

Partnership Hub

Snapshot

May 2017

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Letter from Jennifer

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

Wednesday, April 26th was World Intellectual Property (IP) Day – an annual celebration of the integral role IP plays in encouraging innovation and advancements. While the importance of IP has long been recognized, recent debates – most notably the United Nations High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines – have questioned IP’s role in ensuring access to the innovations it has encouraged. The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is the UN organization dedicated to promoting a system that uses IP as a means of stimulating innovation and creativity. Its Global Challenges Division is focused on leveraging these innovations to address the world’s greatest challenges including health.

WIPO Re:Search was founded on the belief that IP is not a barrier, rather it is a facilitator to access. This is demonstrated by the number of organizations that have joined WIPO Re:Search as Provider Members – agreeing to abide by the WIPO Re:Search Guiding Principles and to share their IP to advance others’ product development projects for malaria, tuberculosis, and neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). Our company Members have contributed IP in the form of compounds, data, technologies, and more through WIPO Re:Search collaborations.

As we launch the *WIPO Re:Search Strategic Plan, 2017-2021*, at WIPO’s headquarters in Geneva, BVGH will continue to establish research collaborations revolving around IP sharing. These nascent collaborations will be further evidence of the role and value of IP in both innovation and access.

I am pleased to welcome our newest Members, the **Institute of Technology, Bandung**; the **Institut Pasteur de Madagascar**; and the **University of Toronto**.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.



Sincerely,
Jennifer Dent
President, BVGH

Special Announcement

What: 2017 WIPO Re:Search Biennial Meeting

When: Tuesday, May 23rd, 9am – 1pm CEST

Where: Room AB 13.1, WIPO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland*

WIPO and BVGH encourage all Members to attend the Biennial Meeting. In addition to featuring an overview of WIPO's and BVGH's activities and achievements in 2016 and to date, the *WIPO Re:Search Strategic Plan, 2017-2021*, will be formally presented to all Members.

*If you will not be in Geneva, we invite you to join the Biennial Meeting via WebEx. Please contact [Maëli Astruc](#) for WebEx login information.

What: WIPO and TDR Side Event at the 70th World Health Assembly

When: Thursday, May 25th, 12:15pm – 2pm CEST

Where: Room IX, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland*

With sponsorship from the Permanent Missions of Egypt, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Namibia, Philippines, Singapore, and Switzerland, WIPO and the Special Programme on Tropical Disease Research (TDR) are hosting a World Health Assembly side event, "Building Capacity for Innovation and Access: Combating Neglected Tropical Diseases".

* WHA registration is required to attend the side event.

WIPO Re:Search Statistics



To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

WIPO Re:Search Members in Africa

Burkina Faso

Institut de Recherché en Sciences de la Santé (IRSS)

Cameroon

Centre Pasteur du Cameroun
University of Bamenda
University of Buea, Cameroon
University of Yaoundé

Egypt

Bibliotheca Alexandrina
Medical Research Institute, Alexandria University
Theodor Bilharz Research Institute

Ethiopia

Addis Ababa University
Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI)

Ghana

Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR)
Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research
University of Ghana

Kenya

Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organisation (KALRO)
Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)

Madagascar

Institut Pasteur Madagascar

Mali

University of Bamako, Mali

Mauritius

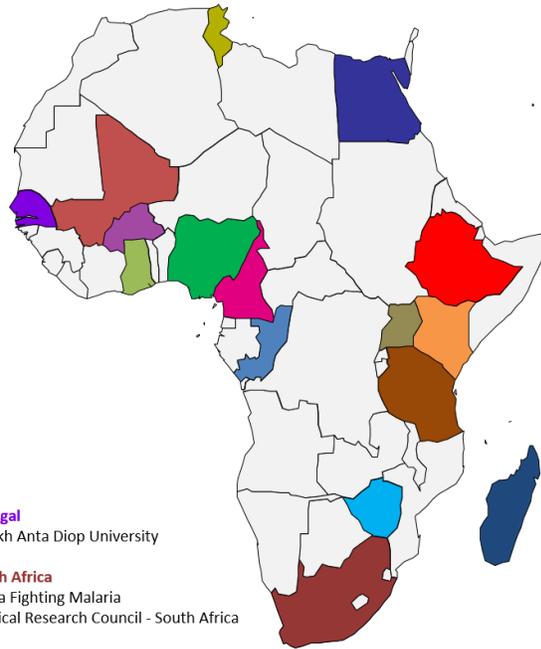
University of Mauritius

Nigeria

Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR)
University of Ibadan, Nigeria
University of Lagos

Republic of the Congo

Fondation Congolaise pour la Recherché Medicale (FCRM)



Senegal

Cheikh Anta Diop University

South Africa

Africa Fighting Malaria
Medical Research Council - South Africa

Tanzania

National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR)

Tunisia

Institut Pasteur de Tunis

Uganda

Makerere University

Zimbabwe

African Inst. of Biomedical Science and Technology (AIBST)

Cornerstones of Collaboration

Janssen Research & Development will provide Dr. Clifton Barry III, Chief, Tuberculosis Research Section, **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**, with its Jump-stARter library. Dr. Barry's laboratory will screen the Jump-stARter library against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* to identify novel scaffolds that inhibit *M. tuberculosis* growth *in vitro* under conditions that mimic important aspects of human pathogenesis.



