



11TH DNDi PARTNERS' MEETING

INNOVATION AND ACCESS THROUGH
SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS

Kampala, Uganda • 4 October 2018



DNDi

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*

MESSAGE

From the Director, DNDi Africa Regional Office

To Our Esteemed Partners,

I wish to take this opportunity to welcome all of you to our 11th Partners' Meeting, here in Kampala, Uganda. I am delighted you are joining us at this important gathering of stakeholders and partners from Africa and beyond, which will celebrate our collective innovations for neglected patients, and provide important opportunities for discussion of the challenges we face and potential solutions we can adopt.

The meeting also marks a celebration of another kind, the 15th anniversary of DNDi. DNDi Africa was initiated in 2003 in Nairobi, Kenya soon after the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) became one of the founding partners of DNDi and a member of the Board of Directors of DNDi.

Since 2003, we have continuously expanded our efforts to deliver new and improved treatments for neglected patients in Africa and globally. We first focused on visceral leishmaniasis, and then in 2015, we began to contribute towards developing better treatment formulations for children living with HIV with clinical trials first in Kenya and later in Uganda, South Africa, and Tanzania. In 2017, we started supporting clinical trials in Sudan for mycetoma, a highly neglected disease only recently added to the WHO list of NTDs. Most recently in 2018, we began working in antimicrobial resistance, specifically on a clinical trial on treatment for neonatal sepsis with the Global Antibiotic Research & Development Partnership (GARDP), created by DNDi and the World Health Organization (WHO), and incubated by DNDi.

We have also had the pleasure of reinforcing DNDi's network in Africa with the creation of offices in Kinshasa, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, which supports the work of DNDi and partners on sleeping sickness, and more recently, an office in Cape Town, South Africa, jointly created with GARDP.

Together with my colleagues in Kinshasa and Cape Town, our responsibility is to build, strengthen and sustain regional partnerships to fight neglected diseases for the benefit of neglected patients. DNDi in Africa works with more than 85 partners, including research institutions, health ministries, pharmaceutical companies, communities and non-governmental organizations, to execute ongoing R&D projects, increase access to treatments, and support policy change.

As we celebrate 15 years of DNDi, we celebrate 15 years of regional partnerships. I extend a warm welcome to our partners in Africa, whose collaboration through regional platforms and networks, such as the Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform (LEAP), the human African trypanosomiasis (HAT) platform, and the more recently established filarial and HIV research networks, are so fundamental to our success.

Together, we shall continue the search for improved treatments for the benefit of neglected patients. On behalf of my team in Nairobi and my colleagues in Kinshasa and Cape Town, please feel most welcome to our 11th Partners Meeting. And happy birthday to DNDi!



Dr Monique Wasunna
Director, DNDi Africa Regional Office

MESSAGE

From the Chair of the Board & the Executive Director of DNDi

It is with immense pleasure that we welcome you to DNDi's 11th Partners' Meeting here in Kampala. This is a meeting that DNDi holds every couple of years to gather together partners and stakeholders who are focused on the important work of developing urgently needed new treatments for neglected patients.

DNDi is working with many of you here on therapeutic solutions for sleeping sickness, leishmaniasis in its many forms, mycetoma, filarial diseases, paediatric HIV and hepatitis C. This year, DNDi has in its portfolio several promising projects reaching the last mile of development, which could soon help to change the lives of neglected patients.

Despite the challenges, collectively we have made great progress, and we are meeting today in a country that has prioritized the health of its people, including through a commitment to eliminating sleeping sickness and increasing access to improved paediatric HIV therapies.

For this reason, we are particularly honoured to have the Right Honourable Dr Ruhakana Rugunda, the Prime Minister of Uganda, open our meeting today, accompanied by the highest representation from the Ugandan Ministry of Health, the Honourable Dr Jane Ruth Aceng.

The theme of this gathering is **From Innovation to Access in Africa – The Way Forward**, and the keynote address will be delivered by Professor Kelly Chibale of the H3D Centre at the University of Cape Town. Prof. Chibale will speak to us about the rapid advances being made in drug discovery in Africa, for Africa, by Africa, and the enormous drug R&D potential here that is now being realized. We are also extremely fortunate to have health ministers from Uganda, Kenya, and Sudan here to speak to us about the role of R&D innovation in helping to achieve Universal Health Coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals.

This meeting of partners is the culmination of several days of disease-specific research platform meetings on sleeping sickness, leishmaniasis, paediatric HIV, and filarial diseases, and we will benefit from their work in Kampala by hearing a real-time assessment of progress made, the challenges ahead, and their top priorities for action.

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We are also fortunate that we will benefit from the insights of top-notch panellists from all areas and sectors collaborating with DNDi, including donors and many partners from Africa.

Thank you for joining us here. None of what we have achieved together so far, and none of what we will achieve together in the coming years could happen without engaged partnerships, the basis for everything we do. We wish you an excellent and inspirational meeting.



Dr Marie-Paule Kieny
Chair of the Board



Dr Bernard Pécoul
Executive Director

DNDi IN AFRICA

DNDi has its roots in Africa. One of the key meetings that ultimately led to the establishment of DNDi in 2003 was held in Nairobi, Kenya, where researchers from 27 African countries voted to be represented by the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) as a founding member of DNDi.

Three regional offices in Africa

In addition to the office in Nairobi, since those early days 15 years ago DNDi has opened an office in Kinshasa, DR Congo, to provide support for sleeping sickness clinical trials and, most recently, in Cape Town, South Africa, where a regional office hosted by the South African Medical Research Council also serves the Global Antibiotics Research and Development Partnership (GARDP), established by WHO and DNDi in 2016 and incubated by DNDi.



