For the first time in more than a decade, malaria cases increased and reductions in malaria deaths flattened, reversing a trend of significant decline since the early 2000s and putting at risk one of the most successful global health efforts in history. In response to this call to action, political, philanthropic, business, research, advocacy, civil society and academic leaders from around the world came together in 2018 to renew focus and commitment to ending malaria.

2018 GLOBAL MALARIA ACTION SNAPSHOT

MAJOR POLITICAL COMMITMENTS MADE IN 2018:

50%

Malaria Burden Reduction by 2023 in Commonwealth Countries

53 Commonwealth leaders committed to reducing the burden of malaria by half by 2023 at the 2018 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London, building on national-level commitments.

Zero Malaria Pan-African Campaign

The African Union endorsed “Zero Malaria Starts with Me”, a pan-African campaign launched in July by the African Union Commission and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. The campaign empowers communities to take greater ownership of malaria prevention and care, and to mobilise additional resources to achieve a malaria-free Africa.

Countries that already have or will launch campaigns include: Cameroon, eSwatini, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Senegal, Uganda and Zambia.

Malaria Elimination in the Sahel

The Sahel Malaria Elimination Initiative creates cross border collaboration and commitment to accelerate malaria elimination across eight Sahel countries. Progress will be tracked through a sub-regional scorecard in partnership with the African Leaders Malaria Alliance.

The Windhoek Declaration

All 16 of the Southern African Development Community countries committed to firmly place regional malaria elimination on the agenda, and to expand data sharing, collaboration and programme implementation, and increase funding for malaria.

Targeted Response in High-Burden Countries

New approach to reduce the burden of malaria in countries most affected by the disease – to be launched by country leaders in Nov 2018 with support from World Health Organization and the RBM Partnership to End Malaria.

Malaria Elimination in the Greater Mekong

Six countries – Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam – signed a Ministerial Call for Action to Eliminate Malaria in the Greater Mekong Subregion before 2030.

GLOBAL MALARIA EVENTS IN 2018:

MULTILATERAL INITIATIVE ON MALARIA CONFERENCE (DAKAR, SENEGAL)

MALARIA SUMMIT (LONDON, UK)

1ST MALARIA WORLD CONGRESS (MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA)
MAJOR FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS MADE IN 2018:

$4.1bn in new and expanded financing commitments to meet malaria financing needs and to accelerate R&D. This includes $2 billion in co-financing commitments between 2018-2020 from 46 malaria-affected countries, which will leverage a further $355 million to support national malaria control and elimination efforts, and new commitments to accelerate malaria R&D and scale up access to innovation by the private sector. UNITAID, UK and Australian governments and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

$83.6m in new funding for elimination in Central America. The Regional Malaria Elimination Initiative leverages over $100 million in domestic finance and $39 million of existing donor finance in Central America and Dominican Republic to support malaria elimination plans in the region.

$150m in grant funding in Asia Pacific. The Asian Development Bank and APLMA announced plans to raise up to $150m in grant funding for a Regional Health Fund to address health challenges in Asia Pacific, including malaria elimination.

$5m in private sector funding in Asia. The M2030 platform aims to mobilise business leadership and funding to support Global Fund programmes in the Greater Mekong Subregion and Indonesia.

INNOVATIONS APPROVED IN 2018 OR BEING ROLLED OUT IN 2019:

- 1st-ever malaria vaccine to be rolled out in selected areas of Ghana, Kenya and Malawi.
- 1st single-dose “radical cure” drug for P. vivax.
- Dual-ingredient bed nets.

KEY STATISTICS:

No. of countries with <10,000 cases:

- ON TRACK to meet goal by 2020 of eliminating malaria in at least 10 countries in which malaria was transmitted in 2015 (in addition to Argentina and Uzbekistan).

Increases in Cases of 15 Highest Burden Countries 2015–2016:

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