

Gavi-2017-84

H.E. Mr. David Sergeenko
Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
Tbilisi
Georgia

6 March 2017

Honourable Minister,

On behalf of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, I would like to thank you for the warm welcome and also to your team in providing support to my visit to Georgia.

We valued the opportunity to meet you and other stakeholders in the health sector to discuss the National Immunisation Program performance and sustainability in the context of transitioning from Gavi support by the end of this year. We also appreciated learning how this process fits within the health sector's broader transition towards affordable and quality health care for the entire population, based on an innovative public-private partnership model.

Your personal commitment and leadership have stood out and I congratulate you on these achievements, including the strong political commitment for immunisation and country ownership over the program, demonstrated by the significant increase in spending on immunisation and the roll out of the universal health care program with free immunization services guaranteed under the minimum basic package of services.

We fully appreciate your focus on improving Primary Health Care service provision and quality and management of care, supported by the roll out of the new health management information system, linked to the civil and birth registry. We also welcome efforts to improve coverage across all 12 antigens and the intent to ensure that full equity in coverage of vaccines is achieved through the development of tailored approaches to reach remaining missed children.

We noted a number of important challenges that you and others have openly discussed with us during our visit and have identified a number of actions for follow-up which you will find attached in the debrief summary of our mission.

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I thank you for your partnership and once again congratulate you on your achievements to date and encourage all efforts to continue to ensure immunisation is strongly anchored in a resilient health system to the benefit of all children in Georgia.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dagfinn Høybråten". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dagfinn Høybråten
Special Envoy
Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance