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## Nelson Mandela Praises The Vaccine Fund, GAVI, and their Partners for Protecting Over 30 Million of the World's Poorest Children with Vaccines

Highlighting the progress achieved by The Vaccine Fund and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) in reaching over 30 million of the world's poorest children with life saving vaccines in just three years, President Nelson Mandela chaired the second annual meeting of The Vaccine Fund's Board of Directors in Johannesburg on September 9th.

"Our primary mission is life critical. Our goal is very clear: to address the gross inequities in child health still existing in the world today. Life or death for a young child too often depends on whether he is born in a country where vaccines are available or not," said President Mandela in his opening statement to the Board.

"Thirty million children have benefited from over \$250 million in new vaccines and infrastructure funding made available to over 60 countries and millions of the world's children are

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*The Vaccine Fund is a non-profit organization. Contributions to The Vaccine Fund are tax-deductible and may be sent to the above street or web addresses.*



*Graça Machel, Vice Chair of The Vaccine Fund, and Jacques-François Martin, President and CEO of The Vaccine Fund, look on as Nelson Mandela speaks about protecting the world's children while chairing the organization's Board meeting.*

## Letter from the President of The Vaccine Fund



*At Health Center Manhiça, Graça Machel engages a mother and her child awaiting care as a doctor examines an immunization card.*



*Vaccine Fund Board members watch as children are immunized at the Marracuene Health Center in Mozambique.*

Dear Friends,

It was my recent pleasure to join many of our Board members on a field visit to health centers in Maputo province, Mozambique, arranged in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and other GAVI partners. As mothers gathered with their babies at the Manhiça and Boane Health Centers, the official venue for the launching of the first shipment of DTPHepB to Mozambique in April 2001, we observed and discussed Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) activities, vaccine storage, data management, injection safety and social mobilization activities with the dedicated health personnel.

It was a valuable experience as it provided all of us with a fresh understanding of the challenges many countries face in reaching every child with basic vaccines and how these challenges are being addressed. It was also a fitting start to our second annual Board meeting held the following day in Johannesburg. During the Board meeting, chaired by Nelson Mandela, we were inspired by his continued enthusiasm for the programs and the importance of mobilizing resources to expand upon the exciting progress we've achieved with our GAVI partners.

Since 2000:

- \$255 million has been disbursed to over 60 countries
  - 8 million more children have been reached with basic vaccines<sup>1</sup>
  - 30 million more children have been reached with new vaccines<sup>2</sup>
- And,
- Over 300,000 lives are being saved.

These statistics inspire all of us to continue our hard work as demonstrated by Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah's recent visit to Paris where she met with Secretary of State Muselier to thank the French government for its multi-year pledge of support for The Vaccine Fund. We are very grateful for Her Majesty's advocacy and resource mobilization efforts, as well as those of our other active Board members on behalf of all of the world's children. Together we are making a difference.

Jacques-François Martin  
President and CEO of The Vaccine Fund

<sup>1</sup> diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, BCG, measles and polio  
<sup>2</sup> hepatitis B, Hib and yellow fever

## Vaccine Fund Board Assesses Immunization Activities in Mozambique

Two years after Mozambique first received the tetravalent vaccine (protecting against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis and hepatitis B), members of The Vaccine Fund's Board of Directors visited health centers in Maputo Province on September 8 to assess the progress and challenges of immunization activities. Mozambique Health Minister Dr. Francisco Songane and Graça Machel, vice chair of The Vaccine Fund's Board of Directors, led the delegation's visit arranged in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and other partners of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI).

Participants split into two teams with one group visiting the Boane District Health Centre and Massaca II Rural Health Post, and the other touring the Manhiça and Marracuene Health Centers. At each center they were enthusiastically welcomed by dedicated health workers who provided substantial briefings and health sector overviews on Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) activities, implementation strategies, vaccine storage data management, injection safety and social mobilization activities. Board members were especially moved by the large numbers of mothers who gathered with their babies, awaiting primary health care services.

"GAVI and The Vaccine Fund have been making a real difference. Indeed, countries are reaching more children with immunization and have introduced new vaccines, which would not have been possible without their support. In addition, GAVI and The Vaccine Fund use a different approach to aid from the one used by many other agencies," said Dr. Songane. "Beneficiary countries are given the freedom to define their priorities and strategies and have the ability to implement them in the way they think best addresses their concerns. That's why GAVI and The Vaccine Fund are seeing the results we've seen today."

