



Anti-Malaria Efforts Yield New Success

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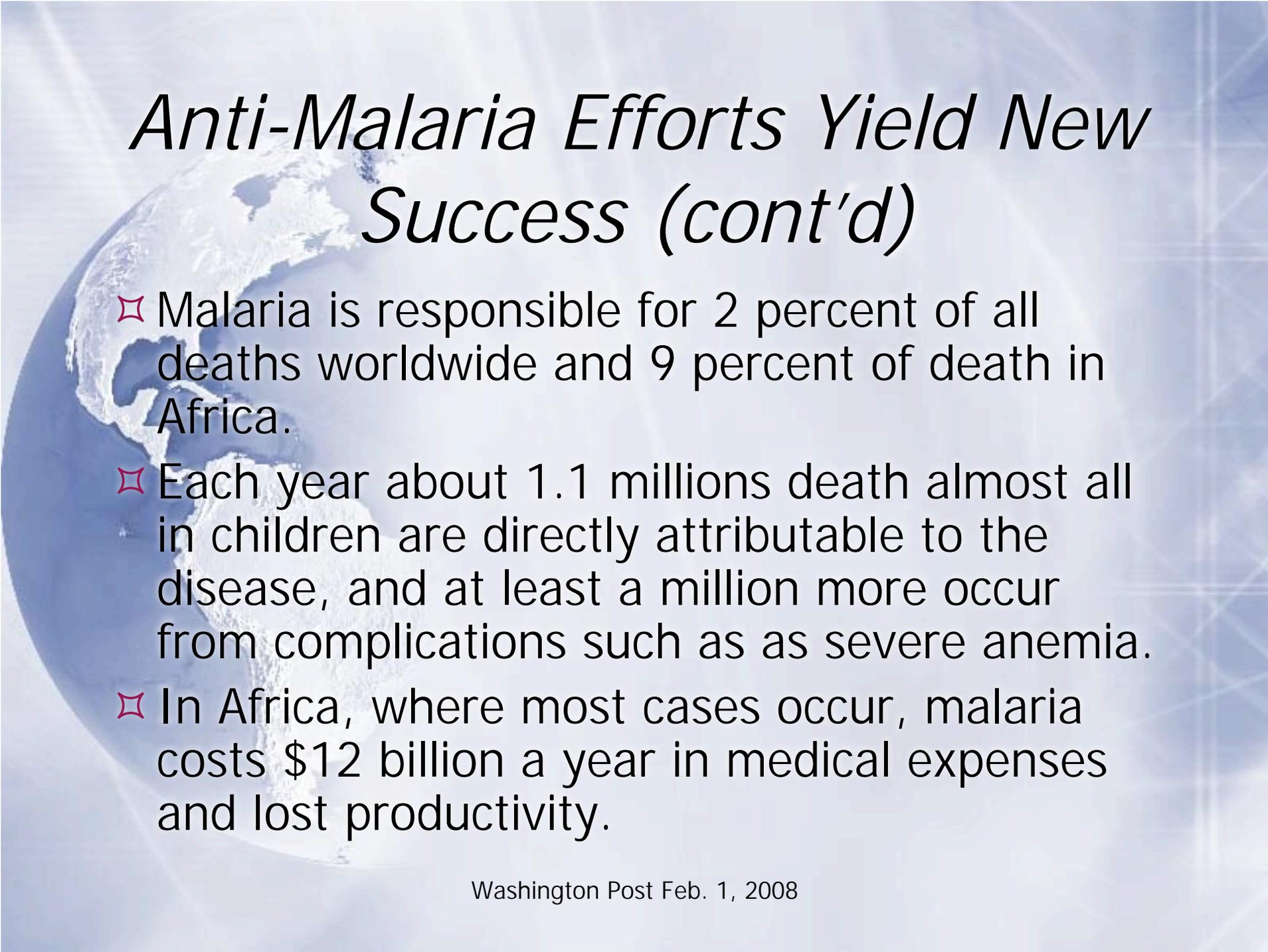
Washington Post Feb. 1, 2008



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- ✧ Research finds Unprecedented Drop in deaths in two Hard-Hit Countries
- ✧ Widespread use of insecticide-treated mosquito nets and state-of-the-art drugs has been successful in cutting malaria deaths in half in two countries, reported by the World Health Organization.

