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The Panel Members

National Science Technology and Innovation Council (NSTIC)

Ministry of Technical and Higher Education

Dear Panel Members,

RECOMMENDATION LETTER FOR DR DARLINDA F. JIBA

I am writing as the Head of Infectious Disease Division in the Department of Internal Medicine at the National Teaching Hospital and University of Sierra Leone to highly recommend Dr. Darlinda F. Jiba for the NSTIC Grant Programme. I have had the distinct privilege of working closely with Dr. Jiba for the past 5 years at the University of Sierra Leone, and I am confident that she is an exceptionally qualified candidate with the intellectual prowess and dedication necessary to successfully implement the NSTIC grant scheme.

Dr. Jiba is an exceptional scholar, and her academic achievements attest to her commitment to excellence. She completed her undergraduate studies with outstanding results. Throughout her academic journey, Dr. Jiba has exhibited remarkable research and analytical skills. Her research contribution in fungal infections and other areas of infectious diseases (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=Jiba+DF&sort=pubdate>), not only demonstrated her depth of knowledge in this field but also showcased her ability to think critically and approach complex problems with creativity and rigor.

Furthermore, Dr. Jiba's excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, set her apart. She has delivered presentations at many scientific conferences and her ability to convey complex ideas in a clear and concise manner is a testament to her potential as a future leader in academia.

Dr. Jiba is not only a dedicated scholar but also a person of great integrity, ethics, and character. She possesses a strong work ethic, an insatiable curiosity, and a genuine passion for her chosen field of study. She is highly motivated, adaptable, and possesses the resilience to overcome challenges and thrive in demanding academic environments.

My further engagement with Dr. Jiba will be to continue planning a health system approach to addressing the persistent and chronic problem of invasive fungal infections in Sierra Leone. Through her effort, we are developing a plan to integrate screening and management of chronic pulmonary aspergillosis to TB and HIV services. We will support Dr. Jiba with the NSTIC grant to continue this work and improve the diagnosis of fungal infections in Sierra

Leone. During the implementation of the NSTIC Grant, Dr Jiba will prepare several educational sessions/talks and social media materials on fungal infections. In short, we will fully support her efforts to improve the detection and management of invasive fungal infections, appropriate to local and international public health needs.

In conclusion, Dr. Jiba is an exceptional candidate who embodies the qualities and attributes that NSTIC is seeking for. Her outstanding academic record, research capabilities, leadership skills, and commitment to national and international service make her an ideal fit for this grant scheme. I have no doubt that she will contribute significantly to the academic and intellectual vibrancy of your program.

I wholeheartedly recommend Dr. Jiba for this grant scheme. I am confident that she will continue to shine as a grantee and make a meaningful impact on the academic and public health community.

Thank you for considering Dr. Jiba's application.

Sincerely,



Sulaiman Lakoh