All three regional offices in Africa play a critically important role in building, strengthening and sustaining regional partnerships to lead and coordinate drug R&D projects for new treatments for neglected patients.

Today, DNDi works with more than 85 partners in Africa to execute clinical trials in leishmaniasis, mycetoma, filarial diseases, sleeping sickness, paediatric HIV, and neonatal sepsis (for GARDP)

Four clinical research platforms & networks

With our partners, DNDi has created disease-specific research platforms and networks to provide training, encourage knowledge sharing, and amplify research being conducted by regional researchers. DNDi acts as secretariat to both the Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform (LEAP), and the Human African Trypanosomiasis Platform, clinical research networks that bring together experts from endemic African countries to facilitate clinical testing and increased access to better treatments, and to build awareness of neglected diseases and neglected patients through regional advocacy and communications. Networks of clinical researchers in filarial diseases and paediatric HIV are also now being established.

In 2017 alone, these platforms and networks trained some 500 clinicians, scientists and staff of clinical trial sites in Africa.

Human African Trypanosomiasis (HAT) Platform

- › Founded in 2005 in Kinshasa, DR Congo
- › 120 members from over 20 institutions

Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform (LEAP)

- › Founded in 2003 in Khartoum, Sudan
- › 60 members from over 20 institutions

Filarial Clinical Research Network

- › 31 network members

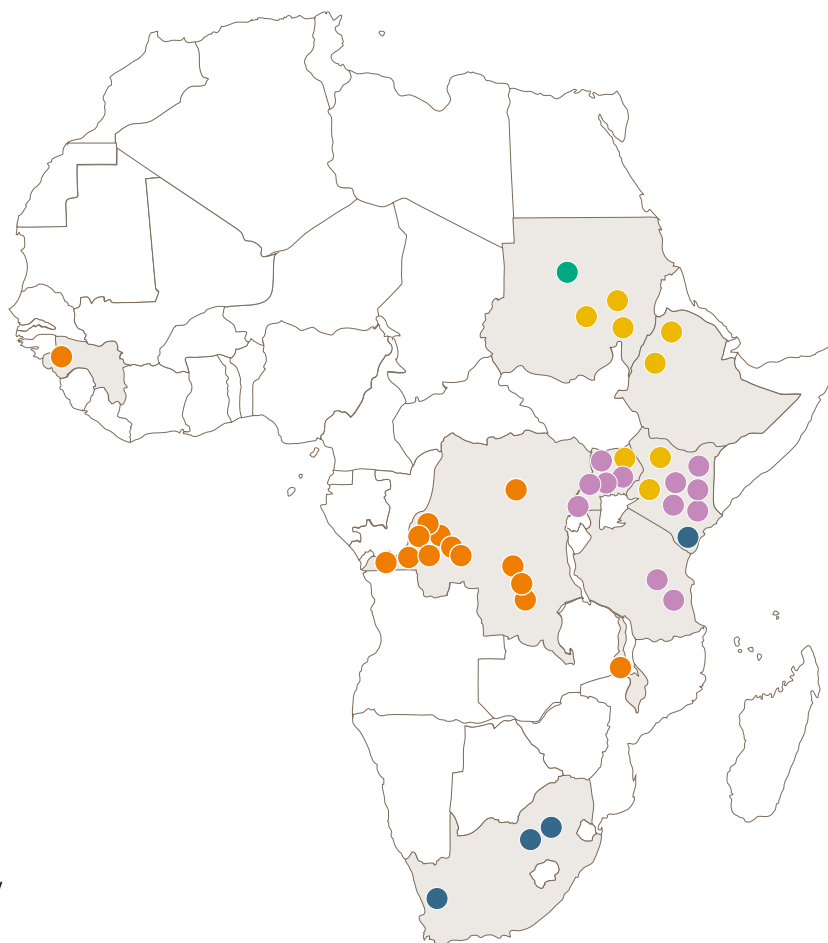
Paediatric HIV Research Network

- › First meeting this week in Kampala

Five of DNDi's seven key achievements - through African partnerships

- › In 2007 and 2008, DNDi delivered two fixed-dose antimalarials (ASAQ and ASMQ), with more than 500 million treatments distributed since then in partnership with Sanofi, Farmanguinhos, and Cipla. In addition, DNDi brokered a technology transfer to Zenufa in Tanzania for the manufacture of ASAQ to ensure a second source of production for reliable supply.
- › In 2009, DNDi and partners delivered NECT, an improved option therapy for sleeping sickness, the first new treatment in more than 25 years to replace the toxic, arsenic-based melarsoprol.
- › This was followed in 2010, by SSG&PM combination therapy, now the WHO-recommended first-line treatment for visceral leishmaniasis (VL) in East Africa.
- › In 2016, DNDi delivered the evidence base for a "superbooster" therapy to more effectively treat children co-infected with HIV and tuberculosis.

- HAT
- Leishmaniasis
- Paediatric HIV
- Neonatal sepsis
- Mycetoma



39 clinical sites in seven countries

Today, DNDi and our many partners have 10 studies underway at 39 sites in seven countries with more than 1400 patients enrolled. By the end of 2018, we anticipate having 12 studies underway at 45 sites with more than 2500 participants enrolled.

GARDP now has two studies underway at seven sites in two countries.

Phase II & III clinical trials ongoing in Africa

Together with partners, we have some important new treatments for neglected patients in Africa approaching. A list of all ongoing clinical trials sponsored by DNDi and ongoing as of September 2018 is presented below. All studies are overseen by principal investigators from the countries where the studies take place and involve regional partners from the public and private sectors.

