

## **WHO 68<sup>th</sup> WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

### **GLOBAL VACCINE ACTION PLAN, ITEM 16.4**

**Geneva, May 2015**

#### **INFORMAL SUMMARY RECORDS**

##### **SUMMARY OF THE SESSION**

Fifty-two speakers, including 46 representatives from Member States<sup>1</sup>, one observer (Chinese Taipei), four civil society organizations<sup>2</sup> and GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance took the floor during the discussion on the Global Vaccine Action Plan.

Delegates welcomed the GVAP assessment report and commended the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) and WHO on the report. The recommendations in the report were welcomed by most of the delegations who took the floor.

Countries took note and expressed concern that the progress with the implementation of GVAP was patchy and slow and “far off-track” for achieving five out of six targets for 2014 and 2015.

While Member States acknowledged WHO’s fundamental role in facilitating the implementation of the GVAP, they also stressed the important and leading role that WHO could play to:

- Improve vaccine price transparency and build mechanisms that promote healthy and competent vaccine markets, tackle the problems faced by middle income countries to secure sustainable supplies of vaccines at affordable prices, particularly for the newer vaccines.
- Work to enhance awareness of the value of vaccines to increase acceptance of immunization and to mitigate the risks posed by misinformation leading to vaccine hesitancy and refusal.
- Analyse the causes of vaccine stock out and develop tools to respond immediately to any supply shortfalls.
- Regularly convene countries that remain off-track to assist with diagnosing the problems and finding solutions.
- Support countries to improve the quality of data and to use data for informing decisions and for improving programme performance.
- Expand the existing guidance for vaccination in humanitarian emergencies to also include guidance on sustaining routine immunization during periods of conflict and crisis, including outbreaks of disease, such as the current Ebola epidemic in west Africa.

Delegates acknowledged that countries and particularly national governments play a leading role in making the needed investments in immunization. Governments are accountable for the progress as well as the monitoring of their own programme performance.

The Health Assembly adopted a resolution tabled by Libya that specifically addressed the issue of access to sustainable supplies of affordable vaccines for low and middle income countries, including the promotion of vaccine price transparency, support for pooled procurement mechanisms and for increased capacity for the manufacture of vaccines of assured quality to foster competition for a healthy vaccine market.

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<sup>1</sup> List of countries that took the floor

<sup>2</sup> Names of the CSOs