



## STATEMENT by the PAAT community

*This statement reflects the consensus reached at the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Panel of PAAT Advisory Group (PAG) Co-ordinators, 24-25 September, 2002, Nairobi, Kenya, which included members from the mandated international organizations (AU/IBAR, FAO, IAEA, WHO), tsetse-affected countries, NARS, ARIs and relevant international institutes (ILRI, ICIPE, CIRAD and IFAD).*

**Following the decision of African Heads of State and Government, the broad Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis (T&T) community as represented by the Programme Against African Trypanosomiasis (PAAT) is united in its resolve to reduce and ultimately eliminate the constraint of tsetse-transmitted trypanosomiasis in man and animals.**

**The PAAT community believes that progress towards the final objective is best achieved through concerted efforts towards intervention, in a sequential fashion, with the focus on those areas where the disease impact is most severe and where control provides the greatest benefits to human health, well-being and sustainable agriculture and rural development (SARD).**

**It is recognized that the scale and impact of trypanosomiasis in man and animals varies between African countries and progress towards the ultimate objective will also vary.**

**It is also recognized that in the case of human trypanosomiasis, disease management will continue to depend on disease surveillance, detection and treatment as the principal priority for the foreseeable future, with tsetse suppression as a complementary tool. Tsetse intervention strategies need to be developed as a component of longer-term human trypanosomiasis prevention measures.**

**In animal trypanosomiasis tsetse intervention has a key role to play in the effective control and eventual elimination of the disease. A significant stage in achieving this objective is the creation of tsetse-free zones through the integration of appropriate**

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**and environmentally acceptable technologies, including SAT and SIT as economically justified. In this context the PAAT community supports the outcome and the associated joint press release resulting from the PAAT-PATTEC harmonization workshop, Rome, 2/3 May 2002. The workshop identified criteria for selecting priority areas for joint international action. Governments, international and funding agencies are encouraged to also apply these criteria.**

**The PAAT community also recognizes the need to continue encouraging livestock producer-based practices against T&T wherever the diseases present themselves a problem.**

**In order to more effectively combat the diseases, both in man and animals, and their vectors further concerted efforts are needed with a view to develop and implement joint field programmes for sleeping sickness and animal trypanosomiasis interventions.**

**In this regard, it is opportune to consider refinement of T&T intervention policies, and enhance synergies and complementarities among all concerned international agencies and governments.**