THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, AKURE DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES

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The Selection Committee, National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure, Abuja.

REFERENCE LETTER IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION OF DR. ADEWOYIN MARTIN OGUNMOLASUYI FOR THE NATIONAL AGENCY FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING INFRATSTRUCTURE GRANT

It is a great delight for me to write this letter to indicate my enthusiasm and great support for the grant application of Dr. Ogunmolasuyi, who is currently a Lecturer in the Department of Biotechnology of the Federal University of Technology, Akure where I am a Professor and the current Head of the Department of Biotechnology. I have interacted very closely with Dr Ogunmolasuyi since he joined the services of the University and he exudes traits that endeared him to me, as such I offer to willingly supervise this research project, which has a huge application in medical diagnostics.

Dr. Ogunmolasuyi is a thorough-bred scientist. He has the requisite formal education and trainings that provide him with a strong background in the area of his research focus; Biosensing and Medical Diagnostics. He attended the Rhodes University, South Africa for his Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree specializing in Biosensing and Medical Diagnostics. He maintains active collaboration with leading scientists in the field of Biosensing and Medical Diagnosticsaround the world including Prof Julien Reboud from the Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom and Prof. Janice Limson from the Biotechnology Innovation Centre, Rhodes University, South Africa. He has been able to attract funding for his research works from agencies such as United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through African Research Network for Negelected Tropical Diseases (ARNTD), UK Medical Research Council (UKMRC), and Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), which has culminated in him being able to set up his personal research laboratory here at the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria.

The current research being proposed by Dr. Ogunmolasuyi, which seeks to scale up the design of a portable and quantitative microfluidic diagnostics for point-of-care malaria testing is quite interesting and important, as this will help in the timely and accurate diagnosis of malaria, which remains a disease of great concerns in Nigeria and other African countries. The device

when fully commercialized will lower the diagnosis cost of malaria to around N50 thus making malaria diagnosis affordable to many poor and rural Nigerians.

As far as the suitability of our Department (Biotechnology) and the University to host this research is concerned, I made bold to say that we are capable. The Department has the relevant equipment and facilities such as thermocycler, electrophoresis apparatus, transilluminator, cold centrifuge machine, UV/visible spectrophotometer, etc. that will facilitate the stated objectives of the proposed research. In addition, the Department has competent personnel that will support Dr. Ogunmolasuyi in achieving the objectives of this research. As a Professor and Head of Department of Biotechnology, I will willingly offer my expertise to supervise this project.

Dr Ogunmoasuyi exudes traits and characters that would facilitate the timely completion and the full achievement of the stated objectives of the research. He is hardworking, determined, resilient, enthusiastic, positive-minded, and persevering. I have no doubt about his ability to perform excellently if this grant proposal is approved for him

I thank you very sincerely as you favourably consider his application for this grant.

Yours faithfully,

Joseph A. Adeyemi (Ph.D., Lafayette)