

Review and update of National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan (NPPRP) for Nepal incorporating lessons learnt from COVID-19 and latest international guidelines and experiences

Request for Proposals (RFP)

Bid Reference

RFP/NEP/2022/029

Unit Name

WHO Health Emergencies

Purpose of the RFP:

[Review and update of National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan (NPPRP) for Nepal]

Closing Date:

[25 July 2022]

The World Health Organization (WHO) is seeking offers for the review and update of National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan (NPPRP) for Nepal, incorporating lessons learnt from COVID-19 and latest international guidelines and experience, as per attached ToR.

Your ☒ Company ☒ Institution is invited to submit a proposal for the services in response to this Request for Proposals (RFP).

WHO is a public international organization, consisting of 194 Member States, and a Specialized Agency of the United Nations with the mandate to act as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work. As such, WHO is dependent on the budgetary and extra-budgetary contributions it receives for the implementation of its activities. Bidders are, therefore, requested to propose the best and most cost-effective solution to meet WHO requirements, while ensuring a high level of service.

1. Requirements

WHO requires the successful bidder, to carry out the update of National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan (NPPRP) for Nepal incorporating lessons learnt from COVID-19 and latest international guideline and experience.

See attached detailed Terms of Reference for complete information.

The successful bidder shall be a ☒ for profit / ☒ not for profit institution operating in the field of **Pandemic Preparedness and Response and/or other infectious pathogens in the health sector of Nepal**, with proven expertise in **related field**.

- I. Legally entitled to run/operate the Institutes/organizations/companies as per the applicable rules for companies/NGOs in the country/ a legal entity having required registration with the Government of Nepal; WHO shall disqualify bidders during initial scrutiny if the required information and supporting documents are not provided with the technical proposal.
- II. Capable to operate with all applicable local rates and costs for the expert (technical) and field services. WHO shall reserve the right to disqualify bidder(s) if they (the bidder) are found to have not asked rates/costs as per the applicable local rates and costs for the expert (technical) and field activities in implementing the desired technical services/works. WHO has its own parameter in determining the applicable local rates and costs for expert (technical) and field activities.
- III. Capable to implement the desired work/projects in specified location (project sites) utilizing own existing administrative, operational, and logistical resources to implement the projects without adding up Overhead costs to the Purchaser (WHO).

Finance and accounting requirements

- A. The potential Organization/Company has good accounting systems to keep track of income, expenses, assets, and liabilities enabling them to submit financial statements with all supporting documents to meet WHO financial reporting requirements.
- B. The bidder will be required to submit the financial report as per WHO provided template of statement of expenditure along with original vouchers duly signed. Unspent money must be refunded to WHO.
- C. Has, VAT registration and up to date Income Tax Certificates.

The successful bidder is expected to demonstrate experience and list relevant projects as follows:

Mandatory experience:

- Having at least 5 years of experience of working in the related field.

Desirable experience:

- Having previous experience of drafting or review of the national guidelines or strategies, related to infectious diseases and/or pandemics preparedness and response.

Qualification and competencies of key professionals

As per attached ToR.

Bidders should follow the instructions set forth below in the submission of their proposal to WHO.

2. Proposal

The proposal and all correspondence and documents relating thereto shall be prepared and submitted in the **English** language.

The proposal should be concisely presented and structured to include the following information:

- Confidentiality Undertaking (please complete Annex 2)
- Presentation of your Company / Institution (*please complete Annex 2*)
- Proposed solution
- Proposed Approach/Methodology
- Proposed timeline
- Financial proposal – in separate file attachment.

The information which the bidder considers confidential, if any, should be clearly marked as such.

3. Instructions to Bidders

Bidders must follow the instructions set forth in this RFP in the submission of their proposal to WHO.

A prospective bidder requiring any clarification on technical, contractual, or commercial matters may notify WHO via email at the following address no later than 5 working days prior to the closing date for the submission of offers:

Email for submissions of all queries: senepquotations@who.int
(Use Bid reference in subject line)

A consolidated document of WHO's responses to all questions (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of enquiry) will be sent to all prospective bidders who have received the RFP.

From the date of issue of this RFP to the final selection, contact with WHO officials concerning the RFP process shall not be permitted, other than through the submission of queries and/or through a possible presentation or meeting called for by WHO, in accordance with the terms of this RFP.

