
Subject	Programme and Policy Committee Chair Report
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Category	For Information
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Section A: Introduction

- This report provides the Board with an overview of the activities of the Programme and Policy Committee (PPC) since the Committee Chair last reported to the Board in June 2023.
- On 24-26 October 2023, the PPC held an in-person meeting. During the meeting, the Committee discussed a number of important topics for the Alliance and agreed on recommendations which are being put forward to the Board at its 6-7 December 2023 meeting for consideration.
- The PPC Chair report is attached in the form of a presentation as Annex A and the PPC recommendations to the Board are attached as Annex B.

Annexes

Annex A: PPC Chair report

Annex B: PPC recommendations to Gavi Alliance Board

PROGRAMME AND POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT

BOARD MEETING

Anne Schuchat

6-7 December 2023, Accra, Ghana

PPC Meeting, 24-26 October 2023

Discussion and Information Items

- CEO Update and Read-Out from Audit & Finance Committee (AFC) Meeting
- Report of the Independent Review Committee (IRC)
- Country Programmes Delivery Presentation
- COVAX Update
- Update on Middle-Income Countries Approach
- Update on Implementation of Gavi Gender Policy

PPC Meeting, 24-26 October 2023

Recommendations to the Board

- Strategy, Programmes and Partnerships: Progress, Risks and Challenges (*Board Agenda Item 4*)
- Gavi's Role in Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response (*Board Agenda Item 10*)
 - Part A: Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response Approach
 - Part B: African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator
- Vaccine Investment Strategy 2024: Proposed Shortlist (*Board Agenda Item 11*)
- Multivalent Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine Programme (*Consent Agenda*)

PPC Meeting, 24-26 October 2023

CEO Update and Read-Out from Audit & Finance Committee (AFC) Meeting

- Thanked Mr Marlow and commended him on the progress and his commitment towards amplifying country voices and driving operational excellence.
- Queried the implications of the Future of Global Health Initiative (FGHI) for Gavi and noted the multi-stakeholder effort underway to agree on next steps and short-term wins.
- With respect to the AFC read-out, expressed appreciation for the transparency provided with respect to Committee deliberations.
- Commented on the upcoming replenishment cycle and the need for discussion on the drivers of Gavi 6.0 cost and trade-offs.

PPC Meeting, 24-26 October 2023

Report of the Independent Review Committee (IRC)

- Warmly thanked Dr Rose Leke, IRC Chair, for her report, which included detail on the implementation of recommendations from the IRC evaluation.
- Commended the valuable work of the IRC and encouraged regular engagement between the Board, IRC and PPC.
- Raised whether applications received by the IRC were meeting the 10% CSO requirement and any implications.
- Queried the impact on countries of multiple financing windows across agencies.
- Discussed the lack of prominence of applications relating to reaching zero-dose children.

PPC Meeting, 24-26 October 2023

Country Programmes Delivery Presentation

- Expressed appreciation for the joint presentation that fully demonstrated the strength of the Alliance.
- Discussed the engagement of the Secretariat with CSOs and asked for clarity on the selection process and role of CSOs as implementation partners.
- Highlighted the desire for increased transparency between the Secretariat and implementing countries in addition to the wish to move towards country-led coordination and ownership.
- Discussed the challenges Nigeria is experiencing in meeting its roadmap to 2028 targets.
- Noted the importance of good quality data to strengthen and inform several initiatives, including supply-chain visibility which is critical to achieving zero-dose targets.

PPC Meeting, 24-26 October 2023

COVAX Update

- Recognised the Secretariat and Alliance partners who worked shoulder to shoulder in this endeavour.
- Discussed the use of COVID-19 Delivery Support (CDS) contingency funds to date.
- Highlighted the importance of applying learnings for the future and how partners can continue to work together to pre-empt and be aware of the complexities in any public health emergency.
- Discussed communications at country level and lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of use of social media.
- Queried whether ancillary costs had been reduced in line with vaccine demand.

