

THIRD MEETING OF THE VECTOR CONTROL ADVISORY GROUP

VCAAG



GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
12-14 NOVEMBER 2014



**World Health
Organization**

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AI	active ingredient
ARS	Agricultural Research Service
ATSB	attractive toxic sugar bait
CI	confidence interval
GMO	genetically modified organism
GMP	WHO Global Malaria Programme
GTS	Global Technical Strategy
IRS	indoor residual spraying
IVCC	Innovative Vector Control Consortium
IVM	integrated vector management
LITE	Liverpool Insect Testing Establishment
LLIN	long-lasting insecticidal net
NTD	neglected tropical disease
PBO	piperonyl butoxide
RCT	randomized controlled trial
SIT	sterile insect technique
TPP	target product profile
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
VCAG	Vector Control Advisory Group
WHO	World Health Organization
WHOPES	WHO Pesticide Evaluation Scheme

INTRODUCTION

The third meeting of the World Health Organization (WHO) Vector Control Advisory Group (VCAG), an advisory group to WHO on new forms of vector control for malaria and other vector-borne diseases, was convened from 12 to 14 November 2014 in Geneva, Switzerland. The objective of the meeting was to review the dossiers and target product profiles (TPPs) of nine potentially novel public health vector control paradigms. The meeting was divided into open and closed sessions (see *Annex I: Agendas*). On the first day an open session was held at the Hotel Manotel in Geneva, Switzerland, where innovators presented prototype products that they believed represented novel paradigms for broad discussion. The open meeting was attended by 11 of the 13 members of VCAG, partners from industry, observers and special invitees (see *Annex II: List of participants*). Professor Marc Coosemans was appointed as Chair of the meeting and Dr Ashwani Kumar, Dr Anna Drexler and Dr Emmanuel Temu as rapporteurs. Seven of the nine submitted products were discussed in the open session. Two paradigms were not discussed publically. The open session was followed by interactions between participants and VCAG members to discuss confidential information and provide individual feedback on the products.

The meeting was opened by Dr Dirk Engels, Director of the Department of Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs). The topic of innovation brings together a broad array of stakeholders across the vector control community. Innovation in vector control is of critical importance and remains at the forefront of public health needs due to rising concerns over insecticide resistance, the need for effective tools for use in multi-disease settings and the challenges of rapidly expanding arboviral diseases, in particular dengue and chikungunya. The recently published third WHO report on NTDs¹ makes a case to the international community that investment is critical to controlling vector-borne diseases. A broad initiative for investment and innovation in vector control will be needed to combat NTDs and improve global public health.

Dr Pedro Alonso, Director of the WHO Global Malaria Programme (GMP), discussed the progress made in malaria control and the new Global Technical Strategy 2015–2030, discussed by the Executive Board in January 2015. He attributed many successes in malaria control to the scale up of core vector control interventions, long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) and indoor residual spraying (IRS) in particular. Sustaining these achievements in the face of insecticide and drug resistance, residual malaria transmission and programmatic hurdles will be challenging. New goals and targets for 2015–2030 are laid out in the GMP's Global Technical Strategy (GTS), to be presented to the World Health Assembly in January 2015. GTS targets are achievable at the country level, and have been set in consultation with country malaria control and elimination programmes. Scaling up vector control is critical to reaching the GTS targets, and current estimates attribute 60% of GTS costs to vector control activities. Entomological monitoring and disease surveillance will be important components of the new GTS. New innovations in vector control and drugs are needed to sustain gains in malaria control and progress towards elimination. Many challenges remain, including insecticide resistance and residual transmission, which require new innovations, highlighting the importance of the work of VCAG.

¹ Investing to overcome the global impact of neglected tropical diseases: third WHO report on neglected tropical diseases. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2015 (WHO/HTM/NTD/2015.1).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Professor Steven Lindsay's university received research support to produce a Cochrane review on larval source management from Valent BioSciences. The institute also received a donation of bednets for a clinical trial in Burkina Faso and the Gambia.

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