Annexes

Annex B: Considerations to Proposed Approach for Exceptional Support to Ukraine (2026-2027)

1. Option 1: No cost extension of Ukraine's US$ 10 million fragility support as approved by the Gavi Board in December 2025, from 1 July 2026 until 30 June 2027.

This option provides an exceptional extension of Ukraine's GRM fragility support through June 2027, within the existing Board approved ceiling of US$ 10 million.

1.1 Advantages:

1.1.1 Concluding the Board's original US$ 10 million time-limited approval and support for Ukraine in a timely manner and efficient way and to comply with Gavi's eligibility and transition requirements for Upper-Middle Income Countries (UMICs).

1.1.2 Approximately US$ 4.1 million in remaining Board-approved resources (1.1% of total GRM funds) could be utilised to bridge vaccine procurement funding for 2027 by providing a buffer stock at the end of the year.

1.1.3 Approving Decision 1 maintains strict adherence to the time-bound support window and reduces the risk of similar future requests from other UMICs seeking exceptional extensions.

1.2 Disadvantages:

1.2.1 High risk of a financing vacuum for 2027: Essential vaccine procurement for the 2027 cohort, together with critical operational costs, is estimated at approximately US$ 10 million. If the Government is unable to self-finance or secure alternative funding, the immunisation programme will face a critical gap in vaccine procurement, threatening the continuity of supply for the 2027 cohort. Approval to utilise the remaining US$ 4.1 million in Board-approved resources would partially cover 2027 vaccine procurement; however, a significant funding gap would remain, resulting in under vaccinated children and low coverage rates.

1.2.2 Significant outbreak risk: The likelihood of large-scale measles, polio, and diphtheria outbreaks would increase substantially, placing further strain on an already overstretched health system during active conflict.

1.2.3 Regional health security implications: Widespread outbreaks in Ukraine could spill into neighbouring countries, undermining disease elimination goals in the broader European region.

2. Option 2: Costed extension of US$ 6 million until 31 December 2027 contingent on additional funds being available through a special programme to support Ukraine.

This option extends Ukraine's exceptional GRM fragility support through December 2027 with an additional US$ 6 million, beyond the US$ 10 million approved in December 2025.

2.1 Advantages

2.1.1 Continued support would consolidate immunisation gains achieved in 2025–2026, sustain routine vaccine supply through 2027, and prevent backsliding during a period of heightened vulnerability.

2.1.2 Ongoing financing would ensure that critical functions necessary to maintain the immunisation programme remain operational, such as vaccine distribution from the national to subnational levels, training health workers on immunisation and logistic due to the need for task-sharing in emergency response settings, and geospatial analyses to support outreach planning for conflict-affected and internally displaced populations. Additionally, the support would also enhance cold chain resilience by offsetting rising fuel and maintenance costs associated with generator-dependent operations amid continued attacks on energy infrastructure.

2.1.3 This approval will strengthen Ukraine's immunisation and health systems, helping sustain vaccine coverage despite conflict and resource shortages, and reducing the risk of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks that could destabilise the wider European region.

2.1.4 With US$ 588 billion in reconstruction needs and severely constrained fiscal space, continued external support helps ensure continuity of essential immunisation services until medium-term financing prospects improve.

2.1.5 Final approval of support to Ukraine will be subject to the recommendations of the Independent Review Committee, a review by the Secretariat, and compliance with any Board-approved ceiling. Existing implementation arrangements, including delivery through Alliance partners, will continue to mitigate risk.

2.2 Disadvantages

2.2.1 Securing additional financing up to US$ 6 million to cover remaining 2027 vaccine procurement and critical operational costs, following utilisation of the remaining US$ 4.1 million in Board-approved resources, would reduce available GRM funds for other LMICs.

2.2.2 Providing extended support to a UMIC—despite clear fragility conditions—may prompt similar requests from other transitioning or recently graduated countries.

2.2.3 Opportunity cost: Allocating limited GRM resources to Ukraine may divert funds from lower-income countries facing fragility. This could be mitigated if additional funds are mobilised from donors, beyond the existing Gavi 6.0 funds.

2.2.4 Uncertainty of long-term sustainability: Even with an extension to 2027, Ukraine may still face challenges mobilising domestic or external resources for 2028 onward, limiting the long-term impact of short-term support.