

In this Issue...

Olympic Aid Partnership	1
Letter from the President	2
World Economic Forum Review	3
Op-Ed: Making Children a Priority By H.M. Queen Rania of Jordan & Jacques-François Martin	4
"Victory Over Disease" Advocacy Campaign	5
GAVI Partner Profile: UNICEF	6
In the News: International Herald Tribune	6
Board member Maestro Mstislav Rostropovich returns to Baku	7
Board Member Profile: H.M. Queen Rania of Jordan	7
Staff Profile: Lomamy Kalema Shodu	8
Our NEW web site	8



Olympian Marion Jones is welcomed by the children of Accra, Ghana.

The Vaccine Fund and Olympic Aid Promote Immunization

In December, The Vaccine Fund and Olympic Aid teamed up with leading athletes, including Marion Jones, Roger Milla and Dorothy Hamill, in an effort to immunize children around the world.

As part of their joint project, the organizations sponsored the world's first Sport and Immunization Festival in Accra, Ghana, on December 17, where more than 2,600 children were immunized and thousands more enjoyed a day of fun and sport. Jones, Hamill, and other athletes led the children in games as aid workers introduced a new "five-in-one" vaccine, which adds protection against hepatitis B and Hib to the usual roster of diphtheria,

tetanus and pertussis vaccines. This marked the first time a West African country has adopted the new vaccine into its infant immunization program.

The festival in Ghana served as the backdrop for a new series of public service announcements (PSAs) featuring three Olympic gold medal winners – Dorothy Hamill, Marion Jones, and Johann Olav Koss – as well as Olympic equestrian Princess Haya of Jordan. The PSAs were developed in preparation for the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, where they were aired on giant screens at ten Olympic venues.

...continued on page 2

Letter from the President



I am delighted to welcome you to the first issue of *The Review*, a quarterly report on The Vaccine Fund's global immunization campaign.

We face a new world since September 11, 2001, a world that is coming to grips with the fact that disease, poverty

and social upheaval are linked. It is a world, too, that is learning that instability in one country can undermine all countries. In rich countries, there is a renewed emphasis on overseas development assistance, and especially on programs that are cost-effective and deliver measurable results. We believe The Vaccine Fund will fare well in this environment.

A second reason for our optimism is that The Vaccine Fund is now operational and delivering on our commitment to the world's poorest children. The Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) and The Vaccine Fund have committed \$822.2 million to 54 countries over five years; the Fund delivered \$135.8 million in 2001.

Even more noteworthy is the number of children who have benefited from our efforts. We have already saved hundreds

of thousands of lives. The countries receiving our assistance estimate that the following numbers of children were immunized in 2001 thanks to The Vaccine Fund's assistance:

Hepatitis B:	1,698,000
HiB:	532,000
Yellow fever:	145,000
Additional DTP3:	1,637,000

In addition, we have helped to ensure that children will not fall ill from contaminated syringes by financing the distribution of 9.5 million auto-destruct syringes and 122,000 safety boxes.

I am deeply encouraged by the response we have had to date, from donor countries as well as our developing country partners. Of course, there is much more to do. We are committed to raising an additional \$1 billion to meet our goal, so that no child is left behind. We thank all of you for your interest in and support of The Vaccine Fund and look forward to sharing our progress with you in the coming months.

Jacques-François Martin

Olympic Aid Partnership *(continued from page 1)*

"Every child has the right to play. But every child must be healthy in order to play. By joining forces with The Vaccine Fund, we are helping to level the playing field for all the world's children," said Olympic gold medal speed skater Koss, chairperson of Olympic Aid, an athlete-driven, humanitarian organization delivering sport and play programs to children living in situations of disadvantage around the world.



Princess Haya of Jordan helping to vaccinate a child.

Olympic Aid and The Vaccine Fund are grateful to the Salt Lake City Organizing Committee for agreeing to broadcast the new public service announcements at all ten Olympic venues.

