



VIRTUAL LAUNCH: MALARIA CONVERSATION GUIDE FOR YOUTH IN AFRICA

“Strengthening Youth Leadership and Engagement in Policy Dialogue for Malaria Elimination in Africa”

Friday, 12 August 2022 (International Youth Day) | 11:00am to 13.00pm (GMT+3)

via Zoom (Register now: www.aidswatchafrica.net/our-events to receive the link to join the event)

1. INTRODUCTION

Globally, there has been significant progress in the battle against malaria over the last two decades. A sharp increase in rapid diagnostic testing, access to treatment and innovative research collaborations, among other measures, has helped: avert 7.6 million deaths since 2000; and reduce malaria transmission in many endemic countries. In Africa, the latest World Malaria Report, released in November 2020, shows a reduction of 2000 malaria-related deaths between 2018 and 2019. However, the impact of the current COVID-19 pandemic puts the world at risk of losing the tremendous progress that has been achieved due to interruptions in the implementation of available solutions and delays in access to innovations.

Before the pandemic, malaria was already responsible for as many as half of all missed school days in affected areas. By continuing to invest in ending malaria, we will not only save lives that would otherwise be lost to this deadly disease; but we will also build stronger health systems that will protect communities from COVID-19 and future health crises and ultimately free some financial resources that could be reinvested in education, infrastructure and economy. In addition, investing in empowering the youth to participate in the malaria response is critical in Africa. Seventy-five per cent of the continent's population is made up of young people between 15 and 24. The Africa Health Strategy and the Catalytic Framework to End AIDS, TB and Eliminate Malaria in Africa by 2030 call for investment in youth and adolescents as a smart, pragmatic economic intervention

with a high return on investment. Specifically, they identify the need to empower youth with skills and knowledge to attain good health and prosperity in the context of the African Union's (AU) [Agenda 2063](#) and Agenda 2030.

A recent survey by the Roll Back Malaria (RBM) Partnership found that 9 in 10 African youths want to take personal action to fight against malaria, with almost two-thirds believing the disease can be eliminated in their lifetimes. This interest should be leveraged and strengthened. Various ways of empowering youth to lead and engage in the fight against malaria in Africa exist. A crucial entry point of action is to equip them to have constructive, productive, and transformative conversations to strengthen malaria response and influence policy formulation and implementation. [AIDS Watch Africa](#) (AWA), whose Secretariat is housed at the AU Commission, continues to play an influential advocacy role in encouraging young people in the AU Member States to actively shape the world they want to live in and lead change in response to malaria, among other diseases.

In this context, the AU Commission, in collaboration with the African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA), RBM Partnership to End Malaria, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria No More, embarked on developing a malaria conversation guide for youth in Africa to empower the young generation for meaningful inclusion in malaria policy dialogue and advocacy. Under the leadership of the AWA Secretariat, the guide will be availed in various visual forms to fit the diversity of media consumption by youth in Africa and ensure that no malaria youth champion is left behind.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the malaria conversation guide is to strengthen youth leadership and engagement and engagement in policy dialogue for malaria elimination in Africa.

3. CURRENT OUTLINE OF THE CONVERSATION GUIDE

i. FOREWORD

H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta - President of the Republic of Kenya and Chair of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA)

1.1 Special Message

H.E. Macky Sall – President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairperson of AIDS Watch Africa

1.2 Special Message

H.E. Minata Samate Cessouma, Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development, African Union Commission

1.3 Special Message

Ms. Chido Cleo Mpemba – African Union Youth Envoy

ii. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Malaria and Youth in Africa

2.2 How To Use This Conversation Guide

iii. GETTING STARTED

3.1 What is a policy dialogue?

3.2 The rationale for constructive, transformative youth-led policy dialogues in strengthening the impact of the Zero Malaria Campaign in Africa

