INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR ASSESSMENT, ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTES WITHIN THE MEMBER STATES

Reference No.: AUC/SAD/C/167

Background

Because of the health challenges faced by the African continent and the necessity for an accountability framework for health security to protect citizens of the continent, the African Union (AU) Heads of States and Governments (AU HoSG) endorsed the establishment of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) through **Assembly Decision /AU/Dec.554 (XXIV)**. The Africa CDC, a specialised agency of the AU, was officially launched on 31st January 2017. The mission of the Africa CDC, in coordination with the Regional Collaborating Centres (RCCs), is to support Member States to improve the health of the people through prevention of infection, surveillance and response to emergencies (including outbreaks, man-made and natural disasters, and public health events of regional and international concern), and capacity building to reduce disease burden on the continent.

In the past few months Africa has experienced a number of epidemics including the yellow fever in Angola, Lassa fever and Meningitis in Nigeria, malaria in southern Africa, Ebola in Congo DR and others. Pursuant to Article 3 (2) of its Statute (approved by **Assembly Decision /AU/Dec.589 (XXVI)**) which states that among its strategic objectives, the Africa CDC shall "support public health emergency preparedness and response and Article 24, stating that: "In the execution of its strategic work plan, Regional Collaborating Centres (RCC) shall support the Africa CDC. The collaboration and support of the Regional Collaborating Centres is to ultimately bring into reality an "Africa CDC without walls" that supports the continent at the point of need, rather than from a centralized, distant location", the Africa CDC plans to assist Member States in establishing and strengthening fully functional National Public Health Institutes in all the Member States as capacity building and support.

The Africa CDC, through the RCC, will provide support to the Member States within each region in establishing/strengthening National Public Health Institutes in the following areas:

- 1. Surveillance and Disease Intelligence
- 2. Information Systems
- 3. Laboratory Systems and Networks
- 4. Preparedness and Response, Emergency Operation Centres and
- 5. Public Health Research

Objective of the Assignment

The objective of the consultancy is to assess the organizational structures and program priorities of NPHIs on the continent, with the aim of assisting Member States to ensure that NPHIs become fully established and functional.

Scope of the Assignment

The consultant will:

- a) Conduct a desk review of Member States that have functional National Public Health Institution or are in the process of planning and establishing the NPHI;
- b) Develop a framework and a roadmap for the establishment of NPHI which could be adopted by Member States;
- c) Assist Member States in the planning and establishment of NPHI taking into account the Africa CDC governance structures;
- d) Provide Technical support and mentorship to Member States in the process of developing/strengthening NPHI;
- e) Identify technical and capacity gaps, and develop training programmes for NPHI;
- f) Develop framework for monitoring and evaluation of establishing/ strengthening of NPHIs in member states.
- g) Duration of the assignment is 12 weeks.

Key Deliverables and schedule

	Activities	August				September				October			
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1	Report on the Member States with functional NPHI on the Continent												
2	Document on countries in different levels of NPHI establishment and/or implementation process i.e. Planning phase, development phase and implementation phase												
3	Framework/ roadmap on establishment of NPHI on the continent												
4	Standards, Protocols and training curriculum for NPHI capacity building												
5	Provide Technical support and mentorship to Member States in the process of developing/strengthening NPHI;												

Qualification and Experience

The Consultant would be selected based on the following minimum educational and experience criteria:

Education

- Master's degree or higher in a Public health- preferably with at least a degree in Epidemiology, health systems management or other related field is a must and
- Certificate or higher of attendance or training in public health policy, or business and administration will be an added advantage

Experience

- Proven experience and track records in developing at least Public Health documents for policy implementation;
- At least five (5) years of experience at national and/or international level of progressively responsible experience in development of actions plans/national strategies/strategic plans preferably in Africa;
- At least 5 years of Health systems Strengthening experience, preferably in the global or national public health sector, with demonstrated recent successes in meeting client requirements in completing complex projects;

- At least 5 years of experience working in a multilateral or bilateral agency in which programs or initiatives required diplomatic coordination between governments or Ministries bodies;
- Significant experience working on the African continent, preferably including experience with or exposure to the African Union.

Required Skills

- Strong understanding business principals and public health functions
- Demonstrated effectiveness in oral, written, and interpersonal communication
- Demonstrated management and leadership skills
- Demonstrated collaboration skills
- Demonstrated analytical, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills
- Conflict resolution and negotiation skills
- Proven writing skills + computer literacy;
- Fluency in English and/or French and any other African Union recognised language

The African Union Commission now invites eligible **Individual Consultants** to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested candidate must provide information demonstrating that he/she has the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. Consulting firms may propose individual consultant, but only the experience and qualifications of individual shall be used in the selection process, and that his or her corporate experience shall not be taken into account, and the contract would be signed with the proposed individual.

For evaluation of the expressions of interest the following criteria will be applied:

- a) General Education Qualification and Relevant Training (20 points);
- b) Experience Related to the Assignment (25 points);
- c) Technical approach and methodology (45 points)
- d) Work plan (10 points)

Interested candidates are requested to submit the following documents for AUC's consideration as an attachment to the CVs:

- a) Technical Proposal on:
 - understanding and interpretation of the TOR
 - methodology to be used in undertaking the assignment
 - time and activity schedule
- b) Financial proposal
 - Consultant's daily rate in US\$
 - Other costs e.g. travel
 - Total cost

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 8:00-13:00hrs and 14:00-17:00 hours Local Time.

Proposal must be delivered in a written form to the address below not later than 15:00 hours local time, August 04, 2017.

African Union Commission, Attn: Carine Toure Yemitia (Mrs.) Head of Procurement Travel and Store Division Building C, Room 327

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