The bidder shall submit, in writing, the complete proposal to WHO, no later than **25th July 2022, 05:00 PM, WHO Country Office for Nepal, Kuponhole, Lalitpur** ("the closing date"),

(Use Bid reference in the subject line)
(Use Bid reference in subject line)

To be complete, a proposal shall include:

- A technical proposal, as described under part 2 above,
- A financial proposal, as described under part 2 above,
- Annex 2, duly completed and signed by a person or persons duly authorized to represent the bidder, to submit a proposal and to bind the bidder to the terms of this RFP.

Each proposal shall be marked Ref: **RFP/NEP/2022/029**.

WHO may, at its own discretion, extend the closing date for the submission of proposals by notifying all bidders thereof in writing before the above closing date and time.



Any proposal received by WHO after the closing date for submission of proposals may be rejected. Bidders are therefore advised to ensure that they have taken all steps to submit their proposals in advance of the above closing date and time.

The offer outlined in the proposal must be valid for a minimum period of 90 calendar days after the closing date. A proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by WHO. In exceptional circumstances, WHO may solicit the bidder's consent to an extension of the period of validity. The request and the responses thereto shall be made in writing. Any bidder granting such an extension will not, however, be permitted to otherwise modify its proposal.

The bidder may withdraw its proposal any time after the proposal's submission and before the above-mentioned closing date, provided that written notice of the withdrawal is received by WHO at the email address indicated above, before the closing date for submission of proposals.

No proposal may be modified after its submission, unless WHO has issued an amendment to the RFP allowing such modifications.

No proposal may be withdrawn in the interval between the closing date and the expiration of the period of proposal validity specified by the bidder in the proposal (subject always to the minimum period of validity referred to above).

WHO may, at any time before the closing date, for any reason, whether on its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a (prospective) bidder, modify the RFP by written amendment. Amendments could, *inter alia*, include modification of the project scope or requirements, the project timeline expectations and/or extension of the closing date for submission.

All prospective bidders that have received the RFP will be notified in writing of all amendments to the RFP and will, where applicable, be invited to amend their proposal accordingly.

All bidders must adhere to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct, which is available on the WHO procurement website at <http://www.who.int/about/finances-accountability/procurement/en/>.

4. Evaluation

Before conducting the technical and financial evaluation of the proposals received, WHO will perform a preliminary examination of these proposals to determine whether they are complete, whether any computational errors have been made, whether the documents have been properly signed, and whether the proposals are generally in order. Proposals which are not in order as aforesaid may be rejected.

The evaluation panel will evaluate the technical merits of all the proposals which have passed the preliminary examination of proposals based on the following weighting:

Technical Weighting:	70 % of total evaluation
Financial Weighting:	30 % of total evaluation

The technical evaluation of the proposals will include:

Addressing of WHO's requirements with legal documents of the firm	10 %
General experience of the firm in carrying out activities on development of guidelines and strategies related to epidemics/pandemics preparedness and response or related to infectious diseases	10 %
Specific experience of the firm in carrying out similar projects	10 %
Qualifications and competence of the personnel proposed for the assignment	20 %
Proposed approach and methodology	20 %
TOTAL	70 %

The scoring scale per criteria was defined as follows:

Criteria evaluated as:	Based on the following supporting evidence:	Corresponds to the score of:
Excellent	Excellent evidence of ability to exceed requirements	100%
Good	Good evidence of ability to exceed requirements	90%
Satisfactory	Satisfactory evidence of ability to support requirements	70%
Poor	Marginally acceptable or weak evidence of ability to support requirements	40%
Very Poor	Lack of evidence to demonstrate ability to comply with requirements	10%
No submission	Information has not been submitted or is unacceptable	0%

The number of points which can be obtained for each evaluation criterion is specified above and indicates the relative significance or weight of the item in the overall evaluation process.

A minimum of [49 out of 70] points is required to pass the technical evaluation.

The final evaluation will combine the weighted scores of both technical and financial proposals to come up with a cumulative total score.

Please note that WHO is not bound to select any bidder and may reject all proposals. Furthermore, since a contract would be awarded in respect of the proposal which is considered most responsive to the needs of the project concerned, due consideration being given to WHO's general principles, including the principle of best value for money, WHO does not bind itself in any way to select the bidder offering the lowest price.

