THE EXTENDED EASTERN AFRICA RBM SUB-REGIONAL NETWORK (EARN) ECC AND NMCP MANAGERS 2012 LAST QUARTER MEETING

LAKE VICTORIA SERENA HOTEL
ENTEBBE UGANDA

DECEMBER 17-18 2012

Report compiled by
Joaquim Da Silva
EARN Coordinator
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NGO  Non-governmental organization
NMCP  National Malaria Control Program
NMSP  National malaria strategic plan
NSP  National strategic plan
ORS  Oral Rehydration Salts
PMI  President’s Malaria Initiative
RBM  Roll Back Malaria
RDT  Rapid diagnostic test
RUTF  Ready to Use Therapeutic Food
SAM  Severe acute malnutrition
SARN  Southern Africa Roll Back Malaria Network
SME  Surveillance and monitoring and evaluation
SP  Sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine
SWOT  Strengths / Weaknesses / Opportunities / Threats
TET  Therapeutic Efficacy Testing
TRP  Task Review Panel
UNICEF  United Nations Children’s Fund
WHO  World Health Organization
WHO-AFRO  World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa
WMR  World Malaria Report
WWARN  WorldWide Antimalarial Resistance Network
1. **Acknowledgements**
The first quarter extended Eastern Africa Regional Network (EARN) was attended by NMCP managers representing 10/13 malaria endemic countries and all representatives of all EARN constituencies. EARN would like to take this opportunity to thank the following institutions and individuals for their support that contributed for the success of the meeting:

- Honourable Sarah Opendi, the State Minister of Health for Primary Health Care,
- Dr. Peter Okui, the National Malaria control Program, Uganda
- UNICEF Country Office, Uganda
- WHO-IST-AFRO
- RBM-CST Secretariat
- NNCP Managers from all EARN countries
- Members of ECC
- SATGURU Travel & Tour Services
- Lake Victoria Serena Hotel

2. **Background:**
The RBM-EARN, hosted by UNICEF-ESARO is holding its 2012 last quarterly Coordinating Committee (ECC) meeting to take stock of performance of implementation of the network workplan and discuss issues related to the inception of cross boarder malaria control initiative in East Africa. The meeting will also introduce to managers the new roadmap tracking tool and evaluate the degree of implementation of East African countries roadmaps towards the achievement of the RBM Global Malaria Action Plan (GMAP) during the last half of 2012 as well as coordinate actions to support countries to address major bottlenecks through provision of quality technical support that will reflected in the upcoming year workplan.

This year, for the second time, the ECC meeting was extended to all NMCP managers that together with representatives of different RBM constituencies with interest in malaria control in East Africa discussed major constraints encountered during malaria control program implementation and proposed solutions to advance the interests of malaria control within the EARN network.

Cross border malaria control has become an imperative particularly in countries that experienced significant reduction in malaria morbidity and mortality. Therefore, there is a need to discuss ways of coordinate malaria control interventions and activities along border areas with similar eco-epidemiologic characteristics in order to consolidate the gains made so far and move towards near zero deaths by the end of 2015.

The meeting was attended by ECC Members and Co-Chair, the EARN Countries NMCP Managers, RBM Secretariat, Geneva, and the PMI Senior Malaria Advisor to Uganda. The meeting was instrumental in providing uniform guidance to improve on implementation of the annual 2013 RBM-EARN workplan. The meeting took place 16-17 December 2012 in Entebbe, Uganda.
3. Attendance
- Chair: Mr. Athuman Chiguzo, KENAAM, Southern NGOs
- Endemic countries: Burundi, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Yemen,
- Northern NGO: Malaria Consortium
- Southern NGO: KENAAM
- Multilateral Development Partners: UNICEF and WHO;
- OECD Donor Countries: PMI-United States of America
- Private Sector: Vestergaard-Frandsen SA
- Research and Academia: WWARN
- RBM Secretariat Geneva
- EARN Secretariat
- Absent with regrets: Comoros, Djibouti, Rwanda and Kenya and SANOFI

Day#01:

Day One Proceedings-17/12/2012:

