



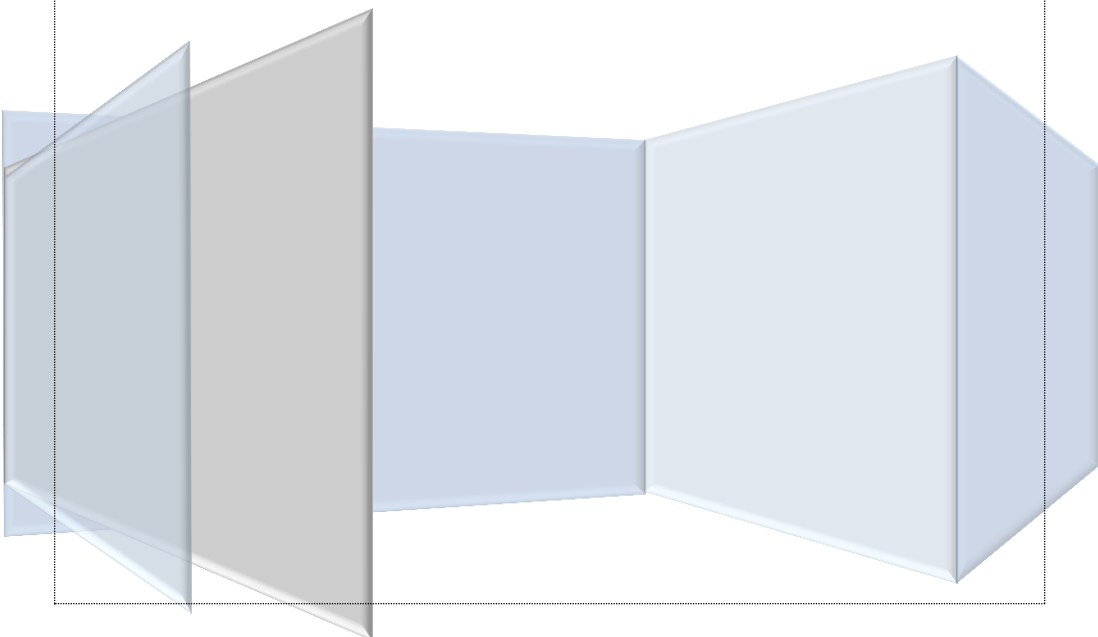
African Union
Scientific Technical Research Commission



African Scientific
Research and
Innovation Council

AFRICAN SCIENTIFIC, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COUNCIL

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS ON STI INTERVENTION FOR COVID-19



Introduction

African Scientific Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC) is a specialized Technical Advisory Body on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) to the African Union with African Union, Scientific, Technical and Research Commission (AU-STRC) as its Secretariat. The ASRIC was established through the African Union's Executive Council Decision (EX.CL/Dec.747 (XXII)) and it promotes scientific research and innovation in order to address the challenges of Africa's socio-economic development. It also mobilizes African research excellence and provides a platform for dialogue among African scientists and serves as a voice of the scientific community in building and sustaining continental research and innovation nexus.

Launching the ASRIC during its Congress in November 2018 was a land mark in the Science, Technology and Innovation impact on Africa's future and prosperity. The ASRIC Congress is composed of African scientists from all the African National Science Academies, National Research Councils, top Science, Technology and Innovations (STI) Institutes in Africa, Diaspora Scientists and Partners. The Congress decides on the implementation of key science and technology programme and projects in accordance with the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA-2024) and the overarching continental framework AU Agenda 2063.

In light of the unprecedented emergence of the Corona

Virus Disease Pandemic (COVID-19) ravaging the world the onus lies on ASRIC to respond to the challenges. The preliminary analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 on the continent and the world is magnanimous and must be contained urgently. Given the disposition that the African Union Network of Sciences has over 16,000 professional and experts' database who are member of the ASRIC. As of that ASRIC called upon its members to assemble an **ASRIC Advisory Board Members on STI Intervention for COVID-19** that is to be composed of eminent scientists those drawn from the pool of its members to advise/guide on how best ASRIC can respond to the COVID-19 pandemic utilizing STI while building on existing African resources.

