

## Report of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the TDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC42)

- Welcomed new members
  - Dr Catharina Boehme, CEO of FIND Diagnostics, Geneva
  - Professor Catherine (Sassy) Molyneux, KEMRI-Wellcome Trust, Kenya
- Elected Rapporteur of STAC42
  - Professor Claudia Chamas, Fiocruz, Brazil

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## Directors' Report

- The Committee reviewed and endorsed the report
- Establishment of a training course in ethics for implementation research (RCS)
- Vector control with Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) conducted in collaboration with IAEA (IMP)
- Development of a Health Product Profile Directory and collaboration with partners that attracted US\$ 2 million (Global Engagement)

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## STAC's observations and recommendations on the Director's report

- STAC noted and commended TDR on the increase of contracts and grants awarded to women.

IT WAS SUGGESTED TO TDR TO REVIEW AND ANALYSE THE CAUSE BEHIND THIS SUCCESS.

- TDR, which was already working towards digital technology, could have its impact enhanced by working with the WHO Digital Technology team.
- TDR's relationship with the WHO Science Division was evolving well and the dual role of the Director of TDR/WHO Director of Research for Health was working fine.

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## Risk to the programme implementation in the wake of COVID-19

- TDR may consider monitoring the effect of COVID19 on financial contributions in its Risk Register.
- TDR should adapt its workplans accordingly, and strengthen distance learning.

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## STAC42 Decisions/Endorsements

- Endorsed the Director's Report
- Endorsed the Preliminary Financial Report 2018/19 and outlook 2020/21
- Endorsed the 2019 TDR Results Report
- Endorsed the Risk Management Report 2019
- Endorsed team technical progress reports
- Endorsed the TDR Programme budget 2020/21
- Agreed to the membership of the Scientific Working Groups presented
- Agreed STAC43 to take place in Geneva during the week of 15 March 2021

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## STAC Recommendations

- To include global health preparedness and global health emergencies as a risk to programme implementation and identify a mitigation plan.
- To use COVID-19 pandemic context as an opportunity to strengthen TDR distance learning models.
- To conduct analysis to identify specific factor that led to the increased level of funding to women scientists, as presented in the 2019 Results Report .
- To publish research protocols and other tools developed by WARN-TB and CARN-TB to help research capacity development beyond these two regions.
- To document and share lessons learnt from Western Pacific RTC evaluation.

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