

## PAMAfrica abridged annual meeting

7 November 2023

Paris, France

# REPORT



### **PAMAfrica: A portfolio approach to developing next-generation malaria treatments for Africa**

Supporting a portfolio of three clinical studies, the PAMAfrica Consortium aims to contribute to malaria elimination by developing new antimalarial medicines for the most at-risk populations, including newborns, patients with severe malaria and those with drug resistant infections. PAMAfrica also contributes to building clinical capacity and training scientists across Africa. The consortium, supported by EDCTP and led by MMV, comprises ten public- and private-sector research and development partners across Africa and Europe.

## Introduction and objective

The 3rd PAMAFrica abridged annual meeting took place at the margins of the 11<sup>th</sup> EDCTP Forum in Paris, France on the morning of 7 November. As the EDCTP Forum started on 7 November in the afternoon and several other consortia were also organizing annual meetings, it had been agreed to hold an abridged meeting focusing on Work Package progress, status and outlook with a deeper dive into capacity building, focused on the PhD and MSc students.

The time and venue of the meeting were decided by the PAMAFrica PSMC in April, in consultation with EDCTP. A placeholder invitation was sent to all PAMAFrica stakeholders in June 2023. The PAMAFrica Grant Management Team (GMT) prepared the agenda, which was shared with the PSMC for review and approval before being shared with all participants and EDCTP as observer. MMV's Travel & Events team provided support with travel and accommodation for the participants.

A total of 42 participants attended the meeting, including 11 PhD and MSc students. Three participants could not attend the meeting because they did not obtain visas in time and therefore joined virtually. Due to multiple priorities and meetings, EDCTP was not able to attend the meeting as an observer.

This report is a documentation of the meeting and will be shared with all participants and posted on the website ([pamafrica-consortium.org](http://pamafrica-consortium.org)). Participants have received the presentations made at the meeting.

## Presentations

The meeting was opened by Tim Wells, the PAMAFrica Coordinator who welcomed the participants and set the scene for PAMAFrica. The moderator of the meeting Wiweka Kaszubska then guided the participants through the agenda and provided closing comments, congratulating the partners on the progress made and remarking on the valuable contributions we collectively are making to the malaria elimination agenda.

The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to PAMAFrica's five Work Packages, with speakers providing updates on progress with an outlook to the final phase of the PAMAFrica grant.

- Work Package 1: New combination treatments for uncomplicated malaria case management
- Work Package 2: First malaria treatment for vulnerable infants and neonates less than 5kg (a new AL formulation)
- Work Package 3: New non-artemisinin treatment for severe malaria (parenteral KAE609)
- Work Package 4: Building research capacity of next-generation African scientists
- Work Package 5: Operations and implementation

## Building research capacity of next-generation African scientists

As mentioned above, and building on the collaboration with the SINDOFO consortium, the PhD and MSc students were invited to attend the meeting, which also provided an opportunity for networking and learning at the subsequent EDCTP Forum.

The focus on the students consisted of two parts; the first was three students presenting their thesis topics and research: , Alberto Chaque, CISM, Fabrice Mougéni, CERMELE and Emma Malinga, CERMELE.



The second part was a panel discussion facilitated by Helen Demarest, Co-Lead of Work Package 4, Capacity Building, with the 11 students present at the meeting, in person and online. PhD students: Victor Asua IDRC,



Nouhoun Barry GRAS, Francis Bohissou IRSS, Emma Gladis Malinga CERMEL, Abel Nhama CISM. MSc students in biostatistics: Alberto Chauque CISM, Fabrice Mougeni CERMEL. MSc students in biostatistics: Georges Some IRSS, Edward Ikoona IDRC, Jean Sawadogo GRAS, Andrew Kasibante IDRC. Fabrice Mougeni CERMEL, Alberto Chauque CISM

