



Update

ON COUNTRY LEVEL GAVI & VACCINE FUND RELATED ACTIVITIES

*The information contained in this Update depends upon your contributions
Please send inputs for inclusion to: dassanayakeh@who.int*

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GENERAL NOTE ON THE VACCINE FUND APPLICATION PROCESS

- The country activities listed below are those that have been initiated by various Partners of the Alliance.
- Please note change in round numbering below.
- The **3rd Round 2003 – September deadline is 30 September 2003.** The Independent Review Committee (IRC) will meet from 28 October – 5 November 2003.
- The next **Monitoring Review** will take place from **27 October 2003 to 7 November 2003.** The deadline to receive reports is **30 September 2003.**

REVIEW PROCESS

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Out of 22 countries that applied in the May 2003 round, four applied for Immunization Services support, 10 for New Vaccines support (either YF, HepB, Hib, or more than one new vaccine), and 15 for Injection Safety support.

The Independent Review Committee reviewed 33 applications from the 22 countries that submitted in this round. Twelve applications were approved, 10 were approved with clarifications, 6 were conditionally approved, and 5 were requested to resubmit applications. Detailed results are classified under specific country headings (Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Eritrea, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Mongolia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, Togo, Ukraine, Zimbabwe).

GAVI BOARD

30/06/03 from the GAVI Secretariat: The GAVI Board meeting was held in Washington D.C. from 15-16 July 2003. Outcomes from the meeting will be available shortly.

ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATION TASK FORCE

28/07/03 from the Advocacy and Communication Task Force:

Monitoring Communication for Improved Immunization Coverage and Quality Workshop

ACTF members Scott Wittet, Grace Kagundu and Judy Graeff report that the “Monitoring Communication for Improved Immunization Coverage and Quality” workshop for Anglophone African countries held in Johannesburg from 16-20 June 2003 was a success. The workshop focused on building skills for monitoring district-level communication and advocacy interventions, most of which aim to increase demand and reduce drop-outs as part of the Reaching Every District strategy. MOH, UNICEF, WHO and NGO staff from nine countries participated. They were joined by an observer/resource person from West Africa, where a similar workshop will likely be organized before the end of the year. The facilitators came from headquarters and regional offices of UNICEF, WHO, CVP/PATH, and the BASICS II project. Workshop participants reported that the need for communication monitoring and evaluation is great, the challenge will be to duplicate the training for district-level staff in countries and to ensure that they are motivated and supported to carry out these efforts. The workshop report will be available shortly.

Advocacy PowerPoint

CVP/PATH has posted a new immunization advocacy PowerPoint show for download from their web-site. The slideshow, called “Childhood Immunization – A Worthwhile Investment” was developed as part of the ACTF workplan, and is designed to be adapted by different organizations to meet their special needs. The file can be downloaded from the following URL:

http://childrensvaccine.org/html/general_information.htm#worthinvest

Joint Activity with the FTF

ACTF member Heidi Lasher and former member Dana Faulkner, working in close collaboration with the FTF, recently returned from Cambodia where they helped the immunization team develop advocacy strategies in support of national Financial Sustainability goals.

IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE

28/07/03 from the Implementation Task Force: A sub-set of the Monitoring & Evaluation sub-group were called on 24 July 2003 to discuss the Performance-Based Evaluation Concept Paper and the proposition from the GAVI Secretariat to undertake a comparative study with the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM), and to reach consensus on a suggestion from USAID to include a component on the use of ISS funds in the research.

It was agreed that the first objective of the study should be an evaluation of the use of ISS funds and the effects of the ISS reward based funding mechanism.

A detailed qualitative approach (following the design which was originally proposed) should be undertaken, comprising an in-depth study in four countries.

It was agreed that the findings of the in-depth study would then be used to direct a less detailed study of ISS use and performance in a larger number of countries.

The concept paper, terms of reference and funding process will be completed in 2003. The study will start in 2004.

DATA QUALITY AUDIT

28/07/03 from Olivier Ronveaux, WHO/HQ: DQAs have been conducted in Niger and Lao in July 2003. The next DQAs include Senegal and Madagascar (28 July – 8 August). For security reasons, DQAs in Liberia and Burundi are being postponed.

28/07/03 from Carole Francis, WHO/HQ: The Data Quality Self-Assessment Tool is being revised and translated into French.

YELLOW FEVER

28/07/03 from Alya Dabbagh, WHO/HQ: Preventive campaigns for Yellow Fever have been conducted in Guinea in 2002 and 2003. There have also been preventing campaigns in Mali and Senegal. Preventive campaigns are planned in Kenya and Uganda, with some borders with south Sudan.

Outbreak response campaigns have been conducted in South Sudan and are still ongoing this year.

Several countries are interested in conducting preventive campaigns, however lack the funds to purchase the vaccine.

Preventive campaigns using the GAVI approved 6 million dose stockpile will take place in early 2004.

