Civil Society Call to Action to Support the GAVI Alliance

GAVI Alliance Civil Society Constituency, 8 June 2011

Civil society organisations have been supporting the GAVI Alliance since its inception by encouraging donors to support its work, influencing its policies and directly contributing to its operations in poor countries. We also play a critical watch dog role to ensure transparency and accountability. We mobilise communities and civil society, influence governments, contribute to research, and help deliver vaccines to marginalised and hard-to-reach (and hard-to-convince) communities. Work supported by the GAVI Alliance has resulted in 280 million children who would previously not have benefited from vaccines being immunized and more than five million deaths averted. Vaccines and GAVI are essential to the achievement of Millennium Development Goal 4 by 2015 (reduce childhood mortality by 2/3 compared to 1990).

We strongly support GAVI’s 2011-2015 Strategy to further expand access to basic vaccines and catalyse the rapid introduction of newer vaccines against diseases caused by pneumococcus and rotavirus – now the two biggest vaccine-preventable killers of young children in poor countries. At least 45 countries have indicated their desire to introduce pneumonia and rotavirus vaccine but the GAVI Alliance is $3.7 billion short of having the resources necessary to support this introduction during the period 2011-2015.

We are calling on donors to ensure that this plan is fully funded by the end of the Pledging Conference on 13 June. We call on all parties involved to commit resources to ensure that the poorest segments of the world have equitable access to the vaccines that protect those in the richest parts of the world and to ensure that all countries have the resources needed to sustain and strengthen routine immunization infrastructure, achieve global initiative goals (e.g., polio, measles), respond to outbreaks, and introduce new vaccines. Vaccination is a right of every child, no matter how poor.

Furthermore, we are calling on GAVI, its donors and partners to use the 13 June Pledging Conference to give clear guidance to maximise the impact of these resources and address important gaps:

- There remain important gaps in the coverage of vaccines, with the poorest children in the poorest communities often missing out. GAVI’s strong commitment to the principle of equity should be re-emphasized to ensure that new and existing vaccines do not exclude the poor.

- Vaccines do not administer themselves. GAVI has been a leader in supporting health systems to enable countries to develop their immunisation structures and has shown real commitment to building the Health Systems Funding Platform. The 13 June Conference should reaffirm the importance of supporting developing countries to build sustainable health systems with sufficient health workers, both through GAVI’s operations and the support of other donors.
- Countries in the developing world must commit national resources to assure an adequate infrastructure to deliver vaccines as well as to purchase vaccines consistently.

- GAVI has a mandate to shape the vaccine market and ensure that vaccines are made affordable for developing countries through its procurement policies. The price of new vaccines must fall through voluntary reductions, effective purchasing and increasing competition from emerging market manufacturers.

- The role of civil society in supporting the acceptability of and demand for vaccines should be reaffirmed and funding needs to be made available to support this work in developing countries.

We ask that donors and potential donors respond affirmatively to the GAVI Alliance call for pledging of support to carry out critical activities in the period 2011-2015 by committing to fill the $3.7 billion funding gap.

