

RGHF's Our Foundation Newsletter

... a newsletter for Rotary leaders

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A REMARKABLE ROTARIAN - A ROTARY HERO DR. ROBERT S. SCOTT

Numerous Rotarians and guests from around the world gathered over a year ago in Cobourg, Ontario, Canada on May 31, 2013 to honor Dr. Bob Scott on his 80th birthday and to pay tribute to his "Life of Greatness".

Praise came worldwide pointing to Bob's inexhaustible commitment and citing his promise to the children of the world and his pledge to eradicate Polio — forever.

Rotarians read congratulatory letters from Bill and Melinda Gates, UNICEF, The Center for Disease Control, the Premier of the Province of Ontario and many others. One letter was from the Rotary International Staff in Evanston, Illinois USA, which made a donation to Polio Plus in Bob's name in honor of his 80th Birthday and as a tribute to his work to end Polio. That night over \$200,000.00 was raised for The Rotary Foundation's Polio Plus Campaign.



Dr. Robert S. Scott

Over the years awards to Bob acknowledged his role -

Continued...

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A ROTARY HERO

DR. ROBERT S. SCOTT

Continued...

- as a hero who volunteers his time and efforts and a great deal of his life to helping others to build a healthier and more caring world. His congratulatory letters also highlighted his fine example of hard working and compassionate engagement, which are so much a part of our exemplary Rotarian character and which truly describes the remarkable Dr. Robert Stewart Scott.

Bob exemplified and as a leader is known for his attention to detail, his persistence, his perseverance, his patience, his spirit of compassion and his excellence in everything he does.

Continued...



PERSISTENCE, PERSEVERANCE AND PATIENCE

Continued...

Bob is retiring on June 30, 2014. Whether it was as a Physician while consulting with his patients or as Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee Chair, Bob has held innumerable leadership positions within Rotary and its Polio Partners.

And thanks to his advocacy with world governments, Rotarians and business leaders, PolioPlus grants, mobilizing support on the ground and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative Bob has made major differences in "Ending Polio - Forever". There have been thousands of Rotarian Polio leaders over the decades but as the story unfolds -- Bob Scott's voice was one of the most constant and continuous and authoritative voices for over 25 straight years. It's a great story.

Well done Bob, well done!



ENDPOLIONOW

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN IT STARTED?

DO YOU REMEMBER THE PROMISE?

THE EARLY YEARS

There were many Rotary leaders and spokesmen (led by Bill Sergeant, Clem Renouf, Chuck Keller, Herb Pigman, John Sever, Raja Saboo, Carlos Canseco, Cliff Dochterman, Stan McCaffrey and others) and the beginning of a very new and evolving Rotary program, 3H.

It was April 1979, and Clem Renouf, then RI president, was leafing through *Reader's Digest* on a flight from the Philippines. In the pages of the magazine, he read that smallpox had been eradicated for a little more than the cost of the two Australian naval vessels he'd seen the day before. He'd just been in Manila formalizing agreements to launch the first project under *The Rotary Foundation's Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grants program*, and now Renouf was wondering if these new grants could enable Rotary to tackle another disease with similar success.

R.I. PAST PRESIDENT 1978-79

CLEM RENOUF, WROTE:

"...the 1980 Council on Legislation resolved ... to commend the purpose, aims and development of the Health Hunger and Humanity Program and the announced goal of working with other agencies local and worldwide to help eliminate polio through immunization".

My recollection is that when I first discussed the matter with John Sever, he believed we (Rotary) did not have the resources to eradicate polio, but could do something to control its spread - and this more modest assessment of our capability is reflected in the more pragmatic decision of the New Horizons Committee in 1982 under Cliff's (Dochterman) chairmanship "... to immunize all the world's children against polio" by the year 2005. I guess (although I am not certain) that it was about this time that the program was named PolioPlus".



Continued...

William T. (Bill) Sergeant, who served as RI V. P. 1981-82 and chaired the IPPC for 12 years from 1994 to 2006. During his tenure, he provided direction to regional and national PolioPlus committees, and worked with the spearheading partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) to help establish strategies and policies for ending the disease.

Compassion and perseverance characterized Sergeant's pursuit of a polio-free world. With the incidence of the disease reduced by 99 percent, the greatest obstacle to eradication, he said, "... is not from the virus itself. It's from people that might get discouraged. We must keep in mind how successful we have been, and there is no reason whatsoever why we cannot finish the work."

Dr. Robert Scott, who succeeded Sergeant as IPPC chair in 2006, has a special place in his heart for his predecessor.

Scott said, "Bill Sergeant will always be remembered for his extraordinary efforts toward the eradication of polio," Scott said. "However, on a personal note, for more than 24 years he was an adviser and friend whom I called 'my father in Rotary' and who was still giving me advice two weeks before he passed. I will truly miss him."

William T. Sergeant, died 13 February 2011 in Knoxville, Tennessee, USA. He was 91.



Bill Sergeant was the commanding voice for many years both within Rotary and Internationally.



