



# Update

## ON COUNTRY LEVEL GAVI & VACCINE FUND RELATED ACTIVITIES

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**26 November 2002**

### **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 9<sup>th</sup> round deadline is 2 May 2003. The review for round 9 will take place between 29 May – 6 June 2003.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE**

**26/11/02 from the Implementation Task Force:**

**Monitoring & Evaluation Call – 13 November**

**GAVI Milestones – Proposal to the Board:** A presentation of the proposal for refinements of the GAVI milestones was circulated to the M&E subgroup for comments prior to submitting to the Board. It was suggested that the proposal should be geared towards “all developing countries”. A summary of recommendations include:

- A new milestone for HepB by 2005, adding a coverage dimension
- Disease burden and introduction for Hib needs to be refined, and the wording regarding polio certification needs to be revised. It was also discussed that the Hib target may not be ambitious enough compared to other goals.
- There is no change in the 80/80 goal, however it needs to be asserted that this is a challenging milestone
- For Rotavirus and Pneumococcal vaccines, it was agreed that the current milestone should be maintained. However the issue of how to fund the introduction of these vaccines into country programmes should be addressed by GAVI and the Vaccine Fund.
- A new milestone for Yellow Fever be added
- A new milestone for AD syringes be added

**IRC recommendations for ITF M&E action:** the IRC submitted three main recommendations for the consideration:

I. Wastage Rates – several countries have informed that the present wastage rate for the pentavalent vaccine is too low at 5%. Reasons cited include

number of children immunized outside of the target age group and drop-out rates. It was discussed that wastage assessments have been included in the 2003-2004 M&E workplan, and the situation will be reviewed during this activity. Additionally, a response paper to the IRC will be proposed.

II. Denominators – In practically every country that has submitted a proposal, the Review Committee has found that there were considerable changes in the denominators, which impact the baseline data and targets for subsequent years, which may have a potential impact on the reward received by countries. It was suggested that if denominators need to be revised, then a source/site be apparent on where and when data was extracted from. It was asserted that preassessment and support were needed to check data for consistency and accuracy prior to the review, but that this should be the responsibility of the country and its partner agency staff as well as WHO/HQ before submission.

III. Population Trends – some countries presented data suggesting a declining population trend. This will have an impact in the reward system (as progress in these countries may not be rewarded), therefore this needs to be reviewed. This concerns mostly European countries where population is decreasing and birth cohorts are lower.

**Monitoring & Evaluation Call – 30 October**

**Analysis of Regional Working Group Activities in M&E Workplan:** RWGs were asked if they needed global level assistance and technical support to set up or update monitoring and evaluation systems in their regional offices, and/or if they might need support to assist countries to strengthen district level reporting and monitoring systems.

**Analysis of GAVI Milestones:** During the GAVI Working Group meeting held in Washington in September 2002, it was decided to review existing GAVI Milestones in order to determine if milestones are optimal, sufficient and achievable. The Board meeting in November 2002 will have a session on the refinement of milestones, and it would be useful to have some ITF input in this process.

The M&E sub-group agreed that the milestones were a valuable way of measuring progress and agreed that they should not be substantively changed. The issue of different/evolving denominators will need to be clarified.

The sub-group suggested that potential new milestones include one on Injection Safety which is an important goal, and another on Yellow Fever vaccine introduction.

## **DATA QUALITY AUDIT**

**26/11/02 from Olivier Ronveaux, WHO/HQ:** One DQA has been conducted in Bangladesh. Another one will commence shortly in Guinea Conakry. Both of these are replacing countries that could not be audited in 2002.

## **COUNTRY INFORMATION**

### **ANGOLA**

**26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:** The AFP Surveillance Review was conducted from 14-23 October 2002.

### **BURUNDI**

**26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:**

- Dr Kennedy Chitala (WHO/ICP Nairobi) will visit from 25 November to 1 December to provide data management support and conduct a health mapper training.
- The availability of the GAVI pentavalent vaccine has been pushed back to late 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2003.

### **COMOROS**

**26/11/02 from GAVI Secretariat:** Applications for New Vaccines (HepB) and Injection Safety were approved after submitting clarifications requested from Round 7.

### **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC CONGO**

**26/11/02 from GAVI Secretariat:** Applications for Immunization Services Strengthening and Injection Safety were approved after submitting clarifications requested from Round 7.

### **DJIBOUTI**

**26/11/02 from GAVI Secretariat:** Application Injection Safety was approved after submitting clarifications requested from Round 7.

