Mr Chairman, Government representatives, Local and International Guest speakers, members of the fourth estate, Sponsoring Organizations and participants, good morning.

I feel highly privileged on behalf of the host country (Sierra Leone) to welcome you all to this important 4th ANNUAL AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND BIOSECURITY which is hosted in Sierra Leone. The consideration itself during our last conference in Ghana to host this year’s conference is indicative of a milestone that Sierra Leone which has been working in collaboration with donor partners through its Ministry of Health and Sanitation in handling Emerging Infectious Diseases and Biosecurity is geared towards accelerating regional and continental political and public awareness of biological threats and align with international efforts such as the Biological Weapons Convention, United Nations, 1540 Security Council Resolutions. Your presence and participation in this conference is a testament that all of us are interested in finding permanent solutions in handling Emerging Infectious Diseases and Biosecurity challenges in the continent.

The sad Ebola menace which has engulfed the lives of hundreds and thousands of people in Congo, Nigeria, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone is a very strong signal that we need to brace ourselves to tackle subsequent eventualities. To this end, I have the conviction that this conference is going to be a professional thought sharing platform that would be germane to our subsequent scientific researches.

The Theme of this year’s conference “Managing the spectrum of data generated during disease outbreaks and biosecurity threats” is appropriate where we are opportune to discuss the numerous challenges surrounding participation in the conference as we strive to solve the numerous challenges surrounding the theme of our conference. I wish to thank the Organizing Committee for bringing together eminent speakers and high profiled people to this conference and wish to thank the Organizing Committee for inviting us here. I welcome you to this conference. Thank you for a job well done.

To our Hon Ministers of Government, Parliamentarians, members of the fourth estate and distinguished guests, I also welcome you to this propitious conference as we consider your presence and participation very crucial.

To all our partners here, I welcome you to this conference and wish to thank the Organizing Committee for bringing together eminent speakers and high profiled people to this conference. Thank you for a job well done.

I plead on your indulgence for your proactive participation in this conference as we strive to solve the numerous challenges surrounding the tackling of emerging infectious disease outbreaks and biosecurity threats in our continent.

Thank you.

Prof S.M Gevao
Chairman, Local Organizing Committee
ABOUT GET

The Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET) was established in 2014 as a direct response to the 2014-16 Ebola virus disease outbreak in West Africa and ongoing outbreaks of Lassa Fever, Meningitis, Multidrug resistance (MDR) enteric fevers and Yellow Fever across the region. There was clearly a need to create an African-led multidisciplinary forum of experts capable of working together with international partners to strengthen Africa’s preparedness and resilience in tackling such infectious disease outbreaks.

GET is legally registered in Lagos, Nigeria, Accra, Ghana, Sierra Leone and United States of America. Our primary purpose is to develop African-led and Afrocentric strategies within an international context to effectively address emerging infectious diseases.

Since its inception, GET has been successful in bringing together a diverse body of specialists from within and outside of the African continent with expertise across a range of fields that include health systems strengthening, infectious diseases surveillance and control, pathology diagnosis and laboratory medicine, bioinformatics, biobanking, biocontainment, public health, ethics, community engagement and patient advocacy. The Consortium creates an opportunity for the development and delivery of rapid, informed response strategies by providing advice, guidance and technical assistance to governments, regional and international health authorities, stakeholders and international aid agencies.

The conference is an academic and policy-based meeting that will address response mechanisms to biological threats and increasing incidences of Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) from a continental perspective.

