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## **INFORMATION NOTE ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE**

### **Kenya**

The Order of Malta is expanding its healthcare services in Kenya beyond Nairobi and into two districts of the Central Province. Over the next five years the program is expected to reach 36 healthcare centers and 1.4 million people. Many Kenyans living in rural areas cannot afford the transportation costs of reaching a clinic in Nairobi, thus the expansion of the Order's health care project in Kenya is vital to combating tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. Besides examining, diagnosing, and treating tuberculosis, the healthcare centers will also train community healthcare workers to insure that medications are taken properly. The new programs will continue to address HIV/AIDS by providing counseling, diagnosis, and preventative measures.

### **Myanmar**

The Order of Malta has completed a 40 month-long project in the Wa Special Region of the Shan State of Myanmar that sought to create sustainable malaria treatment and prevention programs. The program served to raise awareness about the disease and to reduce the prevalence and impact of malaria in the remote highland area. Four mobile teams regularly visited public markets offering free testing and treatment of malaria.

The project has screened more than 69,000 people for malaria, with those testing positive receiving treatment. The Order has distributed insecticide treated mosquito nets to 9,000 villagers. The lasting impact and sustainability of this project is visible through the 49 lab technicians who were trained, provided with equipment, and then posted to rural healthcare centers, where they will continue the work.

New York , October 2, 2006