3.3 Examples of youth-friendly malaria advocacy events/activities

iv. PLANNING A YOUTH-LED POLICY DIALOGUE ON MALARIA

4.1 Best practices before a policy dialogue

v. SCENARIO SETTING

5.1 Voices of youth

vi. CALL TO ACTION

- Dr. Margaret Agama-Anyetei – Former Head of Health Systems, Diseases and Nutrition; Former Ag. Director of Health and Humanitarian Affairs, African Union Commission
- Dr. Mohammed Abdulaziz - Head, Division of Disease Control and Prevention, Africa CDC
- Dr. Barbara Glover - Programme Officer: Integrated Vector Management (IVM) and The African Union Panel on Emerging Technologies (APET), African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)
- Ms. Shushu Tekle-Haimanot - Senior Advisor, Political Advocacy and Partnerships, Resource Mobilisation, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- Ms. Joy Phumaphi - Executive Secretary, African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA)
- Dr. Corine Karema - Interim CEO RBM Partnership to End Malaria
- Eliud Kipchoge – Kenyan marathon world record holder and malaria champion
- Siya Kolisi - South African Rugby Captain and malaria champion
- Saray Khumalo - Award-winning Mountaineer, Transformational Coach and malaria champion

vii. CONVERSATION STARTERS

4. MEETING FORMAT

The launch event will be held virtually via Zoom (*Register now: www.aidswatchafrica.net/our-events to receive the link to join the event*) on Friday, 12 August 2022, from 11:00 am to 13.00 pm (GMT+3).

Simultaneous English – French interpretation will be provided. The conversation guide will be projected during the launch and thereafter availed on the African Union (AU) and AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) websites: (www.au.int; www.aidswatchafrica.net) in English and French.

5. CONTACT PERSON

In case of any questions, kindly contact: Mrs Cisse Mariama Mohamed, Ag. Director of Health and Humanitarian Affairs at CISSEM@africa-union.org and copy Ms. Whitney Mwangi, Health Advocacy, Communications and Partnerships Officer, AIDS Watch Africa at WhitneyM@africa-union.org

6. DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK

TIME (GMT+3)	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE
11:00-11:15	<p>1. Opening remarks</p> <p>i. H.E Minata Samate Cessouma - Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development, AU Commission</p> <p>ii. Ms. Chido Mpemba - AU Youth Envoy</p>	AU Commission
11:15-11:30	<p>2. Background of the Zero Malaria Starts With Me (ZMSWM) Campaign</p>	Youth representatives from AU Commission and RBM Partnership to End Malaria
11:30 -12:30	<p>3. LAUNCH OF THE GUIDE</p>	
	<p>4. Launch countdown timer (1 minute) – AU Commission</p> <p>5. Relevance of the guide to youth in Africa</p> <p>i. How can the youth in Africa utilise the conversation guide to strengthen youth leadership and engagement</p>	Youth representatives from AU Commission, African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS,

	<p>in policy dialogues on malaria? – AU Commission (15 minutes)</p> <p>ii. Existing opportunities for the youth to utilise the conversation guide – Global Fund (15 minutes) and ALMA (15 minutes)</p> <p>iii. Showcase film from malaria youth army – ALMA (10 minutes)</p>	Tuberculosis and Malaria
12:30 -12:45	<p>6. Overview of the ZMSWM Business Leadership Initiative (ZMBLI) – 15 minutes</p> <p>i. Background of the ZMBLI Initiative</p> <p>ii. Existing opportunities for youth engagement</p>	Youth representatives from Speak Up Africa
12:30 – 12:45	<p>7. Call To Action: Draw The Line Against Malaria</p> <p>i. Campaign highlights (films and advocacy awards)</p> <p>ii. Existing opportunities for youth engagement</p>	Youth representatives from Malaria No More
12:45 -13:00	<p>8. Closing Remarks</p> <p>i. Dr. Rewan Youssif - Head of Youth Health and Well-being, AU Commission</p>	AU Commission