

The mission of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health.

Vacancy Notice No: HQ/14/HSE/TA198

Date: 4 December 2014

Title: Project Officer

Application Deadline: **31 December 2014**

Grade: P3

Duty Station: Geneva, Switzerland

Contract type: Temporary appointment

Organization unit: HQ/HSE Health Security and Environment (HQ/HSE) /

Duration of contract: 12 months

HQ/FOS Food Safety, Zoonoses and Foodborne Diseases (HQ/FOS)

### OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME :

The overall objective of the Department of Food Safety and Zoonoses (FOS) is to lower the burden of foodborne diseases thereby strengthening health security and ensuring sustainable development of Member States.

#### Description of duties:

Provide technical guidance to the Global Foodborne Infections Network (GFN) working groups responsible for the External Quality Control System (EQAS), Laboratory protocols, development of laboratory based training materials, analysis of microbiological data, and mentoring GFN and the WHO Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (AGISAR) laboratory-based surveillance projects. Support the GFN coordinator in the day to day operations and management of GFN. Provide project management and operations support to the day-to-day work of AGISAR. Assist in the monitoring and evaluation of capacity building activities within GFN. Assist in the organisation of expert consultations for provision of scientific advice in areas related to foodborne disease. Assist in fostering partnerships with international organizations, networks, academia, foundations and other stakeholders. Provide technical support to the departmental response to zoonotic and food safety emergency activities. Assist in the writing of grant and project proposals, and development of partnerships with potential donors and internal and external collaborators. Provide support to other activities of the department as required. Perform all other related duties as assigned.

### REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

#### Education:

Essential: A first university degree in micorbiology.

Desirable: Post-graduate training in epidemiology/ public health with a focus on the development of disease surveillance systems. Project management training.

WHO only considers higher educational qualifications obtained from an accredited institution.

#### Skills:

An excellent understanding of international food safety issues and of the surveillance of foodborne diseases and the role of the diagnostic laboratories. An understating of a) emerging technologies in the field of microbiology related to foodborne disease, and b) the role of WHO in food safety. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, including working efficiently in multi-cultural teams. Excellent organization and management skills. Excellent knowledge of MS Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Adobe Suite- Excellent English writing skills.

Experience:

Essential: At least 5 years of work experience at the national and international levels. Experience in setting up, managing or strengthening laboratory-based surveillance systems. Experience in delivering practical and experiential laboratory training courses. Experience in working in the area of foodborne diseases surveillance. Experience in working with multiple stakeholders and achieving consensus on technical and/or strategic issues.

Desirable: Experience of developing laboratory-based training courses and online training courses. Knowledge of Whole Genome Sequencing and its application to foodborne diseases. Experience in coordinating/ managing surveillance or laboratory networks. Experience in working in developing countries. Experience in working with national and international agencies active in the field of food safety and/or public health. Experience in WHO or other UN agencies.

Languages:

Essential: Expert knowledge of English.

Additional Information:

WHO's salaries are calculated in US dollars. They consist of a base salary and a post adjustment, which reflects the cost of living in a particular duty station and exchange rates. Other benefits include: 30 days annual leave, family allowance, home travel, education grant for dependent children, pension plan and medical insurance.

This vacancy is published in English only.

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.

Please visit the following websites for detailed information on working with WHO:

<http://www.who.int> (To learn more about WHO's operations) and <http://icsc.un.org> Click on: Quick Links > Salary Scales > by date

Annual salary: (Net of tax)

USD 56,198 at single rate

USD 60,205 with primary dependants

Post Adjustment: 93.1 % of the above figure(s). This percentage is to be considered as indicative since variations may occur each month either upwards or downwards due to currency exchange rate fluctuations or inflation.

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This vacancy notice may be used to fill other similar positions at the same grade level.

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Online applications are strongly encouraged to enable WHO to store your profile in a permanent database. Please visit WHO's e-Recruitment website at: [www.who.int/employment](http://www.who.int/employment). The system provides instructions for online application procedures.

All applicants are encouraged to apply online as soon as possible after the vacancy has been posted and well before the deadline stated in the vacancy announcement.

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WHO is committed to workforce diversity.

Any appointment/extension of appointment is subject to WHO Staff Regulations, Staff Rules and Manual. Only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted.

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Currently accepting applications



WHO has a smoke-free environment and does not recruit smokers or users of any form of tobacco.