

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 12, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden:

As we mark the third anniversary of your historic G7 pledge to support COVID vaccines, we urge you to make an early, bold, multi-year commitment to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Gavi's Investment Opportunity launch co-hosted by President Macron alongside the African Union later this month is a prime opportunity for a U.S. pledge, reminding the world that U.S. leadership on COVID vaccines also extends to securing the supplies of lifesaving routine vaccines for children. Gavi's routine child immunization programs have vaccinated more than one billion children in 78 countries, preventing more than 17 million child deaths.

As you know, U.S. support for Gavi has for decades had strong bipartisan support. In 2014, we were proud to support President Obama in his historic \$1 billion pledge to Gavi. Congress also helped lead the way in securing additional increases in funding for Gavi under the Trump Administration. We are eager to support your administration and are encouraged by your commitment to make a multi-year pledge in support of this year's replenishment, which we hope will be no less than \$1.4 billion over the next four years. With the United States continued leadership, we can support Gavi's efforts to improve vaccine equity, including the launch of Gavi and Africa CDC's innovative African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator, and roll out the new malaria vaccine. We are proud to support your efforts advancing the delivery of this pledge.

For the past two fiscal years, more than 135 members of Congress – from both sides of the aisle – have signed letters calling for boosting funding for Gavi to \$340 million annually, a nearly 20% increase since fiscal year 2023.

Your historic commitment to COVAX (hosted by Gavi) at the G7 in 2021, helped deliver 600 million COVID vaccine doses to 78 countries, saving 2.7 million lives. This unparalleled leadership on COVID vaccines is a remarkable legacy of your first term as President, showing what's possible with strong leadership and commitment to global solidarity. We believe a bold new pledge to Gavi this year will show the world that the U.S. extends this commitment well beyond emergencies.

As Gavi plans to roll out its next five-year phase of work, Congress stands ready to work with your Administration to increase U.S. leadership and support for Gavi. We recognize the many competing challenges of this moment, but we firmly believe in the tremendous value and impact

of U.S. contributions to Gavi. Your Administration continues to lead the way on vaccine access globally, and we are eager to support you to extend that leadership even further.

Sincerely,



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks
Ranking Member
House Foreign Affairs
Committee

CC:

Antony Blinken, Secretary of State

Samantha Power, USAID Administrator