



**Meeting of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization  
22 – 25 March 2021  
Virtual Meeting  
Agenda**

**Monday, 22 March 2021**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Purpose of session, target outcomes and questions for SAGE</b>	<b>Duration</b>
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Closed SAGE meeting</b>	Preparation of the sessions of the day. Other important discussion items.	1h
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
<b>11:15</b>	<b>Opening and welcome – introduction of participants</b>  Opening: Director-General WHO. 5 min.  Welcome: A. CRAVIOTO. Chair of SAGE. 10 min.	<b>Opening of the Plenary Meeting</b>	15 min.
<b>11:30</b>	<b>Global and Regional Reports – Session 1</b>  Report from the Director of IVB. K. O'BRIEN. WHO. 20 min.  Reports from the Regions – including impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and COVID-19 vaccination on immunization services. 60 min.  Update from Gavi. S. BERKLEY. GAVI. 10 min.  Discussion. 30 min.	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	2h
<b>13:30</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>30 min.</b>
<b>14:00</b>	<b>Vaccine acceptance and uptake – Session 6</b>  Introduction and framing – SAGE member. 5 min.  Updates on the latest trends and evidence – J. LEASK. 15 min.  WHO key activities for 2021-2022 and proposed plan of work – L. MENNING, WHO. 10 min.  Discussion. 30 min.	<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>  The objectives of the session are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To update SAGE on the latest evidence and developments for acceptance and uptake in the behavioural sciences field, including: key interventions supported by the evidence, concepts and terminology, WHO's role and key activities</li> <li>• To present a plan of work to develop an evidence-based approach to measuring and addressing behavioural and social drivers of uptake, including corresponding interventions for action.</li> <li>• To invite SAGE feedback on the approach to gathering and using behavioural sciences data.</li> </ul> Questions posed to SAGE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does SAGE agree with the proposed plan of work?</li> <li>- Are there any considerations or resources or methods which should be incorporated?</li> </ul>	1h

<b>15:00</b>	<b>Measles and Rubella – Session 7</b>	<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>	<b>1h</b>
	Update on Measles and Rubella, innovations and new tools needed. N. CROWCROFT, WHO. 25 min.	Questions for SAGE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are any new policies needed for measles and rubella?</li> <li>• What new strategic linkages (programmatic and/or advocacy) are advised?</li> </ul>	
	Synthesis and reflection. K. MULHOLLAND, SAGE member. 10 min.		
	Discussion. 25 min.	Are new tools required for measles elimination?	
<b>16:00</b>	<b>End of the day</b>		

**Tuesday, 23 March 2021**

<b>10:00</b>	<b>Closed SAGE meeting</b>	Preparation of the sessions of the day. Recap of day 1. Other important discussion items.	<b>1h</b>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
<b>11:15</b>	<b>COVID-19 Vaccines – Session 3</b>	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	<b>2h</b>
	Introduction. K. O'BRIEN, WHO. 5 min.		
	Considerations for COVID-19 vaccine efficacy endpoints. S. OMER, SAGE COVID-19 WG member. 15 min.		
	Discussion: 10 min.		
	Manufacturer presentation on vaccine safety and efficacy-Sinovac. 30 min.		
	Discussion: 15 min.		
	Manufacturer presentation on vaccine safety and efficacy-Sinopharm. 30 min.		
	Discussion: 15 min.		
<b>13:15</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>30 min.</b>
<b>13:45</b>	<b>COVID-19 Post introduction considerations – Session 4</b>		
	<b>COVID-19 variants – Session 4a</b>	<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>	<b>30 min.</b>
	Epidemiology of variants. B PAVLIN, WHO. 10 min.		
	Evidence summary on laboratory neutralization titres and efficacy of vaccines. K. O'BRIEN, WHO. 10 min.		
	Discussion: 10 min.		
<b>14:15</b>	<b>COVID-19 Vaccination - Early learnings – Session 4b</b>	<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>	<b>1h</b>
	Framing of the session. F OLAYINKA, SAGE member. 3 min.		
	Global status of COVID-19 vaccine introductions and readiness of countries, A LINSTRAND, WHO. 5 min.		
	Experience from COVID-19 vaccine roll out in Bahrain, J. JAWAD, SAGE member and H. ALMAHMEED, Prime Minister's office, Bahrain. 15 min.		

