

## Statement to the 136th Session of the WHO Executive Board on agenda item 9.3 Global Vaccine Action Plan

Thank you, Chair, for giving me the opportunity of addressing the distinguished Members of the Executive Board on behalf of Medicus Mundi International and the People's Health Movement.

PHM appreciates the recognition by the Report of the **fragmenting impact of vertical programmatic silos**. The domination of vaccination assistance by GAVI reflects and perpetuates this fragmentation. SAGE recommends that GVAP secretariat agencies approach the World Economic Forum to seek funds for the Decade of Vaccines. It is likely that such a support, if provided, will further entrench the vertical programmatic silo approach to global health priorities.

Elimination of maternal and neonatal tetanus depends on comprehensive primary health care provision and strong referral to secondary and tertiary facilities. The report speaks of “gross underfunding”, but, **there is no reference to comprehensive primary health care** as a model which explicitly promotes integration of services.

Furthermore, the report recommends giving CSOs ‘substantially more formal involvement in the delivery and improvement of vaccination services’. This is the route for further disintegration of primary health care systems.

The 2013 SAGE meeting noted ‘**Social determinants of health** should be taken into consideration when integrating routine immunization into primary health care’. This insight is lacking from the 2014 evaluation report.

PHM urges the EB to include an assessment of the scope for support for **technology transfer, local production and pooled regional procurement** as key actions to deal with affordability of vaccines.

The **opportunity costs of introducing new vaccines** has to be measured in terms of cost and health outcomes forgone.

WHO should be concerned about the introduction of new vaccines in the absence of **surveillance and information systems** to provide baseline data, and sound evidence of safety and efficacy. It is crucial that adverse evidence also be included.

Thank you.

*The statement will be delivered by Mariana Martins*