



UNESCO-MERCK Africa Research Summit

(UNESCO-MARS) 2017

28 – 29 November Port Louis, Mauritius

Day 1 28th November 2017

8:30 - 10:20	Inauguration Session	Ebony Conference Room
08:30 - 08:40	Welcome note and Launch of Merck Foundation	Dr. Rasha Kelej CEO of Merck Foundation Chairperson of UNESCO Merck Africa Research Summit
08:40 - 08:55	Keynote Speech - Merck vision to build research capacity in Africa	Prof. Dr. Frank Stangenberg- Haverkamp Chairman of the Executive Board and Family Board, E. Merck KG Chairman of Board of Trustees of Merck Foundation
08:55 - 09: 05	Implementation plan to support 2030 Agenda through STEM	Ms. Audrey Azoulay UNESCO Director General
09:05 - 09:15	Prospective of capacity building in life and health sciences: Experiences from Africa	Hon. Dr. Mohammad Anwar Husnoo Minister of Health and Quality of Life, Republic of Mauritius
09:15 - 09:25	Youth and Gender Empowerment in STEM	H.E. Inonge M. Wina Vice-President of the Republic of Zambia
09:25 - 09:40	Keynote Speech	H.E. Dr Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, GCSK, CSK, PhD, DSc President of the Republic of Mauritius
10:00 - 10:20	Group Photo	
10:00 - 10:20	COFFEE BREAK	
10:20 - 10:30	The Role of partnership between Merck Foundation & UNESCO to empower Women and Youth in STEM	Dr. Rasha Kelej CEO of Merck Foundation & Chairperson of UNESCO MARS Summit Dr. Ahmed Fahmi Program Specialist, Division of Science Policy and Capacity Building - UNESCO

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10:30 - 13:30 Ministerial High-level Panel

Ebony Conference Room

Dr. Rasha Kelej
CEO of Merck Foundation & Chairperson of UNESCO
MARS Summit
Dr. Ahmed Fahmi
Program Specialist, Division of Science Policy and
Capacity Building - UNESCO

Hon. Sarah Opendi
Minister of State of Health, Republic of Uganda
Hon. Leela Devi Dookun- Luchoomun
Minister of Education and Human Resources ,Tertiary
Education and Scientific Research, Republic of Mauritius

Hon. Phoebe Luo
Minister of Science and Higher Education, Republic of
Zambia

Hon. Jonathan Moyo
Minister of Science and Higher Education, Republic of
Zimbabwe

Hon. André Mama Founda
Minister of Health, Republic of Cameroon

Hon. Janvière Ndirahisa
Minister of Science and Higher Education, Republic of
Burundi

Hon Dr George Kronnisanyon Werner
Minister of Science and Higher Education, Republic of
Liberia

Hon. Soumaya Mohammed Ahmed Abou-Kashawa
Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research,
Republic of Sudan

Hon Deng Deng Hoc Yai
Minister of Education of the Republic of South Sudan

Hon. RĚALY Onitiana Voahariniaina
Minister of Population, Social Protection and the
Advancement of Women, Republic of Madagascar

Mr. Stefan Maron
Managing Director - Merck South East Africa

10:30 - 11:30

Ministerial Panel 1
Empowering Women
& Youth in STEM -
with special focus on
Scientific Research -
Challenges &
Solutions to be
considered in the
national strategy in
developing countries

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11:30 - 12:30	Ministerial Panel 2 Empowering Women & Youth in STEM - with special focus on Scientific Research - Challenges & Solutions to be considered in the national strategy in developing countries	<p>Hon. Dr Anwar Husnoo Minister of Health, Republic of Mauritius</p> <p>Hon. Zuliatu Cooper Minister of Health & Sanitation, Sierra Leone</p> <p>Hon. Susan Shabangu Minister In the Presidency Responsible for Women, Republic of South Africa</p> <p>Hon. Julia Duncan Cassell Minister of Gender and Social Development, Republic of Liberia</p> <p>Hon. Chitalu Chilufya Minister of Health, Republic of Zambia</p> <p>Hon. Madeline Tchuinte Minister of Science and Higher Education, Republic of Cameroon</p> <p>Hon. Malam Adamu Adamu Minister of Science and Higher Education, Federal Republic of Nigeria</p> <p>Hon. Awut Deng Acuil Minister of Gender Child and Social Welfare, Republic of South Sudan</p> <p>Hon. Fidelis Macdonald Molao Assistant Minister of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology, Republic of Botswana</p>
12:30 - 13:30	Signing of Communique of promoting interdisciplinary Scientific Research, improving North-South and South-South collaborations and empowering Women and Youth in Scientific Research	
13:30 - 14:30 LUNCH BREAK		
14:30 - 16:30	Session 1: Identifying scientific research priority for evolving health needs. The case of cancer burden in Africa <p style="text-align: right;">Ebony Conference Room</p>	
14:30 - 14:45	History and Overview of Cancer Research and Registry in Africa	<p>Prof. Cristina Stefan President of the African Organization for Research and Training in Cancer</p>
14:45 - 15:00	Oncology, Building capacity and South- South Cooperation: a continuous challenge	<p>Prof. Dr. Kailash S. Sharma Director of Tata Memorial Hospital India</p>

