



**Annual General Meeting**  
**Wednesday 30 March 2022**

**Minutes**

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases (APPMG) held its Annual General Meeting on 30 March 2022 in Parliament, discussing plans and priorities for the year ahead.

The APPMG 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**

Catherine West MP  
The Rt Hon the Baroness Hayman GBE  
Afzal Khan MP  
Khalid Mahmood MP  
Virendra Sharma MP  
Baroness Sugg CBE  
James Sunderland MP  
The Lord Trees

**Apologies**

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi MP  
Pauline Latham OBE MP  
Baroness Masham of Ilton DL  
The Rt Hon the Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale  
Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP  
The Lord Stone of Blackheath

**Also in attendance**

Harriet Davenport, Office of The Lord Trees  
Nathalie Spells, Office of Catherine West MP  
Martha Varney, Coordinator of the APPMG

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

Chair and Registered Contact: Catherine West MP  
Vice-Chairs: Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi MP, The Rt Hon the Baroness Hayman GBE, Afzal Khan MP, Pauline Latham OBE MP, Khalid Mahmood MP, Baroness Masham of Ilton DL, Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP, Virendra Sharma MP, Baroness Sugg CBE, James Sunderland MP, The Lord Trees

Those Parliamentarians present approved the APPMG's income and expenditure statement.

Those present approved the APPMG's Annual Report for 2020/21 and the new website, and received an update on the work of the APPMG from the Coordinator.

Those present agreed that over the next Parliamentary year, the APPMG would focus on the following key areas of work:

- demonstrating the value and impact of UK aid on malaria and NTDs in relation to the forthcoming International Development Strategy and ODA spending decisions, and ahead of the upcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) and Seventh Replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund);
- raising the profile of malaria and NTDs ahead of and during CHOGM and the Kigali Summit on Malaria and NTDs;
- making the case for an ambitious UK pledge in the Seventh Replenishment of the Global Fund and supporting the work of the Global Fund;
- supporting and promoting British-backed science, research and innovation, with a particular focus on UK regional-based malaria and NTD research institutions – including, but not limited to, research work across Liverpool, Birmingham, and Glasgow – and international collaboration, including through the EU’s Horizon programme; and
- re-establishing the close working relationships with Parliamentary groups, forums and caucuses in other countries that was developed pre-pandemic under former Chair, Jeremy Lefroy – including, but not limited to, the USA, Europe and Africa.

The Parliamentarians were then joined by Partners who gave updates on their work.

The minutes of this meeting are as follows:

#### Members present

James Sunderland MP

Catherine West MP

#### Partners present

Dr Gemma Aellah, Global Health and Infection Department, Brighton and Sussex Medical School – virtual

Charlotte Dixie, Malaria No More UK (MNMUK) – virtual

Silvia Ferazzi, Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV) – virtual

Kathryn Forbes, London Centre for Neglected Tropical Disease Research

Margaret Guyan, The Leprosy Mission England and Wales

Graziella Scudu, Global Health at Sovereign Strategy

Amy Whalley, Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* (DNDi)

#### Also in attendance

Harriet Davenport, Office of The Lord Trees

Nathalie Spells, Office of Catherine West MP

Martha Varney, Coordinator of the APPMG

Kathryn Forbes updated the APPMG on the work of the London Centre for Neglected Tropical Disease Research, including its expanded membership, its current research projects and its recently announced new Director, Professor Joanne Webster, who succeeds the Directorship from Professor Sir Roy Anderson at the end of the month.

Graziella Scudu updated the APPMG on the work that Sovereign Strategy does with its global health clients, including MMV and PATH.

Margaret Guyan updated the APPMG on the work of the Leprosy Mission England and Wales and her work within the UK Coalition against NTDs. Margaret outlined the Leprosy Mission’s ambition to end the transmission of leprosy and to fight against disability and discrimination, and outlined the role the organisation plays in strengthening health systems. Margaret pointed to the Kigali Summit as a key moment coming up.

Amy Whalley updated the APPMG on her work with DNDi, including recent work on COVAX, dengue fever and with Deepmind, using AI to tackle neglected deadly diseases. Amy outlined plans to expand DNDi engagement with UK High Commissions and noted the 70+ organisations DNDi work with. Amy updated the APPMG on the current uncertainty with regard to long-term future UK funding for Product Development Partnerships (PDPs) and global health research and development – and Members of the APPMG discussed possible strategies around this.

Charlotte Dixie updated the APPMG on the work of MNMUK, including around the upcoming Kigali Summit on Malaria and NTDs, and the Seventh Replenishment of the Global Fund. Charlotte outlined the campaign work that is currently underway to raise awareness of the work and importance of the Global Fund, including through letters and events.

Dr Gemma Aellah updated the APPMG on her work with Brighton and Sussex Medical School, including a recent visit to Rwanda and the focus on stigmatising skin diseases. Gemma talked about the importance of lived experience and integrating that into national health systems.

The Members of the APPMG in attendance were incredibly grateful to the Partners for their updates and insights. The APPMG's Chair and Vice-Chair talked about the difficulties of the current funding situation and possible avenues for the APPMG to explore, including additional conversations with and letters to Ministers, and collaborative work with the global health APPGs and with the APPGs on HIV and AIDs and Global Tuberculosis, especially in relation to the Global Fund.

The Partners then received an update on the work of the APPMG from the Coordinator who outlined the key focal areas of the APPMG for the year ahead, as agreed in the first session of the AGM.