PHASE II a/PoC

Early safety and proof-of-concept in patients

HAT

- › Acoziborole pivotal study in adults with stage 1 and stage 2 HAT (DR Congo)

Mycetoma

- › Fosravuconazole proof-of-concept for eumycetoma patients (Sudan)

PHASE IIb/III

Larger scale safety and efficacy trials

HAT

- › Study of fexinidazole in special population groups, in in- and out-patients (DR Congo)
- › Fexinidazole pivotal study (DR Congo)
- › Fexinidazole study in adults with early-stage 1 + stage 2 HAT (DR Congo)
- › Fexinidazole study in children with both stage 1 + 2 HAT (DR Congo)

Paediatric HIV

- › Lopinavir/ritonavir pellets with dual NRTIs implementation study in infants and young children (Kenya, Uganda)

Visceral leishmaniasis

- › Miltefosine/paromomycin Phase III trial for treatment of primary visceral leishmaniasis (VL) patients in Eastern Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Uganda)

PKDL

- › Short-course regimens for treatment of PKDL (Sudan)



MEETING AGENDA

From Innovation to Access in Africa – The Way Forward

Thursday, 4 October 2018 in Kampala, Uganda

11:00–18:00

11.00–12.10 Opening Ceremony

Introductory remarks

› **Dr Monique Wasunna**

Director, DNDi Africa Regional Office

Welcome from the World Health Organization

› **Dr Yonas Tegegn Woldemariam**

WHO Country Representative, Uganda

Welcome remarks

› **Dr Bernard Pécoul**

Executive Director DNDi, Switzerland

Welcome & introduction of Minister

› **Dr Diana Kanzira Atwine**

Permanent Secretary, MOH, Uganda

Welcome & introduction of Prime Minister

› **Hon. Dr Jane Ruth Aceng**

Minister of Health, Uganda

Chief Guest remarks & official opening of the meeting

› **The Rt. Hon. Dr Ruhakana Rugunda**

Prime Minister, Uganda

12.10–12.30 DNDi at 15: Responding to Neglected Patients' Needs through Innovation

› **Dr Bernard Pécoul**

Executive Director, DNDi

12.30–13.30

LUNCH

13.30–14.00 Keynote address: Innovation in health R&D – in Africa, for Africa

› **Prof. Kelly Chibale,**

Director, H3D Centre, Univ. of Cape Town, South Africa

› **Conversation with Prof. Nick White**

Chair, DNDi Scientific Advisory Committee

14.00-14.30 Enhancing medical research capacities, four perspectives from Eastern Africa

- › **Moderator: Dr Bernhards Ogutu,**
Chief Research Officer, KEMRI, Kenya
- › **Prof. Celestino Obua,**
Vice-Chancellor of Science & Health, Mbarara University, Uganda
- › **Prof. Ahmed Fahal**
Director, Mycetoma Research Centre, Sudan
- › **Dr Yeri Kombe,**
Director, KEMRI, Kenya
- › **Dr Juliet Mwanga-Amumpaire**
Director, Epicentre, Uganda

14.30-15.15 Ministerial Address

- › **Moderators: Dr Marie-Paule Kieny**
Chair, DNDi Board
&
Dr Monique Wasunna
Director, DNDi Africa Regional Office
- › **Hon. Jane Ruth Aceng**
Minister of Health, Uganda
- › **Dr Rashid Abdi Aman**
Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Health, Kenya
- › **Hon. Abdelhakim Hassan Nugud Salih**
Minister of Health, Gedaref State, Sudan

15.15-15.45

TEA BREAK

15.45-16.30 R&D portfolio innovation for access: Perspectives from regional platforms

- › **Moderators: Dr Rashmi Barbhuiya**
DNDi Scientific Advisory Committee
&
Dr Graeme Bilbe,
DNDi R&D Director
 - › **Dr Florent Mbo**
Human African Trypanosomiasis Platform
Coordinator, HAT Platform, DR Congo
 - › **Dr Victor Musiime**
Paediatric HIV Network
College of Health Sciences, Makerere University, Uganda
 - › **Prof. Asrat Hailu Mekuria**
Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform
College of Health Sciences, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
 - › **Prof. Charles Mackenzie**
Filarial Network
Global Alliance for the Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis
-

16.30-17.45 Building an enabling environment to enhance Africa's R&D and regulatory capacities: Multisectoral perspectives

› **Conversation moderated by Dr Marie-Paule Kieny**

Chair DNDi Board

&

Dr Bernard Pécoul,

Executive Director DNDi

› **Dr Alwin Mwinga,**

CEO, Zambart & DNDi Board member, Zambia

› **Dr Els Torreele,**

MSF Access Campaign Director, Switzerland

› **Nevin Bradford**

Director Cipla Africa

› **Dr Luc Kuykens,**

Senior Vice President, Global Health Programmes, Sanofi

› **Dr Margareth Ndomondo-Sigonda**

African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization, NEPAD, South Africa

› **Dr Dan Hartman,**

Director, Integrated Development, and Senior Advisor, Malaria Program, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

› **Dr Michael Makanga,**

Executive Director, EDCTP, the Netherlands

› **Dr Sue Kinn,**

Head of Health Research, DFID, UK

17.45-18.00 Closing remarks: After 15 years, perspectives from a PDP for global health R&D

› **Dr Marie-Paule Kieny,**

Chair, DNDi Board

18.00 Official closing of the meeting

› **Hon. Dr Jane Ruth Aceng**

Minister of Health, Uganda



SPEAKERS

(In speaking order)

