



Revision of the National Guidelines for Meningitis

Request for Proposals (RFP)

Bid Reference

CD/IRN/03/18

Country/Unit Name

IRAN/CD

Closing Date:

April 9, 2025



The World Health Organization (WHO) is seeking offers for Revision of the National Guidelines for Meningitis .
Your ☐ Company ☒ Institution is invited to submit a proposal for the services in response to this Request for Proposals (RFP).

WHO is a public international organization, consisting of 194 Member States, and a Specialized Agency of the United Nations with the mandate to act as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work. As such, WHO is dependent on the budgetary and extra-budgetary contributions it receives for the implementation of its activities. Bidders are, therefore, requested to propose the best and most cost-effective solution to meet WHO requirements, while ensuring a high level of service.

1. Requirements

WHO requires the successful bidder, to carry out revision of the National guidelines for meningitis prevention .

See detailed Terms of Reference in Annex 1 for complete information.

The successful bidder shall be a ☐ for profit / ☒ not for profit institution operating in the field of public health and /or clinical management with proven expertise in vaccine preventable disease management and writing guidelines.

The successful bidder is expected to demonstrate experience and list relevant projects as follows:

Mandatory experience:

A public health research institution of national repute with inter-disciplinary team of experts and trainers.

Institute/Company Required Skills and Experience:

- Established at least for 5 years.
- Experience of writing guidelines and protocols
- Experiences in working with Ministry of Health and Medical Education.
- Having sound financial capacities:
 - Have a functional financial system in place with a bank account under the name of the institution.
 - Have sufficient fluid financial resources available.
- Having Sound Human Resources:
 - a head /team leader who is eligible for leading and accomplishing the tasks as specified below (Please see under: Head Team lead Required Skills and Experience).
 - competent staff/ member for field work, translation, and operational procedures of study
 - Staff with analytical, organizing, and communication skills, initiative, and sound judgment.
 - Staff with excellent command of English, both oral and written.
- In addition, the following would be an advantage:
 - Having staff with knowledge of infectious diseases including infectious diseases specialist or pediatrician
 - Experience of working with UN, especially WHO.

The bidder is expected to follow the instructions set forth below in the submission of their proposal to WHO.



2. Proposal

The proposal and all correspondence and documents relating thereto shall be prepared and submitted in the English language.

The proposal shall be concisely presented and structured to include the following information:

- Confidentiality Undertaking (please complete Annex 2)
- Presentation of your Company / Institution (please complete Annex 3)
- Proposed solution
- Proposed Approach/Methodology
- Proposed timeline
- Technical Proposal (please complete Annex 5)
- Financial Proposal – IRR (please complete Annex 6)
- Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators track record (please complete Annex 7)

Information which the bidder considers confidential, if any, should be clearly marked as such.

3. Instructions to Bidders

The bidder must follow the instructions set forth in this RFP in the submission of their proposal to WHO.

A prospective bidder requiring clarification on technical, contractual or commercial matters may notify WHO via email at the following address no later than March 29, 2025:

**Email for submissions of all queries: emacoiratenders@who.int
emacoiradcd@who.int
 (use Bid reference in subject line)**

A consolidated document of WHO's responses to all questions (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of enquiry) will be sent to all prospective bidders who have received the RFP.

From the date of issue of this RFP to the final selection, contact with WHO officials concerning the RFP process shall not be permitted, other than through the submission of queries and/or through a possible presentation or meeting called for by WHO, in accordance with the terms of this RFP.

The bidder shall submit, in writing, the complete proposal to WHO, no later than **April 9, 2025 at 17:00 hours Tehran time** ("the closing date"), by email at the following email address:

**emacoiratenders@who.int
 and emacoiradcd@who.int.
 (use Bid reference in subject line)**

To be complete, a proposal shall include:

- A technical proposal, as described under part 2 above (*Annex 5*)
- A financial proposal, as described under part 2 above (*Annex 6*)
- Annexes 2 & 3, duly completed and signed by a person or persons duly authorized to represent the bidder, to submit a proposal and to bind the bidder to the terms of this RFP.

