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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on continued and increased support for vaccinations in developing nations

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Written declaration on continued and increased support for vaccinations in developing nations

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas vaccine-preventable diseases, including hepatitis, measles, pneumococcal disease, rotavirus diarrhoea, polio and yellow fever, constitute a major cause of childhood deaths in the developing world;
 - B. whereas disease prevalence is a barrier to achieving sustainable socio-economic development;
 - C. whereas vaccine-preventable diseases are known to affect women and men differently;
 - D. whereas women make up half the global population, and whereas development and health cannot be achieved if their voices are ignored;
 - E. whereas basic health care – hospitals, doctors, nurses, medical equipment and so on – is vitally important and should not be neglected;
 - F. whereas the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI) has been recognised as a highly efficient means by which to achieve development and humanitarian objectives;
 - G. whereas, in the past decade, GAVI has made great progress in saving lives and expanding immunisation coverage in the world's poorest countries, and whereas, as a result, 288 million more children have been immunised and more than five million future deaths prevented;
 - H. whereas, despite these advances, 1.7 million children die from vaccine-preventable diseases every year;
1. Congratulates the Commission on the support it has given to the GAVI via the Development Cooperation Instrument and the European Development Fund between 2003 and 2012;
 2. Urges the Commission to make a continued commitment to reducing the number of vaccine-preventable deaths in its future external actions;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the parliaments of the Member States.