



Mission Report

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**REPORT FOR  
THE EARN RBM/UN SPECIAL ENVOY  
JOINT MISSION TO  
UGANDA AND KENYA**

[14<sup>th</sup> August 2009]

By;  
Peter Mbabazi Kwehangana and Ambassador John Simon

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## SECTION 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Mission Dates:** From 10<sup>th</sup> August to 13th August 2009      **COUNTRY:** Republic of Uganda and Kenya

Organised by: UN Special Envoy Office and EARN (Roll Back Malaria)

**Team Members:** Amb. John Simon (UN Special Envoy office); Peter Mbabazi (EARN Focal Point).

### ***Objectives of the mission:***

- To review the possibilities of Uganda and Kenya achieving the 2010 targets.

### ***Methodology:***

Meetings, Video conferences.

### **TASKS**

- ❑ Review the current status of Uganda and Kenya in light of the 2010 targets
- ❑ Identify bottle necks on Global Fund Grants
- ❑ Meet the in-country partnership and regional partners
- ❑ Suggest ways of resolving bottlenecks

### **FINDINGS**

Uganda has full potential to reach the 2010 but there are issues of net specifications and third party procurement agent to be resolved.

With support from EARN, Kenya had progressed well on the Abuja targets, there is country ownership in the processes and the DOMC were in charge of their processes and articulated the issues very well.

There is need for urgent funding to fill the 11 million net Gap by 2010 to maintain the net coverage.

### ***Way Forward***

#### **Uganda**

- Big issue is getting both the government of Uganda internally and the donors externally on the same page.
- Immediate issue is resolving procurement process (VPP seems best option), net specifications, targeting. Ideally, this will happen before the Special Envoy lands in Kampala.
- Open communication between and among government and donors is key. Maybe GF needs to have someone on the ground permanently empowered to make decisions

#### **Kenya**

- WHO to finalise the presentation on the what if nets do not arrive in 2010 and what if they arrive scenarios
- RBM Secretariat to follow up with the Global fund Secretariat on the release of funds for round 4 phase 2.
- The UN special envoy to convene a meeting of donors to sign off commitments for the provision of LLINs by 2010

- DOMC to further develop the plan for the mass net distribution in 2010,
- Address Global Fund Issues with regard to moving already approved funding [not sure I understand this point]
- Engage WB on using TOWAA funds for nets and engage finance ministry on pursuing Health Sector SWAP
- Engage current donors regarding frontloading existing commitments
- Put together proposal for Safaricom Foundation
- Engage Safaricom on use of its network for social messaging, data capture, and reporting
- Develop M-Pesa Campaign
- Engage Kenyan Private Sector through Mr. Patrick Obath
- Consider getting Kenya on CGI Agenda
- Reach out to non-traditional official donors

## SECTION 2 UGANDA

### *Meeting with Director of Health Services on 10<sup>TH</sup> August 2009*

Venue : MOH Head quarters

Attendants: Dr. Kenya Mugisha (Director Health services MOH). Amb. John Simon (UN special envoy Advisor), Peter Mbabazi Kwehangana (Regional Coordinator, EARN /RBM).

#### Issues Discussed

- Uganda would like to go for a Universal Coverage campaign, but Uganda is in a difficult position because if it changes anything in its Procurement and Supply Management (PSM) plan, it will need to go back to the Global Fund Board.
- Uganda officially communicated to the GF that they wanted to restrict the net procurement to 100 denier polyethylene nets – awaiting response (NOTE: The Director expressed significant confidence Uganda would get an affirmative response. We now know this did not happen)
- The Voluntary Pooled Procurement (VPP) is one option Uganda will consider if the Third Party Procurement (TPA) cannot be completed by mid-August due to the protest of the selected third party procurement agent, but no final decision has been made. Uganda is attracted by the capacity building element built into VPP, but the Director was looking for more details on this. Also could procure through a UN agency like UNICEF or WHO. Procurement Board decision on protest expected next week.

### *Meeting with USAID officials on 10<sup>th</sup> august 2009*

Venue :USAID Offices Kampala

Attendants: Dave Eckerson (USAID Mission Director), Shanda Steiner (USAID Health Officer), PMI Team. Amb. John Simon (UN special envoy Advisor),

#### Issues Discussed

- Problem with members of the Ministry not always being on the same page .
- The USAID mission supports position of PMI-Washington that focus of first seven million nets should be Under 5s
- PMI preparing to support campaign with significant resources – storage, training, etc.

## ***Video Conference of Mr. Ray Chambers & Hon. Stephen Malinga***

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2009

Venue: World Bank Offices Kampala, World Bank office Abuja and UN special Envoy offices New York

Attendants: Mr Ray Chambers (UN special envoy). Hon Stephen Malinga (Minister of health Uganda), Mr. Tim (UN special envoy Advisor) Mr. Allan Court (UN special envoy special Advisor), Mr Suprotik Basu (UN special envoy Advisor), Dr Myers Lugemwa (Deputy Programme manager Uganda). Amb. John Simon (UN special envoy Advisor), Peter Mbabazi Kwehangana (Regional Coordinator, EARN /RBM).