WHO may, at its discretion, ask any bidder for clarification of any part of its proposal. The request for clarification and the response shall be in writing. No change in price or substance of the proposal shall be sought, offered, or permitted during this exchange.

NOTE: Individual contact between WHO and bidders is expressly prohibited both before and after the closing date for submission of proposals.

5. Award

WHO reserves the right to:

- a) Award the contract to a bidder of its choice, even if its bid is not the lowest,
- b) Award separate contracts for parts of the work, components, or items, to one or more bidders of its choice, even if their bids are not the lowest,
- c) Accept or reject any proposal, and to annul the solicitation process and reject all proposals at any time prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders and without any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for WHO's action,
- d) Award the contract on the basis of the Organization's particular objectives to a bidder whose proposal is considered to be the most responsive to the needs of the Organization and the activity concerned,
- e) Not award any contract at all.

WHO has the right to eliminate bids for technical or other reasons throughout the evaluation/selection process. WHO shall not in any way be obliged to reveal, or discuss with any bidder, how a proposal was assessed, or to provide any other information relating to the evaluation/selection process or to state the reasons for elimination to any bidder.

NOTE: WHO is acting in good faith by issuing this RFP. However, this document does not oblige WHO to contract for the performance of any work, nor for the supply of any products or services.

At any time during the evaluation/selection process, WHO reserves the right to modify the scope of the work, services and/or goods called for under this RFP. WHO shall notify the change to only those bidders who have not been officially eliminated due to technical reasons at that point in time.

WHO reserves the right at the time of award of contract to extend, reduce or otherwise revise the scope of the work, services and/or goods called for under this RFP without any change in the base price or other terms and conditions offered by the selected bidder.

WHO also reserves the right to enter into negotiations with one or more bidders of its choice, including but not limited to negotiation of the terms of the proposal(s), the price quoted in such proposal(s) and/or the deletion of certain parts of the work, components or items called for under this RFP.

Within 30 days of receipt of the contract between WHO and the successful bidder (the "Contract"), the successful bidder shall sign and date the Contract and return it to WHO according to the instructions provided at that time. If the bidder does not accept the Contract terms without changes, then WHO has the right not to proceed with the selected bidder and instead contract with another bidder of its choice. The Contract will include, without limitation, the provisions set forth in Annex 3.

Any and all of the contractor's (general and/or special) conditions of contract are hereby explicitly excluded from the Contract, i.e., regardless of whether such conditions are included in the Contractor's offer, or printed or referred to on the Contractor's letterhead, invoices and/or other material, documentation, or communications.

We look forward to receiving your response to this RFP.

Yours sincerely,
Norbu Wangchuk
Administrative Officer

**Annexes**

1. Detailed Terms of Reference
2. Vendor Information Form
3. Contractual provisions



Annex 1: Detailed Terms of Reference

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Review and update of National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan (NPPRP) for Nepal

1. **Introduction:** The world is vulnerable to different types of outbreaks, epidemics or pandemics caused either by the existing pathogens like influenza or some novel pathogens. The occurrence of epidemics or pandemics has not only the substantial health impacts but also profound social and economic consequences including labor disruptions, mental health impacts, damages to critical health infrastructure and services. Investing in the preparedness and response plan for pandemics is crucial for all the countries across the globe. Over the years, it is seen that major pandemics are linked to respiratory infections like Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) or the recent ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The threats of emerging infectious diseases to the global health are equally concerning and has steadily increased over the last decades. The pathogens/microbes interact with their surroundings or ecosystems and keep changing to adapt to the environment. To enhance this effort in fight against emerging infections or pandemics, the World Health Organization (WHO) has recently updated the global strategy for acute respiratory infections (ARIs) including SARI, influenza, and novel coronaviruses. As improving health of its citizen is priority of the government, Nepal has committed to reducing the morbidity and mortality with the support of the national and international partners and stakeholders like WHO. The country has made several efforts in this regard including the development of National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan 2019. The recent globally pandemic of COVID-19 has hardly hit the country and there are a lot of lessons learnt in this pandemic. The lessons are often shared through different programs and platforms like conduction of Intra-Action Review (IAR) in COVID-19 in the country. In addition, the global challenges, experiences, and lessons learnt are equally important to Nepal. Hence, there is a need of an updated and coordinated plan to strengthen the various ongoing efforts in pandemic preparedness and response in Nepal.