Each proposal shall be marked Ref: CD/IRN/03/18 .



WHO may, at its own discretion, extend the closing date for the submission of proposals by notifying all bidders thereof in writing before the above closing date and time.

Any proposal received by WHO after the closing date for submission of proposals may be rejected. Bidders are therefore advised to ensure that they have taken all steps to submit their proposals in advance of the above closing date and time.

The offer outlined in the proposal must be valid for a minimum period of 90 calendar days after the closing date. A proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by WHO. In exceptional circumstances, WHO may solicit the bidder's consent to an extension of the period of validity. The request and the responses thereto shall be made in writing. Any bidder granting such an extension will not, however, be permitted to otherwise modify its proposal.

The bidder may withdraw its proposal any time after the proposal's submission and before the above mentioned closing date, provided that written notice of the withdrawal is received by WHO at the email address indicated above, before the closing date for submission of proposals.

No proposal may be modified after its submission, unless WHO has issued an amendment to the RFP allowing such modifications.

No proposal may be withdrawn in the interval between the closing date and the expiration of the period of proposal validity specified by the bidder in the proposal (subject always to the minimum period of validity referred to above).

WHO may, at any time before the closing date, for any reason, whether on its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a (prospective) bidder, modify the RFP by written amendment. Amendments could, *inter alia*, include modification of the project scope or requirements, the project timeline expectations and/or extension of the closing date for submission.

All prospective bidders that have received the RFP will be notified in writing of all amendments to the RFP and will, where applicable, be invited to amend their proposal accordingly.

All bidders must adhere to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct, which is available on the WHO procurement website at <http://www.who.int/about/finances-accountability/procurement/en/>.

4. Evaluation

Before conducting the technical and financial evaluation of the proposals received, WHO will perform a preliminary examination of these proposals to determine whether they are complete, whether any computational errors have been made, whether the documents have been properly signed, and whether the proposals are generally in order. Proposals which are not in order as aforesaid may be rejected.

The evaluation panel will evaluate the technical merits of all the proposals which have passed the preliminary examination of proposals based on the following weighting:

Technical Weighting:	70 % of total evaluation
Financial Weighting:	30 % of total evaluation

The technical evaluation of the proposals will include:

Addressing of WHO's requirements and expectations	20
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Quality of the overall proposal	30
Experience of the firm in carrying out related project	20
Qualifications and competence of the personnel proposed for the assignment	20
Proposed timeframe for the project	10
TOTAL	100

The scoring scale per criteria was defined as follows:

Criteria evaluated as:	Based on the following supporting evidence:	Corresponds to the score of:
Excellent	Excellent evidence of ability to exceed requirements	100%
Good	Good evidence of ability to exceed requirements	90%
Satisfactory	Satisfactory evidence of ability to support requirements	70%
Poor	Marginally acceptable or weak evidence of ability to support requirements	40%
Very Poor	Lack of evidence to demonstrate ability to comply with requirements	10%
No submission	Information has not been submitted or is unacceptable	0%

The number of points which can be obtained for each evaluation criterion is specified above and indicates the relative significance or weight of the item in the overall evaluation process.

A minimum of [70] points is required to pass the technical evaluation.

The final evaluation will combine the weighted scores of both technical and financial proposals to come up with a cumulative total score.

Please note that WHO is not bound to select any bidder and may reject all proposals. Furthermore, since a contract would be awarded in respect of the proposal which is considered most responsive to the needs of the project concerned, due consideration being given to WHO's general principles, including the principle of best value for money, WHO does not bind itself in any way to select the bidder offering the lowest price.

WHO may, at its discretion, ask any bidder for clarification of any part of its proposal. The request for clarification and the response shall be in writing. No change in price or substance of the proposal shall be sought, offered or permitted during this exchange.

NOTE: Individual contact between WHO and bidders is expressly prohibited both before and after the closing date for submission of proposals.

