



July 2024

Joint Committee Working Group on Collaboration between Gavi, GFF, and the Global Fund

Terms of Reference (TOR)

Purpose:

The Joint Committee Working Group (JCWG) is established as a time-limited working group of Board and Committee members across Gavi, the Global Financing Facility, and the Global Fund to support the organizations in establishing a common vision for collaboration across the three global health institutions (GHIs) and to support the Secretariats in identifying opportunities in operationalizing three high impact workstreams focused on: malaria, health systems strengthening and country engagement. This includes keeping long-term impact for countries and communities at the center of the collaboration efforts with a focus on how the GHIs work and collaborate with each other and with countries, ensuring the efforts are country led and demand driven. This document outlines the TOR for the Joint Committee Working Group developed jointly between the Global Fund, Gavi and GFF.

Context:

The Future of Global Health Initiatives (FGHI)¹ process identified ways to ensure global health initiatives (GHIs) are **more effective, efficient, and equitable** in complementing domestic financing to strengthen health system capacities and deliver health impact, as part of country-led processes and towards universal health coverage (UHC). The FGHI process culminated in a statement of the Lusaka Agenda² in 2023 and identified five long-term shifts, near-term priorities, and priority actions for GHIs to take forward. This included a recommendation to establish joint oversight by a Joint Committee Working Group comprised of members from relevant Board and Committees.

The 3 GHIs have a strong foundation of existing collaboration and partnership across numerous areas. This collaboration has received additional attention with the FGHI process and publication of the Lusaka Agenda. In October 2023, Gavi and the Global Fund, and later GFF, began intensified focus centered around 4 workstreams: malaria, health systems strengthening, country engagement, and business enabling functions. Additionally, each of the three GHIs initiated a process for discussion about a potential

¹ Future of Global Health Initiatives (2024). <https://futureofghis.org/>

² Lusaka Agenda (2024). <https://d2nhv1us8wflpq.cloudfront.net/prod/uploads/2023/12/Lusaka-Agenda.pdf>

JCWG with its Board and Committees and this was also supported by a joint letter sent by several Board members ahead of the first cross-Board meeting on malaria in March 2024.

1. For the Global Fund:

- a. During an informal Board Call on the Lusaka Agenda in January 2024, there was discussion around forming a joint committee working group (JCWG) to support the operationalization of the four workstreams, with different themes and views expressed about the mandate, structure, and scope of this group.
- b. The Strategy Committee, at its 24th Meeting (March 2024) expressed support for a time bound Joint Committee Working Group across the three institutions at Committee level to focus on the on the 4 workstreams. The Ethics and Governance Committee, at its 24th Meeting (March 2024) noted the importance of having a clearly defined terms of reference for such a working group, that would serve the existing Global Fund Governance structure, as well as the governance arrangements in place at Gavi and the GFF i.e. not require any change to the existing structures and have a selection process that is consistent with Global Fund principles of inclusive representation.
- c. After additional consultation, the Secretariat recommended focusing the JCWG on 3 of the 4 workstreams (malaria, HSS, and country engagement). The fourth workstream – enabling functions – varies significantly in nature to the other 3 workstreams, sits more naturally within AFC's remit, and will continue to be reported on as part of AFC meetings.

2. For Gavi:

- a. During the CEO Report agenda item of the December 2023 Board Meeting, the Board received an update on the FGHI and Lusaka Agenda and Board members commented on the need for establishing a means for working together on Board oversight across the GHI collaboration to ensure that collaboration is in place and that the policies set by the Boards are aligned with what is actually needed at country level.
- b. The Governance Committee indicated support for the proposed JCWG at its April 2024 meeting and provided additional guidance for the Terms of Reference in June 2024 where it agreed to delegate the detailing of TOR and membership selection to the Gavi Secretariat. Gavi's Programme and Policy Committee and Board at its May and June 2024 meetings, respectively, discussed support for a light and agile, time-limited committee and advised to avoid creating parallel decision-making bodies.

