**GSK’s commitment to fighting malaria**

**An estimated 3.3 billion people – more than half the world’s population – are at risk of contracting malaria**, and each year there are around 225 million cases of malaria globally. The disease kills close to 800,000 people annually, the vast majority of whom are children under the age of five living in sub-Saharan Africa.

Malaria takes a devastating toll on communities and economies across Africa. The battle against the disease must be fought on all fronts using a wide range of interventions, including insecticide-treated bed nets, indoor residual spraying, effective medicines and treatments and, eventually, vaccines.

**GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) has been involved in the fight against malaria** for decades through our malaria research and development (R&D) programmes. We work hand-in-hand with organisations at the local, regional and international levels to ensure that our products complement existing malaria interventions.

**GSK’s malaria control strategy has three areas of focus:**

* **Research & Development** into new malaria medicines, treatments and vaccines
* **Community investment activities** through the African Malaria Partnership (AMP)
* **Preferential pricing for our anti-malarials** in the least-developed countries and sub-Saharan Africa

**Research and Development**

***Vaccines***

RTS,S is the most clinically advanced malaria vaccine candidate in the world today. In clinical trials, it was the first to demonstrate that it could help protect young children and infants in malaria-endemic areas against infection and clinical disease caused by *Plasmodium falciparum*, the most deadly species of the malaria parasite. The vaccine candidate is now in Phase III clinical trials at 11 sites in seven African countries: Burkina Faso, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania.

The RTS,S malaria vaccine candidate is still in development and will be subject to the evaluation of its safety, quality and efficacy, as well as its benefits and risks, by regulatory and public health authorities. If approved, the vaccine could be administered through national immunisation programmes to complement currently available malaria control measures.

GSK are working with the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI), with grant monies from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to MVI, and other partners to ensure that RTS,S, if approved for use, reaches the infants and children in sub-Saharan Africa who need it most as quickly as possible.

GSK has committed to pricing RTS,S to cover the cost of the vaccine together with a small return, which will be reinvested in research and development for second-generation malaria vaccines, or vaccines against other neglected tropical diseases.

***Malaria Treatment***

GSK has a research facility in Tres Cantos, Spain dedicated to conducting R&D for diseases of the developing world, primarily malaria and tuberculosis. At this facility, drug development projects are prioritised primarily by their socio-economic and public health benefits, rather than by their commercial returns. There are over 100 GSK scientists at Tres Cantos, 25of whom are supported by the non-profit Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV).

As resistance to current malaria treatments increases, GSK is committed to developing new medicines to treat the disease. In partnership with MMV, GSK researches potential therapies to address two of the most pressing needs in malaria drug research: treatments for drug-resistant strains of the malaria parasite and treatments for *Plasmodium vivax*, the strain of malaria that is predominant in Asia and Latin America.

***GSK’s Open Innovation Strategy***
GSK is adapting its business model further to adopt a more open approach to R&D for diseases of the developing world, including malaria. Given the scale of the task we all face, we must find new ways for industry, academia, NGOs and governments to work together. Our open innovation strategy is designed to foster and facilitate more R&D for neglected tropical diseases. This strategy has three core elements:

**Community Investment Activities**

Through our African Malaria Partnership (AMP), GSK works at the local level to improve the prevention and treatment of malaria in sub-Saharan Africa. Since 2001, we have committed over
£3 million to community initiatives and have partnered with organisations on the ground to promote the use of existing interventions, such as bed nets, indoor residual spraying and current treatments.

Initial activities focused on behavioural change programmes across eight African countries. In partnership with the Malaria Consortium, we support the ‘Mobilising for Malaria’ initiative, which builds awareness, political commitment and sustained funding for malaria control through advocacy initiatives. National Coalitions Against Malaria have now been launched in the UK, Belgium, France, Ethiopia, Cameroon and Mozambique.

In late 2009, the AMP announced new partnerships to build the capacity of community health workers and encourage behaviour change. With a total commitment of £1.5 million over three years, the new projects include:

• **African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF) in Mtwara province, Tanzania**: The partners will train community health workers and mobilise communities to become frontline advocates in the fight against malaria.

• **Family Health International (FHI) in the Brong Ahafo region of Ghana**: Working with community health workers and household caregivers, the project aims to improve early recognition of malaria and provision of appropriate treatment, and to encourage health seeking behaviours and community mobilisation.

• **Planned Parenthood of Nigeria in six selected communities**: This project will promote a community response to malaria through partnership with community committees, government agencies, vendors, community health workers and peer educators in schools.

• **Save the Children in North East province, Kenya**: Through community campaigns, education, bed net distribution and community health worker trainings, the project aims to ensure targeted communities receive effective coverage and have access to diagnosis and treatment services.

**Preferential Pricing for Anti-Malarials**

GSK provides its anti-malarials at deeply discounted prices in malaria-endemic countries throughout sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere. Our anti-malarial pricing aligns with GSK’s innovative flexible pricing model, under which we set the prices of our medicines and vaccines at a levelaccording to ability to pay to help expand access in developing countries.