



Working Group Interim Report

1	Title of Working Group	Eumycetoma Working Group
2	Name(s) of Coordinator(s)	Wendy W.J. van de Sande, PhD
3	Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide an official body for all researchers and health care workers interested in all aspects of eumycetoma under the umbrella of ISHAM - To encourage the study of all aspects of eumycetoma - To increase the awareness of the scientific community and public about this neglected fungal infection - To facilitate the exchange of ideas and information about epidemiology, immunopathology, diagnosis and management of eumycetoma - To facilitate the organization of eumycetoma symposia in big microbiology and mycology meetings - To facilitate fund raising
4	Achievements of the Working Group in last year (250 words)	<p>During 2013, we worked together with actinomycetoma experts to get mycetoma recognized as a tropical neglected disease by the World Health Organisation. for mycetoma, and put mycetoma on the neglected tropical diseases list of the WHO. Therefore on 1st February 2013, we held a meeting with the Drugs for neglected diseases initiative (DNDi) in Geneva to plan a strategy to get this attention. In this meeting, members from South-America, Africa and Europe were present. The matter was further discussed during the World Health Assembly and resulted in a recognition for mycetoma as a neglected condition by the WHO. As such it is now to be found on the list of tropical neglected diseases of the WHO. In order to raise awareness for mycetoma, we were able to organise that PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases hosts a special issue</p>

		<p>on mycetoma with reviews, and novel research on several topics on this disease, including a look into future efforts. The submission deadline for this special issue is may 2014. Also a special symposium on mycetoma was organized in the 62nd annual meeting of the American society of tropical medicine and hygiene in Washington DC in November 2013.</p>
5	<p>Is your Working Group going to continue for the next three years?</p>	<p>Yes, we joined the mycetoma consortium which is a network of both actinomycetoma and eumycetoma experts with a similar goal, to improve mycetoma patient management.</p>