

Statement by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

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Agenda item 15 – WHO's work in health emergencies

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Thank you, Chair,

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, is deeply concerned about growing humanitarian needs and the rise of infectious diseases. Addressing these challenges will require fully coordinated efforts and increased funding.

In response to the mpox public health emergency and leveraging lessons from COVID-19 and previous outbreaks, Gavi, together with its Alliance members, rapidly engaged with partners to support regional and national responses. Through its First Response Fund, Gavi rapidly procured 500,000 doses of mpox vaccines and approved complementary delivery funding and flexibilities to support countries, ensuring a timely and effective response.

Gavi is also contributing to the Ending Cholera Roadmap by supporting the oral cholera vaccine stockpile and expanding access to rapid diagnostic tests in 16 countries, enabling faster responses and better targeting of outbreaks and preventive efforts. The global supply of cholera vaccine is set to grow from 20 million doses in 2013 to 70 million by 2025, with further increases expected as new manufacturers join. This improved supply, alongside the launch of the preventive programme, will enhance cholera control efforts and likely stabilize market demand.

Finally, in Sudan, where conflict has severely disrupted health services, Gavi is working with global and local partners to address urgent vaccination needs. Additional support is also provided to improve vaccine storage and cold chain capacity and to train healthcare workers in outbreak detection and response.

To conclude, Gavi recommends Member States to:

- Establish robust, predictable funding mechanisms for prevention, preparedness and response to outbreaks, particularly in vulnerable areas.
- Invest in regional manufacturing, health systems and in health workers to build resilience against future outbreaks.
- Prioritize timely and equitable access to and distribution of vaccines and resources, focusing on populations in low- and middle-income countries, to leave no one behind.

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