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**Report of the Fourth Meeting
of the Global Collaboration for
Development of Pesticides
for Public Health
(GCDPP)**

**WHO/HQ, Geneva
24–25 June 2004**

**World Health Organization
Communicable Disease Control, Prevention and Eradication
WHO Pesticide Evaluation Scheme (WHOPES)**

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1 Introduction

The fourth meeting of the Global Collaboration for Development of Pesticides for Public Health (GCDPP) was held at the World Health Organization (WHO) headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, on 24–25 June 2004.¹

The meeting was opened by Dr Anarfi Asamoah-Baah, Assistant Director-General of Communicable Diseases, WHO. In his remarks, Dr Asamoah-Baah noted the role of the GCDPP as an advisory group to WHOPEP on matters related to the development of new insecticides, their formulations and applications, and their safe and effective use in the field of public health. Vector control is an important component in the management of the major vector-borne diseases. The recently developed WHO global framework on integrated vector management² will provide an opportunity to stimulate and strengthen vector-borne disease control activities in endemic countries. While insecticides remain an important tool in the management of major vector-borne diseases, the depleting arsenal of safe and cost-effective insecticides, especially for malaria and dengue vector control, is of serious concern. Dr Asamoah-Baah requested that meeting identify strategies and procedures to facilitate and accelerate the development of new pesticides and their applications for public health use.

Long-lasting insecticide-treated materials and fabrics provide an opportunity for the development of new tools, affording great potential for personal and community protection. The close

¹ Reports of previous meetings of the GCDPP are available from the Information Resource Centre, Communicable Diseases, World Health Organization, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland. Fax: (+41) 22 791 4285; e-mail: cdsdoc@who.int (also at <http://www.who.int/whopes/gcdpp>).

² *Global strategic framework for integrated vector management*. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2004 (WHO/CDS/CPE/PVC/2004.10) (also at: http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2004/WHO_CDS_CPE_PVC_2004_10.pdf).

collaboration of WHO with industry has been essential in the development of this technology for public health use. Dr Asamoah-Baah also asked for the meeting to review current knowledge on this topic and give guidance on further improvement and potential new applications of this technology.

Dr Fatoumata Nafou-Traore, Director, Roll Back Malaria, WHO – joint organizers of the meeting – welcomed the participants on behalf of Dr Jack Chow, the Assistant Director-General of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, WHO, and stressed the interest and active participation of Roll Back Malaria in GCDPP meetings since its inception in 1997. She reminded the participants that malaria results in an unacceptable burden of morbidity and mortality: between 300 and 500 million cases, and over 1 million deaths each year, with significant social and economic impact. Although most of the burden of malaria is in Africa, south of the Sahara, it is important to note the highly variable malaria problems in other parts of the world, which sometimes pose enormous challenges to vector control.

Malaria control requires both effective curative and preventive interventions. The control of malaria vectors can interrupt disease transmission, but in some areas of intense transmission, this may not be possible. However, vector control can still result in substantial reduction of morbidity and mortality as well as

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