

Terms of Reference

Consultant Contract administered by:

Unit:	Impact Initiatives and Research Coordination (IRC)
Department:	Global Coordination and Partnership (GCP)

1. Purpose of the Consultancy

The World Health Organization's (WHO) GCP Department – in collaboration with other partners – is developing a novel access initiative, named SECURE. SECURE will support countries to access and sustainably manage new antibiotics and existing antibiotics that are needed to cope with antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The purpose of this consultancy is to support the IRC Unit in the development of this new mechanism through:

- supporting the finalization of the business plan;
- refining the SECURE portfolio;
- supporting engagement with the countries and/or other stakeholders; and
- other tasks needed for the development of this new initiative.

This consultancy is open to people with at least five+ years of professional experience in access to medicines, AMR and/or the set-up of new global health initiatives.

2. Background

AMR is a global public health threat, acknowledged through the endorsement of the Global Action Plan on AMR¹ by the World Health Assembly (resolution WHA68.7) on May 2015, the Political Declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on AMR² in September 2017, as well as the report of the UN Interagency Coordination Group (IACG) on Antimicrobial Resistance³.

In 2020 the WHO, the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP) and other partners commenced the development of SECURE. SECURE is an access initiative that accelerates and expands access to essential antibiotics to enable countries to address the silent pandemic of drug-resistant bacterial infections. SECURE targets objectives 4 and 5 of the Global Action Plan on AMR. Objectives 4 and 5 respectively aim to “to optimize the use of antimicrobial medicines in human and animal health” and “to develop the economic case for sustainable investment that takes account of the needs of all countries and to increase investment in new medicines, diagnostic tools, vaccines and other interventions”.

To achieve this mission, SECURE is working on a portfolio of appropriate and affordable essential antibiotics to help countries manage the most relevant local bacterial infections. Candidates for the portfolio will be prioritized according to their impact on public health to manage drug-resistant infections in the countries.

¹ Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2015

² Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Antimicrobial Resistance. New York: United Nations; 2016

³ <https://www.who.int/antimicrobial-resistance/interagency-coordination-group/en/>

The SECURE portfolio should contain:

- New essential antibiotics that are specifically designed for treating drug-resistant infections, which are currently accessible to few patients/countries; and/or
- Existing essential antibiotics that are not widely available or are subject to frequent supply chain interruptions, quality issues and/or shortages.

SECURE will work with countries to facilitate access and use of antimicrobials covering: evidence generation, creation of international and local guidelines, the extension of registration and market access, forecasting and procurement as well as country capacity building and support for sustainable use.

SECURE was welcomed by the Group of 7 in June 2021 and is currently finalizing its structure and concept.

3. Technical Supervision

The selected Consultant will work on the supervision of:

Responsible Officer:	Peter Beyer, Unit Head, GCP/IRC	Email:	beyerp@who.int
Unit Head or Team Lead:	Peter Beyer, Unit Head, GCP/IRC	Email:	beyerp@who.int

4. Deliverables and Schedule of payment

S. No.	Deliverable	Expected delivery date
<u>Output 1:</u> Refine the SECURE portfolio for existing antibiotics	Activity 1.1: Refine the SECURE portfolio of existing antibiotics. Activity 1.2: Build an evidence-based narrative connecting the SECURE portfolio to clinical syndromes, the global public health situation and public health situations in SECURE key countries.	01-NOV-2021
<u>Output 2:</u> Assist in the finalization of the SECURE business plan	Activity 2.1: Explore and define the economic model that SECURE should support for new and existing antibiotics. Activity 2.2: Finalize a chapter/model on how SECURE can support sustainable use and (clinical) stewardship of SECURE antibiotics within existing structures.	15-DEC-2021
<u>Output 3:</u> Support SECURE external engagement	Activity 3.1: Explore and define how SECURE can be connected to (sub-)national procurement/supply chain/finance structures in public and private sectors. Activity 3.2: In collaboration with GARDP, draft a strategy and plan for engagement of SECURE with key countries and/or national stakeholders. Activity 3.3: Other tasks for SECURE according to the development of the structure and process.	28-FEB-2022

5. Duration

Start date: 01/09/2021

End date: 28/02/2022

6. Total amount of consultancy (exclusive of per diem, travel costs or other expenses):

The Candidate is expected to provide a quotation in which she/he specify her/his daily and/or monthly rate.

7. Specific requirements

- Qualifications required:

- University degree in public health, pharmaceutical sciences, medicine, microbiology, business science, law, management, economics or any other relevant area for antimicrobial resistance and/or access to medicine.

- Experience required:

- At least 5 years of relevant experience in the area of access to medicines, AMR and/or the development of new global health initiatives. (Note: this is the minimum required and not the maximum that a candidate is expected to have).

- Skills / Technical skills and knowledge:

- Experience working in an international context;
- Good knowledge of infectious diseases and/or antimicrobial resistance;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, incl. writing skills;
- Preferably experienced in solving complex access to medicines issues and/or setting up new global health entities;
- Preferably experienced in antimicrobial medicine policy incl. stewardship; and
- Preferably a good understanding of post-R&D access barriers, including regulatory and market access.

- Language requirements:

English – proficient (reading, writing, speaking)

8. Place of assignment

The consultant will work remotely for this assignment. Any travel will be subject to a separate travel authorization.

9. Travel

The Consultant is **NOT** expected to travel.

10. How to prepare and submit a proposal in reply to this tender?

a. Content of the proposal

1. A cover letter (one page) explaining the bidder's motivation for applying to this position.
2. A copy, in .pdf format, of the bidder's updated CV or WHO Personal History Form (<http://www.who.int/careers/process/instructions-for-candidates.pdf?ua=1>).

PLEASE NOTE: The selected candidate(s) will be asked to produce copies of all degrees/diplomas/certificates as mentioned in their CVs or Personal History Forms, as well as a copy of their passport and other documents as appropriate.

3. Full contact details.
4. A recent publication or writing sample (optional).

Incomplete proposals will not be considered.

b. Questions during preparation of proposal

A prospective bidder requiring any clarification on technical, contractual or commercial matters may notify WHO via e-mail to Maarten van der Heijden (vanma@who.int) no later than 30-JUL-2021 18:00 hours, Geneva time.

c. Deadline for submission of proposal

The deadline for final submissions of proposals is **6-AUG-2021 18:00 hours, Geneva time**.

d. Email address for submission of proposal

Final duly completed proposals should be submitted in electronic format by e-mail to: antibacterialpipeline@who.int