Session 1: Official opening and meeting procedures
- Meeting started at 9:00am with an opening prayer from Grace Nakanwagi and Mohamed Ali (Tanzania NMCP manager)
- The meeting was called to order and chaired by Mr Athuman Chiguzo, EARN Co-Chair, and attended by 24 participants from NMCPs (09 countries represented), the ECC and Bilaterals/UN bodies (PMI, WHO, UNICEF, RBM). Registration list is annexed
- Djibouti, Rwanda, Kenya and Comoros were not able to attend the meeting and due to conflicting priorities and excuses were presented to the EARN Secretariat
- Objectives and outputs of the meeting presented by Dr. J. Da Silva, EARN Coordinator

4.1 Overall Objectives
1. To Evaluate the performance of the 2012 PWP vis-à-vis the establish goals and KPIs
2. To introduce to the NMCP managers the new RBM roadmap tracking tool
3. To update the last quarter of 2012 roadmaps
4. To provide a forum for identifying innovative ways for improve the implementation of the 2013 EARN annual plan
5. To identify bottlenecks and propose solution in order to speed up the implementation of malaria control activities in countries towards quality achievement of GMAP in East Africa.

4.2 Specific Objectives
1. To consider the 2012 EARN annual report presented to the board in Dakar
2. Roadmap tool introduced to managers
3. The 2012 PWP performance evaluated and propose the way forward to improve performance in 2013
4. To assess the performance of the EARN focal point and hosting mechanisms
5. Strategies for cross border malaria control collaboration discussed and agreed upon
6. Roadmap review and comprehensive gap analysis
7. To operationalize the 2012 EARN PWP approved by the RBM board EARN

4.3 Expected outputs:
1. 2011 EARN Annual report assessed against the targets and endorsed by the ECC
2. Focal point performance and host mechanisms assessed and evaluated
3. Response plan to Road map implementation bottleneck.
4. TA discussed, country missions and teams discussed and approved by the ECC
5. Plans for implementation of 2012 MPRs and NMSPs development discussed and endorsed
6. Joint Operational plan for GF and RBM discussed and recommendations made
7. Brief on the Situation Room Mechanism to Program managers and ECC Members

- The meeting objectives were endorsed by the participants
- Meeting called to consolidate the achievements for the year 2012 and plan for 2013.

4.4 The opening ceremony
The opening ceremony presided by the guest of honour, Uganda State Minister of Health for Primary Health Care, Honorable. Sarah Opendi. The minister’s speech was preceded by remarks from Dr. Okui, NMCP Manager Uganda, Mr. Athuman Chiguzo, EARN ECC Chair, and Dr. Betty Udom on behalf of the RBM secretariat. Dr. Okui started his remarks by welcoming the participants to Uganda and wishing fruitful deliberations before inviting Mr. Chiguzo for briefing remarks on the role EARN plays in the overall context of malaria control in the region. Mr. Chiguzo then invited Dr. Betty Udom who spoke on behalf of the RBM Secretariat whom also conveyed greetings and appreciation from the RBM Executive Director to the Hon. Minister of Health Uganda for accepting to host the meeting and for the support to the work of Roll Back Malaria in Uganda. Dr. Okui then invited the guest of honour, Uganda State Minister of Health for Primary Health Care, Honorable. Sarah Opendi to preside the official opening of the meeting.

The Minister after welcoming all participants and organizers to Uganda appreciated the good work being done by the network in the fight against malaria in the region and stressed the importance of maintaining the gains made in malaria control in the last decade as well as the need to continue supporting countries during the processes of GFATM transition funding mechanisms applications. The Minister then challenged the experts to find more permanent solutions or intervention with better value for money in fighting malaria instead of using recurrent interventions that require colossal amounts of money. Then the Minister reiterated that Uganda was happy and honoured to host the EARN ECC and NMCP managers meeting in Entebbe and wished a successful discussion and fruitful deliberations and was looking forward to receive the main recommendation and action points from the meeting.
The minister then declared the meeting officially opened and joined the participants for a group photograph.
Session 2: Presentation of the 2012 EARN Performance report and discussion

2.1 Presentations:
- Dr. J. Da Silva presented an overview of EARN 2012 workplan and activities implementation that highlighted the programmatic and financial performance of the workplan vis-à-vis the targets set to achieve by the network and approved by the RBM board.
- The overall performance of the EARN PWP was achieved and all technical assistance requests from the country to solve bottlenecks hindering the implementation of major malaria control initiatives such as the implementation of GFATM grants were responded timely and effectively.
- In its introductory note the EARN Coordinator highlighted the role of the network in partners harmonization and alignment as well as coordination of efforts to support countries to achieve the Global Malaria Action Plan (GMAP) targets in Eastern Africa and Yemen through its mandate to convene, co-ordinate, and facilitate communications between national malaria control programmes (NMCPs) and partners within the region.
- EARN 2012 workplan was designed to support the implementation of the national malaria workplans and strategies. During the implementation of 2012 PWP, EARN interacted actively with countries to ensure that implementation barriers to the delivery of country plans were identified and addressed as early as possible. Details of performance per output and KPI can be found in the 2012 EARN Report in attachment to the meeting report.

