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November 26, 2020

To:
The Managing Director
Kenya Bureau of Standards
Popo Road Off Mombasa Road
P.O. Box 54974-00200
Nairobi, Kenya

Attn: Standards Officer, Textiles

Ref: Non-alignment of the new East African Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) standards (EAS 455:2019)

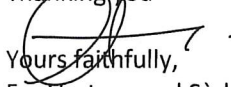
Our attention has been drawn to the newly developed East African standards for LLINs –*KS EAS 455:2019 Long lasting insecticide treated mosquito nets – Specification* which does not make provision for all the LLIN products listed as prequalified by the World Health Organisation (WHO) Prequalification Team¹. These omissions, if not promptly addressed, suggest that more than 70% of WHO PQ approved LLINs are disqualified for distribution in East African member states.

Please find attached a copy of a letter submitted to the East African Community Secretariat with suggestions for improvements to the standard *EAS 455: 2019, Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Mosquito Nets – Specifications*.

As a member of the East African Standards Committee (EASC), we would request that KEBS takes note of our concerns and initiate the process of revising the standard to align with the WHO prequalification specifications. It is our considered view that if not revised the standard will limit the deployment of some innovative and effective LLINs in the prevention and control of malaria.

Looking forward to hearing your kind consideration of our request.

Thanking you


Yours faithfully,
For Vestergaard Sàrl
Caroline Desrousseaux
Director of Sales-Public Health

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Enclosed: Letter to the East Africa Standards Bureau, WHO LLINs specification 333/LN/1- July 2019 (Annexe 1), WHO LLINs specification 333+33/LN/1 – April 2019 (Annexe 2) , WHO PQ letter of gsm specification acceptance (Annexe 3), EAS LLINs specifications comparative table (Annexe 4), PermaNet® 3.0 and PermaNet® 2.0 specifications (Annexe 5), EAS claim form template (Annexe 6)

¹ WHO Prequalification of vector control products: Prequalified Products List 26 August 2020 https://www.who.int/pq-vector-control/prequalified-lists/VCP_PQ-List_26August2020.pdf?ua=1