GAVI Board Evaluation Advisory Committee Teleconference

5 October 2009

ATTENDANCE: Committee Members Present: Zenda Ofir, Bernhard Schwartländer, Minister Richard Sezibera, George Wellde
Committee Members Absent: Yoka Brandt, George Pariyo, Helen Rees
GAVI Secretariat Members Present: Abdallah Bchir, Peter Hansen, Elodie Sarreau, Nina Schwalbe

AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Selection of chair**
2. **Review of process for selecting bidder for Second GAVI Evaluation**

1. **Selection of chair**

Bernhard Schwartländer was nominated and unanimously elected as chair of the committee.

2. Review of process for selecting bidder for Second GAVI Evaluation

The committee concluded that the process undertaken by the GAVI Secretariat to select the bidder for the Second GAVI Evaluation was sound and endorsed the selection of the bidder.

3. Committee feedback on proposal and selection process

The committee noted the following points of follow up:

- Some members of the evaluation consortium selected as the winning bidder have previous experience working with GAVI. Their role should be watched carefully, and their previous experiences should not compromise their objectivity or independence.
- The extent of country participation in development of the proposal appears to be minimal and the role of developing country partners in the implementation of the evaluation is not clear. In contract negotiations, the role of developing country partners should be clarified and strengthened.
- The budget of the winning bidder, in particular the professional fees of some members of the consortium, should be justified by the consortium. The GAVI Secretariat should negotiate carefully with the consortium on matters pertaining to the budget.
- The lack of reference to a theory of change in the terms of reference and submitted proposal is a missed opportunity. Counterfactuals can be helpful, but they have serious limitations. If the programme or organisation being evaluated has a clear theory of change, this represents an important frame of reference for evaluation.
- The criteria used to score the proposals (but not the scores reported by individual members of the adjudication committee) should be included with the documentation on the selection process compiled by the GAVI Secretariat.
- As part of its regular reporting to the GAVI Secretariat, the evaluators should provide their own assessment of the quality of the evaluation and associated data and methods. In particular, the

evaluators should provide their own frank assessment of the validity and credibility of the counterfactuals used.

- The evaluators must ensure they use sound qualitative evaluation methods, alongside quantitative methods. It is essential that they be able to capture country voices and context clearly in this evaluation.
- The evaluators should exercise caution in using results of earlier evaluations. This evaluation is much larger in scope than a summary or evaluation of other evaluations that have been conducted.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **The GAVI Secretariat will follow up with the selected firm, and assess their responses to posited questions carefully before concluding a final agreement. Contract negotiations will take into account the points raised here, in addition to the points raised by the adjudication committee.**
2. **The GAVI Secretariat will follow up with committee members regarding their availability for an in-person meeting and work with the committee chair to propose a date for that meeting. The initial date proposed is within the first two weeks of December.**