



ANNOUNCING THE 4TH AMANET BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

24–26 February 2004, Novotel Mount Meru Hotel, Arusha, Tanzania

Background

The African Malaria Network Trust (AMANET) in March 2002 became the legal successor to the African Malaria Vaccine Testing Network (AMVTN). The founding of AMVTN and subsequently of AMANET was consequent to the recognition of malaria as the leading public health problem in Africa. It was also recognized that Africa has very limited capacity to contribute significantly to the global efforts to control the problem, especially towards the development of a cost-effective vaccine. The mission of AMANET is to strengthen the capacity and expertise of African malaria R&D institutions in intervention trials and networking in order to facilitate the development of cost-effective malaria interventions. Indeed the presentations and discussions at the 3rd AMVTN Conference, which was held 29-31 October 2001 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, under the theme 'Malaria Vaccines in the Pipeline for Africa', underscored the above problems and the corrective actions needed. It was demonstrated that several candidate vaccines were then at different stages of development. Some were already undergoing phase 1b trials at African research centres collaborating with allied non-African institutions. It was also shown that more African research centers required capacity strengthening to enable participation in the later phases of product testing.

Conference Theme and Sub-Themes

The theme for the 4th AMANET Conference is: ***Experiences of Organizing Malaria Intervention Trials***; and the sub-themes are:

1. Candidate Antimalarial Drugs in Pre-Clinical Development;
2. Candidate Malaria Vaccines in Pre-Clinical Development;
3. African Experiences on Site Characterization for Malaria Intervention Trials;
4. Capacity Strengthening for Development of Malaria Interventions;
5. Clinical Trials of Antimalarial Drugs;
6. Trials of Asexual Stage Candidate Vaccines;
7. Trials of Pre-Erythrocytic candidate Vaccines; and
8. Trials of Transmission Blocking Candidate Vaccines.
9. Lessons from vector control trials.

Satellite Meetings

1. AMANET Scientific Coordinating Committee, Monday, 23 February 2004;
2. AMANET General Biennial Assembly, Friday, 27 February 2004; and
3. AMANET Board of Trustees, Monday, 1 March 2004.

Call for Papers

Papers are invited on the above sub-themes. Paper abstracts must be submitted electronically by 30 November 2003. The text should not exceed 250 words and when applicable should highlight the research or review rationale, objectives, methodology, results, conclusions and recommendations. The accepted abstracts will be published in the Conference Book to be distributed at registration. Each oral presentation including discussion time must not exceed 20 minutes.

Audiovisual Facilities

There will be projection facilities for transparencies, slides and PowerPoint.

Social Events

Local operators will be invited to arrange for paying participants to visit national parks in northern Tanzania such as Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater, Mount Kilimanjaro and other places of interest. Cultural events will also be organized

Registration for the Conference

Pre-registration is necessary for the participants requiring special arrangements to be made for them and for timely estimation of the conference requirements. However, registration for the Conference will be free and will also take place at the conference venue from the evening of 23 February 2004 onwards.

Accommodation

Participants who are sponsored by AMANET will all be booked at the Novotel Mount Meru Hotel and are required to confirm their participation by 30 November 2003. All other participants are expected to make their own accommodation arrangements.

Contact Addresses

1. Secretariat

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2. Novotel Mount Meru Hotel

Tel: 255-27-250 2711/2; 250 8320; 250 8804
Fax 255-27-250 8503; 250 8221
E-mail: sales-novotel@cybernet.co.tz
Web site: hotelmotelNOW.com

Other Recommended Hotels in Arusha

1. The Impala Hotel

Tel: 255-27-250 2962; 250 7083; 250 8448/51
Hotlines 255-27-250 3453; 250 3782
Fax; 255-27-250 8680; 250 8220
E-mail: impala@impala.co.tz or impala@habari.co.tz
Web site: www.impalahotel.com or www.theclassictours.com

2. The Arusha Hotel

Tel: 255-27-250 7777/8870-73
Fax: 255-27-250 8889
E-mail: marketing@newarusha.com

3. Eland Hotel

Tel: 255-27-250 7868; 250 7967; 250 6892
Fax: 255-27-250 8468