



External Publication of Job Posting

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Job Posting Title

HEAD OF DIVISION, DISEASE INTELLIGENCE AND SURVEILLANCE – AFRICA CDC

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15.08.2017

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15.09.2017

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HDDICDC03

Job Title

HEAD OF DIVISION, DISEASE INTELLIGENCE AND SURVEILLANCE – AFRICA CDC

Organization

The African Union, established as a unique Pan African continental body, is charged with spearheading Africa's rapid integration and sustainable development by promoting unity, solidarity, cohesion and cooperation among the peoples of Africa and African States as well as developing a new partnership worldwide. Its Headquarters is located in Addis Ababa, capital city of Ethiopia.

The Africa Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) was officially launched in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on January 31, 2017. The Africa CDC is Africa's first continent-wide public health agency and envisions a safer, healthier, integrated and stronger Africa, where Member States are capable of effectively responding to outbreaks of infectious diseases and other public health threats. The agency mission is to strengthen Africa's public health institutions' capabilities to detect and respond quickly and effectively to disease outbreaks and other health burdens through an integrated network of continent-wide preparedness and response, surveillance, laboratory, and research programs.

Towards meeting its' mission, the Africa CDC will work with African Union member States, WHO, and partners in the five geographic sub-regions of Africa to strengthen their capacity in five strategic priority areas: (1) public health surveillance and disease intelligence; (2) public health emergency preparedness and response; (3) public health laboratory systems and networks; (4) public health information and technology systems; and (5) public health research and public health institutes.

In seeking to achieve this objective, the African Union intends to strengthen its capacity to deliver by, among others, the reinforcement of its organizational structure and expertise. The Commission of the African Union invites applicants who are national and citizens of Member States for a position of Head of Division, Disease Intelligence and Surveillance for the Africa CDC.

Department

POST:

Job title: Head, Disease Intelligence and Surveillance
Grade: P5
Department: Africa CDC
Supervisor: Director of Africa CDC
Duty Station: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Number of Positions: 1

Project

Job Purpose:

The Head, Disease Intelligence and Surveillance Division, reports to the Director, Africa CDC and is responsible for leading and coordinating the agency public health infectious disease monitoring and surveillance programme. The Head oversees a Division composed of multi-disciplinary teams charged with carrying out specific technical work in developing, implementing and maintaining and evaluating the systems and tools employed by the Division to carry out the disease surveillance framework and implementation platform outlined in the agency strategic plan. Additionally, the Head and Division staff will work through the Regional Collaborating Centres, and in collaboration with Member States, National Public Health Institutes, WHO-AFRO and other technical partners build and maintain a continent-wide infectious disease monitoring and surveillance system. This system will build on existing public health disease surveillance systems and activities to generate data and reporting against targeted diseases to yield routine and events based surveillance information for the Africa CDC, including its Regional Collaborating Centres (RCC) and Member State constituencies, and its core public health partners. The Division will also build related technical capacity of its constituent base through training and delivery of technical assistance.

Tasks

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Establish event-based surveillance as an important mechanism for early warning, risk assessment, disease predictions and response
- Strengthen implementation of the existing surveillance systems such as IDSR within member states and ensure linkages with animal, agriculture and environmental sectors
- Support countries to strengthen disease-specific surveillance systems for priority diseases (e.g. Malaria, TB, HIV and NCD) appropriate for the African context
- Support establishment and strengthening of National Public Health Institutes to coordinate surveillance systems in a multi-sectorial approach and ensure surveillance data inform national policy and public health actions.
- Facilitate and strengthen RCC in promoting inter-country collaboration on surveillance data sharing and use, and promote engagement of countries in regional surveillance and laboratory networks.
- Strengthen quality of data collection and management
- Improve Africa CDC's access to health-related data through coordination, collaboration and technical assistance
- Support National Public Health Institutes' capacity on data analysis for action

Requirements

1. Educational Qualifications and Work Experience Required:

University Master's Degree in public health, laboratory and health-services research or a related discipline with

12 years of practical experiences in public health laboratory research, surveillance and/or health sciences and outcomes research, in any setting, including a governmental agency, academic institution, research organization or a life-sciences Company of which 7 years of managerial level experiences in national, regional or global public health programmes, disease epidemiology and surveillance programmes at national, regional or continental public health organizations in either private or public sector domains.

