



NPC
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Dr Henning Gädeke Chair of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking Governing Board
c/o Dr Michael Makanga Executive Director Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking Executive Director
Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking
56 – 60 Avenue de la Toison d’Or
1060 Brussels
Belgium

Letter of endorsement

28 Aug 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of The Aurum Institute NPC ,Aurum Campus, 33 Wrench Road, Isando, Johannesburg, South Africa 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). Our contribution relates to the call for proposals by EDCTP3 - HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-01-two-stage - Global collaboration action for the development of vaccines for reducing the disease burden of Tuberculosis in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Aurum Institute is a leading African healthcare and research organization with over 25 years of experience in tackling global health issues, notably tuberculosis (TB) and HIV. It has conducted over 180 clinical trials, including large-scale TB vaccine studies and phase 3 prevention trials, enrolling thousands of participants across multiple sites in South Africa. Aurum's work spans clinical research, implementation science, health systems strengthening, and capacity building. Aurum is committed to reducing the health, social, and economic burdens of infectious diseases particularly in sub-Saharan Africa by advancing the development and uptake of new and improved interventions. Through its TB vaccine research portfolio, including first-in-human and mRNA trials, Aurum contributes to innovative solutions targeting high-burden diseases. It also supports health security by addressing antimicrobial resistance, strengthening regulatory compliance, and enhancing local and regional capacities to respond to infectious disease outbreaks. Aurum combines scientific excellence with strong partnerships and operational expertise to generate evidence that informs policy and practice, fostering sustainable health improvements.

ACTTIVAC-project: This project proposal responds to the call for proposals by EDCTP3 - HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-01-two-stage - Global collaboration action for the development of vaccines for reducing the disease burden of Tuberculosis in sub-Saharan Africa.

ACTTIVAC aims to evaluate the potential of the single-vial lyophilised ID93+GLA-SE vaccine candidate as a prophylactic tuberculosis (TB) vaccine for adolescents and adults while building local research and manufacturing capacity. To achieve this, the project will assess the safety and immunogenicity of the lyophilised ID93+GLA-SE TB vaccine candidate in a phase 2a clinical trial conducted at two clinical sites in South Africa with local capacity building through clinical research capacity development, technology transfer to a GMP facility in South Africa, and thermostability studies at six healthcare facilities in Nigeria. Within the consortium, Aurum will provide will conduct clinical trial activities and in addition to managing regulatory submissions and compliance for South Africa leveraging strong local authority relationships. Aurum will also lead the capacity development work package ensuring improved clinical research capacity.

Our organisation will provide the necessary infrastructure and resources to Prof Churchyard and his clinical trials team to pursue the activities proposed in the abovementioned project proposal, subject to funding being awarded for this project, for the entire duration of this four-year project with estimated starting date of May 2026 through to April 2030. We estimate the total value of the contribution from Aurum to be approximately EUR 186 428 as detailed below.

Description	Value	WP	Y1	Y2	Y3
Safety committee	€ 14 892	WP4	€ 3 723	€ 3 723	€ 3 723
Staff on CTU Core Budget	€ 118 634	WP4	€ 29 658	€ 29 658	€ 29 658
Study assistance for capacity development	€ 4 380	WP4	€ 1 095	€ 1 095	€ 1 095
Aurum marketing	€ 12 834	WP4	€ 3 209	€ 3 209	€ 3 209
Training	€ 1 407	WP4	€ 352	€ 352	€ 352
Mentorships of interns (structured intern programme)	€ 25 109	WP6	€ -	€ 12 554	€ 12 554
Health and Safety	€ 1 150	WP4	€ 287	€ 287	€ 287
Newly developed training modules for the interns	€ 8 021	WP6	€ 2 005	€ 2 005	€ 2 005
Total	€ 186 428	€ -	€ 40 330	€ 52 884	€ 52 884

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 black ink, appearing to read 'Dave Clark', with a horizontal line underneath.

Name: Professor Dave Clark
Group Chief Executive Officer
The Aurum Institute NPC
E-mail: dave.clark@auruminstitute.org