Report on the Central Level Advocacy Meeting on Malaria Control in Cameroon  
Theme: “Malaria Funding in Cameroon”

Hotel Franco Yaoundé, December 13, 2012.

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The meeting started at 10:30am immediately after the arrival of the Minister of Public Health Mr. Andre MAMA FOUDA and was attended by CARN coordinator, advocates from the public sector, multi and bilateral partners, the private sector and from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). After an opening address from Prof. LEKE, Minister Andre MAMA FOUDA declared the meeting open after recapitulating the need to intensify and diversify strategies for mobilizing resources for the fight against malaria in Cameroon.

Dr. Esther TALLAH presented the Follow-up of Recommendations from the last central level advocacy meeting which aimed at placing malaria control in Cameroon in context with the Global Malaria Action Plan, the first blue print by RBM Partnership to spell out global, key milestones, in malaria control in endemic countries all over the world. It is an excellent advocacy tool that has helped to galvanize resource mobilization for the fight against malaria in the world. The situation of malaria indicators in Cameroon made participants to become aware of the gap in Cameroon and recognize the need to engage at all levels to bridge the gap.

Then she followed with some key achievements of the advocacy for malaria control in Cameroon in recent years such as the engagement of parliamentarians, mayors, church leaders, some malaria ambassadors, civil society organizations, media owners and broadcasters, also the publication of About Malaria, Guide Pratique de Lutte Contre le Paludisme, Malaria Advocacy Kit, Training modules for advocacy and good governance etc.

Presenting on the theme of the meeting; “Malaria funding in Cameroon”, Dr. FONDOJ Etienne said, for the malaria related Millennium Development Goals to be reached by 2015, a financial package of 215 030 303 009 CFA F had to be mobilized for the current national malaria control strategy (2011 – 2015). The most part of
this budget slated for 2014, year during which the long lasting insecticidal mosquito nets distributed in 2011 will expire and thus will have to be replaced. The Government of Cameroon and partners are providing 38% of this budget and the remaining 62% is still to be raised.

Discussion centered around proposing strategies to adopt in order to effectively mobilize the resources needed for the current national malaria control strategy. Resource mobilization would include the local, national and international levels. Funding opportunities identified at the national level include the private sector (MTN, Brasseries du Cameroun, GICAM, TELCAR Cocoa, ORANGE, CAMTEL, CDC etc.) Innovative financing for health and malaria in particular was proposed for the private sector. Funding opportunities at the international level include the Global Funding, PMI, the World Bank, UN WOMEN, EU, AU, CEMAC, Islamic Development Bank, KOIKA, JICA, etc.

Concluding the talks, a follow-up meeting of the central advocacy team (CAT), was called up for Thursday December 20 2012, at the National Malaria Control Program office to deliberate on the proposals and come up with a strategic plan for resource mobilization to fill the funding gap of the 2011 – 2015 NMCP Strategy for the fight against malaria in Cameroon.