PPC Meeting, 24-26 October 2023

Update on Middle-Income Countries Approach

- Commended the Secretariat for the considerable progress made over the last six months and noted the importance of the MICs Approach for Gavi 6.0.
- Emphasised the importance of a tailored, non-linear approach when assessing country readiness, and suggested the Secretariat also considers health system gaps and potential unintended consequences.
- Highlighted the importance of a data-informed desk review and noted that this may be followed by an evaluation in mid-2024.
- Stressed the importance of data for informing resource allocation and illustrating impact.

PPC Meeting, 24-26 October 2023

Update on Implementation of Gavi Gender Policy

- Commended the frankness of the Secretariat in discussing challenges in overcoming gender barriers to immunisation, increasing participation of women and girls in health programme decision-making, and addressing coverage gaps between boys and girls where they exist.
- Encouraged continued separation of the work being done by the Secretariat on the Gender Policy and the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Assault and Harassment (PSEAH).
- Supported the focus on gender-specific technical assistance to provide high quality gender analysis, in addition to examining best practice from Alliance partners and other actors within the public health landscape.
- Emphasised the role of CSOs in tackling misinformation and providing advocacy support, encouraged the Secretariat to engage CSOs as key implementation partners.

PPC Meeting, 24-26 October 2023

Item placed on the Consent Agenda: Multivalent Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine Programme

- Was supportive of the proposal and noted that many public health experts, including some members of the PPC, had dedicated decades to fighting meningitis and were enthusiastic to see further strengthening of tools to combat it.
- Indicated that while this is an expensive programme, it is the right thing to do, and encouraged the Secretariat to work to better target immunisation.
- Queried whether flexibility could be applied to the list of high-risk countries based on epidemiologic considerations, given the deep interest from countries.
- Asked for additional detail about plans for the stockpile for outbreak response.
- Queried whether the costing for the programme included integrated approaches.

PPC Meeting, 24-26 October 2023

Recommendations to the Board

- Listed in Annex B
- Further details from the PPC discussions contained in the relevant papers to the Board (indicated on slide 3)

Thank you

REVIEW OF DECISIONS

PROGRAMME AND POLICY COMMITTEE
24-26 October 2023, Geneva, Switzerland

Decision 1: Strategy, Programmes and Partnerships: Progress, Risks and Challenges

The Gavi Alliance Programme and Policy Committee **recommended** to the Gavi Alliance Board that it:

- a) **Approve** flexibility for the Secretariat to provide fully funded catch-up doses for children missed during the pandemic for an initial amount of US\$ 290 million subject to countries developing robust plans and taking into account the risk mitigation measures as laid out in Annex F to Doc 04 as amended by discussions at the PPC;
- b) **Note** that the above approval reflects the urgent need for ambitious catch-up efforts for the period 2024-2025 and is contingent on available funding from the COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC) Pandemic Vaccine Pool (PVP) as confirmed by the Gavi Audit and Finance Committee;
- c) **Approve** that Papua New Guinea be exceptionally granted a no-cost extension of the US\$ 60 million 2019 Strategy funding envelope from December 2025 to December 2027, thereby extending the country's accelerated transition period to December 2027;
- d) **Request** an external review of the Papua New Guinea strategy be conducted by December 2026;
- e) **Approve** that Timor-Leste be exceptionally granted a no-cost extension of its post-transition support December 2023 to December 2025.

Decision 2: Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response Approach (1/2)

The Gavi Alliance Programme and Policy Committee **recommended** to the Gavi Alliance Board that it:

- a) **Approve** up to US\$ 22 million to support a coalition of vaccine partners outlined in Annex A to Doc 05a as amended by discussions at the Programme and Policy Committee (PPC) to be committed during the Gavi 5.1 strategic period, in line with Gavi's approach to pandemic preparedness, prevention, and response (PPPR);
- b) **Note** that the investment would be to vaccine partners, coordinating through existing mechanisms, ensuring that the scope of activities covers critical linkages across outbreaks, epidemics, pandemics, and resilient routine immunisation programmes and continues to align with the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) and medical countermeasures (MCM) network deliberations;
- c) **Note** the PPCs guidance on the programmatic aspects of the investment proposals outlined in Annex A to Doc 05a for the Day Zero Financing Facility for Pandemics for which an estimated amount of up to US\$ 500 million could be allocated, noting that the Gavi Audit and Finance Committee would recommend the Day Zero Financing Facility for Pandemics to the Board for approval;

