Background

The Product Development for Vaccines Advisory Committee (PDVAC) is being convened for its annual meeting to provide strategic advice and recommendations to WHO, related to vaccines in development. PDVAC’s remit is focused on vaccines that have a particular application to low and middle income countries (LMICs), and to facilitate product development in an effort to accelerate vaccine availability and access in these contexts. This 4th PDVAC meeting will review advances in pathogens where PDVAC has been engaging since 2014, as well as to review how PDVAC is collaborating with other vaccine development efforts across WHO. Several cross-cutting aspects that facilitate acceleration of development of vaccines for LMICs will also be discussed.

As such this meeting will focus on vaccine development progress in the pathogen areas of RSV, GBS, GAS, ETEC, Shigella, HSV, HIV, Influenza and TB. We will also discuss cross cutting topics such as advances in nucleic acid platform delivery, the maternal immunization platform, vaccines against AMR and consideration for the development of monoclonal antibodies for passive immunization. The goal of this meeting is to discuss progress and challenges in vaccine development, particularly where PDVAC has engaged to date, and to consider future activities and recommendations for WHO’s department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals.

Meeting objectives:

To convene the annual meeting of the WHO Product Development for Vaccine Advisory Committee that provides strategic advice related to product development across various disease areas, and specifically:

- Review the state of progress and challenges of for vaccine candidates in the clinical pipeline,
- Consider recommendations for future activities where it will be valuable to develop consensus, for example clinical and regulatory development pathways,
- Provide advice to WHO on its current activities, and its role in the facilitation of vaccine development in specific pathogen areas.