

## Offer / Individual consultant

### ASSIGNMENT: INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT WITH EXPERTISE ON BIOLOGICAL THREAT REDUCTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

#### Context

The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH – founded as OIE) is a leading intergovernmental organisation representing 183 Members worldwide. Through its activities, WOAH makes a decisive contribution to improving animal health, protecting animal welfare and strengthening Veterinary Services. The Organisation provides transparent information on world's animal health situation, and promotes international standards, particularly in terms of the safety of trade in live animals and animal products. More information can be found on [WOAH's website](#).

Joining WOAH means taking part in the development of one of the leading international organisations, recognised and associated with other multilateral institutions, in the field of worldwide health. It means helping to build a global approach to health, combining animal and human health in a “One Health” approach.

**To support its work, WOAH may use individual consultants to provide ad hoc support for tasks that cannot be carried out by members of its staff. An individual consultant works in his own name, for the duration of his assignment at WOAH, to the exclusion of any other principal and without being attached to any employer.**

WOAH's headquarters are based in Paris. The Organisation is present on every continent through 13 Regional or Sub-regional Representations. WOAH has 250 staff members, two-thirds of whom are based at headquarters.

In meeting its mandate, the WOAH takes the threat posed by accidental and deliberate release of animal pathogens very seriously. The [2015 WOAH's Strategy for biological threat reduction \(BTR\)](#) focuses on strengthening, enhancing, and developing cross-links between existing health systems. Through the adoption of Resolution No 31 at the 2021 WOAH General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates, the WOAH also recommends an all-hazards approach to emergency management and regularly exercise their emergency plans, involving other sectors, to test them for fitness for purpose.

[WOAH's Technical item on emergency management](#) at the 89<sup>th</sup> WOAH General Session in 2023 outlined the global context, threats, planning tools, and systems available to better manage emergencies. This highlighted the role of Veterinary Services (VS) and the Aquatic Animal Health Services in addressing complex emergencies and pandemics and emphasizes their critical role in ensuring preparedness and response. The WOAH Animal Health Codes set expectations for the Veterinary Services (VS) in contingency planning. In 2024, WOAH formed an ad-hoc group to prepare a new Chapter on emergency management. This Chapter will define core principles and terminology and support the VS in navigating today's increasingly complex high-risk environment.

The contract will be signed as soon as the selection procedure is finalised. The Consultant's first mission will begin when the first purchase order has been issued by WOAH.

#### Description of the individual consultant assignment

##### Positioning and reporting

The individual consultant will report to the WOAH Department/Representation that have issued the purchase order.

##### Mission objectives

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The Consultant will contribute to supporting the implementation of WOAAH activities on biothreat reduction, emergency preparedness and response.

### Activities and deliverables

*Contribute to WOAAH activities on Biothreat reduction, emergency preparedness and response:*

- Support scoping studies to understand the landscape of biothreat reduction including (i) conduct stakeholder analysis of actors involved in biological threat prevention, detection, and response across animal health, public health, and security sectors, (ii) assess multisectoral coordination mechanisms for the preparedness and response to deliberate, accidental, and naturally occurring biological threats (ii) analyse current state of play on the biothreat reduction enabling environment (regional, national framework, policies, strategies and contingency plans) and governance at regional and national levels (iv) assess capacities and resources (workforce, finance and material) of Veterinary Services including laboratories (and their sustainability) in biological threat reduction (v) identify gaps, challenges and opportunities, and provide recommendations of the scoping study utilising various data sources (i.e. PVS, VLSP, JEEs, GHSI, INTERPOL), tools literature reviews and relevant participatory tools.
- Support operationalisation of standards, tools, guidelines, and approaches related to biothreat reduction - to ensure long-term adoption and impact.
- Plan, coordinate, prepare, facilitate and report on relevant WOAAH meetings, workshops, trainings and other relevant events, particularly emergency preparedness and response and biological threat reduction.
- Develop technical material for workshops (concept note, agenda, background material), targeting national Veterinary Services, Law Enforcement Officials, and laboratory experts among others.
- Contribute to the preparation and review of technical materials and guidance related to emergency preparedness, contingency planning, emergency response, laboratory biological risk management along pathogen value chain, and management of high-consequence agents and toxins, and risk communication.
- Produce high-quality reports, summarising workshop outputs, technical reviews, and recommendations for strengthening emergency preparedness and response capacities.
- Design and implement monitoring and evaluation strategies to assess the effectiveness and impact of workshops and related technical activities.
- Prepare consolidated reports highlighting progress, challenges, and lessons learned.
- Contribute to the development of technical and scientific papers, posters, website articles, and other informative materials.
- Contribute to surveys, analysis and assessments related to Biothreat reduction, emergency preparedness, and response.

