



## Meeting of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization

22-25 September 2025

Hybrid Meeting  
WHO HQ (Geneva)

Draft Agenda

Day 1: Monday, 22 September 2025 (time is Central European Time (CET))			
Time CET	Session	Purpose of session, target outcomes and questions for SAGE	Duration
9:00	<b>Closed SAGE meeting</b>	Preparation of the sessions of the day.	<b>1h 45 min.</b>
10:45	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
11:00	<b>Opening and welcome – introduction of participants</b>  J. FARRAR. ADG/UHL. WHO. 5 min. H. NOHYNEK. SAGE chair. 5 min. J. HOMBACH. SAGE Secretariat. WHO. 5 min.		<b>15 min.</b>
11:15	<b>Global and regional reports – Session 1</b>  Report from the Director of IVB. K. O'BRIEN. WHO. 20 min.  Update from Gavi. S. NISHTAR. Chief Executive Officer, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. 10 min.  Discussion. 40 min.	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	<b>1h 10 min.</b>
12:25	<b>Lunch Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>1h</b>
13:25	<b>Global and regional reports – Session 1 Continue: Regional reports</b>  Presentations from AFRO, EMRO, EURO. 10 min. each. Discussion. 25 min.  Presentations from PAHO, WPRO, SEARO. 10 min. each.  Discussion. 25 min.	<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>  Each Regional report focuses on one theme of particular importance for the Region	<b>1h 50 min.</b>  <b>(3h 15 min. in total)</b>
15:15	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
15:30	<b>Update on changing landscape- Session 1 Continue</b>	<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>	<b>30 min.</b>
16:00	<b>IA2030 Mid-term Review</b>  <b>– Session 2</b>	<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>  SAGE to receive a briefing on the findings and recommendations coming from the live mid-term review of IA2030, due for final presentation at the WHA in 2026. The session will focus in particular on the role of SAGE during the first five years of	<b>2h</b>

IA2030 and any pivots SAGE would propose to make in this for the second half of the decade.

**18:00 End of day 1**

**Day 2: Tuesday, 23 September 2025**

<b>Time CET</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Purpose of session, target outcomes and questions for SAGE</b>	<b>Duration</b>
<b>9:00</b>	<b>Closed SAGE meeting</b>	Development of recommendations of day 1. Preparation of the sessions of the day. Other important discussion items.	<b>1h 45 min.</b>
<b>10:45</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Covid-19 – Session 3</b>  <b>COVID-19 Current Status and Vaccine Insights</b>  Current Burden of Disease by Risk Group. A. ACMA. WHO. 10 min.  Vaccine Uptake and Access by WHO Region and Risk Group. G. STATHOPOULOS. WHO. 5 min.  Vaccine Effectiveness by Risk Group (excluding pregnant women). D. FEIKIN. WHO. 10 min.  Vaccine Safety in All Risk Groups (excluding pregnant women). S. PAL. WHO. 10 min.  Discussion. 35 min.  <b>Focus on Pregnancy</b>  Burden of Disease and Vaccine Effectiveness in Pregnant Women and Infants <6 Months. S. GOTTLIEB. WHO. 10 min.  Vaccine Safety in Pregnancy. TBC WHO. 10 min.  Discussion. 30 min.	<b>FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION</b>  The purpose of this session is to take stock of the current status of evidence on Covid-19 vaccination.	<b>2h</b>
<b>13:00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>1h</b>
<b>14:00</b>	<b>TB – Session 4</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction. 5 min.</li> <li>• Overview of the activities under the TB Vaccine Accelerator Council. 10 min.</li> <li>• Overview of the TB vaccine pipeline, timelines and key assumptions. 10 min.</li> <li>• Presentation from the TAG on the key learnings from the technical consultations with developers. 20 min.</li> <li>• Roadmap for including asymptomatic TB as an efficacy endpoint. 10 min.</li> <li>• SAGE discussion. 65 min.</li> </ul>	<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>  The purpose of the session is to update SAGE on the activities taking place under the TB Vaccine Accelerator Council, to provide an overview of the TB vaccine pipeline and to discuss with SAGE the potential risk of product development strategies and feasibility of a global policy recommendation for the most advanced candidates for global access.	<b>2h</b>
<b>16:00</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
<b>16:15</b>	<b>Combination Vaccines– Session 5</b>	<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>	<b>1h 30 min.</b>

Seek SAGE's feedback on the approach to identify, analyse, and prioritise novel combination vaccines for endemic pathogens. The session will include presentation of the methodology and early results, considering the programmatic compatibility of proposed combinations, and assessment of their potential value to immunization programmes