Output #2: Funds disbursed to countries and utilized by countries in a timely and effective manner in accordance with the agreed milestones
Rating: ✅ Fully Achieved
Activities:
- Support partners at country level to perform joint review of the implementation of the roadmaps
- Identify bottlenecks impeding progress and adopt corrective measures including requesting support from EARN in a timely manner
- Provide early warning and TA to solve bottlenecks encountered during grant implementation
- EARN contributes to the successful implementation of the “three ones” at country level as well as coordination of Eastern Africa malaria endemic countries representation on the RBM Board
- Report back on implementation of the 2012 PWP approved by the November 2011 RBM Board Meeting in China
- Highlights of the achievements and constraints faced during the implementation of its main outputs and activities
- Facilitate the coordination of TA by partners at sub-regional level to promote effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness in responding to country needs
- Support the adoption of best practice to minimise bottlenecks in the implementation of country malaria roadmaps and other grants
- An overview of the GFATM grants of the EARN countries indicates a gap of 308 million LLIN,
518 million RDTs and 559 million Acts to achieve and sustain universal coverage and maintain the gains made in malaria control as well as to provide the essential services to countries

- There is a need for a comprehensive gap analysis and to consider alternative sources of funding including domestic funding.

**Output#5: Country plans (strategic, operational and workplans) aligned with the Objectives, Targets of GMAP.**

**Rating:** Partially Achieved

**Activities:**
- Support Malaria Program Reviews and Development of National Malaria Strategic Plans in North Sudan, South Sudan, Eritrea, Somalia, Eritrea, Djibouti and Comoros
- Sudan, South Sudan, Eritrea are still to conclude their MPRs
- Facilitate peer review of country malaria control plans and exchange of best practice, sharing of consensus statements and RBM board directives to improve achievements of RBM goals and targets
- Facilitate the harmonization of TA support to countries with the HWG

![Roadmap implementation progress 2012](image)

**Output#21: Effective governance of RBM Partnership implemented**

**Rating:** Fully Achieved

**Activities:**
- Staff Salaries (Coordinator and Finance and Admin Officer)
- Hosting arrangements and hosting agreement
- Hosting fees
- Staff Travel
Output#22: Executive direction and efficient and effective financial and administrative management implemented

Rating: ✔️ Fully Achieved

Activities:
- Travel of 1 co-Chair + 1 Coordinator to annual planning meeting

5.1 Workplan Implementation Narrative by output and activity:

Activities:
- Uganda received two consultants to provide support to develop the micro plan and distribution plan for the LLIN universal campaign that is meant to distribute more than 18 million LLINs nationwide.
- Tanzania and Burundi received support to negotiate for the phase-2 of their global fund grants that were successfully submitted to the GFATM.
- Sudan, South Sudan, Eritrea, and Djibouti were supported in conducting their malaria program reviews (MPRs).
- Djibouti finalized its MPR phase-3 and the add memoir has been signed by all partners in December 2012 and currently developing the new NMSP.
- All MPRs were conducted in closer collaboration with WHO AFRO and EMRO after signing MoU with the WHO country representatives.
- Rwanda and Comoros were also supported to finalized their National Malaria Strategic Plans.
- Burundi, Djibouti, Sudan, and South Sudan new NMSPs is scheduled to start in January 2013.
- EARN ECC members conducted mission to Comoros, Rwanda, Uganda, South Sudan, and Ethiopia to support in-country partnerships to review partnership performance, implementation of malaria control roadmaps, and to identify bottlenecks impeding progress and adopt corrective measures including requesting support from EARN in a timely manner.
- Missions to Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, and Tanzania were postponed several times due to conflict of schedules either by countries or partnership teams. For Somalia and Yemen security training is required to enter the country.
- Regular monthly teleconferences took place with NMCPs and in-country partners to identify constraints in malaria control implementation and propose their solutions.
- The teleconferences were targeted on basis of what the secretariat though to be priority countries.
- These processes, facilitate coordination of TA by partners at sub-regional level promoted effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness in responding to country needs.
- Support the adoption of best practice to minimise bottlenecks in the implementation of country malaria roadmaps and other grants.
- EARN three held extended quarterly Coordinating Committee (ECC) with National Malaria Control Programs (NMCP) managers meeting.
- ARPM/General Assembly in Arusha, Tanzania.
- Meetings in Collaboration with WWARN, NOVARTIS, and SANOFI.
- PSM evaluation study in Tanzania and facilitation for the Tunis meeting.
- Facilitation Artemisia Annual Meeting in Nairobi preparations, HWG gap analysis meetings.
5.2 Summary Financial Report