In this regard, the Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (EDCD) under Department of Health Services (DoHS), Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), Nepal with the support from WHO has decided to review and update the National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan (NPPRP) for Nepal. This strategy should incorporate the lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemics and recommendations of COVID-19 intra-action review (IAR). In addition, the strategy should be in line with the updated global strategy on pandemic preparedness and response and facilitate easy collaboration among Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (EDCD), National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL), Department Livestock Services and other relevant stakeholders incorporating the concept of one health.

2. Objectives

The overall objective is to review and update the National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan (NPPRP) for Nepal incorporating lessons learnt from COVID-19 and latest international guidelines and experiences.

3. Scope of the work

The specific scope of the work is mentioned below.

a. Preliminary Stage

The preliminary stage will provide the team conducting the Strategic review with insight into the current state of the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) and relevant structure with the existing functional areas and status of overall pandemic preparedness and response activities in Nepal, including but not limited to governance, workflows, and user-roles. The key elements for review include:



- Mapping of stakeholders working in pandemic preparedness and response activities
- Overall governance and stakeholders' review including but not limited to human resources, information technology, finances and budget management, service delivery
- Analyze the Strengths, Challenges, Opportunity, and Threats in relation to current operational and performance in pandemic preparedness and response

b. Drafting of the updated National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan

Conduct consultations with stakeholders and draft NPPRP through following steps:

- Review global and national existing vision, mission, and objectives in relation to pandemic preparedness and response to its overall mandate to determine strategic alignment
- Review relevant departments of MoHP and organizations/stakeholders for its function and operations to identify the support, alignment and overlaps for pandemic preparedness and response activities
- Explore the lessons learnt and recommendations during COVID-19 and latest international guidelines and experiences
- Draft an updated National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan

c. Workshop with relevant stakeholders to discuss on updated plan

What functions should be retained, improved, or abolished; identify rationale and value of proposed functions, and any related implementation risks.

- Conduct workshop to discuss on updated pandemic plan with the engagement of relevant stakeholders, including but not limited to EDCD, Department of livestock services, NPHL, concerned professors of the different universities and obtain feedback.
- Incorporate the feedbacks in finalization of the updated National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan.

4. Deliverables

The terms of assignment shall be effective from the date of signature by both the parties. The proposed deadlines to carry out the assignment are:

- Inception report showing the understanding of scope of work in relation to scope of the assignment
- Documents including work plan, desk review documents, data collection tool for review, and soft copy of other relevant documents
- Initial draft of an updated National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan for Nepal including all aspects provided in the scope of work
- Conduct workshop and power-point presentation to EDCD, MoHP, WHO and relevant stakeholders, and internal planning team on the updated pandemic plan and obtain the feedback
- Final updated National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan for Nepal with incorporation of feedback by the end of contract
- Policy brief on updated Pandemic Preparedness and Response for relevant stakeholders
- All financial and technical report

All deliverables should be submitted in printed form and digital copies. All documents should be written in **English**. All raw data should be submitted together with the final report. All deliverables should be submitted within the contract period.

5. Responsibilities

The consulting agency should have the following responsibilities during the entire working period and remedies thereafter.

- a. Conduct a detailed review of the relevant documents including the existing national and WHO updated guidelines
- b. Prepare an updated National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan for Nepal based on the review of the documents and WHO updated global strategy
- c. Conduct the workshop with the concerned stakeholders including the personnel from EDCCD-DoHS, MoHP, NPHL, Department of Livestock services, WHO Nepal, concerned universities/colleges and faculties and the relevant partners working on One Health concept in Nepal for the feedback on the drafted guideline version and note them down.
- d. Incorporate the feedback and recommendations from the workshop in the updated NPPRP for Nepal
- e. Prepare the final draft of updated National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan for Nepal
- f. Ensure information confidentiality

6. Budget and Payment Modalities

The World Health Organization will provide technical and financial support for the work. The payment will be made in three installments as per the following in the first phase.