5. Award

WHO reserves the right to:

- Award the contract to a bidder of its choice, even if its bid is not the lowest;
- Award separate contracts for parts of the work, components or items, to one or more bidders of its choice, even if their bids are not the lowest;
- Accept or reject any proposal, and to annul the solicitation process and reject all proposals at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders and without any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for WHO's action;
- Award the contract on the basis of the Organization's particular objectives to a bidder whose proposal is considered to be the most responsive to the needs of the Organization and the activity concerned;
- Not award any contract at all.



WHO has the right to eliminate bids for technical or other reasons throughout the evaluation/selection process. WHO shall not in any way be obliged to reveal, or discuss with any bidder, how a proposal was assessed, or to provide any other information relating to the evaluation/selection process or to state the reasons for elimination to any bidder.

NOTE: WHO is acting in good faith by issuing this RFP. However, this document does not oblige WHO to contract for the performance of any work, nor for the supply of any products or services.

At any time during the evaluation/selection process, WHO reserves the right to modify the scope of the work, services and/or goods called for under this RFP. WHO shall notify the change to only those bidders who have not been officially eliminated due to technical reasons at that point in time.

WHO reserves the right at the time of award of contract to extend, reduce or otherwise revise the scope of the work, services and/or goods called for under this RFP without any change in the base price or other terms and conditions offered by the selected bidder.

WHO also reserves the right to enter into negotiations with one or more bidders of its choice, including but not limited to negotiation of the terms of the proposal(s), the price quoted in such proposal(s) and/or the deletion of certain parts of the work, components or items called for under this RFP.

Within 30 days of receipt of the contract between WHO and the successful bidder (the "Contract"), the successful bidder shall sign and date the Contract and return it to WHO according to the instructions provided at that time. If the bidder does not accept the Contract terms without changes, then WHO has the right not to proceed with the selected bidder and instead contract with another bidder of its choice. The Contract will include, without limitation, the provisions set forth in Annex 3.

Any and all of the contractor's (general and/or special) conditions of contract are hereby explicitly excluded from the Contract, i.e., regardless of whether such conditions are included in the Contractor's offer, or printed or referred to on the Contractor's letterhead, invoices and/or other material, documentation or communications.

We look forward to receiving your response to this RFP.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Omid Zamani

**Annexes**

1. Detailed Terms of Reference
2. Confidentiality Undertaking
3. Vendor Information Form
4. Contractual provisions
5. Technical Proposal Template
6. Financial Proposal
7. Principle Investigator and Co-Investigators track record template
8. Required Contractual Documents (For awarded bidders)



Annex 1: Detailed Terms of Reference

1. Purpose of the TSA

The aim of the present APW is to support the revision of National guidelines for meningitis prevention, management, surveillance and control as a vaccine preventable disease.

2. Background

Meningitis is a serious infectious disease that can cause inflammation of the membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord. It is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. In many countries, bacterial meningitis is the most common form of meningitis, and it can lead to severe complications, such as hearing loss, brain damage, and death.

Meningitis is a significant public health concern in Iran, with several outbreaks occurring in recent years.

According to data from the Iranian Ministry of Health, there were 1,039 cases of meningitis reported in the country in 2020. The highest incidence rates were seen in the provinces of Sistan and Baluchestan, Hormozgan, and Kerman. The majority of cases occurred in children under the age of five. The disease disproportionately affects young children, adolescents, and young adults, and it can have a severe impact on their health and well-being.

The World Health Organization (WHO) in 2018 released the “Meningococcus: Vaccine Preventable Diseases Surveillance Standards” for diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of meningitis. This guideline provides an opportunity for countries to update national standards of the meningitis, as well as to improve the care of children and adult.

Healthcare providers may have varying levels of knowledge and experience in managing the disease, and there may be differences in the availability and accessibility of diagnostic and treatment facilities across different regions of the country. Developing a national meningitis guideline will help to ensure that healthcare providers have access to the latest evidence-based information and recommendations, and that they can provide consistent, high-quality care to patients with meningitis.

