



Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 16 May 2023

Minutes

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases held its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 16 May 2023 in Room P, Portcullis House, House of Commons.

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases (hereafter known as the APPG or the Group) provides a forum for exploring issues pertaining to the fight against malaria and neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). The Group brings together Parliamentarians, academics, and sector professionals to discuss both the problems and solutions to defeating some of the most devastating diseases in the world. The Group aims to strengthen cross-Party Parliamentary support for UK leadership and investment in the fight to end malaria and NTDs, and to cultivate a strong group of Parliamentary champions.

The minutes of the meeting are as follows:

Present

Lord Browne of Ladyton
Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi MP
The Rt Hon the Baroness Hayman GBE
Kate Osamor MP
Taiwo Owatemi MP
Virendra Sharma MP
James Sunderland MP
Derek Thomas MP
The Lord Trees
Catherine West MP

Apologies

Helen Hayes MP
The Baroness Finlay of Llandaff
Afzal Khan MP
Pauline Latham OBE MP
The Rt Hon the Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale
Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP
The Lord Stone of Blackheath
The Baroness Sugg CBE

Also in attendance

Dr Astrid Bonfield, Malaria No More UK
Dr Bahadir Celiktemur, The Leprosy Mission England and Wales
Harriet Davenport, Office of The Lord Trees
Margaret Guyan, The Leprosy Mission England and Wales
Nikita Sarah, The Leprosy Mission Trust India
Nathalie Spells, Office of Catherine West MP
Isabel Towell, Office of The Lord Trees (work experience)
Martha Varney, APPG on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases (Coordinator)

Those Parliamentarians present agreed the election of the following Officers unanimously:

Chair and Registered Contact:

Catherine West MP

Co-Chair:

The Lord Trees

Vice-Chairs:

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi MP

The Rt Hon the Baroness Hayman GBE

Pauline Latham OBE MP

Taiwo Owatemi MP

Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP

The Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick

Virendra Sharma MP

The Baroness Sugg CBE

James Sunderland MP

Derek Thomas MP

Those Parliamentarians present approved the APPG's income and expenditure statement for 2022, which was subsequently signed by the Chair.

Those Parliamentarians present approved the APPG's Annual Report for 2022 and received an update on the work of the APPG from the Coordinator.

Those Parliamentarians present agreed that, over the next year, the APPG would focus on the following priority areas of work:

- raising the profile of malaria and NTDs;
- demonstrating the impact and value of UK aid;
- supporting and promoting British-backed science, research and innovation, with a particular focus on UK regional-based malaria and NTD research institutions; and
- continuing to build close working relationships with Parliamentary Groups, forums and caucuses in endemic countries.

In addition, the APPG will consider exploring themes around:

- harnessing the strengths of researchers in endemic regions and promoting research partnerships;
- promoting coordination and collaboration between malaria and NTD programmes and existing investments to multiply the benefits of UK development – e.g. in nutrition, WASH, education, disability inclusion, and maternal and child health;
- cross-cutting issues – including conflict (with a focus on Sudan), climate change, and changes to the natural environment including flooding – which impact on malaria and NTD rates, and cross-cutting themes prioritised within the International Development Strategy and Integrated Review Refresh – including women and girls, pandemic preparedness, and health system strengthening;
- a focus on high-burden countries, and last mile elimination efforts;
- raising the profile of noma and other neglected diseases; and
- building relationships with Parliamentary Groups, forums and caucuses in other donor countries.

The Parliamentarians were then joined by Nikita Sarah from The Leprosy Mission Trust India, who gave a presentation on the impact of leprosy, with a focus on India, and on The Leprosy Mission's work to create awareness and increase political, public, and social support for people affected by leprosy. This was followed by a discussion on leprosy.