For further information on Olympic Aid, visit www.olympicaid.org

The Vaccine Fund at the World Economic Forum

The Vaccine Fund was honored to participate in the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Annual Meeting held at New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel from January 31 through February 4. A core theme of this year's meeting was "Reducing Poverty and Improving Equity." Fund President Jacques-François Martin joined corporate and civic leaders in discussions on how this goal could be reached.

As part of the official Forum program, Fund President Jacques-François Martin participated in a panel discussion on the challenges of delivering a future AIDS vaccine to Africa. Board Member H.M. Queen Rania al Abdullah of Jordan was involved in the opening plenary.

Together, Martin and H.M. Queen Rania co-authored an editorial that ran on the front page of the WEF daily newspaper, calling world leaders to take action to immunize the world's poorest children.

On Saturday evening, under the patronage of H.M. Queen Rania, Pfizer Inc. and its chairman, Henry McKinnell, Ph.D., hosted a dinner for The Vaccine Fund. The dinner and a pre-dinner reception at the home of Vaccine Fund board member George Wellde raised over \$3 million. Those attending the dinner or reception included Bill Gates; Sens. John Corzine, Patrick Leahy, John Kerry and Hillary



H.M. Queen Rania talking with Senator Patrick Leahy.



Jacques-François Martin listens as Bill Gates addresses the dinner's attendees.

Rodham Clinton; Reps. Jim Kolbe, Jennifer Dunn and Nita Lowey; New York Times publisher Arthur Sulzberger; and a number of Vaccine Fund board members and leaders of GAVI partners.

For more information, visit the World Economic Forum web site at www.weforum.org



Congressman Jim Kolbe accompanies Vaccine Fund President Jacques-François Martin and Unicef Executive Director Carol Bellamy on Fund trip to Cambodia.

Make Global Health a Priority: Vaccinate the World's Children Now

By H.M. Queen Rania Al-Abdullah of Jordan and Jacques-François Martin



The Op-Ed as it appeared in the Earth Times News during the WEF.

Today, we joined leaders at the World Economic Forum in New York, facing an increasingly perilous, porous and interconnected world. Two of the forum's major themes were especially timely: "Advancing Security and Addressing Vulnerability" and "Reducing Poverty and Improving Equity."

There is no question that these are two sides of the same coin. We cannot advance world security without dealing with the poverty and inequity that afflict many developing nations. Disease and hunger breed economic weakness and political instability, and this puts us all at risk.

Our failure to act forcefully to fight poverty and disease has provided fringe groups with a rallying cry, allowing extremists to pose as benefactors and false advocates for the poor. Insufficient action could be costly in the extreme.

World leaders should immediately direct their attention to basic measures that could remove the underlying causes of turmoil, to help children grow up strong and productive, and to remove the sources of bitterness that divide us. Global health is one area where such inequities exist, and some of these are far from insurmountable.

Indeed, the very simplicity of some solutions has allowed us to overlook them. For example, little attention has been focused on efforts to halt diseases that are already preventable by vaccines but still take the lives of three million people every year, most of them in developing countries.

The Vaccine Fund, in partnership with the Global Alliance for

Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), is committed to rooting out such diseases as hepatitis B, yellow fever, and Haemophilus influenzae b, a leading cause of childhood meningitis. These diseases rarely affect children in industrialized countries, but they continue to destroy young lives and hold back progress in the developing world.

Parents across the United States and in other Western countries are familiar with the "six pack" of inoculations that are administered to children, in many cases as a prerequisite to entering school. This basic preventive measure has now become an "11 pack" as more vaccines are added to the list.

Yet, every year, 30 million newborns across the world receive no vaccinations. Many of the world's 74 poorest countries, where The Vaccine Fund is focusing its efforts, even lack an effective delivery system to get these vaccines to the children in need.

Consider this: If an AIDS vaccine is discovered, it will do little good unless it can be delivered and administered to those most at risk. As a part of our work in providing vaccinations to the world's children, The Vaccine Fund and GAVI are helping develop the delivery systems that could be used when an AIDS vaccine is developed.

