

Statement by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

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Agenda item 22 – Climate change and health

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Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, welcomes the draft Global Plan of Action on Climate Change and Health, and its call for investing in health promotion and prevention measures to reduce pressure on health systems.

Preventive and primary health approaches, such as routine immunisation and disease surveillance for climate-sensitive diseases, are critical first steps to address health risks from climate change.

They also build the resilience of health systems and people whose health is being harmed first and worst by the climate crisis, especially those living in low-income and vulnerable countries and communities.

Gavi calls on Member States and partners to ensure the Global Plan of Action prioritise these communities, including by strengthening the participation of civil society and local communities in climate and health planning and decision-making processes.

Gavi further calls on Member States to:

1. Invest in immunisation programmes of climate-sensitive diseases as part of their climate adaptation actions.
2. Incorporate preventive health measures explicitly into health National Adaptation Plans, and climate Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessments.
3. Prioritize immunisation-related indicators in the negotiations of the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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