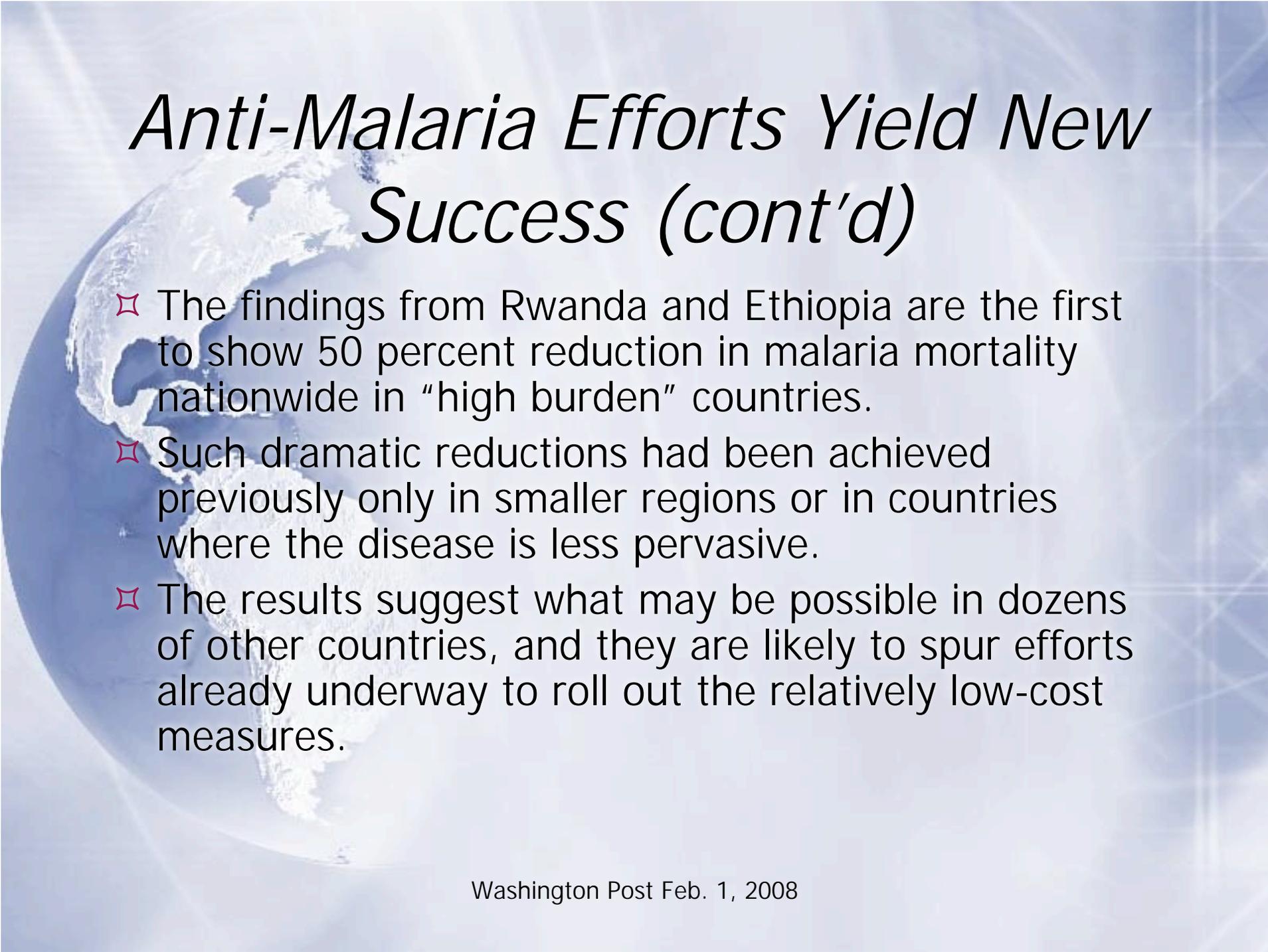
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Anti-Malaria Efforts Yield New Success (cont'd)

- ✧ Malaria is responsible for 2 percent of all deaths worldwide and 9 percent of death in Africa.
- ✧ Each year about 1.1 millions death almost all in children are directly attributable to the disease, and at least a million more occur from complications such as as severe anemia.
- ✧ In Africa, where most cases occur, malaria costs \$12 billion a year in medical expenses and lost productivity.

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- ✧ The findings from Rwanda and Ethiopia are the first to show 50 percent reduction in malaria mortality nationwide in “high burden” countries.
- ✧ Such dramatic reductions had been achieved previously only in smaller regions or in countries where the disease is less pervasive.
- ✧ The results suggest what may be possible in dozens of other countries, and they are likely to spur efforts already underway to roll out the relatively low-cost measures.

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- ✧ "This is the first time we have seen these results with the new tools," said Arata Kochi, head of malaria programs for World Health Organization.
- ✧ "This is the a genuinely historic achievement, said Richard G.A. Geachem, former director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria who is now the director of the Global Health Group at the University of California at San Francisco. "This is not theoretical. We do not have to wait for a vaccine or new drugs. If we implement today's technologies aggressively on a national scale we will have a big impact."

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