The discussion gave students the opportunity to share their career and research aspirations and talk about some of the challenges they have faced in their academic careers, both before being selected to be part of the PAMAfrica scholarship, and in the context of pursuing their current studies in foreign countries and in a non-native language. Their stories, and the passion with which they told them, highlighted the fact that capacity building and supporting the next generation of African scientists is a multifaceted and complex topic. The MSc students shared that in Sub-Saharan Africa there is a shortage of statistical capacity to analyze the vast amount of research and routinely collected patient data. Biostatisticians are required by many types of institutions. It is therefore important to build a critical mass of specialists to enrich local research expertise and enable job opportunities and career pathways for the graduates. The PhD students highlighted the importance of the link with their home institutions and development of expertise on site to which they would be proud to contribute by mentoring their peers.

Given this feedback and the subsequent conversations during the networking event with the students and senior PAMAfrica scientists, the consortium recognized the importance of follow-up and support to students beyond the degree, connecting the dots and fostering local expertise hubs.

## Facts and figures

Of the 42 people attending the meeting (three virtual), including the PhD and MSc students, there were 24 men and 18 women of which 19 represented African partners and 23 represented European partners.

## Annexes:

- Agenda



## PAMAfrica 3rd annual meeting

7 November 2023

Hotel Le Meridien, Paris, France  
Salon Courcelles (level -1)

**Objective:** at the margin of the [11<sup>th</sup> EDCTP Forum](#), the PAMAfrica partners are convening for an update on the progress, status, and outlook per work package.

### Tuesday 7 November 2023, agenda

9.45 – 10 AM CET	<b>Registration</b>	
10.00 – 10.15 AM	<b>Opening of meeting</b>	<p><b>Timothy Wells</b>, PAMAfrica Consortium coordinator, Chief Scientific Officer, MMV</p> <p><b>Wiweka Kaszubska</b>, Vice President Head of Product Development, MMV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by moderator</li> <li>• Feedback from EDCTP 4<sup>th</sup> oversight malaria drugs oversight committee (OC) meeting</li> </ul>
10.15 - 10.30 AM 15'	<b>Setting the scene:</b> Perspectives for PAMAfrica's last year and its contribution to the malaria elimination agenda.	<b>Timothy Wells</b>
10.30-10.45 AM 15'	<p><b>Work Package 1: New treatments for uncomplicated malaria</b></p> <p>Antimalarial resistance and the need for new drug combinations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP1 status and outlook</li> <li>• Q&amp;As</li> </ul>	<b>Joseph Okebe</b> , Clinical Lead Global Health, Merck Group
10.45 -11.00 AM 15'	<p><b>Work Package 2: AL for infants and neonates &lt;5kg body weight</b></p> <p>The importance of developing antimalarials for newborns and treatment considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP2 status and outlook</li> <li>• Q&amp;As/discussion</li> </ul>	<b>Sabine Pfeffer</b> , Head, Novartis Malaria Global Program



<b>11.00 - 11.15 AM</b> 15'	<b>Work Package 3: Parenteral KAE609 for severe malaria</b> Artemisinin resistance and the risk to severe malaria patients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP3 status and outlook</li> <li>• Q&amp;As/discussion</li> </ul>	<b>Caroline Boulton</b> , Head, Novartis Malaria Global Program
<b>11.15-12.05 AM</b> 50'	<b>Work package 4: Capacity building</b> Building the next generation research capability in Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WP4 status and outlook</li> </ul>	<b>Eusebio Macete</b> , General Director, Empresa Farmácias de Moçambique; Researcher, Manhica Health Research Center (CISM) <b>Nuria Casamitjana</b> , Director of Education & Training, ISGlobal
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thesis themes and how they see their future</li> <li>• Panel discussion (all students)</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<b>Fabrice Mougéni</b> , CERMEL, <b>Emma Malinga</b> , CERMEL, <b>Alberto Chaque</b> , CISM
<b>12.05-12.20 PM</b> 15'	<b>Work Package 5: Operations &amp; implementation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAMAfrica PSMC feedback</li> <li>• WP5 status and outlook</li> <li>• Q&amp;As/discussion</li> </ul>	<b>Olaug Bergseth</b> , Associate Director, External Relations, MMV  All participants
<b>12.20-12.30 PM</b> 10'	<b>Wrap up, closing remarks &amp; group photo</b>	<b>Wiweka Kaszubska</b>
<b>12.30 PM</b>	<b>PAMAfrica &amp; SINDOFO joint lunch</b> Espace Latitude (lobby level)	

