**WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION**



*Terms of Reference*

*for*

**Technical Officer (Epidemiologist)**

Type of contract: **Special Services Agreement (SSA)**

Location: **Irbid, JORDAN**

Level: **NO-B**

Duration: **Until 31 December 2013, subject to renewal, according to availability** .  **of funds**

**Objectives of the programme**:

To ensure that effective WHO country presence is established to implement WHO country cooperation strategies that are aligned with Member State’s health and development agendas, and harmonized with the United Nations country teams.

The objectives of WHO's emergency humanitarian action (EHA) program in Jordan are as follows:

1. promptly assessing health needs of populations affected by crisis, identifying priority causes of ill-health and death;  preparing damage estimates and emergency response and rehabilitation plans;  providing prompt, credible health information and ensuring the continuity of essential health services;
2. coordinating and monitoring emergency health relief efforts under the aegis of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Health Cluster, of which WHO is the lead agency;
3. ensuring that critical gaps in the health response are rapidly identified and filled;
4. revitalizing and building the capacity of national health systems to deal with preparedness, mitigation and response.

**Purpose of the function:**

To provide support and assistance to develop, operationalize and monitor implementation of public health surveillance and response programme for emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases with special focus on early detection, verification and rapid response to epidemics and other public health events of international concern.

**Duties & Responsibilities:**

Under the supervision of the Field Office Coordinator and the overall oversight of the WR, the SSA holder shall perform the following duties:

1. Collect and verify information on reported outbreaks or rumor from emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases and draft consolidated reports on disease outbreak situations ;
2. Maintain an event management system database of reported outbreaks and public health events and document all steps taken in the verification and response process
3. Draft disease outbreak news, updates and assessments for submission to WR;
4. Organize and conduct training courses for health care workers on field investigation, surveillance and response to outbreaks;
5. Provide operational and logistics support for organizing technical missions for field investigation of outbreaks as required;
6. Perform rapid field assessment, risk assessment and investigation for specific priority diseases, as required;
7. Provide input to the development of guidelines for epidemic control; Provide feedback on gaps and/or problems related to proper functioning of an early warning and response system for epidemic and pandemic-prone diseases;
8. Liaise with the local national health authorities for dissemination of technical documents, guidelines and protocols on prevention and control of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases
9. Any other tasks / duties as needed by the WR and the field office coordinator.

**Competencies:**

1. Communicating in a credible and effective way
2. Producing results
3. Fostering integration and teamwork
4. Respecting and promoting individual and cultural differences

**Required Skills and Experience:**

**Functional Skills and Knowledge:** Demonstrated knowledge and skills on monitoring public health programmes for communicable disease control. Ability to write reports on outbreaks and interpret epidemiological surveillance data. Good presentation and writing skills.

**Education:**

**Essential:** University degree in medicine.

**Desirable:** Training/specialization in epidemiology.

**Experience:**

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| **Essential:** At least 3 years of experience in the area of communicable diseases. |
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| **Desirable:** Relevant international work experience in the areas of communicable disease control. |

**Languages:**

Excellent knowledge of English and Arabic.

**Other Skills:**

Demonstrable skills in the use of epidemiological and statistical software.

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*Interested candidates should send their CVs to* [*emwrojor@who.int*](mailto:emwrojor@who.int) *maximum by 9 November 2013. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.*  Local residents are highly-desirable.