- EARN budget for 2012 is USD $1,024,551
- EARN has heard two grants: SI100013 (Expired in September 2012)
- SC120502 (Running through to December 2015)
- The Current grant is expected to be fully replenished with the moneys reflected in the annual budget/workplan approved by the RBM board
- SI100013 had USD $ 651,126.46 since its inception in 2010
- Prior to 2012, USD $337,692.36 was utilized on Malaria and related activities in UNICEF
- $194,513.55 was utilized on Staff costs; support to EARN Meetings (Printing T-Shirts, Bags, Banners and other Annual Review and Planning meeting costs)
- The balance in this grant was USD $ 118,836.10 which has been rolled over to the new grant which was received in September 2012
- The carryover is not reflected in the UNICEF VISION SAP System. After accounting for the carryover the current Grant will have a balance of USD $ 478,435.61.
- Grant SC120502 has a total budget of USD $535,322 for Implementation through UNICEF
- The remaining USD $489,229 of USD $1,024,551 remained in Geneva and was used to support MPR, NMSP, Consulting, Contractual services and travel and other administrative services for EARN 2013 approved budget: USD $ 949,024. After accounting for the carryover EARN will have USD $1,438,253 for staff salaries, hosting costs, travel and support to countries.

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<td>Travel Costs</td>
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<td><strong>Total (2012 onwards)</strong></td>
<td><strong>500,311.94</strong></td>
<td><strong>140,712.43</strong></td>
<td><strong>359,599.51</strong></td>
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</table>

5.3 Challenges and Constraints

- Difficulties in engaging with EAC and IGAD that would be essential for regional harmonization of malaria control interventions including cross-border control
- Incomplete data reporting from countries to populate the roadmaps on time
- Not all malaria cases in the region are confirmed through biological diagnosis with direct consequences on quality malaria surveillance
- Countries are encouraged to implement the T3 WHO strategies to overcome some of the challenges posed lack of complete parasitological diagnosis
- Establishment of a regional platform to operationalize GPARC and GPIRM and other relevant evidence with implications in malaria control programming
- Poor vector control systems include emergence of insecticide resistance, and other issues hampering sustained coverage e.g. erratic LLINs supplies
- The implementation of the iCCM strategy in the region varies from country to country. There is a need to harmonize this strategy with malaria control as an important entry point for fever management including malaria
- Sustainability of malaria control financing
Action points:

- A table detailing the expected activities and the level of performance with respect to countries is developed and included in the EARN 2012 Annual Plan.
- Add the country summary mission reports to the EARN annual report
- The ECC to discuss criteria for missions and budget for 15 missions and respond to country driven mission requests dependent on the bottlenecks impeding country performance
- Request the RBM Executive Director to attend the next EAC scientific meeting in Kigali, Rwanda (March 2013) to try to raise issues of collaboration between RBM and REC and regional political bodies as way to advance malaria control interest in the region

Session 3: New roadmap tracking tool: Presentation and Discussion

- New tool allows one to see exactly what is submitted on the server before it is posted on the website; it also allows for changes to be made and can be accessed by partners
- There is need to ensure compatibility of the new tool with the old one to avoid redoing data entries
- Managers were briefed on how to use the new tool.
- Partners tasked to be involved in the development and implementation of the country Roadmaps
- Score card on roadmap implementation status and reporting (quarterly/monthly) shared
- Country specific feedback in roadmaps provided
- Overall regional performance showed that of the 350 planned activities, 27% were on track, 5% off track, 10% were not executed while 39% were not reported on
- Managers were encouraged to identify and flag any issues as soon as they arise
- South Sudan: is experiencing difficulties training other staff and delegating the role of completing the roadmap as errors are continuously made
- Challenges in getting financial information from partners hence these sections are incomplete
- It is difficult to fill the financial gap esp. what is in the pipeline. There is need to assist countries to map resources that come into the program from other sources/interventions. The contribution of ICCM should be incorporated into the roadmaps (the new tool takes care of this)
- The new Global fund funding model is based on the revised and costed national strategic plans for resource mobilization strategy
- EARN can add value to the new GF funding model by getting countries prepared, taking part in the country joint partner missions; in-country dialogue and concept note development. WHO is guiding the NSPs development
- There should be synergy between the RBM roadmaps and the ICCM gap information.
- Countries reminded not to share their keys so that they do not get technical problems such as crashes.
**Action points:**