Wednesday 8 November 2023, Batignolles room (reception level)

6.30 PM to 7:30 PM Meet the students: informal get together to allow for the young PAMAfrica scientists to meet with senior researchers.

- List of participants



## Attendees

1 Victor Asua, IDRC <b>PhD student</b>	22 Eusebio Macete, CISM
2 Nouhoun Barry, GRAS <b>PhD student</b>	23 Teresa Machai, CISM
3 Olaug Bergseth, MMV	24 Emma Malinga, CERMEL <b>PhD student</b>
4 Montserrat Blazquez Domingo, EDCTP	25 Rella ZolekoManego, CERMEL
5 Francis Bohissou, IRSS <b>PhD student</b>	26 Anne-Claire Marrast, MMV
6 Steffen Bormann, Tübingen	27 Vitalia Mitrovic, MMV
7 Caroline Louise Boulton, Novartis	28 Ghyslain Mombongo, CERMEL
8 Nuria Casamitjana, ISGlobal	29 Fabrice Mougéni, CERMEL <b>MSc student</b>
9 Bradley Castelli, MMV	30 Alice Neequaye, MMV
10 Alberto Chauque, CISM <b>MSc student</b>	31 Abel Nhama, CISM <b>PhD student (virtual)</b>
11 Helen Demarest, MMV	32 Vanesa Nkwouano, Tübingen
12 Stephan Duparc, MMV	33 Joseph Okebe, Merck
13 Meral Esen, Tübingen	34 Dearie Glory Okwi, CERMEL
14 Preetam Gandhi, Novartis	35 Sabine Pfeffer, Novartis
15 Jana Held, Tübingen	36 Jutta Reinhard Rupp, Merck
16 Edward Ikoona, IDRC <b>MSc student</b>	37 Rana Rossignol, MMV <b>(virtual)</b>
17 Berenger Kabore, IRSS	38 Jean Sawadogo, GRAS (virtual) <b>MSc student</b>
18 Andrew Kasibante, IDRC <b>MSc student(virtual)</b>	39 Georges Somé, IRSS <b>MSc student</b>
19 Wiweka Kaszubska, MMV, meeting Chair	40 B. Alfred Tiono, GRAS
20 Peter Kreamsner, Tübingen	41 Timothy Wells, MMV
21 Sven Lindemann, Merck	42 Adoke Yeka, IDRC (virtual)

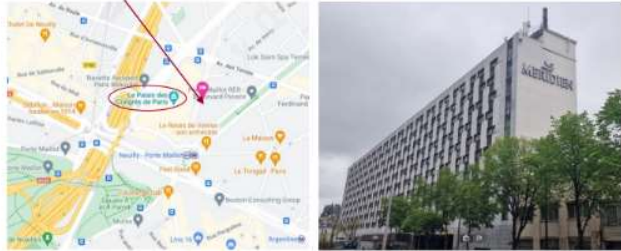
- Logistics note

**PamAfrica Abridged Annual Consortium Meeting  
7 November 2023, Paris**



**Venue**

**Le Méridien Etoile** 81 Boulevard Gouvion Saint-Cyr, 75017 Paris - T +33 1 40 68 34 34



**Check-in time:** 16:00      **Check-out time:** 12:00

**Meeting room**

The meeting takes place in the **Salon Courcelles** (Level -1). Please refer to the agenda sent by Rana for details.

**Getting there (Public Transportation)**

The hotel is located opposite the Paris Convention Centre at Porte Maillot.