In addition to improving patient care, developing a national meningitis guideline can have broader public health benefits. It can help to reduce the burden of disease and the associated costs of treatment, hospitalization, and rehabilitation. It can also help to prevent outbreaks of meningitis by promoting early detection and treatment, and by providing guidance on vaccination strategies and other prevention measures. It will help to ensure that healthcare providers have access to the latest evidence-based information and recommendations and ensure that patients with meningitis receive timely and appropriate care.

Thus, The Ministry of Health has identified the need to develop a national meningitis guideline based on WHO guideline to standardize the provision of quality care by the different levels of care and provide guidance to healthcare providers on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of meningitis in the country. Meningitis is a serious public health concern in the country, and the guideline will help to ensure that healthcare providers have access to the latest evidence-based information and recommendations.

The WHO country office for Iran plans to provide technical assistance to the ministry in this regard. The objective of this APW is to develop a comprehensive national meningitis guideline that provides guidance on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of meningitis in the country. The guideline should be based on the latest evidence and best practices and should be tailored to the local context and epidemiology of meningitis in the country.

3. Planned timelines (subject to confirmation)

Planned start date: 1 May, 2025

Planned end date: 31 October, 2025



Total Duration: 6 months

4. Requirements - Work to be performed

The following functions be performed under the different areas of work.

Output 1: Conducting a formative assessment to revise national guidelines for Meningitis prevention, diagnosis, care and treatment according to most recent global guidance and templates available.

- Deliverable 1.1: Advocate with the national EPI Office and a team of experts for authoring the guideline in a peer review process.
- Deliverable 1.2: Provide the list of authors and peer reviewers for the guideline, considering conflict of interest and ethical standards.
- Deliverable 1.3: Review the WHO guidelines and latest scientific recommendations on prevention and treatment of meningitis.
- Deliverable 1.4: Submit a report of literature review.

Output 2: Develop a national guideline and a quick reference tool draft for Meningitis prevention, diagnosis care and treatment for general physicians in public and private sectors.

- Deliverable 2.1: The Guideline should be a reference book to include:
 - Definitions (including symptoms of disease, course, prognosis, ...)
 - Prevention, mode(s) of transmission
 - Vaccination:
 - Schedules for vaccine injection
 - Technical issues of administration
 - Contraindications and precautions
 - Documentation, Monitoring & Reporting
 - Vaccine administration records
 - Reporting requirements (utilization, AEFI, AESI)
 - Medical management of vaccine reactions
 - Vaccination in persons with pre-existing conditions:
 - Pregnant women
 - Immunodeficiency
 -
 - Epidemiology (high risk group, trends, locations, ...)
 - Testing, diagnosis, and reporting requirements
 - Care and treatment (indications of treatment, type of treatment regimen, Drug side effects, drug interactions, treatment in especial groups and in co- infections, co- morbidity, follow up,)
 - Surveillance system
 - indicators, definitions of cases
 - data collection methods,
 - Reporting system and related forms
 - Investigation of suspected cases
 - Contact tracing and interventions
 - Prophylaxis (preventative treatment)
 - Surveillance integration within Public Health Care
 - Feedback to lower levels
 - Appendices
 - Vaccination Screening Checklist
 - Vaccine Information Statements (VISs)
 - Standing orders for vaccine



- Supplies you may need at clinic
- ...
- Deliverable 2.2: Draft a quick desk reference tool (based on the above guideline) for Meningitis prevention, diagnosis care and treatment for general physicians in public and private sectors, The quick reference should be a simple desk manual and include tables, diagrams and flow charts summarizing main topics in the guideline for easy reference of the physicians during daily work

Output 3: Facilitate a 1 consultative workshop for 10-15 target audience in public health system

- Deliverable 3.1: Prepare workshop materials (slides, checklists, ...)
- Deliverable 3.2: Prepare workshop report (summary of sessions, list of participants, feedback(s) of participants on the guideline)

Output 4: Finalize and submit the final Guidelines & Quick Desk Reference tool for meningitis prevention after feedback from the workshop

