Subject: Decade of Vaccines Collaboration

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1. **Introduction**

1.1 On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of GAVI at the 2010 World Economic Forum, Bill and Melinda Gates called for the next decade to be the “Decade of Vaccines”. Margaret Chan, Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO) and Anthony Lake, Executive Director of UNICEF, pledged their personal and institutional commitment to the Decade of Vaccines. Renowned leaders, including Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and Joy Phumaphi are also lending their expertise and leadership.

2. **Key activities**

2.1 WHO Member States approved the Decade of Vaccine vision and the need for a global vaccine action plan (GVAP) at the 64th World Health Assembly (WHA). The Decade of Vaccines Collaboration (DoVC) Steering Committee has integrated the output of the DoVC working groups and outlined the key issues to be included in the draft global vaccine action plan (GVAP) that must be addressed in immunization over the next decade. A draft GVAP will be presented to the WHO Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization for discussion on 8 November 2011. This marks the beginning of the DoVC consultation process on the draft GVAP which will continue through mid-February. A revised GVAP will be presented at a special SAGE meeting on 16 February 2012 for their endorsement. The final GVAP will be submitted to the WHA in May 2012 for review and approval by Member States. The GAVI Partners' Forum – planned for Q4 in 2012 – also presents an opportunity to discuss the implementation of the GVAP.

3. **The Decades of Vaccines Vision**

3.1 The DoVC is a time-limited effort whose purpose is to outline a global vaccine action plan to achieve the following vision: "We envision a world where children, families, and communities enjoy life protected from the threat of disease. Access to safe and effective vaccines is a human right that is currently not enjoyed by everyone, particularly in low- and middle-income countries."
4. The World Health Assembly

4.1 All 193 Member States approved the need for a global vaccine action plan at the 64th WHA in May 2011. The GVAP will complement the Global Immunization Vision and Strategy (GIVS) by:

(a) enhancing demand for vaccination through a broad and sustained recognition of the value of vaccines,
(b) expanding the scientific ventures engaged in developing new and improved vaccines, and
(c) creating the right incentives to ensure an adequate supply of affordable vaccines.

4.2 The DoVC will work to create a robust and sustained engagement with governments, policy-makers, service managers, civil society, academia, scientific researchers, business community, global development partners, philanthropic organizations, global and regional institutions in the establishment of a GVAP. The 2011 WHA strongly supported vaccines during the session and the concept of the Decade of Vaccines. The 2012 WHA will review and hopefully endorse the GVAP plan in 2012.

5. The Global Vaccine Action Plan

5.1 Since last May, the DoVC focus has been on generating a first draft of the GVAP. This content is being generated through consultations with experts organized around four working groups Delivery, Access, Research & Development and Public and Political Support, with substantial input from the DoVC Steering Committee. The working groups consist of over 120 development, global health and immunization experts (the core working groups’ composition is available at www.dovcollaboration.org). We are grateful to the GAVI Secretariat and members of the Alliance for providing technical inputs to the working groups and their participation in Steering Committee.

5.2 Over the past year, the DoVC Steering Committee has held four meetings. The four working groups have met in person and via teleconferences to outline key issues that must be addressed over the next decade and identify transformative ideas. This work is now being integrated into a high-level framework that constitutes the draft GVAP. The draft GVAP will be made available to key stakeholders over the next four months as part of the DoVC consultation process.

6. Consultation

6.1 The DoVC consultation process begins with the submission of the draft GVAP to the SAGE experts for guidance and feedback during their meeting on 8 November. Following this meeting, the draft GVAP will be shared at regional events, global health meetings, individual sessions and via an online consultation to solicit feedback and inputs from various stakeholder on the draft GVAP. Events are being planned for each region of the world, in coordination with WHO.
first regional event will take place in Africa on 8 December in Windhoek. Events for South East Asia, Eastern Mediterranean, Western Pacific and the Americas regions are in the planning stage but will be announced on www.dovcollaboration.org/news-updates.

6.2 Other key milestones for 2012 include: the WHO Executive Board in January, a special SAGE meeting on 16 February to endorse the revised GVAP, the 2012 WHA, a Vaccine Summit in June and the GAVI Alliance partners meeting in the fourth quarter of 2012.

7. **Contact information for the Decade of Vaccines Collaboration**

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