



Video message of WHO Director General Dr Tedros on the occasion of World Malaria Day 2018

The ceremonies were held at Imam-Jawad hall on 1st May 2018, under the global theme of “Ready to beat Malaria” with participation of authorities from Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME) including Dr Raeisi, Deputy Minister for Public Health; Dr Haghdoost, Deputy Minister for Strategic Planning & Coordination; Dr Gouya, Director of MOHME’s Center for Communicable Diseases Control; distinguished guests from academia, UN agencies, members of the parliament and health volunteers from affected communities.

Dr Pedro Alonso, Global Malaria Program Director, Dr Ghasem Zamani, Regional Malaria Advisor from EMRO and Dr Christoph Hamelmann, WHO Representative in Iran participated in this event as well.

Dr Alireza Raeisi Deputy Minister for Public Health addressed the seminar with a welcome message and a presentation about malaria globally, in the region and in Iran. He expressed his ministry’s commitment to eliminate malaria in Iran, however It needs cooperation of neighboring countries and international organizations for cross-border transfer of disease.

Dr Pedro Alonso said that malaria infects 200 million people annually and 500,000 deaths occur worldwide. However, is it a preventable disease for which health ministers committed to eliminate by 2030. Iran is among the 20 countries which are expected to eliminate malaria within a few years and is the most likely one to succeed.

Dr Christoph Hamelmann acknowledged the remarkable efforts and significant achievements of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education of the Islamic Republic of Iran and other stakeholders towards the target of malaria elimination. He expressed that in the final steps towards elimination, special attention is needed to programme strengthening across various sectors. In addition, it is recommended to strengthen risk analysis and forecasting in internal and cross-border settings.



Speech of Dr Hamelmann WHO Representative, I.R.Iran on World Malaria Day 2018

“Integrated vector control management plays a critical role in this regard while cross border collaboration and community mobilization are two essential elements which should be strengthened and maintained to avoid reintroduction.” He added.

“Technical capacity and standards in surveillance, diagnosis, clinical management, monitoring and evaluation should be maintained while new case reports are further decreasing.”

During the ceremony, a new book entitled “History of the successful struggle against Malaria in the Islamic Republic of Iran” was launched, which was followed by the acknowledgement of some of the pioneers of malaria control in Iran, including Dr Allan Schapira, the world-recognized malaria expert who is currently helping WHO and the MOHME in developing an updated roadmap towards malaria elimination in the country and is the chief editor of the book. Dr Ahmad Raeisi National Malaria Program Manager presented also a fine rug portraying him.



Launch of the book "History of Successful struggle against Malaria in I.R.Iran"