- Deliverable 4.1: Consolidate and analyse all the data gathered from the consultative **workshop**
- Deliverable 4.2: submit the final guidelines and reference tool for meningitis prevention and control
 - **All deliverables should be both in Farsi and English as requested by WHO for review and feedback.**
 - **All publications produced out of this work should follow WHO Publication policies and procedures, including Ethical Clearance, Open Access Policy, and Copyright holder will be WHO.**
 - **The content of the findings must be approved by the Centers for Communicable Disease Control (CDC) before publication.**

5. Requirements - Planning

The vendor must be in close contact with both the focal point of MoHME Center for Communicable Diseases Control and WHO country office focal point. The following reports are required to be shared with the office at the expected time.

the vendor may use below documents as guiding frameworks:

[Meningococcus: Vaccine Preventable Diseases Surveillance Standards](#)

[WHO handbook for guideline development](#), 2nd ed

Strengthening national evidence-informed guideline programs. [A tool for adapting and implementing guidelines](#)

6. Inputs

WHO country office will support the project financially and technically. The vendor is expected to work in dependently on the administration of the project and to provide feedback to the supervisor.

Remuneration:

Instalments	Date	Payment
Upon signature	0	20% of contractual amount
<i>first draft of guideline</i>	<i>2 months after signing contract</i>	50% of contractual amount
<i>final guideline and QDR</i>	<i>5 months after signing contract</i>	30% of contractual amount

- All reports should be reviewed and approved by CDC.
- All payments will be processed after written confirmation of CDC.

7. Activity Coordination & Reporting

The work will be supervised by:

CD/IRN/03/18



Technical issues:	For the purpose of Technical supervision, reporting and instructions		
Technical Officer:	Dr Omid Zamani , National Professional Officer, CD unit head Dr Maryam Salehi Alavi Immunization Officer	Email:	zamanio@who.int Salehim@who.int
Manager:	Dr Syed Jaffar Hussain , WHO representative of Iran	Email:	hussains@who.int
RO focal point	SHIBESHI, Messeret Eshetu	Email:	eshetum@who.int
Administrative issues:	For the purpose of Contractual and financial management of the contract		
	Mrs Pegah SEIFOSADAT , CD Program Assistant WHO-Iran Ms Sonia Tahmasebi , PA a.i.	Email:	emacoiradcd@who.int tahmesebis@who.int

8. Characteristics of the Provider

A public health research institution of national repute with inter-disciplinary team of experts and trainers.

Institute/Company Required Skills and Experience:

- Established at least for 5 years.
- Experience of writing guidelines and protocols
- Experiences in working with MOH.
- Having sound financial capacities:
 - Have a functional financial system in place with a bank account under the name of the institution.
 - Have sufficient fluid financial resources available.
- Having Sound Human Resources:
 - a head /team leader who is eligible for leading and accomplishing the tasks as specified below (Please see under: Head Team lead Required Skills and Experience).
 - competent staff/ member for field work, translation, and operational procedures of study
 - Staff with analytical, organizing, and communication skills, initiative, and sound judgment.
 - Staff with excellent command of English, both oral and written.
- In addition, the following would be an advantage:
 - Having staff with knowledge of infectious diseases including infectious diseases specialist or pediatrician
 - Experience of working with UN, especially WHO.

Head /Team Lead Required Skills and Experience

- Education:
 - Holds relevant advanced (PhD/MD) university degree (in medicine, epidemiology, or other similar fields)
- Desirable:
 - second degree in evidence-based medicine.



- specialized training in infectious diseases
- Experience
 - Has at least 5 years of experience of working in evidence-based medicine field.
 - Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with stakeholders, including healthcare providers, public health officials, and patient representatives.
- Languages
 - Is in full command of spoken and written Farsi.
 - Displays good command in communicating and drafting reports in English.

9. Place of assignment

This work can be done at supplier's preferred location with frequent meetings and contact with MOHME and WHO Office in Tehran, Iran.



