

**REPORT OF A TWO DAYS RETREAT TO DISCUSS THE FINALISATION OF NATIONAL
TSETSE AND TRYPANOSOMIASIS CONTROL POLICY**

30TH SEPTEMBER - 01ST OCTOBER, 2013

HOTEL PARADISE, JINJA



Prepared By

COORDINATING OFFICE FOR CONTROL OF TRYPANOSOMIASIS IN UGANDA (COCTU)

LIST OF UTCC MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. Hon. Ayumu Jovino Akaki | - | Chair of Retreat |
| 2. Dr. Kinani M. Kebba | - | Vice Chairman |
| 3. Mr. Paul Okot Okello | - | Member |
| 4. Mr. Ismael Magona | - | Member |
| 5. Mr. Okasai S. Opolot | - | Member |
| 6. Mr. James Lutalo | - | Member |
| 7. Dr. N. Kauta | - | Member |
| 8. Prof. Charles Waiswa | - | Member and Secretary |

LIST OF TC MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. Dr. Winyi Kaboyo | - | Chairman |
| 2. Mr. Fredrick Luyimbazi | - | Member |
| 3. Dr. Charles Wamboga | - | Member |
| 4. Dr. Abbas Kakembo | - | Member |
| 5. Dr. Kenneth Mugabi | - | Member |
| 6. Mr. Albert Mugenyi | - | Member |
| 7. Dr. Chris Rutebarika | - | Member |
| 8. Kalenzi David | - | Member |
| 9. Mr. Okiror Stephen Fred | - | Member |
| 10. Mr. Muguwa Joseph | - | Member and Secretary |
| 11. Ms. Semakula Catherine | - | Member |

LIST OF VITAL STAKEHOLDERS

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Kivunike Godfrey | - | Principal Policy Analyst, MAAIF |
| 2. Ms. Christine R. Mubiru | - | Principal Policy Analyst, MOH |
| 3. Mr. Semakula Lawrence | - | Consultant on Entomology |
| 4. Dr. F.K. Kansiime | - | Consultant on Epidemiology |

LIST OF COCTU STAFF

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. Mr. Hanan Mpangire | - | Accountant |
| 2. Ms. Beatrice Oyella | - | Secretary |
| 3. Ms. Sany Nakiwala | - | Accounts Assistant |
| 4. Ms. Sylvia Nankinga | - | Accounts Assistant |
| 5. Mr. Charles Epyetu | - | Office Attendant |
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| 7. Mr. Moses Bakayita | - | Driver |
| 8. Mr. Ernest Ssali | - | Driver |
| 9. Mr. Robinson Kawooya | - | Driver |
| 10. Mr. Abubaker Matovu | - | Gardener |

PEOPLE FROM THE MEDIA

1. Ms. Gladys Kalibala - Vision Group
2. Ms. Evelyn Nakayiongo - UBC TV
3. Mr. Isabirye Solomon - Voice of Busoga F.M.
4. Ms. Salmah Namwanje - NBS TV
5. Mr. Kanyere Hakim - Kiira FM Radio
6. Mr. Ofwono Wycliffe - NBS Radio Jinja

List of Acronyms	
UTCC	Uganda Trypanosomiasis Control Council
TC	Technical Committee
COCTU	Coordinating Office for the Control of Trypanosomiasis in Uganda
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry And Fisheries
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoLG	Ministry of Local Government
T&T	Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis
DVCO	District Vector Control Officers
DVO	District Veterinary Officers
DHS	Director Health Services
NaLIRRI	National Livestock Resources Research Institute

Retreat Coordinator: Bishop Ambrose Gidudu

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

At exactly 9.00a.m, the Chairman called members to order and announced that the retreat was set to start. He said the program was long and there was need to start. He requested Bishop Gidudu Ambrose to lead the prayer and bless the retreat. After the prayer, the Executive Director, COCTU was to make welcome remarks and also give the first presentation on the objectives of the retreat.

