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

Letter of endorsement

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of The University of Science, Techniques and Technologies of Bamako (USTTB), located in Hamdallaye ACI 2000 - Rue 405 Porte 359, BP E 423, Bamako, Mali, and in accordance with Council Regulation (EU) N°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).

USTTB (<http://usttb.edu.ml/>) is a public higher education and research institution established by Law n°2011-082 dated on 29 December 2011 and its application decree n°2011-740/P-RM dated 3 November 2011. It aims to be a high-performing university, committed to education and the promotion of science. Together with its partners, it primarily focuses its efforts on the following four strategic directions: (i) the modernization of university governance; (ii) the diversification and professionalization of the educational offerings; (iii) the restructuring and development of research; (iv) the modernization of teaching practices. USTTB is committed to foster research that will improve the overall well-being of African population and reduce significantly the burden of diseases, including infectious diseases. USTTB commitment to offer high quality training programs and to reduce the burden of infectious diseases in Africa aligns perfectly with the Global Health EDCTP3 JU overarching goal to reduce the burden of infectious diseases and to strengthen research capacities, in sub-Saharan Africa.

USTTB contribution to SINCEP-Africa will be led by Prof Mahamadou A Thera and his team. Prof Thera is the Scientific Director of the Bandiagara Malaria Program (BMP) of the MRTC (Malaria Research and Training Centre, now renamed Parasites and Microbes Research and Training Centre [PMRTC]. BMP has conducted to international highest standards, malaria vaccine trials in Bandiagara since 2003 and several others world-class epidemiological studies. The team has implemented a large census in Bandiagara that served as basis of the local Health and Demographic Surveillance system and helped the Mali National Malaria Control Program to classify Bandiagara as a sentinel site for malaria surveillance. An additional surveillance site will be established in Markacoungo, near Bamako. The USTTB will provide an in-kind contribution, covering 25% of the personnel costs associated with SINCEP-Africa activities. Furthermore, USTTB will make its existing training and conference facilities, along with other essential core resources, available to support the initiative. These contributions will remain accessible for the entire duration of the SINCEP project.



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More specifically, USTTB researchers are willing to contribute to the leadership of the WP4 on Ethics, regulatory, and pharmacovigilance and the WP5, on Clinical research and trial management. Their extensive experience in building capacity at both the Mali National Ethics Committee and within USTTB own institutional ethics committee will be an invaluable asset to the partnership. This background will enable USTTB researchers to establish effective communication channels with all SINCEP partners, facilitate the development of tailored training tools, and implement efficient expedited review procedures.

We estimate the total value of this in-kind contribution to be up to EUR 119,000 as a function of program activities being realized and for the whole duration of SINCEP-Africa.

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,

Bamako, August 20, 2025

Prof Mahamadou DIAKITE
Rector of USTTB