Annex 2: Confidentiality Undertaking

1. The World Health Organization (WHO), acting through its Department of WCO IRAN-DCD Unit, has access to certain information relating to Revision of the National Guidelines for Meningitis which it considers to be proprietary to itself or to entities collaborating with it (hereinafter referred to as "the Information").
2. WHO is willing to provide the Information to the Undersigned for the purpose of allowing the Undersigned to prepare a response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for "supporting the revision of National guidelines for meningitis prevention, management, surveillance and control as a vaccine preventable disease" ("the Purpose"), provided that the Undersigned undertakes to treat the Information as confidential and proprietary, to use the Information only for the aforesaid Purpose and to disclose it only to persons who have a need to know for the Purpose and are bound by like obligations of confidentiality and non-use as are contained in this Undertaking.
3. The Undersigned undertakes to regard the Information as confidential and proprietary to WHO or parties collaborating with WHO, and agrees to take all reasonable measures to ensure that the Information is not used, disclosed or copied, in whole or in part, other than as provided in paragraph 2 above, except that the Undersigned shall not be bound by any such obligations if the Undersigned is clearly able to demonstrate that the Information:
 - a) was known to the Undersigned prior to any disclosure by WHO to the Undersigned (as evidenced by written records or other competent proof);
 - b) was in the public domain at the time of disclosure by or for WHO to the Undersigned;
 - c) becomes part of the public domain through no fault of the Undersigned; or
 - d) becomes available to the Undersigned from a third party not in breach of any legal obligations of confidentiality (as evidenced by written records or other competent proof).
4. The Undersigned further undertakes not to use the Information for any benefit, gain or advantage, including but not limited to trading or having others trading in securities on the Undersigned's behalf, giving trading advice or providing Information to third parties for trade in securities.
5. At WHO's request, the Undersigned shall promptly return any and all copies of the Information to WHO.
6. The obligations of the Undersigned shall be of indefinite duration and shall not cease on termination of the above mentioned RFP process.
7. Any dispute arising from or relating to this Undertaking, including its validity, interpretation, or application shall, unless amicably settled, be subject to conciliation. In the event of the dispute is not resolved by conciliation within thirty (30) days, the dispute shall be settled by arbitration. The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the modalities to be agreed upon by the Undersigned and WHO or, in the absence of agreement within thirty (30) days of written communication of the intent to commence arbitration, with the rules of arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce. The Undersigned and WHO shall accept the arbitral award as final.
8. Nothing in this Undertaking, and no disclosure of Information to the Undersigned pursuant to its terms, shall constitute, or be deemed to constitute, a waiver of any of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by WHO under national or international law, or as submitting WHO to any national court jurisdiction.

Acknowledged and Agreed:

Entity Name:
Mailing Address:
Name and Title of duly authorized representative:
Signature:
Date:

**Annex 3: Vendor Information Form**

Company Information to be provided by the Vendor submitting the proposal			
UNGM Vendor ID Number: <i>If available – Refer to WHO website for registration process*</i>			
Legal Company Name: <i>(Not trade name or DBA name)</i>			
Company Contact:			
Address:			
City:		State:	
Country:		Zip:	
Telephone Number:		Fax Number:	
Email Address:		Company Website:	
Corporate information:			
Company mission statement			
Service commitment to customers and measurements used <i>(if available)</i>			
Organization structure (include description of those parts of your organization that would be involved in the performance of the work)			
Relevant experience (how could your expertise contribute to WHO's needs for the purpose of this RFP) – <i>Please attach reference and contact details</i>			
Staffing information			

* <http://www.who.int/about/finances-accountability/procurement/en/>

Annex 4: Contractual Provisions

Within 30 days of receipt of the contract between WHO and the successful bidder (the “Contract”), the successful bidder shall sign and date the Contract and return it to WHO according to the instructions provided at that time. If the bidder does not accept the Contract terms without changes, then WHO has the right not to proceed with the selected bidder and instead contract with another bidder of its choice. The Contract will include, without limitation, the provisions set forth below (with the successful bidder referred to below as the “Contractor”):

1. **Compliance with WHO Codes and Policies.** By entering into the Contract, the Contractor acknowledges that it has read, and hereby accepts and agrees to comply with, the WHO Policies (as defined below). In connection with the foregoing, the Contractor shall take appropriate measures to prevent and respond to any violations of the standards of conduct, as described in the WHO Policies, by its employees and any other natural or legal persons engaged or otherwise utilized to perform any services under the Contract.

