

# Blood is Life



**AfSBT**  
Africa Society for  
Blood Transfusion  
Société Africaine  
de Transfusion Sanguine  
Sociedade Africana  
para Transfusão Sanguínea

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## Step-Wise Accreditation Programme updates

- ◆ AfSBT Accreditation committee meeting in Kigali, Rwanda from 31 July to 1 August 2017.
- ◆ Initiation and completion of distance learning part of assessors training (8 Anglophone trainees and 10 Francophone trainees).
- ◆ Finalisation of the second version of AfSBT standards, pending official launching.
- ◆ Harmonization between Accreditation and Education documents

## AfSBT Accreditation Committee Meeting

A meeting of the AfSBT Accreditation Committee took place at the Collaborating Centre in Kigali from 31 July to 1 August 2017. The committee has two key roles: First, to allocate the requirements of AfSBT Standards to each Step in the accreditation/certification programme i.e. Step 1, 2 or 3. Second, to review the outcome of formal accreditation assessments to ensure that all non-conformances raised were adequately addressed and that proper procedures were followed. The committee then makes a ruling whether accreditation or certification can be granted to the participating blood facility.

Professor Kamel Boukef serves as chairperson of the committee. Current voting members are Glynis Bowie (South Africa), Mavis Okyere (Ghana), Olivier Ndahiriwe (Rwanda) and Lesley Bust (AfSBT Quality Manager). AfSBT Managing Director David Mvere and Accreditation Managers Claude Tayou Tagny and Mohammed Farouk, serve as non-voting members, as does Rob Wilkinson (AfSBT retiree).

Additional members will be appointed to the committee as the number of formal accreditation assessments increases. Currently, most countries enrolled in the Step-Wise Accreditation Programme are undergoing baseline and progress assessments. Committee members whose own facilities are being assessed, must recuse themselves from any deliberations related to their facility.

The roles of the committee and the procedures to be followed were discussed at the meeting and documentation relating to three recent assessments was reviewed. Ways to better facilitate the handling of documents for future assessments were discussed. The certificate to be awarded to blood facilities that achieve

accreditation or certification was designed. The committee also allocated the new requirements which were added to AfSBT Standards during the recent update to the relevant steps in the accreditation programme.

AfSBT Accreditation Committee plays a crucial role in maintaining the integrity of The Step-Wise Accreditation Programme and we thank the chairperson and all members for their dedication in this regard.



**From left to right:** Rob Wilkinson, Glynis Bowie, Claude Tayou Tagny, Lesley Bust, Kamel Boukef, David Mvere, Mavis Okyere and Mohammed Farouk

## Education and Training Programme updates

### Educators and mentorship training: Kigali 3 to 11 July 2017

Educators training: Eleven Francophone educators from Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Togo, BloodWorks USA, CDC Abidjan and WHO/AFRO were trained in the AfSBT Collaborating Center in Kigali from 3 to 7 July 2017. The training had two main components: a theoretical component, focusing on AfSBT standards using versions 1 and version 2 (under revision) and a practical component, encompassing preparation and delivery of lectures and an assessment exercise at Kigali National Blood Transfusions Services.



Trainee educators during a visit to the drone base. From left to right: M. Zoubeida, S. Sawadogo, Lab Manager RBTS, A. Loua, G. Koura, A. Diarra, H. Magnang, JB Tapko, J. Hyda, S. Zalla, M. Aka, S. Petrosky, L. Siransy and a Zip-Line staff.

Mentorship training: This second training took place from 10 to 11 July 2017. Four mentors from DRC, Nigeria, Zambia and Zimbabwe were trained. The training focused on mentor's skills, communication, resources for mentoring, technical assistance in good practice, ethical issues and AfSBT standards section 1 (Quality requirements). Participants were also trained in setting mentorship objectives, and in developing and implementing a mentorship plan. The 4 mentors were then assigned to Tanzania to support the country team.

\*Read more about the drones in "Blood is Life" Volume 2 issue 11 November 2016  
<https://afsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Blood-is-Life-Vol-2-11-November-2016-English.pdf>



From left to right: Oyetunde Akinloye, Andy Numbi, David Chama, Swaiibu Katare, JB Tapko and Chancelar Kafere

## Training and baseline assessment in Côte d'Ivoire: 31 July to 4 August

Sixteen staff members of the National Blood Service of Côte d'Ivoire (CNTS) were trained on AfsBT standards in Abidjan from 31 July to 2 August 2017. The training was facilitated by JB Tapko (AfsBT Education Manager, Francophone), assisted by S Sawadogo and O. Ndahiwire- both already trained as AfsBT educators. The local costs were supported by BloodWorks, USA, represented in Abidjan by SPetrosky.

The trainees, who were mainly composed of NBTS heads of units, participated actively in the training and expressed their gratitude to AfsBT for giving them the opportunity to better understand the AfsBT standards. At the end of the 3 days training, they expressed their satisfaction with the training, which provided them with the necessary background "indispensable" from their point of view before engaging in the certification or accreditation process. They committed themselves to work hard towards accreditation of the CNTS.

After the training, the AfsBT team, led by JB Tapko, conducted a baseline assessment of the CNTS Abidjan. All the CNTS departments were assessed, and the staff members were very cooperative. During the closing meeting, the findings were shared with the management team. Considering the results of the Gap Analysis, the CNTS director and his management team decided to apply for AfsBT Step 2 Certification.



Participants to the training on AfsBT Standards in Abidjan with their facilitators

## Announcement and invitation to apply

### Donor Recruitment and Management Training

Following a successful inaugural event in Johannesburg earlier this year, the charity Global Blood Fund is inviting applications for the second International Donor Recruitment, Engagement and Management workshop.

The 2018 event will be held at the AfsBT collaborating center in Kigali, Rwanda with provisional dates set for 19-23 February. Delegates from across Africa will come together for a week of lectures and field visits where they will observe best practice and learn from some of the leading practitioners on the continent, as well as fellow attendees.

Professionals with direct or indirect responsibility for donor recruitment are invited to apply, using the online system accessible from the home page of the Global Blood Fund website ([www.globalbloodfund.org](http://www.globalbloodfund.org)). Applications should be endorsed by a senior manager and attendees must be prepared and able to share learning with colleagues upon their return.

All costs of attendance will be met by Global Blood Fund. Any question about the event or application process should be directed to: [info@globalbloodfund.org](mailto:info@globalbloodfund.org)

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

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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>

**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)

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)

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

**AfSBT Arusha:** 19-22 June 2018, the 9<sup>th</sup> International Blood Transfusion Congress of AfSBT, in Tanzania Registration is now open <https://sog.meeting-app.events/afsbt/>

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

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