**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Improving access, availability, and quality of Essential Medicines in Guyana**

**20 June 2021 – 19 June 2022**

1. **Introduction**

Improving access to safe, effective, and quality-assured medicines and other health technologies are key for Universal Health Coverage. Countries in the Americas face important challenges in this regard. Of key importance are interventions to improve selection and availability of medicines for health services.

As well, countries need better capacity to monitor the quality, provision, access and use of medicines and strong pharmaceutical supply chain management and information systems. This can allow to produce quality scientific evidence and measure healthcare costs. The Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) works with Guyana in the strengthening of supply management of medicines and medical supplies. This area of work aims to improve national information systems, selection processes, and demand forecasting, to prevent stock-outs and/or overstocks.

Guyana has been working in the last years building capacity in Logistics Management Information System (LMIS) and Pharmaceutical Quantification including Supervisory and Mentoring Visits conducted to health facilities to ensure LMIS Registers were properly and correctly utilized, to assess the performance of the Pharmacy staff and verify proper storage conditions of pharmaceuticals.

PAHO/WHO Guyana Country office will continue to provide technical cooperation to the Government of Guyana in this area, with the support of a National PAHO Consultant (NPC), who will contribute to improve access in the enhance of pharmaceutical supply chain management and integrated health information systems to reduce areas of vulnerability in relation to equitable access to medical products.

1. **Goal**

To improve access and availability to essential and quality medicines, medical products, and health technologies for Universal Health Coverage.

1. **Objetives**
2. To increase accessibility and availability of medical products adopting comprehensive supply chain management interventions.
3. To strengthen information system for health to monitor and evaluate the provision and access of medical products.
4. To support pharmacy curriculum development.

1. **Assignment**

Based on a workplan to be prepared in the first week of the contract the National PAHO Consultant will work implement activities related to the following areas:

1. Conduct 4 supervisory visits in agreed Regions to assess adherence to Standard Operating Procedures, identify gaps or need to additional training of the Logistic Management Information System (LMIS).
2. Conduct LMIS training, utilizing the revise LMIS Manual II, which is the standard operations procedure of the MOH logistics system and supervisory visits in all ten administrative regions.
3. Implement a program of work on Rational prescribing and improvement of clinical pharmacy practices in Guyana.
4. Support in the review of Pharmacy Curriculum.

The consultant will additionally brief the PAHO/WHO Representative, Guyana on all aspects of the activities mentioned. The consultant will perform other duties related his/her area of work.

1. **Duration of Assignment**

The duration of the assignment is one calendar (1) year. The assignment will encompass the period 20 June 2021 – 19 June 2022. Travel to and overnight in the Hinterland Regions is a must.

1. **Payment**

The consultant will receive a monthly consultancy fee of GY$300,000.00 during the period stipulated.

1. **Experience**
2. Five years of combined national and international experience in pharmaceutical planning, forecasting, operations.
3. Strong knowledge of best practices in medicine supply management, logistics management information systems and procedures for forecasting and estimating medicine needs.
4. Knowledge of pharmacovigilance and post market surveillance, including best practices and inspection systems for reporting adverse events and substandard and falsified medicines is an asset.
5. Experience working with Logistics Management Information System (LMIS) is an asset.
6. **Education**

Essential: A university degree in Pharmacy or Engineering from an accredited university.

Desirable: Specialized training in project management and Logistics Management Information System.

1. **Language**

A very good knowledge of written and spoken English and knowledge of Spanish would be an asset.

1. **Project Manager**

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