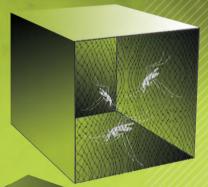
# REPORT OF THE EIGHTEENTH WORKING GROUP MEETING

WHO/HQ, GENEVA 29 JUNE – 1 JULY 2015

**Review of:** 

MIRANET LN PANDA NET 2.0 LN YAHE LN SAFENET LN





World Health Organization

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#### WHO Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Report of the eighteenth WHOPES working group meeting: WHO/HQ, Geneva, 29 June-1 July 2015: review of MiraNet LN, Panda Net 2.0 LN, Yahe LN, SafeNet LN.

1.Malaria - prevention and control. 2.Mosquito Control. 3.Insecticide-Treated Bednets. I.World Health Organization. II.WHO Pesticide Evaluation Scheme. Working Group. Meeting (18th: 2015: Geneva, Switzerland)

ISBN 978 92 4 150942 8

(NLM classification: QX 600)

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Printed in France.

WHO/HTM/NTD/WHOPES/2015.2

#### CONTENTS

					Page
1.	INTR	NTRODUCTION			
2.	REVIEW OF MIRANET LN				3
		2.1	Safet	ty assessment	3
		2.2	Effica	acy – WHOPES-supervised studies	4
			2.1 2.2	Laboratory study Experimental hut studies	4 4
		2.3	Effica	acy – background and supporting documents	12
		2.4	Conc	clusions and recommendations	14
3.	REVI	IEW OF PANDA NET 2.0 LN			
		3.1	Safet	ty assessment	24
		3.2	Effica	acy – WHOPES-supervised studies	24
			2.1 2.2	Laboratory study Experimental hut studies	24 26
		3.3	Conc	clusions and recommendations	33
4.	REVIEW OF YAHE LN				43
		4.1	4.1 Safety assessment		
		4.2	Effica	acy – WHOPES-supervised studies	45
			2.1 2.2	Laboratory study Experimental hut studies	45 46
		4.3	Conc	clusions and recommendations	53
5.	REVIEW OF SAFENET LN				59
		5.1	Effica	acy – WHOPES-supervised study	59
		5.	1.1	Laboratory study	59
		5.2	Conc	clusions and recommendations	62
6.	GENE	ENERAL DISCUSSION			
ANNEXES					
ANNE	EX 1.	LIST OF PARTICIPANTS			
ANNEX 2.		REFERENCES			

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The 18th meeting of the WHOPES Working Group, an advisory group to the World Health Organization Pesticide Evaluation Scheme (WHOPES), was held at WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland from 29 June to 1 July 2015.

The Working Group reviewed four long-lasting insecticidal net products<sup>1</sup> for the prevention and control of malaria: (i) MiraNet LN of A to Z Textile Mills Ltd; (ii) Panda Net 2.0 LN of Life Ideas Textiles Company Ltd<sup>2</sup>; (iii) Yahe LN of Fujian Yamei Industry; and (iv) SafeNet LN of Mainpol GmbH. The Working Group made recommendations on the use of each of these products.

The meeting was opened by Dr Dirk Engels, Director, WHO Department of Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases, who welcomed participants; he noted that WHOPES has entered its 55th year and that reforms to the Scheme are being planned. Quality assurance has gained increasing prominence across public health products, such as medicines and vaccines, and increasingly there is a drive to align evaluation and quality control of pesticides with other product streams. Additionally, WHOPES is implementing procedural changes in response to a growing need of the vector control community, including the manufacturing and procurement sectors. Changes to WHOPES will be a part of a broader package to stimulate innovation in vector control, in collaboration with the WHO Global Malaria Programme and the WHO Prequalification Programme.

Dr Raman Velayudhan, Coordinator, Vector Ecology and Management, briefed the Working Group on the broad objectives of the proposed changes to WHOPES, particularly the move to a standard accreditation system for the testing sites to improve data quality.

Dr Rajpal Yadav, Scientist, WHOPES, summarized the interests declared by the invited experts and explained the objectives and procedures of the meeting. Dr Vincent Corbel, an IRD scientist based at Kasetsart University, Thailand was appointed as Chairperson and Dr John Gimnig, Entomologist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA as Rapporteur.

The meeting was attended by 11 invited experts, one observer and five WHO Secretariat staff (see Annex 1. List of participants). The Working Group met in both plenary and breakout sessions, in which the reports of the WHOPES-supervised studies, the reports submitted by the manufacturers, and the relevant published literature and unpublished reports were reviewed and discussed (see Annex 2. References).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In this report, "long-lasting insecticidal net (LN)" refers to a formulated product.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> WHO has been advised that as from 10 August 2015, the name of the manufacturer has been changed to Life Ideas Biological Technology Company Ltd. in place of Life Ideas Textiles Company Ltd.

#### **Declarations of interest**

All invited experts completed a *Declaration of interests for WHO experts* prior to the meeting for assessment by the WHO Secretariat. The following interests were declared:

Dr Nicole Achee's university has received mosquito repellent products free of charge from SC Johnson & Son, USA for use in a large-scale intervention trial funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USA.

Dr Fabrice Chandre's institute has received prescribed standard fees from Sumitomo Chemical, Japan; Bayer CropScience, Germany; and SPCI, France to meet the costs of product evaluation.

Professor Dr Marc Coosemans' institute has received grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for evaluating the impact of repellents on malaria in Cambodia. The institute has also received repellents free of charge from SC Johnson & Son, USA for use in the study.

Dr Vincent Corbel's institute has received prescribed standard fees from Bayer CropScience, Germany and Sumitomo Chemical, Japan to meet the costs of evaluating their respective pesticide products.

Dr Sarah Moore's research unit has received research funding from the United States Agency for International Development and the Research Council of Norway for evaluating various long-lasting insecticidal nets. The unit has also received prescribed standard fees from Bayer CropScience, Germany; Syngenta, Switzerland; and Vestergaard Frandsen, Switzerland for evaluating their long-lasting insecticidal nets.

Professor Dr Mark Rowland's unit has received funding from the Innovative Vector Control Consortium, United Kingdom for the testing and evaluation of various pesticide products. The unit has also received prescribed standard fees from Sumitomo Chemical, Japan; BASF, Germany; and Vestergaard Frandsen, Switzerland to meet the costs of evaluating their respective pesticide products.

Dr Olivier Pigeon's research centre has received prescribed standard fees from Life Ideas Textile Company, China to meet the costs of physico-chemical studies of Panda Net 2.0 LN manufactured by the company.

Dr Juan Arredondo from Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, Mexico was invited to attend the meeting as an observer and declared no interest.

The interests declared by the experts and the observer were assessed by the WHO Secretariat. The declared interests were not found to be directly related to the topics under discussion at the meeting. It was therefore decided that all of the above-mentioned experts could participate in all evaluations, subject to the public disclosure of their interests.

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