### **DPR KOREA**

**26/11/02 from GAVI Secretariat:** Application for New Vaccines (HepB) was approved after submitting clarifications requested from Round 7.

### **ERITREA**

**26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:** Drs Sue Gerber and Emmanuel Taylor (WHO/ICP Nairobi) are visiting from 17-22 November 2002 to provide support for IMCI social mobilization.

### **INDIA**

**26/11/02 from James Cheyne, CVP:** On 14 November 2002, Bill Gates III attended the launch of the second phase of the Andhra Pradesh Immunization Partnership programme. This project adds HepB vaccine, introduces AD syringes, aims to control Japanese Encephalitis, rebuilds the cold chain and develops a name-based registry for tracking drop-outs. The programme now reaches 22 million people. The third and final phase of the project will be launched in November 2003 when the programme will reach the whole population of 75 million people.

### **KENYA**

**26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:**

- The Ministry of Health has finally approved the disbursement of the second tranche of the GAVI funds to the Districts. The cheques will be channelled through the respective regional directors of health. The Ministry has also released guidelines on the use of these funds. Respective regional directors of medical services will monitor the use of the funds.
- Training Updates for Health workers are planned for 2003. The training sessions will cover performance monitoring, vaccine management, injection safety and other components of EPI. WHO will work with UNICEF to support these training sessions.
- Monitoring of the use of the pentavalent vaccines is ongoing. KEPI has embarked on a countrywide distribution of vaccines to districts that may be running short of the vaccines. There is currently enough stock of the vaccine at the central stores.
- The final draft of the Financial Sustainability Plan has been completed. It will be discussed at the next ICC meeting before submission to the GAVI Secretariat for review.
- Dr Lisa Cairns (CDC) is visiting from 14 November to 1 December 2002 to support KEPI in the assessment of the system for case-based measles surveillance. Dr. Naline Sangrujee (CDC) is visiting from 24 November to 1 December to support the cost-benefit analysis of the measles campaign.

**26/11/02 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ:** A Post-Introduction Evaluation of new vaccines was carried out in Nairobi, Kenya from 8-18 September 2002. The mission was conducted by Dr Tarande Manzila (WHO/AFRO), Dr Issa Makumi (National EPI Manager, Uganda), and Drs Frederic Shaw and Taraz Samandari (CDC Consultants).

### **KYRGYZSTAN**

**26/11/02 from European Regional Working Group:**

- A Hib rapid assessment was conducted from 18 – 23 November 2002.
- An MLM course will be conducted in Osh from 16-21 December 2002 to train 30 managers from

southern districts of Kyrgyzstan. The course will be supported by WHO/EURO.

## **LESOTHO**

**26/11/02 from GAVI Secretariat:** Application for Injection Safety was approved after submitting clarifications requested from Round 7.

## **MADAGASCAR**

**26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:** A DQA is tentatively scheduled for December 2002 or the first quarter of 2003.

## **MOLDOVA**

**26/11/02 from European Regional Working Group:** A mass immunization campaign against measles and rubella was implemented from 11-22 November 2002.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

**26/11/02 from Gill Mayers, WHO/HQ:** Post-introduction Evaluation of new vaccines was carried out from 16-27 September 2002. The mission was conducted by Dr. Rose Macauley (WHO/AFRO) and Dr Ian Williams (CDC consultant).

## **RWANDA**

**26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:**

- Evaluation of new vaccine introduction, originally scheduled for 4-25 October was postponed till the first quarter of 2003.
- Diana Chang Blanc (WHO/ICP Nairobi) visited from 5-8 November to assist with the development of the Financial Sustainability Plan. Consultant Yves Zeeger-Jourdain (IHSD) joined from 7-19 November to help finalise the plan.

## **SUDAN**

**26/11/02 from Diana Chang Blanc, WHO/Kenya:** Operation Lifeline Sudan is seeking a consultant available in the first quarter of 2003 to assist in drafting a multi-year strategic plan for EPI activities.

## **TAJIKISTAN**

**26/11/02 from European Regional Working Group:**

- Two immunization coverage surveys were conducted in Khatlon and Sugd regions in October-November 2002 with technical and financial support from World Bank and UNICEF.
- A MLM training course for thirty sub-national level managers was conducted by the Republican Centre for Immunoprophylaxis with financial support from WHO/EURO.