The World Health Organization honored Bill Sergeant (center) with a special citation at the World Health Assembly in 2006, presented by Dr. Bruce Aylward (left), director of the GPEI, and Dr. David Heymann.



**Herb Pigman,
RI General Secretary
1979– 86**

Pigman, served as RI's general secretary from 1979 to 1986 and from 1993 until retirement in 1995. In 1985, under Pigman's leadership, Rotary launched the PolioPlus program, an aggressive public/private partnership to assist international health agencies and governments to certify the world as polio-free by 2005, Rotary's centennial anniversary. From 1986 to 1989, Pigman served as director of the Immunization Task Force for PolioPlus, helping to launch immunization operations throughout Asia, the Pacific, Latin America, and Africa.

"Herb Pigman has been right in the thick of the fight [to eradicate polio] since the very beginning," RI Past General Secretary Ed Futa wrote in a letter .

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WHY POLIO? DR. JOHN SEVER HAS WORKED FOR SEVERAL DECADES WITH ROTARY INTERNATIONAL TO ERADICATE POLIO.

THE EARLY YEARS



Dr. John Sever "The oral vaccine had the potential to save more than 350,000 children every year all over the world."

Dr. John Sever was a Rotary district governor in the Washington, D.C., area and head of the infectious diseases branch of the National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Diseases and Stroke at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

As a researcher, Sever was immersed in studies of infectious diseases that affect children, such as measles, and vaccine development. His professional goal was to identify new causes of disease and bring vaccines to the children of the world. He was keenly aware that smallpox – a scourge especially rampant in developing countries – had just been eradicated, the first disease to be halted through a concerted public health effort.

Sever also was friends with Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin, the men who had revolutionized public health with their development of the polio vaccines in the 1950s and '60s. The vaccines already were stopping polio in the developed world; the United States would see its last case of endemic polio later in 1979. Sever recognized that Sabin's oral vaccine, available for only 4 cents per dose, had the potential to save more than 350,000 children every year from the crippling disease all over the world, if only someone could organize the effort.

Continued...



In 1979, John Sever suggested that Rotary tackle polio. He and other Rotarians have inspired the global health community in its fight against the disease ever since.

THE 1998 ROTARY CONVENTION IN PHILADELPHIA

WERE YOU THERE?

Did you hear the quiet passion of the words - "two hundred and forty seven million dollars". Did you witness the roof of the auditorium opening and thousands of multicolored balloons and confetti raining down upon the cheering Rotarians that were present?

Oh how I wish I were there that day at the Rotary Convention in Philadelphia in 1988. That wondrous day when it was announced that Rotary had raised \$247,000,000 to eliminate polio. We promised the world and the world's children that we would eliminate Polio.

Oh how I wish I were present at that historic moment! I wasn't there! Sixty-five percent of our current memberships were not Rotarians then. They were not part of the beginning of the greatest public service campaign in the history of the world when Rotary promised to eliminate polio from the face of the earth.

Think of it. In 1985 there were 350,000 cases of polio worldwide per year, which Rotary helped reduce to 416 cases last year (2013). As of June 14, 2014 there have been only 94 cases to date. We are heading towards much fewer cases and a banner year. We are almost there.

The final campaign is now in our hands. The opportunity grows closer to end this dreaded disease – Polio. Can we do it?

Will we see those balloons and streaming confetti again? Can you feel it? Can you visualize the end? It is not far away now and we will all, very soon, reach that joyous moment when Rotarians will stand up together and with one voice shout, "**..we have eradicated polio**".

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Challenge Grant to our Polio Campaign combined with Rotarians worldwide working so hard towards that magic moment for the complete eradication of Polio will be the culmination of our quest, which we (Rotary) have envisioned for so many years.

Eddie Blender, OFN Publisher



RI Past President Charles C. Keller 1978-88

THE FIRST 3H PROJECT, WHICH BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER 1979, FOCUSED ON BRINGING POLIO VACCINE TO CHILDREN IN THE PHILIPPINES.



The 3-H program was in its infancy. It was the first time Rotary had committed to new projects beyond the capacity of any one club or district. While the first project, which began in September 1979, focused on bringing polio vaccine to children in the Philippines, the program as a whole was intended to improve health, relieve hunger, and enhance human and social development. Rotary had never had a single corporate cause of this kind.

“The important thing was to get the polio vaccine from the manufacturers to the people who needed it,” Dr. John Sever recalls. “I knew that Rotarians were a big international army of volunteers. They could work with the governments of the world to assist with immunization and provide financial support and social mobilization.”

RIPP Clem Renouf credits Sever, a member of the Rotary Club of Potomac, Md., for convincing Rotary’s leaders that the organization could tackle the disease. “Most would have dismissed it as an impossible dream, beyond our capacity financially or organizationally, as did many former leaders,” Renouf says. “But here was a Rotarian uniquely qualified – a senior scientist with an



appreciation of Rotary’s potential, who by virtue of his reputation personally and professionally was able to persuade the 1979-80 Board to adopt the goal of a polio-free world as the major emphasis of the 3-H program.”

