

22 April 2024

Dear Participant,

The World Health Organization Prequalification of In Vitro Diagnostics cordially invites you to attend the Workshop for African manufacturers of HIV RDTs: *From QA to procurement* at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Kigali, Rwanda, from 1 to 3 July 2024.

The workshop is specifically intended for HIV RDT manufacturers based in Africa. The programme will include 2 days dedicated to quality assurance, procurement and support projects and a third day for one-to-one meetings with manufacturers. Manufacturers interested in participating in this event are invited to register as soon as possible. Participation is limited to two (2) representatives from each company and there are 60 seats available. We strongly encourage participation from the director QA/QC and the company CEO. Simultaneous translations to French will be available. **The deadline for registration is 30 May 2024.** Registration will close once the workshop capacity is reached.

Background of the meeting

Many rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) for HIV are manufactured far away from where they are used, which can compromise the equitable and timely supply of products where they are most needed. A strong need for diagnostics manufacturing capacity in Africa has been identified and led to opportunities for African-based manufacturers to obtain financial and technical support for the local production of HIV rapid diagnostic tests.

The World Health Organization prequalification of in vitro diagnostics provides a comprehensive assessment of individual IVDs for quality, safety and performance and has over a decade of experience in assessing HIV RDTs. To facilitate the manufacture of quality assured HIV RDTs a Workshop is planned to bring together African manufacturers along with partner organizations to support the scale-up of diagnostics manufacturing capacity in Africa. The workshop aims at providing manufacturers with a comprehensive understanding of WHO prequalification and risk assessment by the Expert Review Panel for Diagnostics, how to prepare to apply for product assessment, new product introduction implications on national HIV testing algorithms, donors' perspectives on manufacturing in the African region and procurement opportunities and support projects available to manufacturers and experience from local manufacturers.

Registration is now Open!

To secure your spot for the 2-day workshop (1 and 2 July 2024), and if interested in a one-on-one meeting, please register at <https://indico.un.org/e/WHOWorkshopkigali> by **30 May 2024**.

Travel Arrangement

This invitation is offered with the understanding that all expenditures are to be provided by your organization or company, including costs for travel, accommodation, transportation and related expenses for your visit. Please note that lunches and coffee breaks on 1 and 2 July will be provided on site and will be paid for by WHO directly to the hotel.

Meeting venue

RADISSON BLU HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTRE, KIGALI

KG 2 Roundabout, Kigali, Kimihurura, Po Box 6629, Rwanda

T: +250 252 252 252 D: 8243 M: +250 787559555

eric.rugamba@radissonblu.com

Hotel Accommodation

For your convenience, WHO has made a block booking for superior single room occupancy for USD160 per night at the meeting venue. However, participants are requested to book earlier and secure their rooms by sharing their credit card details with the hotel reservation team: **reservation.kigali@radissonblu.com** main contact: **gentille.dusabe@radissonblu.com**

VISA APPLICATION

Visa to Kigali, Rwanda is obtained upon arrival. More information is available for download at the registration page: <https://indico.un.org/e/WHOWorkshopkigali>. If you have any questions please contact the Secretariat at largadov@who.int; braniffs@who.int

We look forward to welcoming you in July and for our future collaboration.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Irena Prat

Team Lead

In Vitro Diagnostics Assessment Team

Prequalification Unit

Regulation and Prequalification Department

World Health Organization