

# Dakar Declaration

Financial Sustainability of Immunization Programmes in the Health Sector  
*... a global concern, a shared responsibility*

Dakar, Senegal

**We**, the representatives of Ministries of Health and Finance from the Governments listed below,

**Bearing in mind** other major Declarations on health and development, the signature and ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the recent Cape Town Call to Action: Vaccination for Every Child,

**Acknowledging** the strong commitment of all governments to achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

**Recalling** the 20/20 Initiative, "*a mutual commitment between interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of ODA and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes*",

**Emphasising** that immunization is among the most cost-effective of all health interventions,

**Taking note** that immunization programmes are but a fraction of the overall health budget in countries, but cognizant that the costs of immunization programmes will necessarily increase as countries seek to reach additional children and introduce new vaccines,

**Appreciating** the momentum offered by the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) and the Vaccine Fund to strengthen immunization programmes and the opportunity to address the financial challenges of sustaining enhanced programmes into the future through the development and implementation of country Financial Sustainability Plans,

**Emphasising** that a unique opportunity now exists with the Financial Sustainability Plans to explore and act upon novel financing strategies—including debt relief for immunization and other mechanisms such as development loans and credits—within the broader health sector,

**MINDFUL** of the challenges that confront us in the implementation of Financial Sustainability Plans,

**RESOLVE** to work closely with our development partners to initiate appropriate actions and implement our Financial Sustainability Plans outlining how our improved immunization programmes can be sustainable once catalytic support from the Vaccine Fund ends,

**COMMIT** to take all necessary measures to ensure that essential resources are made available from all sources and that these resources are efficiently and effectively utilized,

**REQUEST** that the partners of the GAVI and the Vaccine Fund continue to assist countries in the mobilisation of additional financial resources for health and immunization,

**COMMIT OURSELVES** to documenting and sharing our experiences in the development and implementation of Financial Sustainability Plans with other countries, and

**CALL UPON** all Governments to recognize that immunization and the sustainability of immunization is a national priority, a global concern and a shared responsibility.