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**Measles & Rubella Partnership Meeting, March 6 & 7, 2024**

***From Awareness to Access: A Pathway to a Measles and Rubella-Free World***

**6 March - Hall of Service, American Red Cross Headquarters, 1730 E Street, NW, Washington D.C.**

American Red Cross Meeting Coordinators: Dr. Mary Agόcs & Mr. James Noe

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| **Meeting Objectives** |
| * Reaffirm the Measles & Rubella Partnership’s commitment to advance Measles and Rubella elimination |
| * Reintroduce a revitalized partnership, expressing the added value of integrating new partners (Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) to deepen collaboration in advance shared objectives |
| * Convene key leaders in immunization, fostering new networks and connections |
| * Establish the need for urgent, collective action on both Measles and Rubella to save lives, prevent disability, and advance equitable coverage in a post-pandemic environment |
| * Elevate exemplars from the field, celebrating progress made and bring forward best practices |
| * Celebrate major individual contributors and leaders in the space |
| * Update on major developments or innovations shaping the future of Measles and Rubella immunization |
| * Rally around a shared 2024 Call to Action, motivating advocacy and elevating Measles and Rubella |

8:00-8:30 *Registration and Continental Breakfast*

8:30-8:45 Welcoming Comments:

* **Ms. Gail McGovern**: American Red Cross (AmRC), President & CEO, by video
* **Ms. Marian Spivey-Estrada:** AmRC, Principal Deputy & Vice-President
* **Ms. Kate Forbes:** International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, President

8:45-9:45 Measles & Rubella Partnership (M&RP): Setting the Stage

**Panel Discussion** – Moderator: **Ms. Marian Spivey-Estrada**, AmRC

* **Mr**. **Chris Wolff:** Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), Deputy Director, Vaccine Service Delivery Platforms
* **Mr. Jalaa’ Abdelwahab,** Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, Director, Vaccine Programmes
* **Dr. Ahmadu Yakubu,** UNICEF, Senior Adviser Health and Team Lead – Accelerated Immunization Initiatives & Emergency
* **Ms. Lori Sloate** United Nations Foundation, Sr Director, Global Health
* **Dr. John Vertefeuille:** U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Director, Global Immunization Division
* **Dr. Kate O’Brien:** World Health Organization (WHO), Director, Immunizations, Vaccines, & Biologicals

9:45-10:15 M&RP Champion Awards: presented by **Ms. Forbes**/IFRC & **Ms. Spivey-Estrada**/AmRC

**Egypt** forproviding exemplary leadership in rubella elimination and steadfast dedication to protecting children and families against illness and disability from rubella and congenital rubella syndrome (CRS).

Received by ***Dr. Mohammed Abdelfattah****, Undersecretary for Preventive Affairs, Ministry of Health and Population, Egypt*

**Zambia Red Cross Society** for unwavering support to protect children by supporting piloting of innovative approaches to geolocate zero-dose and under-vaccinated children, determine & rectify the reasons via the 5-Point Plan;

Received by ***Mr. Cosmas Sakala****, Secretary General, Zambia Red Cross Society*

**India** for providing inspiration to regional measles and rubella elimination programmes as well as realizing the vision of using ‘measles as a tracer’ to strengthen routine immunization and protect children across the country;

Received by a **Charge d'Affaires Ambassador Sripriya Ranganathan**

10:15-10:30 M&RP Lifetime Achievement Award presented by **Ms. Forbes**/IFRC

**Recipient:** **Dr. Susan Reef** for a lifetime of dedicated service in preventing illness, disability and death due to rubella

10:30-11:00 Keynote Address

**Dr. Monica Rull**, Medical Director, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)

11:00-11:30 *Coffee Break with Group Photo*

11:30-12:00 Not Business as Usual - Why Measles & Rubella are Matter Now

**Dr. Natasha Crowcroft**/WHO

* *Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers*

**Pillar #1: Measles as a “Tracer” to Find Missed Children and Address Inequity**

**Chair: WHO:** Dr. Kate O’Brien, Director, Immunizations, Vaccines, & Biologicals

12:00-12:05 **Scene Setting: Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, WHO** (by video)

