

Position: 304301

Position Title: Medical officer (Immunization services strengthening)
Status: revision without grade change
Grade: P4
Unit/Team: VPI/DCD
Major Office: EMRO
Duty Station: Cairo, Egypt
Organization: WHO
Nature of Position: Fixed term
Duration: Two Years
Effective Date:
FTE: 100%
CCOG Code:
First Level Supervisor: RA/VPI, FT P5, PN 173549

Second Level Supervisor: DCD, FT D1, PN 172013

1. Background and Justification

****Purpose of the Position***

To strengthen national immunization programmes with particular emphasis on planning and implementation of effective policies and strategies to improve routine immunization coverage in countries with large number of unvaccinated children in the EMR.

2. Job Description

****Objectives of the Programme and of the immediate Strategic Objective***

To reduce childhood morbidity and mortality attributable to vaccine preventable diseases and achieve immunization targets through implementing routine immunization and supplementary immunization activities, expanding immunization beyond infancy, and introducing new and underutilized vaccines with ensuring equitable access of all communities and individuals to vaccines of assured quality.

****Organizational context***

Under the direct supervision of the Regional Adviser, Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Immunization (RA/VPI), the overall guidance of Director, department of Communicable Diseases prevention and control, and in close collaboration with the other team members of VPI and the EPI focal points at the countries, the incumbent will be responsible for planning, implementing and monitoring of activities pertaining to improving routine immunization coverage and equity in countries/areas with large number of unvaccinated children.

S/he is expected to take the necessary decisions in providing technical advice to Member States and work independently on developing the necessary plans and guidelines within the framework of the regional vaccine action plan.

****Summary of Assigned Duties***

The incumbent will perform the following duties:

1. Provide technical expertise to member states, particularly the GAVI eligible ones, in developing/updating their EPI comprehensive multi-year plans (cMYP) using WHO and UNICEF format, in line with the national health sector strategy and national immunization policy, and follow up on country implementation of their EPI cMYP;
2. Provide technical expertise to the countries for developing annual immunization operational workplans for implementation of planned immunization activities, in line with the cMYP
3. Design appropriate strategies for delivering immunization services in countries with large number of unvaccinated children
4. Provide technical expertise to low coverage countries for developing and implementing locally suitable strategies and plans of action for improving access to and uptake of immunization services for hard to reach and chronically under-reached populations
5. Conduct periodic review of national immunization programmes in low coverage countries, identify gaps and missed opportunities for vaccination and support developing plan of action to address them.
6. Provide technical expertise and guidance for immunization data collection, data analysis, interpretation and using the data for identifying gaps in immunization services and using the data for advocacy and resource mobilization
7. Develop relevant training material and conduct training activities to relevant staff on appropriate strategies for delivering immunization services to hard-to-reach populations
8. Collaborate with the partners and stakeholders to harmonize recommendations on policies, strategies, planning and implementation of activities related to strengthening immunization systems in countries with large number of unvaccinated children.

3. Recruitment Profile

Competencies:

- Teamwork
- Respecting and promoting individual and cultural differences
- Communication
- Building and promoting partnership across the organization and beyond
- Moving forward in a changing environment

Functional Knowledge and Skills

- Excellent knowledge in analysing vaccine preventable diseases and EPI-related data, synthesizing information and presenting clear and concise conclusions and recommendations for decision making
- Demonstrated in-depth knowledge of principles, practices, methodology and techniques of planning of immunization programmes at senior level
- Excellent capacity for conducting training and advocacy

Education Qualifications

****Essential***

- Master's degree in epidemiology/public health.

****Desirable:***

- Training in EPI planning, health economics, operational research, data management in EPI-related fields. Professional training in biostatistics and data analysis

Experience****Essential***

- At least 7 years of extensive and practical experience in strengthening immunization programmes at senior level at national and international levels. Excellent field experience in developing comprehensive multiyear plans, EPI operational plans, strengthening immunization programmes in low coverage countries

Desirable

- Strong experience in immunization data analysis, interpretation and using data for advocacy, planning and improving programme performance

4. Use of Language Skills

Excellent knowledge of English. Knowledge of Arabic or other UN languages is an asset.

Other Skills (e.g. IT)

- Proficiency in MS Office applications