**General Objective of the Conference:**

**Focused Objectives:**

1. Debunk myths around emerging infectious diseases (EID) from a continental perspective
2. Address response mechanisms to biological threats and increasing incidences of Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) from a continental perspective
3. Share experiences, best practices, and challenges in collection and management of biological information generated during disease outbreaks
4. Identify regional and international opportunities for collaboration in support of collection, storage and management of biological data
5. Identify activity going on the continent and use information shared to develop milestones for achieving an African Agenda
6. Debate evolving vaccine and immunological therapeutic modalities
7. Fast track a harmonized African Strategy to receive full political backing in addressing the plethora of samples not thoroughly inventoried
8. Opportunity to present the latest breaking research activity and collaborations from Ebola and other deadly Emerging infectious diseases

**Thematic Areas:**

1. The Era of Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID)
2. Biosecurity
3. Biobanking
4. Public Understanding of Science (PLUS)
5. Vaccine and Immunological Strategy
6. The Cultural, Anthropological, Social and Economic Impact of Emerging Infectious Diseases (CASE)
7. Junior Faculty Mentoring the next generation of African Scientists on EID
The Consortium has 9 working groups.

a. Biosecurity
b. Biobanking
c. ECEPAS (Ethics Community Engagement and Patient Advocacy and Support)
d. CASE (Culture, Anthropological and Socio Economic)
e. Research and Clinical Trials
f. GPP which is Grants, Publications and Proposals

The Consortium has 6 Portfolios:

1. Human Resource and Administration
2. Accounting and Finance
3. Legal
4. Communication
5. IT website and Conference and event planning
6. Engagement and Patient Advocacy

The Executive Steering Committee is the Principal Investigator (PI).
Biosecurity Sub Faculty
Bonnie Jenkins

Cultural, Anthropology, Social and Economic Impact (CASE) Sub Faculty
Ye wande Alimi

Emerging Infectious Diseases Sub Faculty
Wiysonge Charles

FACULTY LEADS

Public Health and Understanding of Science (PLUS) Sub Faculty
Maimuna Mendy

Biosecurity Sub Faculty
Jamecia Hope

Junior Sub Faculty
Primus Chi Che

Vaccine Strategy Sub Faculty
Toritse Orubu

Pasquale De Blasio

Samuel Lwele

Bonnie Jenkins

George Akpede

Clement Jaidzeka

Wiysonge Charles

Jamecia Hope

Bonnie Jenkins

FACULTY LEADS
It has been suggested that with an appropriate system design that data that are managed, used, and shared in many African countries, recent evidence has shown very low levels of data demand and use. However, there is an urgent need to improve data management, and ensure that data are generated, used, and shared in a way that is useful for health decision-making.

One of the key challenges in many African countries is the lack of adequate data management systems. Data collection, collation, analysis, and reporting are often fragmented and do not meet the needs of targeted users. The evidence of the continued use of data to improve health system performance and respond to emergent threats is to be able to generate, analyze, and disseminate data effectively. The ultimate goal is to ensure that data are managed, used, and shared in a way that is useful for health decision-making.

The conference will focus on seven thematic areas, including: ERA of Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID); Biosecurity; Public Health and Cultural, Anthropological, Social and Economic issues. The theme for this year is "Managing data that are single-use be reusable, within a context of ongoing evidence synthesis and knowledge translation. The conference will provide a platform for academic and policy-based discussion on evidence-based decision-making, and for the sharing of best practices and lessons learned from ongoing evidence synthesis and knowledge translation.

The conference will be held in Freetown, Sierra Leone, on 3-5 October 2018. It is open to all interested parties, including academics, policymakers, and practitioners. Participants are encouraged to submit abstracts for oral or poster presentations. The conference will be followed by a workshop on evidence synthesis and knowledge translation.
Jennifer Maroa has about 16 years in biomedical (HIV) research involving human cohorts. Currently, she oversees the implementation of the Human Heredity and Health in Africa (H3Africa) initiative and advocate for genomics research on the African continent. She is also an Aspen New Voices 2018 fellow. @AspenNewVoices2018.

She is passionate about global health, human rights and social justice and she is dedicated to contributing to ending the AIDS epidemic by supporting capacity building.

Diran Makinde is the immediate past Director, NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, African Biosafety Network of Expertise (ABNE) based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso and now serves as Senior Advisor to the Head, NEPAD Industrialization, Science, Technology and Innovation Hub and based at the NEPAD Agency Head Office in South Africa.

