



*À sua Vm  
para coordenação*  
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*18/5/21*

In reply please refer to:

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Sua Excelência

**Dr. Armindo Tiago**

Ilustre Ministro da Saúde

Ministério da Saúde

Maputo

Maputo, 11 de Maio de 2021

**Assunto:** Workshop sobre a Melhoria do Fornecimento Seguro de Sangue nos Países da África Central e Outros Países de Língua Portuguesa, de 23 a 24 de Junho de 2021

Excelência,

O Escritório Regional para África, com o apoio financeiro da UE/ACP e do Projecto Muskoka, propõe a organização de um workshop virtual sobre a melhoria do fornecimento seguro de sangue nos países da África Central e outros países de língua portuguesa, de 23 a 24 de Junho de 2021.

Gostaríamos de solicitar a nomeação dos directores dos serviços nacionais de transfusão de sangue, representantes dos programas nacionais de saúde para os quais a disponibilidade e o acesso ao sangue seguro são relevantes, bem como outros intervenientes relevantes a participar neste seminário.

O objectivo do workshop é identificar intervenções prioritárias nos referidos países para melhorar o fornecimento seguro de sangue. Os objectivos específicos são:

- a) Identificar as actividades prioritárias a serem realizadas com elementos de cálculo de custos e prazos;
- b) Estimar os recursos necessários para implementar as actividades prioritárias;
- c) Definir um roteiro para o acesso ao sangue seguro nos países participantes

A interpretação simultânea estará disponível em francês e português. A nota conceptual e a agenda provisória encontram-se em anexo para vossa informação.

Sem outro assunto de momento, aproveito esta oportunidade para reiterar a Vossa Excelência os protestos da minha mais elevada estima e consideração.

O Representante da OMS

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Dr. Joaquim Saweka



Entrada  
Data



 <p><b>World Health Organization</b> REGIONAL OFFICE FOR <b>Africa</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>CONCEPT NOTE</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Workshop on improving safe blood supply in Central African countries and three other Portuguese speaking countries</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Date and Time: 23-24 June 2021 - 13:00-17:00 (GMT+1)</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Venue: Zoom Meeting</b></p>
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## 1. BACKGROUND

Blood transfusion is life-saving in many circumstances, namely: hemorrhage with complications related to pregnancy and childbirth; children suffering of severe anemia, due to malaria and malnutrition; patients suffering from sickle cell disease; victims of trauma and road traffic accidents and injuries; as well as during the emergency responses to pandemic and disasters. etc. It also supports complex medical and surgical procedures in health care. When the safe blood and blood products are not available, the condition can be life-threatening and can result in death. Universal and timely access to safe blood and the optimal use of such products are essential for health systems strengthening and the achievement of universal health care.

Different evaluations of the situation of blood supply conducted in the WHO African region<sup>1</sup> showed that, although countries have made significant progress to improve the access to safe blood products, significant challenges remain which contribute to reduce the coverage of annual needs for blood and blood products in the region, especially in remote areas. Indeed, most countries in the region are not meeting the blood needs, and many patients requiring transfusion are dying in these countries because of blood shortages. This situation is particularly pronounced in the ten countries<sup>2</sup> of the Central Africa sub-region that are face to main challenges such as: (i) unsustainable national funding for blood safety programmes, (ii) insufficient supply of blood products, (iii) deficiencies in safety, effectiveness and quality, (iv) sub-optimal clinical practices, and (v) poor access to blood during emergency.

Furthermore, AFRO has developed in October 2020 a regional workplan for access to safe blood products in the region, which includes the main activities to be run at the regional and country levels. Unfortunately, most of the countries in the Central Africa sub-region and three other Portuguese-speaking countries<sup>3</sup> in the African region did not fully define their priority activities for this workplan.

