Agreement for Performance of Work

Rapid Assessment of Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS)-Related Practices in Primary Health Care Settings and Development of Manual of Procedures on AMS for Primary Health Care Settings

Terms of Reference

This consultancy is requested by:

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<th>Unit:</th>
<th>HSS/EMT</th>
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<td>Division:</td>
<td>WCO PHL</td>
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1. **Purpose of the Consultancy**
   
The overall objective of this technical assistance is to conduct a rapid assessment of antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) in primary health care settings and to develop a manual of procedures (MOP) on the implementation of AMS in these settings basing on the results of the needs assessment. Specifically, (1) the rapid assessment of primary health care settings aims to evaluate the capacity of health facilities to implement the AMS program in the primary level; and (2) the MOP shall include protocols on the rational use of antimicrobials, patient referral and monitoring system, and continuum of care across health care facilities.

2. **Background**
   
   Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is now a significant public health threat that causes major health and economic consequences both in human and veterinary health. It claims lives, prolongs illnesses, increases healthcare costs and financial burden, and affects trade and global security. In the Philippines, the Antibiotic Resistance Surveillance Program (ARSP) found very alarming rates of resistance among various pathogens. The WHO has identified irrational use/misuse of antimicrobial medicines as a major driver of AMR which is associated with a variety of management and healthcare provider practices.

   In 2014, the Office of the President has signed the Administrative Order no. 42 entitled “Creating an Inter-Agency Committee for the Formulation and Implementation of a National Plan to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance in the Philippines” to bring together all key partners across many sectors towards identifying and implementing concrete efforts and plans to mitigate and control AMR. As part of the AMR National Plan, the Department of Health is implementing a national antimicrobial stewardship program for hospitals aimed at ensuring rational prescribing, dispensing and use of antimicrobials. Through the help of the WHO, the DOH was able to conduct two Training-of-Trainers (TOT) Workshops on Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Advocacy Package to hospital managers of selected institutions across the country in 2015, and recently conducted a pilot run of the AMS Training Package for Pharmacists in May 2017.

   To further the implementation of the AMR National Plan, an MOP on AMS in primary health care settings will also be developed based on a rapid assessment of AMS-related practices in rural health units, barangay health stations and their counterparts. This will target health care professionals serving in these facilities such as municipal health officers, midwives, public health nurses and pharmacists.

3. **Planned timelines** (subject to confirmation)
   
   Start date: 12/06/2017
   
   End date: 13/10/2017

4. **Work to be performed**

   **Method(s) to carry out the activity**
   
   - Prepare a work plan/inception report;
• Conduct consultation with relevant DOH offices, and coordinate with target sample primary health care sites for the study;
• Conduct actual rapid assessment of the current AMS-related practices of sample primary health care sites according to the service capability of each;
• Identify good practices and areas for improvement in AMS in primary health care settings;
• Provide recommendations for the development of the DOH AMS Manual of Procedures for Primary Health Care Settings
• Conduct consultation with relevant DOH offices to inform the proposed contents of the MOP
• Synthesize existing protocols on AMS interventions from the Department of Health and primary health care settings to produce the MOP;
• Propose protocols for AMS interventions where there are no existing guidance documents from the DOH; and,
• Revise the proposed MOP according to inputs of stakeholders in workshops organized by the DOH.

**Output/s**

**Output 1: Rapid assessment of AMS-related practices in primary health care settings**
Deliverable 1.1: Development of a study design and protocol with a needs assessment tool for assessment of practices related to antimicrobial stewardship in primary health care settings
Deliverable 1.2: Analyses of data, syntheses of results and recommendations for the development of the DOH AMS MOP for Primary Health Care Settings

**Output 2: Manual of Procedures (MOP) for AMS Program in Primary Health Care Settings**
Deliverable 2.1: Development of a proposed MOP for AMS Program in Primary Health Care Settings
Deliverable 2.2: Revision of the proposed MOP according to inputs of stakeholders in workshops organized by DOH

**5. Technical Supervision**
The selected Consultant will work on the supervision of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Officer</th>
<th>Benjamin Lane, Team Leader, HSS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Gundo Aurel Weiler, WR Philippines</td>
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**6. Specific requirements**
- **Qualifications required:**
  • A graduate of any health science course with a Master’s degree in the field of public health, epidemiology, pharmacology or any related fields of expertise

- **Experience required:**
  • At least 5 years of professional and/or field experience in antimicrobial stewardship and/or public health; and
  • At least 3-5 projects undertaken with government and academic institutions of similar nature and magnitude in the country/Philippine setting and/or internationally

- **Skills / Technical skills and knowledge:**
  • Expertise in antimicrobial stewardship, infection control, patient safety, and other related areas;
  • Sound knowledge of organization, processes and challenges in primary care settings (e.g., rural health units, barangay health stations and their equivalents)

- **Language requirements:**
  • Fluent in English

**7. Competencies**
• Proven experience in designing/developing training materials and educational tools
• Proven experience in conducting health systems assessment, or program monitoring and evaluation;
• Excellent organizational, communication, interpersonal and writing skills
8. **Place of assignment**  
Office of the WHO Representative in the Philippines

9. **Medical clearance**  
The selected Consultant will be expected to provide a medical certificate of fitness for work.

10. **Travel**  
The Consultant may be required to visit study sites.

All **travel arrangements will be made by WHO** – WHO will not be responsible for tickets purchased by the Consultant without the express, prior authorization of WHO. While on mission under the terms of this consultancy, the Consultant will receive **subsistence allowance**.

**Visas requirements:** it is the consultant’s responsibility to fulfil **visa requirements** and ask for visa support letter(s) if needed.