Many of the countries slated to receive our support, such as Afghanistan, the Sudan, and Sierra Leone are, not coincidentally, among the world's trouble spots – illustrating the vicious circle of conflict, poverty and poor health.

We've learned time and again that poverty, disease and social chaos in any one country can undermine the security of all countries. We cannot, in a blink, remove all of these ills from the global scene. But we can take immediate steps to address the basics.

Vaccination is one of the world's best values. For less than \$30, a child can be fully immunized against all the vaccine-preventable diseases that can kill. The Vaccine Fund was launched at the World Economic Forum in January 2000 and now has resources of just over \$1 billion. To date, we've committed more than \$800 million in vaccines and enhanced delivery systems in 53 of the 74 eligible countries.

The Vaccine Fund has set a goal to raise \$2 billion for these vital vaccinations – a lot of money, true, but the costs of inaction are far greater. We asked the world's business and political leaders at this year's Forum to take up this challenge. The world's children are awaiting their decision.

Rania Al-Abdallah is H.M. Queen of Jordan and a member of the board of The Vaccine Fund. Jacques-François Martin is president of The Vaccine Fund.



Outside the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel during the World Economic Forum.

“Victory Over Disease” Advocacy Campaign Launches

At the World Economic Forum in New York City, The Vaccine Fund launched an advertising campaign to support its goal of raising an additional \$1 billion to save children’s lives. The advertisements, which feature children from different cultures raising their hands in a “V” sign representing “Victory” and “Vaccine,” were posted on phone kiosks around the WEF venue and ran in the daily conference newspaper. They were also showcased in a brochure distributed at the fundraising dinner held in the Fund’s behalf.

“We hope the campaign will assist us in raising an additional billion dollars for vaccination efforts by 2005,” said Jacques-François Martin, president of The Vaccine Fund. “We are a very new organization and we need to work to

be associated with the idea of working for children and saving lives.”

The campaign includes several ads, all of which show the children with their “V” signs as part of the spelling of a word in the headline. These headlines, such as “Victory over disease,” “Millions will be saved,” “Believe in miracles,” and “World’s best value,” illustrate the need for vaccination in developing countries.

The campaign was featured in the New York Times advertising column on January 28. To view all of the ads, please visit our web site at www.vaccinefund.org

GAVI Partner Profile: UNICEF



Since 1946, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has been working to make the world a better place for children. UNICEF is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet

their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential. UNICEF brings ideas, resources, strategies and support to bear when and where they are needed most, and immunizing the world's children remains atop its list of priorities.

For more than 20 years, UNICEF has worked to ensure that children receive basic immunization services by advocating, mobilizing resources and building capacity in government systems and communities. In the 1980s, UNICEF was a major force behind the drive for Universal Childhood Immunization, which immunized 80 percent of the world's children against six vaccine-preventable diseases. In the 1990s, UNICEF sought to fulfill the commitments made at the 1990 World Summit for Children, including immunizing children across the globe, and was instrumental in the creation of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI).

Today, UNICEF remains a champion of childhood immunization, ensuring that immunization is on the political agenda of governments, educating communities and families on the importance of preventative health and immunization, and procuring vaccines to immunize the world's poorest children. Its Copenhagen-based supply division, which is responsible for global purchasing, spends some \$100 million per year on vaccines and safe injection equipment.

A partner in the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), UNICEF chairs the GAVI Task Force on Advocacy, which is responsible for coordinating the global advocacy

and communications efforts of the GAVI partners. UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy is an ex-officio member of the GAVI Board and currently serves as its chair.

The Vaccine Fund In the News...

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Shots for All Children

In the early 1990s more than 70 percent of children in developing nations were vaccinated against basic childhood diseases, the fruit of a campaign begun in 1985 by Unicef and the World Health Organization. But today poor countries report that only 56 percent of their children get the basic vaccines against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, tuberculosis and measles, and the real number is likely much lower. The cause is a falloff in financial support and mounting indifference in wealthy nations toward poor ones.

