



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**BETWEEN**

**THE INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH**

**AND**

**THE AFRICAN UNION**

**ON**

**INDIA AFRICA HEALTH SCIENCES COOPERATION**

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**Preamble**

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred 'MOU'), is made between the **African Union** represented by the **Scientific, Technical and Research Commission** (herein referred to as" **AU-STRC**" ), acting through the Executive Director with its Institute located at Plot 114 Yakubu Gowon Crescent, Asokoro, Abuja, Nigeria of the one part;

AND

The Indian Council of Medical Research (hereinafter referred to as "**ICMR**") acting through the Director General with its office located at Ansari Nagar New Delhi - 110029. India of the other part;

**HEREINAFTER** jointly referred as 'Parties' to this MOU:

**WHEREAS** ICMR is the apex body in India for the formulation and coordination of biomedical research. It is an autonomous body under the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India. Its research priorities coincide with the national health priorities towards prevention of communicable diseases and non-communicable diseases; improving reproductive and child health and nutrition; promoting basic medical sciences and drug research including traditional medicines. ICMR promotes biomedical research in the country through intramural and extramural research.

**WHEREAS** the African Union Commission (AUC) is the Secretariat for African Union, consisting of 55 African Member States while the Scientific Technical and Research Commission (STRC) is a specialized technical institute of the African Union under the Department of Human Resources Science and Technology that deals with science, technology and innovation policies, capacity development and research issues for the development of the African Union and its Member States.

**WHEREAS** the **Parties** recognize that India and Africa face similar challenges in health with limited public-health resources, and seek to develop independent capacities through renewed and reinvigorated partnerships between the two regions in the overall framework of the India-Africa Partnership. The overarching partnership framework encompasses many developmental frameworks on different endeavors, but this MoU is specifically to address India Africa Health Sciences partnership;

**RECOGNIZING** that cooperation among scientists, education and advocacy specialists, public health officials, technocrats , industry representatives in India with counterparts within Africa would be critical to developing cutting-edge, innovative, sustainable, and regionally relevant solutions;

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**FURTHER RECOGNIZING** ICMR and AU-STRC wish to express their endeavor to advance strategic and multifaceted cooperation between the leading stakeholders of both regions in the field of health and medical research and industrial processes.

**DESIROUS** of intensifying cooperation and collaboration between themselves and of establishing appropriate working arrangements for the satisfactory implementation of the MOU;

**HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:**

**Article 1**  
**Objectives**

The purpose of this MOU is to facilitate co-operation and collaboration between the Parties hereto, establish the arrangements necessary to ensure effective cooperation between the Parties in areas of mutual interest.

1. The objectives of this MOU:
  - a. to train and strengthen capacity of health professionals, researchers, regulators and industry staff;
  - b. to prioritize diseases and areas for research collaboration; and
  - c. to enhance pharmaceutical trade and manufacturing capabilities for drugs and diagnostics.
2. The MOU sets out the framework for cooperation in order to ensure closer collaboration and exchange of information between the Parties in a manner that creates synergistic relationship and partnership in research and capacity building initiatives.

**Article 2**  
**Scope and Objectives**

1. The Parties to this MOU hereby agree to join efforts and to remain a close and continuous working relationship for the achievement of their common objectives and for the implementation of the MOU.
  2. To this end, they shall, in accordance with the provisions hereinafter set forth, cooperate to implement action plan for the execution of activities set out in Article 3 of this MOU. All activities carried out in the mentioned framework shall be undertaken in accordance with the rules, regulations and procedures of the respective institutions.
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