

PROGRAMME AND POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT

BOARD MEETING

Anne Schuchat

24-25 July 2025, Geneva, Switzerland

PPC Meeting, 14-16 May 2025

Discussion, Guidance and Information Items

- CEO Update, including Strategy, Programmes and Partnerships and Gavi 6.0 Leap
- Read out from the Audit and Finance Committee (*Short information item*)
- Joint Alliance Update on Country Delivery
- Gavi 6.0: i) Gavi 6.0 Execution Framework; ii) Alignment of Country Grant Cycles with the Gavi Strategy Cycle
- Report of the Independent Review Committee
- Update on Collaboration with Other Organisations – Collaboration with the Global Fund on Malaria
- Market Shaping Update: Retrospective
- Country Delivery: Nigeria and Papua New Guinea

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Recommendation Items

- Funding Policy Review (*Board Agenda Item 6*)
- Update on Mpox (*Board Agenda Item 7*)
- Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) Investment Case (*Board Agenda Item 8*)
- Approach to Fragile and Humanitarian Settings (*Board Agenda Item 10*)
- Evolution of Gavi's Partnership Approach (*Board Agenda Item 11*)
- Market Shaping Update: Governance Pathways for Next Generation Vaccines (*Consent Agenda*)
- Health Systems Strategy (*Consent Agenda*)
- Measurement, Evaluation and Learning for Gavi 6.0 (*Consent Agenda*)

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CEO Update, including Strategy, Programmes and Partnerships and Gavi 6.0 Leap

- PPC members thanked the CEO for her report and welcomed the country-centric approach driving the Gavi Leap
- Emphasised the importance of ensuring the sustainability of new vaccine introductions, supporting countries in prioritisation, and investing in service delivery interventions and innovations
- Reflected on the current budget-constrained environment and emphasised the need for the Alliance to ensure efficiencies, avoid duplication, and take a holistic view of how partnership resources would come together
- Underlined the importance of scaling up coverage on malaria, tracking the completion of the full vaccine schedule, and considering the impact of a potential programme pause on countries aiming to introduce the vaccine prior to high transmission season

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Joint Alliance Update on Country Delivery

- PPC members expressed appreciation for the thorough report provided by Alliance partners
- Discussed progress and challenges related to malaria, cholera, co-financing, zero-dose children, outbreaks and vaccine management
- Reflected on the opportunity to invest in community health workers, the catalytic funding already provided in this space, and potential opportunities with more tailored approaches at the subnational level
- Commented on the important role of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in the Alliance, and queried compliance with the Board decision to allocate 10% of Health Systems Strengthening (HSS) and Equity Accelerator Fund (EAF) funds to CSOs

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Gavi 6.0: i) Gavi 6.0 Execution Framework; ii) Alignment of Country Grant Cycles with the Gavi Strategy Cycle

- On the Gavi 6.0 Execution Framework, PPC members emphasised the importance of accountability among all partners, particularly at the country level, and the need for incentives to encourage performance
- Underlined the importance of the work on Vaccine Portfolio Optimisation and Prioritisation (VPOP) and emphasised the need to rethink and improve vaccination campaigns
- Welcomed the grant cycle alignment proposal, emphasising the importance of prioritising country choices, allowing mid-cycle modifications, fully engaging with partners and countries to ensure a country-driven process, and ensuring country and partners' capacities to implement these changes
- Stressed the importance of accountability and the need for a robust measurement and evaluation framework, joint appraisal plans and a communication strategy to facilitate the transition

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Report of the Independent Review Committee

- PPC members welcomed the IRC update and expressed support for the IRC recommendations
- Emphasised the importance of supporting countries in prioritising new vaccine introductions, ensuring that the process is country-driven, and considering the implications for each country's health system for the successful delivery of Gavi 6.0
- Stressed the need to support countries in strengthening health systems and workforce, including recruitment and retention of health workers
- Discussed the close collaboration between the IRC and the Global Fund Technical Review Panel (TRP), particularly on the malaria programme, and suggested the exploration of potential areas for collaboration with the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC); as well as the commitment to ensuring CSOs, the private sector, and local partners are well represented in country applications

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Update on Collaboration with Other Organisations – Collaboration with the Global Fund on Malaria

