

GAVI Alliance Executive Committee teleconference

21 April 2009

FINAL Minutes

Finding a quorum of members present¹, the meeting commenced at 16h30 CET on 21 April 2009.

1 AMC offer agreement

Tania Cernuschi, AMC Manager, introduced this agenda item, referring to the recommendation by the Audit and Finance Committee at its 23 March 2009 meeting that the Executive Committee approve the AMC offer agreements memo and procurement fee to UNICEF. Discussion followed:

- Administrative costs for UNICEF procurement are calculated on a fee basis, driven by total volume. Thus, there is no specific budget for the US\$6 million in fees associated with UNICEF procurement of pneumococcal vaccine for the AMC.
- GAVI's remains committed to the principle of tiered pricing and will work to uphold this as the AMC becomes operational.
- The vaccine tail price will be capped at \$3.50 per dose after AMC support ends. In the unlikely event that a donor contribution is delayed, the World Bank will guarantee that funds are available and will also follow up with the donor to ensure payment.
- The Executive Committee thanked the World Bank for its leadership on the AMC and its instrumental role in making the AMC mechanism operational.

DECISIONS

The GAVI Alliance EC:

- 1.1. Authorised the CEO on behalf of the GAVI Alliance to enter into the relevant AMC transaction documents, upon the advice of legal counsel;
- 1.2. Approved a programme expenditure of US\$ 6,000,000 to UNICEF for procurement services per the UNICEF AMC Procurement MOU.

Mr. Jean Stéphenne abstained from voting on the above resolutions, citing a conflict of interest.

2 Terms of reference and membership of the Independent Review Committee (IRC)

Nina Schwalbe, Executive Director of Policy and Performance, updated the Committee on the outcome of the Programme and Policy Committee's (PPC) review of the proposal at its meeting on 15 April 2009. The PPC endorsed the recommendation to create a single team to review new proposals, endorsed the TORs, and endorsed the pool of IRC candidates. However, the PPC requested an evaluation of the IRC process and therefore recommended IRC teams be appointed for a term of one year only. Discussion followed:

- The Committee agreed with the PPC recommendation to explore other options for identifying IRC members in the future, with the goal of improving the process and taking into account broader strategic issues.

¹ EC member participants are listed in Attachment A.

- While several members of the IRC team for new proposals will be present during the deliberations of the IRC team for monitoring, this does not create a conflict of interest. Representatives of the new proposals team provide context for monitoring team discussions but do not have a vote when making recommendations to the Board.

DECISIONS

The GAVI Alliance EC:

- 2.2 Approved the proposed mandate and terms of reference for an integrated IRC team for reviewing all new proposals for GAVI support – the IRC new proposals team – for 2009.
- 2.3 Approved the proposed pool of IRC new proposals team members and the chair and an alternate chair, for terms of one year.
- 2.4 Approved the proposed mandate and terms of reference for the IRC monitoring team for 2009.
- 2.5 Approved the proposed pool of IRC monitoring team members and the proposed chair and alternate chair, for terms of one year.
- 2.6 Endorsed the PPC recommendation that the Secretariat should conduct a review on IRC process including mapping the system from application through board approval.

3 Country programme funding requests

Tony Dutson, Chief Accounting Officer, provided an overview of the requests before the EC for both programmatic and financial approval. Discussion followed:

- The calculation of ISS reward estimates is based on the projected number of children to be reached with 3 doses of DTP, beyond a country's initial baseline. Although Bangladesh and Zimbabwe submitted new proposals for ISS programmes, their projected DTP3 targets for 2008 fall below their baselines. Therefore, no rewards are estimated for these countries in 2008.
- All requests for new vaccines include provisions for 5% vaccine wastage and 25% annual buffer stock.
- GAVI relies upon its partners, chiefly UNICEF and WHO, to help countries weigh the benefits and tradeoffs of vaccine introduction against other primary health priorities. GAVI expects to gain a greater understanding of the cost effectiveness of its support as GAVI programmes are increasingly aligned with country health sector plans.

DECISIONS

The GAVI Alliance EC:

- 3.1 Approved near-term funding for Georgia's New Vaccines Support (NVS) programme in 2009-2010 and corresponding vaccine introduction grant totalling: **US\$845,500**;
- 3.2 Approved a New Vaccines Support (NVS) introduction grant for the Gambia totalling: **US\$ 406,250**;
- 3.3 Approved Immunisation Services Support (ISS) continuation programmes for seven countries (note: near-term funding for these programmes will not be requested until countries report on additional children reached with three doses of DTP in 2008).
- 3.4 Reaffirmed that no cash-based support for Uganda will be released until the Government fulfils the requirements of the aide memoire on future management of ISS, and refunds misappropriated ISS rewards.

4 Update of HSS and International Health Partnership+

Carole Presern, acting Director of External Relations, provided an overview of recent developments with the IHP+ and the High Level Taskforce on Innovative Financing in Health, as well as next steps for decisions on the future of GAVI's HSS window. The paper included inputs from PPC discussions from the previous week. Discussion followed:

- GAVI has the opportunity to take a leading role in harmonising and increasing broader support for health system strengthening whilst remaining focussed on its core mission. Evaluations of GAVI HSS underway in 2009 will enable the board to make informed decisions on future HSS funding by end 2009.
- To ensure board directions the Programme and Policy Committee will play the key advisory role in this process as recommended by the Governance Committee. The secretariat will also keep the full board fully informed on developments. In the case of the joint WB/GFATM/GAVI submission to the High Level Task Force management will consult with the Chair and Vice-Chair before final submission end May.
- The Executive Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Programme and Policy Committee included in the document.
- The Executive Committee endorsed the timelines for board decision-making and guidance through to end 2009.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mr. Denis Aitken, Chair

Ms. Lisa Jacobs, Secretary

List of Participants

Executive Committee Members

1. Mr. Denis Aitken, Chair
2. Mr. Wayne Berson
3. Dr. Armin Fidler
4. Mr. Ashutosh Garg
5. Dr. Tatul Hakobyan
6. Ms Gloria Steele
7. Dr. Julian Lob-Levyt
8. Dr. Jaime Sepulveda
9. Mr. Jean Stéphenne
10. Mr. George W. Wellde, Jr.

Presenters

1. Tania Cernuschi, AMC Manager
2. Tony Dutson, Chief Accounting Officer
3. Carole Presern, Director of External Relations (acting)
4. Nina Schwalbe, Head of Policy and Performance

Observers

1. Lisa Jacobs, GAVI Alliance Secretary
2. Alice Albright, Executive Vice-President & Chief Financial and Investment Officer
3. Tim Nielander, GAVI Alliance General Counsel
4. Mikella Hurley, GAVI Alliance Secretariat
5. Dr. Ivone Rizzo, GAVI Alliance Secretariat
6. Dr. Stephen Nurse-Findlay, GAVI Alliance Secretariat