To address these challenges, there is a need to accelerate implementing the regional workplan in the sub-region to improve safe blood supply. This can be done through the development of a harmonized countries implementation plans that will be an advocacy tool for resources mobilization from government and partner organizations, as well as, from the complementary health programmes for which blood products availability is relevant.

<sup>1</sup> Loua A, Nikiema JB, Sougou A, Kasilo OJM. Transfusion in the WHO African Region. *Transfus Clin Biol.* 2019;26(3):155-159. doi:10.1016/j.tracli.2019.06.191

<sup>2</sup> Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, São Tomé & Príncipe

<sup>3</sup> Cabo Verde, Guinea Bissau and Mozambique



It is against the above-mentioned background that the Regional Office, with financial support from Muskoka and EU/ACP projects, is convening a virtual workshop with national blood transfusion services (NBTS) managers and other relevant stakeholders to define the common priority interventions that will allow selected countries to more effectively carry out activities to improve access to quality assured blood products.

## **2. OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP**

### **2.1 General objective**

The workshop aims to identify common priority interventions in Central African countries and three other Portuguese speaking countries to improve blood safe supply.

### **2.2 Specific objectives**

1. To identify priority activities to be run with costing elements and timeframe
2. To estimate the resources needed to implement the priority activities
3. To define a roadmap for access to blood in the participating countries.

## **3. EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

- A roadmap to implement the priority interventions to improve access to safe blood products in the participating countries.

## **4. METHODOLOGY**


- Two day-workshop to be held virtually with presentations and plenary discussions to agree the priority interventions according to the agenda (see attached)

## **5. PARTICIPANTS**

- The workshop will be attended by the Directors and key staffs of the NBTS from thirteen countries; WHO Staff from the Regional Office, Inter-country Supporting Team (IST) Central Africa, National Professional Officers (NPOs) in charge of medical products at these WHO Country Offices; representatives from national health programmes for which the availability of safe access to safe blood are relevant, as well as by other relevant stakeholders.

## **6. TENTATIVE DATE AND SCENARIO**

- Two-day live workshop is planned from 23 to 24 June 2021, with simultaneous interpretation into French and Portuguese, since the participating countries include six Portuguese-speaking countries. The workshop will start at 13.00 (GMT + 1), with topics in 4 hours each day.

 <b>World Health Organization</b> REGIONAL OFFICE FOR <b>Africa</b>	<p><b>Workshop on improving safe blood supply in the Central African countries and others Portuguese speaking countries</b></p> <p><b>Date and Time: 23-24 June 2021 - 13:00-17:00 (GMT+1)</b></p> <p><b>Venue: Zoom Meeting</b></p>
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### PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK

Time	Session	Chair/Presenters
<b>Day 1</b>		<b>Chairperson</b>
13.00 – 13.30	Introduction of participants Welcoming remarks Designation of the Chair and Rapporteurs Adoption of the program of work Objectives, expected results and method of work Discussions	C. Tayou WR Gabon C. Tayou Chairperson A. Loua Chairperson
13.30 – 14.20	WHO action framework to advance universal access to safe, effective and quality assured blood products 2020-2023	A. Loua
14.20 – 14.40	Key findings from Expert consultation on the development of regional workplan for access to safe blood	A. Loua
14.40 – 15.00	Overview of challenges and priorities in participating countries	C. Tayou
15.00 – 15.30	Discussions	Chairperson
15.30 – 15.45	Introduction to the group work	C. Tayou
15.45 – 16.45	Group works on the development of the road map for improving access to blood in the participating countries	Participants
17.00	<b>End of the day</b>	



Day 2		Chairperson
13.00 – 13.10	Recap of Day 1	Rapporteurs
13.10 – 14.10	Group works (continued)	Participants
14.10 – 15.10	Feedbacks from group works (presentation and discussions)	Group Rapporteurs
15.10 – 16.45	Roadmap for access to blood: priority activities, timelines, responsible and cost	Chairperson
17.00	Closing remarks	WR Gabon