



## Dakar Declaration on Europe-Africa Collaboration in Personalised Medicine

On June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 2024, European and African members of the European Commission's programme EU-Africa PerMed met in Dakar, in presence of members of the European Commission, representatives of concerned European and African institutions, and Senegalese scientific, administrative, and political leaders. Observing the progress and prospects of the EU-Africa PerMed project, these representatives:

### **1. Importance of Personalised Medicine**

- reaffirm the importance of personalised medicine in improving health outcomes for patients through novel methods for prevention, diagnosis, prognostic evaluation and monitoring of patients and populations suffering from pathologies related to diverse diseases such as cancers, infectious diseases, metabolic diseases, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, or mental health diseases. Personalised medicine tailors these approaches to the genotypic and phenotypic characteristics of patients. This enables a more cost-effective, efficient and sustainable healthcare system.

### **2. Research strategy, training, capacity building and legislation**

- recognize the need to promote patient centric applications by supporting fundamental (population genetics), clinical and translational research. This includes the delivery of healthcare through training and strengthening of medical facilities, scientific, and technological capacities (e.g. development of digital health tools and big data infrastructure), and addressing related ethical, legal, and social implications.

### **3. Regional Consortia**

- encourage the establishment of regional consortia to stimulate transnational collaboration in research and innovation. This will enable a shared expertise in genomics, bioinformatics, and clinical practices, allow the establishment of biobanks and sample transfers, collaboration on data usage and the development of digital health tools, and help to create an enabling environment by promoting national and regional public policies.

### **4. International collaboration**

- will promote collaborations between African and European teams (through European Commission programmes and other bilateral or multilateral initiatives between African and European countries) and strengthen Europe-Africa cooperation through the development and implementation of a personalised medicine roadmap in Africa (e.g. aligned funding and implementation strategies).

### **5. Public-Private partnerships**

- underline the importance of combining public and private efforts to foster technological and industrial innovations in the field of personalised medicine on the African continent.

### **6. Communication**

- consider that the use of personalised medicine methods and practices, that hold significant interest for patients and citizens, be actively communicated among policymakers, scientists, healthcare practitioners and patients. This communication approach will enable stakeholders to incorporate these concepts into precision diagnostic, prevention, and treatment approaches for relevant pathologies.