

Statement by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

--

Agenda item 6 - Universal Health Coverage

--

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, welcomes the Director-General's report on Universal Health Coverage and acknowledges the collective efforts to advance this critical agenda despite significant global challenges.

Immunisation is a fundamental component of primary health care and serves as a platform for delivering other essential services. Between 2026 and 2030, Gavi aims to facilitate over 1.4 billion individual contacts between families and health services, fostering integrated primary health care and accelerating progress towards Universal Health Coverage.

By preventing disease, immunisation reduces health care costs for families and countries, alleviating financial hardship and burden on health systems. The long-term impact and cost savings of immunisation underscore its role as a key driver of equity, efficiency and sustainability in health care.

Gavi remains committed to building enhanced partnerships to strengthen health systems, driven by countries' priorities, in line with the Lusaka Agenda.

As Member States advance their UHC journeys, Gavi recommends a focus on three critical priorities:

- Identify and reach zero dose children and underserved communities with immunisation and other essential health services to achieve universality in their coverage.
- Boost the financial allocation for health in public budgets prioritizing equitable access to essential services.
- Expand the availability of a skilled, motivated, and fairly remunerated health workforce, including integrating and adequately compensating community health workers and addressing gender inequities.

ENDS