New Member Announcement

We are pleased to announce that the **Institute of Technology, Bandung**; the **Institut Pasteur de Madagascar**; and the **University of Toronto** have joined WIPO Re:Search.



Founded in 1959 by the Indonesian government, the Institute of Technology, Bandung (ITB) is an institution of higher learning in science, technology, and the fine arts. Research conducted at ITB includes studying the effect of combining anti-tuberculosis drugs with medicinal plants to treat multi-drug-resistant *M. tuberculosis* and the molecular epidemiology of *M. tuberculosis* in Indonesia.

Institut Pasteur de Madagascar (IPM) is a member of the Institut Pasteur International Network. IPM's research interests directly align with Madagascar's national health priorities, particularly microbiology and epidemiology of infectious diseases. IPM's research activities include epidemiology of schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted helminthiasis, efficacy of traditional medicines against malaria, the immune response to *M. tuberculosis*, and the progression of tuberculosis from a latent to an active infection.



The University of Toronto is Canada's leading institution of higher learning and one of the world's top research-intensive universities. Research ongoing at the university includes using *C. elegans* as a model to study parasitic nematode worms; investigating the role of *Leishmania* RNA virus-1 in the pathogenesis of cutaneous leishmaniasis; and developing synthetic surfactants as quinolone sensitizing agents for drug-resistant *Plasmodium*.

Partnership Hub Central

Katy Graef represented WIPO Re:Search at the Second Global Partners' Meeting on NTDs and the NTD Summit hosted by the **World Health Organization (WHO)** and **Uniting to Combat NTDs**, respectively.

BVGH FundFinder Featured Funding Announcement

Turing Foundation – Leprosy Grant

The Turing Foundation aims to eliminate the disfiguring disease, leprosy. Leprosy has an incubation period of many years. One of the main challenges in leprosy elimination is to detect the disease in an early stage and to treat it before nerve damages have become irreparable. This is why the Turing Foundation finances scientific research into the early diagnosis and recovery of leprosy.

Funding amount: Not specified, however project budgets exceeding €25,000 require an accountant-certified statement upon completion of the project

Funder: Turing Foundation

Deadline: None

Eligibility: Not-for-profit organizations only

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email [Cathy Manner](mailto:Cathy.Manner@wipo.int).



Highlighted Contributions

Do you have an asset that you are willing to contribute to another WIPO Re:Search Member to further neglected tropical disease, malaria, or tuberculosis research and development? Email [Ujwal Sheth](mailto:Ujwal.Sheth@ucsd.edu) to learn how you can have your asset summarized in the [WIPO Re:Search Database](#) and featured in an upcoming *Snapshot* newsletter.

WIPO Re:Search in the News

In a recent news release, **Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany** announced its decision to share a targeted set inhibitors – through WIPO Re:Search – with Dr. Jim McKerrow, Dean, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, **University of California, San Diego** (UCSD). Dr. McKerrow will be screening these inhibitors against the parasites that cause Chagas disease, human African trypanosomiasis, and leishmaniasis. Click [here](#) to read the news release.

Merck KGaA
Darmstadt, Germany



WIPO | MAGAZINE “[...] The best thing we can do to recognize the critical importance of the [IP] system is not to focus on intellectual property (IP) as such, but on the mosaic of results that it enables.” In recognition of World Intellectual Property (IP) Day, Corey Salsberg, Vice President and Global Head of IP Affairs, Novartis, penned an [article](#) in *WIPO Magazine* describing Novartis’ approach to innovation and the relationship between innovation, IP, and improving people’s lives.

Upcoming Global Health Meetings

Dates	Event Name	Location	Web Link
May 16-17	International Society for Neglected Tropical Diseases (ISNTD) Diagnostics, Drug Discovery & Development (d ³)	London, UK	Website
June 19-22	2017 BIO International Convention	San Diego, California	Website
Sept. 10-14	Keystone Symposium: Vectors, Pathogens and Diseases: Current Trends and Emerging Challenges	Durban, South Africa	Website



*Known as EMD in the US and Canada | **Known as Merck in the US and Canada



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