

REQUEST BY NON-STATE ACTORS TO SUBMIT A STATEMENT AT THE HYBRID SESSION OF THE SEVENTY-SECOND REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

Non-State actors participating, either in person or virtually, in the hybrid session of the Seventy-second Regional Committee for Africa and wishing to make a statement, must submit the complete form hereunder to the Secretariat not later than one week prior to the start date of the session, that is by 15 August 2022.

Oral statements should not be more than one-minute long, while written statements should not be longer than 600 words. Each statement should focus on technical issues and should be directly relevant to both the agenda item under which it is presented and to the document prepared for the item. The statement should not raise issues of a political nature that are unrelated to the agenda item and should not contain any inappropriate or offensive reference to Member States. While there should not be reference to any individual Member States, or areas of Member States, it is recalled that nomenclature must follow that of the United Nations.

The Chairperson of the Regional Committee shall decide whether to accept or reject a statement in light of its relevance to the discussion, compliance with the time and word limits and the rules stated above. During the meeting, the Chairperson of the Regional Committee shall decide whether to grant a non-State actor the right to present an oral statement in light of time constraints or any other reason. Written statements admitted shall be published on the Regional Committee webpage for a limited time period and will not be retained thereafter.

Request by non-State actors to submit a written or oral statement at the hybrid session of the Seventy-second Regional Committee for Africa

Name and acronym of non-State actor (in English, French or Portuguese):

☒ Written statement

☐ Oral statement

Name of person delivering the statement

Modality of participation: ☐ In person ☐ Virtual

Agenda item (number, title): **Agenda item10: Framework for the Integrated Control, Elimination and Eradication of Tropical and Vector-Borne Diseases in the African Region 2022–2030**

Statement (in English, French or Portuguese): one of the recommendations of the report is “the mainstreaming research and innovation in TVD programming”. To assist the countries of the Region to achieve this goal, the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership Association (EDCTP) has been very active in funding clinical research, infrastructure development and training of African scientists, as well as supporting national ethics committees and the strengthening of their rules and regulations systems. At the end of 2021, EDCTP2 grants reached Eur 814.45 million, supporting 140 collaborative clinical research projects, 90 research capacity development projects and 250 fellowships.

In 2018, EDCTP signed an agreement with WHO/AFRO in which the two organizations committed to working together on strengthening of the National Research Systems (NHRS), a relevant contribution towards successfully combating infectious diseases and their interaction with other disease.

Although the current EDCTP2 has up to 2026 for implementation of ongoing activities and closure, the new 10-year Global Health EDCTP3 has started operations. The later carries on the legacy of EDCTP2 with some changes – **only** African countries that commit to full membership of the EDCTP3 Association can have their researchers eligible for funding, in conformity with the applicable rules of the European Union. Therefore, we urge all African countries to join the EDCTP Association, as an important step to enhance and sustain the national clinical research capacities towards attaining the control, elimination and

eradication of the main TVDs. It is in their utmost interest to develop further their NHRS.

Name: Dr Leonardo Simão

Position: EDCTP High Representative for Africa_____

Date: 14 August 2022