

Andrea Gay,  
Executive Director, Children's Health,  
United Nations Foundation

Dear Andrea,

On behalf of the IPA and our 144 national, regional and specialty pediatric society members, we thank you sincerely for your invitation, directed to our Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (TAGI), for IPA, AAP and SVI to join the Measles and Rubella Initiative (MRI Initiative) as collaborators in the global effort to eradicate measles and rubella world-wide. We feel highly honored to accept and to play the expected role at global, regional, national and sub-national levels through our expansive membership networks.

We note that in joining your prestigious group, we are being recognized for our capacity to strengthen the MRI Initiative partnership efforts through the performance of certain relevant activities such as participation in the following:

- Organization of support of national pediatric association members for vaccination campaigns at national and subnational levels
- Vaccinating during campaigns
- Campaign monitoring activities
- Social mobilization activities – media announcements, posters in offices, contact parents of patients and other efforts toward promoting public confidence in the benefits of immunization
- Advocacy with colleagues in Ministries of Health, legislators, other relevant governmental and civil society organizations
- Support for National committees to investigate adverse events from vaccination (AEFIs)

We have developed a workplan to collaborate with Sabin Vaccine Institute and the American Academy of Pediatrics to mobilize support for eradication activities in Asia and Africa. We understand that the SVI has already been invited to join the group in recognition of their longstanding contributions to the eradication effort.

The American Academy of Pediatrics is one of the largest and most dynamic member constituencies of the IPA. The leadership has always demonstrated genuine interest and commitment to assist the IPA in our determination to make a difference in this area of child survival and health. Therefore, whilst in general, as a member of the IPA, AAP would be represented on the partnership by the IPA, we are pleased that their independent contributions are acknowledged. Indeed we would be pleased if this privilege were earned by any of our member countries or regions by virtue of their independent notable contributions to this endeavour.

In conclusion, we gladly accept your offer to join the MR Initiative partnership and we look forward to working with you all in order to improve access of all children to all vaccines but especially to the measles and rubella vaccines in the context of our current mutual focus.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

Sergio Cabral MD

President, IPA

Adenike Grange MD

Chair, IPA TAGI

Bill Keenan MD

Executive Director, IPA