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EDCTP3

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Selection panel consensus meeting report

Global Health EDCTP3
Scientific Committee

2024 Call for Expression of
Interest

The African and European research
partnership on infectious diseases

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1. Introduction

In line with the Governing Board Decision N°GB/23/2024 *Amending the selection process and the specific criteria for the composition of the Scientific Committee of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking and adopting the new Call for Expression of Interest for the selection of members of the Scientific Committee and the establishment of a reserve list*, a call for Expression of Interest to select the members of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking Scientific Committee was launched in July 2024.

Following closure of the call, a selection panel of seven members was nominated by the Global Health EDCTP3 Executive Director, to assess the applications and recommend a list of candidates to be appointed as new members and reserve candidates to be appointed in the future.

Each member of the selection panel assessed independently the allocated applications. The process was concluded by a consensus meeting held online on 19 December 2024.

This report outlines the selection process and deliberations by the selection panel during the consensus meeting.

Panel members and meeting attendees:

1. Dr Pauline **BEATTIE**, EDCTP Association, The Netherlands
2. Prof. Godfrey **BIEMBA**, EDCTP Association General Assembly representative for Zambia,
3. Dr Lydia **BOUDARENE**, Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking, Belgium (*)
4. Ms Aleksandra **CONVERSANO**, Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking, Belgium
5. Dr Jean Marie Vianney **HABARUGIRA**, Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking, Belgium
6. Dr Jan **PAEHLER**, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission, Belgium
7. Prof. Marcel **TANNER**, EDCTP High Representative, Switzerland

(*) During the consensus meeting, Dr Lydia BOUDARENE was excused but provided written comments for her allocated applications, and these were considered in the consensus meeting.

In addition to the panel members, the consensus meeting was chaired by the Global Health EDCTP3 Executive Director Dr Michael MAKANGA. The Global Health EDCTP3 travel and events Assistant Ms Claudia GUTIERREZ-ARBIZU was minute taker.

2. Meeting proceedings

2.1 Welcome & Opening remarks

Chairing the panel consensus meeting, the Global Health EDCTP3 Executive Director thanked each of the Panel members for their contributions to the renewal of the Global Health EDCTP3 JU Scientific Committee and their efforts to review the applications received.



2.2 Outline Process and timeline

The Programme Office (PO) representative outlined the selection process and timeline as following:

- July 2024: GB Decision and launch of the Call for Expression of Interest
- September 2024: Closure of the Call
- November 2024: Nomination of the Evaluation Panel and Conflict of Interest Check
- December 2024: Assessment and scoring of the Applications
- December 2024: Consensus meeting and drafting of the shortlist and reserve list
- February 2025: Governing Board Appointment of the new members of the SC, approval of the Reserve List
- February 2025: Communication of the Outcome.

2.3 Eligibility Criteria

The PO representative briefly explained the selection process, eligibility and evaluation criteria established by the GB in the Decision N° GB/23/2024 referred to above.

All application files, each containing a CV and a motivation letter, that were received before the deadline, have been assessed for eligibility based on the following essential criteria:

- European Commission staff, incl. external staff working for the Commission, staff of the Joint Research Centre, officials of Member States, and of national, regional or local authorities, shall not be eligible.
- Persons who are employed by an organisation that is a member of Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking shall not be eligible.
- University degree in a relevant scientific area, preferably at post-graduate level.
- At least five years of professional experience in the relevant scientific area after having obtained the above-mentioned degree.

2.4 Evaluation Criteria

The applications were made available to the evaluators through a secure SharePoint folder and the panel was reminded on the confidentiality of the proceedings. Each eligible candidature was assessed by three evaluators, assigned to the candidatures in an overlapping pattern. Thus, each evaluator evaluated between 14 and 65 candidatures and score them based on the following criteria.

- Criterion 1: Proven competence and expertise in at least one of the areas mentioned in Art.2.2.a of the Annex 1 to GB decision No GH-EDCTP3-GB/23/2024
- Criterion 2: Very good command of written and spoken English.
- Criterion 3: Previous participation in other scientific and/or technological advisory bodies, demonstrating the ability to look for consensus and to provide synthetic, wide spectrum analyses.



2.5 Assessment scores

The following scores were used for assessing each criterion:

- Criterion 1 was scored on a scale of 0-15 (0: not addressed/3: Poor/6: Weak/9: Good/12: Very good/15: Excellent)
- Criterion 2 was scored on a scale of 0-5 (0: not addressed/1: Poor/2: Weak/3: Good/4: Very good/5: Excellent)
- Criterion 3 was scored on a scale of 0-5 (0: not addressed/1: Poor/2: Weak/3: Good/4: Very good/5: Excellent).

