

## UNITAID's funded actions against Malaria



Approximately, 40% of the world's population, mostly those living in the poorest countries, are at risk of Malaria. According to estimations, this disease affects over 500 million people each year, making it an enormous public health problem. While Malaria is both preventable and curable, more than one million people, mostly pregnant women and young children, die of Malaria every year.

The international drug purchase facility UNITAID has committed US\$ 100 million to provide more than 60 million artemisinin combination therapies (ACTs) over the period 2007-2011, and it will continue to work with its partners to increase the availability and affordability of quality anti-malarial medicines.

### Facts and figures

- In partnership with UNICEF and the World Health Organization, UNITAID supported in 2007 the purchase and distribution of more than 1.4 million ACT treatments in Burundi and Liberia where there were risks of disruption in treatments.
- In late December 2007, a Memorandum of Understanding has been finalized with UNICEF and the Global Fund to scale up the delivery of ACTs in 8 countries: Cambodia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Sudan and Zambia. The total available funding for this action amounts to US\$ 78.9 million, and it will support the identified grants for the remaining life time of the Global Fund grants up to 2011.
- UNITAID, by supporting Global Fund Round grants, has also committed to provide US\$ 21.5 million for ACTs for 13 countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Eritrea, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia and Somalia.

### Background information on UNITAID

UNITAID's mission is to contribute to the scaling up of access to treatment for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis for the people in low- and middle-income countries by leveraging price reductions of quality drugs and diagnostics, and to accelerate the pace at which they are made available.

UNITAID is based on a stable, predictable innovative form of funding, such as a solidarity contribution on air tickets, together with multi-year budget commitment. For 2006-2007, UNITAID's budget was US\$368.8 million. As stipulated in its Constitution, nearly 85 per cent of UNITAID's fund were allocated to low-income countries.

UNITAID relies on partners to implement its programmes. Strong partnerships have already been established with recognized organizations with a proven track record in the relevant operational areas (e.g. procurement, price negotiation, shipment and handling, monitoring). Current partners include: WHO, the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, UNICEF, UNAIDS, Stop TB Partnership, the Clinton Foundation HIV/AIDS Initiative, Roll Back Malaria Partnership, etc.



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UNITAID is hosted by the World Health Organization

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