

19 November 2015

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Mogens Lykketoft,
President of the 70th Session of the General Assembly,
At the Reception to celebrate the successes of malaria under the
MDGs and the achievements of the RBM Partnership**

Mr. Deputy Secretary-General, Mr. Herve Verhoosel, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentleman, it is my pleasure to co-host this reception and to join you all in this celebration.

The MDGs have served as a clarion call for global efforts to rid the world of disease and poverty. They have inspired partnerships and a commitment to change, and the results, particularly in the fight against malaria, have been tremendous.

These successes including those of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership would not have been possible were it not for the work of many people represented in this room tonight – both donor and endemic countries; Mr. Verhoosel and the rest of the Roll Back Malaria Secretariat; the World Health Organization and many others. Above all, those successes relied on those people working in communities around the world who helped to scale-up implementation of life-saving interventions.

As President of the UN General Assembly, I congratulate and thank you all for your efforts.

We have, however, only reached the half-way point.

With the SDGs, member states have committed to ending the malaria epidemic by 2030. Working together, guided by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership's Strategic Plan, we can stretch the value of our investments, increase efficiencies, maximize impact and save millions of lives.

If we do this, in fifteen years-time, I am confident that we will be back here again, celebrating a world free of malaria.

Thank you.