COUNTRY INFORMATION

AFGHANISTAN

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety was approved with clarifications in the May 2003 round.

ALBANIA

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety was approved with clarifications in the May 2003 round.

ANGOLA

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Immunization Services Strengthening was approved and Injection Safety was approved with clarifications in the May 2003 round.

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group: Measles <15 year old catch-up campaign was completed, and preliminary national coverage reached 93%.

BANGLADESH

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety was approved in the May 2003 round.

BOLIVIA

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety received in the May 2003 round was requested to be resubmitted.

BURUNDI

28/07/03 from Oya Afsar, WHO/HQ: Expected to introduce DTP-Hib tetravalent and HepB monovalent in 2004.

CAMEROON

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for New Vaccines (Yellow Fever) was approved, and application for New Vaccines (HepB) was conditionally approved in the May 2003 round

CHAD

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Applications for Immunization Services Strengthening and New Vaccines (Yellow Fever) were approved, and application for Injection Safety was approved with clarifications in the May 2003 round.

COMOROS

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:

- HepB monovalent vaccine was received in March 2003 and introduced into 17 districts since 1 June 2003. MLM training to all district EPI managers has been completed.
- Post Introduction Evaluation is not yet planned, it might be scheduled to end 2003 or early 2004.

CONGO

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Immunization Services Strengthening was approved, and applications for New Vaccines (Yellow Fever) and Injection Safety were approved with clarifications in the May 2003 round.

COTE D'IVOIRE

28/07/03 from Oya Afsar, WHO/HQ: DTP-HepB introduction is an ongoing process. There are 25 districts which are targeted to be reached by the end of the year.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC CONGO

28/07/03 from Oya Afsar, WHO/HQ: Implementation of Yellow Fever commenced in the main cities in March 2003, and have been ongoing.

ERITREA

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety was approved with clarifications in the May 2003 round.

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group: Currently planning for the measles catch-up campaign. Several visits by WHO and UNICEF staff members have been made to support this process. UNICEF is in the process of hiring a consultant to further support this activity.

ETHIOPIA

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:

- A national new vaccines consensus meeting was held on 16 July 2003. The objective of this meeting was to discuss the new vaccines options presenting themselves in the country.
- The emergency measles campaigns in the central and eastern parts of the country are ongoing, and early indications are that a high coverage has been achieved. Further support visits are planned by UNICEF/ESARO and WHO/ICP to assist with the planning for the larger October campaigns.
- A UNICEF logistician and a CDC measles medical officer are expected to join the country team in UNICEF and WHO respectively in a short time.

HAITI

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety received in the May 2003 round was requested to be resubmitted.

28/07/03 from Carole Francis, WHO/HQ: Olivier Ronveaux (WHO/HQ) is scheduled to visit in August 2003 to assist with strengthening the monitoring system.

HONDURAS

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety was approved in the May 2003 round.

INDONESIA

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Immunization Services Strengthening was approved in the May 2003 round.

KENYA

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:

- An external team supported by WHO and PATH has completed a waste management assessment, and the report will be finalized shortly.
- The CDC supported routine vaccination project has recruited a national coordinator and is expected to move forward with the implementation now.

KYRGYZSTAN

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety was approved in the May 2003 round.

LESOTHO

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:

- HepB monovalent vaccine was received in March 2003, and the launching date is 15 August 2003.
- MoH requested technical assistance for the introduction of new vaccines in the first two weeks of August.
- Measles "follow-up" campaign was completed, and results are expected shortly.

LIBERIA

28/07/03 from Oya Afsar, WHO/HQ: Expected to submit applications for New Vaccines (HepB) and Injection Safety in October 2003, however currently on hold due to the political situation.

MALAWI

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group: Documents for Injection Safety application have been prepared and will be finalized for the next review in October 2003.

MADAGASCAR

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group: Dr Sakho supported the Financial Sustainability Plans in July 2003 and the report should be presented in September 2003.

MAURITANIA

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for New Vaccines (HepB) was conditionally approved in the May 2003 round.

MONGOLIA

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety received in the May 2003 round was requested to be resubmitted. Application for New Vaccines (HepB) was conditionally approved in the May 2003 round.

MOZAMBIQUE

28/07/03 from Oya Afsar, WHO/HQ: A CDC team will be available to perform a Hib RAT during the last week of August 2003.

NICARAGUA

28/07/03 from Alba Roper, WHO/PAHO: The EPI review is scheduled for 20-31 October 2003.

NIGER

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety was conditionally approved and application for New Vaccines (Yellow Fever) was requested to be resubmitted.

NIGERIA

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for New Vaccines (Yellow Fever) was approved in the May 2003 round.

28/07/03 from Oya Afsar, WHO/HQ: Hib RAT has been requested, however due to the polio issues, this will be rescheduled to 2004.

SENEGAL

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for New Vaccines (HepB and Hib) were approved with clarifications in the May 2003 round.

