The Successful Replenishment of Gavi is a Huge Win for Global Health

12 June 2020, Addis Ababa Ethiopia; The Global Vaccine Summit held last week raised US$8.8 billion from commitments and pledges by public and private sector donors. These resources will fund Gavi’s work for the next 5 years. Coming at a time that COVID-19 has disrupted immunization programmes, the funds raised from the successful replenishment will contribute to strong routine immunization by ensuring that vaccines are available and affordable to all who need them.

This successful replenishment has positioned Gavi to carry out routine vaccination and reach 300 million more children in developing countries by 2025, and in so doing contribute to saving 7 to 8 million lives. We appreciate that about 60% of these resources are spent in Africa.

The victorious replenishment is a sign of continued commitment to equitable immunization coverage and global health security in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is especially so at this time when focus on COVID-19 could lead to the surge of other life threatening diseases. The disease threatens to overwhelm fragile health systems especially in developing countries.

As Civil Society, we acknowledge with deep appreciation UK’s global health leadership shown in hosting the replenishment and are grateful to every public and private donor for their decisive generosity and commitment to global health. The need for these resources is immense, realizing that 1 in 5 children in Africa do not have access to life saving vaccines.

We must remain focused on achieving universal healthcare coverage so that no one is left behind. Not even the poorest or the most marginalized. And to achieve this we need more than ever to accelerate efforts towards increased Domestic Resource Mobilization and ensure allocations meet public demands.

Together we improve the world, one vaccine at a time.