Template for Short-term Opportunities

Stellis CVs of interested applicants must be sent to: Dr Simone Moraes Raszl at raszlsim@who.int

1. Division/Dept/Unit	2. Supervisor
UHC/HEP/NFS/AFS	Dr Simone Moraes Raszl
3. Contract dates	4. Contract type
November 2022 to January 2023	Consultant

5. Location

Off site: Home-based

Acceptable time difference: +/- 4hours

6. Travel

N/A

7. Remuneration and budget (travel costs excluded) – to note that a retiree cannot be offered a contract at a level higher than the grade held upon retirement

Remuneration: Band level B - USD 7,000 – 9,980 per month. Full-time.

8. Purpose of Consultant contract

Objectives of the Programme:

Data and science are at the centre for evidence-based decision-making and resources allocation at the global, regional, and country level. However, the availability and quality of foodborne diseases data go hand in hand with countries capacity in both laboratory techniques and epidemiological knowledge.

A WHO survey conducted in 1994 revealed a lack of basic infrastructure for laboratory-based Salmonella surveillance in up to one third of WHO Member States. Recognizing the public health importance of foodborne disease, including Salmonella, and the need to enhance capacity for laboratory-based surveillance, WHO, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Danish National Food Institute (DTU) founded WHO Global Salmonella Surveillance (WHO Global Salm-Surv, GSS) in January 2000. With the global changes in food supply, there was a need to expand its scope to diseases caused by other foodborne pathogens. GSS was renamed as Global Foodborne Infections Network (GFN) in 2009. GFN was previously developed to enhance countries' capacity in foodborne diseases surveillance.

The new WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety 2022-2030 adopted by the 75th World Health Assembly in May 2022, establishes three indicators. The impact indicator is the foodborne diarrheal disease incidence estimated per 100 000 and has a target for 40% reduction in the global average until 2030 (baseline 2010). The progress indicators are multisectoral collaboration mechanism for food safety events; this is the food safety indicator of the IHR (2005) state party self-assessment annual reporting tool (since 2018). It measures the capacity to detect, investigate and respond to food safety events and is annually reported by all member states as mandated with a high response rate (88%) in 2019. The second progress indicator is related to national surveillance systems in place for the detection and monitoring of foodborne disease and food contamination; this is one of the food safety capacity indicators under the International Health Regulation (2005) (IHR, 2005). It measures the capacity to detect food safety events and is monitored through the Joint External Evaluation (JEE)1 process (voluntary, national self-assessment and external mission assessment).

Considering the increased laboratory capacity as result of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic and with the momentum of the new WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety 2022-2030, WHO is exploring to revive the GFN as one important programme to support the implementation of the strategy and further enhance the generation, collection, usage, and interpretation of the data from foodborne and other enteric infections.

Deliverables:

The selected consultant will work on the following deliverables:

• Report on where GFN stands now, active members, origin of funds of the activities and what led to its decline in the past years

¹ The Global Health Observatory. Food safety (IRH 2010–2017). World Health Organization (WHO). https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/food-safety.

- Recommendation on what is needed to reactivate GFN and if it should be rebranded
- Recommendation on how can GFN (or other networks) contribute to the global target of surveillance of foodborne diseases
- Recommendation on how the food monitoring component can be integrated with foodborne surveillance
- Proposed road map for the reactivation of GFN

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

Education:

Essential: Minimum first university degree in food safety or related area **Desirable**: Advanced university degree in food safety or public health.

Experience

Essential: Minimum 5 years' experience in foodborne surveillance analytical methodologies

Desirable: Experience in international organizations

Use of Language Skills

Essential: Expert knowledge of English with excellent communication and writing skills.

Desirable: Intermediate knowledge of other UN official language.

Date: 11 October 2022