ASRIC Advisory Board Members for STI Intervention for COVID-19



Oyewale Tomori, D.V.M., Ph.D., FAS (Nigeria), FRCPath (UK), NNOM, NAM

Oyewale Tomori is the immediate past President of the Nigerian Academy of Science with experience in virology, disease prevention and control. He was at the University of Ibadan from 1971 to 1994. He later served as the pioneer Vice Chancellor of the Redeemer's University in Nigeria from 2004 to 2011. From 1994 to 2004, he was the virologist for the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Africa Region, establishing the African Regional Polio Laboratory Network. In 1981, he was recognized by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for contributions to Lassa fever research. In 2002, he received the Nigerian National Order of Merit, the country's highest award for academic and intellectual attainment and national development. Dr. Tomori has served/continues to serve on numerous national and global advisory

committees, including: Lassa Fever Steering Committee, National Laboratory Technical Working Group, Expert Working Group on Polio Eradication and Routine Immunization, WHO SAGE, WHO Africa Regional Polio Certification Committee, WHO Group of Experts on Yellow Fever Disease, WHO Emergency Committees on International Health Regulations (Yellow Fever, Ebola, & Polio), GAVI Board, U.S. National Academy of Medicine Global Health Risk Framework Commission, and World Bank Interagency Working Group on Financing Preparedness and Response. He is an international member of the U.S. National Academy of Medicine and Senior Fellow, Scowcroft Institute at the Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University. He currently serves as Chair, Board of Biovaccines Nigeria Ltd and has authored/co-authored over 150 scientific publications.



Professor Ekanem Ikpi Braide

Professor Ekanem Ikpi Braide (OFR) holds a BSc Zoology (Ife, 1971), MSc and PhD Parasitology (Cornell 1973 and 1978) and Certificate in Epidemiological Methods (British Council Course, Southampton University, UK 1986). She worked as lecturer / researcher at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (1973 – 1976), Nigerian Institute for Trypanosomiasis Research (NITR), Kaduna (1978 - 1979) and joined the University of Calabar in 1979. A Professor since 1991, she is Fellow of Salzburg Seminar (Session 319), Nigerian Society for Parasitology and the Nigerian Academy of Science. She was involved in the eradication of Guinea worm disease in Nigeria and control of Onchocerciasis in Africa. She chairs the Boards of Trustees of Society for Family Health, Nigeria and The Leprosy Mission Nigeria. Prof Braide was the Vice Chancellor, Cross River University of Technology, Calabar, Cross River State (2004-2008) and pioneer Vice Chancellor of Federal University, Lafia, Nasarawa State (2011-2016).



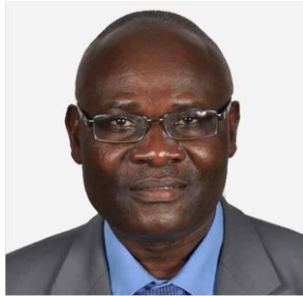
Prof. Rajae El Aouad

Rajae El Aouad holds a Doctorate of Medical Studies, a Master of Sciences and a Master of Health Policy and Management. She is a resident member of the Hassan II Academy of science and technology, and member of the steering committee of the Royal Institute of strategic studies. She is currently member of the SDH-EMRO Commission and Chair of the Moroccan Health Equity Commission besides her private practice as Director of clinical laboratory.

She devoted the first part of her career to set up several national and WHO reference laboratories (HIV, Poliomyelitis and Enterovirus, **Influenza**, Measles and Rubella, Rotavirus and hepatitis) at the National Public Health Institute (NPHI), strengthen Public Health Laboratory Services in Morocco and build research capacity to inform public policies and practices. She established the **Influenza Surveillance Program** and concluded a Cooperative Agreement with the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention-USA to strengthen it (2007-2016).

She has conducted many research projects and has been involved in large research grants as PI or co-PI

that bring together national and international partners. She has over 80 publications in peer reviewed journals. Rajae has served on several international scientific and advisory committees. She was named to the Women in Science Hall of Fame by the U.S. Department of State in 2012.



