

## THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF RBM ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO CAMEROON

Malaria remains a major public health problem in Cameroon still claiming, as of this date, 31% consultation, 18% cause of death in adults and 41% cause of death in children less than 5 years.

It is therefore with the objective of fighting the disease number one in Cameroon that the country has to organize in 2015 its second mass campaign for the distribution of mosquitos nets (LLINs) after that of 2011.

The Roll Back Malaria (RBM) Executive Director's visit on the invitation of Cameroon's Minister of Public Health comes to boost the country's efforts for the mobilization of operational costs related to the distribution of more than 12 million LLINs throughout the country and which are estimated to cost around 11 billion Francs CFA. It is worth recalling here that the GFATM shall contribute exclusively for the acquisition and transportation of LLINs to the Douala Port (as quantities will depend on the funds allocated to Cameroon through NFM). The country will be responsible for covering any potential gap.

Hence it is important for all stakeholders including the government to combine their efforts in order to meet the needed distributing fund and any potential LLINs gap.

During her stay in Cameroon from 3 to 6 march 2014, Dr. Nafo Traore Fatoumata met several Cameroonian authorities such as the Speaker of the National Assembly, the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Public Health, the Deputy Secretary General at the Presidency of the Republic, the President of the ICN (CCM)... She saluted Government's

commitment and the leadership of the Minister of Public Health to bring down the morbidity toll of malaria for "the fight against malaria must be the concern of the entire nation and all sectors as well. Because of malaria, children cannot go to school, and we cannot work". According to Dr. Nafo, malaria should be considered a development problem given its negative impact on economies.



From left to right CARN coordinator, Dr. José Nkuni, Dr. Charlotte Ndiaye, WHO representative in Cameroon, Dr. Nafo, Executive Director of RBM, H.E. Andre Mama Fouda, Minister of Public Health, M. Alim Hyatou, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Public Health, Dr. Etoundi Mballa, Director for the fight against Diseases, Dr. Olinga Jean Pascal, Coordinator of the Global Fund Technical Secretariat

During the working session with the Cameroon RBM committee, the national commission on the advocacy for the 2015 campaign and partners, Dr. Nafo expressed her confidence for the efforts made by each and every one and reiterated RBM's support to enable Cameroon succeed in its 2015 campaign which is an important objective in achieving the MDGs.

Dr. Nafo also met with officials of the United Nations Institutions that founded the RBM and the country Director for the ADB.

The Executive Director of RBM paid a courtesy call to the Regional Representative for Central Africa of the International Federation of the Red Cross that is host to CARN

## CONGO: MALARIA PERFORMANCE REVIEW PHASE 3

As a follow up to the recommendations of the 10th annual Review and Planning meeting of CARN countries, Congo has just organized phase 3 malaria Performance Review with support from RBM, WHO experts based in Libreville and local partners (WHO, UNICEF, World Bank and the French Cooperation...). This phase ended with a presentation to political authorities of the results of the review and the strategic perspectives in view of elaborating the new 2014 - 2018 malaria strategic plan.

### Commemorating the international Day for the Fight Against Malaria

The Medical Research Foundation with the support of the PNLP plans to organize a

competition for the Best Laboratory Technician for Malaria diagnosis. A jury has been charged with organizing the competition that will concern laboratory technicians of all health centers without distinction (public and private). The winners of this competition will receive their prizes during commemorative activities marking the international Day for the fight against malaria (25 April 2014).

### Intensifying Vector Control

The government of Congo signed, on 29 October 2013 with the Cuban Laboratory, Labiofam S.A., a contract for the supply of larvicides and services. The pilote phase of this



Family photograph of the RPP after the presentation of the results of the field missions to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

project covers the Divisions of Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire, as well as those of the Plateaux and Cuvette regions, which will lead to the construction of a factory for the production of bio larvicides.

Léon Pascal Moubali, PNLP-CONGO

## CAR: DISTRIBUTION OF LLINs IN SITES FOR THE DISPLACED

Following the events that led to the political change of 24 March 2013, the Central African Republic faced a humanitarian crisis forcing 500 000 people to abandon their homes and flee exactions and looting by the various militia. The population has thus moved to sites considered to be more secured. This situation has only increased the number of malaria cases in these precarious shelters that are refugee camps.

On the recommendations of the Health Cluster, 151 583 LLINs were distributed to 75 191 homes of displaced persons in order to reduce morbidity and mortality related to malaria. The National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) and the Central Africa Red Cross in collaboration with UNICEF provided support in this peculiar situation for the organization of this campaign to distribute LLINs in the sites of IDPs in Bangui and Bimbo.

CAR NMCP



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