

**WORKSHOP ON EVALUATION OF ANTI-MALARIAL AND  
BIOCIDE ASSAY FOR CONTROL OF MALARIA,  
CENTRAL DRUG RESEARCH INSTITUTE (CDRI), LUCKNOW (INDIA),  
FEBRUARY 14-19, 1994**

**PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES : 4**

The workshop on "Evaluation of Anti-malarial and Biocide Assay for Control of Malaria" including Laboratory Exercises on Screening for Anti-malarial Activity and Biocide Evaluation was organized by the NAM S&T Centre at Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow, India from February 14-19, 1994. The event was co-sponsored by the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS). Initially there was a very good response from various member countries of the NAM S&T Centre and besides India, six countries had submitted their nominations. But finally only Dr. Enamul Haq of IEDCR, Dhaka, Bangladesh, Dr. C. P. Bahadur, Medical Officer, Epidemiology & Disease Control Division of Kathmadu, Nepal and Dr. Modest Mulenga of the Tropical Diseases Research Centre of Zambia could visit India to attend the workshop. The Centre offered the international travel and full local hospitality in Lucknow to all the foreign delegates.

Dr. V.P. Kamboj, Director CDRI welcomed the guests, participants and audience during the Inaugural Session of the workshop. Mr. K.N. Johry, Director of the NAM S&T Centre briefly described the genesis of the workshop. Dr. S.K. Joshi, Director-General of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), India, who was the Chief-Guest during this Session, stressed the need for more such scientific meetings to train young researchers from Third World countries to enable them to independently conduct researches on tropical diseases. Dr. J.C. Katiyar, Scientist, CDRI proposed the vote of thanks.

A rich scientific programme, which included lectures and exhaustive practical training on different aspects of drug development, including chemotherapy, Immunology, Immunodiagnosis against malaria and vector control using biocides was implemented through highly qualified and eminent faculty members. These resource speakers included Dr. V.P. Kamboj, Dr. B.N. Dhawan, Dr. Nityanand, Dr. V.P. Sharma, Dr. V. Dhanda and Dr. R.C. Mahajan. Arrangements were also made for the participants to visit different national facilities, such as Regional Sophisticated Instruments Centre and National Animal Facilities and have close interactions with the faculty members.

During his valedictory address Dr. Nityanand, former Director of CDRI, emphasized the need for quick, easy and field oriented diagnostic methods to tackle the disease effectively and also cautioned against the indiscriminate use of anti-malarials, which make the parasite resistant. An important point particularly

stressed by him was that the therapy in malaria should be carried out with extreme care and for each endemic area the choice of anti-malarials should be made on correct scientific nationals. Other recommendations that emerged were as under:

a) Collaboration in NAM countries in drug-screening and clinical trials of new candidate drugs

b) i. Diagnostic Methods:

- To develop specific field oriented diagnostic methods.

ii. Screening Methods:

- To perfect the *in vitro* screening for tissue schizontocides and sporontocides.
- To develop continuous culture of *P. vivax*.

iii. New Drug Development

- Screening facilities of a few centres should be made available to all NAM country members.
- Blood schizontocides with emphasis on those active against mdr-plasmodia
  - Structural leads from compounds with known activity.
  - Exploration of biochemical leads
  - Screening of the traditional system drugs reputed for anti-pyretic activity
  - Resistance reversing agents
- Tissue Schizontocides: preferably non-8-aminoquinolines
- Experimental evaluation of the interaction of anti-malarial with other drugs of similar structure such as 3-blockers or

iv. Clinical Trials

- Of artemisinin derivatives alone and in combination with other drugs against malaria in areas of drug resistance.

It was also stressed in the Valedictory Session that more and more member countries should be motivated for bigger participation in such meetings for mutual benefits.