PRAYER

The Retreat kick started with a prayer led by Bishop Ambrose Gidudu who thanked God for enabling many people make it to the retreat and requested God to give everyone the wisdom to achieve the objectives of the retreat.

SELF INTRODUCTIONS

All people around introduced themselves.

WELCOME REMARKS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE RETREAT

Prof. Charles Waiswa, the Executive Director (ED), COCTU began by thanking everyone for having taken time off their busy schedules to come to Jinja and dedicate the two days focusing on issues of trypanosomiasis elimination and tsetse eradication in the country. He said this was necessary as no organism will just be eliminated or eradicated without putting in place survival mechanisms. Therefore, if success was to be attained, there was need to have very specific guidelines. He stated that '*the giant called COCTU must take its rightful position while delivering what Ugandans expect in the fight against sleeping sickness and animal trypanosomiasis*'.

At this juncture, the Executive Director took the opportunity to welcome everyone to the retreat. He said the program was full of issues that needed to be deliberated on and it was hoped that by the end of the two days, a lot of achievements would have been made.

RETREAT OBJECTIVE

The Executive Director went on to state that: ‘The main objective of this Retreat was to finalise the Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis policy and also equip the Members of Uganda Trypanosomiasis Control Council and Stakeholders with the roles of UTCC and its Secretariat, (COCTU), on issues of Tsetse eradication and Trypanosomiasis elimination, so that they may be the messengers of the Institution to the community and other beneficiaries.

The Executive Director went on to also state that ‘as COCTU, we have come here knowing what we intend to achieve and this was’:

1. Meet each other: UTCC, TC, COCTU Staff, Vital Partners/Stakeholders & Media to share issues in the area of tsetse and trypanosomiasis
2. Update ourselves on the issues of tsetse and trypanosomiasis
3. Discuss the tsetse and trypanosomiasis policy draft & financial Manual
4. Receive a Presentation from the Consultant that handled the Human Resource Manual
5. Hold statutory UTCC and TC Meetings
6. Agree on a way forward on the issues to be presented

COCTU MANAGEMENT HAD AMBITIONS AND THESE WERE:

1. Coming out of the retreat with renewed assignments: Tell us your desires!
2. Endorsement of our requests.
3. UTCC, TC, COCTU and Vital Stakeholders in total agreement on many issues.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF RETREAT

The Chairperson UTCC made jovial comments and was happy to note that the retreat had registered the highest number of UTCC and TC members since the new UTCC was put in place one year ago. He thanked members for coming to the meeting, leaving their very busy schedules. He said that many people had referred to COCTU by all names but he believed the Institution will soon take its rightful place. This retreat was just one of the steps signalling that the Giant is Awake. He stated that in addition to the retreat, COCTU held a welcome ceremony for the new management which was presided over by the Hon. Min of State for Animal Industry, Bright Rwamirama. He also said that an Induction field visit for all the UTCC members had been planned for the COCTU projects taking place in Northwest region of Uganda. If anyone followed what is happening at the Secretariat, they will note many changes taking place and requested the new management to continue improving the way things are done at COCTU.

The Chairman reminded members that when he was a Minister of State for Wildlife and Tourism, he successfully defended the issue of not carrying out aerial spraying against tsetse in the National parks. He explicitly said he has now turned into the biblical Saul who turned into Paul and greatly supports the eradication of tsetse flies from Uganda. He took a minute off to thank the outgoing Executive Director and Deputy Director for their contribution in managing COCTU and said they had played their role under the prevailing circumstances.

Hon. Jovino Akaki then brought everyone to the attention of the issue on policies and regulations relating to tsetse and trypanosomiasis control. He said that we needed guidelines if tsetse eradication and trypanosomiasis elimination was to be achieved as per the theme of the retreat. He noted that the brains in the room were adequate to find solutions to this problem.

