

**Dr. Henning Gädeke, Chair of the EDCTP Association Board and the Global Health EDCTP3**

**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

**Braga, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

## **Letter of endorsement**

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the **Clinical Academic Center of Braga (2CA-Braga)**, located at the **Local Health Unit of Braga - Sete Fontes – S. Victor - 4710-243 Braga, Portugal**, with the VAT number **510116477** and in accordance with Council Regulation (EU) No 2085/2021 of 19<sup>th</sup> 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 Clinical Academic Center – Braga (2CA-Braga) is a leading non-profit association in Portugal, dedicated to advancing patient-centered clinical research through a strategic partnership between the University of Minho (UM), the Braga Local Health Unit (ULS-Braga), and CUF-Porto Hospital. This collaboration harnesses cutting-edge medical and scientific expertise to foster innovation, in clinical and translational research, ensuring tangible improvements in patient care and health outcomes.

The 2CA-Braga is located in the North of Portugal, within the ULS-Braga, a structure comprising a public hospital with 700 beds and more than 20 primary care health centers, serving around 1.2 million people. The mission of 2CA-Braga is to advance clinical and translational research, fostering medical innovation that delivers tangible benefits to patients. We are committed to conducting and supporting high-quality, ethically sound translational and clinical research that meets the highest scientific standards. By pioneering groundbreaking healthcare solutions, particularly in medical technologies and novel therapies, we aim to enhance the quality of healthcare in Portugal, and globally by establishing key collaborative initiatives. Bridging the gap between scientific discovery and clinical practice, we ensure that research findings lead to meaningful advancements in treatment and disease management.

Additionally, we are committed to empowering healthcare professionals, researchers, and the public through a wide range of educational initiatives, training, and active engagement in medical research, striving to revolutionize healthcare systems and transform lives by providing opportunities for knowledge growth and innovation. As part of this mission, we offer comprehensive capacity-building training programs that cover crucial areas, including biostatistics, clinical trial design, and the latest advancements in clinical research methodologies. These programs are tailored to equip participants with the in-depth knowledge, practical skills, and critical thinking abilities necessary to thrive in the dynamic field of clinical research. By fostering a highly skilled

and well-rounded workforce, we ensure the continuous advancement of medical science, enabling professionals to make effective contributions to the development of innovative healthcare solutions. This comprehensive approach not only strengthens the foundation of clinical research but also promotes the delivery of better, evidence-based healthcare outcomes for communities worldwide.

Our mission resonates deeply with the objectives of the Global Health EDCTP3 JU: to strengthen research capacity, accelerate the development of innovative health solutions, and confront pressing global health challenges, particularly in regions where the needs are most acute. In full alignment with these goals, 2CA-Braga is committed to fostering international collaboration, advancing excellence in clinical research, and investing in capacity building.

As a contributing partner, 2CA-Braga is pleased to propose a comprehensive in-kind contribution (IKOP) to the Global Health EDCTP3 JU for the **entire duration of the project (60 months)**, designed to reinforce and expand the impact of the initiative. Our contribution is structured as follows:

| Budget Category                                                     | Cost (€)    | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Personnel costs                                                     | 330 342,75€ | 2CA-Braga will dedicate highly qualified personnel, including senior experts in clinical research, trial management, regulatory affairs, data management, and capacity building. These professionals will actively participate in all activities as set out under WP2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, supporting advanced clinical trial design, implementation, monitoring, and mentorship of both senior and early- to mid-career researchers. Through targeted training programs, workshops, and masterclasses, our team will facilitate the development of sustainable expertise, enabling a higher number of African researchers to achieve PI-level leadership and independently manage high-quality clinical trials. |
| Other goods, works and services:<br>Services for meetings, seminars | 198 557,25€ | By leveraging our digital and institutional infrastructure, 2CA-Braga will provide privileged access to its comprehensive capacity-building platforms within the scope of WP5. These include asynchronous digital learning modules, Massive Open                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

|                      |                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                      |                    | Online Courses (MOOCs), and real-time webinars, tailored to the specific needs of African clinical researchers. This platform will allow inclusive, scalable, and flexible access to advanced training, fostering a sustainable pipeline of research leaders equipped to address epidemic preparedness, emerging diseases, and innovative health solutions. |
| Indirect costs (25%) | 132 225,00€        | This cost is applied on Personnel and Purchase costs as indicated above.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Total (€)</b>     | <b>661 125,00€</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

Our proposed involvement is especially relevant to draft topics under EDCTP3 that focus on capacity building in sub-Saharan Africa, digital health solutions for research integration, and clinical trials for emerging diseases and innovative therapies. These areas align with our institutional expertise and ongoing collaborations, making 2CA-Braga a strong partner for the implementation of EDCTP3 JU's strategic agenda.

Specifically, 2CA-Braga proposes to contribute to:

- Capacity building and training activities, including tailored programs in clinical trial design, implementation and monitoring, biostatistics, trial design, regulatory processes, and research management;
- Digital health and innovative technologies, applying our expertise in patient-centered digital platforms to strengthen trial efficiency and data management;
- Regulatory and ethics support, providing expertise to streamline approval processes and ensure adherence to international standards;
- Data management and biobanking for enhanced research collaboration and sustainability.

We estimate the total value of this in-kind contribution to be EUR 661 125,00€.

**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,

Jorge Pedrosa

JORGE MANUEL ROLO PEDROSA  
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