Opening Ceremony

Dr Monique Wasunna, *Director, DNDi Africa Regional Office*

Dr Wasunna joined DNDi in 2004 and coordinates DNDi's activities in Eastern Africa. Prior to DNDi, she was the Acting Director, Kenya Medical Research Institute and Chief Research Officer. She is a physician and an infectious disease and tropical medicine specialist. She holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degree from the University of Nairobi, an MSc and PhD in medicine from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and a diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from the Royal College of Physicians of London. She is currently a member of the Kenya National Bioethics Committee, the

Kenyatta National Hospital and University of Nairobi Scientific and Research Ethics Committee, and Expert Committee of Clinical Trials of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board, Kenya. Dr Wasunna is the founding Chair of the Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform (LEAP), promoting clinical research for leishmaniasis and capacity building in the region. Her research interests are in Leishmaniasis clinical research. She has participated as a Principal Investigator in the WHO VL funded projects as well as some of the clinical trials conducted by DNDi in Eastern Africa. She is well published in the peer review journals.

Dr Bernard Pécoul, *Executive Director, DNDi Switzerland*

Dr Pécoul has led DNDi since its foundation in 2003. Prior to DNDi, he was Director of the Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Campaign for Access to Essential Medicines from 1998 to 2003, which followed his post as Executive Director of MSF-France. While working with MSF, Dr Pécoul carried out field missions in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. In 1988, he co-founded Epicentre, an MSF-affiliated NGO specialized in epidemiology. After obtaining

his medical degree at the University of Clermont-Ferrand, France, Dr Pécoul earned a master's degree in public health at Tulane University, USA. In 2012, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree by the University of Dundee, UK. Bernard Pécoul is member of the Joint Coordination Board of the Special Programme for Tropical Disease Research (WHO/TDR) and a former board member of UNITAID's Medicines Patent Pool.

Dr Diana Kanzira Atwine, *Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Uganda*

Dr Atwine is the Permanent Secretary of the Uganda Ministry of Health and a medical doctor with a Master of Medicine and Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery from Mbarara University School of Medicine. Following the completion of her studies, Dr Atwine worked for a brief period at St. Francis Hospital Nsambya before joining the Uganda Joint

Clinical Research Centre (JCRC). From there she went to the State House of Uganda, where she was given the title of the President's Private Secretary in Charge of Medical Affairs. In that capacity, she served as one of President Museveni's personal physicians. She was appointed to her current position in November 2016.

Hon. Dr Jane Ruth Aceng, *Minister of Health, Uganda*

Dr Aceng is the Honourable Minister of Health for Uganda. She holds a bachelor's degree in medicine (MBChB), MMED in paediatrics, a master's degree in public health, and a diploma in public administration and management (ongoing). She is a paediatrics expert and a senior consultant, paediatrics. Dr Aceng has vast experience both as a manager and practicing medical personnel, which she accumulated while serving in various capacities

as Medical Officer, Senior Medical Officer, Medical Officer Special Grade, Medical Superintendent, Consultant Pediatrician, Senior Consultant Pediatrician, Hospital Director and formerly as the Director General Health Services, where she was responsible for coordinating technical functions for the delivery of health services, a role she has fulfilled until her recent appointment as Minister of Health. As Hon. Minister of Health, she

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possesses the constitutional powers and functions of spearheading the Ministry as well as Legislative and Cabinet functions, including administration, control of the Ministry by determining the policy to be followed therein. She is also responsible for defending the ministerial budget and issue orders

and statutory regulations on the sector. In addition, she initiates and presents to Cabinet the Ministry memorandums and explains to Cabinet the state, operation and functions of the Ugandan health services.

The Rt. Hon. Dr Ruhakana Rugunda, *Prime Minister, Uganda*

The Rt. Hon. Dr Ruhakana Rugunda was appointed as Prime Minister of Uganda on September 18, 2014. He is a physician by profession and has held a long series of Cabinet posts under President Yoweri Museveni from 1986. He served as Uganda's Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1994 to 1996 and as Minister of Internal Affairs from 2003 to 2009. Subsequently, he was Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 2009 to 2011 and Minister of Health from 2013 to 2014.

A professional physician, Dr Rugunda carries with him a wealth of medical experience spanning 10 years (1975-86) within which he published six papers. He has worked as a medical officer in Zambia (1975-76), UN Institute for Namibia, Lusaka, Zambia (1976-77), resident physician in

paediatrics, USA (1978-79), deputy health minister (1979-1980) and Lecturer, Kenya Medical Training Centre, Nairobi, Kenya (1981-82).

He also worked at the department of paediatrics, Kenyatta National Hospital (1982-84), department of tropical paediatrics university teaching hospital, Sweden (1984-85). Dr Rugunda served as President of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (2002/3), and President, Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (2003/4). He was also the Chairperson, Global Ministerial Environment Forum (2003), Security Council Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa, and Assembly of Promoters for Kabale University.

DNDi AT 15: RESPONDING TO NEGLECTED PATIENTS' NEEDS THROUGH INNOVATION

Dr Bernard Pécoul, *Executive Director, DNDi Switzerland*

See Opening Ceremony above for Dr Pécoul's biographical information.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: INNOVATION IN HEALTH R&D – IN AFRICA, FOR AFRICA

Prof. Kelly Chibale, *Director, H3D Centre, Univ. of Cape Town, South Africa*

Prof. Chibale is a full Professor of Organic Chemistry at the University of Cape Town (UCT) in South Africa. He is also a Full Member of the UCT Institute of Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine (IDM), a Tier 1 South Africa Research Chair in Drug Discovery, founding Director of the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) Drug Discovery and Development Research Unit at UCT and the Founder and Director of the UCT Drug Discovery and Development Centre (H3D). Prof. Chibale obtained his PhD in Synthetic Organic Chemistry from the University of Cambridge in the UK (1989-

1992). This was followed by postdoctoral stints at the University of Liverpool in the UK (1992-94) and at the Scripps Research Institute in the USA (1994-96). He was a Sandler Sabbatical Fellow at the University of California San Francisco (2002), a US Fulbright Senior Research Scholar at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine (2008) and a Visiting Professor at Pfizer in the UK (2008).