- Managers should submit the last update for 2012 by 15th Jan 2013 (using the old tool)
- EARN to produce rating a table detailing the 2012 level performance per countries
- Partners to get involved in the development and implementation of the country Roadmaps
- With regards GFATM support such as Grant signing, implementation support update malaria financing plans, countries must work together with partners to establish their financial needs and approach donors for the support
  - Use malaria planning value chain (MPRs, MSPs, and the 3 year operational business plan) to get the donors to make commitments

**Session 4: In-Country partnership support mechanisms missions: Discussion**

Joint mission to support country roadmaps implementation and partnerships coordination have a value as they bring an external view and perspective to the challenges NMCPs and partners may be facing without realizing. The missions also are excellent opportunities to identify the capacity in various countries that can be used to serve other within the network. For instance, Sudan has institutional capacity to support other countries in the region in training and capacity building in areas of epidemiology, entomology, GIS that can be utilized by countries that do not have these capabilities well developed.

- All countries appreciate the missions as they help improve the in-country partnerships
- Missions should coincide with in-country manager presence
- Missions should involve in-depth analysis of country problems
- Missions should be planned to allow country teams’ participation
- Missions can be undertaken without the in-country presence of the manager once there is proper planning
- NMCPs should take leadership in the missions and should align their schedules with the EARN mission timetable so as to always be available
- Strong in-country partnership is vital and timing is very important. Managers should align missions with in-country partnership meetings. NMCPs were reminded that they are the secretariat while the entire partnership constituents the MCPs
- There is need to ensure strong cross fertilization so that countries with weak partnerships learn from those with strong ones and ensure that all partners contribute equally.
- ECC members appreciated Dr. Talisuna for putting together a tool to operationalize the missions. There was agreement to adopt and harmonize this tool for use in all missions and to share the tool for future use

**Action points:**

- Operationalize framework guidelines drafted by Dr. Talisuna and endorsed it as the guideline for the in-country missions and send this out for comments to the ECC by 15th February 2013 and will
- The guidelines shall help countries organize missions and outline their role
- Develop checklists and sample schedule for countries to follow up
- Missions should be based on the need/situation on hand
• Link missions to challenges occurring in-country and also help to provide in-country solutions
• In order to work within the set EARN timelines, there is need to train consultants who can then conduct the missions when the ECC members are not available
• In terms of visits to countries, identify countries that have not been visited as the priority and arrange exchange lessons between countries
• The visits to countries should be opened up to other partners within constituencies so as to avoid delays and meet the set targets
• NMCP leadership is very critical: Managers should incorporate missions into their workplans. ECC will then allocate missionaries.

Mission reports:
• Capture concerns from NMCPs and mission reports
• Share outcomes from missions so that countries learn from them
• Upload mission reports onto the EARN website systematically
• Make the reports more action orientated
• Publications of reports to capture action points and ensure learning

6. Discussions and concluding remarks

Concluding remarks
• ECC members and managers discussed the best ways of rating the performance of the network in terms of the 2012 performance performance and outputs. Members suggested that countries should fill the custom satisfaction form that is currently sent to countries, provide the feedback as to whether they have received the TA they requested and rate the quality of support received
• Eritrea and Burundi provided the reasons to postpone respectively their MPR and NMSP development due to internal reasons. The exercises are planned to continue during the first quarter 2013
• In reference to the EARN challenges and constraints around engaging with EAC and IGAD, participants suggested that high level representation of RBM during the next EAC meeting in Kigali in March
• The Chair closed the session thanking the participants for the rich dialogue and reiterated the key take-home messages: Share best practices across countries and peer exchange among EARN countries, commitment at country level and leadership in continuing using the power of strategic plans, roadmaps and gap analysis to pursue successful financing and implementation of malaria control in Eastern Africa
• The Chair stressed on the total commitment of EARN to support countries to solve bottlenecks hindering malaria implementation in countries, provide sound technical support as well as assist on resource mobilization to sustain the gains made during the last decade.
Session 5: Facilitators meeting

