



## Introducing the Management Team:

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- Mervyn Burton
- Beryl Armstrong
- Lesley Bust
- Mohammed Farouk
- Claude Tayou Tagny
- Swaibu Katare
- JB Tapko
- Bright Mulenga
- Molly Gondwe

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## AfSBT e-Newsletter



May 2017

We are at the end of the fifth month of the year, and the time has sped by since January as if it were five days and not five months. It is scary how quickly

life passes and how little time we have, to do the things we need to do, to make a difference. Strength to you all in your efforts to improve blood safety in your area.

After sharing some of the international days with you last month, I thought it would be a good idea to do this regularly and in advance, so that by the time you read the newsletter, you can still plan to celebrate, if you wish, the international observation days that are in the pipeline. Bearing this

in mind, here are the ones coming up, or that have recently passed:

- ◆ World No-Tobacco Day [WHO] (WHA Resolution 42.19) was celebrated on 31 May.
- ◆ World Blood Donor Day [WHO] (WHA Resolution 58.13) is coming up on 14 June.

*Beryl Armstrong – editor*

## World Blood Donor Day

<http://www.who.int/campaigns/world-blood-donor-day/2017/en/>

Every year, on 14 June, The world celebrates blood donors. This date also commemorates the birth of Karl Landsteiner.

The WBDD message for this year is as follows:

**Don't wait until disaster strikes. What can you do?**

**Give blood.**

**Give now.**

**Give often.**

The host country for 2017 is Viet Nam through its National Institute of Haematology and Blood Transfusion. The Global event will be held in Hanoi.

Readers are invited to send me news of WBDD celebrations in their country, for the next issue of **Blood is Life**.

## Africa Society for Blood Transfusion 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Congress: Arusha, Tanzania: 19-22 June 2018

<https://afsbt.org/>

Do go and visit our website, or read the announcement attached as a pdf, to this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you in Arusha next year!

## Step-Wise Accreditation Programme updates

This month the Accreditation Managers worked essentially on document development, review and finalization, including the annual work plan. A process of follow-up is underway for re-engaging some facilities in the AfSBT Step-Wise Accreditation programme.

Tanzanian blood services management teams (34 trainees) underwent the training of trainers, training on blood cold chain, and training on the management of non-conformances (Moshi, Tanzania, 24-29 April 2017).

Other activities included revising and/or updating the following:

- Anglophone assessors list
- Anglophone accreditation applications list
- AfSBT Assessors CPD document
- AfSBT Accreditation Committee terms of reference
- AfSBT Education Committee terms of reference
- AfSBT Code of Conduct
- AfSBT Assessors training curriculum

Logistics arrangements are being made for the training of assessors - scheduled 3-5 July 2017 in Cape Town, S. Africa. So... **lots** of admin which is inevitable in keeping up with the good management of our programmes!

## Changing Roles in the AfSBT Management Office Team

Two new committees are to be constituted:

### AfSBT Transfusion Medicine and Science Committee

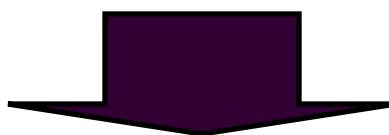
- ◆ Mohammed Farouk - to assume role of convener and set up a committee

### AfSBT Transfusion Associated Infections Committee

- ◆ Dr Jean-Baptiste Tapko - to assume role of convener and set up a committee

### Other developments

- ◆ It is the intention of AfSBT to recruit a Programmes Coordinator to coordinate both education and assessment programmes. In the meantime; Dr Tayou Tagny will coordinate Accreditation activities and Dr Tapko will coordinate the Education component of the programmes.
- ◆ AfSBT has also recently appointed a Junior Accountant to assist the Finance Director.
- ◆ The Communications & Marketing Manager will be retiring after June this year, and AfSBT is currently in the process of recruiting and selecting a Communications Manager as a replacement.



*AfsBT is making a Positive Difference to National Blood Programmes in Africa*

**AFRICA SOCIETY  
FOR BLOOD  
TRANSFUSION**

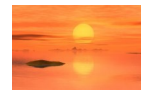
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## Upcoming events



**IPFA/BCA** 3rd Global Symposium on The Future for Blood and Plasma Donations, 11-12 September 2017, Atlanta, GA, USA: <http://www.ipfa.nl/events/ipfa-bca-3-global-symposium-on-the-future-for-blood-and-plasma-donations-2017-usa>

The National Center of Blood Transfusion and Hematology, in partnership with the Moroccan Society of Blood Transfusion, organizes the 11<sup>th</sup> Arab Blood Transfusion Congress: Marrakech 10-12 October 2017. Main theme: Ethics and Blood Safety - <http://www.smts.ma/>. The scientific conference, with the participation of researchers and specialists in various disciplines of blood transfusion from Arab countries and other countries of the world, aims to highlight the status of research and management in blood transfusion and to update research exchanges, and to promote the transfer of technological and managerial expertise. The programme plans to include plenary sessions, brief oral and poster communications, symposia and working meetings of committees. For further information and participation, email [smtsmaroc@gmail.com](mailto:smtsmaroc@gmail.com)

**AABB: Annual meeting: San Diego 7-10 October 2017** [http://www.aabb.org/annual-meeting/Pages/default.aspx?utm\\_source=Annual+Meeting&utm\\_medium=Banner&utm\\_campaign=Carousel+Home](http://www.aabb.org/annual-meeting/Pages/default.aspx?utm_source=Annual+Meeting&utm_medium=Banner&utm_campaign=Carousel+Home)

ISBT: 28<sup>th</sup> Regional Congress in Guangzhou, China: 25-28 November 2017 <http://www.isbtweb.org/guangzhou/>

**\*\*Check the AfsBT website, at [www.afsbt.org](http://www.afsbt.org) for more news items and alerts\*\***

## Contact us

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## Like us on Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/afsbt/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/afsbt/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel)

Why not go to Facebook to access photos and news of other blood services in Africa? All you need to do, in the Facebook search screen, is to type in the name of the country, followed by the words blood service. There is a wealth of information to be found.

