

Dr Henning Gädeke
c/o Dr Michael Makanga
Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking
56 – 60 Avenue de la Toison d’Or
1060 Brussels
Belgium

17 January 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Letter of endorsement

On behalf of Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Post box 1030, Hoff, 0218 (registration number 917.687.811) and in accordance with Council Regulation (EU) No 2085/2021 of 19th November 2021 establishing the joint undertakings under Horizon Europe and specifically Article 9 therein, I hereby submit an application to become a contributing partner to the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking (Global Health EDCTP3).

Introduction to CEPI

Launched in 2017, CEPI is an international coalition of governments, academic, philanthropic, private, public, and intergovernmental institutions whose vision is to create a world in which epidemics and pandemics are no longer a threat to humanity. Our mission is to accelerate the development of vaccines and other biologic countermeasures against epidemic and pandemic threats so they can be accessible to all people in need. CEPI is organised as a not-for-profit association under Norwegian Law and has offices in Oslo (HQ), London, and Washington, DC. More details about CEPI and our mission can be found on our website: www.cepi.net

CEPI’s mission is to accelerate the development of vaccines and other biologic countermeasures against epidemic and pandemic threats so they can be accessible to all people in need.. In pursuit of this mission CEPI manages a portfolio of vaccines at various stages of development, targeting pathogens selected from the WHO Blueprint list of priority diseases. CEPI also engages in promoting vaccine development more widely for the benefit of global health initiatives.

CEPI’s contribution to Global Health EDCTP3

Capacity building and strengthening of the research environment is at the core of Global Health EDCTP3’s objectives and in line with the implementation of the European Union Global Health Strategy’s Guiding Principles 6 and 7 to “address workforce imbalances and foster skills” and “strengthen capacities for prevention, preparedness and response and early detection of health threats globally”.

In addition to epidemiology and biostatistics (from Global Health EDCTP3 fellowships), there is also an urgent need to invest and expand scientific expertise in computational skills and infectious disease modelling in Africa and enhance preparedness and response against future outbreaks, epidemics

and/or pandemics, and management of endemic diseases. Modelling is also important for respective national public health institutes to inform policy and programming on immunisation. This investment will facilitate knowledge sharing and skills development leading to more effective and equitable disease modelling to ensure that public health decisions are informed by robust, context-specific, and timely modelling evidence. In this regard, the contribution from CEPI will support institution partners who can provide high quality epidemic modelling and data science training individual members/groups in Africa.

CEPI's proposed involvement

Financial contributions from CEPI will support institutions that will provide comprehensive training programs, workshops and/or seminars to interested divisions/departments within institutions/organisations to empower Africa-based researchers with relevant skills to conduct infectious disease modelling and enhance capacity to respond effectively to outbreaks and pandemics. Institutions can offer the following types of training:

- Workshops or seminars considering different skill levels of trainees to cover key aspects of infectious disease modelling, including but not limited to:
 - Mathematical and statistical modelling techniques.
 - Scenario planning and model forecasting using data where applicable.
 - Integration of modelling output into public health policy and response strategies.
 - Communication of modelling output to policy makers.
 - Provide mentorship and support to facilitate the application of acquired skills in real world settings for key LMIC implementors.

The added value and impact of this training are as follows:

- Empower Africa-based researchers by providing them with high quality training and resources to conduct infectious disease modelling and related computational analysis.
- Strengthen and leverage preparedness and response capacity and capabilities to respond effectively to outbreaks and pandemics and management of endemic diseases in Africa.
- Informing evidence-based public health policies and decision making for national public health institutions and local governments.
- Increased number of infectious disease modellers working across the continent.
- Establish a beneficial collaboration among academic institutions, national public health institutes and other research institutions.

We estimate the total value of this contribution to be up to EUR 4,734,472 (an equivalent of US\$5,000,000 as of 15 November 2024 on www.xe.com). Please note that this contribution is subject to CEPI and Global Health EDCTP3 entering into a funding agreement.

Expectations and needs from CEPI on the joint agreement

The specific funding conditions and other requirements will be agreed upon in the funding agreement between CEPI and Global Health EDCTP3.

CEPI requests to be allowed to propose independent evaluators for the applicant selection process, be informed about the applicants and to participate in the evaluation process as observers. Global Health EDCTP3 will use its best endeavours to ensure awardees accept CEPI's usual award conditions via the grant agreement between Global Health EDCTP3 and the beneficiaries, which will be further detailed in the funding agreement between Global Health EDCTP3 and CEPI.

CEPI also requires that any training materials developed by funded consortia must be added in the proposal as deliverables. Such deliverables should be accessible for other trainers to use. CEPI has the right to review and comment on submitted deliverables and periodic reports.

Contractual agreements

The specific needs that relate to the recipient institutions, outlined in this letter, should clearly be specified in any contractual agreements with those institutions. This will ensure a mutual understanding and agreement on the use of funds, reporting requirements, and conditions for continued funding.

We confirm the following:

1. We will comply with the Horizon Europe Regulation (EU) No 2021/695; Council Regulation (EU) No 2085/2021 establishing the joint undertakings under Horizon Europe; the Model Grant Agreement for Horizon Europe and applicable Global Health EDCTP3 rules, including the relevant work programmes and in particular the call conditions therein.
2. We will keep all information received in the context of our involvement as contributing partner to Global Health EDCTP3 confidential. This confidentiality obligation applies in particular but is not limited to the areas of Global Health EDCTP3 call topic preparation and publication, proposal submission and evaluation, and consortium formation. We further understand that this obligation strictly prohibits the release of confidential information to any legal entities save where specifically authorised by Global Health EDCTP3. Internal dissemination of information within our organisation will be done on the basis of the “need-to-know” principle. Notwithstanding the foregoing, CEPI is not prohibited from i) disclosing confidential information that it is required to disclose under applicable laws; ii) disclosing confidential information to any external legal or professional advisors who would also be bound by confidentiality, if authorised by Global Health EDCTP3; and iii) disclosing the existence of a relationship between CEPI and Global Health EDCTP3 for the purpose of declaring a potential conflict of interest. For the avoidance of doubt, CEPI is obligated to disclose confidential information to its investors through CEPI’s Investor Council for the purpose of reviewing and approving CEPI investment proposals, and to facilitate their oversight and monitoring function over CEPI’s activities.
3. We are confident of our ability to fulfil the above commitments and further confirm our understanding that Global Health EDCTP3 will allocate resources to the above topic based on these commitments.
4. The value of our contribution will be based on costs calculated in accordance with Article 6 of the Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement.
5. We accept that, with CEPI’s prior agreement, additional modalities regarding the provision of our contribution may be defined in subsequent agreements or documents, such as a funding agreement and topic text.

Yours faithfully,



Richard Hatchett
CEO

17 January 2025