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Thermo Fisher Scientific to create Centre of Excellence in South Africa

19 March 2024 | News

With focus on providing accredited learning modules and training programmes



The South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) and Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. have recently announced a collaborative effort through the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Their goal is to establish a Centre of Excellence and training programme focusing on molecular biology and life sciences in South Africa.

This collaboration aims to address the challenges faced by the African continent in enhancing the skills of graduates and laboratory personnel, particularly in practical applications and exposure to the latest technologies in molecular biology and life sciences.

Scheduled to launch in September 2024, the Centre of Excellence will be located in Pretoria, with a focus on providing accredited learning modules and training programmes covering various aspects such as general laboratory practice, theoretical science, bioinformatics, laboratory management, financial processes, and soft skills development.

Under the terms of the agreement, Thermo Fisher will supply the necessary consumables and instruments for the Centre of Excellence. SAMRC, on the other hand, will oversee the recruitment and support of student attendance, providing financial assistance and accommodation where necessary. Both parties will collaborate on designing a certified training programme curriculum, making use of Thermo Fisher's technical expertise in the sector.