Installment	Payment	Deliverables and Conditions
First installment	25 % of the total Budget	After receiving the inception report
Second Installment	50 % of the total Budget	Submission of the draft NPPRP
Final Installment	25% of the total Budget	Submission of financial and technical report

7. Timeline

The assignment needs to be completed within 2 months from the date of signing the contract. The progress needs to be demonstrated through meetings with relevant stakeholders and WHO technical experts in line with the proposed timeline:

- a. Preliminary Phase: including the 1st draft of the updated NPPRP: 1st and 2nd week, August 2022
- b. Workshop with the relevant stakeholders: 3rd week, August 2022
- c. Final draft of NPPRP incorporating feedback: last week, August 2022

8. Ownership of Work

Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (EDCCD), MoHP will be entitled to the updated National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan for Nepal and any documents or material produced under this contract. All the information and data collected and generated during the process will be the property of EDCCD and WHO Nepal which should be handed over to WHO Nepal at the end of the completion of the tasks. The consulting agency ensures confidentiality, and such data and information should not be used for other requirements without the permission of WHO.

9. Outline for financial and technical report

**World Health Organization
Country Office for Nepal****Documents needed for evaluation of the proposal**

Name of the work: Review and update of National Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan for Nepal

Technical Evaluation

1. Institutional profile
2. Institutional experience
3. Work plan and team mobilization
4. Qualification and experience of all experts
5. CVs of all personnel proposed

Financial Evaluation

1. Material development cost
2. Stakeholder meetings and Workshop cost
3. Total cost (taxes separately mentioned)
4. Mode of payment (if mentioned other than ToR)

Other terms and conditions are applied as per terms of reference.



Annex 2: Vendor Information Form

Company Information to be provided by the Vendor submitting the proposal			
UNGM Vendor ID Number: <i>If available – Refer to WHO website for registration process*</i>			
Legal Company Name: <i>(Not trade name or DBA name)</i>			
Company Contact:			
Address:			
City:		State:	
Country:		Zip:	
Telephone Number:		Fax Number:	
Email Address:		Company Website:	
<u>Corporate information:</u>			
Company mission statement			
Service commitment to customers and measurements used <i>(if available)</i>			
Organization structure <i>(Include description of those parts of your organization that would be involved in the performance of the work)</i>			
Relevant experience <i>(How could your expertise contribute to WHO's needs for the purpose of this RFP) – Please attach reference and contact details</i>			
Staffing information			

* <http://www.who.int/about/finances-accountability/procurement/en/>

Annex 3: Contractual Provisions

Within 30 days of receipt of the contract between WHO and the successful bidder (the “Contract”), the successful bidder shall sign and date the Contract and return it to WHO according to the instructions provided at that time. If the bidder does not accept the Contract terms without changes, then WHO has the right not to proceed with the selected bidder and instead contract with another bidder of its choice. The Contract will include, without limitation, the provisions set forth below (with the successful bidder referred to below as the “Contractor”):

1. **Compliance with WHO Codes and Policies.** By entering into the Contract, the Contractor acknowledges that it has read, and hereby accepts and agrees to comply with, the WHO Policies (as defined below).

In connection with the foregoing, the Contractor shall take appropriate measures to prevent and respond to any violations of the standards of conduct, as described in the WHO Policies, by its employees and any other persons engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract.

Without limiting the foregoing, the Contractor shall promptly report to WHO, in accordance with the terms of the applicable WHO Policies, any actual or suspected violations of any WHO Policies of which the Contractor becomes aware.

For purposes of the Contract, the term “WHO Policies” means collectively: (i) the WHO Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct; (ii) the WHO Policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Prevention and Response; (iii) the WHO Code of Conduct for responsible Research; (iv) the WHO Policy on Whistleblowing and Protection Against Retaliation; and (v) the UN Supplier Code of Conduct, in each case, as amended from time to time and which are publicly available on the WHO website at the following links: <http://www.who.int/about/finances-accountability/procurement/en/> for the UN Supplier Code of Conduct and at <http://www.who.int/about/ethics/en/> for the other WHO Policies.

