

Dr Henning Gädeke, the Chair of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking Governing Board

c/o Dr Michael Makanga, the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking Executive Director

Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking

56 – 60 Avenue de la Toison d’Or

1060 Brussels

Belgium

29.09.2025

Letter of endorsement

Dear Dr Mackanga,

On behalf of Centre de Recherches Médicales de Lambaréné (CERMEL), PO Box 242, Lambaréné, Gabon 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 JU).

The Centre de Recherches Médicales de Lambaréné (CERMEL) is a premier biomedical research institution based in Gabon, dedicated to advancing science and innovation in infectious and tropical diseases. With a strong foundation in clinical trials, laboratory research, and capacity building, CERMEL plays a vital role in regional and global health research.

CERMEL’s mission aligns closely with the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking (GH EDCTP3 JU), particularly in the following areas:

- Accelerating the development of medical interventions (vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics) against poverty-related and neglected infectious diseases.
- Strengthening clinical research capacity in sub-Saharan Africa through infrastructure, training, and institutional development.
- Promoting equitable partnerships between African and European research institutions to drive scientific innovation and health impact.
- Ensuring community engagement and ethical conduct in all stages of clinical research.
- Contributing to health system resilience, preparedness, and response to emerging epidemics.

By participating in GH EDCTP3 JU-funded initiatives, CERMEL reinforces its commitment to high-quality, ethical, and collaborative research that addresses the urgent health priorities of

Africa and the global south.

CERMEL plays a key role in Gabon's national research ecosystem and maintains strong partnerships with Ministry of Health and Social Affairs of Gabon, contributing to national health priorities, policy development, and disease surveillance; Local hospitals and health centers, facilitating community-based clinical research and implementation studies; Universities, supporting training, mentorship, and academic exchanges for medical and research students; other public institutions, through collaborative clinical trial activities, infrastructure development, and technical support.

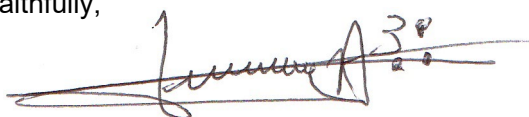
Through these collaborations, CERMEL ensures that its research aligns with national health needs, strengthens local research capacity, and supports evidence-based health policy in Gabon.

We estimate the total value of this contribution to be EUR 709 500 over the 60-month duration of the project. This contribution is entirely provided as **in-kind support**, equivalent to approximately **EUR 11 825 per month**, through the CERMEL staff salaries, lab benches, financial, logistics and administrative services not covered by the project specific budget.

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 JU 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 the Global Health EDCTP3 JU confidential. This confidentiality obligation applies in particular but is not limited to the areas of Global Health EDCTP3 JU 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 JU. Internal dissemination of information within our organisation will be done on the basis of the "need-to-know" principle.
3. We are confident of our ability to fulfil the above commitments and further confirm our understanding that the Global Health EDCTP3 JU 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 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,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ayôla Akim Adegnika', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pr. Dr. Ayôla Akim Adegnika