Thank you chair,

With 190 participants representing nearly 90% of the global population, COVAX represents the only global solution and an exit strategy from this pandemic.

By working with our partners, countries and stakeholders, the COVAX Facility has made agreements to secure over 2 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines in 2021, enough to vaccinate 20% of the population for all participating economies that have elected to do so through COVAX. The agreements also ensure all participating economies can access doses in the first half of the year, prioritising health workers and vulnerable groups in the initial rollout phase.

As the roll out of COVID-19 vaccines picks up pace this year, Gavi will continue to work with our partners and countries to ensure their rapid and equitable deployment.

To achieve this, the Alliance calls upon Member States to:

1. Ensure COVID vaccines are allocated equitably and in line with SAGE allocation principles.

2. Fully fund the COVAX AMC to at least US$ 7 billion to help ensure 92 lower income countries and territories can access vaccines on the same timeline as wealthy countries

Thank you.