The World Health Organization (WHO) is seeking expressions of interest from an individual consultant for technical support to WHO’s work on mercury.

**Duration of the contract:** 6 months

**Deadline for applications:** 14 April 2019 (*full application details in section VIII*)

### I. Background

World Health Assembly Resolution 67.11 called on the WHO Secretariat to support Member States to ratify and implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

WHO is an executing partner in a number of projects funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) relating to the development of public health strategies for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM). WHO also intends to develop the health-related components of two new project proposals, for GEF funding, relating to the phase out of mercury thermometers and sphygmomanometers used in health care and the phase out of mercury-containing skin lightening cosmetics. In parallel, WHO has developed guidance for countries on strategic planning for implementation of the health-related aspects of the Minamata Convention and plans to support a number of countries to use the guidance. The consultant will support the activities of WHO to implement and plan these projects and associated tools/information materials, during 2019.

The projects aim to support a number of Member States regarding their obligations under the Minamata Convention, to develop associated tools/information materials and to share the results widely among additional Member States. The consultant will work with WHO HQ technical staff, coordinating with regional office and country staff where needed. The consultant will coordinate with other project executing partners.


### II. Deliverables

1. **Contribute to the implementation of the health-related components of GEF projects on artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) in Ghana, Mozambique and Nigeria.**

   **Deliverables:**

   1.1 Provide technical support to implementation of ASGM activities in 3 countries (Ghana, Mozambique and Nigeria (Q2 – Q4 2019)

   1.2 Coordinate overall project implementation with WHO internal and external partners (Q2 – Q4 2019)
1.3 Coordinate the publication and translation into UN languages of (the already completed text of) WHO guidance on development of public health strategies in ASGM. (Q2 2019)

1.4 Draft narrative and financial reports to the implementing agency (deadlines determined by the implementing agency).

2. Contribute to the development of two new GEF project proposals relating to 1) the phase out of mercury thermometers and sphygmomanometers used in health care and 2) the phase out of mercury-containing skin lightening cosmetics.

Deliverables:

2.1 Draft text of the health-related components, using GEF and implementing agency (UNEP) templates and in collaboration with the relevant WHO Regional Offices, and contribute to the project proposal as a whole. (Q2-Q3 2019)

2.2 Participate in project planning meetings involving UNEP, other executing partners and WHO Regional Offices. (Q2-Q4 2019)

3. Support the implementation of WHO guidance for countries on strategic planning for implementation of the health-related aspects of the Minamata Convention.

Deliverables:

3.1 Coordinate the publication and translation into UN languages of (the already completed text of) WHO guidance (Q2-Q3 2019)

3.2 Plan and execution of related country level activities (Q3-Q4 2019).

3.3 New and updated tools and information materials, including the Annotated Bibliography of WHO materials to support implementation of the Minamata Convention (Q2-Q4 2019).

III. Specific requirements

**Educational Qualifications**

*Essential:* university degree in biology, biochemistry, chemistry or other life science, and an advanced degree in a health-related field.

*Useful:* certified training or qualification in health promotion or public health.

**Experience**

*Essential:* A minimum of seven (7) years’ work experience that involves project implementation in a health-related field, preferably in a developing country context. Technical or scientific writing and oral presentations on health-related subjects to different audiences.

*Useful:* Experience in health promotion or health advocacy and experience in working with international organizations. Experience in working in a chemical, toxicology or other laboratory. Time spent working in countries other than the candidate’s native country would also be useful.
Skills/Knowledge

Essential: Ability to write and present clearly on scientific and biomedical subjects; ability to communicate well with a range of audiences, including scientists, policy makers and the general public; awareness of, and sensitivity to, cultural differences when working with colleagues and when presenting to audiences.

IT: competence in the use of Microsoft Office Word, PowerPoint and Excel.

Languages and level required

English, Read - Write - Speak: Expert¹


IV. Technical Supervision

Carolyn Vickers, Coordinator Chemical Safety, vickersc@who.int

V. Location

On site: Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health, Geneva

VI. Travel

Travel required to Ghana, Mozambique and Nigeria and possibly other countries to be determined, dates to be determined. Full medical clearance is required.

VII. Remuneration and budget (travel costs excluded)

Rate: USD 8,833 per month for 6 months

Currency: paid in CHF

A living allowance of CHF 3,000 per month will be paid if the consultant is internationally recruited.

VIII. Application details

Submission of application package:

Applications should be submitted by midnight GMT on 14 April 2019 to ipcsmail@who.int and include:

- Up-to-date curriculum vitae including links to relevant work, articles or reports in this field or create your profile under http://www.who.int/careers and send the pdf version to the above email address;
- Cover letter outlining:
  - Specific areas of interest and expertise;
  - Your motivation for applying for this work; and
  - Availability during 2019

¹ mother tongue or proficiency use of both the written and oral language
² working knowledge of the language, written and oral fluency in the technical field of expertise concerned.
Applications will be acknowledged on Monday 15 April. Please note that large file size (over 5MB) will not be accepted by the email server.

Application review criteria includes:

1) The required qualifications, experience, technical skills and knowledge and language skills outlined above;
2) Availability for specific tasks and travel in consideration of needs during 2019

*Applicants selected for interviews will be contacted by email in the week of 15 April 2019 to take part in phone interviews in the week of 29 April 2019. Please inform in your cover letter of any limitations to your availability during these dates.*

Please note that applications for this request for expressions of interest will be used to develop a pool of consultants for consideration for similar consultancies.