



The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases

Meeting Report

APPG on Malaria and NTDs World Malaria Day Event & Panel at UK- East African Healthcare Investment Summit

Summary of World Malaria Day Event:

The APPG on Malaria and NTDs (APPMG) was offered a panel slot at the UK-East Africa Healthcare Investment Summit and took advantage of this opportunity to meet with similar Parliamentary bodies in endemic countries and discuss how these groups can support their respective governments and each other to reach our ultimate goal of ending this terrible disease. The APPMG also took the opportunity to bring these speakers to the UK Parliament in order to allow for the engagement of more Parliamentary members of the APPMG and to mark World Malaria Day with a meaningful discussion.

The World Malaria Day event held by the APPMG on **25th April 2019** began with a one-hour panel discussion in the IPU room and was followed by a reception in the Jubilee room with a speech from Rt. Hon. Harriett Baldwin, the Minister of State of International Development and live music from the Pumphandle Blues Band.

The panel was comprised of representatives from Parliamentary malaria advocacy bodies in the UK, Uganda and Tanzania as well as a Ministry of Health official from Uganda. Tanzania had hoped to also have their Deputy Minister of Health speaking on the panel, however, due to visa delays, he was unable to attend.



Panel (L-R): Dr. Diana Atwiine- Permanent Secretary of Health Uganda, Jeremy Lefroy MP- Chair of the APPMG, Hon. Moses Balyeku MP- Chair of the Uganda Parliamentary Forum against Malaria, Catherine West MP- Vice-Chair of the APPMG, Dr. Hermengild Mayunga- Programme Director of the Tanzanian Parliamentarians against Malaria and NTDs.



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Jeremy Lefroy MP, the Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Malaria and NTDs welcomed a full room of guests and visiting officials to the World Malaria Day event. Catherine West MP followed by introducing the work of the APPG and stressed that as important as the science, data and government action are, personal stories and spreading the word are also key in reaching more people to keep the pressure on and commitment to fighting malaria.

Permanent Secretary of Health Dr. Diana Atwiine spoke of malaria in Uganda and the Ministry of Health's work to tackle it. Dr. Atwiine feels that UK support through DFID has been critical at boosting the Uganda Ministry of Health's efforts in eradicating malaria and celebrated the fact that this meeting showed the technical experts joining forces with political leaders as both must work together in order to combat this disease.

Hon. Moses Balyeku shared the story of the establishment of the Uganda Parliamentary Forum against Malaria which followed commitments made by President Museveni at the 2018 Malaria Summit/ CHOGM meeting whereby politicians such as himself agreed to become advocacy champions to ensure that the government allocates funds to malaria. Hon. Balyeku stressed that political will is key in eradicating malaria in addition to the need to combine infrastructure and healthy population actions and ensuring that messaging about the disease is consistent.

Dr. Hermengild Mayunga introduced the work of TAPAMA NTD on behalf of Hon. Raphael Chegeni MP who was unable to attend due to visa delays. Dr. Mayunga shares how important it is to have Parliamentarians advocating to keep the Ministry of Health focused on the fight against malaria and NTDs. Dr. Mayunga has shared that there are plans for an East African parliamentary network meeting next year with TAPAMA NTDs, UPFM and Kenyan representatives to discuss building a regional political force to eradicate malaria.

Mr. James Kiiru (Counsellor I of the High Commissioner of Kenya to UK) commented from the audience on the Kenyan government's commitment to fighting malaria and their support to see representatives from Parliamentary groups in East Africa as well as Ministry of Health officials together discussing this issue.

Comments were also made by the panel about the need for E-Health advances to help us reach eradication goals and celebrated achievements in technology, specifically a mobile diagnostic test developed by a Ugandan scientist.





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Reception:

At the reception, guests enjoyed refreshments alongside the music of the Pumphandle Blues band, whose members are made up of leading malaria researchers from Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Guests were also treated to a cameo sung by Kevin Brennan MP, a member of the MP band called MP4.

Many in the audience have personal experience with malaria and we heard from Jeremy Lefroy MP, Stephen Kerr MP and Matthew Murray (from the charity One by One). Stephen Kerr MP spoke powerfully about his memorable trip to Kenya last summer with Malaria No More UK, Catherine West MP, Andrea Jenkyns MP and Stephen Lloyd MP and Jeremy shared his experiences of contracting malaria during his years in Tanzania as well as his thanks to the health workers in the region who are essential to helping those most vulnerable.

Minister of State for International Development Harriett Baldwin spoke about the Department for International Development's (DFID) commitment to fighting malaria. Reiterating the commitments made at the Malaria Summit last year and sharing that by matching private donations, DFID's 100 million pounds has become 209 million pounds for malaria. Minister Baldwin commented that DFID is focusing on treatment, prevention and research, specifically research into drug resistance. DFID works to incorporate malaria programmes in line with health systems strengthening to have further reaching benefits. DFID will remain a leader and a globally important donor when it comes time for the Global Fund Replenishment in October 2019.



(L-R) Catherine West MP- Vice-Chair of the APPMG, Rt. Hon. Harriett Baldwin- Minister of State for International Development, Stephen Kerr MP, and Jeremy Lefroy MP- Chair of the APPMG



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Above: Catherine West MP- Vice-Chair of the APPMG introduces Rt.Hon. Harriett Baldwin and Stephen Kerr MP

Below Left: Harriett Baldwin speaks about DFID's commitment to fighting malaria

Below Right: Matthew Murray of One by One shares his experience of contracting a deadly form of malaria and being given only hours to live





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Right: Kevin Brennan MP singing with the Pumphandle Blues Band

Below: Stephen Kerr MP speaking about his experience visiting malaria programmes in Kenya in July 2018





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Above (R-L): Hon. Moses Balyeku- Chairman of UPFM, H.E. Dr. Julius Moto- High Commissioner of Uganda to UK, Rt. Hon. Harriett Baldwin- Minister of State for International Development, Dr. Diana Atwiine- Permanent Secretary of Health Uganda, Moses Mulimira- Uganda-UK Health Alliance

Below: The Pumphandle Blues Band comprised of researchers from LSTM and LSHTM





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Summary of Panel Discussion at the East African Healthcare Investment Summit:

The APPMG helped to organise a panel at the East African Healthcare Investment Summit on Saturday 27 April 2019 at the British Medical Journal Offices. The panel discussion focused on malaria and how Parliamentary bodies such as the APPMG can support their respective governments in the fight against malaria.

