Malaria is endemic in all parts of Zambia and transmission is seasonal. The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 7,159,243 with 1,503 deaths.
Malaria
Progress
The country continues to work on strengthening and maintaining health services following the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard, Zambia has secured most of the required financing to fund the ACTs and RDTs required for 2023, including with significant domestic resource commitments. The country has also distributed sufficient LLINs and carried out sufficient IRS to achieve universal operational coverage of the targeted at-risk population. Zambia carried out insecticide resistance monitoring since 2015 and reported the results to WHO and has completed the national insecticide resistance monitoring and management plan. Zambia has scaled up the implementation of iCCM and achieved 100% operational coverage of LLINs. Zambia has launched the Malaria Ends with Me campaign.

In line with the priority agenda of the ALMA chair, His Excellency President Umaro Sissoco Embaló, Zambia has enhanced the tracking and accountability mechanisms for malaria with the development of the Malaria Control and Elimination Scorecard and the sharing of the country scorecards through the ALMA Scorecard Hub. The country received the ALMA Joyce Kafanabo Award for Innovation and Excellence during the AU Summit in February 2023. The country has also launched the multisectoral high level End Malaria Council and Malaria Fund.

Impact
The annual reported number of malaria cases in 2021 was 7,159,243 with 1,503 deaths.

Key Challenges
- The country has documented mosquito resistance to four insecticide classes.
- There is a need to strengthen cross border collaboration with neighbouring countries.
- The country has significant resource gaps.

Previous Key Recommended Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Suggested completion timeframe</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Comments - key activities/accomplishments since last quarterly report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy</td>
<td>Sign, ratify and deposit the AMA instrument at the AUC</td>
<td>Q1 2023</td>
<td>[Green]</td>
<td>The Zambian Cabinet has approved AMA and the issue has been referred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for signing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Zambia has responded to the previous recommended action on drug resistance monitoring and continues to track progress as the identified actions are implemented.

RMNCAH and NTDs
Progress
Zambia has achieved high coverage in the tracer RMNCAH intervention of vitamin A and DPT3. The country has also increased coverage of ARTs in children. Zambia has enhanced accountability mechanisms with the development of a Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Scorecard.

Progress in addressing Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Zambia is measured using a composite index calculated from preventive chemotherapy coverage achieved for lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, soil transmitted helminths and trachoma. In 2021, preventive chemotherapy coverage was 80% for schistosomiasis, 49% for trachoma, 37% for lymphatic filariasis, 33% for Soil transmitted helminthiasis. Overall, the NTD preventive chemotherapy coverage index in 2021 is 47 which represent a substantial increase...
compared to the 2020 index value (9).

Key

- Action achieved
- Some progress
- No progress
- Deliverable not yet due