A Ph.D. in relevant field is an added advantage.

OR

University Bachelor Degree in public health, laboratory and health-services research or a related discipline with 15 years of practical experiences in public health laboratory research, surveillance and/or health sciences and outcomes research, in any setting, including a governmental agency, academic institution, research organization or a life-sciences Company of which 5 years of managerial level experiences in national, regional or global public health programmes, disease epidemiology and surveillance programmes at national, regional or continental public health organizations in either private or public sector domains.

2. Skills and Competencies Required

- Mastery of technical expertise and experience in the management of complex, public health programmes with special emphasis on epidemiology and surveillance and health information systems.
- Ability to analyze and respond to scientific trends in emerging infectious diseases, and to develop, apply and adjust disease surveillance programme strategies and policies to further agency mission, goals and objectives.
- Expert ability to conceptualize, plan, develop, implement, and evaluate public health surveillance programmes.
- Comprehensive knowledge and expert skill in application of planning, budgeting, assessment, and evaluation techniques.
- Expertise in data collection approaches and methodologies, data analysis and in narrative and systems based reporting of public health surveillance information.
- Expertise in planning, organizing, and leading teams of scientific and technical experts, senior programme representatives, and extramural consultants in complex projects including programmatic analyses. These may involve substantial agency resources and changes in established priorities, policies, and initiatives.
- Expert ability to establish priorities among competing interests and resolve arising conflicts is required.
- Highest level of interpersonal and communication skills (oral and written), tact, and sensitivity in the performance of duties
- Ability to exercise sound judgment and diplomacy is required to initiate and develop public- and private-sector partnerships to support and collaborate on public health issues and programmes that support the agency's mission
- Outstanding representational skills and experience to interact effectively with senior-level officials within the organization in other key stakeholders in both public and private-sector organizations
- Excellent negotiation skills.
- Demonstrated ability with regard to computer skills, including excellent word-processing capabilities, proficiency with e-mail and internet applications, experience in using programmes such as MS Excel, Power Point and Word;

- Ability to manage complex operations and teams; ability to apply effective leadership and interpersonal skills through use of strategic thinking, team and project leadership, decision-making skills and personnel development – including proven skills in supervision, team building, and motivating and developing people
- Analytical and problem solving skills
- Highly developed diplomatic, representational and interpersonal skills
- Delegation skills

- Able to operate in a multicultural environment
- High level of autonomy at work, yet with profound team-spirit
- Adaptive, Patient, resilient and flexible
- Pro-active and solutions oriented

3. Language Requirement:

Proficiency in one of the African Union working languages (Arabic, English, French and Portuguese) is required. Knowledge of one or more of the other AU working languages would be an added advantage.

4. Tenure of Appointment:

The appointment will be a fixed term contract for a period of One (1) years, of which the first Three (3) months shall be considered as a probationary period. Thereafter, the contract may be renewed for a similar period subject to funding availability, satisfactory performance, and agreed deliverables.

5. Equal Opportunities:

The African Union Commission is an equal opportunities employer. Qualified women are encouraged to apply.

6. Remuneration:

The indicative annual salary attached to the position is a lump sum of US\$110,107.14(P5 Step 5) inclusive of all allowances for internationally recruited staff, and US\$ 98,501.89 inclusive of all allowances for locally recruited staff.

How to Apply

All applications must reach the African Union Commission not later than 15th September 2017 through the AU Commission's website <http://www.aucareers.org>.

Applications are pre-screened by the system according to the published requirements of the job opening on the basis of the information provided in the application. In relation to the requirements of the job opening, applicants must provide complete and accurate information pertaining to their qualifications, including their education, work experience, and language skills. Each applicant must bear in mind that submission of incomplete or inaccurate applications may render that applicant ineligible for consideration for the job opening. Initial screening and evaluation of applications will be conducted on the basis of the information submitted. Applications cannot be amended following submission. Candidates under serious consideration for selection will be subject to a reference-checking process to verify the information provided in the application.

Directorate of Administration and Human Resources
Management, African Union Commission
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Contract Type

Fixed Term Contract

Employment Fraction

Full-time

Branch

Headquarters