

**STATEMENT BY DR. ALI AHMED AL-WALEEDI, ACTING MINISTER,
PUBLIC HEALTH AND POPULATION OF YEMEN, AT GAVI-SUN
MOVEMENT LAUNCH EVENT (28 OCTOBER 2021)**

Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yemen has suffered in the past from major economic and social crises, but today it is in a more tragic situation, as it is now suffering from the largest humanitarian crisis the world has witnessed due to the wars and conflicts that have been going on for more than seven years.

This disaster has exacerbated the health situation of the population due to the collapse of the health system, the destruction of its infrastructure, and its inability to provide the required health services.

The situation is getting worse day by day due to the limited capabilities, equipment, cadres and medical capabilities, which has resulted in real and clear suffering in Yemeni society in all its categories.

As a result, the health and nutritional status of Yemeni society as a whole has declined, especially women and children, as they are the most vulnerable groups in society, and the child mortality rate has increased to 58.4 deaths per 1000 live births in 2019, for preventable causes.

Nearly half of Yemeni children suffer from chronic malnutrition and 16% from acute malnutrition, and about half of the children are unable to receive most vaccinations.

Our participation today in this meeting comes within our conviction that the current conditions which is the country going on, require concerting efforts of all, and sincere cooperation with all partners to contribute to

alleviating the burdens and finding ways out that contribute to reduce the suffering of the population, and alleviating the complex humanitarian conditions in which they live.

where we expect from this partnership to achieve the integration between nutrition and immunization activities to achieve higher effectiveness, and to contribute in reducing expenditures, reducing the total burden of health workers, increasing coverage of care services and increasing access to health services.

We also expect that this integration between nutrition and immunization will indirectly help us detect malnutrition cases in at-risk children early through joint campaigns, provide them with appropriate treatment and reduce the possibility of their death or future suffering.

On the other hand, we are eagerly participating today to learn from the experiences and expertise of the leading countries in this regard, with the aim of exploring appropriate methods in how to develop national policies and technical guidelines,

and applicability this integration in some areas in our country and then expand the scope of work in all areas, in order to promote the expansion of health care services integration, and access to health services, including, for example, the integrative activities of the immunization program, including nutrition activities and some programs of primary health care, such as integrative delivery activity, integrative supervision activity, joint assessment of health facilities, detailed planning of health centers and units, and finally integrative training for health workers.

Given the technical expertise and resources of both GAVI and SUN, we look forward to further sharing the lessons learned from the experiences

of other countries in this regard, and to obtain technical support from all partners and donors to operate the activities and monitor their results.

Our aspirations are great and our determination is high to catch up with others in providing integrative services and ensuring that our citizens have access to primary health care services through integration in the provision of services, and the initiation of practical measures for integration in the provision of services,

hoping that these aspirations will find the care and support necessary to contribute together in improving the health status of our citizens and restoring the construction of a better health system.

In the end:

I hope the success to this important event,

Thank you very much