He was recently named as one of Fortune Magazine's 50 World's Greatest Leaders for 2018 (<http://fortune.com/longform/worlds-greatest-leaders-2018/>).

Prof. Nicholas White, *Professor of Tropical Medicine, Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University, Thailand and Oxford University, UK; Chair DNDi Scientific Advisory Committee*

Prof. White is a Wellcome Trust Principal Research Fellow who chairs the Wellcome Trust Tropical Medicine Research Programmes in South-East Asia. He has lived and worked in Thailand since 1980. His research focus is the pathophysiology and treatment of malaria. He has concentrated on characterising antimalarial pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamic relationships to improve the treatment of malaria and reduce the emergence of resistance. This led to artemisinin-based combination treatment for falciparum malaria, and the change to artesunate for severe malaria. He

has authored over 1000 scientific publications and 50 book chapters. Prof. White is on the Board of the WorldWide Antimalarial Resistance Network and Infectious Diseases Data Observatory, and he co-chairs the WHO GMP technical expert group on prevention and treatment of malaria and the WHO antimalarial treatment guidelines committee.

He was appointed a Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (KCMG) for services to tropical medicine and global health in the 2017 New Year's Honours.

PANEL – ENHANCING MEDICAL RESEARCH CAPACITIES, THREE PERSPECTIVES FROM EASTERN AFRICA

Dr Bernhards Ogutu, *Chief Research Officer, Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and DNDi Board member*

Dr Ogutu is Chief Research Officer, KEMRI, and Director for the Centre for Research in Therapeutic Sciences (CREATES) at Strathmore University in Nairobi. He has led several vaccine and drug trials in Kenya and across Africa. He has also led or coordinated several initiatives in Kenya and the region, such as MCTA, INNES, CREATES, CHMI and African Clinical Trials Alliance. He is a member of several scientific technical working groups in the region and globally, and a board member

of a number of institutions globally, including the DNDi Board. Dr Ogutu has authored more than 50 peer-reviewed publications. His areas of research expertise include clinical trials, disease pathogenesis, and clinical therapeutics with a bias in malaria and clinical trials capacity development. Dr Ogutu received his MBChB, MMed and PhD from the University of Nairobi and is a Board-certified medical practitioner, paediatrician and clinical pharmacologist. He serves on the Board of DNDi.

Prof. Celestino Obua, *Vice-Chancellor, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Uganda*

Prof Obua has a PhD in Pharmacology. He previously worked as the Ag. Deputy Dean, School of Biomedical Sciences, and then later as Deputy Principal, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University. Prof Obua has a strong passion for capacity building at the individual as well as institutional levels. He is Principal Investigator and/or co-PI on several past and current capacity building research projects. He has supervised to date 28 graduate students, including 10 PhD

theses. Prof Obua has over 60 publications in several high-impact journals covering the areas of community drug use, treatment regimens, PK and PD studies, health systems, higher education and internationalization of higher education.

He has been Chairman of the Miltefosine Allometric PK LEAP 0714 trial and the current Chairman of DNDi's Miltefosine-Paromomycin Phase III trial (AfriKADIA Project) Advisory Committee.

Professor Ahmed Fahal, *Director, Mycetoma Research Centre, Sudan*

Prof. Ahmed Hassan Fahal trained in medicine at the University of Khartoum, Sudan and pursued postgraduate surgical training in London, UK leading to a consultant surgeon position at Soba University Hospital, Sudan. He is a general surgeon

with a special interest and track record in endocrine, breast and tropical surgery. He is also a high-volume researcher and publisher in mycetoma and involved in collaborative research work in mycetoma with many national and international

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institutes. Prof. Fahal is the founding Director of the Mycetoma Research Centre, University of Khartoum and Mycetoma Control Programme, Ministry of Health, Sudan. He has served as the Director of Educational Development Centre for Medical & Health Professionals, and The Academic Secretary, University of Khartoum. Professor Fahal is currently the President of Scientific Research and Innovation

Agency, Sudan. He has received several awards and medals, including the State of the Sudan Golden Medal for Excellence and the Promotion of Scientific Innovation in Medicine in 2000, The Knighthood of Palmes Académiques, The Republic of France and The Knighthood of Merit, The Republic of Italy in 2018.

Dr Yeri Kombe, *Director, KEMRI, Kenya*

Dr Kombe is a veteran medical research scientist and public health expert and an accomplished researcher who has participated in numerous studies that have contributed to public health policies in Kenya. He holds a first degree in Medicine and Surgery from University of Nairobi and a PhD in Epidemiology from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. His research experience spans several disease-related disciplines as well as health systems research and noncommunicable diseases. His earlier work centred on schistosomiasis control in large population-based studies in Kenya and Tanzania, conducted in collaboration with the then Danish Bilharzias Laboratories (DBL). Dr Kombe has headed or been involved in health systems research in multi-country, multi-

institutional studies examining priority-setting processes in district health facilities for better service provision, assessing the use of population home-based management of malaria in controlling morbidity and, more recently, the Kenya National Micronutrient Survey.

Dr Kombe has supervised master's and PhD students from the University of Nairobi, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Aga Khan Hospital University and others, and lectured on epidemiology, communicable and noncommunicable disease prevention and control, health systems research, and research methods.

