

Dr Awa Coll-Seck visits the Rwanda National Malaria Control Program (NMCP)

On February 12, 2007, the Executive Director of Roll Back Malaria, Dr Awa Coll-Seck visited the Rwandan National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) in Kigali, the capital city of Rwanda. She was accompanied by Dr Jean-Damascene Ntawukuliryayo, the Rwanda Minister of Health, Dr D.V NSue-Milang, the WHO country representative, Dr Mustapha Soumare, the UNDP country representative and Dr Claude Rwagacondo, the RBM focal point in the West Africa.

Dr Coll-Seck held interactive discussions with the National Roll Back Malaria committee which is composed of NMCP staff and its partners, including WHO, World Bank, the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis, UNICEF, UNDP, USAID, PMI, PSI, Intrahealth Twubakane, MSH and Pro femmes Twese Hamwe.

Dr Corine Karema, the Coordinator of the Rwanda National Malaria Control Program took the opportunity to highlight national keys achievement in the malaria control, which include a high level coverage of Insecticides Treated Nets (ITNs) in children under five through the integrated measles campaign, a high level coverage of ITNs and a high level coverage of the Intermittent Preventive Treatment (IPT) in pregnancy through existing Antenatal Care services and effective treatment of Severe Malaria as well as timely (within 24 hours symptom onset in 12 Districts out of 23) treatment in all Districts implementing the HBM Strategy (for more information, see attached table).

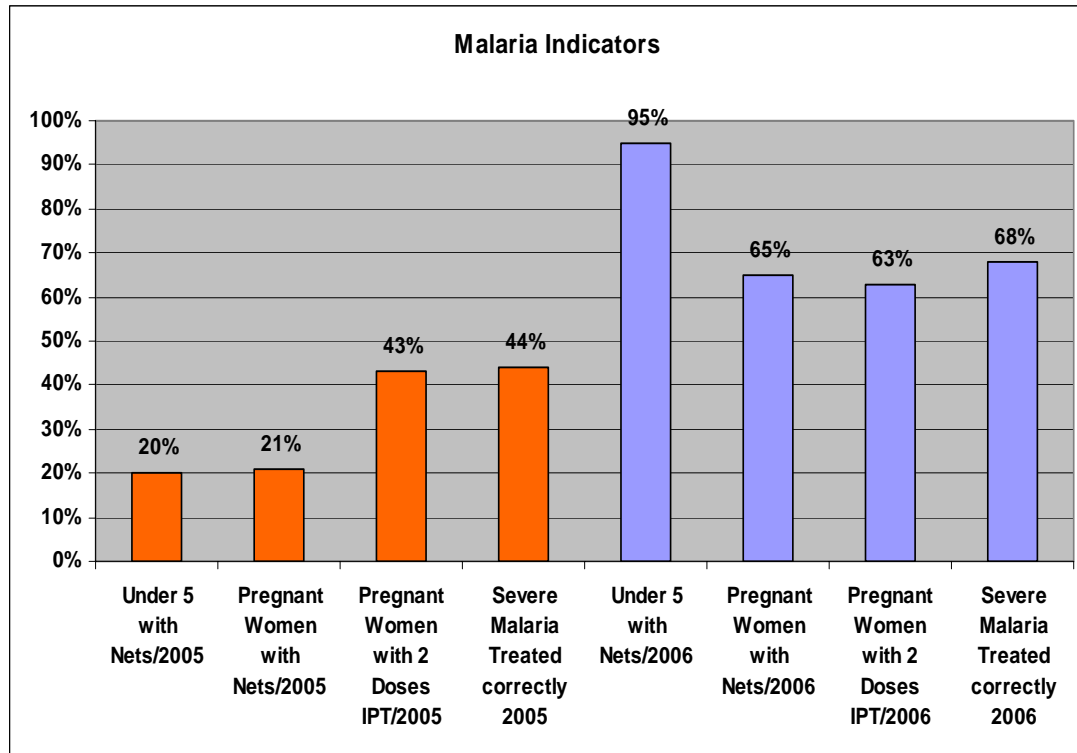
Dr Karema strongly emphasized the importance of partnership and community participation in the battle against Malaria. She also noted key challenges, such as Artemesinine based Combination Therapy (ACT) at the community level and the utilisation of ITNs among other vulnerable groups (PLWHAs and the very poor communities).

The Executive Secretary of the Roll Back Malaria, Dr Coll-Seck appreciated the partnership in the country and informed the participants on the RBM functioning and news approaches regarding RBM harmonization working group. She noted that the harmonization process aims at identifying programmatic gaps analysis which may help to guide countries needs and mobilise funds from donors meeting.

In the continuous fight against Malaria, Dr Coll-Seck promised RBM support in responding the Global Fund Round 7 proposal in terms of countries' training and technical assistance.

ANNEXES

TABLE





GROUP PHOTO: From left to right, the WHO resident representative, the Rwanda Ministry of Health, The Executive Secretary of RBM, the Coordinator of the Rwanda National Malaria Control Program and the USAID/Health Officer