12:05-12:30 Using Measles as a ‘Tracer’ to Strengthen Immunization Systems: India’s Experience:

**Dr. Patrick O’Connor**/WHO on behalf of Ministry of Health of India

* *Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers*

12:30-1:30 *Lunch*

1:30-2:00 Continued: Realizing the Vision of Using Measles as a ‘Tracer’

* *Operationalizing measles as a tracer in at-risk populations and areas;*

**Dr. José Hagan**/WHO European Regional Office

* *Measles and Rubella surveillance: Experience from the National Public Health Laboratory- United Republic of Tanzania;*

**Dr. Mick Mulders,** Director, Tanzania National Public Health Laboratory

* *Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers*

2:00-2:30 Story from the Field - An innovation to address inequities: Microarray Patches

Introduction by **Ms. Kristen Earle**/BMGF;

Presented by **Dr. Ed Clarke**/Micron, Gambia

* *Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers*

2:30-3:15 Panel Discussion: Game-changing potential for Micropatches to increase coverage and equity

Moderator: **Dr. Kate O’Brien**/WHO

* **Dr. Ed Clarke**/Micron, Gambia
* **Dr. Kristen Earle**/Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
* **Mr. James Goodson**/U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
* **Dr. Monica Rull**/Médecins Sans Frontières
* *Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers*

3:30-4:00 *Coffee Break*

**Pillar #2: Coverage and Equity, Preventing Birth Defects with Rubella Vaccine**

**CHAIR***:* **CDC -** Dr. Pratima Raghunathan, Accelerated Disease Control Branch Chief, CDC

**Scene Setting: Dr. Mandy Cohen, Director, CDC** (by video)

4:00-5:30 Rubella’s Role in Coverage and Equity

* *Dramatic declines in congenital rubella syndrome due to expanded rubella vaccine introduction;*

**Dr. Jennifer Knapp**/CDC (by Video)

* *Rubella Vaccine Introduction;*

**Dr. Emma Lebo**/CDC

* *Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers*

5:00-5:30: Egypt: Path to achieving Rubella and CRS elimination

* **Dr. Abdelfattah**, Ministry of Health and Population, Egypt
* *Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers*

***Reception at American Red Cross: Tiffany Circle Hall, 430 17th Street (2nd floor)***

6:00-8:00 **Scene Setting: Dr. Chris Elias, President of Global Health, BMGF** (by video)

M&RP Champion Awards; Presented by **Ms. Marian Spivey-Estrada/AmRC**

**Tanzania National Public Health Laboratory:** For exemplary leadership in better understanding measles epidemiology by fully implementing molecular detection to enhance surveillance and improve measles elimination efforts, benefiting children and families in a resource-limited country. Received by ***a Representative from the Tanzania National Public Health Laboratory***

**Mr. Robert (‘Bob’) Davis:** For long-standing dedication to improving measles and rubella elimination efforts by equitably supporting all partners including individual caregivers, United Nations agencies, civil society organizations, and Ministries of Health, among others.

Broader Partnership Activities, Strategies, and Priorities

During the reception, a diverse set of immunization partners will be available to share information on their ongoing work and activities.

*Participating Partners:*

* John Snow, Inc.
* Lions Club International Foundation
* PATH
* Task Force for Global Health
* USAID

**7 March – Hall of Service, ARC Building 1730 E Street, NW**

7:30-8:45 **[Optional Session]** Measles & Rubella Strategic Framework: Revising the Monitoring & Evaluation Framework (open to all – breakfast provided), M&RP Program Support Unit

**Pillar #3: Primary Healthcare – A comprehensive approach to vaccination**

**Co-Chairs: Gavi & UNICEF –** Mr. Jalaa’ Abdelwahab and Dr. Ahmadu Yakubu

9:00-9:05 **Scene Setting: Ms. Aurélia Nguyen, Chief Programme Officer, Gavi** (by video)

