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Thirteenth Meeting of the RBM Partnership  
Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group (MERG)

17 –19 June 2009  
Washington DC, USA

**Objectives and Action Points:**

**1. Provide update on recent work and initiatives**

- Identify MERG point person to organize representatives to read sections of World Malaria Report and get inputs in August.
- UNICEF and WHO to harmonize on the intervention coverage estimates for World Malaria Report.
- MalERA to publish white paper on Elimination sometime next year (Albert Kilian)

**2. Review activities related to high-level report on 2010 RBM targets**

- Malaria Indicator Surveys – need to link funding to a requirement that countries to make data available for further analysis
- Get group together to discuss indicator and targets for universal coverage. More analysis of available data will be undertaken and findings will be presented in a scientific article to provide a basis for universal coverage (Menoj Menon and Erin Eckert)
- Prepare background materials in advance of the Mortality Task Force Meeting so informed decisions can be made at November meeting.
- Minutes of WHO-led Morbidity Task Force to be made available on RBM website.
- Morbidity task force should publish methodology for morbidity estimation methodology in white paper series or peer reviewed journal article.
- Make a list of survey gaps for GFATM so that they can support implementation using Round 8 grant money.
- AMP will have a list of the ITN distribution campaigns in the next 2-3 months (Protik Basu).
- MERG members to provide feedback on the questions about MIS

website posed by Fred Arnold.

3. **Discuss MERG support to M&E systems strengthening**
  - Partners to dialogue with countries on case-by-case to identify specific needs in an rapidly changing malaria environment
  - More rigorous follow up from partners (?) and MERG
  - Create a simple tool to motivate staff at lower level (HF chart, bulletin, etc)
4. **Update on recent methodological and survey work**
  - Follow-up with Gallup on to gauge interest and potentially standardize methods/questionnaire for comparability of results
  - IVCC Decision support system to continue work with MACEPA and report at the next meeting (Mike Coleman)
  - Economic Burden Task Force to request that Deb MacFarland put together a meeting to review preview work, provide guidance on questions to monitor economic burden of malaria at HH level, further document of case studies of the benefits of private sector investment in malaria control, and develop strategies for future activities in monitoring changes in economic burden of the disease
5. **Discuss MERG business issues**
  - Rick Steketee and Tessa Wardlaw to continue serving as Co-Chairs of the MERG
  - Measure Evaluation to work with the secretariat to provide a draft workplan to MERG members for inputs (Erin Eckert)
  - Next MERG meeting proposed venue and dates: Mexico in January 2010, to be confirmed by MERG secretariat (Elizabeth Patton)
6. **Update on MERG Task Force activities**
  - Dissemination task force to dissolve.
  - Task force on High-Level report for 2010 to convene
    - CDC, WHO, and UNICEF to have conference call to decide which scientific updates are needed. (Richard Steketee, Tessa Wardlaw)
    - UNICEF to coordinate/lead high level report (Tessa Wardlaw/Emily White Johansson) and MERG co-chairs will provide final oversight (Rick Steketee, Tessa Wardlaw)
    - Matt Lynch and Kevin Starace will urge Protik Basu to aid in Quarterly Tracking efforts
    - MACRO and MACEPA (Rick Steketee) will decide which interval updates are necessary and liaise with the advocacy working group through Hannah Koenker.
    - Matt Lynch will circulate TORs for the new Task Force on the High level report
  - Measure Evaluation to identify reviewers and contributors for Malaria

M&E Training Curriculum and presenters for trainings to start after October 2009.