Without limiting the foregoing, the Contractor shall promptly report to WHO, in accordance with the terms of the applicable WHO Policies, any actual or suspected violations of any WHO Policies of which the Contractor becomes aware.

For purposes of the Contract, the term “WHO Policies” means collectively: (i) the WHO Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct; (ii) the WHO Policy Directive on Protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (SEA); (iii) the WHO Policy on Preventing and Addressing Abusive Conduct; (iv) the WHO Code of Conduct for responsible Research; (v) the WHO Policy on Whistleblowing and Protection Against Retaliation; (vi) the WHO Policy on Prevention, Detection and Response to Fraud and Corruption, and (vii) the UN Supplier Code of Conduct, in each case, as amended from time to time and which are publicly available on the WHO website at the following links: <http://www.who.int/about/finances-accountability/procurement/en/> for the UN Supplier Code of Conduct and at <http://www.who.int/about/ethics/en/> for the other WHO Policies.

2. **Zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment and other types of abusive conduct.** WHO has zero tolerance towards sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment and other types of abusive conduct. In this regard, and without limiting any other provisions contained herein:

(i) each legal entity Contractor warrants that it will: (i) take all reasonable and appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation or abuse as described in the WHO Policy Directive on Protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (SEA), and/or sexual harassment and other types of abusive conduct as described in the WHO Policy on Preventing and Addressing Abusive Conduct by any of its employees and any other natural or legal persons engaged or otherwise utilized to perform the work under the Contract; and (ii) promptly report to WHO and respond to, in accordance with the terms of the respective Policies, any actual or suspected violations of either Policy of which the Contractor becomes aware; and

(ii) each individual Contractor warrants that he/she will (i) not engage in any conduct that would constitute sexual exploitation or abuse as described in the WHO Policy Directive on Protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (SEA), and/or sexual harassment and other types of abusive conduct as described in the WHO Policy on Preventing and Addressing Abusive Conduct. Without limiting the foregoing, the individual Contractor shall promptly report to WHO, in accordance with the terms of the respective Policies, any actual or suspected violations of either Policy of which the individual Contractor becomes aware.

3. **Tobacco/Arms Related Disclosure Statement.** The Contractor may be required to disclose relationships it may have with the tobacco and/or arms industry through completion of the WHO Tobacco/Arms

Disclosure Statement. In the event WHO requires completion of this Statement, the Contractor undertakes not to permit work on the Contract to commence, until WHO has assessed the disclosed information and confirmed to the Contractor in writing that the work can commence.

4. **Anti-Terrorism and UN Sanctions; Fraud and Corruption.** The Contractor warrants for the entire duration of the Contract that:

- i. it is not and shall not be involved in, or associated with, any person or entity associated with terrorism, as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime, that it shall not make any payment or provide any other support to any such person or entity and that it shall not enter into any employment or other contractual relationship with any such person or entity;
- ii. it shall not engage in any fraudulent or corrupt practices, as defined in the WHO Policy on Prevention, Detection and Response to Fraud and Corruption, in connection with the execution of the Contract;
- iii. it shall take all necessary measures to prevent the financing of terrorism and/or any fraudulent or corrupt practices as referred to above in connection with the execution of the Contract; and
- iv. it shall promptly report to WHO, through the WHO Integrity Hotline or directly to the WHO Office of Internal Oversight Services (IOS), any credible allegations of actual or suspected fraudulent or corrupt practices, as defined in the WHO Policy on Prevention, Detection and Response to Fraud and Corruption of which the Contractor becomes aware and respond to such allegations in an appropriate and timely manner in accordance with its respective rules, regulations, policies and procedures. Furthermore, the Contractor agrees to cooperate with WHO and/or parties authorized by WHO in relation to the response. Relevant information on the nature of any credible allegations of such actual or suspected violations, as well as the details of the intended response and the outcome of any such response, should be communicated and coordinated with WHO, with the understanding that, subject to the terms of the WHO Policy on Prevention, Detection and Response to Fraud and Corruption, confidentiality and the due process rights of those involved will be respected.

