

Multilateral Initiative on Malaria (MIM) Secretariat

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MIM News and Opportunities, 03 August 2009

Register NOW | Fifth MIM Pan-African Malaria Conference: www.MIMalaria.org/pamc

1. **Call for Late-Breakers** | [Fifth MIM Pan-African Malaria Conference](#)
2. **Deadline Extended** | [Call for Letters of Intent to Host the Next MIM Secretariat](#)

1. Call for Late-Breakers | Fifth MIM Pan-African Malaria Conference

03 August 2009

MIM Secretariat

Deadline for submission of late-breaker abstracts: 04 September 2009

The Organizing Committee for the Fifth MIM Pan African Malaria Conference is now accepting late-breakers. Late breaker abstracts allow for the presentation of cutting-edge research and information which was not available at the time of the regular abstract submission timelines.

Instructions:

1. Abstracts should be highly competitive and must reflect novel research findings that were NOT available for the March 31, 2009 deadline.
2. Abstracts must be text only submitted in English or French, limited to 250 words, and only submitted once. No charts, graphs, or other figures should be included in the abstract.
3. Abstracts must be structured, i.e. divided into sections: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion. Unstructured or incomplete abstracts will not be accepted
4. Authors will be notified of their abstract acceptance status by 30 September 2009. It is the author's responsibility to contact MIM Secretariat if they do not receive notification within 5 days of the deadline.
5. Late-breaker abstracts should be submitted to abstracts@mimalaria.org.

The deadline for late breakers is September 4, 2009.

Information about the conference is available here: www.mimalaria.org/pamc

2. Deadline Extended: Call for Letters of Intent to Host the Next MIM Secretariat

03 August 2009

MIM Secretariat

The deadline for submission of letters of intent to host the next MIM Secretariat has been extended to 31 August 2009.

New Deadline for Submission: 31 August 2009

Background

Since its creation, the Multilateral Initiative on Malaria (MIM) Secretariat has been hosted in rotation in the United Kingdom, United States, and in Sweden. The African Malaria Network Trust (AMANET) in Tanzania is currently hosting the MIM Secretariat for a 5 year period.

In order to be able to face the new challenges arisen following its move to Africa, the MIM secretariat has revised its strategic plan for being more engaged in the coordination of research activities in Africa and to work hand-to-hand with African researchers; as example by being involved in the coordination of the Central Africa Network of Excellence supported by EDCTP or by strengthening collaboration with African networks, institutions and research groups.

With many players in the field of research capacity building/strengthening and taking into account that each organization needs visibility for its own survival, it becomes crucial for MIM to clearly identify its niche. MIM can be viewed as a unique alliance that has given African scientists in African institutions, a voice and an opportunity to build capacity and contribute to new knowledge while setting their own research agenda.

From January 2011, the secretariat will move from Tanzania to another institution. In keeping with the tradition of engaging partners openly and transparently in advancing the MIM agenda, we invite applications for hosting the next MIM Secretariat.

Who can apply?

- Organizations/institutions or agencies in Sub-Saharan Africa involved with malaria research, research funding and research capacity strengthening in malaria endemic countries.
- An alliance of organizations and/or institutions from Sub-Saharan Africa and a Northern partner by preparing a joint application.

Applications have to be submitted by the institution from the South. Candidates will be required to give details on the following:

- 1) Willingness and ability to support the Secretariat functions
- 2) Proposed activities to be carried out by the Secretariat over a 3 to 5 year period.
- 3) Joint application: role of each institution in the partnership for supporting the MIM secretariat
- 4) Proposed budget for the Secretariat and its activities
- 5) Demonstrated ability to fund the Secretariat budget
- 6) Information regarding capacity to maintain the communications, including easy email access
- 7) Demonstrate organization/institute/agency has good organizational capacity
- 8) Demonstrate organization/institute/agency has strong scientific capacity.