2.6 Received applications and eligibility outcome

At the closure of the call, 86 applications had been received. Out of the 86 applications, 14 applications (**Annex 3**) were considered ineligible for the following reasons:

- 2 applications missed the deadline (30/09/2024 at 23:39).
- 4 applications were incomplete.
- 7 applicants did not have at least five years of professional experience in the relevant scientific area after having obtained the university degree.
- 1 applicant was currently employed at HaDEA (as European Commission staff) at the time of application.

2.7 Evaluation and consensus outcome

In total, 72 applications were considered eligible. Each eligible application was scored by 3 panel members. An average of all three independent scores was used to rank the application, with scores per candidate varying between 9 (lowest) and 25 (the highest possible score). The PO representative proceeded to further elaborate on each Criterion and its associated scores, highlighting that Criterion 1 has a triple weight. The full list of areas under Criterion 1 is shown in **Table 1** below.

Table 1 Competence and expertise areas as defined in the GB decision No GH-EDCTP3-GB/23/2024

1. Drug and vaccine development, as well as immunisation research for infectious diseases with a focus on poverty-related infectious diseases and neglected tropical diseases.
2. Epidemiological research on infectious diseases.
3. Implementation research for medical interventions in low- and middle-income countries, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa.
4. Clinical trial design and operations, biostatistics.
5. Clinical pharmacology and pharmacokinetics.
6. Mathematical modelling for infectious diseases and clinical health research.



7. Clinical research ethics.
8. Regulatory affairs & pharmacovigilance.
9. Training and capacity development of researchers in clinical trial research in low-resource settings.
10. Capacity building for medical research in developing countries.
11. Social science, community engagement and gender balance in research in low-resource settings.
12. Health research systems and policy, translation of research findings into policy guidelines and adoption within public health systems.
13. Health research data sharing, data access and governance.
14. Climate and Health research.
15. Pharmaceutical Industry R&D experience.

2.8 Discussion and recommendations

The panel discussed the highly scored applications, with a focus on key and complementary expertise areas. Each of the top 24 applications were discussed and the committee confirmed that top scored list includes the most excellent candidates. Panel members highlighted an important combination of skills in the pool of shortlisted top 20 candidates (Annex 1), including industry experience, climate and health, regulatory affairs, and several disease-specific themes; extensive industry experience; extensive experience in ethics and social sciences; extensive experience in advisory bodies; capacity strengthening and women in science; extensive experience in research on emerging pathogens.

The panel recommended a pool of top 20 candidates for the selection of members to appoint on the short term, replacing the members who resigned from the current SC, and to fill the vacant SC positions later when contracts of several members reach their end dates. In addition to the 20 top list, 3 other candidates were recommended for the reserve list.



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3. Approval by Selection Panel

Agreed by the evaluation panel in the consensus meeting of 19 December 2024.

Panel members **names and signatures**:

1. Dr Pauline **BEATTIE**, EDCTP Association, The Netherlands

2. Prof. Godfrey **BIEMBA**, EDCTP Association General Assembly representative for Zambia,

3. Dr Lydia **BOUDARENE**, Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking, Belgium

4. Ms. Aleksandra **CONVERSANO**, Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking, Belgium

5. Dr Jean Marie Vianney **HABARUGIRA**, Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking, Belgium



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6. Dr Jan **PAEHLER**, DG Research Innovation, European Commission, Belgium

7. Prof. Marcel **TANNER**, EDCTP High Representative, Switzerland

Basel, 14.2.2025



4. Annexes

Annex 1 – List of 20 candidates recommended by the selection panel

File No	Last Name	First name	Gender (M/F)	Country of Residence / Place of Origin	Expertise area	TOTAL SCORE
15	EGWANG	Thomas	M	Uganda	Industry expertise, Tuberculosis, Malaria, Diagnostics, Clinical Trials, Vaccines	25.0
19	TIONO	Alfred	M	Burkina Faso	Malaria, Vaccines, Therapeutics, EDCTP grants holder, former EDCTP Fellow	25.0
61	AKLILLU	Eleni	F	Sweden	Pharmacology, Tuberculosis, HIV, Clinical Trials, former SAC Member of EDCTP2	25.0
72	AFOLABI	Muhammed	M	UK	Malaria, Ebola, Clinical Trials, Vaccines, former EDCTP funded PhD researcher	24.7
82	REINHARD-RUPP	Jutta	F	Switzerland/Germany	Industry expertise, NIDs, former EDCTP2 SAC member	24.7
22	GEBRE	Teshome	M	Ethiopia	epidemiologist, data safety	24.0
73	ALTERI	Enrica	F	Switzerland, Italy	Regulatory expertise, former EMA employee	24.0
77	VERNET	Guy	M	Belgium/France	HIV, industry expertise, vaccines, diagnostics	24.0
48	FIEBIG	Lena	F	Belgium/Germany	NGO expertise, epidemiologist, tuberculosis, NIDs, One Health, translational research, digital health, health service strengthening	23.7
11	MAN	Tony	M	UK	Industry expertise, strong experience in global R&D programmes former advisor of EDCTP2 Executive Director	23.3
43	MERRY	Cepkie	M	Ireland	Tuberculosis, Clinician with Clinical Trials experience, HIV pharmacology, antimicrobial stewardship	23.0



File No	Last Name	First name	Gender (M/F)	Country of Residence / Place of Origin	Expertise area	TOTAL SCORE
39	BURTSCHER	Doris	F	Austria	Social Science, community engagement, clinical research ethics	22.3
50	BARDAJI	Azucena	F	Spain/Mozambique	Maternal and child health, social science and gender equity issues, lower respiratory tract infections, capacity strengthening	22.3
18	BRITO	Miguel	M	Portugal	Diagnostics, expertise in working with Iusophone countries, implementation research, training and capacity building, epidemiology	22.3
36	BERMUDEZ	Clara	F	Spain	Climate and health, translation to policy, epidemiologist, biostatistics, clinical research ethics, data governance and sharing, translation into policy, implementation research	22.3
47	NAGOT	Nicolas	M	France	Clinical trials, HIV, tuberculosis, co-infections, biostatistics and data management, epidemiology, maternal and child health, social science	22.3
60	JUDD	Ali	F	UK, Italy	Epidemiologist, AMR, lower respiratory tract infections, paediatrics clinical trials, HIV, emerging and re-emerging infections	22.3
52	GREWAL	Harleen	F	Norway/France	tuberculosis (TB), lower respiratory tract infections, diarrheal diseases, antimicrobial resistance, vaccine research, and clinical trial, epidemiology, capacity building, former EDCTP2 SAC member	22.0
7	IBRAHIM	Umar	M	Nigeria	Climate and health, training and capacity building, One Health	22.0
63	SCHMECK	Bernd	M	Germany	AMR, Clinical Trials on Infectious diseases	22.0



Annex 2 – List of 3 candidates recommended for the reserve list

Nr	File No	Last Name	First name	Gender (M/F)	Country of Residence / Place of Origin	Expertise area	TOTAL SCORE
1	20	WELLS	Timothy	M	Switzerland /UK	Clinical Trials, Malaria therapeutics, pharmacology	23.7
2	41	HOLM-HANSEN	Carol Joanne Church	F	Norway and US	Social science, diagnostics, epidemiology in HIV and tuberculosis	23.7
3	54	ABD EL WAHED	Ahmed	M	Germany/Egypt	Emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, diagnostics, Clinical Trials	22.0



Annex 3 – List of 14 ineligible candidates

File nr	Received (Date)	Last Name	First name	Gender (M/F)	Country of Residence / Place of Origin
Two Candidates who missed the deadline					
45	01/10/2024 14:27	MIRANDA	Joao	M	Portugal
46	01/10/2024 00:11	BOOTH	Mark	M	UK
Four candidates with incomplete applications					
30		KEMPF	Volkhard	M	Germany
81		KOSE	Sukran	M	Turkey
85		MWALIMA	Stephan	M	Tanzania
86		DEDE	Zerrin	M	Turkey
Eight Candidates who did not meet the essential eligibility criteria					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seven candidates who do not have at least five years of professional experience in the relevant scientific area after having obtained the university degree. 					
8		KRISHNA	Manu	M	Spain / Malaya/India
23		CHISOM	Cynthia	F	Nigeria
24		ALUNYO	Jimmy Patrick	M	Uganda
26		DITSHWANELO	Doreen	F	Botswana
37		KINGSLEY	Essel Arthur	M	Ghana / UK
42		SHAMSUDDEEN	Yusuf Ma'aruf	M	Canada / Nigeria
74		MESSINA	Diane	F	Cameroon
One European Commission staff, including external staff working for the Commission shall not be eligible (candidate is employed by HaDEA).					
65		TAMIATO	Anita	F	Belgium, Italy



Annex 4 – List of all 72 eligible applications with total scores

File No	Last Name	First name	Gender (M/F)	Country of Residence / Place of Origin	TOTAL SCORE
15	EGWANG	Thomas	M	Uganda	25.0
19	TIONO	Alfred	M	Burkina Faso	25.0
61	AKLILLU	Eleni	F	Sweden	25.0
66	TIPPLE	Craig	M	Switzerland, UK	24.7
72	AFOLABI	Muhammed	M	UK	24.7
82	REINHARD-RUPP	Jutta	F	Switzerland/Germany	24.7
22	GEBRE	Teshome	M	Ethiopia	24.0
73	ALTERI	Enrica	F	Switzerland, Italy	24.0
77	VERNET	Guy	M	Belgium/France	24.0
20	WELLS	Timothy	M	Switzerland /UK	23.7
41	HOLM-HANSEN	Carol Joanne Church	F	Norway and US	23.7
48	FIEBIG	Lena	F	Belgium/Germany	23.7
11	MAN	Tony	M	UK	23.3
43	MERRY	Ceppie	M	Ireland	23.0
59	MACHINGAIDZE	SHINGAI	F	South Africa	22.7
39	BURTSCHER	Doris	F	Austria	22.3
50	BARDAJI	Azucena	F	Spain/Mozambique	22.3
18	BRITO	Miguel	M	Portugal	22.3
36	BERMUDEZ	Clara	F	Spain	22.3
47	NAGOT	Nicolas	M	France	22.3
60	JUDD	Ali	F	UK, Italy	22.3
7	IBRAHIM	Umar	M	Nigeria	22.0
52	GREWAL	Harleen	F	Norway/France	22.0
54	ABD EL WAHED	Ahmed	M	Germany/Egypt	22.0



File No	Last Name	First name	Gender (M/F)	Country of Residence / Place of Origin	TOTAL SCORE
63	SCHMECK	Bernd	M	Germany	22.0
51	DORLO	Thomas	M	Sweden/The Netherlands	21.7
58	OUEDRAOGO	Alphonse	M	Burkina Faso	21.7
71	KREIDENWEISS	Andrea	F	Germany	21.7
78	GOMEZ	Elena	F	Spain	21.7
66	TIPPLE	Craig	M	Switzerland, UK	21.3
69	WINTERBERG	Markus	M	Germany	21.3
33	BAIDEN	Frank	M	Ghana / UK	21.0
53	LUO	Nkandu	F	Zambia	21.0
13	RADWAN	Azza Saleh	F	Egypt	21.0
1	BORGES	Alvaro	M	Denmark / Brazil	20.7
31	LATZ	Andreas	M	Germany	20.7
80	HOLL	Felix	M	Germany	20.0
44	URDANETA	Elena	F	Spain	20.0
79	UMUTESI	Grace	F	USA	19.7
84	IWUAFOR	Anthony	M	Nigeria	19.7
10	OMAM	Lundi-Anne	F	Benin	19.3
38	MWAPAGA	Lamech	M	Namibia	19.3
62	OBASA	Emmanuel	M	South Africa	19.3
49	MC NALLY	Lisa	F	Spain/Ireland	19.3
29	SALAMI	Olawale	M	Belgium / Nigeria	18.3
12	FREMPONG	Irene	F	Germany / Ghana	18.3
27	FAYE	Farba	M	Sierra Leone	18.3
32	GOMEZ RAJA	Jonathan	M	Spain	18.3



File No	Last Name	First name	Gender (M/F)	Country of Residence / Place of Origin	TOTAL SCORE
55	SOWINSKI	Stefanie	F	Chile/ Germany	18.3
25	GONZALEZ MONTOYA	Maria	F	Spain	17.7
64	OUWE OUKEM	MISSI Odile	F	France /Cameroon	17.7
28	RUGARABAMU	Sima	F	Tanzania	17.3
56	ACHAN	Beatrice	F	Uganda	17.3
68	MALINGA	Lesibana	M	South Africa	17.3
35	NAMITALA	Eve	F	Uganda	17.0
76	SANCHEZ-CESPEDES	Javier	M	Spain	17.0
3	ODERO	Ronald	M	Kenya	16.7
83	SABEEL	Solima	F	USA/Sudan/South Africa	16.3
40	NYIKA	Admire	M	Zimbabwe	16.3
67	GWED	Samuel	M	Belgium	16.3
21	EHIAKHAMEN	Odianosen	M	Nigeria	16.0
34	SHEY	Robert Adamu	M	Cameroon	15.3
4	TRUPPA	Claudia	F	Switzerland / Italy	14.7
57	BEYAIE	David	M	Denmark	14.3
9	GRIGORAKAKI	Eleni	F	Greece	14.3
2	ENANE	Anita Christine	F	Kenya / Uganda / Somalia	14.0
16	EKAT	Martin Herbas	M	Congo	13.7
17	KARAMAN	Didem Sen	M	Turkey	12.3
6	PONO	Pono	M	Botswana	11.3
14	GUTTOO	Parishma	F	US / Mauritius (?)	11.3
5	WANCHE	Ernest	M	Nigeria	10.3



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File No	Last Name	First name	Gender (M/F)	Country of Residence / Place of Origin	TOTAL SCORE
70	TCHOUPE	Eric Berenger	M	Cameroon	9.7
75	ISKANDER	Teresa	F	Egypt	9.3

END OF REPORT