



Minister for Health and Social Welfare, Dr Hussein Mwinyi, follows a PowerPoint presentation of the National Malaria Control Forum during the commemoration of World Malaria Day in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is the Ifakara Health Institute managing director, Dr Yahya Ipuge, and Dr Peter Mmbuji who is the acting director of Prevention Services in the ministry.

PHOTO | SALHIM SHAO.

> DAR ES SALAAM

Minister appeals for sustained efforts in fight against malaria

Despite remarkable achievements in the fight against malaria, more efforts are needed to fight the disease in the country, where annual deaths from it are estimated at 60,000 with 80 per cent of these being children under five years of age.

Speaking at the commemoration of World Malaria Day, the minister for Health and Social Welfare, Dr Hussein Mwinyi said: "Some communities need education as they have been putting various barriers in national strategies to fight the disease. They include opposing the use of drugs to eradicate mosquito breeding grounds under the pretext that those drugs produce insects like bugs." Dr Mwinyi said Tanzanians should be aware of the best malaria treatment drugs, naming it as Artemether Lumefantrine (Alu). He noted that the previous medicines such as chloroquin and sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP) were less effective than the former.

He also listed challenges that face the government in the war against malaria, saying: "We have the threat of lack of resources to develop from where we have reached. (The Citizen Correspondent)

> DAR ES SALAAM

AAR donates 92 bed nets, bed sheets to Mw'nyamala hospital

AAR Health Insurance Company Limited has donated 92 long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets and bed sheets to patients at Mwananyamala Hospital that will protect them from malaria infections.

The donation, worth Sh1.5 million, was handed over yesterday to the Mwananyamala Hospital acting medical officer, Dr Kariamel Wandu, as commemoration of World Malaria Day. Speaking immediately after receiving the donation, Dr Wandu said his hospital has a major demand for mosquito nets due to the huge number of patients, especially mothers and children admitted at the hospital.

"This donation will be used for mothers and children under five years admitted at the hospital to prevent deaths by the deadly disease," he said. Dr Wandu said the number of malaria cases had declined by 50 per cent compared to previous years. But he noted that there was need to contribute enough nets, sheets and beds to accommodate the patients. AAR sales and marketing manager Thabia Masoud said her firm has joined the World Health Organisation to strengthen malaria war. (Frank Aman)

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