The Chairman then turned to the media who were in attendance and said he expected them to help Ugandans by giving information on the effort being made by UTCC and COCTU on solving the tsetse and trypanosomiasis problem. *“You are our major partners outside there, he said, and let us work together”.*

The Chairman therefore introduced all the eight UTCC members present and all were given enough time to talk more about themselves and the Institution or Ministry they represent. He also allowed the Chairman TC to introduce all the TC members present.

Hon. Jovino Akaki, also allowed time for other members in the retreat to talk a bit more about themselves and thereafter declared the retreat open and wished members good deliberations during the two days they will be in Jinja.

OVERVIEW OF THE RETREAT ON TSETSE AND TRYPANOSOMIASIS POLICY

The Executive Director COCTU said he had worked closely with the Principal Policy Analyst MAAIF Mr. Kivunike Godfrey and Ms. Christine Matovu, the Principal Policy Analyst MOH and had received several comments. As a consequence, he had made a request to the Principal Policy Analyst, MAAIF to make a presentation. This would benefit every participant in terms of understanding the policy development process in the mother Ministry. Mr. Kivunike then took the floor and made a presentation.

THE PRESENTATIONS DURING THE RETREAT

Table 1: List of presentations made in the two days' Retreat on National Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Control policy.

Presentations	TOPIC/TITLE	PRESENTER
1.	Policy Formulation in Uganda	Mr. Kivunike Godfrey, Principal Policy Analyst, MAAIF
2.	Update on Human African Trypanosomiasis	Dr. Charles Wamboga, Senior Medical Officer/Programme Manager HAT
3.	An Update on Animal Trypanosomosis (Nagana) in Uganda	Dr. Kenneth Mugabi, Senior Veterinary Officer, MAAIF
4.	Update from Entomology	Mr. Fredrick Luyimbazi , Asst. Commissioner, Entomology and Mr. Ambrose Gidudu, Principal Entomologist, MAAIF

SUMMARIES OF THE PRESENTATIONS MADE IN THE RETREAT

Presentation 1: Policy Formulation in Uganda

Presenter: Mr. Godfrey Kivunike, Principal Policy Analyst, MAAIF

He started by giving the different definitions of a policy. He emphasized mostly on processes of formulating a policy in Uganda by giving the steps and what is required in every stage and at what level. He informed all the members involved in coming up with this policy to have made extensive consultations with other Ministries and key stakeholders to iron out the differences including the stakeholders at the districts.

There were reactions and questions that arose out of this presentation and majorly, members sought to understand where the current COCTU draft was? The presentation had made it clear that adequate stakeholder consultations had to be made for a policy to be approved by cabinet. The former Director COCTU said he had the minutes for various stakeholder meetings and that the process had started in 2002 with every stakeholder invited in Mukono and all were represented including DVOs, DHOs, Private sector, Policy makers in MAAIF and MOH. Some members who attended this consultation were present at the retreat and confirmed that this meeting took place. The outgoing Executive Director was requested to provide any reports for future use, just in case one wanted to read some of the issues that were of concern during the stakeholder consultative meeting.

During the discussions in this session, it was agreed that it was necessary to hold a consultative meeting with selected stakeholders from the districts affected by tsetse and trypanosomiasis as 2002 was a long time and many things may have changed since the last consultative meeting.

Agreed:

That when the Final trypanosomiasis draft is made, stakeholders be invited to COCTU OR Regional Consultative meetings be held to enable them make comments and any more inputs to enhance ownership of the policy. The Secretariat should work closely with the two Principal Analysts (MAAIF & MOH) to arrange these consultations before the draft is taken to MAAIF Top Management

Presentation 2: Update on Human African Trypanosomiasis

Presenter: Dr. Charles Wamboga, Senior Medical Officer/Programme Manager HAT

The presenter emphasized the need to strengthen capacity of health services to scale up HAT case management and prevention. He asked for commitment of all stakeholders if tsetse eradication is to be achieved, meaning that awareness needs to be created at all levels.