GAVI Alliance Civil Society Constituency Steering Committee:
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Marco Gomes, Centre for Health Policy and Innovation (South Africa)
Adenike Grange, International Pediatric Assoc. (Nigeria)
Alan Hinman, Task Force for Global Health (USA), Alternate Board Member
Oluwamayowa Joel, Communication for Development Center (Nigeria)
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Maziko Matemba, Health N Rights Education Program (Malawi)
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Rozina Mistry, Aga Khan Health Service (Pakistan)
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Naveen Thacker, Indian Academy of Pediatrics (India)
Simon Wright, Save the Children UK (UK)
Organizational endorsements:
- Action for Global Health (UK)
- Action for Global Health Network (AFGH, Belgium)
- AEXAD Conseil (African Executive Advisor, Cameroon)
- Afghanistan Center for Training and Development (Afghanistan)
- Aga Khan Health Service (Pakistan)
- Agence de Medecine Preventative (France)
- AGHA (Action Group for Health, Human Rights & HIV/AIDS, Uganda)
- All Pakistan Women’s Association (Pakistan)
- Alliance for Cooperation and Legal Aid Bangladesh – (ACLAB, Bangladesh)
- Alternative Santé (Cameroon)
- AMREF in Ethiopia (Ethiopia)
- ASAD (Association d’Assistance aux Développement, Cameroon)
- Ashar Alo Society (Bangladesh)
- Association of Adolescent and Child Care in India (India)
- Bakhtara Development Network (Afghanistan)
- Bangladesh Development Service Center
- BANDHAN (Bangladesh)
- BAPSA (Bangladesh Association for Prevention of Septic Abortion)
- BARAN (Bu Ali Rehabilitation and Aid Network, Afghanistan)
- BGEA (Health Project) (Bangladesh)
- Bhokura Charitable Trust (India)
- BRAC (Bangladesh)
- BRAC Afghanistan (Afghanistan)
- Burkinabe Red Cross (Burkina Faso)
- CAF (Care of Afghan Families, Afghanistan)
- Cameroon Business Women’s Network (Cameroon)
- Cameroon Red Cross (Cameroon)
- Canadian Red Cross (Canada)
- Catholic Relief Services (USA)
- CCRDA/CORE Group Ethiopia (Ethiopia)
- Centre for Community Medicine (India)
- Centre for Health Policy and Innovation (South Africa)
- CFRONG (Benin)
- CHESTRAD (Centre for Health Sciences Training, Research & Development, Nigeria)
- CHF International (Cooperative Housing Foundation, Kenya)
- Child Health Foundation (India)
- Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (US)
- Civil Society Human and Institutional Development Programme (Pakistan)
- COHECF (Christian Community Health Care Foundation, Cameroon)
- Communication for Development Center (Nigeria)
- CONGAD (Senegal)
- Consortium Christian Relief and Development Assoc. (Ethiopia)
- CWFD (Concerned Women For Development) (Bangladesh)
- Cordaid (Netherlands)
CORE Group (Global)
Damien Foundation (Bangladesh)
Development Research Centre (Uganda)
East African Paediatric Association
Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network (Global)
Episcopal Relief & Development (USA)
Ethiopian Medical Association (Ethiopia)
Ethiopian Orthodox Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (Ethiopia)
FECONG (Mali)
FONGDD (Guinea)
FONGTO (Togo)
Friends in Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB)(Bangladesh)
Future Generations International (Ghana)
GAVI CSO Alliance (Pakistan)
German Foundation for World Population (Germany)
German Red Cross (Germany)
Ghana Coalition of NGOs in Health (Ghana including 502 individual NGO partners)
GHARONI- Grassroots Health and Rural Organization for Nutrition Initiative (Bangladesh)
Global Health Advocates (France)
Global Health Strategies (India)
Global Health Strategies (India)
HAS (Humanitarian Assistance Society, Afghanistan)
Health Foundation (Pakistan)
Health N Rights Education Program (Malawi)
HealthNet (Afghanistan)
HEED (Bangladesh)
HELP (Health, Education and Literacy Programme, Pakistan)
HENNET (Health NGOs Network, Kenya)
HITAISHI (Bangladesh)
Hope for Future Generations (Ghana)
HSAN (Health Systems Action Network, Global)
