



Health Innovation for Development

African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation (ANDI)

*“Creating a sustainable platform
for R&D innovation in Africa”*

Founding meeting in Abuja, Nigeria
6–8 October 2008



Background information

The lack of market incentives to drive health product R&D, fragile health services infrastructure as well as weak regulatory environments all are factors in the high burden of infectious tropical diseases in developing countries, especially in Africa. The increasing global awareness of these barriers has resulted in the availability of new funding from governments and philanthropic agencies to support R&D efforts that target diseases that disproportionately affect the developing world. This has resulted in a much needed boost in product development activities for some diseases, especially through public-private partnerships. However, many in developing countries believe that the only way the availability of new affordable drugs, diagnostics, and vaccines for these diseases can be ensured and sustained in the long term is through committed investments in R&D, manufacturing and distribution within diseases endemic countries themselves. This has led to the conceptualization of the African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation (ANDI). ANDI will promote the notion that “Developing countries need to participate in discovering, developing and manufacturing health products, and in establishing functional market mechanisms that suit their needs”

ANDI objectives

ANDI aims to promote and sustain African-led R&D innovation through the discovery, development and delivery of affordable new tools, including those based on natural products and traditional medicines. ANDI will also support capacity and infrastructure development in Africa.

ANDI will be a coordinated and results-driven effort that will leverage and build on existing activities in Africa. It will have strong elements of public-private partnerships. It will generate and manage intellectual property and explore innovative mechanisms that will encourage and reward local innovation. ANDI will source, manage and grant funding to support network activities, while proactively establishing sustainable funding mechanisms for its operations.



Meeting objectives and expected outcomes

- **Review the landscape for product R&D in Africa:** identify and share lessons on various product R&D activities and highlight gaps and new opportunities.
- **Discuss the operational framework of ANDI:** scope of product R&D activities, deliverables, stakeholders and possible initial structure of this proposed African network.
- **Produce a publication** that builds on the ANDI concept paper and the R&D landscape in Africa.
- **Discuss and agree on the next steps for ANDI:** creation of an interim Secretariat for ANDI; development of a strategy, business plan and implementation plan; and future process for deciding a permanent Secretariat and headquarters; resource mobilization and future meetings of ANDI.

Invited guests

High level representatives from:

- The Federal Republic of Nigeria
- The World Health Organization (WHO)
- The African Union

Provisional agenda

6th October	Item
08.00 - 09.00	Registration
09.00 - 10.30	Opening ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Opening remarks- Meeting objectives Plenary session <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Overview of product R&D and innovation process: global challenges and opportunities
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 - 13.00	Address by Senior Government Official <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Brief statements from other government officials Plenary session <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ANDI - the concept- Overview of the product R&D and innovation landscape in Africa
13.00 - 14.30	Lunch
14.30 - 15.45	Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property Short presentations and specific case studies relevant to R&D in Africa
15.45 - 16.15	Coffee break
16.15 - 17.30	Short presentations and specific case studies relevant to R&D in Africa
	Close of day 1 (poster session set-up)
18.30	Dinner and social event

Provisional agenda

7th October	Item
08.30 - 10.30	<p>Panel discussion</p> <p>There will be 5 plenary panel discussions. The sessions will involve 4 experts, who will each have 5 minutes to speak, followed by open discussion led by a moderator.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. Can products be discovered, developed and registered in Africa? Are there examples?</i><i>2. What are the needs and opportunities for ANDI? What are the challenges (including IP management)?</i><i>3. How can Africans in Diaspora support ANDI?</i><i>4. How can other African institutions and governments support ANDI?</i><i>5. How can ANDI synergize with other product R&D initiatives?</i>
10.30 - 10.50	Coffee break
10.50 - 12.00	Panel discussion continued
12.00 - 12.30	<p>Breakout sessions</p> <p>Participants will be split into three groups to brainstorm on three specific questions regarding ANDI.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. Is ANDI needed? Will it fill a gap? What are the challenges? What is needed to make it successful?</i><i>2. What should be the scope (diseases and products)? Is capacity available to initiate and implement agreed activities? What are the low hanging fruits?</i><i>3. Who are the key stakeholders? Who will fund? What are the important organizational and funding issues, and options that need to be addressed?</i>
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 15.40	Breakout sessions continued
15.40 - 16.00	Coffee break
16.00 - 17.30	Breakout sessions continued
	Close of day 2
19.00	Dinner

Provisional agenda

8th October	Item	Name
09.30 - 10.30	Plenary session Breakout session reports & recommendations	
10.30 - 10.50	Coffee break	
10.50 - 12.30	Plenary session Discussion on next steps: e.g. interim Secretariat; development of a strategy and business plan; future process for determination and location of a permanent Secretariat; future meetings on ANDI.	
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 - 15.40	Meeting summary and recommendations Comments from co-sponsors/ potential stakeholders	Rapporteur/Chair
15.40 - 16.00	Coffe Break	
16.00 - 17.30	Selection and awards for best posters Closing ceremony	Chair
	ANDI meeting concludes	

9th October

Closed meeting with rapporteurs and organizing committee continues (day 4) to finalize reports

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