He was formerly the Director of the NEPAD West Africa Bureau of Science, Technology and Innovation for the NEPAD Knowledge Network and deputy Director of the NEPAD Agency and served as the Executive Director of the Development Network in Eastern Africa, Tanzania. He was the head of the NEPAD Bureau of Science, Technology and Innovation (NEPAD/STI) and the NEPAD Knowledge Network and was based in Dakar, Senegal. He later became the Director of the NEPAD African Biosafety Network of Expertise (ABNE) based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso and served as the Executive Director of the Network.

Sahr GeoVo attended the College of Medicine, University of Lagos from 1977-1982, as a research fellow, where he was involved in various research projects on HIV/AIDS, and sickle cell disease. He was Medical School Associate Professor in Internal medicine, London University, London, UK, and the Medical Research Council Laboratories, Fajara, Banjul, the Gambia, and Royal Postgraduate Medical School, London, UK. He received a BSc in Medicine in 1982. He graduated with a Medical Degree from the West African College of Physicians in 1986.

Medicine Education and Management

Diran Makinde holds a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Ibadan in 1986 and a PhD in Veterinary Physiology from the University of Ibadan in 1986. He also served as the Dean of the School of Agriculture, Rural Development and Forestry (1997-2001).

Sahr GeoVo commenced an academic and professional career at the College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences, University of Ibadan, as a research fellow. He was subsequently appointed as a lecturer in pathology and later as a senior lecturer in hematology.

He has held various posts at the College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences, University of Ibadan, including Head of the Department of Laboratory Medicine, Head of the Department of Pathology, and Associate Professor of Pathology.

Sahr GeoVo was formerly the Dean of the School of Medicine, University of Sierra Leone, and served as the National Manager Laboratory Services from 2009-2013. He was also a member of the NEPAD Knowledge Network and was involved in various research projects on HIV/AIDS, and sickle cell disease.
Dr. Tsai received her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania and has held a variety of positions in the field of public health, including as a scientist in the Department of Defense plague vaccine development program. She has also served as a scientist in the US Army Medical Research and Development Command, where she conducted research on the development of therapeutics for biological threat agents.

In 2009, she was awarded the Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service for her work in developing and procuring two different Ebola drugs into the Strategic National Stockpile. She has also been involved in the development of smallpox vaccines, having been awarded the Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service for her work in developing and procuring smallpox vaccines into the Strategic National Stockpile.

Dr. Tsai has been involved in several research projects, including the development of a new diagnostic test for smallpox, and has published numerous articles on the subject. She is currently serving as the incident commander in the BARDA for the Smallpox treatment occurred in August 2018. It was approved using segregate orthopox viruses under the FDA animal rule.

She has also been involved in the development of a new diagnostic test for smallpox, and has published numerous articles on the subject. She is currently serving as the incident commander in the BARDA for the Smallpox treatment occurred in August 2018. It was approved using segregate orthopox viruses under the FDA animal rule.
Claudia Emerson, Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Policy Research at the University of California, Los Angeles, has the support of 13 major funders of gene drive research.

Professor Jean-Jacques Muyembe-Tamfum of Leuven (Belgium) and a medical degree from Université de Lovanium (Léopoldville, DRC).

Claudia Emerson

Professor Muyembe has also received training at the Institut Pasteur de Dakar and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Atlanta in 1981. He received a PhD in virology from the University of Brussels in 1977 and a medical degree from the University of Lille in 1974.

Claudia Emerson is the founder and president of the Women of Color Advancement Foundation (WCAF), which is a nonprofit organization that promotes the advancement of women of color in academia.

Claudia Emerson

Professor Muyembe has also received training at the Institut Pasteur de Dakar and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Atlanta in 1981. He received a PhD in virology from the University of Brussels in 1977 and a medical degree from the University of Lille in 1974.

