



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

The All-Party Parliamentary Malaria Group

Press Release - Strict Embargo until 12 noon 15th March

**All-Party Parliamentary Malaria Group (APPMG)
The Second Report “Financing Mechanisms for Malaria”**

Rt. Hon Hilary Benn, Secretary of State for International Development, will launch the second report by the All-Party Parliamentary Malaria Group, (APPMG) “Financing Mechanisms for Malaria”, at the All-Party Parliamentary Malaria Group’s meeting, Chaired by Stephen O’Brien MP, on 15th March, at 11.30am, in Committee Room 10, House of Commons.

The Report will be launched in Johannesburg, in the presence of Paul Wolfowitz, President of The World Bank, representatives from the office of Thabo Mbeki, the President of the Republic of South Africa and Yvonne Chaka Chaka, the UNICEF Malaria Ambassador, known as Princess of Africa, and world famous singer, one hour later, 1.30pm local time, at Emperors Palace, 64 Jones Road, Kempton Park, Johannesburg.

This is the second ground-breaking report of the APPMG. The Group was created in 2004 to raise the awareness of the scourge of malaria world-wide and particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. The APPMG has been particularly successful in drawing on a depth and breadth of evidence about all aspects of malaria, often bringing together the experiences from across countries and institutions. The focus of the Group’s most recent work has been to identify sustainable funding mechanisms for combating malaria.

This latest Report recognizes that significant progress has been made especially in the last two years in focusing on malaria and the scaling up of measures to combat it. The report examines alternative methods of financing prevention and treatment. It emphasises that, building on success stories to date, we must ensure that aid reaches the people who most need it. There is too much duplication of effort; too much money goes astray and countries most affected by malaria cannot cope through the lack of human resources despite a 10-fold increase in funding over 10 years.

Chairman: Stephen O’Brien MP

Vice-Chairman: Dr Ian Gibson MP

Vice-Chairman: Dr Evan Harris MP

Vice Chairman: David Drew MP

Vice Chairman: Lord Rea

Treasurer: Ashok Kumar MP

Secretary: Eleanor Laing MP

Coordinator: Susan Dykes

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Website: www.appmg-malaria.org.uk

The Report calls on governments throughout the world and the international community to ensure that increased funding is predictable and sustainable. It should support innovative ways of raising the necessary funding on a long-term and large-scale basis, and ensure that there is effective deployment of resources. Action should be taken now by donors to improve the effectiveness of aid. To prevent and treat malaria successfully it is estimated to cost approximately \$3.2 billion per year.

Stephen O'Brien MP, said "Combating malaria is do-able: malaria remains one of the most cost effective public health interventions, producing excellent health and economic returns. The report highlights the need for predictable and sustained funding through existing and innovative sources".

Rt. Hon Hilary Benn MP, said "More than 350 million people get malaria every year, and at least one million people die every year, mostly children in Africa. We know what works in beating this disease but we need to make sure that poor people can get these treatments and things like bednets. This report highlights some of the ways to make this happen. Supporting research into new drugs for malaria is also vital and it is something that forms a significant part of the effort to tackle malaria."

Notes for editors:

Malaria kills a child every 30 seconds; forty per cent of the world's population (3.2 billion people) are at risk of contracting malaria, with the impact that the disease on individuals and entire countries entails. We have the tools to prevent and treat malaria.

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Copies of the latest report and the original report will be available on the Group's website www.appmg-malaria.org.uk from 12 noon on 15th March.

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