



External Publication of Job Posting

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Job Posting Title

TECHNICAL OFFICER - LABORATORY SYSTEMS

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23.10.2019

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25.11.2019

Reference Code

CDC2019102311

Job Title

Technical Officer - Laboratory Systems

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 Centres 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 programmes.

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. The guiding principles of the Africa CDC include Leadership, Management, Finance, Workforce, Partnership and Innovation.

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 citizens of Member States to apply for the position of Technical Officer - Laboratory systems.

Department

Job title: Technical Officer - Laboratory Systems

Grade: P2
Department: Africa CDC
Supervisor: Head, Division of Laboratory Systems
Duty Station: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Number of Post: 1

Project

The Technical Officer - Laboratory Systems will be responsible for carrying out a variety of technical and programme management support services in the area of public health laboratory systems and networks strengthening in service of Regional Collaborating Centres (RCC) and National Public Health Institutes (NPHI) activities and programmes.

Tasks

The Technical Officer - Laboratory Systems shall:

- a) Provide programmatic and technical assistance to activities related to public health laboratory systems and networks strengthening activities. Technical assistance and programme management support activities may include laboratory systems strengthening, laboratory quality management systems, cross country specimen transportation, laboratory biosafety and biosecurity, equipment maintenance and calibration, laboratory diagnostics, laboratory research, laboratory management support to include, procurement, budget and financial management, grants monitoring and reporting and other support, workforce capacity development, outbreak response and other activities.
- b) Collect and analyze data to address complex project and programme needs. Identify and/or recommend changes to programme and project based intervention.
- c) Support the development and implementation of planning tools and reference guidance for Africa CDC laboratory related goals and objectives, working in collaboration with the RCCs and NHPs.
- d) Support the functioning of Regional Integrated Surveillance and Laboratory network in a form of "one health concept"
- e) Provide technical and programmatic assistance for requirements related to laboratory surveillance and reporting, emergency procurement and related deployment logistics support, financial management, information technology (IT) equipment and systems logistics, case monitoring and disease surveillance, and other administrative and programme technical support for regional, national and localized activities related to public health emergency response.
- f) Under the direction of the designated Africa CDC Incident Commander, provide technical services delivery in support of Africa CDC Emergency Response activities as appropriate and assigned.
- g) Perform any other duties as assigned.

Requirements

1. Qualification and Work Experience Required:

A University Bachelor degree in Laboratory Science, biomedical Science, laboratory management, other health sciences or any other related field, with five 3-4 years of experience

Or

A University Diploma in laboratory science, biomedical Sciences, laboratory management, other health sciences, or any other related field and must have at least 5 years of experience at a specialist level.

- An advanced degree in Laboratory Science, Biomedical Science, Medical Microbiology, virology, Immunology and related fields will be preferred and will be an added advantage
- Combined and continuous experience in supporting implementation of laboratory programmes, with emphasis on management of laboratory systems, laboratory quality management system including

strengthening laboratory management towards accreditation, external laboratory quality assessment, training of laboratory workforce, logistics management system, laboratory biosafety and biosecurity and laboratory based survey and surveillance programs, logistics management and laboratory information system. Documented experience working in the African public health sector is also preferred.

2. Required Knowledge and Understanding:

- Clear understanding of the laboratory systems and networks on the Continent and fair knowledge of operations of the Ministry of health in Member States.
- Knowledge and experience in supporting national laboratory systems and networks or other public sector projects and programmes under government ministries and external donors.
- Knowledge of public health issues in Africa and at least 5 years previous experience working and in Africa.
- Understanding of the African Union way of working and managing associated relationships with Member State entities and partners.

Required Functional Skills and Abilities:

A. Functional Skills

- Demonstrable skills in laboratory diagnostic procedures;
- Familiarity with laboratory quality management practices and processes typically employed by public health laboratories;
- Sound technical writing skills, in addition to narrative and financial reporting skills;
- Knowledge of oral communication techniques to make presentations, provide programme consultation, and respond to inquiries;
- Skills in translating technical information into presentations, briefings and report and funding proposals for both technical and lay audiences;
- Familiarity with administrative and management support practice and processes typically employed by public health and other public sector programmes;
- Knowledge of interpersonal relationship practices to meet and deal with persons of diverse backgrounds;
- Demonstrable computer skills, including excellent word-processing capabilities, proficiency with e-mail and internet applications and experience in using office software applications such as MS Excel, Power Point and Word.

B. Personal Abilities

- Analytical and problem solving abilities;
- Able to operate in a multicultural environment;
- High level of autonomy at work, yet with profound team-spirit;
- Adaptive, patient, resourceful, resilient and flexible;
- Ability to be pro-active and solutions oriented.

3. Language Requirement:

Proficiency in at least one of the African Union working languages (English, French, Arabic, Portuguese); knowledge of other working languages would be an added advantage.

4. Tenure of Appointment:

The appointment will be made on a regular term contract for a period of three (3) years, of which the first twelve months will be considered a probationary period. Thereafter the contract shall be renewable every two years subject to good performance and deliverables.

5. Gender Mainstreaming:

The AU Commission is an equal opportunity employer and qualified women are strongly encouraged to apply.

6. Least Representative Countries :

Candidates from the following least represented countries are encouraged to apply: Algeria, Angola, Cape Verde, Central African Rep. , Comoros, Congo (DRC), Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ghana, Guinea, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Saharawi Arab D.R. , Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and South Sudan

7. Remuneration:

Indicative basic salary of US\$ 31,073.00 (P2 Step 1) per annum plus other related entitlements e.g. Post adjustment 46% of basic salary, Housing allowance \$ 26,208.00 per annum and education allowance (100% of tuition and other education related expenses for every eligible dependent up to a maximum of US\$ 10,000.00 per child per annum), for internationally recruited staff and a maximum of \$3,300 per child per annum for locally recruited staff.

How to apply

Applications must be made through the AUC E-recruitment Website
<http://www.aucareers.org> no later than 25th November 2019.

1. Attach detailed and updated curriculum vitae/resume including three (3) referees with good knowledge. Of candidate's work, please, provide referees' contact details – telephone and e-mail addresses.
2. Copy of valid passport.
3. Certified copies of educational qualifications – degrees, diplomas and certificates, where applicable (Not More than 5 Documents in PDF Format, and not exceeding 1 MB).
4. Please be aware that only complete applications will be considered.
5. Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted

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 Resource Management
African Union Commission

Contract Type

Regular (Long Duration)

Employment Fraction

Full-time

Branch

Headquarters