2007-08 ROTARY FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP CHANGES

THE LATER YEARS

Dr. Robert Scott Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair for 2007-08



July 24, 2007 - The Trustee Chair Bhichai Rattakul announced that he will resign as chair of The Rotary Foundation Trustees on 1 August but will continue to serve as a trustee this year. "I made this difficult decision to resign as chairman because of issues related to my health and that of my wife," he said. "I deeply regret any inconvenience this unanticipated change will cause."

In keeping with the Foundation Bylaws, Trustee Vice Chair Robert S. Scott, of the Rotary Club of Cobourg,

Ontario, Canada, will be trustee chair from 1 August through 30 June 2008. A past RI vice president and director, Scott has served RI and the Foundation in many capacities over the years, most recently on the International PolioPlus Committee, which he will continue to chair. He also succeeded Herbert A. Pigman as volunteer director of the highly successful 2002-05 polio eradication fundraising campaign.

In assuming the new leadership role, Scott plans to continue the focus on the 2007-08 Foundation goals to eradicate polio, support the Every Rotarian, Every Year initiative, show that peace is possible through support of the Rotary Centers for International Studies, and reconnect with Foundation alumni. "I worked closely with Chairman Bhichai when he developed these goals, and I strongly support all of them," Scott said.



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2007



This is an historic day for Rotary. It is our great pleasure to inform you of a new partnership between Rotary International and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that will provide a much needed US\$200 million in support of our top goal of a polio-free world.

The Gates Foundation has awarded The Rotary Foundation a

challenge grant of \$100 million, which Rotary will match, dollar for dollar, over three years. This is the largest single grant ever given to a volunteer service organization and represents a tremendous validation of the approach and success of our PolioPlus program.

This partnership comes at a critical juncture for the polio eradication initiative, which needs an infusion of funds to reach the eradication goal. For this reason, the initial \$100 million will be distributed by The Rotary Foundation through grants to the World Health Organization and UNICEF in direct support of polio immunization activities in 2008.

Your participation in this effort is crucial to making it a success. The Rotary International Board of Directors and the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation have unanimously agreed to accept this challenge grant to ensure the success of the PolioPlus program. We feel confident that this extraordinary commitment from the Gates Foundation and Rotary will serve as a catalyst for further donations from others to help us realize the dream of a polio-free world.

In 1985, we promised every child a world free from the threat of polio, and we are almost there. This funding agreement between Rotary and the Gates Foundation is a huge step forward, bringing us even closer to our goal. Success is our only option.

Wilfrid J. Wilkinson

RI President 2007-08

Robert S. Scott

TRF, Chairman 2007-08



DR. ROBERT SCOTT, PRIVP, APPOINTED CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR

ROTARY IS BLESSED TO HAVE THE SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP OF BOB SCOTT WHO HAS AGREED TO SERVE AS THE PEFC CAMPAIGN

DIRECTOR. BOB, ALONG WITH HIS WIFE ANN, HAS SERVED ROTARY IN MANY LEADERSHIP CAPACITIES OVER THE YEARS, INCLUDING ROTARY INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT FOR THE THEN RI PRESIDENT GLEN KINROSS IN 1997-98. OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS, BOB HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN MANY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS FOR GLOBAL POLIO ERADICATION, INCLUDING ADVOCACY TASK FORCE, INTERNATIONAL POLIOPLUS COMMITTEE, AND INTERFACING WITH GOVERNMENTS AND THE WHO.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM, BOB.



The Australian government is providing AU\$80 million over four years in support of the 2013-18 Polio Eradication and Endgame Strategic Plan. The commitment is from 2015 to 2018.

The contribution follows a \$50 million commitment to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (from 2011 to 2014).

Australian Rotarians have been instrumental in advocating their government's support for polio eradication. Prime Minister Julia Gillard and Foreign Minister Bob Carr applauded the leadership shown by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the World Health Organization, UNICEF and Rotary International on polio.

IPPC Chair Bob Scott said, "It was Australia's Sir Clem Renouf who, as President of Rotary International in 1978 and 1979, led the international campaign to vaccinate every child against polio," "As a result of these early efforts by Rotary, the global community came together in 1988 to launch the Global Polio Eradication Initiative."



PAKISTAN POLIO TEAM HIT BY DEADLY ATTACK



"A bomb attack on a polio vaccination team in north-west Pakistan has killed at least 11 people", officials say, "There have been previous attacks on polio teams, a lot of people were reluctant to carry out this campaign"

A bomb attack on a polio vaccination team in north-west Pakistan has killed at least 11 people, officials say.

A roadside bomb went off as the police-guarded convoy drove through a village in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province near the Afghan border.

The attack is the latest in a series targeting polio teams in the country.

No group has claimed responsibility, but the Taliban oppose the polio schemes, which they see as a cover for international espionage.

Initial reports said the convoy was struck by two separate bombs on Saturday.