### Issues Discussed

- Minister unhappy with constant changes in plans (between procurement methods, campaign targets, net specifications), creates confusion.
- Have system to distribute nets – it has been tried out and no problems are anticipated.
- Now just waiting for the Global Fund – Uganda has done everything they have asked.
- Most important issue is to release funding ASAP
- Willing to consider net specifications that include polyester.
- Before or during Special Envoy's trip, would like to sort out remaining issues with moving forward – procurement mechanism, net specifications, etc.
- Minister concerned Uganda is caught in a vicious cycle of suspicion with the Global Fund that perpetuates bottlenecks.

### ***Major Ugandan Takeaways***

- Big issue is getting both the government of Uganda internally and the donors externally on the same page.
- Immediate issue is resolving procurement process (VPP seems best option), net specifications, targeting. Need to push for all this to happen before Ray lands in Kampala, and use Ray's trip as leverage to push for agreements on both Ugandan and Partner (i.e., Global Fund) side.
- Open communication between and among government and donors is key. Maybe GF needs to have someone on the ground permanently empowered to make decisions.

## SECTION 3 KENYA

### *Meeting with Director of Health and Sanitation Services on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2009*

Venue : MOH Head quarters

Attendants: Dr. Shafik (Director Public Health services MOH). Amb. John Simon (UN special envoy Advisor), Dr Ayub Manyo (Global Fund Focal Point DOMC), Peter Mbabazi Kwehangana (Regional Coordinator, EARN /RBM).

#### Issues Discussed:

- Kenya is going for Universal Coverage – has new strategy that mandates UC in 2010 and complete eradication of Malaria by 2017.
- Cannot count on getting 11 million nets in time from Global Fund even if Round 9 grant is approved.
- Should explore reaching out to existing donors (USAID/PMI, DfID) and new ones (Japanese, Danes, Swedes) to fund pieces of the net gap. Thinks some World Bank money in Total War Against AIDS (TOWAA) Program could help, but Finance Ministry not willing to take on new loans from WB.
- Government might be willing to provide 2-3 million nets if donors commit to cover 8-9 million, but approach must be made at the beginning of the budget process – preferably by the beginning of October, absolutely by the end of October.
- Government just committed about \$50,000 for Malaria – first time government has provided money from its own budget, as opposed to donor funds, to the effort. On the other hand, Government budget for health strained – recently finance ministry told health ministry it would not provide an expected 200 million KES for measles.

#### **Way forward**

- To convene other bilateral donors for commitment in writing within 3 months
- Have the Government commitment in writing for the next budget
- Convene a world bank meeting with Director

### *Meeting with Development Partners on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2009*

□ Venue: WHO Kenya Board Room

Attendants: WHO, USAID/PMI/CDC, DfID, Clinton Foundation, DOMC Kenya, Amb. John Simon (UN special envoy Advisor), Peter Mbabazi Kwehangana (Regional Coordinator, EARN /RBM).

### Issues discussed

- Kenya has made good progress on expanding Malaria interventions, especially with mass net distribution in 2006, and seen significant improvements on Malaria indicators as a result.
- Mortality, prevalence have dropped markedly in localities after interventions. Endemic areas greatly reduced – now just up against the Coast and along the lake.
- However, areas that used to be endemic are now prone to epidemics because of less immunity. Moreover, without new mass net distributions, coverage in those areas and endemic areas could fall from 40% to 20%.
- **Therefore 2010 a “make or break” year for Malaria strategy.** Potential for epidemics without new net distribution very high.
- No partners thought GF funding would arrive in time to address the issue, even if the grant is approved.
- Issue with ACTs – due to difficulty setting up monitoring and reporting framework (the old system lapsed and the government wanted the new one to be consistent with national system), GF did not distribute Round 4 ACT money, resulting in stock outs and deterioration on ACT indicators. Fund should move soon – needing one more certification from the GoU. Then there may be issues with the tendering process.
- Other challenges facing Kenya, aside from Net gap include lack of resources for implementing diagnosis –based treatment in areas where it should be, resources to cover boarding schools with nets, resources to cover all facilities, and resources for planned IRS.
- Total cost of new strategy over next 5 years is \$500 million. \$200 million exists in current commitments. Round 9 grant proposal is \$270 million.
- To fill the gap, brainstormed several ideas:
  - Ask current donors to frontload their future year projected spending and have GF money backfill for routine distributions donors would normally have done (PMI has already increased its 2010 budget by \$4 million)
  - Ask GF to start process for delivering commodities if grant is approved, while issues around distribution are worked out
  - Engage new public and private donors like the Japanese, Chinese, Gates Foundation, Banks, telecommunications company, EU (call with local EU indicated they no longer do health in Kenya)
  - Pledging Conference

