

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Plant-produced nine serotype African horse sickness vaccine product

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2023
AT 16:30**

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has successfully developed a safe and highly immunogenic multivalent vaccine designed to protect against all nine serotypes of the African horse sickness (AHS) virus. This vaccine is set to revolutionise the AHS vaccine industry in endemic countries and beyond.

In light of this innovation, the CSIR cordially invites companies to express their interest in becoming potential commercial partners for the production and commercialisation of the plant-based African horse sickness VP2 antigen vaccine, including all nine serotypes. The primary objective is to take the vaccine to the global market.

Who can apply?

Organisations that:

- Utilise established next-generation vaccine platforms for manufacturing;
- Exhibit demonstrated manufacturing capabilities in alignment with current good manufacturing practice regulations for next-generation vaccines;
- Possess the essential plant facility resources and the determination to commercialise a plant-based AHS VP2 antigen vaccine (mono-, bi- and multivalent vaccine);
- Hold industry-specific knowledge and substantial experience in vaccine manufacturing and marketing;
- Showcase a track record of sound business acumen and effective strategy planning; and
- Are prepared to make a financial investment or have a proven ability to successfully source funding from the public and private sectors in previous endeavours.

WHAT TO SUBMIT:

- Provide a brief overview of your company's primary focus in the vaccine industry;
- Showcase your company's industry-specific expertise and experience in the development of next-generation vaccine products;
- A comprehensive business plan outlining your proposed strategy for the commercialisation of the technology; and
- Demonstrate your commitment to financial investment or securing necessary funding for the commercialisation phase, if deemed necessary.

Applicants must also include the following documents:

- Audited or independently reviewed financial statements;
- A valid tax clearance certificate for companies operating in South Africa;
- A valid Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment certificate;
- Concise curricula vitae (preferably one page each) for each team member responsible for advancing the commercialisation of the products; and
- Company registration documents.

FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS OR MOTIVATIONS WILL PREJUDICE THE ASSESSMENT OF THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED.

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