The blasts were reportedly followed by a fierce gun battle between security forces and the militants.

Officials confirmed that people wounded in the attack were taken to a nearby hospital. Some of those injured are said to be in a critical condition.

Pakistan has witnessed a campaign of violence against health workers, who militants also accuse of being part of a Western plot to sterilize Muslims.

More than 40 people linked to the vaccination program have been killed in Pakistan since December 2012.

As recent as January 2014, unidentified gunmen shot dead three polio workers in the southern city of Karachi, a day after authorities began a new nationwide vaccination drive.

Pakistan is one of only three countries where polio remains endemic, along with Nigeria and Afghanistan.

According to Rotary International and the World Health Organization, Pakistan recorded 91 cases of polio last year, up from 58 in 2012.

Terrorists Attack in Karachi Airport in Pakistan, Killing 13

THE RECENT YEARS

2012 Statement from Dr. Robert Scott, Chair, Rotary International PolioPlus Committee



EVANSTON, Ill., May 24, 2012 – Rotary International, as a spearheading partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, strongly supports the World Health Assembly considering a resolution that would declare polio eradication a global emergency for public health. Rotarians know that while recent progress against this disease gives the world the best opportunity ever to succeed, the consequences of failure are unimaginable – a true global health emergency.

- Anticipating this shift to emergency footing, Rotary leaders since December 2011 have been meeting with the heads of state of polio-affected countries to ensure polio eradication remains a top priority in every nation and that funding commitments to the program are met. We will continue these high-level meetings over the next six months, while mobilizing our grassroots network of 1.2 million volunteers worldwide to do everything possible to end polio.



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RECENT ROTARY ACTIONS SUPPORTING POLIO ERADICATION AS A GLOBAL HEALTH EMERGENCY:

- In April, Past Rotary President Wilfrid Wilkinson traveled to Nigeria, one of three remaining polio-endemic countries, to present President Goodluck Jonathan with Rotary's Polio Eradication Champion Award. Shortly after the meeting, Nigeria released polio funds pledged in October 2011. Rotary also sits on Nigeria's Presidential Task Force on the Eradication of Polio.
- Also in April, Rotary President Kalyan Banerjee met with Afghan President Karzai, offering assistance in applying lessons learned from the success against polio in India. For example, Rotary's successful advocacy within Muslim communities helped ease cultural misconceptions about the vaccination program, allowing more children to be immunized. Afghanistan is one of three remaining polio-endemic countries.
- In March, Rotary's International PolioPlus Chair Robert Scott had a similar meeting with President Asif Ali Zardari of Pakistan, one of three remaining polio-endemic countries. Aziz Memon, Rotary's National PolioPlus chair for Pakistan, also is active at all levels, recently securing the commitment of Pakistan National Cricket Captain Afridi as a celebrity advocate for polio eradication.
- Also in March, The Rotary Foundation Trustees reaffirmed that polio eradication is the "urgent priority" of the Foundation, and that continued support for PolioPlus is essential.
- In February, Rotary and the Indian Health Ministry jointly hosted a Polio Summit, during which India was declared polio-free and removed from the list of polio endemic countries.



Dr. Bob Scott with Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada

THE MOST RECENT UPDATES

GLOBAL POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE

— THE 2014 NARRATIVE

THE TARGET DATE IS 2018

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) is on track to achieve a polio-free world by 2018 and deliver broader benefits thanks to donors' six-year investment. Using innovative approaches and with the help of new partners, we are progressing along a multi-year plan to stop transmission, improve immunization rates and make a lasting impact on child mortality and other global health challenges. However, the world's investment in achieving a polio-free world is at risk because of conditions that are obstructing parents living in the final reservoirs where polio has never been stopped from accessing the polio vaccine for their children.

Intensified efforts and innovative approaches are continuing to ensure that children can receive the polio vaccine; meanwhile additional measures are being pursued to help ensure countries at highest risk of re-infection remain polio-free and that there are no major delays to ending global transmission.

Delivering a polio-free world by 2018 and realizing the broader benefits of eradication requires critical actions in 2014.

THE GPEI 2014 MESSAGES:

The world has never been in a better position to end polio. The last mile is by far the hardest but we are well-prepared to continue on track to achieve a polio-free world.

We just celebrated one of the world's great achievements in global health. Five years ago, India was regarded as the hardest place on earth to stop polio. India's accomplishment opened the door to certification of the eleven countries in WHO's South East Asian region, representing 1.8 billion people, as polio-free, a major step toward clearing the world of polio.

"This document has been developed to assist the partnership with consistent messaging regarding where we are in the polio eradication initiative. While the top line messaging may not change much, the points below the top line messages will be updated as the situation warrants."

Carol Pandak,



CAROL PANDAK

Director, Division of PolioPlus
The Rotary Foundation of
Rotary International

At Rotary, Carol Pandak is the Manager of the PolioPlus Program and there she oversees the day-to-day operation of Rotary's polio eradication Initiative. She is the staff focal point for the World Health Organization, UNICEF, CDC and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

In addition, Carol provides support to the International PolioPlus Committee.

