VECTOR CONTROL MALARIA DECLARATION (VCMD), LONDON 2018
UNITING TO ERADICATE MALARIA BY 2040 – (ZERO BY 40)

INTRODUCTION

The world's leading Crop Protection companies unite today at the London Malaria Summit to reaffirm their commitment to support the research, development and supply of innovative vector control solutions to help eradicate malaria by 2040.

Significant progress has been made in the fight against this debilitating disease—a disease that still claims the life of a child every two minutes and, in 2016, was responsible for more than 445,000 deaths. Since 2000, 663 million clinical cases of malaria have been averted—78% of which were due to mosquito control interventions such as long-lasting insecticide treated bednets (LLINs) and indoor residual spraying (IRS).

The Crop Protection companies participating today have been a major driving force behind the vector control efforts, helping to develop and deliver innovative insecticides for use on bednets and for indoor spraying, saving millions of lives. This is one of the world’s greatest health achievements.

A decade ago, these companies provided the Innovative Vector Control Consortium (IVCC) access to their chemical libraries to support the search for novel insecticide modes of action that could be developed for public health use. This public/private collaboration continues to this day and has produced a pipeline of novel vector control solutions to support the global efforts to eradicate vector-borne diseases.

However, we cannot take this progress for granted. The World Health Organization (WHO) has reported a troubling shift in the trajectory of this global malaria disease burden, which risks increasing again. Further innovation is required to combat insecticide resistance and prevent established vector control tools from becoming less effective. Without the continued support and innovation of the Crop Protection industry, the hard-won gains of the past two decades could be quickly reversed, costing many millions of lives.

THE COMMITMENT

We, BASF, Bayer, Mitsui Chemicals, Sumitomo Chemical and Syngenta, announce today our continued and strengthened commitment to research, develop and deliver innovative vector control tools to help end malaria for good.

Working together with IVCC and global partners, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), the Department for International Development (DFID), USAID, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and UNITAID, we commit to the following principles and invite other companies working in the field of vector control to join us in our fight to eradicate malaria.

Together we will:

• Continue to screen new chemistry for potential use in existing and new vector control solutions.
• Sustain and extend programmes that will support the development of existing and novel insecticide tools and solutions to help eradicate malaria.
• Advance R&D, through bilateral partnerships, as appropriate, to find and bring to market a toolbox of next-generation vector control interventions.
• Where appropriate, collaborate with industry colleagues to better understand and manage the bioavailability of new chemistries on diverse surfaces, supporting the development of improved efficiency and cost effectiveness of application technologies.
• Establish a multi-industry coalition of partners, via the intermediaries of IVCC or similar platforms, to facilitate the integration of vector control and broader science technologies (e.g. drones/robotics/big data/vitro mosquito attractant screening) to improve the public health of rural communities, advancing basic and implementation research and capacity building.

• Where possible, identify potential synergies and share know-how between the Crop Protection and Pharma industries to drive innovation across drug and vector control interventions.

• Work collaboratively to ensure technically sound IRM and IVM best practices, ensuring optimum performance and reduced probability of resistance development

• Ensure that the global supply chain continues to deliver the vector control interventions needed in a timely and cost-effective manner.

• Prioritise and effectively leverage organisational skill-set and know-how to meet our malaria eradication ambitions.

• Continue to focus attention on the health and well-being of smallholder farmers in malaria endemic countries.

• Track and provide updates on the progress of our commitments toward achieving the global goals of malaria eradication.