

Update on the Gavi Board meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, 14- 15 June 2017

The Board Chair, Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, opened up the meeting with somber remarks on the changing geopolitical climate and potential impact in financing agreements for critical Sustainable Development Goals with fewer resources going to developing countries. She cited caution on the future expectations and impact on Gavi, noting that while Gavi has not been impacted by the broader climate to date, due to its focus and delivery of results, there is the need for Gavi to continue its focus with improved efficiencies, accountability and results, while not being extremely risk averse. Furthermore, she emphasized the need to support countries leverage their own domestic resource mobilization and for emerging markets to do more.

The deliberations of the Board were centered on heightened partner collaboration in supporting countries, managing donors expectations for zero risk tolerance, and the need for collective partner efforts in supporting countries build system capacities towards timely and sustained transition. The Board discussed the need for timely planning and positioning of Gavi post 2020 with the planned Mid-Term Review in 2018, while maintaining a clear focus and mandate and looking at the broader context and climate for opportunities and framing for its next strategy.

The main decisions of the Board, further detailed in the summary decisions, are the approval of the:

- Gavi Policy: “Fragility, Emergencies, Refugees” to replace the 2013 “Fragility and Immunisation Policy”.
- Approach to equitable allocation of available Cold Chain Equipment Optimisation (CCEOP) funding based on an on a Health System Strengthening (HSS) formula.
- Continuation of Gavi support to Yemen irrespective of its 2016 co-financing default status.
- Extending Gavi’s support for inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) from 2018 to 2020 under the arrangements agreed by the Board in November 2013 subject to polio specific funding being available.
- USD 19 million for UNICEF Supply Division fees for the procurement of vaccines and related devices and USD 2.4 million for procurement of cold chain equipment in 2018.

The next Board meeting will be held in Lao PDR, 29-30 November 2017.