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We have a comprehensive plan that serves as a roadmap to stop transmission, improve immunization rates and make a lasting impact on child mortality and other global health challenges.

In a Scientific Declaration on Polio Eradication, more than 450 scientists worldwide voiced their support for the plan

We are making progress against all four objectives of the plan.

We have the political will and a diverse set of donors pledged their support for the plan committing more than US\$4 billion over six years for its implementation.

New approaches and partners are helping overcome bottlenecks in reaching all children with the polio vaccine in the remaining poliovirus reservoirs, and we are seeing results.

Northern Nigeria has only one case of polio to-date this year (*as of 10 June 2014) as new tactics help the program reach more children with vaccines and boost immunity in insecure areas.

More settlements and children are being reached with vaccines thanks to improved micro planning, household enumeration and mapping strategies.

Borno reduced the number of children who couldn't be reached with vaccines from about 60% in June 2013 to 14% in December 2013.

Plans are underway to introduce IPV in areas of Borno where there are limited windows of opportunity to immunize children and there is a need to boost immunity rapidly.

In an effort to reach even more children with vaccines, the number of health camps providing primary care alongside vaccination was scaled up to 1700 across Kano.

Pakistan's national and local government leaders are



fully invested in addressing vaccination bans and the persistent climate of terror that is fueling an increase in polio cases.

Peshawar's local government initiated the Sehat Ka Insaf (Justice for Health) campaign, delivering nine child health interventions, including polio vaccine.

A similar approach is being taken in areas of Karachi which are difficult to access

National Islamic leaders have issued 28 fatwas promoting the safety of the polio vaccine and the importance of vaccinating children.

Global Islamic leaders are highly engaged in promoting vaccination and protecting children from polio.

Under the leadership of the Grand Imam of the Holy Mosque of Mecca, the Global Islamic Advisory Group for polio eradication recently issued a declaration and six-month Plan of Action to support vaccination and address challenges in the remaining polio-endemic parts of the Islamic world.

Local and international NGOs and humanitarian organizations have been indispensable partners in reaching populations with vaccines for polio and other diseases.

In the Horn of Africa, local NGOs are raising awareness of vaccination campaigns, providing logistics and cold chain support, and implementing new mobile phone technologies to facilitate vaccine delivery.

Where we are reaching children with the polio vaccine, improvements in campaign quality are making a difference. We're also seeing progress at a global level. However, in the few reservoirs where children cannot receive vaccinations, cases are increasing.

CAMPAIGN QUALITY

Afghanistan reduced transmission to very low-levels with only 14 cases last year.

13 out of 14 cases were directly linked to cross-



"ROTARY CONTINUES TO BE THE HEART AND SOUL OF POLIO ERADICATION."
— Bill Gates, Co chair, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Continued...



border transmission from Pakistan, and only one case was reported in the traditionally endemic Southern Region.

From March 2012 to August 2013, the percentage of children unreached with polio vaccines declined by 43% in the Southern Region.

In Pakistan, the majority of regions where vaccinators can reach children do not have active polio transmission.

Compared to the same point in previous years, Nigeria's case count is at an all-time low and campaigns have achieved historic highs of vaccination coverage.

As of April 2, Nigeria has confirmed only 1 WPV case, a historic low for the country.

For the first time ever, more than 75% of children in all eight northern Nigerian states have received three or more OPV doses.

In March 2014, Nigeria had its most successful campaign yet, with 86% of surveyed Local Government Areas (LGAs) in high-risk states achieving $\geq 80\%$ coverage.

As far as Rotary is concerned we will continue to use the word eradication not elimination and that certification means the eradication of the wild polio virus for a period of three years.



Dr. Robert Scott, Chair, International PolioPlus

GLOBAL PROGRESS

WPV3 has not been detected anywhere since November 2012, which strongly indicates that we have completely eliminated all but one strain of wild poliovirus.

With India and the rest of the WHO's South-East Asia region officially certified polio-free, 80% of the world's population now lives in polio-free regions.

Rise in cases in reservoirs

Cases in Pakistan multiplied in 2013 due to parents in N and S Waziristan not being allowed to vaccinate their children

Afghanistan has also had a rise in cases in the east, linked to Pakistan transmission

Efforts are on track to launch the most ambitious vaccine introduction in history and to strengthen routine immunization systems. Both are critical to ending polio by 2018.

As recommended by the World Health Organization's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) and endorsed by the World Health Assembly, 126 countries will introduce at least one dose of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) by the end of 2015.

All countries using only OPV have committed to introduce at least one dose of IPV by end 2015. To date, 3 countries have submitted applications for 2014 and 17 countries for 2015, and planning continues to move quickly for the remaining countries.

A new low price for IPV makes sufficient quantities of affordable IPV available for country introductions, and GAVI is supporting the introduction in 73 of the world's poorest countries.

The three remaining endemic countries are planning to introduce IPV to boost immunity in communities where access is a challenge.