3. For GFF:

- a. During a GFF Trust Fund Committee (TFC) Retreat in February 2024, TFC members discussed developments under the FGHI process and voiced support for the suggestion to form a Joint Committee Working Group.
- b. They also expressed interest in potentially using the GFF's Investors Group (IG), bringing together a diverse stakeholder group, as a forum to exchange and advance discussions especially on pathfinder countries engagement as an additional forum for discussion.
- c. The GFF will actively engage on two workstreams ((ii) health systems strengthening; and (iii) country engagement.

Mandate

1. The JCWG will collectively work to support operationalization of the three workstreams: (i) malaria, (ii) health systems strengthening, and (iii) country engagement. The scope will remain laser-focused on these areas of work.
2. The JCWG will provide targeted additional input, guidance, and support to the GHI Secretariats to accelerate progress, ensure visibility and awareness, and provide additional space for input to help shape and share the collaboration efforts and to advance the alignment agenda.
3. The JCWG will (i) review reports, papers, and outputs of the three workstreams, (ii) identify and review key analyses and input to the SC, PPC, and TFC and/or committee Leadership and (iii) serve as representatives of their respective Committees in providing input to each organization's Secretariat.
4. The JCWG does not have any decision-making powers. All decision-making will continue to go through existing governance processes, with the strategic leadership and accountability of the Gavi CEO, Global Fund Executive Director, and GFF Director.
5. Terms of reference and selection process have been reviewed by:
 - a. CEO for Gavi aligned with the recommendation of its Governance Committee to delegate this authority
 - b. GFF Director
 - c. EGC leadership and SC leadership for the Global Fund

Term

4. The JCWG will initially be operational for 12 months, at which point a check-in will be held with the Gavi CEO, Global Fund Executive Director, and GFF Director as well as with governance leadership, as appropriate for each organization (for Global Fund, the discussion will be held with Strategy Committee leadership) to see if it should be extended further.

Membership

5. The membership of the JCWG is composed as follows:
 - a. Three members of the GFF TFC or IG
 - b. Five members of the Gavi PPC or Board
 - c. Five members of the Global Fund SC
 - d. Three members from the Secretariat (one from each organization) with sponsorship from the Gavi CEO, Global Fund Executive Director and GFF Director.
6. The composition of the working group shall ensure balanced representation and inclusion of diverse perspectives drawing from the membership of the three institutions and will be considered an important factor in the selection process.
7. For the Global Fund:
 - a. Members of the JCWG will be composed of two members from the donor group and three members from the implementer group, including civil society.
 - b. Members of the JCWG will be selected by SC leadership, following individual expressions of interest to serve. Should an existing member need to step

down and be replaced, SC leadership can identify a replacement, with support from the Secretariat.

8. For the GFF:
 - a. Members of the JCWG will be composed of two members from the TFC and one member from the IG, ensuring representation from a partner country, a donor, and civil society.
 - b. Members of the JCWG will be selected by the leadership team of the GFF Secretariat following individual expressions of interest.
9. For Gavi:
 - a. Members of the JCWG will be composed of two members from the donor constituencies, two members from the Implementing Country constituency, and one member from the civil society constituency.
 - b. Members of the JCWG will be selected by the CEO, following individual expressions of interest to serve.
10. Co-chairs of the JCWG will be determined by Global Fund SC Leadership, Gavi CEO and GFF counterparts.

Ways of working

11. The co-chairs of the JCWG will steer the discussions and ways of working to achieve its purpose.
12. The JCWG will serve as an advisory function without having any delegated decision-making authority.
13. The JCWG will hold virtual meetings at minimum every 12 weeks for the duration of its existence.
14. The JCWG will conduct its work via electronic means. All JCWG meetings will be virtual.
15. Existing and related background documentation (e.g., recent papers submitted to Governance, updates to the Lusaka Agenda Steering Group), and constituency statements will be used as basis for the JCWG discussion.

Reporting and follow up

16. Progress updates from the JCWG will be shared by the co-chairs with Committees in preparation of and during scheduled committee meetings between 2024-2026.
17. Reporting and engagement with the Board will be done at the recommendation of committee leadership.

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