**17:45**    **End of day 2**

<b>Day 3: Wednesday, 24 September 2025</b>			
<b>Time CET</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Purpose of session, target outcomes and questions for SAGE</b>	<b>Duration</b>
<b>9:00</b>	<b>Closed SAGE meeting</b>	Development of recommendations of day 2. Preparation of the sessions of the day. Other important discussion items.	<b>1h 45 min.</b>
<b>10:45</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Polio– Session 5</b>	<b>FOR RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>2h</b>
	<p>Session overview. S. MADHI. SAGE member. 5 min.</p> <p>Update from the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. J. AHMED. WHO. 15 min.</p> <p>Questions: 15 min.</p> <p>Update on bOPV Cessation Planning. O. MACH. WHO. 5 min.</p> <p>Fractional Sabin IPV – new data and programmatic importance. O. MACH. WHO. 10 min.</p> <p>Options for nOPV2 use outside of strict outbreak response. A. BANDYOPADHYAY. 15 min.</p> <p>Questions. 15 min.</p> <p>Report from the SAGE Polio Working Group including update on nOPV development and proposed recommendations. S. MADHI. SAGE Member. 10 min.</p> <p>Discussion. 30 min.</p>	<p>SAGE will be informed on the current status of the polio eradication program and on the development of the new polio action plan.</p> <p>SAGE will be informed about current status of bOPV Cessation planning; and about development of novel OPV1 and 3</p> <p>SAGE will be presented with a consolidated table of IPV related recommendations</p> <p>SAGE will be asked to review and consider for endorsement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendation on use of fractional Sabin IPV</li> <li>• Recommendation on use of nOPV2 outside of strict outbreak response campaigns</li> </ul>	
<b>13:00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>1h</b>
<b>14:00</b>	<b>Update on Malaria-Session 6</b>	<b>FOR RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>1h 25 min.</b>
	<p>Opening of joint session and overview of session. H. NOHYNEK. SAGE chair, and D. WIRTH. Malaria Policy Advisory Group (MPAG) chair. 5 min.</p> <p><b>3 vs 4 doses in areas of perennial malaria transmission</b></p> <p>Introduction and rationale. M. HAMEL, WHO. 10 min.</p> <p>MVIP case control study evidence on 3 vs 4 doses</p> <p>Effectiveness against severe malaria and safety. A. FOGELSON, LSHTM. 20 min.</p> <p>Discussion (comments/questions). 15 min.</p> <p>Modelling estimates of cost-effectiveness and public health impact. L. OKELL, Imperial College London, and M. PENNY, The Kids Australia. 20 min.</p> <p>Discussion (comments/questions). 15 min.</p>	<p>The purpose of this joint session is to present SAGE and the Malaria Policy Advisory Group (MPAG) with the latest evidence on effectiveness, safety and impact of a 3-dose compared to the currently recommended 4-dose malaria vaccination schedule in perennial (year-round) malaria transmission settings. The SAGE and MPAG are asked to review the Working Group recommendations and address the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is a 3-dose schedule of malaria vaccine safe and effective?</li> <li>2. Should a 3-dose malaria vaccine schedule be considered as an alternative option to a 4-dose schedule in some context?</li> </ol>	<b>(2h 35 min in total)</b>
<b>15:25</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
<b>16:10</b>	<b>Update on Malaria-Session 6 continued</b>	<b>FOR RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>1h 10 min.</b>
	<p>Summary of feasibility, acceptability, values and preferences. R. JALANG'O. Kenya Ministry of Health. 10 min.</p> <p>Assessment and recommendations of the SAGE/MPAG Working Group on Malaria Vaccines. P. SMITH and E. MACETE, Chair and Co-Chair of SAGE/MPAG Working Group. 15 min.</p>		

Discussion and finalization of recommendations. 45 min

<b>16:55</b>	<b>End of day 3</b>		
<b>16:55</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
<b>17:10</b>	<b>Closed SAGE/MPAG meeting</b>		<b>50 min.</b>

<b>Day 4: Thursday, 25 September 2025</b>			
<b>Time CET</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Purpose of session, target outcomes and questions for SAGE</b>	<b>Duration</b>
<b>9:00</b>	<b>Closed SAGE meeting</b>	Development of recommendations of day 3. Preparation of the sessions of the day. Other important discussion items.	<b>1h 45 min.</b>
<b>10:45</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Influenza H5- Session 7</b>	<b>FOR RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>2h</b>
<b>13:00</b>	<b>CLOSING</b>		
<b>13:10</b>	<b>END OF THE PLENARY MEETING</b>		
<b>13:10</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>50 min.</b>
<b>14:00</b>	<b>Closed SAGE meeting</b>	Development of recommendations of the day 4 morning session.	<b>30 min.</b>
<b>14:30</b>	<div> <div>Closed SAGE members only meeting</div> <div> <div>Closed meeting (RITAG Chairs, Regional advisors and SAGE secretariat)</div> </div> </div>	<b><i>Both meetings are in parallel</i></b>	<b>1h 30 min.</b>
<b>16:00</b>	<b>Closing (SAGE members and SAGE secretariat)</b>		<b>30 min.</b>
<b>16:30</b>	<b>END OF THE SAGE MEETING</b>		