The program is simultaneously strengthening routine immunization and helping to deliver other critical health interventions.

Beginning next year, the GPEI will dedicate 50% of personnel time to strengthening routine immunization in 10 high-risk countries.



Sporting their signature yellow vests and caps, the nearly 118,000 Rotarians have helped administer vaccine to children, organize free health camps and polio awareness rallies, and distribute banners, caps, comic books, and other items.

"FAILURE TO ERADICATE POLIO IS UNFORGIVABLE, FOREVER."

— Margaret Chan,
Director-General,
World Health
Organization

"WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO PROTECT EVERY LAST PERSON, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN, FROM THIS ENTIRELY PREVENTABLE DISEASE."

— Anthony Lake,
Executive Director,
UNICEF

"POLIO ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD IS A RISK EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD."

— Thomas Frieden,
Director, U.S. Centers
for Disease Control and
Prevention

Continued...

Polio field workers in Chad are dedicating as much as 60% of their time to improving immunization systems. By September 2013, Chad had reached 35% more children with childhood vaccines compared to the same point in 2011.

In Bihar, India, polio eradication efforts helped boost routine immunization coverage from less than 20 percent in 2005 to nearly 70 percent in 2010.

In Afghanistan, large-scale surveys indicate Penta3 coverage rose from 40% to 62% between 2010 and 2013, at a time when Afghanistan had an extremely intense SIA schedule with 10 or more campaigns conducted per year in highest risk areas.



Jeff Raikes, chief executive officer of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (left), shakes hands with the newly appointed Chair of the IPPC, John Germ.

Local leaders where polio is circulating need help to ensure the most vulnerable children have access to polio vaccines. This is critical to ending transmission of polio and preventing future outbreaks in polio-free countries.

FATA accounts for more than 80% of cases in Pakistan because children in the region are not getting vaccinated, most notably in North Waziristan where a ban on polio campaigns has been in place since June 2012.

In Borno, Nigeria, violence is impeding health care delivery. As of March 2014, at least 12% of children remain inaccessible despite substantial improvements in the program's ability to reach children.

Humanitarian access in Syria and Somalia remains a major challenge due to the volatile security situation; the program is working with national societies, local leaders and the government to reach all children.

Every new outbreak reinforces the urgency of ending polio transmission in the final reservoirs and of raising immunization rates in countries at high risk for re-infection.

This is a reality the polio program has been dealing with for decades, leading to the development of innovative tactics to stop such outbreaks rapidly.

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The GPEI's Strategic Plan outlines and budgets for an effective emergency response when polio re-emerges outside of endemic countries.

Working closely with health ministries, regional stakeholders, and local and international NGOs, GPEI partners are combining new and proven tactics, outbreak protocols, and lessons learned from previous outbreaks to quickly immunize children and contain the virus.

In what is the largest-ever coordinated immunization campaign in the Middle East, seven countries are implementing a response plan to reach 22 million children following identification of polio cases in Syria.

Since October 2013, 23 supplementary immunization activities (SIAs) have been conducted across the region.

To help fill immunity gaps in Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea, emergency response activities including nationwide immunization campaigns are scheduled for April, May and June.

To protect their populations from polio, all countries must maintain high routine immunization coverage, strengthen surveillance for acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) and put in place strategies to reach populations crossing the border from neighbouring countries.

Other measures being taken include: conducting supplementary vaccination campaigns, deploying staff to conduct rapid surveillance assessments, vaccinating broader age groups in campaigns, use of short interval campaigns, and maintaining vaccine supplies in priority areas.



With more of the world polio-free than ever before, countries are taking additional measures to stop the international spread of the virus into polio-free areas.



Dr. Bruce Aylward (former director of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative at the World Health Organization) says: "... almost isn't good enough with a disease this terrifying."

Continued...

WITH SO FEW POLIO RESERVOIRS LEFT, ALL COUNTRIES NEED TO REMAIN VIGILANT AND PREPARE TO RESPOND SWIFTLY TO ANY IMPORTATION OF POLIO.

India has joined Saudi Arabia in requiring proof of vaccination for travelers from Pakistan, Nigeria and Afghanistan, as well as re-infected countries.

Middle East Health Ministers declared polio eradication a public health emergency in October 2013 and are supporting mass immunization campaigns that have reached more than 20 million people.

WHO updated its recommendations for vaccination of travelers from polio-infected areas based on new evidence on the mechanisms of such spread and the impact of different vaccines.

Countries have asked the WHO Director-General to seek expert guidance on additional measures, including vaccination of travelers under the IHR.

TO END POLIO AND REALIZE THE BROAD BENEFITS ERADICATION WILL BRING, WE NEED ... A WORLDWIDE DEDICATED CALL TO ACTION.

Unwavering political and financial commitment from countries and the global community.

Immediate vaccination of children in North Waziristan, Pakistan to stop the intense outbreak, as well as in parts of Borno, Nigeria and in outbreak countries, particularly Syria and Somalia.

126 countries to fulfill their commitment to introduce IPV quickly.