Dr Juliet Mwanga-Amumpaire, *Director, Epicentre, Uganda*

Dr Mwanga-Amumpaire is a paediatrician by training. She holds a MBChB and Master of Medicine in Paediatrics and Child Health. She was a member of the Faculty of Medicine, in the Department of Paediatrics of Mbarara University of Science and

Technology. She joined Epicentre in Uganda as the Studies and Medical Coordinator in 2012 and is now the Director of the Research Centre.



MINISTERIAL ADDRESS

Dr Marie-Paule Kieny, *Chair, DNDi Board*

Dr Kieny is the Chair of the Boards of DNDi and the Medicines Patent Pool Foundation since July and August 2017, respectively (both in Geneva, Switzerland), a member of the Board of the Human Vaccine Project (New York, USA), and a Non-Executive Independent Director of bioMérieux (Lyon, France). Until June 2017, Dr Kieny served as the Assistant Director-General for Health Systems and Innovation at the World Health Organization. Dr. Kieny also directed the WHO Initiative for Vaccine Research from 2001 to 2010. Before joining WHO, Dr Kieny held top research positions in the public and private sectors in France. Dr Kieny received her PhD in Microbiology from the University of Montpellier (1980), as well as a University Diploma in Economics, and her Diplôme d'Habilitation à

Diriger des Recherches from the University of Strasbourg. She has published over 350 articles and reviews, mainly in infectious diseases, immunology, vaccinology, and health systems.

Dr Kieny has been awarded the title of Chevalier dans l'Ordre National de la Légion d'honneur (Knight in the National Order of the Legion of Honour, France) in 2016, and Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite, au titre du Ministère de la Recherche (Knight of the National Order of Merit, under the Ministry of Research, France) in 2000. She was the recipient of the International Inserm Prize in 2017, the Génération 2000-Impact Médecin Prize in 1994, and the Innovation Rhône-Poulenc Prize in 1991.

Dr Monique Wasunna, *Director, DNDi Africa Regional Office*

See Opening Ceremony above for Dr Wasunna's biographical information.

Hon. Jane Ruth Aceng, *Minister of Health, Uganda*

See Opening Ceremony above for the Honourable Minister's biographical information.

Dr Rashid Aman, *Chief Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Health, Kenya*

Dr Aman brings with him vast experience in scientific research, leadership and management. He is currently the Chairman of the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO and a Council member of the Taita Taveta University. He has served as Director on the Boards of several institutions including KEMRI and the National Museums of Kenya. He is an Honorary Research Professor at Strathmore University and a Senior Research Affiliate at the National Museums of Kenya. Dr Aman holds a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Nairobi and a PhD degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry from the University of California at San Francisco. He did a post-doctoral fellowship at the School of Medicine, Stanford University, USA (1985-1988) after which he joined the National Cancer Institute of the NIH

(USA) as a Fogarty Visiting Associate (1988-1990). Dr Aman joined the National Museums of Kenya in 1990 where he served in various positions for over 15 years. By the time he left the National Museums of Kenya in 2003, he had risen to the position of Deputy Director in charge of research, leaving behind a strong track record of institutional and human capital development in the applications of molecular genetics in the study of infectious agents and the diversity of life. His past and present research interests and engagements span various fields including molecular and biochemical parasitology, molecular genetics, biodiversity, biotechnology, environmental science, drug policy, management and regulation, clinical pharmacology and clinical trials.

Hon. Abdelhakim Hassan Nugud Salih, *Minister for Health, Gedaref State, Sudan*

Dr Abdelhakim is a community physician who graduated from Gezira University, Sudan in 1991. He also holds a Higher Diploma in Public Health, a Higher Diploma in Health Economics, and a Higher Diploma in Health Systems Management. He obtained his fellowship in community medicine from the Sudan Medical Specialization Board in Sudan. Dr Abdelhakim has accumulated substantial

experience in managing health systems and strategic planning to improve health systems and control of infectious diseases, and he is involved both nationally and internationally in health system management initiatives.

R&D PORTFOLIO INNOVATION FOR ACCESS: PERSPECTIVES FROM REGIONAL RESEARCH PLATFORMS

Dr Rashmi Barbhaiya, *founder & former CEO of Advinus Therapeutics India, DNDi SAC member*

Dr Barbhaiya is a pharmaceutical executive with more than 30 years' experience in pharmaceutical R&D, including 10 years as an entrepreneur. He has a unique blend of management experience in drug discovery, development, and life cycle management. Dr Barbhaiya is one of the founders and was CEO and Managing Director of Advinus Therapeutics, a research-based pharma company located in Bangalore and Pune, India. He is currently pursuing a globally networked, polycentric innovation model to address fundamental issues affecting pharmaceutical R&D and affordability and accessibility of medicines. Dr Barbhaiya obtained

his Ph.D. degree in Clinical Pharmacology from the St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, University of London, and pursued post-doctoral training at the University of Florida and University of Wisconsin in the U.S. He has over 150 publications in peer-reviewed journals, served on several editorial board, and received numerous awards for his scientific contributions, including the Ranbaxy Award for Excellence in Pharmaceutical Research, India Life Sciences Person of the Year 2007 by Burrill & Company, and BioSpectrum Entrepreneur of the Year 2010.