Duties and Responsibilities of the MIM Secretariat

Established in 1997, MIM is an alliance of organizations and individuals, and four autonomous constituents which comprise the MIM Secretariat, MIM at WHO/TDR (MIM/TDR), MIM Communications (MIMCom, at the US National Library of Medicine) and Malaria Research Reference Reagent Resource Center (MR4, at the American Type Culture Collection) for the promotion of capacity development through collaboration to undertake malaria research that lead to the control of the disease in Africa.

The new Secretariat will decide to what level they will fund Secretariat activities. It is expected that core support will be provided for administrative costs and salaries of personnel, the organization and financial support of one MIM Pan-African Conference, as well as support for raising funds from other sources. In addition to core functions, it is expected that the Secretariat will also strengthen malaria research capacity in endemic regions by organizing workshops and training opportunities on topics including grant writing, peer review, writing scientific papers, making presentations, and developing leadership skills; promote research and networking, and be involved in coordination of research activities with African researchers.

Budget for MIM Activities

Financial support of the next Secretariat would be expected to come from the host organization (or collective). The MIM Secretariat also raises financial support to co-fund workshops and other activities it organizes. Funds for the MR4 program are from NIAID at the US National Institutes of Health (NIH). Funds for MIMCom are from the National Library of Medicine (NLM) at the NIH and from the local recipient programs or their Northern sponsors. Funds for the MIM/TDR program are from a variety of sources. The MIM Secretariat helps convene funders to raise support for various MIM activities (such as MIM/TDR), but the parties responsible for the various MIM activities are responsible for fund raising for those activities in conjunction with the Secretariat. The MIM Secretariat also helps in identifying new funding opportunities and partners for MIM. MIM Secretariat is fully responsible for funds related to effective functioning of the MIM Secretariat. Other programs such as MR4, MIM/TDR, and MIMCom, have a decentralized decision-making and fund-raising structure, but they all work to support broad goals of MIM. All research grant decisions are made by the MIM/TDR Task Force. MR4 has a Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) to decide on workshop funding etc. The MIM Secretariat and MIMCom identify priorities and related funding decisions through broad but informal consultative mechanisms.

Transfer of Duties

To aid the transfer of knowledge and enable the Secretariat to become functional as soon as possible after the transfer, it is recommended that there is a period of overlap with a coordinator from the newly elected Secretariat working with the current Secretariat for 2-5 months.

Mechanism of voting

The previous MIM Secretariat at Fogarty International Center developed a voting mechanism to ensure that the transfer of the Secretariat was conducted in a fair and transparent manner. It was decided that a group of representatives of the funding partners and international organizations, and an equal number of malaria research institutes in Africa will be represented as voting members. The voting members are identified based on their significant and direct involvement with MIM, through major support of:

- MIM Conferences,
- Workshops
- Programs (including MIMSec, MIM/TDR, MR4 and MIMCom)
- In-country activities
- Collaboration/partnerships with MIM

There will be one vote per donor or international organization, and one vote per country for malaria research institutes either in Africa or the North. The voting members from the malaria research institutions in Africa will have had to be significantly involved in MIM, such as:

- Being the host institution to a MIM/TDR Task Force member or principal investigator,
- Being a recipient of other MIM support (MIMSec, MIMCom, and/or MR4),
- Having hosted a MIM Conference or workshop.

In the event which there is more than one research institute per country, it will be left to the representatives of these institutes to decide together on the vote of their country. The votes will be cast by email to the MIM Secretariat.

How to apply

This is a two step process. Successful letters of intent will be encouraged to submit full proposal (deadline 30 September 2009). Please send your letter of intent **by 31 August 2009**. We strongly encourage you to discuss candidature requirements with the secretariat before submitting your application.

MIM Secretariat
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More news, opportunities, events, jobs and archives at the MIM Website: **www.MIMalaria.org**

The Multilateral Initiative on Malaria (MIM) is a global alliance of individuals, funding partners and four autonomous constituents comprising the [MIM Secretariat](#), [MIM/TDR](#), [MIMCom](#) and [MR4](#). Its mission is to strengthen and sustain, through collaborative research and training, the capacity of malaria endemic countries in Africa to carry out research that is required to develop and improve tools for malaria control, and to strengthen the research-control interphase.