The roles of the stakeholders were summarized as follows:

- To carry on with creating awareness
- Improvement of access to HAT diagnostic tools and drugs for treatment.
- Strengthening advocacy and social mobilisation at all levels.
- Advocacy for vector & animal reservoir control.
- Development of partnerships and Inter-sectoral collaboration.
- Increase community involvement in HAT control activities.

Presentation 3: An Update on Animal Trypanosomosis (Nagana) in Uganda

Presenter: Dr. Kenneth Mugabi, Senior Veterinary Officer, MAAIF

The presenter started by describing Nagana as one of the most important constraints to livestock production in Uganda. Because it affects all domestic species except poultry and emphasized that it is estimated that 70% of livestock is at risk and if the disease is not tackled quickly will lead to: -

- Death of affected livestock
- abortions and infertility
- Reduced yields (milk, meat, draught power, hides and skins)
- Cost of insecticide application, traps and veterinary service

The presenter gave the economic impact of animal trypanosomiasis for the African Continent as Annual loss equivalent to US\$ 1,340 million and also emphatically stated that Uganda stands to benefit USD 700 million within the next two (20) years if the disease is controlled.

During discussions of this paper, a member appreciated the economic aspect given by Dr. Mugabi and said this information is very important in lobbying for public investment. The member said many people out there do not know these losses and potential benefit if disease was controlled.

Agreed: *That these figures be given in future requests for support.*

Presentation 4: Update from Entomology

Presenter: Mr. Fredrick Luyimbazi, Asst. Commissioner, Entomology/Principal Entomologist, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF). The presenters made a joint presentation where they talked of successes that were attained under STAFTA project like: -

- Tsetse Suppression: 56 sub counties out of 87 had Tsetse population reduction of > 75%(114,800 pyramidal traps; 1,083,907live baits).
- Tsetse Mass Rearing: Mass rearing facility with capacity of 500,000 breeding females established in Tororo.
- Sleeping Sickness Control: 13,737 people screened for SS, 9 cases detected and treated.
- Animal Trypanosomiasis: 108,063Hc treated with Trypanocides.

The presenters also cautioned participants that it is easy to achieve success but it is very difficult to sustain it.

The presenters further informed the participants that efforts are being made to sustain and build on previous achievements to avoid the following occurrences.

**NATIONAL POLICY ON ERADICATION OF TSETSE AND TRYPANOSOMIASIS IN
UGANDA**

The COCTU Secretariat then cast the draft policy on the screen and since all members in the retreat had been provided with copies, they were requested to make comments paragraph by paragraph.

Title Adjustments:

**NATIONAL POLICY ON ERADICATION OF TSETSE AND TRYPANOSOMIASIS IN
UGANDA**

The retreat debated and the title was changed to:

**NATIONAL POLICY FOR THE ERADICATION OF TSETSE FLIES AND ELIMINATION OF
TRYPANOSOMIASIS**

Thereafter, the policy was handled page by page and it attracted a lot of debate and formatting issues that were immediately handled. The debate on each and every statement was intense. However, there were Major issues that had to be agreed on:

1. Use of word **Trypanosomosis** was agreed to be replaced by **Trypanosomiasis** in the whole document.

2. **Use of Eradication was maintained as this is a Continental Pronouncement**
However everyone knows that this is almost hard to achieve as each species has survival strategies. For trypanosomes, the word elimination has been recommended even by other bodies like WHO since all are aware that there will always be trypanosomes circulating in wild animals. Therefore Tsetse Eradication and Trypanosomiasis elimination are to be used in the policy document. “The tsetse people have to aim very very very high and if they achieve lesser, they will still have achieved anyway”!

3. The Decentralisation versus Centralisation of Extension Services under MAAIF

This was one of the hot issues during the retreat and the retreat spent quite a lot of time on this subject.

Agreed:

That it was unwise for this policy to indulge in wider aspects of Decentralisation. The meeting was guided by a UTCC member from Local Government that COCTU and MAAIF could find a common position with MLG on this separately. It was agreed that the centralising of the staff working on tsetse and trypanosomiasis be removed from this policy and will be handled separately.

