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**PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative announces new Director of Strategy and Operations**

Christian Loucq, MD, joins MVI leadership team, will serve as program's interim director  
*For immediate release.*

**Seattle, Washington, February 2, 2007**-PATH announced that Dr. Christian Loucq has been selected as Director of Strategy and Operations for the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI). Dr Loucq's position is similar to that of a Chief Operating Officer in industry; he will be responsible for operational alignment and services in support of MVI's strategies and will participate in setting the program's strategic direction.

Dr. Loucq brings to PATH 30 years of experience in medicine, pharmaceuticals, vaccines and global health. His professional experience spans the globe: born and educated in France, he has lived and worked in Algeria, Belgium, Chad, China, India, the Netherlands, Niger, Switzerland, Thailand and the United Kingdom. He has managed vaccine businesses in China, India and Thailand, as well as projects with a local manufacturing component. Dr. Loucq has been involved in most stages of vaccine development and has worked with large vaccine companies such as today's GSK and Sanofi Pasteur, and with biotech companies (Rhein Biotech and more recently Acambis). He has an extensive experience partnering with local governments and building public-private partnerships as well as setting up local private collaborations. He earned his State Doctorate of Human Medicine at the University of Paris X and a Diploma of Public Health and Tropical Medicine from the University of Aix-Marseilles. Dr. Loucq is well-positioned to further the MVI mission to accelerate the development of promising malaria vaccines and ensure their availability and accessibility in the developing world.

For the immediate future, Dr. Loucq will serve as MVI's Interim Director while PATH conducts an international search to recruit the next director for the program. Dr. Loucq will be assisted by the MVI leadership team, including newcomer Sally Ethelston. Ms. Ethelston has joined PATH to oversee communications and advocacy for MVI. Prior to joining PATH, she worked in international reproductive health for more than 15 years, with an emphasis on communications, policy analysis and advocacy. She directed the communications program at Population Action International for more than 10 years, followed by three years leading the group's Financing Project, focused on tracking the policies, programs and funding of the international donor community. Ms. Ethelston also has worked as a consultant to the World Bank and International Planned Parenthood Federation. She has an interdisciplinary Masters degree in Arab Studies from Georgetown University, where she focused on economic and social development in the region.

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PATH is an international, nonprofit organization that creates sustainable, culturally relevant solutions, enabling communities worldwide to break longstanding cycles of poor health. By collaborating with diverse public- and private-sector partners, PATH helps provide appropriate health technologies and vital strategies that change the way people think and act. PATH's work improves global health and well-being. For more information, please visit [www.path.org](http://www.path.org).

The PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI) is a global program established through an initial grant of \$50 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which awarded it an additional \$100 million in 2003 and \$107 million in 2005. MVI's mission is to accelerate the development of promising malaria vaccines and ensure their availability and accessibility for the developing world. MVI's vision is a world where vaccines protect children from death and severe disease caused by malaria. For information, visit <http://www.malariavaccine.org>.