

MMV's appoints two new Board Members

Geneva 20 December – The Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV) today announced the appointment of David Alswick and Dr. R. A. Mashelkar to the organisation's Board. David Alswick replaces David Nabarro (Executive Director, Director General's Office, WHO, Switzerland) who has retired from the MMV Board, while Dr. Mashelkar becomes an additional member.

David Alswick, Project Manager of Roll Back Malaria, was Chief of the Health Section in the Programme Division of Unicef's New York headquarters prior to joining Roll Back Malaria in January 2001. Before joining Unicef's headquarters in New York in 1993, he had spent almost 10 years on the field for Unicef in East Africa. David Alswick graduated from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine with an MSc in Human Nutrition in 1976, after having obtained a first degree in Chemistry from the University of Leeds.

Dr. R. A. Mashelkar, Director General of the Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and an internationally acclaimed Chemical Engineer, took up his position at the Indian CSIR in 1995, becoming at age 46 their youngest ever Director General. He has also been consultant in research and technology to Indian industry and to several leading international companies. Dr. Mashelkar has received numerous honours and awards, both in India and abroad, as well as having had the distinction of becoming member of the Science Advisory Council to the Cabinet of India (1997-99).

MMV, Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Christopher Hentschel says, "MMV's project portfolio is managed by a team of dedicated professional scientists, supported by a highly qualified and experienced Board, whose Members come from both the private and public sectors. To that effect we are extremely pleased to welcome Dr. Mashelkar and David Alswick and we look forward to gaining benefit from their experience."

The mission of MMV is to bring public, private and philanthropic partners together to fund and manage the discovery, development and registration of new medicines for the treatment and prevention of malaria in disease-endemic countries.

MMV was established as a not-for-profit Swiss Foundation under statutes dated 15th November 1999. Its offices are located in Geneva close to its founding partners the World Health Organization – WHO and the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations – IFPMA.

MMV is a key part of the WHO Roll Back Malaria campaign to bring sustainable improvements to malaria control and prevention over the coming decade.

Funding and support for MMV operations are currently being provided by the following: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, ExxonMobil Corporation, Global Forum for Health Research, IFPMA, Netherlands Minister for Development Cooperation, Rockefeller Foundation, Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation, UK Department for International Development, The World Bank and WHO (Roll Back Malaria and Tropical Disease Research).

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