

23 February 2009, United Nations, New York

Trusteeship Chamber,

3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Julian Lob-Levyt, Executive Director, GAVI Alliance

The GAVI Alliance has harnessed and brought together the technical and logistical capacity of the international system, organizations like UNICEF, with the private business experience and efficiency of partners such as Goldman-Sachs and La Caixa Bank and Foundation to increase access to immunization in the poorest countries.

We have introduced new vaccines into these countries and strengthened their health systems with the specific goal of improving health and reducing disease and mortality. Immunization alone can contribute 25% of the progress we must achieve for MDG 4. Global immunization rates have increased by almost 10% over the last 8-9 years. Measles, Hep B and Hib success stories. China and Hep B example.

We also have created innovative financing mechanisms such as the IFFIm, which taps the capital markets to enable a massive scale-up of resources for immunization, and the AMC to overcome the market failure that typically delays by almost 2 decades the availability of new vaccine technologies and other essential medicines in the poorest countries.

HPV is a very new, promising vaccine already protecting girls and women in wealthy countries. The challenge of making this new vaccine available in the poorest countries represents an opportunity for public and private institutions to address cervical cancer, the second most common cancer among women worldwide. 500,000 new cases every year and likely to grow to one million by

