World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Announces

Call for applications for members to serve on "The Regional Green Light Committee for the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR-GLC)" 2017-2018.

The Regional Green Light Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR-GLC) was established in 2012 in response to the need to scale up the Programmatic Management of Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis (PMDT). The rGLC functions as an advisory committee to the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, to WHO's Member States in the Region, and to partners including donors. The Secretariat of the rGLC is hosted by the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean.

Members of the initial committee have served for two terms (4 years) and the committee is now due for renewal on half board basis. Therefore, the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean hereby announces the **Call for Applications** to serve on the rGLC Eastern Mediterranean. Members are expected to serve a term of two years, from 2016-2018 with the following Terms of Reference:

- Review and provide inputs to the regional and national strategies and/or action plans for scale up of Programmatic Management of Drug-Resistant TB in line with End TB Strategy;
- Monitor the progress in implementing DR-TB management through:
 - Provision of regular and supportive monitoring and evaluation of country performance in programmatic management of drug-resistant tuberculosis to propose improvements where needed, and to inform assessment of Regional progress.
 - Review and analyze GLC monitoring mission reports and surveillance data.
 - Identify programmatic issues that need to be addressed and recommend actions, including the provision of technical assistance and prioritization of resources.
- Promote access to high-quality, affordable second-line anti-TB drugs and other commodities including WHO endorsed new medicines and treatment regimens;
- Provide an opinion to donors/funding agencies on their request on country PMDT scale-up plans and the subsequent TA needs addressing identified gaps;
- Liaise with the Global Drug-resistant TB Initiative (GDI) and exchange information on regionspecific issues and plans of rGLC activities;
- Support advocacy effort to increase community involvement and stakeholders commitment in the region towards achieving universal access of patient-centered DR-TB programmatic management, maximize countries utilization of new diagnostics, shorter regimens and new medicines according to WHO guidelines in close coordination with the regional office;
- Contribute to the regular updating of the evidence base, WHO policy and guidelines related to DR/M/XDR-TB, through OR and M&E efforts including the rapid implementation of the new diagnostics; new medicines and shorter regimen.

The selection of members will be conducted by a committee convened by the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean. The selection of members will be reached through consensus and be based on an equitable distribution of experts across technical areas. Experts from or with extensive experience in the region are strongly encouraged to apply, given that this is a regional entity.

A minimum of two meetings of rGLC Eastern Mediterranean will be held per year, depending on the availability of funds and issues to be discussed. Ad-hoc meetings via telephone /videoconference or in person will be organized as and when required. While serving on this advisory committee, members will not be paid for their committee work. However, cost of travels and attending meetings/missions will be covered by special funds for that purpose.

Members will serve for a term of two years renewable for a further consecutive term based on criteria outlined in the rGLC standard operating procedures. The committee members will be changed on half board basis annually.

Members are being sought who have expertise in at least two of the following essential technical areas:

1. Technical areas (focused on drug-resistant TB)

- Programmatic Management of Drug- Resistant Tuberculosis
 - 1. Clinical experience with Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis (DR-TB) including paediatric and HIV-coinfection
 - 2. Case finding for DR-TB
 - 3. Treatment strategies for Multi-Drug Resistant (MDR) and Extensively-Drug Resistant TB (XDR-TB)
 - 4. Patient-centred care, social support, nursing care and case holding strategies
 - 5. Community TB and MDR-TB care
- Drug management
- TB Laboratory
- TB Infection control
- TB Nursing
- Epidemiology, surveillance and information systems
- Communication and Advocacy
- Private sector involvement
- Developing and/or reviewing PMDT scale-up plans in line with national TB strategic plans

Members will be selected on individual basis; however it is preferable that they are part of at least one of the following constituencies:

2. Constituencies

- Technical/implementing agencies and partners
- Civil Society Organizations/community based organizations /patient representatives
- Private sector health care providers
- Academia and research institutions
- Development partners
- Member States health authorities involved in DR-TB prevention and control

3. Experience:

Essential:

- A minimum of seven years of working with Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis at national and/or international levels;
- A minimum of five years of practical experience in implementing and/or advising on key areas of DR-TB prevention and control in line with WHO norms and standards particularly in the high TB priority countries in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region;
- Experience with planning and monitoring the piloting and scaling up of PMDT.

Desirable: Experience working with multi and bilateral development agencies active in the health sector.

4: Language:

Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of Arabic is desirable

Closing date of applications: 30 July 2016

Results of selection will be announced by 15 August 2016.

How to apply

Interested individuals are invited to send their applications, consisting of a <u>CV and motivation letter</u> <u>expressing their interest and suitability for membership of rGLC Eastern Mediterranean</u> to the rGLC Eastern Mediterranean Secretariat at <u>emrgoglc@who.int</u> with a copy to <u>baghdadis@who.int</u> and <u>emrgostb@who.int</u>.

Applicants should emphasize relevant DR-TB experience in their covering letter and highlight the area(s) of technical expertise and their constituencies. Applications should be sent latest by **15 June 2016.**

A minimum of two meetings of EMR_GLC may be held per year, depending on the availability of funds and issues to be discussed. Ad-hoc meetings via telephone/videoconference or in person will be organized as and when required.

While serving on this advisory committee, members will not be paid for their committee work. However, the WHO/ Eastern Mediterranean Secretariat will explore possibilities to provide an honorarium in recognition of work undertaken for the benefit of Member States, TB affected people and their commitment to EMR_GLC.

Members will serve for a term of two years renewable for a further consecutive term based on criteria outlined in the rGLC standard operating procedures. The committee members will be changed on half board basis annually.

Regional GLC Eastern Mediterranean Secretariat

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