Decision 2: Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response Approach (2/2)

- d) **Note** that this approval and any additional approvals are contingent on available funding from the COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC) Pandemic Vaccine Pool (PVP) as confirmed by the Gavi Audit and Finance Committee;
- e) **Note** that any additional approvals required in the further development of these proposals will be brought back to the Board through the relevant Board Committees as per standard Gavi governance process and in line with Gavi policy;
- f) **Note** that the investment proposals were developed with full consideration of enhanced collaboration with other pandemic recovery and PPPR initiatives and considered by the COVAX AMC Investors Group, as requested by the Board in June 2023, and were supported as options for the use of COVAX AMC PVP funds; and
- g) **Note** that the PPPR approach will be further refined for Gavi 6.0, and associated investments considered as part of Gavi 6.0 strategy development, including but not limited to investments presented to the AMC Investors Group that did not receive funding.

Decision 3: African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA)

The Gavi Alliance Programme and Policy Committee **recommended** to the Gavi Alliance Board that it:

- a) **Approve** the establishment of the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA) as an instrument to provide time-limited financial support to accelerate the expansion of commercially viable vaccine manufacturing in Africa, in accordance with the base design criteria set out in Annex A to Doc 05b as amended in follow up to discussions at the PPC;
- b) **Note** that this approval is contingent on available funding from the COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC) Pandemic Vaccine Pool (PVP) as confirmed by the Gavi Audit and Finance Committee. Under the base proposal, a capitalisation of up to US\$ 1 billion is required;
- c) **Note** that the investment proposals were developed with full consideration of enhanced collaboration with other pandemic recovery and PPPR initiatives and considered by the COVAX AMC Investors Group, as requested by the Board in June 2023, and were supported as options for the use of COVAX AMC PVP funds; and
- d) **Request** that the Secretariat brings back to the Board the following in the first half of 2024: further analysis of legal and regulatory risks relating to the provision of Gavi's support; the articulation of intermediate milestones and review points; the establishment of a Treasury function; proposed governance arrangements with related legal terms and conditions established; and a high-level mapping of key dependencies related to regional demand, regulatory strengthening and prequalification functions at WHO.

Decision 4: Multivalent Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine Programme

The Gavi Alliance Programme and Policy Committee **recommended** to the Gavi Alliance Board that it:

- a) **Approve** expanding the meningococcal programme to include support for multivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccines (MMCV) containing at least serogroups *Neisseria Meningitidis* (Nm) A, C and W aligned with the proposed vaccination strategy and including additional investments as outlined in Annex A to Doc 06;
- b) **Note** that the initial estimates for financial implications associated with the above approval for the period 2023-2025 are US\$ 136 million and for the period 2026- 2030 are US\$ 326 million to US\$ 577 million, the latter contingent on financial resources being made available for the next strategic period;
- c) **Note** that initial estimates are based on a fully loaded vaccine price for MMCV and include associated cash grant costs, while estimates for the period 2023-2025 also include additional costs for technical assistance and Secretariat expenses. Potential changes in the underlying assumptions of these estimates will be reflected in future financial forecasts; and
- d) **Approve** the provision of campaign operational cost support up to US\$ 0.65 per dose to repurpose meningococcal vaccines with short shelf-life part of the meningococcal stockpile, aligned with the amended International Coordinating Group (ICG) Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

Decision 5: Vaccine Investment Strategy 2024: Proposed Shortlist

The Gavi Alliance Programme and Policy Committee **recommended** to the Gavi Alliance Board that it:

For vaccines for endemic disease prevention:

- a) **Request** the Secretariat to develop possible investment options for further consideration for tuberculosis, group B streptococcus, shigella and dengue vaccines;

For vaccines for epidemic-prone diseases:

- b) **Request** the Secretariat to develop possible investment options for further consideration for hepatitis E vaccines;
- c) **Request** the Secretariat to monitor and update living assessments for Chikungunya and Mpox vaccines, including potential investments in learning agendas in consultation with WHO and other partners;

For COVID-19 from 2026:

- d) **Request** the Secretariat to develop possible investment options for further consideration of a continued time-limited COVID-19 vaccine programme from 2026.



Thank you