

THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL FOR TRYPANOSOMIASIS RESEARCH  
AND CONTROL (ISCTRC)

CONCEPT NOTE

19TH PATTEC NATIONAL COORDINATORS MEETING TO REVIEW THE  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ABUJA DECLARATION MADE DURING THE 35TH  
ISCTRC CONFERENCE HELD IN ABUJA, NIGERIA ON 23RD TO 27TH SEPTEMBER 2019

20<sup>TH</sup> – 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2021 NAIVASHA, KENYA

1.0 Introduction

The International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control (ISCTRC) is a statutory Council of AUC with the Secretariat at AU-IBAR in Nairobi, Kenya. It promotes cooperation in the fight against trypanosomiasis which is one of Africa's greatest constraints to socio-economic development. In order to achieve its objectives, the Council facilitates information sharing and exchange on matters regarding tsetse and trypanosomiasis research and control by holding regular Scientific Conferences since 1949. The 35th ISCTRC Conference and the 18th Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC), National Coordinators Meeting was held in Abuja, Nigeria on 23rd to 27th September 2019. The meeting made the ISCTRC Abuja Declaration on renewed commitment for the accelerated progress towards research, control and eradication of T&T constraint in the Africa continent. The recommendations of the Abuja declaration creates a sense of urgency and a renewed commitment in tackling the T&T problem to safeguard the gains made on the road to elimination and eventual eradication of T&T constraint.

The theme of the conference was ***'Impact of African Trypanosomiasis on Human and Animal Health, Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in the face of challenges to sustainable investment in AAT control and HAT elimination'***

During the Conference a ***'PATTEC Open Forum: Achieving the mandate of Heads of States and Governments on eradicating tsetse and trypanosomiasis from the African continent'*** was held.

2.0 ISCTRC) Abuja Declaration on Renewed Commitment for Accelerated Progress Towards Research, Control and Eradication of Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Constraint in the African Continent

The 35th Meeting of the ISCTRC and the 18th PATTEC National Coordinators' meeting held in Abuja Nigeria from 23rd to 27th September 2019 acknowledged that Tsetse and trypanosomiasis (T&T) problem continues to constrain the socio-economic development on the African Continent. While

recognizing achievements made for the control and eradication of T&T as declared by Heads of state and Government at AU Summit in Lomé Togo in July 2000 (Decision AGH/Dec.156-XXXVI) such as reduction in Human African trypanosomiasis (HAT) cases, the meeting noted with concern the slow progress towards achieving the objectives of T&T control and eradication. A sense of urgency was therefore expressed in tackling the problem to safeguard the gains made on the road to elimination and eventual eradication of T&T constraint.

The meeting urged renewed commitment at all levels towards control, elimination/eradication of T&T constraint.

The meeting emphasized that T&T problem should be tackled within the broader context of One Health, Sustainable Rural development and poverty reduction; urging countries to develop appropriate agriculture transformation strategies in the face of changing climate conditions. Furthermore it was emphasized that new innovative strategies, policies, advocacy and awareness, partnerships and effective coordination are of paramount importance for accelerated progress with clear and achievable milestones agreed upon at country, regional and continental levels”.

In view of the statement (ISCTRC Abuja Declaration), the following specific recommendations were made for urgent implementation:

1. The meeting commended the PATTEC open forum as being most timely and appropriate to take stock of the progress made towards control and eradication of T&T and recommended that such fora should be held at regular intervals and progress reported accordingly;
2. In view of the Abuja declaration on renewed commitment to accelerate progress towards control and eradication of T&T, there is urgent need for PATTEC initiative to re-strategize and focus on achieving results by developing new **innovative strategies, policies, advocacy and awareness, partnerships, and better coordination** to synergize and realize the vision of T&T control and eradication
3. PATTEC Coordination Office and each affected country undertakes a thorough assessment of the **T&T problem, distribution, mapping and socio-economic effects of T&T constraint** for inclusion into the national rural development priorities within the broader context of One Health and sustainable rural development strategies and changing climatic condition
4. It was further recommended that affected Member States and PATTEC Coordination office make every effort to engage in national discussions on Global Health Security Agenda (GHS) prioritisation process for zoonotic diseases so **that trypanosomiasis is considered as a priority zoonotic disease.**
5. The meeting urged PATTEC office to promote greater **advocacy and synergy** at National, regional and international levels.
6. The PATTEC Office and Member States affected by T&T and stakeholders need to urgently develop time bound roadmaps, with clear targets and milestones, towards achieving the control and eradication objectives of T&T as approved by the Heads of States and Governments

