

October 25, 2012

## **Sumitomo Chemical Donates 10,000 Olyset® Nets for Senegal's Flood Disaster Areas**

Sumitomo Chemical has announced that it will donate 10,000 of its Olyset® Net\* mosquito nets for malaria prevention to the National Malaria Control Program of the Republic of Senegal to assist those affected by the massive flooding that occurred in the country in late August through early September this year.

In Senegal, malaria transmitted by mosquitoes is the disease with the highest morbidity and mortality, and tropical malaria, which is the most severe form of malaria and can lead to death if left untreated, accounts for 98% of the disease. While the number of people infected with malaria has been on a declining trend in recent years, the regions affected by the recent immense flooding currently find increasing mosquito populations at places with standing water, where mosquitoes breed, and the risk of malaria infection remains high.

Sumitomo Chemical produces Olyset® Net and supplies it to countries in Africa and elsewhere in the world. In addition, the company has taken part in international initiatives to assist victims of major disasters in the past by donating Olyset® Net to affected areas, for example, 5,000 nets to Haiti when the country was hit by a huge earthquake in 2010 and 6,000 nets to Thailand on the occasion of severe flooding in 2011. As far as Senegal is concerned, Sumitomo Chemical had donated 16,500 nets in 2009 as part of a malaria eradication campaign. This time, the company has decided to donate additional 10,000 nets in light of the dire situation in the flood-stricken areas and in response to a request for assistance from the country.

Sumitomo Chemical sincerely hopes for a rapid recovery of those areas affected by the flooding in Senegal. The company stays fully committed to actively promoting CSR activities that will serve the interests of the international community.

\*Olyset® Net is anti-malarial mosquito net made from polyethylene fibers in which an insecticide is incorporated. It is highly durable and retains insecticidal efficacy for over five years even with repeated washings because the insecticide migrates to the surface of the fibers gradually. It is an economical and effective means of protecting people from the mosquitoes that transmit malaria. Olyset® Net is the first net endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2001 as a long-lasting insecticidal net.