Dr Graeme Bilbe, *Research & Development Director, DNDi*

Dr Bilbe has the overall responsibility of building DNDi's project portfolio and advancing the discovery and development of new treatments for neglected diseases. Prior to joining DNDi in June 2012, Dr Bilbe was Global Head of Neuroscience Discovery at Novartis, tasked with discovery and early development of novel treatments for brain diseases. He served in several management positions at Novartis, including the Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research Leadership Team, Head of Research for the Neuroscience Franchise, which delivered two innovative drugs (the Exelon patch for Alzheimer's disease and Gilenya for multiple sclerosis). He also chaired the Neuroscience Disease Area Decision Board,

which built a robust pipeline of projects from early discovery through to proof-of-concept clinical testing and Phase IIb trials. He led the scientists who discovered and developed AFQ056, Mavoglurant, a metabotropic glutamate receptor 5 antagonist, which demonstrated early clinical efficacy in L-DOPA-induced dyskinesias in Parkinson's disease and also improved symptoms in fragile X mental retardation syndrome patients. Dr Bilbe completed post-doctoral fellowships at the Zentrum for Molecular Biology in Heidelberg and the Imperial College London. He received his PhD in Biochemistry from the University of London, Imperial College and his BSc in Zoology and Biochemistry from the University of Nottingham.

Dr Florent Mbo, *Coordinator, Human African Trypanosomiasis Platform*

Since 2015, Dr Mbo has been the coordinator of the HAT Platform, which is a capacity-building platform for clinical and operational research in Africa. It is composed of national sleeping sickness control programme and research institutions from nine countries (Angola, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda) with international research groups in non-endemic countries. Prior to that, he was the provincial coordinator of the National Sleeping Sickness Control Programme of the Democratic Republic of Congo in the former Bandundu province, the most affected endemic province in Africa.

He is a medical doctor and holds a master's degree in disease control and a certificate in health policy from the Institute of Tropical Medicine of Antwerp in Belgium, and a certificate on Health Systems Research from the School of Public Health of the Free University of Belgium. He has been involved in the integration of HAT in public health services and in HAT clinical trials and operational research projects as a local investigator for ten years.

Dr Victor Musiime, *Senior Lecturer, Makerere University, and Investigator/Senior Research Consultant, Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC), Uganda*

Dr Musiime has worked as a paediatrician at JCRC since 2004, focusing on HIV research, clinical care, and treatment. He played a key role in the establishment of the Paediatrics Department at JCRC, where he led a team that initiated and followed up a cohort of over 2,000 HIV-infected children on antiretroviral therapy, provided treatment for opportunistic infections, and provided paediatric HIV care and treatment. Dr Musiime has also been an investigator in numerous studies,

including the ARROW, CHAPAS 2, CHAPAS 3, BREATHER (PENTA 16), REALITY, ODYSSEY and LIVING clinical trials. He is currently the Uganda Country Coordinating Principal Investigator (and site principal investigator for JCRC sites) for the LIVING and LOLIPOP clinical trials. His main clinical and research interests are paediatric HIV infection, antiretroviral therapy, child nutrition and infectious diseases.

Prof. Asrat Hailu Mekuria, *Professor of Immunoparasitology, School of Medicine, College of Health Sciences, Addis Ababa University*

Prof Mekuria holds a Ph.D degree from the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and has over 30 years of research experience on leishmaniasis in Africa. Prof. Asrat has published

over 180 articles in peer-reviewed journals and has led several international projects on leishmaniasis. He is currently the Chair of the Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform.

Dr Charles D. Mackenzie, *Chair of the Steering Group, Global Alliance for the Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis*

Prof. Mackenzie is an Australian pathologist and the current Chair of the Steering Group, Global Alliance for the Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis (GAELF), and Chair of NGDO Onchocerciasis Group. In his professional career, he has spent time in veterinary practice in Sydney, Australia and headed pathology departments at two human medical universities in the UK and the USA. He enjoys understanding why

diseases occur and delivering medical treatments that improve the lives of those suffering from these diseases; he has worked extensively in Sudan, Tanzania, Ecuador, Yemen and Cameroon. Prof. Mackenzie received the Order of Australia in 2012 for his contributions to human filariasis in Africa and to veterinary medicine.



BUILDING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT TO ENHANCE AFRICA'S R&D AND REGULATORY CAPACITIES: MULTISECTORAL PERSPECTIVES

Dr Marie-Paule Kieny, *Chair, DNDi Board*

See Ministerial Address above for Dr Kieny's biographical information

Dr Bernard Pécoul, *Executive Director, DNDi, Switzerland*

See Opening Ceremony above for Dr Pécoul's biographical information.

Dr Alwyn Mwinga, *Chief Executive Officer of the Zambia AIDS Related Tuberculosis Project (Zambart) and DNDi Board patient representative*

Before joining Zambart, Dr Mwinga worked in a variety of capacities at CDC Zambia. She was an Expert Consultant on TB/HIV Research Priorities for WHO in addition to serving as a member of multiple national and international boards relating to tuberculosis. She has been an Associate Editor of The Lancet Infectious Diseases and the International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases and a Senior Lecturer at the University of

Zambia. In 2007, Dr Mwinga was awarded the Global Health Achievement by the Office of Global Health CDC as well as the PEPFAR Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011 in recognition of her contribution to HIV and TB. She studied Tropical Medicine (M.Sc.) at the University of London, and she has a M.Med and MB ChB from the University of Zambia. In 2013, she completed her PG Diploma in Bioethics at the University of Stellenbosch.

Dr Els Torreele, *Executive Director, MSF Access Campaign, Switzerland*

Dr Els Torreele is the Executive Director of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Access Campaign since early 2017, leading MSF's advocacy to overcome barriers to affordable access and innovation for needed medicines, vaccines and diagnostics. Prior to that, she was the director of Access to Medicines at the Open Society Foundations' Public Health Program in New York. A bioengineer and PhD in Applied Biological Sciences from the Free University Brussels, she became involved

in access to medicines issues in 2000 through the lens of neglected diseases as co-chair of the MSF-hosted working group that incubated the Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* (DNDi). She joined DNDi as a founding member in 2003, spearheading R&D projects from discovery to clinical development, and advocacy for affordable access and innovation. Dr Torreele is a Science Fellow at the Free University Brussels.

