



MRC Unit
The
Gambia

LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE



29 August 2025

To:

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

Regarding: Letter of endorsement pertaining to “HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-01-MALARIA-02-two-stage”

On behalf of Medical Research Council Unit at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine 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 Medical Research Council Unit The Gambia is a non-profit organization dedicated to biomedical research to improve health and save lives in Africa and the world. Our mission is to lead health research in West Africa and beyond, reducing the burden of illness and death through high-quality scientific research and capacity building, focusing on infectious diseases, nutrition, non-communicable diseases, and training the next generation of globally competitive scientific leaders in Africa.

Like EDCTP, The MRCG is dedicated to developing interventions and products that support and meet the health needs of populations in Sub-Saharan Africa, ensuring that these products and services can ultimately be affordable and accessible to all people who need them globally, building and enhancing sustainable capacity for health research, and facilitating cross-regional and multidisciplinary partnerships.

Our work directly contributes to the achievement of the objectives of Global Health EDCTP3 JU, such as enhancing clinical research capacity for conducting current and future clinical studies at high-quality international standards, strengthening/expanding multidisciplinary epidemiology networks, nurturing African scientific leadership, fostering North-South collaborations between researchers and institutions offering training and expertise support, and strengthen ethics and regulatory capacities.

In relation to this Letter of Endorsement, Prof Amambua-Ngwa of the Disease Control and Elimination Theme of MRCG at LSHTM is leading Work Package 3 and the MRCG will be supporting implementation of the E-STAR research program if the project application is successful. The MRCG will also participate in E-STAR as “contributing partners”, supporting E-STAR with delivering molecular surveillance of malaria as a genomics hub Work Packages (specifically: WP1, 2, 3, 7 and 8). These activities will make use of MRCG personnel and the following services:

- Research support and governance with contributing research manager's time
- Molecular biology and Genomics platform lab equipment depreciation

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- Malaria diagnostic lab access and equipment depreciations
- MRCCG transport logistics for field work
- Data management platform and data manager time
- The high performance computing cluster for data analysis
- Data science and Bioinformatics platform and analysts.

We estimate the total value of our contribution directly benefiting E-STAR studies to be €495,941. This contribution will be provided as in-kind support covering personnel, service platforms, and infrastructure support for E-STAR to conduct the work; it will enable the expansion of activities in Work programme 6 and as such deliver a meaningful impact for the E-STAR network.

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.

I trust this information is received in good order and we look forward to your response.

Yours faithfully,



Dembo Kanteh

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