The panel and discussion followed the same set up and representation as the World Malaria Day panel, however there was also representation from the High Commission of Kenya speaking on behalf of the Kenyan Ministry of Health and Joy Phumaphi representing the African Leaders Malaria Alliance. Ms. Phumaphi offered Parliamentarians and Ministry of Health officials the ALMA scorecard which tracks country progress against malaria elimination as an advocacy tool. Mr. Allan Mburu shared comments from the Kenyan Ministry of Health regarding their progress against malaria.

The discussion also touched on the theme of universal health coverage and how working towards malaria elimination contributes to this goal, including reaching the most marginalised. Representatives also discussed how they could continue these conversations next year when TAPAMA NTDs and UPFM organise a meeting for Parliamentary advocacy groups in the East African regions to discuss how they could combine forces to demonstrate cross-border political will in the fight against malaria.



Panel L-R: Dr. Joy Phumaphi- ALMA, Dr. Hermengild Mayunga- TAPAMA NTDs, Dr. Diana Atwiine- Ministry of Health Uganda, Hon. Moses Balyeku MP- UPFM, Mr. Allan Mburu- Kenya High Commission, (podium) Jeremy Lefroy MP- APPMG



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Annex

Speakers

Panel World Malaria Day Event :

- Jeremy Lefroy MP, *Chair of the APPG on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases*
- Catherine West MP, *Vice-Chair of the APPG on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases*
- H.E. Dr. Diana Atwiine, *Permanent Secretary of Health of Uganda*
- Dr. Hermengild Mayunga, *Programme Director TAPAMA NTD*
- Hon. Moses Balyeku, *Ugandan MP and Chairman of the UPFM*

Reception:

- Harriet Baldwin, *the Minister of State for International Development*
- Matthew Murray, *Global Director of One by One, malaria survivor*

Panel East African Healthcare Summit:

- Jeremy Lefroy MP, *Chair of the APPG on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases*
- H.E. Dr. Diana Atwiine, *Permanent Secretary of Health of Uganda*
- Mr. Allan Mburu, *Minister Counsellor II at the High Commissioner of Kenya to the UK*
- Dr. Hermengild Mayunga, *Programme Director TAPAMA NTD*
- Hon. Moses Balyeku, *Ugandan MP and Chairman of the UPFM*
- Joy Phumaphi, *Executive Secretary of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance*



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Descriptions of the organisations

[The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases](#)

(APPMG) exists to provide a forum for Parliamentarians to be updated on; discuss the impact of; and progress in the fields of malaria and neglected tropical diseases. Meetings are held which give the opportunity for Parliamentarians to hear from experts in the fields of malaria control and neglected tropical diseases to understand how these diseases are affecting billions of people around the globe. The Group monitors developments and progress in control methods, looks at new research into drugs, diagnostic methods, vaccines and insecticides, hears about different countries control programmes, and new ideas and developments are explored.

The Group continues to invite the highest level of speakers to address the Group. Its primary audience is Parliamentarians but all those who are engaged in the work of controlling malaria and/or neglected tropical diseases and those interested in international development are welcome to participate in the meetings.

The APPMG meets regularly during the Parliamentary year and publishes an Annual Report every year based on the presentations that have been made to the Group.

[Tanzania Parliamentarians Against Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases \(TAPAMA & NTD\)](#) is the coalition of All Parties Member of Parliaments of Tanzania. TAPAMA & NTD was Founded in the Year 2008 Engaging all members of Parliament of Tanzania who has dedicated to Roll Back Malaria (RBM) in Tanzania and aim to enhance the Political Will to end Malaria in Tanzania.

The initiatives come as results and fact that the World health community recognizes malaria as a Global emergency that knows no borders and the need to Emphasize the role of the Political Leaders and Decision Makers in supporting the - Roll Back Malaria (RBM) campaign.

TAPAMA & NTD consist of 67 Members from All Parties, TAPAMA is support by the Team of Secretariat and Experts on Malaria and NTD. The TAPAMA Secretariat Consist of 8 Members of Staffs

Vision: Tanzania Without Malaria and become giant resource for Policymakers on Malaria Intervention Strategies in Africa. Mission: To scale up Malaria Prevention and Treatment Intervention in order to reduce the mortality and morbidity rate caused by Malaria in Tanzania and relief the sufferings of disease among the most Vulnerable groups namely pregnant women and Children under five years old.

[Uganda Parliamentary Forum against Malaria \(UPFM\)](#) formed as a result of a resolution of parliament, and launched by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda on 5th April 2018, is a platform of Members of Parliament from different political shades who collectively generate visibility and provide leadership to the control and eventual elimination of malaria from Uganda. The forum serves as advocates for political, legislative and community action for a malaria free Uganda. The UPFM aims to respond effectively to the scourge of Malaria through advocacy and providing best examples for raising the profile of malaria at both national and international arena. UPFM uses its members to intensify the legislative, budgetary and oversight role to cultivate visibility of malaria issues at policy level. Each Member of Parliament has taken up the mantle of ensuring “a malaria free constituency is my responsibility”.