### Requirements

#### Qualifications and Experience

##### *Required Qualifications*

- Advanced degree in health sciences, biological sciences, veterinary sciences or other relevant field;
- At least 5 years of experience working for national Veterinary or Public Health Services, the private sector, emergency services, security or law enforcement authorities, International or non-governmental organisations in an area relevant to emergency management and biological threat reduction e.g. simulation exercises, contingency planning, epidemic intelligence, biosafety and biosecurity in laboratories.
- Experience working with WOAAH Members and Partners will be an asset.

#### Required Skills

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### *Technical Skills*

- Knowledge of international frameworks for emergency management and biological threat reduction such as SENDAI, UNISDR, the Biological Weapons Convention, United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540, UN Secretary General's Mechanism (UNSGM), UNODA, ASEAN Mitigation of Biological Threats (MBT) Programme and ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Strengthening Regional Biosafety, and Biosecurity.
- Knowledge or experience of international standards and guidelines pertaining to laboratory biosafety and biosecurity levels, as well as the International Air Transport Association (IATA) regulations for the transport of biological materials.
- Knowledge of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the World Customs Organization (WCO), INTERPOL, and the World Health Organization (WHO), along with the One Health concept, the various tools and instruments of the Quadripartite Agreement between WHO, WOA, FAO, and UNEP.
- Knowledge of WOA standards, processes, and technical frameworks related to biosecurity, emergency preparedness, and capacity-building will be considered an asset.
- Experience managing capacity building programmes including technical assistance, training, mentorship, knowledge sharing.
- Experience in planning and coordinating internal and external meetings (virtual and presential);
- Excellent command of English, both written and spoken, including scientific, technical and project report writing. Other languages an advantage.
- Strong computer skills in a Microsoft environment (Word, Excel, PPT) and Share drive.

### *Interpersonal Skills*

- Strong network among public Veterinary Services, private Veterinary sector and related national and international partners;
- Excellent analytical, facilitation, coordination and communication skills;
- Proven effective organisational skills and ability to handle work in an efficient and timely manner; defining priorities and meeting deadlines;
- Capacity to work autonomously and to take ownership of tasks.

WOAH will be able to select several individual consultants that meet the mentioned requirements and will sign an individual contract with each selected consultant.

## Additional Information

### **Working conditions**

This consultancy will work on the basis of purchase orders issued by WOA. Each time a specific task will be required, WOA will issue a purchase order. The purchase order will specify the task, deliverables and corresponding number of days proposed. The consultant will be able to decide if he/she is available and agrees on the conditions of the purchase order before signing it for approval. Payment to the consultant will be executed once all deliverables of the corresponding purchase order has been executed and approved by WOA.

- Duration of the contract: 24 months
- Location: Remote (when the consultant needs to deliver the task in a specific location or meeting outside his/her homeplace, WOA will provide a daily subsistence allowance based on WOA per-diem rules)
- Remuneration: **The consultant needs to indicate in the financial offer his/her daily fee rate in euros.** The daily rate will be one important criterion in the assessment of applications received.

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### General information

WOAH places high value on a multicultural and positive work environment.

WOAH is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes all qualified candidates, irrespective of their origin, gender, opinions or beliefs.

If you are interested in the position, please complete your application online at the latest by **March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026**.

*All applications will be reviewed after the closing date of the publication*

[APPLY HERE](#)

### Annexes :

**Annex 1 :** [The financial offer to be returned duly completed and signed](#)

**Annex 2:** [The declaration of integrity to be returned duly completed and signed](#)