## **TANZANIA**

**26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:**

- Evaluation of new vaccine introduction was completed in November 2002, with participation from Drs. Tarande Manzila (WHO/AFRO), Susan

Goldstein (CDC) and Mindy Perilla (CDC) who assisted from 10-21 November 2002.

- Dr Rebecca Martin (WHO/ICP Nairobi) visited from 18-22 November 2002 to provide support for their post-evaluation of their measles campaign and to assist in setting up the coverage survey for the campaign.
- Dr. Yohannes Gebretsadik (WHO/ICP Nairobi) will visit from 25-29 November to support the development of a strategic plan for social mobilization.

## **TOGO**

**26/11/02 from GAVI Secretariat:** Applications for Immunization Services Strengthening and Injection Safety were approved after submitting clarifications requested from Round 7.

## **UGANDA**

- **26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:** Rebecca Martin (WHO/ICP Nairobi) visited from 11-15 November to support the drafting of their national strategic plan for measles control.

**26/11/02 from Rosamund Lewis, WHO/Uganda:**

- A consultant, Natasha Hsi visited from 3-13 November 2002 to assist with the development of the Financial Sustainability Plan. Excellent progress was made.
- The Minister of Health and UNEPI Programme Manager will participate in the GAVI Partners' meeting in Dakar, Senegal.

## **UZBEKISTAN**

**26/11/02 from European Regional Working Group:** A Hib rapid assessment was conducted from 11 – 16 November 2002.

## **ZAMBIA**

**26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:** The availability of the GAVI pentavalent has been pushed back to late 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2003. WHO/ICP Harare is waiting for a response from the Minister on which option the country will take.

**26/11/02 from Mutale Mumba, WHO/Zambia:**

- Application for Injection Safety Support was approved in August 2002, US\$450,500 for 2002-2003 committed.
- GAVI advises Zambia in October 2002 that the shipment of combination vaccine will be delayed until late 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2003 due to production issues. The country is further advised to be cautious over the introduction of an alternative vaccine option, but is assured continued support. DTP would be made available free of charge through UNICEF during 2003 until it can be replaced by the DTP-HepB+Hib vaccine.
- On 31 October 2002, the ICC resolves to defer the introduction of new vaccines in Zambia to the last quarter of 2003 when the pentavalent vaccine would be available. The ICC further endorses the training of trainers on Injection Safety, Vaccine Management and other components of EPI. This activity has been

planned to take place in December 2002 and the training of Districts and Health Facilities will be conducted thereafter. The introduction of AD syringes and Waste Disposal Boxes into routine immunization will be done early in 2003.

## **ZIMBABWE**

**26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:** A Hib disease burden of disease assessment is scheduled for 2002, however dates remain uncertain.

## **REGIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **EAST AND SOUTH AFRICAN SUB-REGIONAL WORKING GROUP**

**26/11/02 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:** Planning is ongoing for a new vaccine introduction training in Nairobi, Kenya from 9-11 December, sponsored by Network for Education in Immunization (NESI) and conducted in collaboration with regional GAVI partners. The primary objectives of the meeting are to:

- Train potential trainers in various aspects of the introduction and maintenance of new vaccines.
- Encourage the sharing of country experiences during the recent introduction of new vaccines (penta- or tetravalent) into the EPI programme.
- Constitute a forum that stimulates the full interaction of academia with the EPI implementers so that future adaptations in the pre-service training can be instituted.

Invitees include eight central and regional/provincial EPI staff from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania/Zanzibar, as well as academia. Observers will be invited from Malawi and Mozambique.

### **EUROPEAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP**

**26/11/02 from European Regional Working Group:** The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the European Regional Working Group was held in Copenhagen, Denmark on 24 October 2002. A summary of the meeting includes:

**Improving Immunization Services (ACCESS):** The 80/80 goal was set by GAVI in 2000. At present, 36% of developing countries who report have less than 60% districts with 80% coverage, and 19 countries do not report. Most countries in the European region are

expected to meet the target. Barriers to achieving the target include inadequate monitoring, lack of district level micro-planning, low quality of immunization services, and an inadequate level of financial commitment associated with the global goal. At the country level, the strategy is to focus on districts by identifying those requiring help through district level assessments, adopting intermediate goals and adequate funding.

**Forecasting and Procurement of Vaccines:** The Hib vaccine programme sustainability in the Region is a concern. There is a need for a clear indication of the timeframe by which programme sustainability is achieved. A combination vaccine for HepB has also been the preference within the region.