The challenge is not just to increase coverage of basic vaccines but to add additional protections as well. Vaccines against yellow fever, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae type b, a major cause of childhood meningitis and pneumonia, are routine in rich countries. But because they are expensive, they are virtually unknown in the poorest nations, although the diseases are widespread there.

To reinvigorate world immunization programs, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization was formed in 1999, encompassing Unicef, the World Health Organization, national governments, philanthropic organizations, pharmaceutical companies and others. The following year, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation gave \$750 million to create GAVI's financial arm, the Vaccine Fund. The fund has since raised an additional \$250 million from national governments, but it needs \$750 million more to reach its goal of providing 80 percent of the children in poor countries with basic vaccines and

new vaccines where needed by 2005.

GAVI has already allocated more than \$800 million to help 52 poor countries expand their vaccine coverage. GAVI offers the countries technical help, and the Vaccine Fund provides money to improve delivery and buy the new and underused vaccines. Some of the nations that had fallen furthest behind, including Nigeria and much of East Africa, are again mounting aggressive vaccination campaigns. China has said it will match \$40 million from the Vaccine Fund provide hepatitis B vaccine to provinces covering 40 percent of the country's population.

The Vaccine Fund is also trying to solve a perennial obstacle by providing incentives to industry to make vaccines and sell them cheaply. The fund is stimulating production by assuring manufacturers of a market and giving them long-term contracts, which has brought down prices. The fund is planning to spend money on a final push to bring to market vaccines in the late stages of development, including one for viral diarrhea.

Boosting vaccine coverage is a relatively uncomplicated health measure embraced by governments everywhere. Yet it is sobering to note that without constant attention to vaccination, three-quarters of a million children a year die of measles. The world's failure to keep children protected against easily preventable diseases shows that political commitment is as crucial a component of health as technical know-how.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Rostropovich Returns to Baku on Humanitarian Health Mission



Maestro Rostropovich, President Aliyev and Jacques-François Martin visiting a clinic in Baku.

World-renowned cellist and Vaccine Fund board member, Mstislav Rostropovich, returned to his native city of Baku, Azerbaijan, on behalf of The Vaccine Fund in early March, and was honored by President Heidar Aliyev on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

In addition to celebrating his birthday, Maestro Rostropovich also came bearing gifts for the children of Azerbaijan: a \$1.1 million grant from The Vaccine Fund to immunize against hepatitis B and other diseases, as well as musical instruments from the government of Japan and the Yamaha Foundation for the Baku Symphony.

Maestro Rostropovich, President Aliyev and Vaccine Fund President Jacques-François Martin visited a clinic in Baku to witness a newborn Azeri boy being immunized against hepatitis B.

...continued on page 8

Board Member Profile: H.M. Queen Rania Al-Abdullah



An outspoken advocate of the rights of women and children throughout the world, H.M. Queen Rania of Jordan was appointed to The Vaccine Fund's board of directors in 2001 and has emerged as a strong public supporter of the Fund.

"Vaccines are the key to happy and healthy children," said H.M. Queen

Rania. "As a mother, I was heartbroken to realize that every year three million children die from diseases that could be prevented through vaccination. We have a moral imperative to make sure that this doesn't happen."

The queen joined The Vaccine Fund at the World Economic Forum in New York in February. In addition to co-hosting a fundraising dinner, H.M. Queen Rania appeared on "American Morning with Paula Zahn" along with Jacques-François Martin to discuss the Fund.

"I think that The Vaccine Fund is an example of how non-governmental organizations and civil society should operate in the

21st century," said the queen. "By leveraging existing resources and going into countries where there is already infrastructure, the Fund can actually reduce overhead expenses and make sure that the maximum percentage of funding reaches the people on the ground."