Polio-free countries to maintain high levels of routine immunization and ensure that all children are being reached with the vaccines they need.



ERADICATION IS DOABLE

Rotarians, we call for your support to help eradicate the second human disease in history (Smallpox was the first!).

We call on you to continue the work and to continue to fund the critical work of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), which will provide vaccines for hundreds of millions of the world's poorest children and support and protect health workers (volunteers) to safe guard future generations from this debilitating disease

Polio – a disease which has disabled millions and pulled people further into poverty – has been reduced with the help of Rotary volunteers, 99% over the past 27 years.

Global efforts have delivered incredible progress: immunizing more than 2 billion children and saving more than 5 million children from life-long paralysis or death.

We recently reached a remarkable milestone in the fight to eradicate polio - the ERADICATION of polio in India for the first time in history.

But progress towards eradication is at risk: with the critical work of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative constrained by funding gaps and conflict areas - threatening international polio eradication efforts.

Rotarians working with their partners supporting the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, will make the eradication of polio a reality.



Bill Gates Jr. wrote:
 "... Rotary continues to be the heart and soul of polio eradication, supporting the program directly while also taking on a larger role in encouraging other donors to give more."

Rotary



MY LAST DAY AT THE POLIOPLUS OFFICE



Earlier in this edition it is noted that I am retiring as chairman of the International PolioPlus Committee (IPPC) and have been asked to update an article I wrote about 30 months ago entitled "At the PolioPlus office"

Since then as now there are highs and lows as the world still struggles to eradicate a very persistent and evil virus. Allow me to cherry pick a few items on the polio agenda.

THE HIGHS

India continued to be polio free since 2011 and the Government of India in February of this year celebrated with an event televised nationwide.

President Ron Burton was one of the keynote speakers along with several others including the President of India who broke off from his prepared text to especially thank Rotary for the tremendous efforts made by it to lead the eradication program in India.

A month later the independent world certification committee at their meeting granted certification to India and 10 other countries that make up the South East region (SEAR) and by so signing **80% of the world is now certified polio free.** No parent can ever worry about their children being paralyzed by polio. Rotary led the celebration with a two day Conclave inviting all the parties to the event again with the presence of the President of India. I was truly honored and excited to be part of that event.

30 months ago I noted that the Gates Foundation had added a further 50 million USD to our Rotary funds. Now we have a further arrangement with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. **For every dollar we agree to spend on polio eradication up to 35 million USD per year the Gates Foundation will add two more. i.e. 105 million per year until 2018 will be committed to the program. To date as always our generous Rotarians have continued to donate at least 35 million USD.**

Continued...

- Turning to Nigeria the news is good despite the bloodshed often seen in that country. The number of cases is only 4 this year and none since mid-April. All the partners are feeling bullish but of course are apprehensive. It is essential that Nigeria becomes polio free this year
- Afghanistan has had only 1 indigenous case in 18 months. The other cases are from Pakistan
- Type 3 virus has not been seen anywhere since November 2012. So I repeat as before other highs. Micro planning is efficient and with the exception of Pakistan the vaccine is being delivered to all the children
- Funding is almost secure with nearly 5 billion of the 5.5 billion budget pledged but will continue to be a source of concern until all the pledges are fulfilled. As noted above Rotary is punching well above its weight and showing the way

THE LOWS

The fact that there are **after another 30 months three countries still endemic** when with the example particularly of India the world knows it is possible to eradicate the disease. In the three remaining countries it has become and is now a political situation. Nigeria “exported the virus to



Somalia then to Kenya and so on up the horn of Africa. However thanks to tremendous efforts the whole area is again polio free. Pakistan “exported the virus to the middle east and into Syria and now 2 cases in Iraq. Again despite the terrible warlike situation Syria has had no case in 2014 and hopefully Iraq will have no more.

Pakistan in particular with areas where no vaccination has taken place

Continued...

due to a ban in North and South Waziristan and much resistance in the FATA and KP areas the number of cases are increasing at a very alarming rate. It has become very violent and over 60 vaccinators or vaccinator guards have been killed since December 2014. What effect does it have on the children when as I did go towards a group of 5 year olds to give them drops but am accompanied by a man with a nasty looking rifle. Recently army personnel have been employed and on one occasion recently shot and killed two anti-vaccinator Taliban. It has the danger of becoming a war over polio eradication. Rotary is an organization for peace and as I leave I am very concerned of these developments. The government of Pakistan has been very slow to react but there is some increasing awareness in the last three months which gives me some guarded hope. Pakistan will NOT stop polio vaccination this year.

“The WHO has announced a PHEIC (Public Health Emergency of International Concern) which in essence demands that all travelers from Pakistan, Equatorial Guinea and Cameroons receive polio vaccine preferably two weeks prior to travel and have an international certificate of that immunisation. Vaccine can also be given at the point of departure and Pakistan has been very proactive in setting up such facilities. Something Rotary has been asking for during at least the last two years as has the Independent Monitoring Body”

The other endemic countries are strongly advised to set up a similar program although at this time not mandated. These restrictions will be reviewed by an expert committee every three months.”

