



## AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS DECLARATION AT THE 38<sup>TH</sup> AFRICAN UNION SUMMIT

### Everyday counts in the malaria responses: it's urgent to act

Mindful of your commitment to the well-being and health of your populations, considering your determination to prevent malaria-related deaths in your communities, we hereby bring to your attention the current situation, which could considerably slow down efforts to fight against Malaria in Africa.

According to the WHO 2024 report, the number of malaria cases in 2023 was estimated at 263 million. The WHO African Region is the most affected by the disease, representing around 94% of malaria cases worldwide.

In March 2024, a regional ministerial conference on malaria was jointly organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the government of Cameroon. During this meeting, the Ministers of Health of the 11 African countries with the highest malaria incidence and morbidity rates (HBHI), such as Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Sudan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania signed the Yaoundé Declaration, committing themselves that **“No one should die from malaria, given the tools and systems available”**. Meeting this commitment now requires states to mobilize resources to take concrete action to save lives.

Since January 2024, the U.S. administration, which has been the largest contributor to the fight against malaria, has issued a funding freeze and stop-work order on all foreign aid from the U.S. government, and a complete halt to many vital initiatives, including the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI). As a reminder, the PMI initiative (USAID) provides effective, life-saving interventions against malaria, such as intermittent preventive treatment of malaria in pregnant women, insecticide-treated bed nets (ITNs), and other life-saving interventions. This funding also supports the purchase of essential medicines, capacity-building for health workers and health systems to accelerate the fight against malaria in African countries.

Faced with this situation, African civil society organizations are expressing their concern at the effects that this suspension will have, and undoubtedly already has, on the continuity of malaria prevention and treatment services, particularly in terms of mortality among the most vulnerable groups: pregnant women, children under 5 and internally displaced persons in our countries. It is therefore clear that, with the urgent to take concrete steps to mobilize domestic funds to avoid the chaos this situation could cause in the lives of millions of people who would no longer have access to means of prevention and treatment, which will inevitably lead to a significant increase in cases and deaths.

ESTIMATES OF 90-DAY FREEZE IMPACTS		
	FY23 TOTAL	90 DAY TOTAL
Total Trainings for Health Care Workers	262,394	64,700
Bed Nets Delivered	36,837,492	9,083,217
People Protected by Indoor Residual Spraying	15,486,767	3,818,655
Doses of Intermittent Preventive Treatment in Pregnancy Delivered	15,034,932	3,707,244
Doses of Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention Delivered	48,027,150	*
Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs) Delivered	102,676,425	25,317,475
Artemisinin-Based Combination Therapies (ACTs) Delivered	63,333,806	15,616,555

Source: Malaria No More US.

Moreover, this situation points out that the heavy dependence on external funding to solve a vital problem, such as the fight against malaria, is critical for our populations. **It is therefore time for Africa to put in place sustainable financing mechanisms and approaches to ensure the health of its populations in all circumstances.**

In response to this critical situation, Civil Society for Malaria Elimination (CS4ME) is calling on African heads of state to take 3 urgent actions:

1. Organize an emergency meeting in countries covered by PMI/USAID to assess impact and implement urgent local measures to save lives.
2. Launch a national fund for malaria elimination in countries.
3. Review the 2025 Finance Acts to make urgent funds available for the purchase/ dissemination of essential emergency malaria treatments and community prevention activities in PMI/USAID areas.

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Thank you for your kind attention.

**About CS4ME:** Civil Society For Malaria Elimination is a global platform of 900 civil society organizations in 48 countries committed to the elimination of malaria. Its core mission is to extend the power of a global network of civil society organizations and communities to strengthen the fight against malaria.

**For more information,**

visit website: [www.cs4me.org](http://www.cs4me.org).  
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