- Post-mortem od day#01 by ECC members, repertoires and facilitators

Action points:

- There is need to adjust the meeting agenda or program prior to the meeting so as to avoid confusion during the meeting
- The secretariat should prepare a checklist for the meetings where politicians are to be engaged in opening ceremonies. This should also cover the country specific protocol arrangements e.g. presence of the press. This will help us to look organized and diplomatic
- Tools required for meeting sessions “with hands on” training should be planned for prior to the meetings. This applies for introduction of tools such roadmap tracking tool
- Need to update the constituents about the progress made and the dates and venues for the next EARN meeting

Day#2:

Session 1: Day one recap

- Need to design a rating system for the EARN 2012 performance/outputs
- Suggestion to add summary of the country mission reports to the EARN annual report
- Discussions on the usefulness/value of joint missions to countries
- Joint mission to support country roadmaps implementation/ partnership
- Agreement to adopt and harmonize the tool put together by Talisuna for use in all EARN missions
- NMCPs should take leadership in the missions and should align their schedules with the EARN mission timetable
- Malaria financing plans: New GF funding model based on the revised national strategic plans
- Malaria financing plans should be guided by the 3 year programmatic gap analysis, 3 year operational plans and the resource mobilization strategy
- Countries should let RBM know when they intend to develop their NSPs so that they are given timely support
- NSPs should be reviewed to reflect the changing context.

Action and decision points

- EARN to request the RBM Executive director attends the EAC scientific meeting in Kigali, Rwanda (March 2013) to try to raise issues on cross border collaboration
- Adopt, harmonize and operationalize framework guidelines for EARN country missions
- Talisuna will share draft guidelines by 15th February 2013
- ECC to develop checklist and consolidate the 2013 mission schedule for countries
- Managers to submit the last roadmap update for 2012 by 15th Jan 2013 (using the old tool)
- Secretariat to produce the first draft of the EARN partnership 2013 workplan by 15th Jan 2013
• EARN to work with regional bodies to develop a regional framework enabling regional cross border malaria collaboration by the end of the first quarter of 2013
• Next ECC and managers meeting will be held in the second week of March 2013 in Burundi
• The EARN annual review and planning meeting will be held in September 2013 in Khartoum, Sudan

Session 2: Summary: Approved 2013 EARN Workplan and Budget

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<th>GMAP Area</th>
<th>Output number</th>
<th>Output</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Country roadmaps and bottlenecks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disease control</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Adoption and scale-up of new appropriate prevention tools and maximize access to existing prevention tools in a manner consistent with resistance strategies (GPARC and GPIRM).</td>
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<td>Disease control</td>
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<td>Country plans (strategic, operational and workplans) aligned with the Targets and Objectives of GMAP.</td>
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<td>Governance and management</td>
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<td>Effective governance of RBM Partnership implemented.</td>
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<td>Executive direction and efficient financial and administrative management implemented.</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Executive direction and efficient financial and administrative management implemented</td>
<td>61,487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$949,024</td>
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</table>

Session 3: Cross border malaria control: implementation guidance & country experiences

• Dr Paluku Presented the WHO guidelines for Planning, Delivery & Reporting Cross-Border Malaria Control (CBM) that provides definitions, purpose and rational as well as the key strategies and necessary steps to implement CBM
• The WHO guidelines include also a Monitoring framework of possible indicators to be considered as part of cross-border initiatives during pre-elimination and elimination programmes
• Dr Paluku concluded his presentation by highlighting the importance of political commitment as essential in setting up cross border malaria initiatives

Cross-border initiatives:
• Promote regional reduction in the burden of disease
• Encourage sharing of technical expertise and facilitates sharing of resources – financial, logistics, commodities transport etc.
• Inhibits easy movement of parasite and vectors across international boundaries
• Assists in harmonisation of policies and synchronisation of intervention implementation: (IRS, LLINS, Drugs Treatment, IPT, Etc.)
• Enables addressing issue of migrant population
- Furthers sentinel site surveillance in the region
- Accelerates epidemic preparedness and rapid response
- Facilitates improved case detection
- Expedites rapid response to insecticide resistance and drug resistance
- Promotes setting up of a uniform malaria surveillance and information system in the region
- Aid in defining and standardising data terminology and data collection tools between countries
- Dr Adel Aljasari presented the CBM between Saudi Arabia and Yemen as an example of a well-managed cross border malaria control initiative that resulted in decrease of malaria in both sides of the border between these two countries

Session 4: Roadmap update from Countries Discussions
- Countries presented and shared their updated roadmaps. The presentation were followed up by discussions

Action and decision points
- Countries to upload their road maps before end of December using the old tool.
- From January 2013 on the countries should migrate into use the new tool provided during the meeting in Entebbe.

