

World Health Assembly 77

Statement by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

--

Agenda item 12: Global technical strategy and targets for malaria 2016-2030

--

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance welcomes the Director General's report on the "global technical strategy and targets for malaria 2016-2030". We express our concern that the progress towards addressing malaria and reducing malaria deaths is significantly offtrack.

Gavi is now funding the roll out of the two new malaria vaccines in lower-income countries, which could make a significant impact on malaria control efforts and save tens of thousands of lives each year. We are also helping to shape the vaccine market to ensure a sustainable and affordable supply of vaccines that can meet demand in endemic countries.

However, the malaria vaccines are not a 'silver bullet'. To achieve the greatest impact against malaria and allow more children to survive and reach adulthood, it is important to combine interventions, including the vaccines, insecticide-treated nets, use of antimalarials, and highly effective treatments.

Gavi would also like to emphasise the critical roles played by civil society and community-based organisations in the implementation of malaria prevention and control strategies including promoting the use of all available interventions and awareness against misinformation about the efficacy and importance of vaccination in malaria-endemic regions.

Gavi calls upon Member States to:

1. Introduce malaria vaccines in moderate and high transmission settings as part of national malaria control plans and programmes, ensuring a comprehensive approach to tackling malaria.
2. Meaningfully involve civil society and community-based organisations into the design and implementation of national malaria prevention and control strategies.