	Experience from COVID-19 vaccine roll out in India, P. HALDAR, MoH India. 15 min. Discussion 20 min Wrap-up Jaleela Jawad, SAGE member. 2 min.		
<b>15:15</b>	<b>COVID-19 Vaccine Safety – Session 4c</b>	<b>FOR DISCUSSION</b>	30 min.
	Overview of WHO and GACVS role in Covid-19 vaccine safety monitoring and update on key safety reviews to date. R. HELFAND, GACVS Chair (TBC). 15 min.  Discussion. 15 min.		
<b>15:45</b>	<b>End of the day</b>		

**Wednesday, 24 March 2021**

<b>10:00</b>	<b>Closed SAGE meeting</b>	Preparation of the sessions of the day. Recap of day 2. Other important discussion items.	1h
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>15 min.</b>
<b>11:15</b>	<b>Polio – Session 5</b>	<b>FOR RECOMMENDATION</b>	1h 30 min.
	Update from the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. A. O'LEARY, WHO. 10 min.  Questions: 5 min.  sIPV: update on PQ product. C. SEIN, WHO. 10 min.  Questions: 5 min.  Update on nOPV2 first use, safety oversight, transition plan from initial to wider nOPV2 use including results from modelling of delay in response to cVDPV2 outbreak. S. ZIPURSKY, G. MACKLIN, O. MACH, WHO. 20 min.  Questions: 5 min.  Report from SAGE Polio Working Group including considerations for sIPV use I. JANI, SAGE Member. 15 min.  Discussion: 20 min.	SAGE will be informed on the current status of the polio eradication programme in the context of COVID 19; and nOPV2 first use experience.  SAGE will be asked to review and consider for endorsement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendation on sIPV use in polio programme</li> <li>• Recommendation on transition from initial to wider nOPV2 use</li> <li>• Statement on benefit of immediate response with mOPV2 versus delayed response with nOPV</li> </ul>	
<b>12:45</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>	<b>30 min.</b>
<b>13:15</b>	<b>Ebola vaccines – Session 2</b>	<b>FOR RECOMMENDATION</b>	2h
	Introduction of the session. H. REES, Ebola WG co-chair. 10 min.  Evidence on immunogenicity and duration of protection or rVSVΔG-ZEBOV-GP and of Ad26/MVA – C. OCKENHOUSE, Ebola WG member. 15 min.  Evidence on safety of rVSVΔG-ZEBOV-GP and of Ad26/MVA in children, pregnant women and breastfeeding women. R. DOSHI, CDC. 15 min.	SAGE requested the Ebola vaccines Working Group to address the following questions:  <b>Question 1: <i>Potential recommendation for off-label use of rVSV ZEBOV GP.</i></b> What does current evidence show on the immunogenicity and efficacy of rVSV-ZEBOV-GP for children 6 months to 17 years of age, pregnant women and breastfeeding women? And what are the limitations of the available evidence?	

<p>Efficacy of rVSVΔG-ZEBOV-GP: emerging evidence from compassionate use/expanded access in DRC, R. PETO. Oxford University. 15 min.</p> <p>Potential target populations: rationale and estimated doses required. A.M. HENAO-RESTREPO, WHO. 15 min.</p> <p>Working Group recommendations to SAGE. E. MOSHNI, SAGE member and co-chair of the Ebola WG. 15 min.</p> <p>Discussion. 40 min.</p>	<p><b>Question 2: <i>Potential recommendation on the preventive use of Ebola vaccines.</i></b> Is the current evidence on the duration of protection of rVSV-ZEBOV-GP sufficient to inform policy recommendations on the preventive use of this vaccine? And what are the limitations of the available evidence? Recommendations on the use of Ebola Ad26/MVA vaccine.</p> <p><b>Question 3: <i>Potential recommendations on the strategies to ensure equitable and fair access to Ebola vaccines.</i></b> What are the potential demand scenarios and supply scenarios for various Ebola vaccines (short and mid-term outlook)? In light of the above conclusions/inputs, how should this Ebola vaccine allocation be prioritized with respect to impact and equity?</p>
<b>15:15 End of the plenary meeting</b>	

**Thursday, 25 March 2021**

<b>11:00 Closed SAGE meeting</b>	2h
<b>13:00 End of closed meeting</b>	