

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Technical Assistance on Development of the
Philippine Medicines Policy 2020-2030



World Health
Organization

Representative Office
for the Philippines

1. Summary

The World Health Organization (WHO) Philippines is looking for an individual or institution contractual partner for an Agreement for Performance of Work. The proposals are due by **16 February 2020**.

2. Background

In the 1980s, the worldwide concern on the problem of inadequate access to essential medicines and its irrational use paved way for the declaration of the Philippine National Drug Policy (PNDP), which aimed to make essential medicines available, accessible and affordable to the people. This policy is anchored on four pillars that are interdependent and mutually reinforcing: **Quality assurance, Rational Drug Use, Self-reliance, and Tailored procurement.**

The PNDP was further improved through the development of the Philippine Medicines Policy (PMP) in 2010, which set the strategic directions on access to medicines for Filipinos for the medium term 2011 to 2016. The PMP 2011-2016 identified five (5) key components called the SARAH Framework. SARAH corresponds to 1) Safety, Efficacy and Quality (SEQ) of medicines, 2) Affordability and Availability, 3) Rational Drug Use, 4) Accountability, Transparency and Good Governance and 5) Health Systems Support. Through its implementation along with key legislations, including Republic Act 9502 (*Universally Accessible Cheaper and Quality Medicines Act of 2008*), Republic Act 6675 (*Generics Act of 1988*) and many others, much progress has been made in medicines access over the last six (6) years. However, despite the many initiatives, much work is still left to be done to improve medicines access to a level sufficient to meet the demands of Universal Health Coverage.

In line with the passing of the Universal Health Care Law, the Philippine Medicines Policy needs to be re-assessed to ensure improved and continuous access to essential medicines in the country. The implementation framework to achieve UHC should be anchored on financial risk protection, access to quality health care facilities, and attainment of health-related Sustainable Development Goals, supported by adequate human resources and systems support. The PMP should also be aligned to the WHO Access to Medicines and Vaccines RoadMap 2019-2023 which outlines ten priority areas: (1) research and development for medicines and vaccines that meets public health needs; (2) fair pricing and financing policies; (3) application and management of intellectual property to contribute to innovation and promote public health; (4) procurement and supply chain management; (5) appropriate prescribing, dispensing and use; (6) regulatory systems that ensure quality, safety and efficacy of medicines and vaccines; (7) preparedness for emergencies; (8) good governance; (9) collecting, monitoring and using key data; and (10) health workforce capacity for access to medicines and vaccines.

Overall Objective:

To propose strategic directions in improving access to medicines in the Philippines for 2020-2030.

Specific Objectives:

- To conduct a rapid implementation review of the Philippine Medicines Policy (2011-2016);
- To develop a DOH-FDA Joint Roadmap that shall streamline and harmonize the efforts of both national agencies towards promoting access to medicines;
- To develop a Pharmaceutical Financing Framework that shall serve as a guide towards achieving a sustainable pharmaceutical financing mechanism in the Philippines; and
- To draft the Philippine Medicines Policy (2020-2030) aligned with the UHC Law and WHO Draft Road Map for Access to Medicines, Vaccines and Other Health Products 2019-2023.

3. Timeline

The implementation timeline for the project is six (6) months from 24 February 2020 to 23 August 2020.

4. Place of Assignment

Manila, Philippines

5. Scope of Work

In coordination with the WHO Philippines and the Department of Health, the selected contractual partner shall perform the following activities:

Method(s) to carry out the activity

- Form a team of qualified and competent individuals with defined roles and tasks aligned with the objectives;
- Conduct an implementation review of the Philippine Medicines Policy (2011-2016);
- Conduct alignment meetings with WHO and DOH with full documentation for progress monitoring;
- Conduct consultative stakeholders meetings;
- Draft the Philippine Medicines Policy (2020-2030) to include a DOH-FDA Joint Roadmap, policy framework on pharmaceutical financial sustainability, and monitoring and evaluation tool;
- Draft an Administrative Order on the implementation of the Philippine Medicines Policy (2020-2030) including documentary requirements/attachments, such as but not limited to policy memo and documentation of consultation meetings pertinent to the same;
- Present the final output to WHO Philippines and the DOH; and
- Submit full reports with presentation slides, as appropriate, in electronic (Microsoft Office or equivalent) and triplicate hard copies.

Output/s**Output 1: Inception Report and Gantt chart of activities**

Deliverable 1.1: Develop a work plan with Gantt chart of activities. The work plan will be part of the inception report that will be submitted to WHO Philippines at the beginning of the engagement. The inception report will demonstrate the contractual partner's

conceptual and implementation approach and methodology, scope of work, resources required, and the timeline of activities to guide the assignment and to meet the agreed-upon deliverables;

Deliverable 1.2: Discuss the inception report and work plan with WHO Philippines and DOH;

Output/Deliverable 2: Implementation Review of Philippine Medicines Policy (2011-2016)

Deliverable 2.1: Submit a full report on the implementation of Philippine Medicines Policy (2011-2016);

Output 3: Philippine Medicines Policy (2020-2030)

Deliverable 3.1: Submit a clean draft of the Philippine Medicines Policy (2020-2030);

Deliverable 3.2: Submit a clean draft of an Administrative Order on the implementation of the Philippine Medicines Policy (2020-2030); and

Output 4: Final Report

Deliverable 4.1: Submit accomplishment and financial reports.

NOTE: Every report should have the following disclaimer:

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CONFIDENTIALITY

The results, products and reports of this technical assistance are to be treated as confidential and must not be handed over to third parties. WHO and the Philippine DOH have the exclusive ownership of the reports and reserve the right to further disseminate relevant information.

6. Qualifications

The contractual partner must fulfill the following qualifications:

Education and Certifications

- At least a post-graduate degree holder in public health, health policy, law or a related course; and
- Established and reputable work on public health policy.

Work Experience

- Relevant experience of at least 5 years related to policy development, review and implementation; and
- Working with various stakeholders including the private sector, civic societies, government and international development organizations.

Skills and Knowledge

- Solid background on medicines policy, public health law, and Philippine health system;
- Policy development and implementation review; and

- Organizational, communication, interpersonal and analytical skills.

Language Fluency:

- Expert fluency in written and spoken English (essential) and Filipino (desired)

In addition, the contractual partner must have no direct or indirect interest in the tobacco industry, alcohol industry, arms dealing or human trafficking.

7. Other Requirements

May require minimal travel within Metro Manila, Philippines

8. Submission Requirements

Interested institutions and/or individuals should submit electronic copies of the following:

- Cover letter
- Proposal with financial details and timelines
- Company profile and qualifications of team members (if institution) or curriculum vitae (if individual)

Address all proposals to:

Dr Rabindra Abeyasinghe

Acting, WHO Representative in the Philippines

Ground Floor, Building 3, Department of Health San Lazaro Compound

Rizal Avenue, Sta Cruz, Manila

Please submit the electronic copy of the proposals with the title, **Technical Assistance on Development of the Philippine Medicines Policy 2020-2030** to Mrs. Ying Chen cheny@who.int and wpphlwr@who.int. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted by WHO Philippines.

Deadline of submission of proposals is on **16 February 2020**.