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Lucy Jumeyi OGBADU, president of Nigeria NABDA, pays a visit and signs an MOU

Bioneer (CEO Han Oh Park) announced on November 17 that it made a comprehensive MOU agreement with the National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) under the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Science and Technology to promote mutual cooperation including infrastructure consolidation for Nigerian Life Science research, technical collaboration for expansive application of molecular diagnostics system, and cooperative development of new therapeutics on the frequent infectious diseases in Africa such as Lassa fever, Ebola hemorrhagic fever and Dengue fever. The MOU was entered into on the NABDA president's visit to Bioneer headquartered in Daejeon Korea, which was consequential to the Bioneer CEO's visit to Nigeria last August regarding Ebola virus workshop sponsored by the Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC).

In the meeting for signing the MOU, BIONEER introduced its platform technologies and the research facilities, and NABDA showed strong interests on products and technologies highly applicable to Nigeria such as essential instruments for gene research, *MagListo*TM product line for the extraction and purification of biological materials using magnetic nanobeads, and temperature-stable *AccuPower*[®] kits, requesting various scientific exchanges including research collaboration and conference. Bioneer expects that the therapeutic development based on its proprietary platform technology, *SAMiRNA*TM, will be more accelerated through the collaboration with NABDA in the clinical evaluation and the provision of clinical specimens.

Dr. Joo-Sung Yang, the principal investigator of virus therapeutics

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project in Bioneer, said that Bioneer really expected that the R&D experience on RNAi new drugs would contribute to the development of Dengue therapeutics. And Dr. Han Oh Park, the CEO of Bioneer, added, “We hope that through Nigerian infrastructure boost, new drug development, educational training and technology cooperation, the MOU with NABDA will be the cornerstone to improve the relationship between the two countries going beyond just the business of provision of molecular diagnostic system.”

Bioneer has been discussing with Nigeria officials on the supply of molecular diagnostic system and reagent kits to Nigerian healthcare organizations including the NCDC since attending the workshop for Ebola molecular diagnostics in Abuja, Nigeria.



From left to right, Han Oh Park (CEO of Bioneer), Lucy Jumeji OGBADU (President of NABDA) and a Nigerian official.