

To: Ms Federica Mogherini
High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
& Vice President of the Commission

Mr Neven Mimica
Commissioner for International Development & Cooperation

Brussels, 21 January 2015

SUBJECT: Civil society calls on the European Commission to increase support for immunisation through Gavi

Dear High Representative Mogherini, Dear Commissioner Mimica,

As we approach the Gavi replenishment conference, leading international aid agencies and campaigners have warned that the world's largest partnership for child immunisation could face up to a €425 million funding shortfall for the next phase of its life-saving work.¹ While we thank the European Commission for having already pledged €25 million per year to Gavi for the period 2014-2020, we believe that a greater effort is needed to ensure Gavi delivers on its mission to bring vaccines to every child.

With the support from the European Commission and other donors, Gavi has brought life-saving vaccines to over 194 million children in the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) countries, leading to over 3.2 million lives saved in ACP States. The work of Gavi has been paramount to shape vaccine markets and accelerate the uptake and use of vaccines in the world's poorest countries.

With an ambitious €6,3 billion for the period 2016-2020, Gavi plans to save up to six million lives and immunise more than 300 million children. Failing to meet the cost of the plan at the upcoming replenishment conference would prevent Gavi from achieving its objectives and would result in hundreds of thousands of unnecessary deaths and large economic and productivity losses.

While we are entering a new era of sustainable development and kick-starting the European Year of Development, we call on the European Commission, as the world's third largest donor of development aid, to increase its commitment to Gavi from €25 to €50 million per year at the upcoming replenishment conference in Berlin on 27 January 2015.

Yours Sincerely,

The undersigned civil society organisations

¹ <http://www.action.org/newsroom/press-releases/joint-statement-on-gavi-replenishment>



Save the Children

DSW