

**SUMMARY ON THE TSETSE AND TRYPANOSOMIASIS
PARTNERS MEETING, HELD ON THE 30TH MARCH 2015, AT
HOTEL AFRICANA, KAMPALA**

Introduction:

This meeting followed the recommendation of a previous WHO Stakeholders meeting on Hat (r-HAT), held in Geneva, from 20th – 22nd, October, 2014.

Main Objective:

Establish and strengthen coordination of all sectors involved in T & T in the endemic countries; Thus, enhancing synergy and bridging knowledge gaps among key stakeholders in achieving the goal of elimination of sleeping sickness.

Theme of the T & T Partners meeting:

“Collective coordination for T & T activities: Targeting elimination of sleeping sickness by 2020.”

Objectives of the Meeting:

- Enable various partners dealing with T & T in Uganda to meet and share approaches.
- To share the COCTU Strategic Plan with various stakeholders.
- Ensure harmonisation of the different on-going and planned interventions.
- Discuss and make resolutions for the way forward with regard to partners’ engagement in Uganda.

Invited Delegates to the Meeting:

These included National delegates from the MAAIF, MoH, Min. of Tourism and Wildlife, Gulu, Kyambogo and Makerere Universities, UTCC. International Delegates from WHO, AU/PATTEC, EAC, FAO, Yale, Liverpool and Edinburgh Universities, DNDI, STPH, IKARE, CEVA, FIND, Merial, Veterinarians without Borders

Statements/ Presentations:

These came from the chairman UTCC; Welcome remarks, The P/S MAAIF; Opening remarks, Vice chair, UTCC; a Vote of Thanks, MoH; Closing remarks.

Statements also came from WHO, FAO, AU/PATTEC, Veterinarians Without Borders,

WHO Statement: Dr. Franco Minguell, Jose Ramon

It had the following salient areas;

- The existence of a COCTU structure needs to be adopted by all involved in T& T interventions for effective coordination and harmonisation.
- The current adoption of the *One Health Approach* was fitting in the strategy for the current T & T interventions.
- The goal of the *T. gambiense* elimination requires extra strengthening of all parties; in terms of human, financial and logistical resources and coordination.
- The current expertise/approach in controlling the *T. gambiense* needs to be applied in other countries.
- There is need for having such regular meetings amongst all players involved in T & T

FAO Statement: Dr.Cecchi Guiliano

- FAO has been effectively in the fight against T & T in the country since the 1970's.
- FAO is currently working in liaison with the Italian govt., AU/PATTEC, IAEA on the PATTEC initiative. First phase coming to an end, therefore, need to know of the future country plans for possible assistance.
- FAO country office has a Desk officer to assist COCTU with regard to T & T issues.

AU/PATTEC Statement: Dr Hassane Mahamat

- Gratified to note that one Economist had published a book on the impact T& T on the economies of Sub Saharan Africa. Serves as an extra eye-opener about the T & T problem.
- T & T problem can only be addressed by a coordinated and harmonised approach continentally.
- BADEA has in principle agreed to fund a Project on T& T in Uganda; awaiting the country's response. Otherwise money is assured.
- The Arab World is due to pass a Resolution within the Arab World with regard to assistance of the T & T interventions in Africa.

Veterinarians Without Borders: Dr. Tom Graham

- Earlier activities in Uganda were centred on T.B and trypanosomiasis.
- Have field teams at the district levels.
- Need further interactions with MoH and COCTU.
- Has had the funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Due to introduce user-friendly soft ware in the data collection and to be introduced to all the partners.

Presentations:

- COCTU presentation: Prof. Charles Waiswa.
- Sleeping sickness situation in Uganda; Dr Charles Wamboga.
- Investments under the Tiny Targets Approach in WestNile and future plans; Andrew Hope.
- IKARE and 3V Network Investments in the Teso-Lango sub region under SOS umbrella: Dr Patrick Opondo.
- Interventions and Plans by the University Edinburgh under the SOS umbrella, Christine Acop.

- Collaborative research activities on T & T in Uganda, Dr Richard Echodu, Gulu-Yale Universities.
- Addressing the gaps in sustainability of T & T control, IKARE.
- Interventions and Plans by Social Finance using the Development Impact Bond Approach; Dennis Muhanguzi.
- Experiences of Public Private Partnership plans in control of sleeping sickness in Uganda: Dr Francis Kitaka.
- Presentation and Identifying Gaps in Approach and generation of Resolutions to guide coordination and focus of activities: Prof Charles Waiswa.

Meeting Resolutions

Recognizing that COCTU is the Coordinating Government agency on Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis in Uganda, Partners resolved that: -

1. The role of stakeholders is still crucial and partners must continue working together to mobilize resources and technical support to ensure that sleeping sickness and animal trypanosomiasis are eliminated and tsetse eradicated
2. COCTU and partners should ensure availability of *Terms of Reference* and documented evidence of commitment in terms of funding, capacity building and all intended programme work for the next three months. This should be routine procedure at the UTCC Secretariat.
3. COCTU should be the official information/data centre. To be responsible for feedbacks (including project documents, reports, dissertations and thesis). To synergise all T & T programmes of the different interventions by partners on quarterly basis
4. There is urgent need for partners to assign programme liaison officers to COCTU. These will be responsible for the co-supervision of their work with COCTU. These two will be in

position to address the need for re-evaluation and improve on monitoring and evaluation

5. COCTU should be co-supported by WHO and any other agencies including PATTEC to be able to convene partner coordination meetings on a six monthly basis. The main purpose of such meetings will be sharing experiences, information and promotion of synergies.
6. COCTU should ensure that partners' areas of operations are mapped in alignment to the COCTU strategic plan. This will avoid possible conflict/duplication in implementation, improve on the reporting mechanisms, and identify gaps in the T & T undertakings. As a government agency, COCTU will facilitate in the preparation of protocols for the project proposals of the recognized partners. Further, COCTU should ensure that it communicates all such pertinent information to the partner Government Ministries for example, MAAIF, MOH, etc.

Workshop Facilitator:

Dr Abbas Kakembo

Sessions chairs:

Mr. Luyimbazi Fredrick, Commissioner for Entomology, Morning session.

Dr. Winyi Kaboyo, Mid Morning Session.

Dr. Kakembo Abbas, Afternoon Session.

Appendix 1: List of Acronyms

AAT	Animal African Trypanosomiasis
AU	African Union
BADEA	Arab Bank for economic Development in Africa
COCTU	Coordinating office for Control of Trypanosomiasis in Uganda
COVAB	College of Veterinary medicine, Animal resources and Biosecurity
DNDi	Drug for Neglected Diseases Initiative
Dr	Doctor
EAC	East African Community
ED	Executive Director
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FIND	Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics
HAT	Human African Trypanosomiasis
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IT	Information Technology
LSTM	Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MAK	Makerere
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MoFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
MOH	Ministry of Health
NaLIRRI	National Livestock Resources Research Institute
PATTEC	PAN African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign
PS	Permanent Secretary
SOS	Stamp Out Sleeping Sickness

STPH	Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute
T.B	Tuberculosis
T & T	Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis
UTCC	Uganda Trypanosomiasis Control Council
VWB	Veterinarians Without Borders
WHO	World Health Organisation

Appendix 2: List of Participants

**CONTACT LIST AND ADDRESSES OF PARTICIPANTS
DURING THE STAKEHOLDERS MEETING ON
30TH – MARCH, 2015, HOTEL AFRICANA**

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