Intervention at World Health Assembly Provisional Agenda Item 13.1 and 13.2 – Global monitoring framework and targets for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases and the Global Action Plan

Thank you, Chair.

GAVI supports countries to work towards the voluntary global target for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases of 25% reduction in NCDs by 2025. To get there, we need evidence-based tools and interventions to accelerate the prevention of NCDs, particularly in resource poor settings where access to screening and treatment is limited. Immunisation is now a critical part of the armory of global health - not just an intervention in childhood but a way of providing protection across the life course.

The prevention of the infectious causes of cancer through hepatitis B and HPV vaccines can help fight the rising global burden of cancer deaths by protecting people against two leading cancers killers in low-income countries - liver cancer and cervical cancer. GAVI welcomes the inclusion of Hep B and HPV vaccines as indicators in the global monitoring framework.

GAVI as an international partner recognises the need for strong partnerships to fight NCDs. Demand from countries is growing rapidly, particularly in Africa. We will continue to accelerate the reach of Hep B and HPV vaccines to low income countries, and support countries to deliver the vaccines in an integrated approach with other maternal child and adolescent services. We recognise that vaccines in childhood and adolescence offer the best opportunity to prevent liver and cervical cancer in adulthood.

Thank you.