

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR THE POLITICAL LEVEL

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Date of interview: _____/_____/_____	Interviewer's name: _____
Level: National () Departmental/Provincial () Municipal/District () Person interviewed: _____	
Position: _____ Time with the institution: _____ Time in the position: _____	
Department/Province: _____ Municipality/District: _____	

A. HEALTH SECTOR INTERVIEW: MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY

		EVALUATION CRITERIA	RESPONSE			COMMENTS - OBSERVATIONS
			Yes	No	NA	
I. POLITICAL PRIORITY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS	Ask	1.1 Is the EPI a readily identifiable priority backed by human, logistical, and financial resources?				Specify.
	Ask	1.2 Does the EPI have enough visible and explicit political backing to meet its targets and objectives? For example, a presence during Vaccination Week of the Americas, vaccination campaigns, press conferences, and other media.				Describe.
	Verify	1.3 At this level, are any of the following legal instruments in place to back the EPI or vaccination?				
		1.3.1 Laws				
		1.3.2 Decrees				
		1.3.3 Resolutions and ordinances				
II. COORDINATION	Ask	2.1 Does your entity monitor issues or problems related to the EPI?				
	Ask	2.2 What are the most relevant problems that you have identified with the EPI?				Describe.
	Ask	2.3 Are political coordination mechanisms in place to facilitate implementation of the EPI Plan of Action?				Specify.
		2.3.1 Interinstitutional?				
		2.3.2 Intersectoral?				
		2.3.3 Interagency?				
	Ask	2.4 What is the name of the coordinating entity?				Specify.
	Ask	2.4.1 Who chairs it and how often does it meet?				Specify.
	Ask	2.5 Are political or international coordination mechanisms in place for immunization and epidemiological surveillance activities with other countries (for example, CARICOM, RESSCAD, MERCOSUR, UNASUR, ORAS, others)?				Specify.
	Ask	2.6 Has the health sector reform and decentralization had a positive impact on the EPI (provided such a process is underway in the country)?				Specify.
Ask	2.7 Are additional resources mobilized for the EPI at this level?				Specify.	

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR THE POLITICAL LEVEL (CONTINUED)

	EVALUATION CRITERIA	RESPONSE			COMMENTS - OBSERVATIONS		
		Yes	No	NA			
III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW VACCINES	Ask	3.1	What new vaccines has the country introduced recently or is considering introducing in the coming years?				Specify.
	Ask	3.2	What is the basis for the introduction of new vaccines?				Explain.
		3.2.1	Surveillance				
		3.2.2	Burden of disease				
		3.2.3	Cost-effectiveness				
		3.2.4	Other				Specify.
GENERAL QUESTIONS FOR THE NATIONAL LEVEL							
IV. REVOLVING FUND		4.1	Does the country use PAHO's Revolving Fund mechanism for vaccines purchases?				Give examples.
		4.1.1	If the answer is no, why are vaccines not purchased through the Revolving Fund?				Specify.
		4.2	If all vaccines are not purchased through the Revolving Fund, how are the other vaccines purchased?				Specify.
		4.3	In your experience, what are the advantages of using the Revolving Fund for vaccines purchases?				Specify.
		4.4	Has any crisis occurred due to a lack of vaccines?				Specify.

B. INTERVIEWS IN OTHER SECTORS: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, MINISTRY OF PLANNING/ FINANCE, CONGRESS, GOVERNORS, MAYORS, ETC.

	EVALUATION CRITERIA	RESPONSE			COMMENTS - OBSERVATIONS		
		Yes	No	NA			
V. OTHER SECTORS	Ask	5.1	Does your institution participate in public health-related activities?				Specify.
	Ask	5.2	Is the EPI a readily identifiable priority and backed by resources and legal provisions or included in existing projects?				
		Verify	5.3	Does your institution have any of the following legal provisions that support the EPI, or does it favor developing them?			
	5.3.1		Laws				
	5.3.2		Decrees				
	5.3.3		Resolutions and ordinances				
	Verify	5.4	Does financing for the EPI exist from the municipal or provincial/departmental governments?				Specify.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS					