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## AFRICAN MALARIA NETWORK TRUST

### TRAINING WORKSHOP ON MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY IN MALARIA VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

9-11 November 2005, Yaoundé, Cameroon

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

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### Background

Malaria remains a major health problem in sub-Saharan Africa despite decades of applied control measures and introduction of the more recent innovative ones including source reduction, insecticide spraying, chemoprophylaxis, prompt and adequate treatment, intermittent presumptive treatment and use of insecticide treated materials.

The sequencing of the *Plasmodium falciparum* genome and recent advances in vaccinology, molecular biology and immunology, allied to better funding opportunities in malaria research have made a malaria vaccine an attractive option as a potential additional intervention tool. To keep abreast with such advances and prepare African scientists to seize opportunities in the field of malaria vaccine development, AMANET in collaboration with the MIM Secretariat is organising a training workshop on molecular biology and immunology in the development of malaria vaccines for African scientists. The workshop aims at forming a forum for African scientists working on malaria to gain new information and knowledge through lectures and discussions from experts in the field as well exchange views and experiences gained from their daily activities.

### Objectives

1. To introduce new advances in molecular biology and immunology of malaria vaccines
2. To discuss malaria vaccine research problems in Africa in relations to molecular biology and immunology
3. To enhance South-South collaboration, mentorship and networking among African molecular biologists and immunologists.

### Workshop format

The workshop will be conducted in the form of lectures by facilitators and breakaway small group discussions and plenary presentations among participants on various topics including the following:

- Malaria immunity and roles of B and T cells
- Immune correlates in malaria vaccine evaluation
- Malaria vaccine development and current state of candidate vaccines
- Malaria vaccine strategies
- Evaluation of candidate malaria vaccines
- The role of the Afro-immunoassay initiative
- Malaria parasite diversity and vaccine development
- Host genetic factors and protection from malaria
- Ethics and regulatory issues in malaria vaccines development

## **Faculty**

Michael Theisen – Statens Serum Institute, Denmark  
Fred Kironde – Makerere University, Uganda  
Søren Jepsen – European Malaria Vaccine Initiative  
Odile Leroy – European Malaria Vaccine Initiative  
Thor Theander – University of Copenhagen, Denmark  
Francine Ntoumi – Albert Schweitzer Hospital Medical Research Unit, Gabon  
Daniel Dodoo – Noguchi Memorial Institute of Medical Research, Ghana  
Robert Sauerwein – Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, the Netherlands  
Adrian Luty – Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, the Netherlands  
Wen Kilama – African Malaria Network Trust, Tanzania  
Charles S. Mgone – African Malaria Network Trust, Tanzania  
Roma Chilengi – African Malaria Network Trust, Tanzania.

## **Participants and scholarship**

Applications from potential participants are invited among malaria researchers in African institutions with presentation(s) that have been accepted for either oral or poster sessions at the Fourth MIM Pan-African Malaria Conference 2005, November 13-18, Yaoundé, Cameroon. The workshop, which will be held just before the MIM Conference has a dual purpose of offering training and facilitating the attendance to the conference by young African Scientists.

To the successful applicants AMANET will provide a scholarship which will cover tuition, most direct economy return air-ticket between the participants' institution and Yaoundé, hotel accommodation including breakfast and lunches for the three days of the workshop and a small allowance for evening meals. The scholarship will not cover fees for obtaining visas, extras, transit cost and hotel accommodation after the end of the training workshop. The AMANET and MIM Secretariats will closely liaise to ensure transparent and most efficient handling of the scholarships to avoid duplications and deficiencies in the coverage of expenses.

Interested persons should submit a complete application, which must include a brief curriculum vitae of not more than one page, summary of their research work in not more than ten lines justifying how they and their institutions would benefit from the workshop. The application must be accompanied with names and addresses of two referees, including their telephone numbers and email. Applicants should ask their referees to send letters of recommendation directly to the following address:

Workshop on Molecular Biology and Immunology in Malaria Vaccine Development

### **African Malaria Network Trust**

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Website: [www.amanet-trust.org](http://www.amanet-trust.org)

Enquiries: Prof. Charles S Mgone ([csmgone@amanet-trust.org](mailto:csmgone@amanet-trust.org))

**Applications must be received by 30 June 2005.**