

**RESEARCH CONFERENCES**

Europe-Africa Frontier Research Conference Series

# Infectious Diseases: From Basic to Translational Research

NH The Lord Charles Hotel, Cape Town • South Africa  
4 – 9 April 2009

Chairs: **Monique Capron**, Inserm, Lille 2 University, Institut Pasteur de Lille, FR – **M. Iqbal Parker**, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Cape Town, ZA

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# Preliminary Programme

The first conference in this series will focus on various topics around infectious diseases, paying particular attention to tuberculosis, malaria and more neglected diseases such as Buruli ulcer, leishmaniasis, schistosomiasis and filariasis, along with emerging viral diseases.

The conference will concentrate on basic sciences in order to promote research and cooperation in an area that is generally regarded as of minor importance and therefore does not attract adequate funding in developing countries.

Extensive public interest on HIV/AIDS has resulted in diversion of attention to other infectious diseases, even though they still remain a key concern in all countries. In a globalised world almost every issue that concerns Africa affects the developed world, and vice versa.

This meeting will focus on the basic mechanisms underlying infectious diseases and explore how they may be applied to drug development and other intervention strategies.

The conference will highlight excellence in European and African research in an 'open forum format' of plenary discussions and lively interactions both inside and outside the conference room. It is anticipated that this format will help both formal and informal knowledge exchange between leading scientists and young researchers to create new synergies resulting in intercontinental research projects and joint funding applications.

Scientists from academia and industry worldwide are invited to apply to attend this conference. Selection will be based on academic merit, with the objective of achieving a balance between African and European participants and with a special focus on young researchers.

In order to enable the largest possible number of scientists to attend, a number of travel and conference grants will be made available.

## Invited Speakers will include

### Session 1: Genetic Aspects

- Valérie Mizrahi

University of the Witwatersrand, ZA

- Morris Agaba

ILRI, Nairobi, KE

- Eileen Hoal van Helden

Stellenbosch University, ZA

- Jennie Blackwell

Cambridge University, UK

### Session 2: Genetic of Vectors

- Didier Fontenille

Institut de recherche pour le développement, FR

- Charles Wondji

University of Liverpool, UK

### Session 3: Emerging Diseases (Mycobacteria)

- Françoise Portaels

Institute of Tropical Medicine Antwerp, BE

- Bouke de Jong

The Medical Research Council, GM

- Stewart Cole

Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, CH

### Session 4: Emerging Diseases (Viral)

- Eric Leroy

Institut de recherche pour le développement, FR

- Mawlouth Diallo

Institut Pasteur de Dakar, SN

- Antoine Flahault

INSERM UMR S 707, FR

### Session 5: Pathogenesis

- Ogobara Doumbo (tbc)

Malaria Research and Training Centre, University of Bamako, ML

- David Dunne

Cambridge University, UK

- Vincent Titanji

University of Buea, CM

### Session 6: Drug Resistance and Drug Discovery

- Léonardo Basco (tbc)

Organisation de Coordination pour la lutte contre le Endémies en Afrique Centrale, CM

- Josiane Etang

Organisation de Coordination pour la lutte contre le Endémies en Afrique Centrale, CM

- Christian Doerig

University of Glasgow, UK

### Session 7: Intervention Strategies and Social Aspects

- Pedro Alonso

Centre de Recerca en Salut Internacional de Barcelona, ES

- Stefan Kaufmann

Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology, DE

- Abdisalan Noor (tbc)

Nairobi-KEMRI-Wellcome Trust, KE