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15:00 - 15:15	Cancer Education in Africa: What is Desirable? What is Deliverable'	Prof. Nicholas Anthony Othieno-Abinya Professor at University of Nairobi
COFFEE BREAK		
15:30 - 15:45	Improving access to cancer care in Africa: Challenges and Solutions	Prof. Dileep Mhaisekar Vice-Chancellor - Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS), India
15:45 - 16:00	Scientific cooperation in Oncological Sciences: Evidences from Latin America	Dr. Eduardo Cazap President of the Latin American & Caribbean Society of Medical Oncology (SLACOM)
16:00 - 16:15	How to tackle Cancer's burden through international cooperation	Dr. Dinesh Pendharkar Chair of the International Affairs Committee (American Society of Clinical Oncology)
16:15 - 16:30	Empowering Women & Youth in Research in Egypt and Africa	Prof. Hany El-Shemy Dean of Faculty of Agriculture Cairo University
19:00 - 22:00	Merck Africa Research Summit - MARS Awards Ceremony announced by CEO of Merck Foundation and UNESCO - delivered by Prof. Dr. Frank Stangenberg- Haverkamp, Chairman of the Executive Board and Family Board, E. Merck KG and Chairman of Board of Trustees of Merck Foundation and H.E. Mrs Ameenah Gurib-Fakim and President, Republic of Mauritius	

The State House,
Le Reduit

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DAY 2 29th November 2017

Session 2: Identifying Scientific research priorities for evolving health needs. The case of vaccines in Africa and capacity building in research		
08:00 - 09:45		Ebony meeting room
08:00 - 08:25	Research in Cancer and in Vaccine Development: The Mauritian Experience	Dr. Shyam Manraj Director Central Health Laboratory, Ministry of Health and Quality of Life, Mauritius
08:25 - 08:45	What is CEPI? Presenting the concept, its background and future opportunities	Dr. Richard Hatchett CEO of Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness and Innovation
08:45 - 09: 10	Vaccine R&D capacity: a complex dimension between Government and Academia	Prof. Dr. Veronika von Messling Director, Veterinary Medicine Division, The Paul-Ehrlich-Institute
09:10 - 09:30	MenAfriCar consortium's outcomes: capacity building in Africa	Dr. Caroline Trotte Senior Lecturer, University of Cambridge
09:30 - 09:45	Recent directions and the benefits of internationalization in cancer	Prof. Tebello Nyokong Rhodes University in South Africa, UNESCO-L'OREAL award winner

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09:45 - 11:00	Session 3: Policies, Environment and Mechanisms to improve research in Life and Health sciences: Opportunities and Challenges	Ebony meeting room
09:45 - 10:00	Capacity-Building in Life and Basic Sciences: the experience of the University of Mauritius	Prof. Louis Jean Claude Autrey Chancellor of University of Mauritius
10:00 - 10:15	STISA 2024 and vision for STEM	Dr. Elizabeth Marincola African Academy of Science
10:15 - 10:30	Interdisciplinarity, Biomedical Sciences and Investments in Africa: challenges and prospectives	Dr. Collen Masimirembwa CEO African Institute of Biomedical Science and Technology
10:30 - 10:45	What it takes to make your Research and Laboratory work successful	Mr. Matthias Getrost Head of Research & Applied Commercial Africa, Merck Life Science
10:45 - 11:00	The Global Access in Action (GAiA) Project	Ms. Ashveena Gajeelee, Berkman Klein Centre Fellow, Harvard University
11:00 - 11:15	COFFEE BREAK	
11:15 - 13:00	Poster Exhibition	Chairpersons: Prof. Andrew Kambugu - Makerere University, Uganda Prof. Nicholas Anthony Othieno-Abinya - University of Nairobi, Kenya Prof. Carla Montesano - University of Rome, Italy Prof Antonella Minutolo - University of Rome, Italy
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch	



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14:00 - 16:30	Workshop	Ebony meeting room I & II
Group I (Ebony meeting room I)	Problem Statement: Inadequate to absence of supportive mechanisms to research translation.	Organised by Dr. Ahmed Hamdy Executive Director, African Union Scientific, Technical and Research Commission Supported by Prof. Andrew Kambugu - Makerere University, Uganda Dr. Pauline Essah - University of Cambridge, UK Dr. Caroline Trotter - University of Cambridge, UK Dr. Elizabeth Marincola - African Academy of Science, Kenya Prof. Carla Montesano - University of Rome, Italy Prof Antonella Minutolo - University of Rome, Italy
Group II (Ebony meeting room II)	Problem Statement: Poorly equipped facilities to boost research / drug discoveries and development in Africa.	