2. **Zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse.** WHO has zero tolerance towards sexual exploitation and abuse. In this regard, and without limiting any other provisions contained herein:

(i) each legal entity Contractor warrants that it will: (i) take all reasonable and appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation or abuse as described in the WHO Policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Prevention and Response by any of its employees and any other persons engaged by it to perform any services under the Contract; and (ii) promptly report to WHO and respond to, in accordance with the terms of the Policy, any actual or suspected violations of the Policy of which the contractor becomes aware; and

(ii) each individual Contractor warrants that he/she will (i) not engage in any conduct that would constitute sexual exploitation or abuse as described in the WHO Policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Prevention and Response; and (ii) promptly report to WHO, in accordance with the terms of the Policy, any actual or suspected violations of the Policy of which the Contractor becomes aware.

3. **Tobacco/Arms Related Disclosure Statement.** The Contractor may be required to disclose relationships it may have with the tobacco and/or arms industry through completion of the WHO Tobacco/Arms Disclosure Statement. In the event WHO requires completion of this Statement, the Contractor undertakes not to permit work on the Contract to commence, until WHO has assessed the disclosed information and confirmed to the Contractor in writing that the work can commence.

4. **Anti-Terrorism and UN Sanctions; Fraud and Corruption.** The Contractor warrants for the entire duration of the Contract that:

i. it is not and will not be involved in, or associated with, any person or entity associated with terrorism, as designated by any UN Security Council sanctions regime, that it will not make any payment or provide any

other support to any such person or entity and that it will not enter into any employment or subcontracting relationship with any such person or entity;

ii. it shall not engage in any illegal, corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices (including bribery, theft and other misuse of funds) in connection with the execution of the Contract; and

iii. the Contractor shall take all necessary precautions to prevent the financing of terrorism and/or any illegal corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices (including bribery, theft and other misuse of funds) in connection with the execution of the Contract.

Any payments used by the Contractor for the promotion of any terrorist activity or any illegal, corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practice shall be repaid to WHO without delay.

5. **Breach of essential terms.** The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that each of the provisions of paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 above constitutes an essential term of the Contract, and that in case of breach of any of these provisions, WHO may, in its sole discretion, decide to:

i. terminate the Contract, and/or any other contract concluded by WHO with the Contractor, immediately upon written notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind; and/or

ii. exclude the Contractor from participating in any ongoing or future tenders and/or entering into any future contractual or collaborative relationships with WHO.

WHO shall be entitled to report any violation of such provisions to WHO's governing bodies, other UN agencies, and/or donors.

6. **Use of WHO Name and Emblem.** Without WHO's prior written approval, the Contractor shall not, in any statement or material of an advertising or promotional nature, refer to the Contract or the Contractor's relationship with WHO, or otherwise use the name (or any abbreviation thereof) and/or emblem of the World Health Organization.

7. **Assurances regarding procurement.** If the option for payment of a maximum amount applies, to the extent the Contractor is required to purchase any goods and/or services in connection with its performance of the Contract, the Contractor shall ensure that such goods and/or services shall be procured in accordance with the principle of best value for money. "Best value for money" means the responsive offer that is the best combination of technical specifications, quality and price.

8. **Audit.** WHO may request a financial and operational review or audit of the work performed under the Contract, to be conducted by WHO and/or parties authorized by WHO, and the Contractor undertakes to facilitate such review or audit. This review or audit may be carried out at any time during the implementation of the work performed under the Contract, or within five years of completion of the work. In order to facilitate such financial and operational review or audit, the Contractor shall keep accurate and systematic accounts and records in respect of the work performed under the Contract.

The Contractor shall make available, without restriction, to WHO and/or parties authorized by WHO:

i. the Contractor's books, records and systems (including all relevant financial and operational information) relating to the Contract; and

ii. reasonable access to the Contractor's premises and personnel.

The Contractor shall provide satisfactory explanations to all queries arising in connection with the aforementioned audit and access rights.

WHO may request the Contractor to provide complementary information about the work performed under the Contract that is reasonably available, including the findings and results of an audit (internal or external) conducted by the Contractor and related to the work performed under the Contract.

9. **Publication of Contract.** Subject to considerations of confidentiality, WHO may acknowledge the existence of the Contract to the public and publish and/or otherwise publicly disclose the Contractor's name and country of incorporation, general information with respect to the work described herein and the Contract value. Such disclosure will be made in accordance with WHO's Information Disclosure Policy and shall be consistent with the terms of the Contract.