

Annex A: Implications / Anticipated Impact

Risk implications and mitigation are included in the paper. The impact on countries and the Alliance and gender implications are described below.

1. Impact on countries and Alliance

- a) Gavi-supported countries face the greatest risk of an Ebola outbreak and are disproportionately affected by outbreaks when they occur. Access to vaccines would enable affected countries to plan for the use of vaccines as part of their preparedness and risk mitigation activities, thereby limiting the broader impact on health systems and services (including routine immunisation).
- b) It is important that countries have strong capacities in prevention, detection and response, as these will be important also for outbreaks beyond Ebola. This will require countries and partners to commit resources for new/ strengthened surveillance and detection activities.
- c) This report describes the high degree of uncertainty and need for new knowledge and evidence – across all aspects (duration of protection, vaccination strategy, products, etc.). Countries will need to share experiences and knowledge with counterparts, as they have been doing for recent Ebola outbreaks, for example through the work of the Guinean vaccination team in the current outbreak in DRC.
- d) Through engagement in Ebola, the Alliance will contribute to improved understanding of the role of routine immunisation as part of epidemic and pandemic response.
- e) Section 4 highlights the different roles and responsibilities of Alliance stakeholders in the emergency stockpile mechanism and the need to ensure that in the longer-term Ebola vaccines are considered as part of an integrated approach to disease prevention and control.

2. Gender implications:

- a) Risk: Studies report differences in exposure to EVD by gender, noting that while men may be at risk of exposure to Ebola infection through initial spill over events (e.g. through hunting), in protracted outbreaks women are at greatest risk of exposure through their role as caregivers. In Gavi-supported countries where the majority of HCWs are female, women are also at high risk of occupational exposure.
- b) Impact: In previous outbreaks, EVD has caused very high mortality in pregnant women. Beyond Ebola infection, the impact of EVD on access to obstetric care has also been documented. Finally, literature highlights the broader social and economic impacts of the 2014-2016 West African outbreak on girls and women's access to healthcare and participation in education and the labour force.