Dr Luc Kuykens, *Senior Vice President Global Health Programmes, Sanofi*

Dr Kuykens started his career in public health in 1987: he worked in leprosy and tuberculosis control in the D.R. of Congo, was chief medical officer for Sierra Rutile Ltd. in Sierra Leone and executive director of the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Deschappelles, Haiti. He joined the vaccine industry in 1997 as associate director of regulatory affairs for Merck and then moved to Sanofi Pasteur, the human vaccines global business unit of Sanofi, as vice president, regulatory affairs, for North America, in December 2001. He gradually increased

his scope of responsibility and was nominated to the Sanofi Pasteur Chief Medical Officer position in 2011. Dr Kuykens received his medical degree from the University of Antwerp in 1986, a Diploma in Tropical Medicine from the Institute for Tropical Medicine in Antwerp in 1987, and a master's degree in public health from the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, USA in 1992. Dr Kuykens is a member of several regulatory and public health professional societies, and a dual citizen of Belgium and the USA.

Ms. Margareth Ndomondo-Sigonda, *Head, Health Programmes, African Union-New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency, South Africa*

Ms. Ndomondo-Sigonda, M.Sc., M.B.A., has headed Health Programmes for the African Union-

NEPAD since 2016 and served as Pharmaceutical Coordinator before that. She is responsible for

the coordination of health and pharmaceutical programmes, including the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization Initiative, as part of the African Union Health Strategy and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa. Prior to that, Ms. Ndomondo-Sigonda served as Chief Pharmacist (1998), Registrar of Pharmacy Board (1998-2003) and Director General of the Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority (2003-2010), Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Tanzania. Ms. Ndomondo-

Sigonda holds a MSc degree in pharmaceutical services management, University of Bradford United Kingdom; an MBA from the Eastern and Southern Africa Management Institute, Tanzania/ Maastricht School of Management, Netherlands, and a bachelor's degree in pharmacy from the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. She is currently pursuing doctoral studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Dr Dan Hartman, *Director, Integrated Development, and Senior Advisor, Malaria Program, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*

Under Dr Hartman's leadership, Integrated Development works closely with the foundation's disease strategy teams to manage product pipelines from late discovery through registration by providing state of the art input in the areas of quantitative sciences/pharmacology, chemical manufacturing, and regulatory strategy. Integrated Development also manages the foundation's investments in regulatory systems, pharmacology-focused, model-based drug development, big data programmes, novel formulations (including paediatrics) and low-cost manufacturing. From 2016-2018, Dr Hartman was also interim director of the malaria program strategy.

Dr Hartman joined the foundation after four years as president and CEO of Great Lakes Development Inc., a consulting company providing strategic and operational support for early drug development projects. Previously, he served as senior vice president of Product Development at deCODE genetics, executive director of Pfizer Global Research and Development, vice president of Global Clinical Development at Esperion Therapeutics, and clinical research positions at Eli Lilly & Company. He has also provided consultation to the biopharmaceutical venture capital community and serves as a member/ advisor to several non-profit boards.

Dr Michael Makanga, *Executive Director, EDCTP, the Netherlands*

Dr Makanga is a clinician-scientist with 25 years of professional experience of working on health and poverty-related infectious diseases in Africa. This includes 21 years of work experience on medical product development and clinical regulatory activities. He holds a Medical Degree from Makerere University, Uganda, and has been in various clinical and research positions before and after undertaking a master's degree at the University of Liverpool, and a PhD Clinical Pharmacology at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom. He is also a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, Scotland. Before joining EDCTP, Dr Makanga was first in clinical practice and academia, and later clinical research and research management. He joined EDCTP in 2004 and has

served in different progressive management positions prior to his current appointment. During the last 14 years at EDCTP, he has built up significant experience in global health, research for health capacity development, quality assurance, project management and evaluation, health and research management as well as diplomacy and engagement with policy makers, health and regulatory authorities in sub-Saharan Africa and Europe. Moreover, he has served in various scientific and policy advisory boards for international product development, philanthropic organizations, World Bank and pharmaceutical companies involved in developing medicinal products for poverty related and neglected diseases.

Dr Sue Kinn, *Head, Health Research, DFID, UK*

Dr Kinn is head of health research in DFID's Research and Evidence Division. Sue began her career as a laboratory-based cell biologist. She has worked in academia, the UK NHS and had 15 years' experience in UK public health and health services research, including leading a team of researchers developing a programme of work on patient-centred outcomes, prior to joining DFID. In DFID, the health research team manages a portfolio

of over 30 programmes (approximately £130m this year), covering areas aligned with DFID's strategic priorities including communicable diseases (e.g. prevention, treatment and control for malaria, TB, NTDs, HIV and AIDS, antimicrobial resistance and epidemics); health systems; maternal, reproductive and child health; and non-communicable diseases (e.g. nutrition and mental health).



The logo of the 11th Partners' Meeting was inspired by the map of Uganda and the colours of the national bird, and designed by Chez Promotions Ltd.

Along the right edge of the logo, you can see the contours of Uganda's northern, eastern and southern borders in a brush stroke that includes the colours of the gray crowned crane (*Balearica regulorum*), also known as the crested crane, which is Uganda's national symbol. The colours and pattern in the brush stroke also represent the many different partners and countries that are congregating in Uganda for this meeting.

DNDi

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*

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