



AFRICA WORKING GROUP

MEETING MINUTES - 1

Host: Centre for Epidemic Response and Innovation (CERI)

Date: February 04, 2025

Time: 12:00 – 13:00 (SAST)

Facilitators: Prof Tulio de Oliveira, Dr Houriiyah Tegally and Dr Monika Moir

ATTENDANCE/ NO. OF PARTICIPANTS: 40

Start time: 12:02 (SAST)

Purpose of the meeting

Feedback on CLIMADE's participation in and engagements at the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29)

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome
2. Presentation and discussion led by Prof Tulio de Oliveira.
3. Discussion feedback

DISCUSSION POINTS AND QUESTIONS

- Sequencing of DENV sequencing in Togo
- Streamlining the process
- Investing in data analysis, bioinformatics, data science and AI
- Surveillance and diagnostics, analysis and capacity building (3 main activities of CLIMADE)
- Capacity building: VEME and CLIMADE research week

- **COP29/UN 2024**

- Call for Action (Warning) – over 50% of pathogens are aggravated by climate change
- Marburg in Africa; Tanzania
- Oropouche virus in Brazil/Americas
- 13 million cases of DENV cases
- CHIKV ~500,000 cases with 170 deaths in 20 countries in 2024
- West Nile Virus
- Mechanism of disease aggravation: Rising temperature
 - Malaria with Artemisinin (ACT) resistance (identified in Asia Africa), growing extremely fast in Africa.
 - Extreme events
 - Climate migrates and epidemics
- Synthesis report for policymakers COP29
 - Climate change and Epidemics 2024
- Global collaborations

- **Q&A session**

1. What was the feedback and reception of the CLIMADE network during the COP29 meeting?

A: We need to increase the engagement for the COP annual reports through media releases and COP report launches.

2. What metric can we use to help record the activities related to the report?

A: Recording interest and social media engagement and through collaborative activities

3. What was the feedback from government officials in Africa to help fund the cause?

A: Mozambique officials were worried about the spread of drug-resistant Malaria. Discussions were focused on political views and decisions after the US presidential elections

Adjournment and Closing points.

1. Prof Tulio de Oliveira adjourned the meeting at 12:55 (SAST).

NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed by email.

Submitted by: Yajna Ramphal

Approved By: Monika Moir