In the event that any resources, assets and/or funds provided to or acquired by the Contractor under the Contract are found to have been used by the Contractor, its employees or any other natural or legal persons engaged or otherwise utilized to perform any work under the Contract, to finance, support or conduct any terrorist activity or any fraudulent or corrupt practices, the Contractor shall promptly reimburse and indemnify WHO for such resources, assets and/or funds (including any liability arising from such use).

5. **Breach of essential terms.** The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that each of the provisions of paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 above constitutes an essential term of the Contract, and that in case of breach of any of these provisions, WHO may, in its sole discretion, decide to:

- i. terminate the Contract, and/or any other contract concluded by WHO with the Contractor, immediately upon written notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind; and/or
- ii. exclude the Contractor from participating in any ongoing or future tenders and/or entering into any future contractual or collaborative relationships with WHO.

WHO shall be entitled to report any violation of such provisions to WHO's governing bodies, other UN agencies, and/or donors.

6. **Use of WHO Name and Emblem.** Without WHO's prior written approval, the Contractor shall not, in any statement or material of an advertising or promotional nature, refer to the Contract or the Contractor's relationship with WHO, or otherwise use the name (or any abbreviation thereof) and/or emblem of the World Health Organization.

7. **Assurances regarding procurement.** If the option for payment of a maximum amount applies, to the extent the Contractor is required to purchase any goods and/or services in connection with its performance of the Contract, the Contractor shall ensure that such goods and/or services shall be procured in accordance with the principle of best value for money. "Best value for money" means the responsive offer that is the best combination of technical specifications, quality and price.

8. **Audit and Investigations.** WHO may request a financial and operational review or audit of the work performed under the Contract, to be conducted by WHO and/or parties authorized by WHO, and the Contractor undertakes to facilitate such review or audit. This review or audit may be carried out at any time during the implementation of the work performed under the Contract, or within five years of completion of the work. In order to facilitate such financial and operational review or audit, the Contractor shall keep accurate and systematic accounts and records in respect of the work performed under the Contract. Similarly, WHO may initiate an investigation into credible allegations of fraud and corruption and other forms of misconduct based on information received in accordance with its respective policies, procedures and rules.

In this context, the Contractor shall make available, without restriction, to WHO and/or parties authorized by WHO:

- i. the Contractor's books, records and systems (including all relevant financial and operational information) relating to the Contract; and
- ii. reasonable access to the Contractor's premises and personnel.

The Contractor shall provide satisfactory explanations to all queries arising in connection with the aforementioned audit and access rights.

WHO may request the Contractor to provide complementary information about the work performed under the Contract that is reasonably available, including the findings and results of an audit (internal or external) conducted by the Contractor and related to the work performed under the Contract.

9. **Publication of Contract.** Subject to considerations of confidentiality, WHO may acknowledge the existence of the Contract to the public and publish and/or otherwise publicly disclose the Contractor's name and country of incorporation, general information with respect to the work described herein and the Contract value. Such disclosure will be made in accordance with WHO's Information Disclosure Policy and shall be consistent with the terms of the Contract.

**Annex 5: Technical Proposal Template**

Find the document in the link below:

<HTTPS://DRIVE.GOOGLE.COM/DRIVE/FOLDERS/1FVVOL9KSROV-FWBHZDB6M3ZKGLXC2ENT?USP=SHARING>

Annex 6: Financial Proposal

to be completed at the time of submission, found here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1drns7uRHP8eQpwndfiiQi_A560ZQwsa7j?usp=sharing

Annex 7: Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators track record template

to be completed at the time of submission, found here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1g3VyctwUoBCtxdrLg-1eeDFmwcw7QsvQ?usp=sharing>

Annex 8: Required contractual documents

The awarded bidder needs to provide the documents in the link below:

<HTTPS://DRIVE.GOOGLE.COM/DRIVE/FOLDERS/10TONFNGLTOQNWTO4WSW1TBXWCZI5D0J0?USP=SHARING>