



**XVIII International Congress
for Tropical Medicine and Malaria**
and
**XLVIII Congress of the
Brazilian Society of Tropical Medicine**

**XXVIII Brazilian Annual Meeting of Applied Research on Chagas Disease,
XVI Brazilian Annual Meeting of Applied Research on Leishmaniasis and
III Latin American Congress on Travel Medicine**

23 to 27 September 2012 – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil – Royal Tulip Hotel



**HEALTH AND NEGLECTED DISEASE CONTROL
LETTER FROM RIO DE JANEIRO**

Rio de Janeiro, 27th September, 2012

The Neglected Tropical Diseases, a group of disorders that include malaria, dengue, yellow fever, leishmaniasis, Chagas disease and schistosomiasis, among others, are associated to poverty and social vulnerability and affect one sixth of the world population. Facing this reality, we scientists present at the **XVIII International Congress of Tropical Medicine and Malaria** and the **XLVIII Congress of the Brazilian Society of Tropical Medicine**, held in Rio de Janeiro from the 23rd to the 27th September 2012, committed to the advances of science and technology, and with the conviction that it is possible to promote real changes aimed at the control of the Tropical Neglected Diseases for the benefit of society, ask the full attention of Government Control Programs, International organizations, and financial support agencies to the following recommendations:

- Guarantee the inclusion of Neglected Tropical Diseases prevention and control in the political agenda of all governments in their different areas of activities;
- Give priority, expand, and assure sustainability of funding for all activities aimed at the control of Neglected Tropical Diseases;
- Significantly increase resources for funding research and innovation methods to the control of Neglected Tropical Diseases;
- Stimulate the development of international research networks, and determine priorities focusing the control of Neglected Tropical Diseases;
- Promote training in human resources in post graduation programs with projects on Neglected Tropical Diseases;
- Include private investment on research programs and resources aiming at the scientific and technological development and innovation in the control of Neglected Tropical Diseases;
- Promote continuous actions of education and communication with the society aiming at improving the social and economical living conditions, for the control of Neglected Tropical Diseases.

➤ *José Rodrigues Coura, President of the XVIII International Congress of Tropical Medicine and Malaria (ICTMM)*



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- *Cláudio Tadeu Daniel-Ribeiro, President of the International Federation for Tropical Medicine (IFTM), 2012-2016 and President of the Scientific Committee of the XVIII ICTMM*
- *Carlos Henrique Nery Costa, President of the Brazilian Society of Tropical Medicine (SBMT) and Member of the Executive Committee of the XVIII ICTMM*
- *Jorge Kalil, Director of the Instituto Butantan and Member of the Executive Committee of the XVIII ICTMM*
- *José Mauro Peralta, Professor of Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) and Member of the Executive Committee of the XVIII ICTMM*
- *Marcos Boulos, Director of Faculty of Medicine of Universidade de São Paulo (USP) and Member of the Executive Committee of the XVIII ICTMM*
- *Marcus Vinícius Guimarães de Lacerda, Director of Education and Research of Fundação de Medicina Tropical Doutor Heitor Vieira Dourado (FMT-HVD) and Member of the Executive Committee of the XVIII ICTMM*
- *Pedro Luiz Tauil, Collaborating Professor of Universidade de Brasília and Member of the Executive Committee of the XVIII ICTMM*
- *Pierre Ambroise-Thomas, President of International Federation for Tropical Medicine (IFTM), 2008-2012*
- *Paulo Gadelha, President of Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz/Ministério da Saúde)*
- *Eric Stobbaerts, Director of Regional Office of Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative from América Latina (DNDi)*
- *Tyler Fainstat, Executive Director of Médecins Sans Frontières, Brazil*
- *David Reddy, President of Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV)*
- *The XVIII ICTMM final plenary representing 2.589 attendees*