activities listed below are those that have been initiated by various Partners of the Alliance.
- The **2nd Round 2003 - May deadline is 2 May 2003**. The review for this round will take place between 27 May – 4 June 2003.
- The **3rd Round 2003 – September deadline is 30 September 2003**.

FINANCING TASK FORCE

28/03/03 from the Financing Task Force: The Core Group of the Financing Task Force will be meeting in Toronto, Canada from 26-27 March 2003. Agenda items include:

- Financial Sustainability: Review of 2002 and Key Issues
- Workplan, Support and Review of Progress
- Immunization Financing Database
- Partner updates on immunization financing activities
- Financing Options – HIPC Status and Opportunities
- Financial Sustainability Issues
- Economic and Financial Incentives for New Vaccines
- Global supply/market analysis study
- FTF partner reports
- Essential activities to reach GAVI Goals

IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE

28/03/03 from the Implementation Task Force: The Implementation Task Force will hold its next meeting in Geneva, Switzerland on 8-9 April 2003. The objectives of the meeting are to:

- Update participants on GAVI Board decisions
- Update on cross-cutting initiatives: Vaccine Provision Project, Training Partnership Initiative, Vaccine Management Training Network
- Present and discuss ITF budget
- Achieve consensus on priority countries for 2003

- Review partner coordination at global, regional and national level
- Discuss next steps in improving vaccine management, increasing immunization coverage and monitoring

DATA QUALITY AUDIT

28/02/03 from Olivier Ronveaux, WHO/HQ: In 2003, DQAs have been conducted in Ethiopia and Sudan. Reports are available at the GAVI Secretariat (gavi@unicef.org).

STRENGTHENING SERVICES

IMMUNIZATION

28/02/03 from Jhilmil Bahl, WHO/HQ: The second Training Partnership Meeting will be held in Geneva, Switzerland on 7 April 2003, prior to the ITF meeting. The objectives of the meeting are to:

- Update on training activities and review training plans for 2003
- Identify areas of collaborative work
- Share knowledge, ideas and experiences on evaluating Impact of Training
- Share knowledge, ideas and experiences on Supportive Supervision
- Discuss common problems/issues in training and identify possible solutions

COUNTRY INFORMATION

AFGHANISTAN

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ: Dr Carsten Mantel (Consultant) is scheduled to visit and assist with finalizing the GAVI application for Injection Safety from 29 March to 13 April 2003.

ALBANIA

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ:

- Application for Injection Safety support is being prepared and expected to be submitted in May 2003.
- Application for New Vaccines (Hib) is expected to be submitted in September 2003.

ANGOLA

28/03/03 from East and South African Regional Working Group:

- EPI review is currently ongoing from 17-31 March 2003. This will be followed with applications for Strengthening Immunization Services and Injection Safety. The review strategy and protocols (especially for logistics/vaccine management) are under development. The multi-year plan is almost complete, and EPI Team Leader is requesting Dr. Rose Macauley (WHO/AFRO) to assist in finalizing a submission to GAVI.
- Measles campaign is scheduled from 12 April to 19 May 2003. The target group and figure is seven million children less than 15 years, nation-wide.

ARMENIA

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ:

- Hib RAT is planned for later this year.
- ISS funds have been received.

AZERBAIJAN

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

BANGLADESH

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ:

- A national immunization adviser and HepB adviser are currently in place to coordinate immunization activities.
- Expected to submit financial sustainability plan this year.

BURUNDI

28/03/03 from East and South African Regional Working Group: A joint mission was conducted by UNICEF by Dr Paul Fife (UNICEF/HQ/VPP) and Shanelle Hall (UNICEF Supply Division). Country selected DTP-Hib plus mono HepB to be introduced in early 2004. The central store is almost complete and vaccine management has improved with the appointment of a store manager.

CAMEROON

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

CHINA

28/03/03 from Asia Pacific Regional Working Group: The review of the China GAVI project is planned for 10-20 June 2003.

DJIBOUTI

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ: A national immunization adviser has been recruited to help coordinate immunization activities.

DPR KOREA

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ:

- Country has been approved for HepB, and a WHO adviser is currently in place to assist with the introduction plan, training materials and training, prior to introduction.
- A UNICEF cold chain consultant is currently in place.

ERITREA

28/03/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:

- Dr Emmanuel Taylor (WHO/Kenya) is supporting the resubmission of the injection safety application. Dr Taylor is coordinating with WHO/HQ to assist the arrangement of a trial for needle cutter or pullers.
- Under 15 measles campaign planned for 2003.
- The Post-Introduction Evaluation is scheduled for 21-30 April 2003.

ETHIOPIA

28/03/03 from East and South African Regional Working Group: Currently working on application for New Vaccines to be submitted in May 2003. Requesting a longer mission to assist with New Vaccine introduction plan.

GHANA

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

GUINEA BISSAU

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Strengthening Immunization Services approved, after submitting clarifications.

KENYA

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

28/03/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group: From the ICC meeting held on 23 December 2002, the following priorities were identified for 2003:

Strengthening of routine immunization services through training for:

- Standardization of EPI practices within the country
- Improved data management
- Quality supervision

- Rationalized distribution of vaccines and other supplies
- Regular and systematic maintenance of cold chain equipment
- Advocacy and social mobilization

Integrated disease surveillance: Attain WHO certification status as a polio-free country.

Supplemental Immunization Activities (SIAs):

- Synchronized immunization days against polio with the neighbouring countries of Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia. The participating eight districts will be Turkana, Marsabet, Moyale, Mandera, Wajir, Garisa, Ijara and Lamu.
- Measles outbreak response – SIAs for all unvaccinated contacts of confirmed cases less than 5 years old.