H.M. Queen Rania is committed to numerous organizations focused on advocating for the rights of women and children, as well as issues of national concern in Jordan, including human rights, economic development, early childhood development, and the environment.

She is working alongside other world leaders, including former South African President Nelson Mandela, on the United Nations' Global Leadership Initiative, a movement seeking to improve the welfare of children. H.M. Queen Rania also serves as chair of Jordan's National Team for Family Safety, which safeguards women and children from domestic abuse and is working to establish a unified national policy on preventing, managing, and treating cases of abuse. In March 2000, H.M. Queen Rania was appointed by the Jordanian government to chair the Royal Commission on Human Rights.

H.M. Queen Rania holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the American University in Cairo. She married His Majesty King Abdullah bin Al-Hussein (then Prince) in June 1993. The couple has three children. She became Queen of Jordan in 1999.



Staff Profile: Lomamy Kalema Shodu, Vice President of Program Management

Dr. Lomamy Kalema Shodu serves as Vice President of Program Management at The Vaccine Fund. An epidemiologist and public health specialist, he brings decades of experience in managing public health programs to the Fund.

Dr. Shodu began his career in Africa, where he implemented immunization, maternal and child health, and numerous other health care programs. In Zimbabwe, Dr. Shodu served as the National Director of the Family and Child Health Department, where he facilitated the introduction of new vaccines into the national immunization program. Dr. Shodu was instrumental in implementing numerous health care programs in the Democratic Republic of Congo, including the development of district immunization services.

"The Vaccine Fund addresses the root of the problem that the world's poorest countries face when trying to implement immunization programs," said Dr. Shodu.

In 1999, Dr. Shodu joined the international effort that led to the creation of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI). He was appointed to GAVI's executive board in 2000. He came to The Vaccine Fund from the World Health Organization in early 2001.

"National immunization programs have been one of the primary focuses of my career," said Dr. Shodu. "The partnerships that The Vaccine Fund has formed, both to implement immunization programs and to raise the funds necessary to do so, are key to successfully immunizing the world's poorest children."

Dr. Shodu has published works addressing issues including immunization, maternal and child health, and reproductive health. In addition to his work with The Vaccine Fund, he serves as an honorary lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe's Community Medicine Department.

Rostropovich Returned to Baku *(continued from page 7)*

"That injection guarantees he will not suffer from terrible illnesses," said Rostropovich, whose family left Azerbaijan when he was a schoolboy. "That is a scene I will not forget my whole life because in that syringe is expressed the love of the whole world for that child."

"We are grateful to Maestro Rostropovich for undertaking this important mission to his homeland on behalf of The Vaccine Fund," said Martin. "The Maestro is a great humanitarian and human rights leader. The vaccines we are providing will save thousands of lives in Azerbaijan and millions of lives throughout the world."

Hepatitis B is considered endemic in Azerbaijan, with estimates of the prevalence of chronic infection in the general population ranging from 4 percent to 7 percent. The Health Ministry has set a target of 80 percent hepatitis B vaccine coverage for newborns by 2002 (87,576 infants) and 90 percent coverage by 2004 (100,504 infants). Immunization services in Azerbaijan were seriously disrupted following the dissolution of the Soviet Union but have improved considerably in recent years.

Visit The Vaccine Fund's web site, featuring:

- Updates on the funds and vaccines allocated to date.
- Highlights of our latest activities, including Board Member Mstislav Rostropovich's 75th birthday celebration and vaccine delivery in Baku, Azerbaijan.
- Videos featuring our most recent events, including the public service announcements that aired at the 2002 Winter Olympics.

www.vaccinefund.org

The Vaccine Fund

NEW ADDRESS:

Washington, D.C.
601 13th Street NW, Suite 820N
Washington, DC 20005 USA
Tel: +1-202-628-4910
Fax: +1-202-628-4909

Lyon, France
36 Quai Fulchiron 69005
Lyon, France
Tel: +33-4-7256-7310
Fax: +33 -4 -7842 -3424