Prof. Francis Mulaa

Francis Mulaa obtained his PhD in biochemistry at Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria. After post-doctoral training in molecular biology at University College London, he turned his attention to malaria and pioneered development of gametocytes cell cycle of the malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*, their cultivation and purification of gametocytes through all their live stages, a technology that revolutionized malaria biology. He was the founding Principal of Garissa University College. He is Director, Intellectual Property Management, University of Nairobi. He serves on the Vice-Chancellor's projects Advisory Committee. Has served on Pan African University Professorial Recruitment Committee, Pan African University Curriculum Committee. Distinguished African Researcher Scholar Award Committee, Board Member, Kenya Childhood Cancer Trust. Board Member, Steering Committee member, European Malaria International PhD Programme, Steering committee of the East African Regional Programme and Research Network for Biotechnology, Biosafety and Biotechnology Policy

**Development, Expert Scientific advisory committee for
Consortium for National Health Research.**



Professor Charles Shey Wiysonge

Professor Wiysonge is the Director of Cochrane South Africa at the South African Medical Research Council; an Honorary Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of Cape Town (UCT); and an Extraordinary Professor of Global Health at Stellenbosch University, South Africa. His previous appointments include Deputy Director of the Centre for Evidence-based Health Care at Stellenbosch University; Chief Research Officer at UCT, South Africa; Chief Research Officer at UNAIDS, Geneva, Switzerland; Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Central Technical Group of the Expanded Programme on Immunisation, Cameroon; and Medical Epidemiologist at the Pasteur Centre of Cameroon. He is a member of various advisory committees in the fields of research, vaccination, and evidence-based policy in Africa and globally. Professor Wiysonge obtained an MD from the University of Yaoundé I Cameroon in 1995, an MPhil from the University of Cambridge UK in 2000, and a PhD from UCT in 2012.



Professor Janusz T. Paweska

Professor Janusz T. Paweska is a head of the Center for Emerging Zoonotic and Parasitic Diseases at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases of the National Health Laboratory Service, South Africa. His joint expertise in veterinary science, medical science, and particularly in virology, immunology and epidemiology make significant contributions to the enhancement of national and regional capacity for outbreak response and preparedness for emerging and re-emerging dangerous pathogens and operationalization of One Health programmes in Africa. His special fields lie in the development and validation of diagnostics for rapid pathogen detection and discovery, epidemiology and ecology of arboviruses and viral hemorrhagic fevers, virus-host interactions, management of high (BSL-3) and maximum (BSL-4) biocontainment facilities. He has been a part of international outbreak responses, including the 2002 Ebola outbreaks in Gabon, the 2005 Marburg disease outbreak in Angola, the 2006 Rift Valley fever outbreak in Kenya, and the 2009 Ebola outbreak in the DRC. During a fatal nosocomial outbreak in Johannesburg in 2008 he led the discovery of a new Old World Arenavirus, he named Lujo virus. In 2014, he established and

let the Ebola diagnostic mobile laboratory in Sierra Leone as a part of WHO Ebola outbreak response in West Africa in 2014-2016.



Prof. Wallace Bulimo

Wallace Bulimo is a Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Virology in the School of Medicine, University of Nairobi and leads the respiratory pathogen surveillance program at the U.S. Army Medical Research Directorate –Africa (USAMRD-A). He has broad experiences in clinical applications, training development, biomedical research, teaching, and mentorship. He has mentored over 50 postgraduates at MScs and Ph.D. levels, who have taken up strategic, scientific, research, and administrative roles in Kenya and globally. At USAMRD-A, he oversees activities of many clinical surveillance sites across Kenya to conduct surveillance for viral respiratory pathogens. He also serves as Principal Investigator on numerous research protocols and coordinates activities on other protocols aimed at developing medical products and information to protect the health of communities. Globally, he has established several scientific partnerships with academia and government agencies in Kenya and the United States to research infectious agents in East Africa. He conceived, established and led a vibrant

program at USAMRD-A that educates, trains and guides young scientists, and more experienced colleagues, to achieve maximum scientific impact. He is an ardent champion of Biorisk management matters and is the Deputy Chair of the Biorisk Management Association of Kenya and an International Federation of Biorisk Association approved professional