9:05-9:45 Using Immunization to Strengthen Primary Health Care

* *Introduction to PHC and UNICEF support to PHC:*

**Ms. Rie Takesue**/UNICEF

* *Outline of Gavi’s immunization support to the MR programme*

**Mr. Abdelwahab**/Gavi

* *Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers*

9:45-11:00 Panel Discussion on a Comprehensive Approach to Vaccination

* + - **Dr. Emma Lebo**/CDC
    - **Dr. Gladwin Muchena**/Gavi
    - **Dr. Aidan O'Leary**/WHO/GPEI
    - **Dr. Sanjay Bhardwaj**/UNICEF
    - **Mr. Lucas Barrows-Townsend**/Acasus
    - **Dr. Lora Shimp**/JSI
    - **Mr. Chris Wolff**/BMGF

11:00-11:30 *Coffee Break*

11:30-12:00 Story from the Field – *5-Point Plan: An innovative method to geolocate zero-dose/under-vaccinated children, determine the reasons why and work with partners to rectify the reasons*

**Ms. Ruth Asaile**/Zambia Red Cross, **Mr. James Ooko**/AmCross, and **Dr. Mary Agόcs**/AMRC

* *Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers*

**Looking Forward: Urgently Navigating Current and Future Challenges**

**CHAIR: WHO - Dr. Natasha Crowcroft**

12:00-12:15 Measles Outbreaks as a Symptom – Highlighting the urgency of measles outbreaks, the need to address gaps and challenges, and to transition toward proactive/preventative action

**Dr. William Perea Caro**/WHO

12:15-12:30 Global Measles and Rubella Lab Network Perspective

**Dr. Paul Rota**/CDC and **Dr. Mick Mulders**/WHO

12:30-12:45 Global Polio Eradication Perspective - Overview of Polio Integration

**Ms. Elena Lipson**, Executive Management Unit, Polio Eradication/Mosaic

12:45-1:00 Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers

1:00-2:00 *Lunch*

**Pillar #4: Commitment & Demand: Using Communications & Advocacy to Acknowledge Measles & Rubella as Key Drivers of Vaccine-Preventable Lives Saved and Disability Prevented**

**CHAIR: United Nations Foundation - Ms. Lori Sloate**

2:00-2:05 **Scene Setting: Dr. Elizabeth Cousens, President and CEO, UNF** (by video)

2:05-2:10 Targeted Narratives – Reaching Diverse Audiences with Impactful Communication:

**Ms. Lori Sloate**/United Nations Foundation

* Introduction to needs and challenges;

2:10-2:40 Story from the Field – Family Perspective:

**Mr. Ethan Lindenberger**

* Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers

2:40-2:50 Successful Communication Strategies to Reach 0-dose Children in India:

**Dr. Sanjay Bhardwaj**/UNICEF

2:50-3:00 Advocacy in Action: Shot@Life's Formula for Global Immunization Support:

**Ms. Martha Rebour**/Shot@Life

3:00-3:10 Social Mobilization & How Communities Make Impact:

**Ms. Sara Horein**/AmRC

3:10-3:25 Presenter Panel - Discussion with Audience Questions and Answers

**Moderator:** Ms. Lori Sloate

3:25-3:45 *Coffee Break*

3:45-4:20 Opportunities to use communication to drive collective action toward M&RP priorities:

**Ms. Sara Veltkamp**, Vice President, Minerva Strategies

4:20-4:40 Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the EPI with the Humanly Possible Campaign:

A Video from **Ms. Harriett Riley**/UNICEF

4:40-4:45 **Wrapping Up: Ms. Catherine Russell, Executive Director, UNICEF** (by video)

4:45-5:00 Meeting Summary and a Call to Action:

**Dr. Ahmadu Yakubu**/UNICEF

5:00-5:05 Acknowledgements and Close:

**Dr. Mary Agocs**/AmRC