CONSULTANCY

Terms of Reference

This consultancy is requested by:

Unit:	AMR Surveillance
Department:	AMR Secretariat

1. Purpose of the Consultancy

The position will provide microbiology and epidemiology expertise to support development and pilot testing of a framework for AMR surveillance in candidemia and assist with further development of WHO Global antimicrobial resistance (AMR) Surveillance System.

2. Background

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in a wide range of infectious agents is a growing public health threat of huge concern to countries and to many sectors. To date, the global response has focused on pathogens other than fungi (e.g., bacteria and viruses).While largely out of the public's view, fungi are also major causes of human disease and death, and resistance to antifungal medications is a growing problem, as it is for antibiotic drugs. One of the major limitations in addressing the threat of antifungal resistant fungi is a lack of data at the global level. Few countries have effective surveillance systems for fungal diseases, and, consequently, statistics on their incidence, resistance, and related burden of disease are limited.

The Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (GLASS)[1] aims to support the implementation of the Global Action Plan on AMR (GAP-AMR), and specifically the GAP-AMR strategic objective to strengthen the knowledge and evidence base through surveillance. Having all countries able to capture and share information with a global AMR surveillance system is key to inform local and global strategies to contain AMR. The goal of GLASS is to enable integrated analysis of standardized, comparable and validated data on AMR to be shared with countries and inform strategies to tackle AMR locally, regionally and globally. GLASS aims to foster national surveillance systems and will gather AMR surveillance information provided by the national governmental bodies.

Recognising the growing threat of resistant fungal infection, GLASS aims to begin a global collaborative effort to synthesize available data on invasive fungal bloodstream infection due to *Candida* spp and antifungal resistance and provide a roadmap towards a more robust response to antifungal resistance. The meeting to outline the global framework for surveillance of antifungal resistance in invasive *Candida* spp infection has been held in Madrid, Spain on the 24th of April 2018[2].

3. Planned timelines (subject to confirmation)

Start date: 01/09/2018

End date: 28/02/2019

4. Work to be performed

Output 1: Tools for implementation of the AMR surveillance in candidemia protocol

Deliverable 1.1: Develop and pilot a tool for assessment of laboratory capacity for identification and susceptibility testing of *Candida* spp.

Deliverable 1.2: Develop specifications for the IT module for the surveillance of AMR in candidemia

Output 2: Pilot testing design to test the framework for AMR surveillance in candidemia

[1] http://www.who.int/glass/en/

[2] Meeting on Global Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance Invasive Candida Infections. Report available at http://www.who.int/glass/events/AMR-in-invasive-candida-infections-meeting/en/.

Deliverable 2.1: In collaboration with WHO Regional Offices and Country Offices, identify sentinel sites in all regions to pilot the framework for AMR surveillance in candidemia.

Deliverable 2.1: Plan in collaboration with WHO Regional Offices and Country Offices the suitable approach for pilot testing the candidemia surveillance framework in each country.

5. Technical Supervision

The selected Consultant will work on the supervision of:

Responsible Officer:	Dr Sergey Eremin, Medical Officer, HQ/DGO/AMR Secretariat	Email:	
Manager:	Dr Carmem Pessoa, AMR Coordinator a.i., HQ/DGO/AMR Secretariat	Email:	

6. Specific requirements

- Qualifications required:

Essential

- Advanced university degree in microbiology
- University degree in public health, epidemiology, or another subject that supports the requirements of the position.

Desirable

- Post-graduate training in mycology

- Experience required:

- Proven experience in the field of surveillance of infectious diseases.
- At least 5 years of international experience in the public health domain.
- Experience in low and/or middle income countries (as per World Bank classification)

- Skills / Technical skills and knowledge:

- Sound knowledge of the public health aspects of surveillance of infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance
- Sound knowledge of the public health aspects of microbiology laboratory capacity building
- An understanding of international public health.
- Experience in developing technical reports and documents including in the field of AMR.
- Proven capacity in networking sensitively, cooperatively and productively with multiple stakeholders.
- Proven analytical and data presentation skills.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

- Language requirements:

- Excellent knowledge of English.
- Knowledge of any other WHO official language would be an advantage, in particular Spanish or French knowledge.

7. Place of assignment

The assignment is based in Geneva. Some travel would be required.

8. Medical clearance

The selected Consultant will be expected to provide a medical certificate of fitness for work.