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Professor Muyembe
DAY 1
WEDNESDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER 2018

PLENARY SESSION I (Chaired by Professor Abayomi)

8:00am Registration
Collection of Conference Packs

9:00am Seating
Participants

9:30am Welcome Address
Prof. Akin Abayomi (GET)

10:00am Keynote Address
11:00am Keynote Address
12:00pm Keynote Address
12:30pm Keynote Address
13:00am Keynote Address

ROOM 1
A hands on biospecimen laboratory information management (LIMS) training by (Alan Christo and Dominique Anderson)

Cultural, legal and ethical challenges in managing data in epidemics, emergencies and disasters (CASE sub Faculty)

10:00am Presentation
11:30am Presentation
12:00pm Presentation
12:30pm Presentation
13:00am Presentation

ROOM 2
Presentation by Synthia, Morenike and Co

Dinner and Entertainment

TEA BREAK

LUNCH

13:00pm Presentation
12:30pm Presentation
12:00pm Presentation
11:30am Presentation
11:00am Presentation

PLENARY SESSION II (Chaired by Pro' Prof Tangwa)

TEA BREAK

Country Reps

9:30am Presentation by Guinea
9:50am Presentation by Liberia
10:10am Presentation by Sierra Leone
10:30am Presentation by Nigeria
10:50am Presentation on Lagos

DAY 2
THURSDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER 2018

COUNTRY PROGRESS REPORT ON BIOSECURITY

DAY 3
FRIDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER 2018

OPENSING CEREMONY

PRESENTATION SESSION I (Chaired by Pro' Prof Tangwa)

ROOM 1
LUNCH AND POSTER VIEWING

Tea Break

First Lady's welcome
Her Excellency (Mrs) Fatimah Jabbe-Bio, First Lady, Sierra Leone

9:30am Opening remarks
9:50am Opening remarks
9:50am Opening remarks

ROOM 1
Discovery of the UN Resolution 1540 Committee

Ebola survivors in Sierra Leone

15:30pm Presentation and artwork
16:00pm Presentation and artwork
16:30pm Presentation and artwork

ROOM 1
A hands on biospecimen laboratory information management (LIMS) training by (Alan Christo and Dominique Anderson)

Cultural, legal and ethical challenges in managing data in epidemics, emergencies and disasters (CASE sub Faculty)

10:00am Presentation
11:30am Presentation
12:00pm Presentation
12:30pm Presentation
13:00am Presentation

ROOM 2
Presentation by Dr. Jide Idris/Dr Erinosho, Sierra Leone
Presentation by Prof. Gevao, Liberia
Presentation by Dr. Stephen Kennedy, Liberia
Presentation by Prof. Gevao, Sierra Leone
Presentation by Sierra Leone Country Rep
Presentation by Liberia Country Rep
Presentation by Guinea Country Rep
Presentation by Nigeria Country Rep
Presentation on Lagos Biosecurity Project

ROOM 1
Presentation on Ebola Survivors

Dr. Alpha Berry
Dr. Stephen Kennedy
Prof. Tsai Chia-Wei
Daniel Baush
Oumou Bah Sow
Jennifer Maroa

26th – 28th September, 2018

Conference Programme

Conference Programme

26th – 28th September, 2018

Conference Programme
DAY 3 - FRIDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER 2018
26TH – 28TH SEPTEMBER 2018
CONFERENCE PROGAMME

13:30am
Special Presentations from the B3Africa, BCNet, H3Africa, ABG-Net, HC-Order, CFA, Nigeria CDC, Africa CDC and WAHO

13:30pm
LUNCH TIME AND POSTER VIEWING

14:30pm
TEA BREAK

PLENARY SESSION II (CHAIR: PROF. TANGWA)

14:30am
Abstract presentation

Abstract presentation

17:00pm
Closing Remarks

17:50pm
Announcement of the location of the 5th Conference in 2019

Prof. Akin abayomi
Prof. Gevao
Prof. Makinde
Chairman of GET

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Welcome trust

LIS

The Republic of Sierra Leone
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SANITATION