

Continuing Momentum for the Decade of Vaccines (2011–2020)

Ensuring success throughout the Decade of Vaccines requires additional focus and action beyond the development of the Global Vaccine Action Plan. Four critical sets of activities will be required in order to translate the action plan into actions and results: development of tools for translation of the plan; development of a complete accountability framework; securing commitments from the stakeholder community; and communicating Decade of Vaccines opportunities and challenges.



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Tools are needed that provide the full thinking behind the Global Vaccine Action Plan, together with details, to enable implementation. The production, publication and communication of these tools will help stakeholders better understand how to translate the actions recommended in the action plan into the local context.

The Global Vaccine Action Plan lays the groundwork for an accountability framework, which will be finalized with more detailed roles and responsibilities for stakeholders, a complete set of indicators, the methodology and data sources for each indicator detailed and baselines established where required. Investments are needed to improve data quality and develop more robust in-country monitoring and evaluation systems. Regular audits should be conducted to verify data quality. Progress should be reviewed annually, beginning in 2013, by country, the WHO regional committees and the Health Assembly.

Commitments aligned to the Global Vaccine Action Plan from countries, civil society organizations, multilateral agencies, development partners and vaccine manufacturers can transform the action plan from a document to a movement. Efforts to build these commitments and a strategy for coordinating them will be required at the global, regional and country levels. Appropriate channels must be identified and targeted communications developed to ensure that Decade of Vaccines messages reach and resonate with all stakeholders.

The period of time immediately following the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly will be critical for ensuring that the agenda-setting translates into effective action. Key opportunities to sustain and build on the current momentum during the remainder of 2012 include the WHO regional committee meetings, the meeting of the Board of the GAVI Alliance, the UNICEF Executive Board meeting, the GAVI Alliance Partners' Forum and the Child Survival: A Call to Action summit.

The Decade of Vaccines collaboration was a time-limited effort that ended with the completion of the Global Vaccine Action Plan and related activities identified above. There will be no new structure to support the implementation phase of the Decade of Vaccines/Global Vaccine Action Plan. Lead stakeholders need to assume ownership to support implementation and progress monitoring.

WHO will play a leadership role for the action plan as the normative lead agency in global health, including the defining of norms and standards for production and quality control of vaccines, as well for strengthening immunization delivery, programme monitoring and surveillance systems. In collaboration with other stakeholders, the WHO Secretariat will also advocate for and provide technical support to Member States in promoting greater country ownership, creating synergies between immunization and other primary health-care programmes and implementing research, notably to increase programme efficiencies and impact.

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