

## **Strengthening immunization to achieve the goals of the global vaccine action plan**

### **Draft resolution proposed by Australia, Brazil and Colombia**

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report on the global vaccine action plan,<sup>1</sup>

RECOMMENDS to the Seventieth World Health Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

The Seventieth World Health Assembly,

(PP1) Recalling resolutions WHA65.17 (2012) and WHA68.6 (2015) on the global vaccine action plan;

(PP2) Welcoming the declaration by the International Expert Committee for Documenting and Verifying Measles, Rubella and Congenital Rubella Syndrome Elimination, that the Member States in the Region of the Americas, have achieved the interruption of endemic transmission of both rubella and measles viruses<sup>2</sup> in 2015 and 2016, respectively;

(PP3) Welcoming the validation of the elimination of maternal and neonatal tetanus in all districts in all 11 Member States of the South East Asia Region;

(PP4) Having considered the 2016 assessment report from the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on immunization on the implementation of the global vaccine action plan and progress towards its stated strategic objectives and goals;<sup>3</sup>

(PP5) Noting that many countries have achieved the 2015 goals of the global vaccine action plan, and that others are making substantial progress, indicating that while the goals and targets are ambitious, they are achievable;

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<sup>1</sup> Document EB140/25.

<sup>2</sup> See document CD55/INF/10, Rev.1.

<sup>3</sup> The full 2016 SAGE Assessment Report of the Global Vaccine Action Plan is available at: [http://www.who.int/entity/immunization/global\\_vaccine\\_action\\_plan/SAGE\\_GVAP\\_Assessment\\_Report\\_2016\\_EN.pdf](http://www.who.int/entity/immunization/global_vaccine_action_plan/SAGE_GVAP_Assessment_Report_2016_EN.pdf) (accessed 23 January 2017).

(PP6) Noting the progress made on the introduction of new vaccines and the impact that these vaccines have in reducing child mortality and protecting more people against vaccine-preventable diseases;

(PP7) Concerned that at the midpoint of the Decade of Vaccines (2011–2020), progress toward the goals of the global vaccine action plan to eradicate polio, eliminate measles and rubella, eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus, and increase equitable access to life-saving vaccines is too slow;

(PP8) Noting that although Member States in all six WHO regions have measles elimination goals, and that three regions have rubella elimination goals, additional efforts should be invested to reach measles and rubella elimination;

(PP9) Recognizing the enormous potential of vaccines and immunization in: improving the health of populations; achieving the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals; contributing to outbreak preparedness and response, including in respect of outbreaks involving emerging pathogens; and preventing antimicrobial resistance;

(PP10) Recognizing that routine immunization programmes fully integrated into health systems contribute to achieve universal health coverage by strengthening health systems and increasing coverage for other health interventions;

(PP11) Recognizing the significant progress achieved towards polio eradication and the significant contribution of the polio-related assets, human resources and infrastructure, if transitioned effectively, in strengthening national immunization and health systems;

(PP12) Recognizing the need for enhanced international cooperation aimed at strengthening the capacities of developing countries to achieve the goals of the global vaccine action plan, including through transfer of technology,

(OP) 1. URGES Member States:<sup>1</sup>

(1) to demonstrate stronger leadership and governance of national immunization programmes by:

(a) ensuring that immunization programmes are fully integrated into national health systems;

(b) ensuring allocation of sufficient budgetary resources to immunization and strengthening evidence-based, transparent and independent decision-making mechanisms, such as National Immunization Technical Advisory Groups or equivalent mechanisms;

(c) promoting mechanisms to monitor and efficiently manage vaccination programme funds at all levels and allocating adequate human resources for immunization programmes;

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<sup>1</sup> And, where applicable, regional economic integration organizations.

- (d) strengthening systems to monitor adverse events following immunization, and making relevant information publicly available;
- (e) promoting awareness-raising campaigns on immunization, underlining public health benefits and vaccine safety;
- (f) strengthening the immunization systems, procedures, and policies that are necessary to achieve and sustain high immunization coverage;
- (g) reviewing national progress periodically, through the National Immunization Technical Advisory Groups or equivalent independent groups, of the progress made, lessons learned and possible solutions for dealing with remaining challenges;
- (h) reporting every year to the regional committees, as urged in resolution WHA65.17;

(2) to ensure use of up-to-date data on immunization coverage to guide strategic and programmatic decisions that protect at-risk populations and reduce disease burden;

(3) to strengthen and sustain surveillance capacity by investing in disease detection and notification systems;

(4) to expand immunization services beyond infancy to cover the whole life course, where appropriate, and determine the most effective and efficient means of reaching the other age groups and high-risk populations with immunization and integrated health services;

(5) to strengthen international and national actions to ensure the application of the International Health Regulations (2005), which aim to prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of diseases;

(6) to mobilize domestic financing, as appropriate, in order to sustain the immunization gains achieved through the support from the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and the GAVI Alliance;

(7) to strengthen international cooperation to achieve the goals of the global vaccine action plan, including through transfer of technology;

(OP) 2. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to advocate in national and international forums in support of the urgency and value of accelerating the pace of progress toward achieving the goals of the global vaccine action plan by 2020;

(2) to enhance accountability mechanisms for monitoring implementation of global and regional vaccine action plans;

(3) to continue supporting countries to achieve regional and global goals for measles, rubella and maternal and neonatal tetanus elimination by 2020;

- (4) to report to the Health Assembly no later than 2020, in consultation with Member States, on whether formal goals for measles and rubella eradication should be set, including their time frames;
- (5) to collaborate with all key partners, including civil society organizations, in order to assess how their work strengthens national routine immunization systems and the implementation of costed national immunization plans and targets;
- (6) to continue working with all partners to support research, development and production of vaccines against new and re-emerging pathogens;
- (7) to continue working with all parties to support research and development and the use of vaccine delivery and supply chain innovations that increase efficiency and cost-effectiveness;
- (8) to cooperate with, as appropriate, international agencies, in accordance with their respective mandates, donors, vaccine manufacturers and national governments in order to overcome barriers to timely and adequate access to affordable vaccines of assured quality for all, including in public health emergencies of international concern and in the specific context of humanitarian crisis;
- (9) to continue to monitor progress and report every year to the Health Assembly on progress toward achievement of global immunization targets, as a substantive agenda item, using the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on immunization in order to guide discussions and future actions, as requested in resolution WHA65.17.

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