LAST THOUGHTS

Although I am retiring as chair I am not leaving the effort to eradicate polio. Since 1987-88 in one capacity or other I have been involved and am totally unable to completely walk away and in fact already have several opportunities lined up to



continue the battle which I look forward to with relish. It is the continuing generosity of Rotarians who gave their time and money and I will remember those efforts with pride. If I have achieved anything it is with the enormous help from literally thousands of Rotarians around the world and with the enormous help of a small but very dedicated staff.

We will together eradicate polio and I wish my successor John Germ and the members of the IPPC every good wish as they lead us to that goal.

by Bob Scott, Rotarian

July 2014

“WE’RE WORKING TO ENSURE THAT THE POLIOVIRUS WILL BE FOUND ONLY IN HISTORY BOOKS AND NOT IN CHILDREN.”

— Robert S. Scott, Past Chairman,
International PolioPlus Committee,
Rotary International



WELL DONE BOB, WELL DONE!

THE TOP 10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE NEW ROTARY FOUNDATION FUNDING MODEL



*By Ian Riseley, Rotary Foundation Trustee,
Foundation Finance Committee Chair
(Article courtesy of the Rotary Voices blog)*

I've been very involved in the development of our Foundation's new funding model and have closely followed the questions being raised about it in social media and elsewhere. The new funding model for The Rotary Foundation was developed because our ability to continue "doing good in the world" depends heavily on the Foundation having long-term financial stability. In the interests of improved communication and understanding of the changes, here are 10 important things to know about the new model, which becomes effective on 1 July 2015.

1. ROTARIANS AND CLUBS WILL BENEFIT

Rotary's strength lies in the talents and dedication of its members and clubs. The recent recession showed that we must have adequate reserves in our Rotary Foundation to ensure that we don't have to cut programs and services in times of poor investment returns, and the increased volatility in financial markets emphasized the need for an adequate level of reserves. The new funding model is necessary to ensure resources are available to support the work of Rotarians now and in the future. The Foundation's current policy is to maintain an operating reserve equal to three years' worth of operating expenses.

2. POLIOPUS FUND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NOT AFFECTED IN ANY WAY

3. ENDOWMENT FUND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NOT AFFECTED IN ANY WAY

4. DISTRICT DESIGNATED FUNDS ARE NOT AFFECTED IN ANY WAY

5. 5% OF ANNUAL FUND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE SET ASIDE FROM THE WORLD FUND

After Annual Fund contributions are invested, 50% will continue to go to District Designated Funds (DDF) and 50% to the World Fund. The 5% being set aside to help pay for the Foundation's operating expenses will come from the World Fund, but will only be used if needed to pay those expenses or to fully fund the operating reserve. If they are not needed for those purposes, they may remain in the World Fund for grants.

6. 5% OF CASH CONTRIBUTIONS FOR GLOBAL GRANTS SET ASIDE

Under the current system, cash contributed in support of a grant by clubs and districts requires administration, but provides no investment income to meet the cost of that administration, because the funds are not retained by the Foundation for any length of time and therefore do not generate investment income. *The 5% set aside from cash contributions for global grants will help pay the costs of processing, etc.* It is not uncommon for many clubs to support a single global grant, and some clubs include payments from many members, thus requiring donor recognition to be processed for each contribution. Cash may also need to be converted into one of the 28 official Rotary currencies and then transferred to an international bank account for the project to be implemented.

7. UP TO 10% OF CORPORATE GIFTS SET ASIDE

Using up to 10% of large corporate contributions for operating expenses is a well-accepted practice among donors to charities. By obtaining such gifts, the Foundation can increase support for the projects in our areas of focus. Our polio eradication efforts, for example, have benefitted greatly from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's support. *Up to 10% of these gifts will contribute to our administration costs, thus leaving more funds to support the grants for clubs and districts.*

8. A COMMUNICATION PLAN IS IN PLACE

The Trustees recognize that open, clear communication fosters Rotarians' continued support of, and active involvement in, Foundation programs. The first step in the funding model communication plan was an announcement on rotary.org with a link to *Securing Our Foundation's Future*. Watch for more information in Rotary media, coming soon.

9. TRAINING AND RESOURCES ARE BEING DEVELOPED

Training manuals for officers and committees at the district and club levels are being updated, and webinars and e-learning modules are being developed. For details, contact fundingmodel@rotary.org.

10. THE FOUNDATION HAS A RECORD OF FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP & TRANSPARENCY

Our Foundation has consistently earned high ratings for sound fiscal management from Charity Navigator and other agencies. Find more on Foundation finances and ratings. Questions or comments? Please, contact fundingmodel@rotary.org. I hope you will continue to make our Foundation one of your preferred charities. Every contribution is important and deeply appreciated. The projects and work we accomplish together as Rotarians are life changing.

The
Rotary
Foundation



**RGHF's OUR
FOUNDATION
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