- Present Kenya case to Clinton Global Initiative
- Celebrity campaign – Miss Kenya had success with campaign against jiggers.
- WHO's top priority in country is Malaria

***Meeting with World Bank official on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009***

- Venue: Hilton Hotel Nairobi

Attendants: Mr Mike Millis World Bank Economist, Dr Ayub Manya (Global Fund Focal Point DOMC), Amb. John Simon (UN special envoy Advisor), Peter Mbabazi Kwehangana (Regional Coordinator, EARN /RBM).

**Issues discussed**

- World Bank is very interested in helping out
- Provided \$4 million in Nets through TOWAA this year, could do another \$4-10 million next year
- Could also use HSSF program that gives discretionary money to facilities to purchase nets, though this program is based on having the facilities make the decisions and probably could not make much of an impact in 2010.
- \$80 million currently in Kenya funding envelope for health, but awaiting conclusion of a Health Sector Wide Approach Plan (SWAP). Government may want to direct this money to infrastructure, but with political will, SWAP could be concluded by the end of the year and the money could be flowing to Malaria by June.
- Long discussion of the issues with the Global Fund. It needs people on ground empowered to make decisions

***Meeting with DOMC Implementation Team on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009***

- Venue: DOMC Offices Nairobi

Attendants: DOMC, Partners, Amb. John Simon (UN special envoy Advisor), Peter Mbabazi Kwehangana (Regional Coordinator, EARN /RBM) (see full attendance list attached).

**Issues discussed**

- Multi-disciplinary team including health ministries, NGOs (PSI), KEMPSA (government procurement agency). Amb Simon suggested finance ministry needs to be part of team.
- Preferred plan would have two phases – phase I on the coast, phase II along the lake. Plan B is one mass distribution, which would happen if timeline is compressed, but not preferred.
- Team has several strengths including experience with successful mass distribution (2006), strong

partners in WHO, DfID, PMI, strong community support, existing distribution lists.

- Major weakness is lack of funding, need to increase net utilization – expanded pre-distribution campaign in plan from 2 to 4 months.
- Discussed ideas for engaging the private sector – including breaking the campaign into pieces that different companies or industries could adopt – e.g., Malaria-free schools, Malaria-free coast (the tourist industry), branding of storage containers, etc
- (See full minutes attached in Appendix1).

### ***Meeting with Safaricom CEO on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009***

Venue: Safaricom CEO Office Nairobi

Attendants: Mr. Michael Joseph (CEO Safaricom), Dr Ayub Manya (Global Fund Focal Point DOMC), Amb. John Simon (UN special envoy Advisor), Peter Mbabazi Kwehangana (Regional Coordinator, EARN /RBM).

#### **Issues discussed**

- Very interested in helping – noted Safaricom had made a major donation to the 2006 campaign through its foundation – willing to do at least as much this time. The DOMC is working on a proposal to get to Michael and the foundation head next week based on previous contribution.
- Also willing to send pre-campaign messages to subscribers if he can get the numbers through the registration process. Can send social messages on the campaign at the bottom of texts.
- Willing to provide free service for data capture and communication during and after the campaign – needs a proposal from someone who can design the system (e.g., PSI) and will work with them
- Willing to engage other telecom companies – connected Amb Simon to Patrick Obath of Kenya Private Sector Alliance, who agreed to work to develop a campaign to involve the private sector

Potential source of funding: Use M-Pesa, the Kenyan mobile phone payment system that has 7 million members, to encourage each member to donate one net. Even if only 20% do, significant contribution to the effort. Michael Joseph got very excited by this.

### ***Meeting with Kenyan Malaria Ambassador on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009***

Venue: Hilton Hotel Nairobi

Attendants: Professor Julius Meme,(Kenyan Malaria Ambassador), Dr Ayub Manya (Global Fund Focal Point DOMC), Amb. John Simon (UN special envoy Advisor), Peter Mbabazi Kwehangana (Regional Coordinator, EARN /RBM).

#### **Issues discussed**

- Former Permanent Secretary of Health Ministry, now main government advocate against Malaria
- Very interested in pursuing ideas to engage private sector
- Another potential idea for fundraising – Have President Obama tape a message for the M-Pesa campaign

### ***Meeting with US Ambassador on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009***

Venue: US Ambassador's Residence Nairobi

Attendants: *Ambassador Rannenberger*, (US Ambassador to Kenya), Amb. John Simon (UN special envoy Advisor)

#### **Issues discussed**

- Willing to consider pushing more PMI money into 2010, if it is possible.
- Favorably disposed towards President Obama doing message for M-Pesa campaign – said they already use him in AIDS campaign to great effect.
- Also noted that despite seeming unity in Malaria team Amb Simon experienced, challenge exists with two health ministries.
- Suggested getting finance ministry support will be critical but difficult given current politics.

