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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AND CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS JOINS
INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS AT CDC'S VECTOR CONTROL MEETING,
FEBRUARY 27-28, 2017**

Washington, DC, February 27, 2017 — The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), representing nearly 3,000 local governmental health departments, joins more than 150 scientists to exchange facts and information about options and methods for monitoring and controlling *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, and to reduce illness in people infected with Zika and other vector-borne diseases at a meeting hosted by the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta. Epidemiologist Dr. Oscar Alleyne, NACCHO's Senior Advisor for Public Health Programs, will provide the local public health department perspective on the Zika emergency.

In addition, NACCHO, in collaboration with the CDC, has just released a summary of findings evaluating vector control capacity across ten Zika Virus (ZIKV) priority jurisdictions. This initiative was launched by the CDC Zika State Coordination Task Force (SCTF) and the Zika Vector Issues Team as part of their national ZIKV response efforts. Mosquito control activities were assessed across jurisdictions in Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, and Los Angeles County, each identified as vulnerable for potential impact resulting from ZIKV. NACCHO supported this effort by developing and distributing an electronic quantitative tool to measure vector control competency for local health departments (LHDs) and vector control agencies serving these localities.

Dr. Alleyne said, “NACCHO is grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with the scientists at the CDC. The Zika emergency is having a profound emotional and financial effect on families in the U.S. Our local health departments are on the front lines working to protect their communities from the virus, and by collaborating with the CDC, NACCHO can arm its local health departments with the best research and data available. Collaborations like this one are crucial to protecting the public’s health. These results show that in order for us to have a strong line of defense against Zika and other mosquito-transmitted diseases, we need to support our local jurisdictions — the ones tasked with the responsibility of vector control. If they fail, we fail. But be warned that when the lives of our communities are at stake, public health is not in the business of failure.”

NACCHO and the CDC compiled findings and implications into [this slide deck](#), aiming to further advance LHD vector control and ZIKV response planning. Collectively, the responses illustrate that mosquito control programs, expertise, activities, and financial resources are highly variable throughout the ten jurisdictions. The assessment revealed a wide range of capacity, including agencies with zero to minimal capabilities, and others with fully operational programs, equipped with advanced integrated mosquito management resources.

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About NACCHO

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) represents the nation's nearly 3,000 local governmental health departments. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to protect and promote health and well-being for all people in their communities. For more information about NACCHO, please visit www.naccho.org.