



THE CIVIL SOCIETY STATEMENT FOR WORLD MALARIA DAY 2025

« Malaria Ends with Us: Reinvest, Reimagine, Reignite. »

Now more than ever, the world is facing a host of challenges that are threatening hard-won gains in global health. Facing these challenges will require bold and coordinated local, national and global action as One World, One Fight. On this World Malaria Day, marked under the theme “**Malaria Ends with Us: Reinvest, Reimagine, Reignite,**” communities and civil society stand united in sounding the alarm and calling on leaders to respond with urgency and determination.

According to the WHO 2024 World Malaria Report, there were an estimated **263 million malaria cases** in 2023. Of the estimated **597,000 malaria deaths worldwide**, 95% were in the African Region, with children under 5 years old accounting for 76% of those lives lost. These are not just numbers — they are lives that could have been saved with the right level of investment and political will.

We, communities and civil society, reaffirm the urgency and necessity of mobilizing national resources to sustain momentum and achieve the goal of a malaria-free world.

This year is critical for malaria as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) holds its Eighth Replenishment, which is key to ensuring the deployment of malaria lifesaving tools for millions of people at high risk. Communities and Civil society join forces to launch **#OneWorldOneFight “MoreNowThanEver”** call to all country leaders to **ensure a fully resourced Global Fund, with the goal of saving 23 million lives between 2027 and 2029**. Alongside the call for sustained investments from global partners, communities and civil society across the globe are urging leaders of malaria-affected countries, and especially African leaders, to take ownership of national malaria responses and follow through on their commitments.

In March 2024, civil society saluted the leadership of Health Ministers from the most-affected African countries as they committed to a fundamental principle: no one should die from malaria, given the tools and systems available. By signing the landmark **Yaoundé Declaration**, they committed to seven priority actions to reduce malaria deaths:



1. **Strengthen** political will,
2. **Ensure** strategic use of information for action,
3. **Provide** better technical guidance,
4. **Enhance** coordination and multisectoral action,
5. **Strengthen** national health systems,
6. **Build** collaborative partnerships for resource mobilization, research and innovation,
7. **Ensure** a functional malaria accountability mechanism.

We also commend the efforts of countries and partners. The Global Fund's "Results Report 2024" highlights the significant strides the Global Fund partnership made in the fight against HIV, Tuberculosis (TB) and Malaria in 2023:

- **227 million mosquito nets** distributed
- **335 million suspected cases** of malaria tested
- **15.5 million pregnant women** protected with preventive treatment against malaria
- **171 million cases of malaria** have been treated

However, global malaria progress faces a number of challenges, such as drug and insecticide resistance, fragile health systems and critical gaps in access to core malaria control tools. In many areas, extreme weather events, conflict, and other crises threaten deepen existing health inequities, drive population displacement and reverse achievements in malaria control.

For this reason, communities and civil society are taking the opportunity of this World Malaria Day to express their concern and to urge the National, Regional and Global leaders to:

At the country level

- **Mobilize** domestic resources as the cornerstone of malaria control program funding, given that every dollar invested drives significant economic growth and contributes to increased productivity, reduced healthcare costs, and improved quality of life.
- **Increase** national budget allocations for malaria control by integrating spending into priority health plans.
- **Establish** a national fund or ensure sufficient funds towards the malaria programmes to end malaria and support community health worker programs.
- **Prioritize** local civil society organizations and communities in program design and delivery through targeted investments in the most vulnerable regions and populations, for greater impact and transparency in the use of funds and decision-making processes.



At the regional level

- In Africa, **create** regional mutual funds, financed by African states, to finance group purchases and lower the costs of anti-malarial tools (medicines, vaccines, mosquito nets).
- **Set up** a regional committee to coordinate the actions of the mutual fund with a clear accountability mechanism, followed up by parliamentarians and civil society.
- **Ensure** that malaria is fully funded in all regions of the world affected or at risk.

At the global level

- **Re-commit** to achieve global malaria elimination.
- **Re-commit** to reduce the spread of drug and insecticide resistance.
- **Ensure** a fully resourced Global Fund to save 23 million lives between 2027 and 2029.
- **Ensure** that support from global malaria partners is aligned with country-driven national plans and priorities.

In addition, we bring to the attention of all stakeholders that adolescent girls and young women call for their meaningful involvement in the design and implementation, and evaluation of malaria control programs at local, national and international levels. They call for interventions that are more inclusive, gender-transformative and adapted to their specific needs. Adolescent girls' access to malaria control interventions is an important step towards the elimination of malaria, and they should be meaningfully involved in decision-making processes to ensure that their voices and priorities influence the fight against malaria.

Every day counts in the fight against malaria: It is urgent to take action. Inaction will cost far more than the investment needed to put an end to malaria.

We must stand united because malaria anywhere is a threat everywhere. On this World Malaria Day, let us raise our voices to demand sustained investments in the malaria response, in strong health systems, and in communities that are driving the fight.

It is time for our collective action as **#OneWorldOneFight #MoreNowThanEver!**



Find the Yaoundé Declaration here <https://cs4me.org/news/blog/declaration-for-accelerated-malaria-mortality-reduction-in-africacommitment-that-no-one-shall-die-from-malaria/>