

Thanks to Members of US Congress for Fighting Malaria

November 23, 2006

Malaria is a preventable and curable disease, yet every year over 500 million people contract the disease and over a million die. Thankfully, progress is being made. In Africa, where the burden is greatest, the President's Malaria Initiative will commit \$1.2 billion through 2010 for a range of interventions. New leadership and policies from the World Health Organization will surely translate into more lives saved. Although many challenges remain, much progress has been made with surprising speed, and this would not have been possible without the commitment, drive and enthusiasm of some key Senators and Congressmen in the United States.

This Thanksgiving, Africa Fighting Malaria would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank these individuals and their staff for their contribution to the global fight against malaria, and to encourage every member of Congress—and concerned citizens and opinion leaders in the media and civil society—to follow their excellent example.

Thank You

For leadership in holding US officials accountable to effectively spending taxpayer money on malaria control

Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK)
Senator Sam Brownback (R-KS)

For ensuring that FY06 malaria programs were fully funded

Representative Jim Kolbe (R-AZ)
Representative Nita Lowey (D-NY)
Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT)

For supporting the growing community of US malaria control citizen advocates

Representative Chris Smith (R-NJ)
Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA)

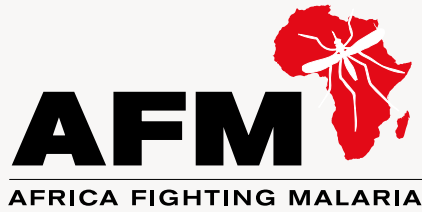
Honorable Mention

For challenging conventional wisdom on the use of DDT for malaria control

Senator James Inhofe (R-OK)
Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY)

For supporting the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria

Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL)
Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA)
Senator Mike DeWine (R-OH)



Who We Are Thanking and Why

Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK) for presiding as Chairman over Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information and International Security Hearings on May 12, 2005, "Examining USAID's Anti-Malaria Policies", and on January 19, 2006, "Bilateral Malaria Assistance: Progress and Prognosis". **Senator Sam Brownback (R-KS)** for presiding as Chairman over a Senate Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs Hearing on October 6, 2004, "Neglected Diseases in East Asia: Are Public Health Programs Working?" **Representative Jim Kolbe (R-AZ)**, **Representative Nita Lowey (D-NY)** and **Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)** for their vigilance in ensuring that FY2006 anti-malaria appropriations provided support for the most effective approaches, including indoor residual spraying and Artemisinin-based combinational therapies; and **Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT)** for his role in ensuring that US malaria programs were fully funded in 2006. **Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA)** for sponsoring a Congressional Briefing on September 18, 2006, "Fighting Malaria Globally". **Representative Chris Smith (R-NJ)** for presiding as Vice Chairman at a Senate Subcommittee on Africa Hearing on September 14, 2004, "Malaria and Tuberculosis in Africa", and providing logistical support for the aforementioned Congressional briefing hosted by Rep. Barbara Lee. **Senator James Inhofe (R-OK)** for presiding as Chairman over a Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Full Committee Hearing on September 28, 2005, "The Role of Science in Environmental Policy-Making". **Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY)** for her opening remarks at a Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Full Committee Hearing on September 28, 2005, "The Role of Science in Environmental Policy-Making". Sen. Clinton stated, "I want to thank [AFM Board Member] Dr. Roberts for making it clear that there are questions that need to be raised about DDT. I think that is an essential issue that we need to look at. We can't necessarily turn the clock back, but I think the threat of malaria is real." **Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL)** and **Senator Rick Santorum (R-PA)** for introducing an amendment to increase the United States' contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria to \$566 million in fiscal year 2007, which passed on March 16, 2006. **Senator Mike DeWine (R-OH)** for introducing an amendment to increase funding for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria by \$100 million. The measure was adopted unanimously on June 30, 2006.

Who Will Be Next?

Africa Fighting Malaria encourages the Appropriations Conferees and the full Congress to approve the proposed \$223 million FY07 earmark for malaria control, including the President's Malaria Initiative, and the proposed \$600 million FY07 earmark for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

We are looking forward to fresh thinking, Congressional leadership and consistent oversight on malaria programs in the new Congress.