



## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### ELABORATION OF A TRAINING MODULE AND TRAINING OF THE LEADERS OF THE NATIONAL EPIDEMIOSURVEILLANCE AND LABORATORY NETWORKS OF THE ECOWAS MEMBER STATES

#### Introduction

The Regional Animal Health Centre (RAHC) in Bamako is placed under the administrative and technical control of the Commissioner for Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources by delegation of the President of the Commission of the Economic Community of States Of West Africa (ECOWAS).

Its objective is to provide a framework for coordination and harmonization of strategies for monitoring and evaluation of interventions to combat transboundary animal diseases (MATs) and zoonoses in West Africa in implementation of the Agricultural Strategic Plan 2007-2020 of ECOWAS.

The Center's missions extend to all areas of intervention identified by the Regional Program for the Control of Avian Influenza and MAT and Emerging in West Africa. It enjoys a legal status corresponding to that of the specialized agencies of ECOWAS and an autonomy of administrative and financial management. It is housed in the Sotuba campus in Bamako and enjoys a headquarters agreement conferring on it the privileges and immunity of the international institutions in Mali.

Within the framework of the activities of the "One Health" project implemented by the RAHC with USAID funding, it is planned to develop and train officials from the 15 ECOWAS member states in epidemiology and diagnosis of major in the region

This is the result of this call for applications for a consultation to attract a person of experience who can develop and deliver this knowledge in epidemiology and laboratory.

#### Objective of the consultation

The objective of the consultation is to develop and provide training on the epidemiology and laboratory techniques of major zoonotic diseases in the region.

#### Tasks of the consultant

The consultant should develop a training module for epidemiological and laboratory managers from the 15 ECOWAS member states that will include the main zoonotic diseases in the ECOWAS area. Each of the diseases will be investigated as follows:

- Confirmation of the existence of an epidemic,
- Definition of the disease according to the epidemic situation,
- Directory of cases,
- Description of epidemic in terms of Time / Place / People / animals,
- Establishment of hypotheses on the mode of occurrence of the disease,
- Testing of assumptions,
- Conducting an appropriate environmental survey,
- Implementation of the necessary microbiological analyzes,
- Implementation of control and prevention measures,
- Drafting of an investigation report and communication of the conclusions

### **Control measures**

- At different stages
  - General measures at the beginning,
  - Then depending on the results,
  - Without arbitrary measures.
- At the end of the epidemic

### **Preventative measures**

- Avoiding the occurrence of new epidemics
- Possible means (depending on the case)
  - Food hygien
  - Microbiological control
  - Sensibilisation
  - Education
  - Change regulation
- Maintain appropriate monitoring

### **Epidemiological Studies**

- Data gathering
- Creating a database
- Descriptive Studies
  - Prevalence
  - Impact
- Analytical study
  - Relative risk
  - Odd ratio

### **Duty station**

The consultant would be assigned to the RAHC in Bamako during his period of office or other place considered compatible with the performance of the work.

### **Duration**

The duration of the consultant's assignment is 30 days

### **Coordination and supervision**

The consultation would be closely coordinated by the Bamako Research Center and the Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development. Overall supervision would be the responsibility of the Commissioner for Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources of ECOWAS.

### **Logistics and financing**

The RAHC through the USAID-funded "One Health" Project will provide logistics and consultation fees in accordance with CILSS rules and procedures administering these project funds.



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### Medical Conditions

The consultant should provide evidence of his or her good health in order to undertake the work. The consultant is also required to provide proof of medical protection or appropriate health insurance to provide universal medical coverage.

### Qualifications and skills

**Education:** The consultant should have a university qualification in the field of health sciences or veterinary medicine, a good knowledge in epidemiology and laboratory technique are highly desirable.

**Experience:** A minimum 20-year work experience related to the field of epidemiology and especially zoonosis would be a serious asset. Proven experience in epidemiology, laboratory technology and capacity building of national epidemiology and laboratory technicians would be essential. Working experience with the ECOWAS member states would be sought.

**Professionalism:** The consultant must have a high sense of professionalism and respect for deadlines. Applications should be sent to CILSS. The selected consultant would be officially informed in order to enable him to initiate the contractualisation procedures and the execution of the consultation. The CILSS is an employer that gives equal opportunity to any future employee. For more information on the consultation contact the RAHC.

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17 JUIL. 2017