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From: John Bell (Regius Professor) [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 6:15 AM
To: Consultations <consultations@worldbank.org>
Cc: Romina Mariano [redacted]; Tamsin Berry [redacted]
Subject: Feedback on "A Proposed Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response Hosted by the World Bank

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To the Advisory Committee of the FIF for PPR,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide feedback to your White Paper "A Proposed Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response Hosted by the World Bank". Please find attached a response letter and, as a supporting document, a recent publication of ours.

This is urgent and important work. As outlined in the attached, there is a unique opportunity to strengthen health systems and prepare for the next pandemic, but also to save countless lives from a number of other high-burden diseases.

Best wishes

John Bell

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The World Bank
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To the Advisory Committee of the FIF for PPR,
Your fund proposal has identified the urgent need for collective action. We are all determined to use the experience of Covid-19 to build better global health system resilience for the future. As you have rightly pointed out, the time to do this is now.

Pandemic preparedness is not a one-time activity. We need 'always on' infrastructure in place and we have a short window of opportunity to leverage the tools developed for Covid-19 and create a positive legacy. We see a unique opportunity for this fund to strengthen health systems by generating a whole new paradigm for disease prevention in adults.

As we outline in the attached paper, annual Covid-19 boosters for at-risk populations are inevitable and there are more adult vaccines to consider. These currently include influenza, pneumococcal and the newly approved one-dose HPV vaccine. In development we have a Dengue vaccine undergoing FDA approval, expedited trials for mRNA vaccines for RSV and improved influenza vaccines, a promising TB vaccine in late-stage development and an HIV vaccine entering Phase 1 clinical trials. In addition, there are numerous injectable therapeutics that could be administered using the same infrastructure as vaccines. These include siRNA for LDL cholesterol (already approved for the primary care setting) and hypertension (currently in Phase 3 clinical trials), as well as pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV.
Chronic diseases not only make populations more vulnerable in the face of a pandemic but are the leading driver of annual healthcare costs as well as loss of productivity and poor quality of life. More than 10 million lives could be saved each year.

Alongside this, manufacturing capabilities have and will continue to expand, and vaccine hubs have been set up worldwide. An 'always on' global programme would alter the nature of health systems in both developed and developing countries by bridging increased manufacturing with effective deployment of injectables. Clinics would be low cost and digitally enabled.

A new approach would make preventable disease history, with the following:
• Global leadership and advocacy linking rollout of routine adult preventative measures to a pandemic preparedness agenda, which we think should come from the G20.
• A set of universal and region-specific schedule recommendations – vaccines and long-acting injectables are bundled based on cohort eligibility – which would sit within the WHO.
• Demand generated for globally distributed manufacturing.
• Optimised manufacturing networks, which, if coordinated well, would provide life-saving vaccines during peacetime but also a resilient system for future pandemics. CEPI and the Gates Foundation, are already making strides in this field and we would like to support this work.
• A structure to support regional financing, demand coordination and procurement, building on the work to expand routine immunisation, expanding coverage and reach to zero-dose children created by Gavi.
• Healthcare systems strengthened by enabling digital technologies to deploy and monitor vaccines and long-acting injectables, which are administered via the same system.
• A permanent, 'always on' R&D supply chain and vaccine distribution solution.
We see much opportunity for collaboration with you and the global health bodies who will create the foundation for this programme in a number of regions. Not only will this strengthen health systems and prepare us for the next pandemic, but it will also save countless lives from a number of other high-burden diseases.

Yours faithfully,

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