Session 5: Recommendations and Next steps
- EARN secretariat to produce table detailing the rating of the 2012 level of performance with respect to countries
- Ensure that the RBM Executive director attends the EAC scientific meeting in Kigali, Rwanda (March 2013) to try to raise issues on cross border collaboration
- Secretariat to produce the first draft of the EARN partnership 2013 work plan by 15th Jan 2013
- EARN to work with regional bodies to develop a regional framework enabling regional cross border malaria collaboration by the end of the first quarter of 2013

ECC Meeting
- Next ECC and mangers meeting will be held in the second week of March 2013 in Burundi
- The EARN annual review and planning meeting will be held in September 2013 in Khartoum, Sudan

Session 6: Closing
Dr. Peter Okui and Mr. Chiguzo congratulated the meeting participants, declaring how good and highly productive it had been. They individually expressed their gratitude and appreciation to the meeting organizers and all participants for their enthusiastic participation which had thus led to the meeting’s great success.

Uganda was thanked for hosting the meeting, and making delegates feel at home. The RBM
secretariat was congratulated for the great organization and execution of all activities and for an excellent meeting. Countries were reminded to continue in the same Great Spirit to achieve the goals of their roadmaps whilst strengthening partnerships to continue to impact on the fight against malaria. They were also reminded to work on their GAP analyses. The meeting was then officially closed.
## Appendix#1: List of Participants:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization / Institution</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</tr>
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</table>
### Agenda

**Day 1: 16 December 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speakers/Facilitators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00 – 08:30</td>
<td>Arrival and registration</td>
<td>Dr. J. Da Silva</td>
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</table>

**Day 2: 17 December 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speakers/Facilitators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00 – 08:30</td>
<td>Official Opening and Group Photo</td>
<td>MoH Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:45 – 09:00</td>
<td>Objectives of the meeting and minutes of the Arusha ECC meeting</td>
<td>Dr. J. Da Silva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:00 – 09:30</td>
<td>Presentation of the 2012 EARN Performance report and discussion</td>
<td>Mr. Chiguzo/Dr. J. Da Silva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:30 – 10:00</td>
<td>Operationalization of 2012 workplan: Lessons learnt</td>
<td>Mr. Chiguzo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>New roadmap tracking tool: Presentation and Discussion</td>
<td>Dr. Betty Udom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:00</td>
<td>Tea/coffee break</td>
<td>L. Mabonga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 – 12:00</td>
<td>In-Country partnership support mechanisms missions: Discussion</td>
<td>Dr. B. Bwambok</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 13:00</td>
<td>HWG support for 2013 and Situation Room Update</td>
<td>Mr. Richard Carr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00 – 14:00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 – 15:00</td>
<td>Country roadmap implementation updates: Discussion</td>
<td>Dr. B. Udom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00 – 16:00</td>
<td>GFATM Support: Grant signing, Implementation support update</td>
<td>Mr. R. Carr</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00 – 16:30</td>
<td>Tea/coffee break</td>
<td>L. Mabonga</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 - 17:30</td>
<td>Joint mission to support country roadmaps implementation: Review</td>
<td>Mr. Chiguzo</td>
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<tr>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>Facilitators meeting end of the day</td>
<td>Mr. Chiguzo</td>
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**Day 3: 18 December, 2012**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speakers/Facilitators</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30 – 08:40</td>
<td>Day 1 Recap</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:40 – 09:10</td>
<td>Cross border malaria control: implementation guidance &amp; discussions</td>
<td>Dr. Paluku</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:10 – 09:30</td>
<td>Cross border malaria control: Countries experiences</td>
<td>Dr. A. Aljasari</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30 – 09:45</td>
<td>Roadmap update from Countries</td>
<td>Burundi</td>
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<td>09:45 – 10:00</td>
<td>Roadmap update from Countries</td>
<td>Comoros</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:15</td>
<td>Roadmap update from Countries</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
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<td>10:15 – 10:30</td>
<td>Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:00</td>
<td>Tea/coffee break</td>
<td>L. Mabonga</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:15</td>
<td>Roadmap update from Countries</td>
<td>Eritrea</td>
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<td>11:15 – 11:30</td>
<td>Roadmap update from Countries</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
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<td>11:30 – 11:45</td>
<td>Roadmap update from Countries</td>
<td>Sudan</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 – 12:00</td>
<td>Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 – 12:15</td>
<td>Roadmap update from Countries</td>
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<td>12:15 – 12:30</td>
<td>Roadmap update from Countries</td>
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<td>Roadmap update from Countries</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45 – 13:00</td>
<td>Roadmap update from Countries</td>
<td>Yemen</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 – 13:15</td>
<td>Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:15 – 14:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>L. Mabonga</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 – 15:30</td>
<td>ECC Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:15 – 14:00</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
<td>L. Mabonga</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00 – 16:30</td>
<td>Recommendations and Next steps</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 – 17:00</td>
<td>Closing</td>
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</table>
### Appendix#3: EARN ECC Meeting