- PPC members welcomed the participation of leadership from the Global Fund for this joint session and encouraged the two organisations to continue their collaboration at an accelerated pace and to look for maximum opportunities for collaboration, in line with the Lusaka Agenda, according to country priorities and under country leadership
- With respect to the alignment of funding cycles for malaria, PPC members were generally supportive and tended towards a 5-year cycle, while requesting additional analysis
- Suggested that Gavi look to collaborate more in the areas of Health Systems Strengthening and community health workers, as well as for additional opportunities to integrate back-office functions
- Indicated less interest on the question of pooling resources, expressing concern about the potential impact on market shaping and noting that some donors would have restrictions that prevented this from being a feasible option
- Were generally supportive of the development of the Taskforce and were interested to receive additional information when it is available

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Market Shaping Update: Retrospective

- Welcomed the market shaping update and invited the Secretariat to reinstate the annual updates that previously had taken place for this workstream
- Noted with concern the vaccines with unacceptable market health, namely: human papillomavirus (HPV), malaria and oral cholera vaccine (OCV), and encouraged the Alliance to accelerate a shift to a more resilient and diversified supply
- Underlined the important role that the African Vaccine Manufacturer Accelerator (AVMA) could play in making African vaccine manufacturing a reality and addressing vaccine supply shortages
- Considered whether to recommend retiring the 2012 Board-approved policy for Self-Procurement of Vaccines and Injection Safety Devices; however, after considering the implications of having a potential gap until a new policy is developed, recommended keeping the current policy in place until such time as a new policy is approved

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Country Delivery: Nigeria and Papua New Guinea

- PPC members expressed overall support to the proposals on both Nigeria and Papua New Guinea (PNG)
- Encouraged the Secretariat to present an update on the Health System Strengthening support for Nigeria for Gavi 6.0 during the PPC meeting in October 2025
- Highlighted the multiple challenges in PNG calling for the need to address health facility closures and gender barriers. PPC members underlined the risk of the circulating polio outbreak which calls for a robust, well-funded response, and a funding mechanism to build a strong routine immunisation system and outbreak response
- The PPC will be requested to recommend a revised approach for Nigeria and PNG to the Board at its meeting in October 2025

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Item placed on the Consent Agenda: Governance Pathways for Next Generation Vaccines

- PPC members expressed general support for the proposed governance pathways, and provided guidance including to: i) include value-for-money as a mandatory step in the pathway; ii) assess the trade-offs of introducing next-generation vaccines compared to other pipeline vaccines and the existing portfolio; iii) evaluate the Alliance's readiness to support countries financially and programmatically; and iv) assign a specific role to WHO for technical considerations, particularly in steps 2 and 3 of the pathway
- Regarding broader market shaping, underlined the need to: i) promote sustainable transition in Gavi 6.0 and ensure access to affordable and predictable prices for the Middle-Income Countries (MICs); and ii) address challenges facing cold chain equipment markets
- Expressed support for including the mpox vaccine as part of the discussion on adding to the priority vaccines for the AVMA at the Board meeting in December 2025

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Item placed on the Consent Agenda: Health Systems Strategy

- PPC members were supportive of the proposed Health Systems Strategy, which had previously been discussed by the PPC in May 2025
- Commented on the alignment of the strategy with the Lusaka agenda, and it was clarified that the Secretariat had tried to be very clear in the strategy about Gavi's commitment to the Lusaka agenda through a primary healthcare approach
- Queried the development of joint indicators, and it was explained that Gavi has committed to the work being led by WHO on developing common HSS indicators, and that in line with the Lusaka agenda, there will be an effort not to add burden to countries
- Discussed the linkage with community health workers, and the Secretariat noted that it is fully committed to alignment with other actors and that work is ongoing now on a country-by-country basis, specifically to align with efforts underway by the Global Fund and Africa CDC

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Item placed on the Consent Agenda: Measurement, Evaluation and Learning for Gavi 6.0

- PPC members commended the Secretariat on the process to develop the indicators for Gavi 6.0 and provided additional guidance, including to ensure that gender and climate are captured in the framework
- Commented and supported the work underway to prepare the Evaluation function for Gavi 6.0, including its integration into the broader MEL framework and the potential i) to sunset the Evaluation Advisory Committee at the end of Gavi 5.1, ii) strengthen the PPC's role by having it approve the multi-year evaluation workplan and recommend the revised Evaluation Policy, which would be considered by the Governance Committee in July 2025
- Suggested that the Mid-Term Evaluation for Gavi 6.0 be planned carefully so that it is delivered at the right time to allow course correction, and that it should include Health Systems Strengthening and Gavi's funding policies
- Noted that it will be important to carefully consider the impact of the cuts of funding for the demographic health surveys (DHS) and any impact on Gavi's access to data and measurement, evaluation and learning for 6.0

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Thank you