4. Breakdown of Veterinary Extension Services

The Vice Chairman of the UTCC brought up this issue as the major cause of failing to eliminate trypanosomiasis. Dr. Kinani said he had made official communications since 2009 on this matter to the Sectoral Committee on Agriculture in Parliament and followed it up by communications to the Speaker of Parliament; Min. of State, Animal Industry with copies to ED COCTU BUT got no response. A UTCC member working on NAADS adjustment said this was a very important point and requested the Vice Chairman of the UTCC to consider coming to the committee to make a presentation as this could be handled. The Chairperson UTCC made a response and said if Dr. Kinani was invited, he would create time to attend that advisory meeting.

Many other aspects of the Policy draft were discussed and it was agreed to form a committee to be approved by the UTCC to discuss thoroughly the policy draft.

Agreed:

To form a committee that would discuss all issues of the draft and present to UTCC after they were certified. The members of the sub-committee on the T&T policy were:

**MEMBERS OF UTCC AND TC WHO FORM THE SUB-COMMITTEE TO HANDLE
THE POLICY DOCUMENT**

NO.	NAME	CONTACT
1.	Misaki Kebba Kinani (Dr.)	0701612248
2.	Mr. Paul Okot Okello	0772437932
3.	Prof. Charles Waiswa	0772501274
4.	Dr. N. Kauta	0752654762
MEMBERS OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE & STAKEHOLDERS		
1.	Dr. Winyi Kaboyo	0772595792
2.	Lawrence D.M. Semakula	0702787222
3.	Dr. F.K. Kansiime	0757794559
4.	Dr. Wamboga Charles	0774567780
5.	Mr. Kivunike Godfrey	0752830038
6.	Ms. Christine Mubiru	0712974587
8.	Mr. Fredrick J. Luyimbazi	0772575326
9.	Dr. Kenneth Mugabi	0772446478

FINANCIAL OPERATIONAL MANUAL

This document was presented by the COCTU Accountant, Mr. Hanan Mpangire. He stated that the document had undergone several reviews and had benefited from comments from other people working in the Finance Departments of other semi-autonomous Agencies like Dairy Development Authority (DDA), National Agricultural Research Services (NAADS) in addition to people from Finance in MAAIF. He also told the retreat that the document had been presented to the Technical Committee (TC) of the UTCC in 2012 and had been recommended to be considered by the UTCC.

The retreat commented on some of the aspects of the financial manual and wanted to be sure that it was in line with MAAIF since COCTU was getting subvention. Otherwise, many members

thought it was a nice document for finance management and recommended it for consideration by UTCC at their next meeting.

Agreed. Recommended that it was a good document that needed to be aligned with MAAIF approach. This should be forwarded to Principal Accountant, MAAIF for final comments and thereafter presented to the UTCC for approval.

HUMAN RESOURCE MANUAL

The consultant presented the document and many of the members had read it earlier and after 10 minutes presentation, they thought it had not been summarised well as they had read the same. The Chairman requested for comments as presenting the same document was not adding value.

Agreed:

The retreat deferred this document on the grounds that it did not concentrate on the needs of COCTU. The Secretariat was advised to come up with a draft that can cover the interest of the UTCC Act (Cap 211) 1992 and COCTU. This was recommended to be handled and finalized this quarter either as a consultancy or a facilitation to enable the document made ready for presentation to the next UTCC meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RETREAT

1. The tsetse and trypanosomiasis control policy should be completed this financial year.
2. Carry on with creating awareness activities.
3. Improve access to HAT diagnostic tools and drugs for treatment.
4. Strengthen advocacy and social mobilisation at all levels including vector & animal reservoir control.
5. Establishment of Regional Veterinary laboratories and training of Technicians need to be undertaken.

