

Technical Officer - (1700485)

Grade: P5

Contractual Arrangement: Temporary Appointment under Staff Rule 420.4

Contract duration: 1 Year

Posting Date Apr 6, 2017

Closing Date Apr 27, 2017

Primary Location Switzerland-Geneva

Organization HQ/IHM Infectious Hazard Management

Schedule Full-time

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

The mission of WHO's Health Emergencies Programme (The Programme) is to build the capacity of Member States to manage health emergency risks and, when national capacities are overwhelmed, to lead and coordinate the international health response to contain outbreaks and to provide effective relief and recovery to affected populations. Infectious Hazard Management (IHM) supports countries in prevention and control of high threat diseases of pandemic & epidemic potential through forecasting, characterization of diseases/infectious risks and development of evidence-based strategies to manage infectious hazards. Experts Networks & Interventions (ENI) builds on a set of technical assets to ensure access to knowledge and life-saving interventions to address any emerging pathogens.

It includes but is not limited to:

- (i) managing expert networks to rapidly characterize the threats and define mitigation measures,
- (ii) facilitating the production of high quality, evidence-based guidance, its dissemination to affected countries, and the transfer of knowledge to implementing partners, and
- (iii) ensuring the availability of life-saving interventions (vaccine, treatments and diagnostic) during emergencies due to infectious hazards.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

Within the framework of the delegated authority, the incumbent is assigned all or part of the following responsibilities:

1. Lead the development of a network of social scientists and partners to facilitate the integration of the cultural/societal components in outbreak investigation, risk communication, preparedness, response strategies and operations.
2. Coordinate and guide the development of guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for front line responders and communities to address the social amplification of risk and improve cultural relevance, acceptability and efficacy of outbreak investigation, and preparedness and response interventions.
3. Implement and manage an interactive global social and political scientist network that communicate and disseminate information on "real time basis" and efficient sharing of findings for improve epidemic policy/strategies development as well as risk communication.
4. Develop guidance, SOPs and related tools to transfer knowledge to front line responders on the cultural elements of the response and /or ensure that the cultural/social aspects are embedded in technical guidance.
5. Coordinate/guide the development of conceptual and theoretical framework for risk communication and community engagement during infectious hazards emergencies. Develop related strategies, tools and mechanism to ensure community engagement during outbreak response.
6. Link with other groups within and beyond WHO to promote cultural adaptation of response strategies and interventions.
7. Implement and manage an interactive global network of technical experts and liaison with WHO regional and country offices to develop and monitor innovative processes to ensure optimal and timely dissemination of technical knowledge.
8. Ensure the highest level of technical accuracy and evidence-based of technical emergency guidance.
9. Plan, manage and monitor the activities of the component so that activities reflect the administrative and budgetary standards, guidelines, priorities and directions. Coordinate the work of the team and its interaction with other teams so that the work is technically excellent, effectively and efficiently conducted, and completed to a high standard.
10. Provide leadership and guidance to staff and ensure appropriate performance management and empower and motivate staff to use and support multi-disciplinary, cross cutting approaches to work where beneficial for accomplishing goals. Oversee the development and continuous adaptation of strategies, encouraging information sharing on lessons learnt in a proactive manner, facilitating the implementation of best practices, collaborating to the development of work plans and budgets.
11. Perform other related duties including replacing and backstopping as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education

Essential: Advanced university degree in medicine or public health or related field.

Desirable: A post-graduate degree in international policy, or social sciences, or related field.

Experience

Essential: Minimum 10 years of progressive experience including the majority of these at international level in the field of emergency response or other related field.

Proven experience in developing networks with social scientists and training of emergency response personnel.

At least five years of experience at an international level.

Desirable: Familiarity with WHO policies, strategies and approached related to emergency response.

Skills

- Ability to strategize, manage and implement activities in the related areas of social science intervention.
- Good leadership skills, ability to work independently and with a sense of responsibility.
- High degree of professionalism and ability to work under pressure and to deadline.
- Excellent advocacy skills, management and human relations.
- Ability to network, negotiate and build partnerships.

- Knowledge of WHO's policies and programmes and direct experience in emergency response work.
- Demonstrated effectiveness in building sustained partnerships and working with others in international settings.

WHO Competencies

- Fostering integration and teamwork
- Respecting and promoting individual and cultural differences
- Communicating in a credible and effective way
- Producing results
- Setting an example
- Creating an empowering and motivating environment

Use of Language Skills

Essential: Expert knowledge of English.

Desirable: Intermediate knowledge of French.

REMUNERATION

WHO salaries for staff in the Professional category are calculated in US dollars. The remuneration for the above position comprises an annual base salary starting at USD 82,586 (subject to mandatory deductions for pension contributions and health insurance, as applicable), a variable post adjustment, which reflects the cost of living in a particular duty station, and currently amounts to USD 5458 per month for the duty station indicated above. Other benefits include 30 days of annual leave, allowances for dependent family members, home leave, and an education grant for dependent children.

Please note that the compensation package for Professional and higher category staff in the UN common system is currently undergoing changes in accordance with UN General Assembly resolution 70/244 of 23 December 2015. The remuneration amounts indicated above are, therefore, subject to change. The changes will be implemented, retroactively to 1 January 2017, through the WHO payroll. General information can be obtained from the ICSC web site under <http://icsc.un.org/> that provides a link to "Your new Compensation Package".

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- This vacancy notice may be used to fill other similar positions at the same grade level
- Only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted.
- A written test may be used as a form of screening.
- In the event that your candidature is retained for an interview, you will be required to provide, in advance, a scanned copy of the degree(s)/diploma (s)/certificate(s) required for this position. WHO only considers higher educational qualifications obtained from an institution accredited/recognized in the World Higher Education Database (WHED), a list updated by the International Association of Universities (IAU)/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The list can be accessed through the link: <http://www.whed.net/>. Some professional certificates may not appear in the WHED and will require individual review.
- Any appointment/extension of appointment is subject to WHO Staff Regulations, Staff Rules and Manual.
- For information on WHO's operations please visit: <http://www.who.int>.
- WHO is committed to workforce diversity.
- WHO has a smoke-free environment and does not recruit smokers or users of any form of tobacco.
- WHO has a mobility policy which can be found at the following link: <http://www.who.int/employment/en/>. Candidates appointed to an international post with WHO are subject to mobility and may be assigned to any activity or duty station of the Organization throughout the world.
 - Applications from women and from nationals of non and underrepresented Member States are particularly encouraged.