Professor Modest Mulenga

Professor Modest Mulenga is a Professor in the School of Public Health at the Copperbelt University in Zambia. He is the immediate past Executive Director and senior medical researcher at Tropical Diseases Research Centre, a national health research institution in Zambia. He is a Zambian medical doctor and an international expert in tropical and infectious diseases. He obtained a BSc in Human Biology and a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery from the University of Zambia. He also obtained an MSc in Infection and Health in the Tropics *with distinction* and a PhD in Tropical and Infectious Diseases from the University of London in the UK. He also holds a postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Tropical Medicine and a Diploma in Health Systems Management from the Royal College of Physicians of London, UK and Galilee College, Israel respectively.

He has served on various health research advisory boards and committees in the Zambian and internationally. He was the Vice Chairman of the National AIDS Research and Ethics Committee under National AIDS Council of Zambia, Vice Chair of the Developing Countries Coordinating Committee of the

EDCTP etc. He is a member of the National Health Research Advisory Committee for the Zambian Government and Chair of the National Nutrition Research and Academia Committee in Zambia, and he is also the country representative on the Joint Coordinating Board of the WHO/UNDP/UNICEF and World Bank Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (WHO/TDR) (where he also served as Vice Chair, member of the Research Directors' Joint Coordinating Committee of the East, Central and Southern Africa-Health Community. He sits on IAP Specialized Health Committee.

He has been an active researcher and research manager for over 24 years with several publications. His medical research interests are in poverty related tropical and infectious diseases, especially clinical epidemiology and interventions for the control and prevention of infectious diseases such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, TB etc.



Prof. Jean Claude Mbanya MD, PhD, MRCP (UK), FRCP (London), FCAS, FTWAS

Jean Claude is Professor of Medicine and Endocrinology and Postgraduate Dean of the Doctoral School of Life, Health and Environmental Sciences at the University of Yaoundé¹ and Dean College of Biological Sciences of the Cameroon Academy of Sciences. He is also Chief of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases Unit and Director of the National Obesity Centre at the Central Hospital in Yaoundé, Cameroon. He initially studied in Cameroon where he obtained his MD in 1979 and trained at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, England where he obtained a PhD and MRCP (UK). He is Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, London, Fellow of the World Academy of Sciences, Trieste and he received a Doctor *philosophiae honoris causa* from the University of Oslo in 2011 for his outstanding international leadership in the field of diabetes and the 2004 Harold Rifkin award from the American Diabetes Association for Distinguished International Service in the Cause of

Diabetes. He is currently Honorary President of the International Diabetes Federation after serving as President from 2009-2012. He is a member of several WHO advisory and expert groups.



Dr. Julius J. Lutwama

Dr. Julius J. Lutwama is an Assistant Director of Research with the Ministry of Health, Uganda, and Deputy Director of Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI) Entebbe, Uganda. He is Head of the Department of Arbovirology, Emerging and Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases. He also heads, the WHO Eastern Africa Regional Reference Laboratory for Yellow Fever, the Uganda National Influenza Center and the Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers Diagnostic Laboratories in Uganda. He coordinates the zoonotic diseases surveillance and the Influenza surveillance programs. With over 35 years of research, he has worked on many viral diseases and has participated in numerous virus diseases outbreak investigations, response and control, including Ebola, Marburg, Influenza, Yellow Fever, Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever, etc. His research interest is in field and laboratory research and epidemic aid investigations of emerging viral infections, defining disease etiologies, ecology, surveillance, prevention and control. He is Associate Professor of Medical Microbiology at the College of Health Sciences, Makerere University. He is part of teams that have discovered several new viruses. He is a member of

several local and international health sciences Task Forces, Committees, Associations and Networks. He heads and coordinates several funded collaborating programs and has over 110 scientific publications in international Refereed Journals and book chapters.