KYGYZSTAN

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ:

- Application for Injection Safety Support received conditional approval in the 8th round. A consultant is working with the country to revise the application, and application will be submitted in May 2003.
- A Hib RAT was conducted and an application for Hib vaccine will be postponed until 2006.

LAO PDR

28/03/03 from Asia Pacific Regional Working Group: Dr Osman Mansoor (WHO/WPRO and Asia Pacific RWG Coordinator) attended the Lao ICC meeting held on 17 March. The ICC is working well and focused on improving with GAVI implementation. A new process for the release of GAVI funds was approved by the ICC and efforts are to be made to accelerate new vaccine introduction.

LESOTHO

28/03/03 from East and South African Regional Working Group:

- MLM training is planned for 2003, building on the Namibia MLM Training of Trainers training from 2002. Dr Jenny Nyirenda (former EPI Manager, Zambia, Consultant) will assist.
- Dr David Gittleman (CDC) will assist with the initial planning of the Measles follow-up scheduled for August 2003 in March/April 2003.

MALI

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Applications for New Vaccines (HepB) and Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

28/03/03 from Carole Francis, WHO/HQ: Drs Modibo Dicko and Auguste Ambendet (WHO/AFRO) are expected to visit to assess the implementation of the RED (Reaching Every District) Approach including monitoring, microplanning and supportive supervision from 30 March to 5 April 2003.

MOLDOVA

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ: A Hib RAT has been requested for later this year.

MOZAMBIQUE

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

MYANMAR

28/03/03 from Carrie Tudor, WHO/SEARO: Myanmar is currently in the process of implementing the Injection Safety plan which was attached to the application submitted in October 2001.

NEPAL

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ:

- DTP-HepB was approved in October 2001, however due to vaccine shortage, the country has revised its plan and launched monovalent in November 2002 after conducting intensive training.
- Hib RAT was conducted by Dr Fiona Russel from 9-22 March.

PAKISTAN

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ:

- Two immunization advisors (one for HepB vaccine introduction and one for Strengthening Immunization Services) are currently in place.
- A Hib RAT was conducted with assistance from Dr Salah Al-Alwaidy from 23 February to 9 March 2003.
- Drs El-Tayeb Elsayed (Sudan), Amine Meshkhas (Saudi Arabia), Rehan Hafiz (Pakistan) and Oya Afsar are scheduled to assist with the Hib RAT from 13-27 April or 23 April – 4 May.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

28/03/03 from Asia Pacific Regional Working Group: Government has decided to carefully go through the process of considering and preparing the GAVI application, so will not apply until late 2003 or 2004. The current priority is delivery of the measles SIA and using the SIA to re-build routine services. SIA will deliver measles for children up to age 10 years, and will be province by province from September 2003 to April 2004, with a pilot province to start in May 2003.

SAO TOME & PRINCIPE

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

SOMALIA

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ: One national and three sub-national immunization advisers have been recruited to help coordinate immunization activities.

SRI LANKA

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ: Introduced HepB monovalent in 3 provinces in January 2003.

SUDAN

28/03/03 from Salah Haithami, WHO/Sudan: Two Data Quality Auditors visited from 21 February to 9 March 2003. The auditors met with EPI national staff, WHO and UNICEF personnel. A programme of work was discussed and agreed upon. The external auditors and national counterparts started to visit the selected sites for auditing on 24 February 2003 and completed the mission on 9 March 2003.

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ: A HepB mission was conducted recently and country is expected to apply for HepB monovalent in the May 2003 round.

TAJIKISTAN

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ: An injection safety consultant will visit in the second half of 2003 to assist with cold chain.

TANZANIA

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

TOGO

28/03/03 from Carole Francis, WHO/HQ: Drs Modibo Dicko and Auguste Ambendet (WHO/AFRO) are currently visiting to assess the implementation of the RED (Reaching Every District) Approach including monitoring, microplanning and supportive supervision from 24-29 March 2003.

UKRAINE

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ: WHO/EURO will send consultants to assist in the preparation of the Injection Safety application. A waste management assessment will be conducted prior to this.

UZBEKISTAN

28/03/03 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ: Hib RAT was conducted in November 2002, however insufficient evidence was found to justify introduction at present.

VIETNAM

28/03/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety approved, after submitting clarifications.

28/03/03 from Asia Pacific Regional Working Group:

- The rollout of HepB vaccine supplied by GAVI is proceeding according to schedule.
- A second sub-national measles campaign, targeting infants and children aged 9 months – 10 years, is currently in progress in 33 provinces in the south of the nation. Early indications following a similar campaign in the north suggests that measles cases has almost disappeared from the northern provinces in which a similar campaign was conducted last year.
- Vietnam recently received approval for its responses to the IRC's requests for clarifications on its Injection Safety application. It will receive cash in lieu of supplies to enable purchase of AD syringes and safety boxes from a local manufacturer.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

EAST AND SOUTH AFRICAN SUB-REGIONAL WORKING GROUP

28/03/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:

- The South Africa EPI Manager's Meeting is tentatively scheduled for 28 April – 2 May 2003. Potential agenda items include Access/Reach Every District strategies towards accomplishing the 10/100/80 GAVI milestone and AFP Surveillance.
- The Financial Sustainability Planning Workshop is scheduled for 5-9 May 2003 in Kampala, Uganda. Countries involved are Eritrea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- Waste Management Meeting is postponed for Mid-2003. General discussion is raised over a need of a global focal point for waste management.

END