#### **Next steps**

- Issue the audit certificate to Global Fund for release of funds.
- Make a compelling case for distributing enough nets to meet Universal Coverage by 2010 – potential to lose much of what has been accomplished with catastrophic consequences
- Malaria partners and team very unified and focused, thanks to leadership of local WHO head, among other things
- Funding critical issue, and we cannot rely on GF to fill the gap, even if grant is approved
- There are interesting opportunities to find additional money in Kenya, particularly in private sector.

[Already have the following at the front]

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**Distribution:**

MOH Kenya, DOMC Kenya, WHO/ Kenya, NMCP Uganda, MOH Uganda, WHO Uganda RBM EARN; UN Special Envoy Office

**Appendix 1: Minutes of the meeting with the DOMC team**

Venue: DOMC Board Room      Date: 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009

Attendants: see list below

**IN ATTENDANCE.**

Name	Contact Phone	E-mail	Organization
Dr Ayub Many	0722221266	amanya@domckenya.or.ke	DOMC
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**Opening remarks**

The meeting was called to order and introduction was done.

This was then followed with a presentation on Plan of action for universal coverage for LLINs by Dr Rebecca Kiptui. This presentation brought about various issues that were discussed as below:

- **Targeting of the prisons, army and police in the mass net distribution**

A concern was raised on whether the prisons army and the police were targeted for the campaign. It will be more appropriate to have IRS done in the prisons, while the possibility of involving the armed forces for distribution will be explored.

- **Post distribution as opposed to door to door and hang up**

Some members felt that it would be better to have a door to door distribution and net hang up campaign as opposed to the post distribution that had been planned. It was however going to be difficult to have a door to door distribution due to security problems. PSI had planned to have a net hanging campaign launch before end of August which would continue up to the period when nets will be distributed. The Community Health Workers will be used to continue with campaigns advocating for consistent use of nets.

- **Shapes of the nets**

An issue was raised on whether the preference of some people for some shapes of nets had been taken care of. Both the conical and rectangular nets had been taken into account though the rectangular nets are more durable and would therefore better serve the population that sleep on the floor..

- **Border towns**

The past campaigns had shown that more nets would be needed at the posts where there are border towns since people from neighbouring countries come to take the nets and go. This would be avoided this time since there will be registration of household before the campaign starts and the information from the 2009 census will be used. Once the households are registered they will be given a voucher which they will use to collect the nets.

- **Distribution**

Mr Mbabazi had wanted to know who would be involved in the actual distribution of the nets. 4 people will be at one post 3 of them who will be CHWs and one health worker to supervise. The delivery of the nets to the post would be done by KEMSA though they may not manage to cope with the huge numbers in which case some transporters would be contracted.

- **Gaps**

It was pointed out that various components had not been funded this include the containers, boarding schools and health facilities with no nets as well as logistical support for the schools and health facilities.

- **Number of posts**

It was proposed that the number of posts be increased due to increase of population an issue which was taken up.

- **Data capture**

A concern was expressed on data capture during the net distribution. Tools that were used in 2006 will be used this time as well as the RBM net tracking tool.

- **Pastoralists**

Mr Mbabazi was concerned about how the pastoralist communities will be handled. Not many areas targeted for the distribution have pastoralist only in West Pokot, parts of Narok and Kajiado and the DHMT will advise.

- **Testing the insecticide in the net and the bursting strength of net**

The bursting strength and insecticide on the nets will be done with the assistance of UNICEF just as it was done in 2006. This will be done batch wise. More tests of the insecticide on the nets will be done in a few sentinel sites.

- **Meeting of the UN Special envoy with Safaricom CEO**

Mr John Simon the UN Special envoy informed the meeting that he would be having a meeting with the Safaricom CEO and wanted to know if the members had ideas of how Safaricom would help in the fight against malaria. The following ideas were brought up:

- Have malaria messages on scratch cards e.g. ‘did you hang up your net today?’
- Have Safaricom sponsor net distribution in some schools and call it ‘malaria free schools with safaricom.’
- Safaricom to fund the purchase of the containers and have them labelled ‘Safaricom’ but use them for storage for the nets.

Other ideas were to involve the various airlines especially Kenya airways and Jetlink who fly to Kisumu and Mombasa which are endemic areas.

Banks can also adopt certain regions while coca cola can take up some schools. There is also need to include members of the ministry of finance and KEBS.

### **Remarks by Mr Peter Mbabazi**

Mr Mbabazi pointed out that there were a lot of achievements made in Kenya in the fight against malaria but not much documentation. He therefore emphasized on the need to document all the activities.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 4:00p.m