SUDAN

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for New Vaccines (HepB) received in the May 2003 was requested to resubmit application.

TANZANIA

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group: A consultant is being sought from WHO/HQ to assist with the reworking of the Financial Sustainability Plan submission in October 2003.

TOGO

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for New Vaccines (Yellow Fever) was approved in the May 2003 round.

UGANDA

28/07/03 from Oya Afsar, WHO/HQ: CDC is planning to conduct a Hib vaccine assessment for early next year. A cost-effectiveness study is also expected in 2004.

UKRAINE

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety was approved in the May 2003 round.

ZAMBIA

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group: The measles "catch-up" campaign has been completed. Coverage for Vitamin A, medendazole and insecticide-treated bednets (ITNs) are expected shortly.

ZIMBABWE

28/07/03 from GAVI Secretariat: Application for Injection Safety was approved with clarifications in the May 2003 round.

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:

- National EPI review was conducted by Dr Pascal Mkanda (WHO/AFRO). Report will be available shortly upon request.
- EPI coverage survey results are available shortly upon request.
- Measles "mop-up" vaccination scheduled for 24-26 July, training completed, supplies received.

28/07/03 from Oya Afsar, WHO/HQ:

- Country has changed its application and plan from tetravalent vaccine to DTP and monovalent HepB due to costs.
- Hib RAT scheduled for 22 September 2003. Dr Chris Nelson from WHO/HQ will assist.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

EAST & SOUTH AFRICAN SUB-REGIONAL WORKING GROUP

28/07/03 from East and South African Sub-Regional Working Group:

Healthcare Waste Management Meeting: The meeting was held in Dar-Es-Salaam from 9-11 July 2003. It was found to be very valuable to meeting participants. Workplans have been drafted by countries to establish further waste management activities.

EPI Managers Meeting: The EPI Managers meeting for East and Southern Africa scheduled for September 2003 is cancelled, and envisaged for the first quarter of 2004.

Proposed country meetings: It was proposed that a small group of countries are called together in a smaller meeting, focusing on routine vaccination and RED issues.

ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL WORKING GROUP

28/07/03 from Asia Pacific Regional Working Group: The next Regional Working Group meeting will be held in Mongolia from 1-2 September 2003.

28/07/03 from Asia Pacific Regional Working Group: A two-day workshop was held for Communications Managers and some EPI staff involved with issues relating to advocacy and communication in the SEA and WP Regions on June 30 – July 1, supported by the GAVI Advocacy and Communications Task Force. The areas of focus for the meeting were the challenges to those involved in vaccines and immunisation posed by the changing global environment (a focus on routine coverage and community involvement, the resulting higher expectations of consumers, and a lower tolerance for adverse events), a justifiably increased expectation that injections associated with vaccination should be safe and the need for advocacy to improve the financial sustainability of recent inputs to global programs.

Group discussions focusing on handling the media, developing communications strategies and on advocating for financial sustainability were conducted, and examples of successful community mobilisation and partnership activities were presented.

END

Regional Meetings of Relevance to the GAVI Objectives: July - December 2003

Title of Meeting	Start	Finish	Location	Responsible Partner	Region
Jul-03					
6th GAVI Eastern Mediterranean Regional Working Group Meeting	3-Jul	3-Jul	Cairo, Egypt	WHO/EMRO	EMR
Financial Sustainability Planning Workshop for Europe	7-Jul	11-Jul	Russia	WHO/EURO/FTF	EUR
Sage Meeting 2003	7-Jul	9-Jul	Geneva, Switzerland	WHO/HQ	Global
GAVI Board meeting	15-Jul	16-Jul	Washington D.C.	GAVI Secretariat	Global
Aug-03					
West and Central African Sub-Regional Working Group Meeting	18-Aug	19-Aug	Lome	WHO/AFRO (W&C)	AFR
Senior Level EPI Managers Forum	25-Aug	27-Aug	Bangkok, Thailand	Asia Pacific RWG	WPR
Inter-country meeting on Measles Accelerated Control	28-Aug	31-Aug	Tunisia	WHO/EMRO	EMR
Sep-03					
Asia Pacific Regional Working Group Meeting	1-Sep	2-Sep	Mongolia	WHO/WPRO	WPR
Inter-country meeting on Measles Elimination	3-Sep	6-Sep	Tunisia	WHO/EMRO	EMR
EPI Managers Meeting for East and South Africa	tbd	tbd	Livingstone, Zambia	WHO/AFRO (E&S)	AFR
Oct-03					
EPI Training Workshop for Andean Countries	6-Oct	10-Oct	Ecuador	WHO/PAHO	AMR
Nov-03					
Caribbean EPI Managers Workshop	17-Nov	20-Nov	tbd	WHO/PAHO	AMR
Dec-03					
7th GAVI Eastern Mediterranean Regional Working Group Meeting	8-Dec	9-Dec	Cairo, Egypt	WHO/EMRO	EMR