6. Sub-committee should finish the T & T policy.
7. Avenues to be sought so that UTCC becomes a Vote holder.
8. Clean steps be taken to ensure proper handling and use of livestock drugs and chemicals.
9. Need to create regional centres of excellence in diagnostics and research on T & T.
10. MAAIF and MoLG to hold discussions on extension services.
11. Hold stakeholder conferences/workshops/meetings to enable a well coordinated approach to tsetse eradication and trypanosomiasis elimination.
12. COCTU should work closely with MAAIF especially the Director Animal Resources (DAR) and planning to write Bankable proposals in the area of tsetse and trypanosomiasis.

APPENDIX 1: List of Participants

CONTACT LIST AND ADDRESSES OF PARTICIPANTS FOR RETREAT HELD 30TH – 1ST OCTOBER, 2013 HOTEL PARADISE, JINJA					
NO.	NAME	INSTITUTION	DESIGNATION	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
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APPENDIX II: Surveillance and Treatment of all cases

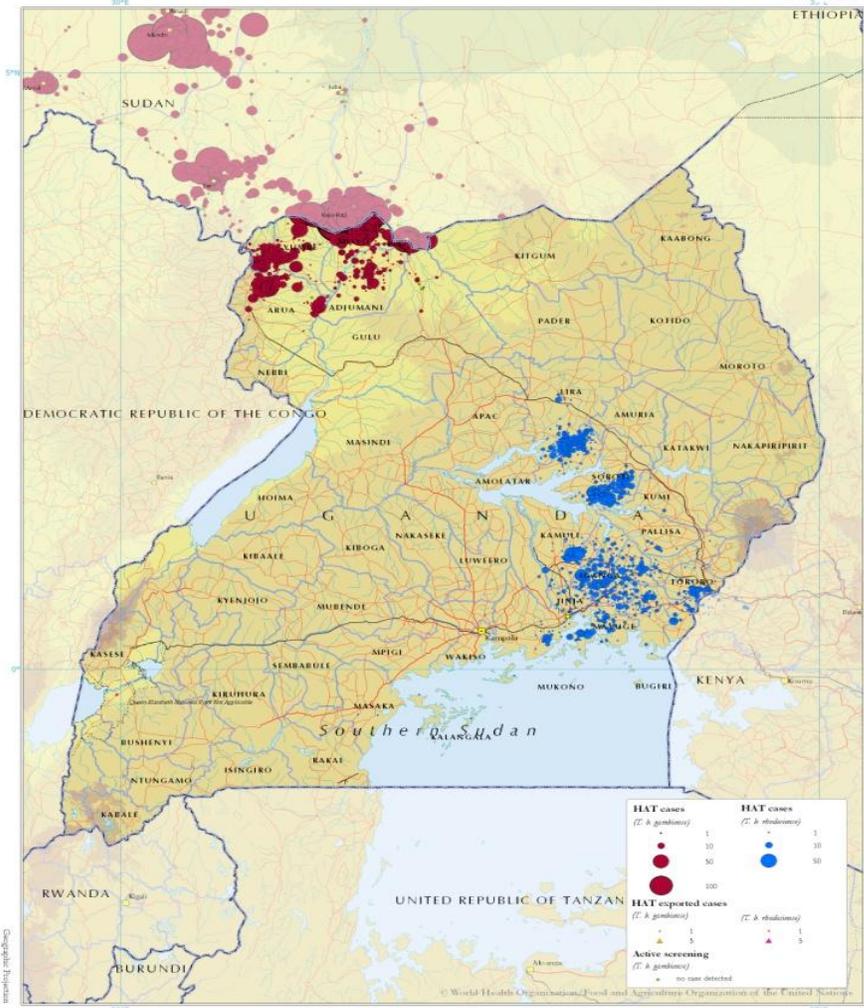




Lumbar puncture being carried out on the patient.

APPENDIX III: Disease Distribution Map

The Atlas of human African trypanosomiasis (2000-2009): Uganda
 Optimized for printing in A3 format



The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO and FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate boundaries for which there may not yet be full agreement.

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0 20 40 60 80 Kilometers

APPENDIX IV: Retreat Evaluation Form with a summary of the participants' comments