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Cuba: Labiofam Congress Highlights Campaign to Eradicate Malaria in West Africa

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The results of the campaign to eradicate malaria in West African countries will be showcased at Labiofam 2014 International Congress, which kick off in this city today with representatives from several countries. Dr. Marianne J Ngoulla, Health Advisor of West Africa Economic Community, will give a lecture on the subject, according to the program of the event which will run at Havana Conventions Palace until next Thursday.

Labiofam exhibition will also open today.

Cuban specialists of the Biopharmaceutical Laboratories Business Group in Africa are engaged in the fight against malaria, a disease that causes about a million deaths worldwide.

In the 67th Assembly of the World Health Organization (WHO), held last May and headed by Cuba, it was reported that Labiofam work in Africa is aimed at vector control.

Malaria is an infection caused by parasites of Plasmodium genus, which is transmitted to man through the bite of an Anopheles mosquito.

Labiofam, unlike other firms that use chemical, works with biological products that cause damage neither the environment, nor the people, experts of such entity, belonging to the Ministry of Agriculture, said.

Biolarvicides as Bactivec and Griselesf have resulted in a significant reduction of disease transmission in areas where applied.

Although the campaign is against malaria, these products control all kinds of mosquito, so, dengue, filariasis, encephalitis and chikungunya transmitters have also been eliminated.

Labiofam specialists are currently working in Angola, Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea and

Burkina Faso and there are possibilities of extending the program to other nations.

Felix Quintanar, representative for Africa of the Project against Malaria, explained that they not only apply the product, but also transferred the knowledge and technology to confront that affection.

He announced that currently three factories are being built in Nigeria, Ghana and Tanzania for the production of bio-larvicides in order to supply them to the entire African region.

It is worth noting the work of Labiofam specialists in Africa when taking into account that 90 percent of malaria deaths worldwide occur in that continent and most are children under five years.

According to the 2013 report published by WHO, since 2000 to 2012, the deaths by the disease in the world fell by 42 percent and in the case of children in 48.

Labiofam 2014 includes the 3rd International Symposium of Products in Cancer Therapy, in which recent results in that field will be presented.

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