Human Development Trust (Tanzania)
ICDDR,B (Bangladesh)
INCLEN Trust International (India)
Indian Academy of Pediatrics (India)
International Civil Society Support (The Netherlands)
International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (Global)
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (Global)
International Pediatric Association (Global)
International Planned Parenthood Federation (UK)
Institute of Allergy and Clinical Immunology of Bangladesh
KMSS (Bangladesh)
LAMB (Lutheran Aid to Medicine in Bangladesh)
LEPRA Bangladesh (The British Leprosy Relief Association)
LIFE-Islamabad (Literacy/Information, Family Health & Environment, Pakistan)
LIFE (Bangladesh)
Light House (Bangladesh)
Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences (India)
Mali Red Cross (Mali)
MAMATA (Bangladesh)
Marie Stopes Clinic Society (Bangladesh)
MC-CCAM (Malaria Consortium Cameroon Coalition Against Malaria, Cameroon)
Medical Women’s International Association (Canada)
MERLIN – Afghanistan (Afghanistan)
MOVE Welfare Organization (Afghanistan)
MUZTI (Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh)
Nari Maitree (Bangladesh)
NATAB (National Anti-Tuberculosis Association of Bangladesh)
National Neonatology Forum (India)
Navjyoti Development Society (India)
NEPHAK (National Empowerment Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Kenya, Kenya)
Nari Unnayan Shakti (Bangladesh)
Nigerian Red Cross (Nigeria)
Nishkriti (Bangladesh)
NNNGO (Nigeria)
Norwegian Red Cross (Norway)
NZ Ekata Mohila Samity (Bangladesh)
Organization for Health Promotion and Management (Afghanistan)
Oxfam India (India)
Pacific Friends of the Global Fund (Australia)
Padakhep Manabik Unnayan Kendra (Bangladesh)
PAHVNA (Pakistan Voluntary Health and Nutrition Association, Pakistan)
PATH (USA)
Peace and rights Development of Society (Bangladesh)
PIME Sisters-Khulna (Bangladesh)
PLATONG (Cape Verde)
Population Services International (India)
PSKP - Progoti Samaj Kallayan Protishthan (Bangladesh)
Project Concern International (Ethiopia)
Protege QV (Cameroon)
PSTC (Bangladesh)
PVDP (Participatory Village Development Program, Pakistan)
RDRS (Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Services) Bangladesh
Red Crescent Society of Benin (Benin)
Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)
REPAOC (Senegal)
Resource Centre for Primary Health Care (Nepal)
RESULTS Canada (Canada)
Results International (Australia)
RESULTS UK (UK)
RODADDHD (Niger)
Rural agricultural Social Development Organization (Bangladesh)
Rural Health Programme-TB (Bangladesh)
Sachatan Shahajjo Sangstha(Bangladesh)
Safe Water and AIDS Project (Kenya)
SAJIDA Foundation (Bangladesh)
Samaj Kalyan O Unnayan Shangsth(Bangladesh)
Sanayee Development Organization (Afghanistan)
SANRU (Santé Rural, Democratic Republic of Congo)
Save the Children India (India)
Save the Children UK (UK)
Semen Shoa Tesfa Berhan Child and Family Development Association (Ethiopia)
Senegalese Red Cross Society (Senegal)
SHIMANTIK (Bangladesh)
SMILE (Cameroon)
Smiling Sun Franchise Program (Bangladesh)
SMLS Trust of Amalapuram (India)
Social and Health Development Program (Afghanistan)
Socio-Economic Development Agency of Bangladesh (SEDAB)
SPONG (Burkina Faso)
Swanirvar (Bangladesh)
Swedish Red Cross (Sweden)
TANGO (The Gambia)
Task Force for Global Health (USA)
TB Alert (UK)
The Gambia Red Cross (The Gambia)
Tilottama (Bangladesh)
Togolese Red Cross (Togo)
PKS(Paribar Kallayan Samity) (Bangladesh)
Uganda Paediatric Association
United Nations Foundation (US)
UPHCP (Urban Primary Health Care Project, Bangladesh)
UONGTO (Union of NGOS, Togo)
Voluntary Association for Rural development (VARD, Bangladesh)
Voluntary Health Association of India (India)
WellShare International (USA)
WEM Integrated Health Services (Kenya)
World Vision (India)
Young Power in Social Action (Bangladesh)
Individual endorsements:

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Shakeel Rahman (India)
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