

# Biosimilars: The benefit for Africa

18 March 2020 - 6:30-9:00 pm

Centre of the Book

62 Queen Victoria Street, Cape Town City Centre, 8001

**Access to medicine** is a fundamental human right. Cancer, diabetes, anaemia, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis and other life-threatening and rare illnesses are often treated with what is known as biological drugs. Insulin, growth hormone, erythropoietin, monoclonal antibodies are biotechnological products produced from living cells. Original biologic medicines are often expensive. However, it is now possible to produce **biosimilar drugs**, at a much **lower cost**, which would reduce the price and give more patients access to medicine.

To ensure patients on the **African continent** have access to treatment, there is a tremendous need to develop our ability to produce biologics. Come join us to hear how we can foster domestic capacity for the production of biosimilars on the African continent. Promoting and creating a culture for biosimilars together!

## SPEAKERS



### Lawrence Banks

ICGEB Director-General  
International Centre for Genetic Engineering  
and Biotechnology, Trieste, Italy



### Mmboneni Muofhe

Deputy Director-General (Technology Innovation),  
South African Department of Science and Innovation



### Nhlanhla Msomi

South African Biotechnology Specialist,  
South African Governor to the ICGEB  
Board of Governors



### Natasa Skoko

Group Leader, Biotechnology Development,  
International Centre for Genetic Engineering  
and Biotechnology, Trieste, Italy

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Engineering and Biotechnology



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