

UPDATE ON THE SAHEL MALARIA INITIATIVE

GENEVA 2019

SAHEL MALARIA ELIMINATION INITIATIVE

COMPRISES OF EIGHT COUNTRIES;

**BURKINA FASO, CABO VERDE, CHAD, MALI, NIGER, MAURITANIA,
SENEGAL AND THE GAMBIA**

Goal

The goal of the Sahel Malaria initiative is to accelerate towards the attainment of malaria elimination goals by 2030 in the Sub-region **based on ;**

OBJECTIVE

To help accelerate the attainment of the global vision of a world free from the burden of malaria by launching a regional multi-country collaboration platform.

The guiding principle emanates from the moto “**we achieve more together**” to accelerate the fight against malaria. Therefore, the initiative should;

- Be based on strong collaboration and coordination between the member countries, sectors and partners at international and regional levels.
- Support to build a strong national malaria prevention/elimination capacity and the initiative is not supposed to replace any of the malaria or health systems of the countries in the sub-region.
- Be led with high political commitment and country ownership and should ensure sustainable financing mechanism.

The Main Strategies and Approaches

- accelerate the implementation of universal access of populations to effective malaria control interventions
- mobilize necessary internal and external financial resources to achieve malaria pre-elimination and elimination;
- implement joint action plan to accelerate the fight against malaria
- develop mechanisms for monitoring progress of the implementation of the joint action plan
- strengthen the institutional capacities of research

Committed to;

- Join efforts through this initiative to accelerate towards elimination of malaria in the eight Sahel countries by 2030
- Support the urgent reorientation of national programs towards the accelerated implementation of the Global Malaria Strategy 2016-2030 based on a solid situation analysis and malaria stratification
- Mobilize predictable and sustainable domestic and external financial resources through innovative financing options to achieve malaria elimination at the country level
- Increase performance in the use of mobilized resources
- Increase political engagement at national, districts and community levels towards malaria elimination in each of the eight Sahel countries
- Strengthen intersectoral and multi-sectoral partnerships, cross-border and sub-regional collaboration
- Support an establishment of an Independent National Advisory Committee to monitor progress towards malaria elimination in each of the eight countries
- Support a Sub-Regional Organization or Regional Economic Community to host the regional coordination platform of the Sahel Malaria Elimination Initiative

KEY Mile Stones

Ministers of Health of six Sahelian countries (Chad, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal), met on the 7th of May 2013 in Nouakchott and made a declaration towards acceleration of the fight against malaria.

As a follow up of implementation of the Declaration, a meeting of malaria program managers of seven countries (Cabo Verde, Chad, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal), held in Monaco in June 2017, in which they agreed to accelerate malaria elimination in their countries.

Health Ministers from the sub-region also conducted a follow up meeting at the side of 67th WHO AFRO Regional Committee meeting in Zimbabwe in August 2017.

KEY Mile Stones Cont.

August 31st 2018, the Ministers of Health of 08 Sahel countries met in Dakar on the side-lines of the 68th Session of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organization in Africa where the SaME initiative was launched, and Dakar declaration was prepared and submitted for signature by the countries concerned.

A Ministerial conference call was organized by RBM with the countries on December 12, 2018. A total of 05 countries participated including: Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, The Gambia, Islamic Republic of Mauritania and Niger.

Agenda for the Ministers Tele Conference Call

- Approval of all for the Cabo Verde Minister of Health to chair the Sahel Malaria Elimination Initiative **Ministerial Forum**.
- Nomination of vice-chair person of the **Ministerial Forum**
- Approval of the TOR for the Forum and **Technical Committee**
- Decide on the next meeting

The main decisions resulting from this conference call are

Cabo Verde was elected to serve as chair of the SaME Initiative's Ministerial Forum for a three (03) year term.

- Burkina Faso was elected to serve as Vice-Chair of the SaME Initiative Ministerial Forum for a three (03) year term.
- The Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the Ministerial Forum as well as those of the Technical Committee of the SaME Initiative were also validated and approved by the Ministerial Forum.
- As a consequence, of decision point 2, it was agreed that Cabo Verde and Burkina Faso will respectively serve as Chair and Vice Chair of the Technical Committee of the SAME Initiative.

Planned Meetings

- SaME technical Committee Meeting on the side-lines on the SMC Meeting – 19/20th February 2019
- Ministerial Meeting on the side-lines of AU Summit in Niger in July 2019