**From Gare de Lyon station:**

Metro 1 direction La Défense (Grande Arche) to Porte Maillot – 20 min, €1.90

**From Roissy Charles de Gaulle airport:**

RER B to Châtelet, then Metro line 1 direction La Défense (Grande Arche) to Porte Maillot – 55 min, €11.45

Or check your itinerary here: <https://www.bonjour-ratp.fr/stations-metro/porte-maillot/>



Convention Centre

Le Méridien Etoile

Purchase your tickets either at a ticket booth or vending machine at the metro station.

**PamAfrica Abridged Annual Consortium Meeting  
7 November 2023, Paris**



**Accommodation**

First Name	Family Name	Check-in	Check-out
Victor	Asua	6.11.23	11.11.23
Nouhoum	Barry	6.11.23	11.11.23
Olaug	Bergseth	5.11.23	10.11.23
Francis	Bohissou	6.11.23	11.11.23
Simona	Bosello	5.11.23	7.11.23
Nuria	Casamitjana	7.11.23	11.11.23
Bradley	Castelli	6.11.23	10.11.23
Heien	Demarest	6.11.23	9.11.23
Stephan	Duparc	5.11.23	7.11.23
Edward	Ikoona	6.11.23	11.11.23
Berenger	Kabore	6.11.23	11.11.23
Andrew	Kaibante	6.11.23	11.11.23
Mweela	Kasubiska	6.11.23	9.11.23
Carsten	Köhler	7.11.23	10.11.23
Eusebio	Macete	6.11.23	11.11.23
Emma	Malinga	6.11.23	11.11.23
Bella	Manego	5.11.23	11.11.23
Anne-Claire	Marrast	5.11.23	10.11.23
labelle	Meyer-Andrieux	7.11.23	10.11.23
Vitalia	Mitrovic	6.11.23	10.11.23
Ghyslain	Mombo-Ngoma	6.11.23	11.11.23
Fabrice	Mougemi	6.11.23	11.11.23
Alice	Neekuaye	6.11.23	11.11.23
Abel	Nhama	6.11.23	11.11.23
Sabine	Pfeffer	5.11.23	11.11.23
Jutta	Reinhard Rupp	6.11.23	10.11.23
Rana	Rossignol	6.11.23	7.11.23
Jean	Sawadogo	6.11.23	11.11.23
Georges	Somé	6.11.23	11.11.23
B. Alfred	Tionio	6.11.23	12.11.23
Timothy	Wells	6.11.23	9.11.23
Adoke	Yeka	6.11.23	11.11.23

Check-in time: 16:00

Check-out time: 12:00

Accommodation has been booked and prepaid by MMV in single occupancy, including breakfast, as above. All rooms are paid for by MMV and will be charged to your organization's PamAfrica budget.

Please ensure you have paid for any incidentals and checked-out of your room by 10am on departure day. You may leave your luggage with the concierge when you check out.

Double supplement: €20 / night + tax, to be paid at reception.

Kindly check all details are correct, and contact Lindsay by return on [sethl@mmv.org](mailto:sethl@mmv.org) with any discrepancies.

**Breakfast**

Breakfast is served daily from 6:30 – 11:00 in the Espace Latitude (lobby level), and included in your room rate.

**Lunch (7 November)**

Meeting attendees are invited to take part in a buffet lunch served in the Espace Latitude after the PamAfrica Abridged Annual Consortium meeting.

**PamAfrica Abridged Annual Consortium Meeting  
7 November 2023, Paris**



**EDCTP Forum**

The EDCTP Forum takes place in the Palais des Congrès de Paris, opposite the hotel.

**Security**

France's national security preparedness plan "Vigipirate" is currently at its highest level. Anticipate enhanced and visible security measures in stations, airports, and on the streets.

**Assistance on route to Paris**

**Regarding your flights:** after hours service +41 22 518 39 88 (emergencies only)

**General logistics & accommodation:** call or email Lindsay +41 79 675 75 99, [sethl@mmv.org](mailto:sethl@mmv.org)

Safe travels, and see you in Paris!