



### Agenda

**Meeting of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization  
25 - 27 April 2017  
Executive Board Room, WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland**

#### **Tuesday, 25 April 2017**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Purpose of session, target outcomes and questions for SAGE</b>	<b>Duration</b>
9:00	<b>Welcome – introduction of participants</b>  A. Cravioto, Chair of SAGE.		20 min.
9:20	<b>Report from Director, IVB - Session 1</b>  Global report including key updates and challenges from regions. J.-M. Okwo-Bele, WHO. 40 min.  Discussion: 1h 20 min.	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	2h
<b>10:20</b>	<b>Coffee/Tea break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>30 min.</b>
10:50	<b>Report from Director, IVB – Session 1, contd.</b>  Discussion contd.		
11:50	<b>Report from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance - Session 2</b>  Report from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. A. Nguyen, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. 20 min.  Discussion: 20 min.	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	40 min.
12:30	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>1h 30 min</b>

14:00	<b>Reports from other Advisory Committees on Immunization – Session 3</b>  Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety (GACVS). R. Pless, Chair of GACVS. 10 min.  Discussion: 10 min.  Immunization Practice Advisory Committee (IPAC). C. Morgan, Chair of IPAC. 10 min.  Discussion: 10 min.  Expert Committee on Biological Standardization (ECBS). K. Cichutek, Chair of ECBS. 10 min.  Discussion: 10 min.  Immunization and Vaccines related Implementation Research Advisory Committee (IVIR-AC). R. Breiman, Chair of IVIR-AC. 20 min.  Discussion: 20 min.	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	1h 40 min.
<b>15:40</b>	<b>Coffee/tea break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>30 min.</b>
16:10	<b>Polio eradication initiative - Session 4</b>  Update of Global Polio Eradication Initiative. M. Zaffran, WHO. 30 min. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WPV and cVDPV2 elimination</li> <li>Other objectives in the GPEI Strategy Plan (2013-18)</li> </ul> Updates on IPV supply landscape. D. Chang-Blanc, WHO, A. Ottosen, UNICEF. 20 min.  Discussion: 40 min.  Report from SAGE Polio WG. Y. AL-Mazrou, Chair of the Polio WG. 30 min. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of progress towards WPV and cVDPV2 elimination</li> <li>Benefit of IPV in WPV eradication, cVDPV2 outbreak and routine immunization</li> <li>Recommendations on future immunization policy</li> </ul> Discussion: 60 min.	<b>FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION</b>  This session will include an update on progress of the polio eradication initiative and a discussion on the future immunization policy after the full OPV withdrawal from the routine schedule.  To inform and update SAGE on the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current status of the polio eradication program.</li> <li>IPV supply situation.</li> <li>Biocontainment of poliovirus.</li> <li>Transition planning (Post Certification Strategy).</li> </ul> To ask for SAGE's recommendation on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Role of IPV in eliminating WPV, outbreak response to cVDPV and routine immunization.</li> <li>Future IPV immunization policy after the global certification (e.g. duration of the IPV use, IPV schedule).</li> </ul>	3h
<b>19:10</b>	<b>End of Day</b>		
<b>19:15</b>	<b>Cocktail</b>		

**Wednesday, 26 April 2017**

8:30	<b>Use of oral cholera vaccines - Session 5</b>  Overview of the global cholera situation. D. Legros, WHO, 15 min.  Discussion: 10 min.  Presentation on evidence of vaccine effectiveness and safety across different settings and age groups. F. Luquero, Epicentre, 20 min.  Discussion: 30 min.  Conclusions of the SAGE Working Group on oral cholera vaccines and proposed recommendations. A. Cravioto, SAGE and Chair of WG on oral cholera vaccines, 15 min.  Discussion: 30 min.	<b>FOR DECISION</b>  SAGE will be presented with a report of the SAGE working group on oral cholera vaccines and expected to provide recommendations on the use of oral cholera vaccines with particular focus on cholera endemic settings, humanitarian crisis and on the control of cholera outbreaks.  The SAGE recommendations will then be reflected in an updated WHO vaccine position paper on the use of cholera vaccines with a target publication date of Q3 2017.	2h
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Coffee/tea break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>30 min.</b>
11:00	<b>Ebola vaccines Update with the development of Ebola vaccines and implications to inform future policy recommendations - Session 6</b>  Introduction to the session. F. Were, Co-Chair of the Ebola WG, 5 min.  Overview of Ebola epidemiology D. Heymann, Public Health England and Chatham House, 10 min. (Via teleconference)  Update on Ebola candidate vaccines R&D plans, immunogenicity, efficacy and safety and timelines for licensure A.M. Henao-Restrepo, WHO, 10 min.  Observed and forecasted impact of different candidate Ebola vaccines immunization strategies and target populations. A. Camacho, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Epicentre, 10 min.  Access to Ebola vaccines before licensure and after licensure. M. Serafini, Médecins Sans Frontières, Switzerland, 10 min.  Conclusions. H. Rees, Co- Chair of the Ebola WG, 10 min.  Discussion: 1 h 5 min.	<b>FOR INFORMATION AND DECISION</b>  For information Present SAGE with data on immunogenicity, efficacy, effectiveness and safety of candidate Ebola vaccines and, on the observed and projected impact of different vaccination strategies using compassionate use data and from mathematical models.  For decision Request SAGE's recommendations on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there remaining challenges that may prevent access to Ebola vaccines in future outbreaks, and if yes can SAGE make recommendations on how these might be addressed.</li> <li>• Is the current evidence sufficient for SAGE to make recommendations regarding the use of Ebola vaccines (e.g. rVSV and the Russian vaccine) in case of another Ebola outbreak (pre-licensure and/or post licensure)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-If yes, which recommendations can be proposed?</li> <li>-If not, what key data are missing?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	2h
<b>13:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>1h</b>

