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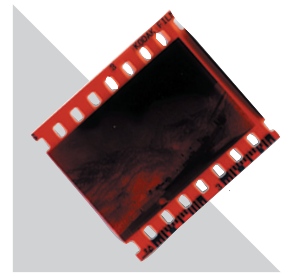
Malaria in Taiwan

Chapter One

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Prologue

Themes and Implications of the Special Edition



In the 1950s, the World Health Organization (WHO) adopted DDT (dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane) indoor residual spraying (IRS) to eliminate *Anopheles* (An.) mosquitoes; and malaria eradication programs were initiated in countries around the world, with many countries in the Mediterranean region and the Americas applying DDT indoor residual spraying and achieving remarkable results. After Taiwan was retroceded by Japan to the Republic of China in 1945, Taiwan implemented a malaria control and eradication program in 1946, involving a preparatory phase (1946-1951), an attack phase (1952-1957), a consolidation phase (1958-1964), and later, a maintenance phase of sustained control and prevention of malaria, which officially began in 1965 when Taiwan was issued with the WHO Certificate of Registration for eradication, and has continued to the present. To date,



Dr. Siegel presents the WHO Certificate of Registration to Mr. Lien on December 4, 1965



President Chen Shui-bian receives a warm welcome from well-wishers at Sao Tome and Principe's international airport.

with the exception of a few sporadic cases of indigenous transmission along the northern coast in 1972, an induced transmission case at the Taipei Veterans General Hospital in 1995, and two cases of introduced transmission in Taitung County, all malaria cases in Taiwan since 1965 have been imported transmissions, which average around 30 to 40 case per year, making Taiwan one of the few countries to have succeeded in maintaining an excellent record in malaria eradication.

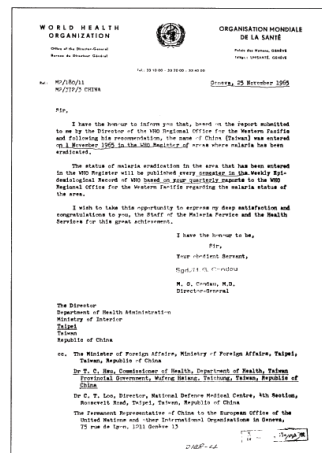
On July 4, 2002, while on a state visit to our African diplomatic ally, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, President Chen Shui-bian and Sao Tome and Principe's president and health minister reached an agreement to implement antimalaria measures in Sao Tome and Principe. Accordingly, on December 2 of the same year, Sao Tome and Principe's health minister headed a delegation to Taiwan and participated in a bilateral meeting with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) under the Department of Health (DOH) and relevant experts. It was decided during the meeting that Taiwan would draw up a plan of malaria control operations to assist Sao Tome and Principe in its antimalaria work, and thereby initiating a new era for Taiwan in antimalaria diplomacy.



President Chen Shui-bian visits the ROC medical mission's out-patient clinic in Sao Tome and Principe.

Chapter One

The eradication of malaria was a hard-won accomplishment, and 14 years ago, in 1991, the DOH published *Malaria Eradication in Taiwan* to document Taiwan's efforts and experience in the control and prevention of the disease. As this year marks the 40th anniversary of malaria eradication, the DOH will hold a commemorative ceremony and an international academic symposium, which veterans of the antimalaria program will be invited to attend so that their contributions can be commended and their experience passed on. International scholars and experts will be invited to discuss global developments in malaria studies. The commemoration activities also include the publication of this special edition, which covers Taiwan's eradication of malaria, the implementation of the maintenance phase to date, epidemiological analysis, the surveillance of *Anopheles* mosquitoes, and a vision for both passing down Taiwan's valuable experience and promoting international cooperation.



WHO Certificate of Registration



Celebration of malaria eradication

complacent, as cases of imported malaria continue to occur and *Anopheles minimus* (*An. minimus*) is still present on the island. It is hoped that the publication of this special edition will enable malaria prevention personnel to improve their understanding of antimalaria efforts past and present, and gain valuable experience from doing so. It is also hoped that the experience of the veterans will be passed on, the achievements of the maintenance phase sustained, and Taiwan's experience promoted through international exchange and cooperation, thereby assisting nations friendly to Taiwan and perhaps ultimately resolving one of the world's major public health issues.

The influence of globalization and the convenience of travel have erased the boundaries between countries, both accelerating and broadening the spread of infectious diseases. Although Taiwan has achieved the eradication of malaria, we should not become