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Global Stakeholders Gather at UN General Assembly to Recognize Critical Role of Nutrition Leadership in Advancing Health and Development

*President Jakaya Kikwete of Tanzania Keynotes DSM and Sight and Life Event
Lancet Author Dr. Robert Black Honored with Sight and Life's Nutrition Leadership Award*

New York, New York [September 24, 2013] – Health and development stakeholders will gather today at the UN General Assembly to recognize the vital role of strong leadership in improving nutrition, a precondition to achieving many of the Millennium Development Goals. DSM, *Sight and Life*, the World Food Programme and World Vision will co-host the reception, which will be keynoted by President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete of the United Republic of Tanzania. Lead *Lancet* Maternal and Child Nutrition Series author Dr. Robert Black and the Maternal and Child Nutrition Study Group will receive *Sight and Life's* Nutrition Leadership Award.

"Dr. Robert Black and the *Lancet* Maternal and Child Nutrition Study Group's tireless work has given us the strong evidence base we need to move policies and programs forward to improve the lives of the world's most vulnerable populations," said Dr. Klaus Kraemer, Director of *Sight and Life*. "I can't think of a more deserving recipient of *Sight and Life's* second Nutrition Leadership Award. *Sight and Life* is pleased to join with leaders across sectors—from civil society to government to business—in turning this evidence into action."

The *Lancet* Maternal and Child Undernutrition Series—led by Dr. Robert Black in 2008, and updated in 2013—provided the evidence base that sparked the recent wave of commitments to nutrition, including the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement. The *Lancet* Maternal and Child Nutrition Study Group under Dr. Robert Black's leadership identified that good nutrition during the 1,000-day period between a mother's pregnancy and her child's second birthday is a critical window of opportunity to improve the health and prosperity of individuals, communities and countries.

"The latest findings from the 2013 *Lancet* nutrition series furthers the evidence base that good nutrition is a fundamental driver of a wide range of development goals," said Dr. Robert Black. "On behalf of the *Lancet* Maternal and Child Nutrition Study Group, I am honored to accept the Nutrition Leadership Award from *Sight and Life*. I look forward to continuing to work with this community to prioritize and address the issue of malnutrition, the cause of 45% (3.1 million) of all under 5 child deaths."

“It is fitting that Dr. Black was recognized for his leadership at this gathering of global leaders—the UN General Assembly. Everyone here has a role to play if we are to align interventions and improve nutrition in the critical 1,000-day window of opportunity,” said Dr. Manfred Eggersdorfer, Senior Vice President and Head for Nutritional Science Advocacy at DSM Nutritional Products.

The reception is part of DSM and *Sight and Life's Vitamins in Motion* campaign, and will celebrate the fundamental role leadership in nutrition plays in turning commitment into results, monitoring progress and coordinating across sectors. The *Sight and Life* Nutrition Leadership Award is presented each year to an individual, group or entity that has been a catalyst for sustainable change in global nutrition. The previous award was presented to SUN Movement Coordinator Dr. David Nabarro at the 2012 World Economic Forum in Davos.

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About DSM

Royal DSM is a global science-based company active in health, nutrition and materials. By connecting its unique competences in Life Sciences and Materials Sciences DSM is driving economic prosperity, environmental progress and social advances to create sustainable value for all stakeholders.

www.dsm.com

About Sight and Life

Sight and Life is a humanitarian nutrition think tank of DSM that cares about the world's most vulnerable populations, and exists to help improve their nutritional status. *Sight and Life* promotes research, shares best practices and mobilizes support for the world's undernourished.

www.sightandlife.org

About Vitamins in Motion

Vitamins in Motion is a DSM and *Sight and Life* initiative to highlight the critical role vitamins play in overall nutrition and health, and to advocate for increased access, through innovative solutions, to the essential vitamins all people need to be healthy and well-nourished. *Vitamins in Motion* aims to shine a spotlight on the power of vitamins in unlocking human potential so that everyone, everywhere is able to contribute to a shared, prosperous future.

www.vitaminsinmotion.com