14:00	<b>National immunization programme management: functions and competencies - Session 7</b>  Introduction, importance, and ongoing initiatives. J. Jawad, SAGE Member, 10 min.  Challenges in performing expected programme management functions: country presentations:  Pakistan, S. Gilani, EPI National Programme Manager, Ministry of Health, 15 min. Armenia, G. Sahakyan, National Immunization Programme Manager, Ministry of Health, 15 min.  Defining Functions & Competencies for the immunization program workforce. D. Traicoff, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 10 min.  Normative guidance to strengthen immunization programme management functions: proposed activities and process. J. Bahl, WHO, 10 min.  Discussion: 1 hr.	<b>FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION</b>  Inform SAGE of the current ongoing initiatives related to the defining of functions and competencies expected from immunization programme management and their strengthening.  Present SAGE with challenges in performing the required programme management functions.  SAGE will be requested to provide feedback on WHO and partner activities in framing normative guidance on functions and competencies expected from a national immunization programme and supporting countries in implementing them.	2h
<b>16:00</b>	<b>Coffee/tea break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>30 min.</b>
16:30	<b>Strengthening of National Immunization Technical Advisory Groups (NITAGs) - Session 8</b>  Progress achieved, L. Dumolard, WHO, 10 min.  Successes, issues and challenges in establishing, strengthening and sustainability of NITAGs.  United Kingdom, A. Pollard, SAGE member and Chair of Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, 10 min. Sri Lanka, P. Mahipala, WHO and previously Chair of Sri Lanka NITAG, 10 min. Senegal, A. Dia Tal, Chair of Senegal NITAG, 10 min.  Partners' support to countries, successes and challenges, lessons learnt and future plans. N. MacDonald, SAGE member, 20 min.  Discussion: 1 hr.	<b>FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION</b>  To update SAGE on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress achieved in the establishment and strengthening of NITAGs (as per GVAP goals).</li> <li>Successes, issues and challenges that countries are facing in establishing and strengthening their NITAGs, including needs of the country, importance of the NITAG and its sustainability.</li> <li>Partners' support to countries, successes and challenges, lessons learnt and future plans.</li> </ul> To request SAGE's guidance to ensure that the GVAP NITAGs 2020 goals are achieved and that NITAGs are contributing to the improvement of national immunization programmes.	2h
<b>18:30</b>	<b>End of day</b>		

**Thursday, 27 April 2017**

08:30	<b>Private providers engagement with immunization programmes - Session 9</b>  Introduction to the session, issues and definitions. N. Turner, SAGE member, 10 min.  Systematic review of issues related to the engagement of private providers, M. Watkins, US CDC, 15 min.  Engagement of private providers with the national Immunization programme: opportunities and challenges. Country experiences. India, S. Zodpey, Public Health Foundation of India, 10 min. Uganda, H. Luzze, Ministry of Health, 10 min.  Discussion: 30 min.  Proposed recommendations for the engagement of the private sector and steps to facilitate effective relationships to improve immunization coverage and quality services and reduce equity gaps. N. Turner, SAGE member, 15 min.  Discussion: 30 min.	<b>FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION</b>  Present SAGE with the range and complexity of models of private providers engagement in health care services.  Present SAGE with considerations related to the engagement of private providers with immunization services and the implementation of National Immunization Programmes: contributions, risks, challenges and roadblocks.  Identify drivers of effective engagement of the private providers with the National Immunization Programme.  Present SAGE with draft guidance to support optimization of engagement with private providers and request input on recommendations to countries in order to improve coverage and quality of vaccine delivery and reduce equity gaps.  Request SAGE's input on next steps at the international level and how to facilitate collaboration between the private and the public sector to support the goals of the GVAP.	2h
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Coffee/tea break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>30 min.</b>
11:00	<b>Diphtheria - Session 10</b>  Review of data from recent diphtheria outbreaks. K. Clark, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 15 min.  Questions: 10 min.  Review of serological/immunogenicity/effectiveness data. M. Marti, WHO, 15 min.  Questions: 10 min.  Availability of diphtheria anti-toxin. M. Friede, WHO, 15 min.  Questions: 10 min.  Conclusions and recommendations. K. Johansen, SAGE member, 10 min.  Discussion: 35 min.	<b>FOR INFORMATION AND DECISION</b>  SAGE will be presented with an analysis of recent diphtheria outbreaks as well as with a systematic review on the duration of protection of diphtheria vaccination.  SAGE will be asked to decide whether there is sufficient evidence to revisit the recommendation on the administration of decennial diphtheria booster doses to adults and synchronization of schedules in light of the recently revised position papers on pertussis and tetanus vaccines. The aim will be to lead to an updating of the 2006 diphtheria vaccine WHO position paper.  SAGE will further be informed of the current status of diphtheria antitoxin supply and plans to ensure availability.	2h
<b>13:00</b>	<b>Closing</b>		20 min.
<b>13:20</b>	<b>End of meeting</b>		