7. In view of inadequate resources (human and financial), it is recommended that National Governments commit adequate resources for the agriculture sector including for T&T control and eradication as committed in the CAADP/Malabo declaration. MSs were urged to take ownership of the T&T activities leading to eradication.
8. All affected countries undertake tsetse control and eradication with renewed vigour so that farming and other socio-economic activities can continue in Tsetse controlled areas till eventual eradication
9. In view of the inadequate human resources capacity of the PATTEC office, it was recommended that this should be strengthened to provide revitalized strategic leadership, coordination and targeted progress.
10. The meeting urged PATTEC office, in conjunction with affected countries, to update the overarching continental T&T policy and strategy frame work and Programme to guide RECs and MSs to achieve the objectives
11. Member states and the PATTEC Coordination Office to invest in high calibre technical and managerial staff to support T&T activities in a sustainable way and to meet the coordination function at all levels
12. The meeting recommended PATTEC office to consider the recommendations from the Conference while finalizing its current policy and strategy incorporating evidence generated through research for planning
13. PATTEC Office should assist Member States in developing appropriate partnerships, synergies and collaborations at the National, Regional and international levels
14. It was recommended that the PATTEC initiative report be made by the PATTEC Office at the next meeting of ISCTRC on the progress made on the implementation of the recommendations made. They also reiterated that ISCTRC provides oversight and also regular reports on the progress made on the PATTEC initiative to STC and Summit and keep Member States fully informed.
15. Member States urged the ISCTRC council to be strengthened to regularly report progress towards achieving the objectives of Heads of Sates and Governments and make regular recommendations to Member States. In order to do this, sufficient resources must be allocated to the ISCTRC
16. The meeting urged ISCTRC to regularly provide feedback and recommendations towards implementation of the Abuja declaration.

### **3.0 Recommendations of the 3rd Conference of the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment**

Informed by the Abuja Declaration, The 3rd Conference of the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment:

1. **ENDORSED** the International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control (ISCTRC) Abuja statement and recommendations on the PATTEC Initiative on **Renewed Commitment for Accelerated Progress Towards Research, Control and Eradication of Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Constraint in the African Continent**
2. **REQUESTED** National Governments, AUC, RECs and Partners to mobilise the necessary resources necessary for the realisation of the Renewed Commitment for the Accelerated Progress Towards Research, Control and Eradication of Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Constraint in the African Continent
3. **REQUESTED** ISCTRC to make regular progress reports to the Ministerial meeting

### **4.0 Objectives of the 19th PATTEC National Coordinators meeting**

AU-IBAR and PATTEC plans to hold the 19th meeting of PATTEC National Coordinators on the 20th–22nd December 2021 in Naivasha Kenya to Review the status of implementation of the recommendations, develop action plans with clear milestones and targets towards the achievements of the Recommendations and the decisions.

1. To share information on management of T&T in AU Member States;
2. Review the status of implementation of the recommendations
3. To receive a report from IGAD/ICPALD on efforts being made to improve harmonisation and coordination of T&T in the region
4. To develop action plans with clear milestones, targets and timelines towards the implementation of the recommendations;
5. To document T&T challenges and factors of success
6. Way forward

### **5.0 Agenda for the meeting**

1. Registration
2. Opening session
3. Receive reports from the countries on the status of implementation of the PATTEC initiative;
4. Working sessions to develop action plans with clear milestones, targets and timelines towards the implementation of the recommendations
5. Working session on documenting the T&T challenges and factors of success
6. Way forward
7. Closing remarks

### **6.0 Participants**

- AU-IBAR, AU-PATTEC ; RECs;
- PATTEC National Coordinators

## 7.0 Program

DAY 1: 20 <sup>TH</sup> DEC 2021		
Time	Activity	Responsible Person
08:30-09:00	Registration /Introduction of participants	AU-IBAR
09:00-09:10	Welcome Remarks	AU-IBAR RECs
09:10-09:20	Opening remarks	Dr. Pamela Olet
09:20-09:30	Objectives of the meeting	Admore Chakadenga
09:30-10:15	Brief presentation on the status of implementation of the PATTEC initiative; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of T&amp;T problem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Distribution/mapping</li> <li>» Socio-economic effects</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Institutional arrangements</li> <li>• T&amp;T control activities</li> <li>• Challenges and opportunities</li> </ul>	National Focal Points (10 minutes each)
13.00-14.00	<b>Coffee break and Group photo</b>	
14.00-16.00	Brief presentation on the status of implementation of the PATTEC initiative; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of T&amp;T problem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Distribution/mapping</li> <li>» socio-economic effects</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Institutional arrangements</li> <li>• T&amp;T control activities</li> <li>• Challenges and opportunities</li> </ul>	National Focal Points (10 minutes each)
16.00-17.00	RECs activities towards harmonisation and coordination of T&T control	ICPALD; ECOWAS, ECCAS
DAY 2: 21 <sup>ST</sup> DEC 2021		
9.00-17:00	Working sessions to develop action plans with milestones, targets and timelines towards the implementation of the recommendations	Facilitated by Admore Chakadenga and Annie Lewa
DAY 3: 22 <sup>ND</sup> DEC 2021		
09:00-14.00	Working sessions for documenting the T&T challenges and factors of success	Facilitated by Admore Chakadenga and Annie Lewa
14:00-17:00	Way forward and closing remarks	