"Today, we were able to see the results of GAVI's unique public-private partnership working hand-in-hand with key partners on the ground and Mozambique's Ministry of Health. More clinics have trained workers, capacity has been strengthened and, most importantly, more children's lives are being protected against preventable diseases with



*At one clinic, a six-year-old girl clutched her infant brother as she waited in line with him to see the nurse. When asked by Graça Machel about her mother, the girl replied that her mother was ill and that she had brought her baby brother to receive the shots that he needs to be healthy.*

our support," said Jacques-François Martin, president and CEO of The Vaccine Fund.

Total GAVI and The Vaccine Fund commitments for a five-year period (2001-2005) for Mozambique are approximately \$19 million. This money is used for DTPHepB vaccine, injection safety materials, and support for immunization services. As of the latest 2001 figures, Mozambique's coverage rate of DTP 3 is approximately 60 percent. Mozambique successfully introduced DTPHepB nationwide in July 2001 and has incorporated AD syringes into the national health system for EPI.

The Vaccine Fund's delegation included Mrs. Graça Machel; Patty Stonesifer, president and co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Charles "Chip" J. Lyons, president of the US Fund for UNICEF; Dr. Tore Godal, executive secretary of GAVI; George Wellde, managing director, Goldman Sachs; Dwight Bush, a Washington-based business executive; and Jacques-François Martin. •

## Queen Rania Raises Awareness of Global Immunization; France Pledges Support for The Vaccine Fund and GAVI



*Her Majesty Queen Rania meets with France's Secretary of State Muselier to encourage support for The Vaccine Fund.*

Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah of Jordan, accompanying His Majesty King Abdullah II on a two-day visit to Paris on October 1st, met with key government officials to express The Vaccine Fund's appreciation for France's contribution of €15 million over three years to help finance the purchase and distribution of vaccines for children in the 75 poorest countries around the world.

French Secretary of State Renaud Muselier met with Her Majesty and Jacques-François Martin, of The Vaccine Fund, and expressed France's continued commitment to The Vaccine Fund and GAVI to provide immunization for children worldwide. Minister Muselier also pledged to extend additional support from France for the eradication of serious diseases around the world such as AIDS and polio.

During the meeting Queen Rania recognized France's new seat on the board of The Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), and expressed hope that France's leadership will urge and inspire other donor governments to contribute to The Vaccine Fund.

While current commitments by governments and private donors to The Vaccine Fund total \$250 million annually, the cost of ensuring that 80% of the poorest children are protected in the 75 poorest countries rises to \$400 million a year in 2006.

Her Majesty Queen Rania joined the Board of Directors of The Vaccine Fund in 2001. •

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## Dwight Bush Joins The Vaccine Fund's Board of Directors

During the 2nd annual Board meeting in Johannesburg, The Vaccine Fund's Chairman, Nelson Mandela, welcomed Dwight Bush to The Vaccine Fund's Board of Directors where he will serve as co-chair of the Development Committee along with Jens Stoltenberg, Chairman of the Norwegian Labour party parliamentary group. In addition, Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, was appointed Nominations Committee chair.

Mr. Bush has been a Principal of Stuart Mill Capital, LLC, an Arlington, VA based investment firm, since 1997. He also served as vice president and chief financial officer of Sato Travel Holdings, Inc. from 1999 through 2002. From 1994 through 1997, Mr. Bush served as Vice President-Corporate Development of Sallie Mae Corporation, a \$60 billion financial service corporation, and the United States'

leading provider of education credit. At Sallie Mae, Mr. Bush was responsible for mergers and acquisitions and business development, credit and investment policy, and investor relations. In addition, Mr. Bush was part of the senior management team responsible for the successful re-chartering of Sallie Mae as a fully privatized corporation.