#### Attendance
- Chair: Mr. Athuman Chiguzo, KENAAM, Southern NGOs
- Endemic countries: Sudan and Tanzania
- Northern NGO: Malaria Consortium
- Southern NGO: KENAAM
- Multilateral Development Partners: UNICEF and WHO;
- OECD Donor Countries: PMI-United States of America
- Private Sector: Vestergaard-Frandsen SA
- Research and Academia: WWARN
- RBM Secretariat Geneva
- EARN Secretariat
- Absences with regrets: Comoros, Rwanda and Kenya and SANOFI

#### Agenda
1. Opening remark and welcome of the new ECC members
2. Overview of the 2012 EARN Work plan & report to the Board
3. Briefing of the constituencies
4. EARN 2013 PWP approved by the RBM Board appreciation and discussions
5. AOB

### Min#1: welcoming remarks by the co-chairs
The chair started by asking the members present on whether they constituted a quorum, out of the 11 members who 10 were present and the quorum was met as per the constitution. The chair asked the members to do self-introduction.

The co-chair invited Dr. Banda to welcome both the old and new members of the ECC. He further welcomed new members for accepting to be member. The chair further thanked the secretariat for successfully organizing the 12th General assembly.

#### Previous minutes
- Dr. Agonafer was present (not absent)
- Paluku should be IST (not AFRO)
- Deliberations - Minute 3 last bullet point – PMI/DFID to join new constituency within ECC. Bilateral constituency exists.
- Action # 1: Country PMI participation in each EARN meeting
- Action # 2: At the next AGM invite bi-laterals to identify one representative for bilateral constituency
- Among the Bilaterals PMI was present in the meeting in Entebbe and we expect DFID to join
- Adoption: vote by Talisuna and Seconded by Khalid
Min#2: Overview of the 2012 EARN Work plan & report to the Board

- Briefing to the ECC on the RBM Board Meeting-Dakar decision
- New chair on RBM Board: Prof. Graham
- Board agreed that raising funds for countries, but do not explain how
- Transition to AMFm back to country gran and up to country tp decide on proportion of grant going through the private sector
- Next board meeting in Geneva – ministerial meeting
- Circulate RBM board decision points
- Brief on the RBM Board Meeting continued:
  - SRNs frequently under fire. Need to show results.
  - ACTION # 3:
    - EARN tracking system and dissemination of EARN outputs and results
    - Scorecard/dashboard of SRN results
    - Printed Brochure development

Min#4: EARN 2013 PWP approved by the RBM Board appreciation and discussions

- RBM EARN budget presented, discussed and endorsed
- Planning for EARN quarterly meetings: Three ECC meeting are enough per year
- ACTION # 4 – Activity action plan draft to be circulated before end of January
- ACTION # 5: Next ECC + Program Managers meeting in Burundi – in 2nd week March 2013
- ACTION # 6: send invites to PMI/Burundi and DFID
- ACTION # 6: ECC only meeting in Nairobi in July – could be virtual
- ACTION # 7: AGM EARN meeting in Khartoum, September 2012

Min#5: AOB

None

Dr. Corine Karema                              Mr. Athuman Chiguzo

EARN Co-Chair                                EARN Co-Chair