

## PRESS RELEASE

# DIRECTOR KEMRI DISTINGUISHED NTD RESEARCHER AWARD

**At the 8th Annual NTD Conference 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2014 sovereign  
hotel –Kisumu**

### **KEMRI HONORS DISTINGUISHED SCIENTISTS FOR WORK ON NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES IN KENYA**

**Prof. Simon Brooker honored for outstanding contributions to Neglected  
Diseases Control Research in African and especially in Kenya, and for long term  
mentorship of Graduate Students and Kenyan Scientists since 1994**



**Simon Brooker** is Professor of Epidemiology and a Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellow at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine in the UK. His main research interests are the epidemiology, geography and control of infectious diseases, including neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) and malaria. He also has a keen interest in public engagement and the development of information and training resources and tools for NTD control, and developed the *Global Atlas of Helminth Infection* ([www.thiswormyworld.org](http://www.thiswormyworld.org)). Much of his research is conducted in close collaboration with national programmes and he has supported the work of national governments, international agencies and NGOs.

Between 2008 and 2013 he was based full time at KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme in Nairobi and continues to collaborate with KEMRI on a range of research projects, including epidemiological support for the Kenya national school-based deworming programme.

**Prof. Jefitha Karimurio honored for outstanding contributions to Trachoma Control Research in Kenya 1984.**



**Jefitha Karimurio** is an Ophthalmologist, associate professor and expert in trachoma control working at the Department of Ophthalmology of the University of Nairobi since 1995. He is married with 2 adult children aged 26 and 29 years. Prof. Karimurio was educated at the University of Nairobi, for his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (1984), Master of medicine in Ophthalmology (1990) and later at the University of Melbourne, Australia for his PhD in Ophthalmology (2012). In his clinical career spanning several decades, he has worked in several places in Kenya as a Medical officer (MO),

Medical Superintendent, Zonal Eye Surgeon Acting Provincial Medical office for Central Province Head of the Kenya Ophthalmic Programme (KOP) Co-Chairman for the Eastern African Sub- Region, 1999-2004 International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) World Health Organization prevention of blindness consultant to Eritrea, 2004 Prevention of blindness consultant to several NGOs and governments and has been the Lead consultant for Kenya trachoma mapping since 2004. He has published more than 30 articles in peer review journals Supervision of postgraduate research projects: 29 completed and 3 ongoing and facilitated many scientific conferences and workshops in his field of research.