**Financial Sustainability Planning (FSP):** Kyrgyzstan Republic is the only country in the Region developing an FSP this year, however six countries (Azerbaijan, Armenia, Tajikistan, Albania, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) will be developing them next year. The rest of the countries will do them in 2004. It was suggested that the World Bank Task Manager be involved in each country where FSPs are being developed. Plans need to be country specific, identifying whether funding for the program is based on a sector wide or budget supported approach.

**Sub-regional Workshop on the Introduction of New Vaccines and Strengthening National Immunization Programmes:** A 3-day workshop will be held in Kiev, Ukraine in early 2003. It is intended for deputy ministers, national immunization programme managers and heads of national diphtheria laboratories in the 11 Vaccine-Fund eligible countries. The workshop will review the current status of GAVI-associated activities, current progress and future priorities towards strengthening immunization programmes, review the status of Hib, Hep B, and MMR vaccine programmes.

**Update on Advanced Immunization Management Training Modules:** Workshops in 2001/2002 were a success, however were expensive to hold. These were intended to develop targeted skills through a multi-method training approach (using case studies, videos, etc), for senior level managers in order to strengthen ICCs and improve the sustainability of immunization programmes.

**END**



## Regional Meetings of Relevance to the GAVI Objectives: November 2002 - December 2003

Title of Meeting	Start	Finish	Location	Responsible Partner	Region
<b>Nov-02</b>					
WPRO TAG	4-Nov	7-Nov	Manila, Philippines	WHO/WPRO	WPR
WPRO Lab Meeting	6-Nov	6-Nov	Manila, Philippines	WHO/WPRO	WPR
WPRO RCC	7-Nov	8-Nov	Manila, Philippines	WHO/WPRO	WPR
GAVI Board Meeting	18-Nov	19-Nov	Dakar, Senegal	GAVI Secretariat	Global
GAVI Partners Meeting	20-Nov	22-Nov	Dakar, Senegal	GAVI Secretariat	Global
AMRO TAG Meeting	22-Nov	23-Nov	?	WHO/PAHO	AMR
International Conference on Vaccinology	25-Nov	27-Nov	?	WHO/PAHO	AMR
<b>Dec-02</b>					
Eastern Mediterranean Regional Working Group meeting	6-Jan	7-Jan	Cairo, Egypt	WHO/EMRO	EMR
New Vaccine Introduction Meeting in East Africa	9-Dec	11-Dec	Nairobi, Kenya	WHO/AFRO (E&S Africa)	AFR
Caribbean Managers EPI Workshop	9-Dec	12-Dec	?	WHO/PAHO	AMR
Asia Pacific Regional Working Group Meeting	11-Dec	11-Dec	Laos	WHO/WPRO	WPR
<b>Jan-03</b>					
Sub-Regional Workshop on Introduction of New Vaccines and Strengthening National Immunization Programmes	20-Jan	22-Jan	Kiev, Ukraine	WHO/EURO	EUR
6th GAVI European Regional Working Group Meeting	23-Jan	23-Jan	Kiev, Ukraine	WHO/EURO	EUR
<b>Feb-03</b>					
EPI Training Workshop	Feb	Feb	tbd	WHO/PAHO	AMR
<b>Mar-03</b>					
<b>Apr-03</b>					
EPI Training Workshop	April	April	tbd	WHO/PAHO	AMR
<b>May-03</b>					
EPI Training Workshop	May	May	tbd	WHO/PAHO	AMR
<b>Jun-03</b>					
Sub-Regional EPI Managers' Meeting for Andean Region, Central America/Mexico and Southern Cone	June/July	June/July	tbd	WHO/PAHO	AMR
20th Inter-Country Meeting of National EPI Managers WHO/EMRO	29-Jun	2-Jul	Syria	WHO/EMRO	EMR
<b>Jul-03</b>					
6th GAVI Eastern Mediterranean Regional Working Group Meeting	3-Jul	3-Jul	Syria	WHO/EMRO	EMR
<b>Aug-03</b>					
Inter-country meeting on Measles Accelerated Control	28-Aug	31-Aug	Tunisia	WHO/EMRO	EMR
<b>Sep-03</b>					
Inter-country meeting on Measles Elimination	3-Sep	6-Sep	Tunisia	WHO/EMRO	EMR
<b>Oct-03</b>					
<b>Nov-03</b>					
<b>Dec-03</b>					

