



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**November 6, 2008 – Malaria Day in the Americas**

## **UNITED AGAINST MALARIA**

**WHAT:** The Ministry of Health of Peru, the Colegio Médico del Perú, in collaboration with USAID-supported Amazon Malaria Initiative (AMI) and The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), cordially invite members of the media to attend the **Malaria in the Americas Panel: Overcoming the Challenges of a Borderless Disease**, in recognition of Malaria Day in the Americas, November 6, 2008.

**WHEN:** Thursday, November 6, 2008, 7PM to 9PM

**WHERE:** Colegio Médico del Perú, Malecón Armendáriz 791 Miraflores, Lima, Perú, Tel: (511) 213-1400

**WHO:** The Malaria in the Americas Panel will be moderated by Dr. Julio Castro Gómez, Dean, Peru's Medical Board Association. The Panel will feature the following topics and speakers:

### **Climate Malaria Trends in the Americas**

Dr. Mario Valcárcel Novo, Pan American Health Organization

### **Amazon Malaria Initiative**

Dr. Jaime Chang, USAID/Peru

### **Malaria in Peru and Control Strategies**

Dr. Luis Leon, Peru' Ministry of Health

Discussions will include:

- Severe implications for the fight against malaria posed by projected climate change

- Insights on the multi-level processes needed to shape and manage the global policy environment surrounding malaria
- Up-to-date information on malaria control in the Americas, with a range of field results, lessons learned, and best practices to help build a consensus on the way forward

*We encourage you to share this invitation among colleagues, stakeholders, peers, students, and faculty. The event is open to the public, but we recommend that you RSVP at [acaballero@linksmedia.net](mailto:acaballero@linksmedia.net) with your name, designation, and organization.*

Malaria is a global health issue, and the disease respects neither international borders nor continental distances. Despite the advances made in vector control, disease detection, effective therapies, and communicating the risks of the disease, 41 million people in Latin America and the Caribbean are still at risk for contracting the potentially fatal disease.

AMI's mission is to ensure that malaria control programs in the Amazon Basin sub-region substantially incorporate selected best practices. AMI complements the efforts of USAID mission bilateral programs and supports the Roll Back Malaria Partnership in Latin America. AMI has taken a truly multifaceted approach to malaria in the region. Forming partnerships with the countries has helped secure investment by the nations' governments, private sector, and civil society. "USAID and a group of selected providers of technical assistance and country partners have forged an initiative that contributes to improve malaria prevention and control responding to specific regional and country needs," says Dr. Jaime Chang of USAID.

USAID's eight partner nations in AMI are Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and. USAID's technical partners in the initiative are the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Links Media, Management Sciences for Health, PAHO, and the U.S. Pharmacopeia.

## **USAID's Role in Malaria Control and Prevention**

*AMI is consistent with the Presidential Malaria Initiative announced by U.S. President George W. Bush in 2005, along with his pledge to increase funding for malaria prevention and control by more than \$1.2 billion through 2010 in 15 of the hardest hit nations in Africa to cut malaria deaths by half.*

*Led by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), PMI is working in partnership with host country governments in Africa, non-governmental organizations, faith-based and community groups, and the private sector to decrease the intolerable burden malaria imposes on African countries.*

*Besides Africa and Latin America, USAID supports malaria control and prevention programs in Asia through the Mekong Regional Initiative covering Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam.*

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