

79th World Health Assembly

Statements by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

Agenda 12.3 Communicable diseases

The Big Catch-Up Initiative, the largest ever international effort to reach missed children with life-saving vaccines, concluded recently, reaching an estimated 18.3 million children, including 12.3 million “zero-dose children”, and delivered over 100 million doses of life-saving vaccines.

It is on track to meet its target of reaching at least 21 million un- and under-immunised children, and shows what is possible when governments, partners and communities work together to protect the most vulnerable in society.

Gavi calls upon WHO Member States to build on this achievement and sustain the IA2030 momentum by:

1. Strengthen prioritisation and optimisation of vaccine programmes particularly to reach zero-dose children.
2. Invest in immunisation to scale up coverage of vaccines against major vaccine-preventable causes of mortality to sustain the gains made through the Big Catch-Up and the Immunization Agenda 2030.

Gavi also stands ready to work with countries and partners to accelerate progress toward ending TB, and urges Member States to support the development of the post-2030 tuberculosis strategy and ensure it is aligned to global efforts with current epidemiology, scientific advances and country ownership.