Mr. Bush joined Sallie Mae after a successful 15-year career at the Chase Manhattan Bank. Mr. Bush began his professional career in 1979 as a trainee in Chase's Executive Development Program. His tenure at Chase included international corporate banking assignments in Latin America, Asia and the Middle East, and corporate finance and project finance in New York and Washington, D.C. Mr. Bush's career at Chase culminated as Managing Director, Project Finance and head of the Public Utilities Group. •

## United States Congress Provides \$60 Million to The Vaccine Fund and GAVI



*Carol Bellamy, executive director of UNICEF, thanks USAID for their significant contribution to GAVI and The Vaccine Fund.*



*Andrew Natsios, USAID Administrator; Anne Peterson, USAID Assistant Minister for Global Health; and Jacques-François Martin look on as Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) extols the successes of GAVI and The Vaccine Fund.*

At a July reception bringing together key members of U.S. Congress; GAVI Board members, including Carol Bellamy, executive director of UNICEF; developing country health ministers; and representatives from donor governments, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) announced nearly \$60 million in new funding to improve and expand children's immunization programs in developing countries. Fifty-eight million will be provided directly to The Vaccine Fund and nearly \$2 million will be spent in direct support of the GAVI objectives in countries lagging in immunization coverage.

"Keeping a focus on improving routine immunization coverage is paramount to saving lives, improving health, raising productivity, and laying the foundation for primary health care systems," said Andrew S. Natsios, USAID Administrator. "It is one of the most cost effective interventions available and this contribution underscores GAVI and The Vaccine Fund's strong progress and significant achievements toward ensuring that every child, everywhere is protected against vaccine-preventable diseases."

The U.S. contribution to The Vaccine Fund has increased annually, from \$48 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 to \$53 million in FY 2002 and \$58 million in 2003 – resulting in a total U.S. contribution over the past three years of nearly \$160 million. In addition to direct funding, USAID provides

other support to GAVI for immunizations.

USAID's grant, which was announced as GAVI's Board of Directors met at the World Bank, brings total five-year commitments to the world's poorest countries by GAVI and The Vaccine Fund to over \$1 billion. Sixty-eight countries are now receiving funding for health infrastructure, vaccines and supplies. It is estimated that as many as 300,000 deaths will be prevented because of the resources provided by The Vaccine Fund thus far.

"We are proud to count the United States as one of our most active partners," said Jacques-François Martin, president of The Vaccine Fund. "We look forward to working with the U.S. to develop a long-term relationship."

"This generous commitment from the US government is great news for the world's children," said Carol Bellamy. "It will help provide millions of children with access to health and access to life."

"GAVI is a model example of new public-private alliances," said Dr. E. Anne Peterson, MD, MPH, USAID Assistant Administrator for Global Health. "There are substantial challenges to improving routine immunization and introducing new vaccines in a sustainable manner. But the GAVI board brings the best experience from donors, national governments and private sector together to innovatively find solutions to these challenges." •

## New Staff Join The Vaccine Fund

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## Donate Online

A recent survey conducted by The Chronicle of Philanthropy revealed that online donations have increased in the past year. In response, The Vaccine Fund's website ([www.vaccinefund.org](http://www.vaccinefund.org)) now features an online giving system. It is our hope that this new channel will help to raise additional money from individual donors worldwide.

*(continued from page 1)*

now protected against diseases. As many as 300,000 deaths will be prevented due to the good work The Vaccine Fund and partners have done thus far.

Funding is paramount. We must use our individual and corporate voices - everyone in this room - to advocate on behalf of children and to demand on their behalf a fundamental equity which guarantees they will not lack the most basic and effective disease prevention tool available, a vaccine. In some cases, they cost but pennies a dose, in others more. Whether the costs are low or high, the issue is of fundamental fairness.

Let us raise our voices and the consciousness of the world around this great and urgent issue. Urgent because as we gather here in this beautiful hotel, out there not too far away

there are literally thousands of children who become sick and die each day from preventable diseases. As much as we have accomplished over the past three years, much more needs to be done," he said.

Other members of the Board in attendance included Graça Machel, vice chairman of the Board; Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland; Patty Stonesifer, co-chair and president of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Jacques-François Martin, president and CEO of The Vaccine Fund; Tore Godal, Executive Secretary of GAVI; George Welde, managing director of Goldman Sachs; Charles "Chip" Lyons, president of U.S. Fund for UNICEF; Dwight Bush, a business executive based in Washington, DC. Her Majesty Queen Rania of Jordan participated in the Board Meeting via videoconference. •