

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT TO SUPPORT
THE EYE AND EAR HEALTH UNIT IN THE WHO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR AFRICA,
FROM 5th APRIL 2021 TO 5th JULY 2021**

Background

The global policy response to Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) has historically focused on the four primary NCDs causing premature death – cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases – and four main modifiable risk factors – tobacco and alcohol use, unhealthy diet, and physical inactivity. In 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations (UN) included mental health and air pollution as core components of the NCD response, which is now informally referred to as the ‘5x5’ approach. In addition, there are a range of conditions that share hallmarks and common risk factors with the most prominent NCDs, and which can benefit from common actions. These conditions include among other eye diseases, as recognized in the UN Political Declaration on NCDs in 2011, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2019 UN Political Declaration on Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Vision plays a critical role in every stage and facet of our lives. Global efforts to address NCDs have largely missed the major social and economic impacts of noncommunicable eye health conditions. With at least 2.2 billion people living with vision impairment or blindness in the world, and knowing that 1 billion of these people have a vision impairment or blindness that could have been prevented or treated, eye care should be integrated into the NCD and UHC responses through cost-effective interventions.

At the WHO Regional Office for Africa, Eye conditions are under the NCDs Management Programme. The Programme objectives are (i) to provide leadership, strategic oversight, and policy coherence and forge strategic partnerships for a multisectoral response to NCDs including Eye health through direct technical support and the provision of guidance documents and tools; (ii) to facilitate the development, monitoring and evaluation of NCD and Eye conditions national policies, strategies and plans by Member States, including the setting of priorities and influencing the health and development agenda, while ensuring that human rights, gender and equity are promoted; (iii) to provide technical assistance for strengthening health systems including capacity building to deliver integrated NCD services at Primary Health Care and all levels of care for UHC, including early diagnosis, screening and treatment of NCDs and risk factors; promoting eye, hearing, and oral health, and rehabilitation and disability services; and promoting and tracking cross-cutting end-to-end delivery to achieve impact; (iv) to support the building and maintenance of national and regional national information systems related to NCDs including data collection, analysis, and reporting to meet the requirements related to GPW13 and SDGs; (v) to work closely with other WHO Clusters Departments, Programmes and Country Offices, and with other UN agencies and partners, on all relevant issues related to NCDs, including data monitoring, resource mobilization and communications; to raise resources for NCDs and Mental Health;

To ensure implementation of effective measures to prevent and treat eye health conditions and other NCDs across the life course based on a solid PHC network accessible for all under the principle of UHC, the NCDs Programme decided to hire a consultant for three months in order to manage and supervise Eye Health activities into its biennial workplan.

Objectives, Tasks and key Deliverables

General Objective: To assist AFRO NCD Management Programme in managing and finalizing planned activities related to Eye health.

Tasks: The Consultant will work under the guidance of NCD Director and, under the coordination and supervision of the NCD Programme Coordinator. Specific tasks include:

- To develop for the WHO Academy a training curriculum and its content on Primary Eye Care (PEC).
- To organize a regional meeting to launch the World Report on vision and; coordinate national policy dialogue on how best to integrate Eye health in school health and how to identify the most appropriate.

- To draft a Regional framework to support the implementation of the WHA resolution on Integrated Primary Eye Care as well as the World Report on Vision recommendations at country and sub regional levels.

Key deliverables

- A training curriculum on PEC for the WHO Academy
- The content of the WHO Academy course on WHO AFRO PEC.
- The regional launch of the World Report on Vision undertaken, and the report is available.
- A draft a Regional framework to support the implementation of the WHA Resolution on Integrated primary Eye Care and the World Report on Vision recommendations at country and sub regional levels.

Qualifications and Skills

- Advanced Medical degree with specialization in Ophthalmology. A Post-graduate degree in Public health or Public-health-related discipline is an asset.
- Extensive area-specific, technical and programmatic knowledge of programmes and approaches for integrated capacity-Building programmes for Eye Health and Other Disabilities; working knowledge of district hospital care, Universal health coverage, in-service and pre-service training, Essential NCD drugs, PHC delivery systems; communication and ethical standards for personnel; Equity, diversity & human rights principles;
- Demonstrated ability to provide clear advice and guidance to multiple stakeholders and partners.
- At least 5 years' experience in developing, managing and/or providing medical advisory services for the control and elimination of Eye conditions through capacity building within Public Health Programmes, at the international and national level of which at least 3 years should be at the international level.
- Excellent knowledge of English and/or French with a good working knowledge of the other.

Place

The Consultant will work from His/Her country of residence. S/He will travel on mission representing AFRO, when requested.

Timeframe

5th April 2021 – 5th July 2021 (3 months part time working for 3 days a week)

Budget

WHO will, in consideration for the work pay a total of Fifteen thousand nine hundred American dollars (US\$15,900). This reflects US\$425 honorarium per day for three working days a week during the three months at P4 level plus US\$200 per month for miscellaneous costs (e.g. print, phone, internet connection).

In case the selected expert is requested to travel in relation with the assigned tasks, perdiems will be paid as well as a return ticket.

Payment Terms

A 25% (US\$3,975) advance payment will be paid upon signing the contract. The other 75% (US\$11,925) will be paid at the end of the consultancy upon completion and submission of a report. This last payment will be made upon certification by the authorized official that each phase of the work has been successfully completed.

Deadline for applications: 15 March 2021

Contact

Dr Jean-Marie DANGOUE

NCD Programme Coordinator, UCN Cluster/WHO AFRO

Cité Djoué, PO.Box: 06

Brazzaville (Congo)

Tel : +47 241 39344 ; Email : dangouj@who.int