

Draft Terms of Reference

This Agreement for Performance of Work (APW) is requested by:

Initiator:	Peter Beyer	Reg.#:	
Unit:	Global initiatives and research coordination (IRC)	Cluster / Dpt.:	Global Coordination and Partnership on Antimicrobial Resistance (GCP)

1. *Purpose of the APW

To support the Department of Global Coordination and Partnership on Antimicrobial Resistance (GCP) in the implementation of the *Global Action Plan* on Antimicrobial Resistance and more specifically the European Commission funded a *project on “Ensuring availability of off-patent antibiotics”*, through providing insight on antibiotics for veterinary use.

2. *Background

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a major threat to global human health, to the financial sustainability of healthcare systems, and it implies high economic costs to society internationally.

Until recently, an overlooked issue in the fight against AMR is the increasing frequency of supply chain disruptions of antibiotics which touches primarily on off-patent injectable products. There is also an increased risk that existing antibiotics disappear from the market when the few remaining suppliers discontinue their production.

The above-mentioned project is addressing the issue of shortages in both the human and the veterinary sector. Over the past years, antibiotics for veterinary use have been withdrawn from the market and users are reporting frequent supply chain issues for veterinary antibiotics in France. Yet, safeguarding the availability of the established veterinary antibiotics is crucial as very few (if at all) new antibacterial active substances will be developed for use in veterinary medicine.

To tackle this growing health threat, the French government with the WHO technical support and the funding from the European Commission have launched the above mentioned three-year project aiming at addressing the root causes of the recurrent shortages and lack of availability on the market of off-patent antibiotics in France in humans and animals, while taking into account the environment and identifying effective countermeasures.

3. *Planned timelines

Start date: 1 March 2021

End date: 15 December 2021

Total duration: 80 days full-time

4. *Requirements - Work to be performed

Objective 1: Conduct activities of the project on shortages of antibiotics on animal health.

Output 1.1: Conduct a literature review (including grey literature, reports, and publications) on the root causes of shortages and lack of availability on the market of antibiotics for veterinary use and existing recommendations to address this threat in France and at the international scale;

Output 1.2: Support in the preparation and follow-up of semi-structured interviews with the top veterinary drug companies, wholesalers and other stakeholders to identify main reasons for shortages from an industry perspective;

Output 1.3: Identify the price (ex-factory, ex-wholesaler, and veterinary end price) of five key veterinary antibiotics in France;

Output 1.4: Analyse the evolution of registration and availability of veterinary antibiotics in France over the last ten years, in collaboration with ANMV who will provide the data.

Objective 2: Support the Unit in the implementation of the project on shortages of antibiotics.

Output 2.1: Support the Unit is preparing relevant reports on the situation of veterinary antibiotics in France and related causes;

Output 2.2: Support the Unit in identifying possible measures to address shortages of veterinary antibiotics;

Output 2.3: Assist the Unit in aligning the outcomes of the project on shortages of antibiotics with the One Health agenda;

Output 2.4: Participating in meetings in the context of the project implementation.

5. *Requirements – Planning

Outputs falling under the Objective 1 are expected to be submitted by July 2021 (*indicative*).

Outputs of the Objective 2 will take place along the contract period depending on the project progress.

6. Inputs

The beneficiary will provide expertise on antibiotics for veterinary use to the implementation of the project on shortages and lack of availability of antibiotics.

7. *Activity Coordination & Reporting

Technical Officer:	Peter Beyer, Unit Head, a.i., GCP/IRC	Email:	beyerp@who.int
For the purpose of:	Technical supervision and instructions - Reporting		
Administrative Officer:	Sandra Kotur Corliss, Office Assistant, GCP/IRC	Email:	koturcorliss@who.int
For the purpose of:	Contractual and financial management of the contract		

8. *Characteristics of the Provider

Qualifications required:

- Veterinary or M.Sc. in biomedical sciences, microbiology, pharmacy, organic chemistry, or another relevant area specific to veterinary drugs, in particular antibiotics.

Experience required:

- At least 5 years of relevant experience in the area of veterinary drugs, shortages, antibacterial drug use and/or antimicrobial resistance in the animal health sector;
- Knowledge of EU and french regulation on veterinary medicines (including maximum residues limit and use of antimicrobials);
- Experience working in an international context desirable;
- Very good writing skills demonstrated through peer-reviewed publications on veterinary drugs, shortages, supply chain and/or antimicrobial resistance;
- Ability to work independently and in a team;
- Ability to work under pressure with conflicting priorities;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills; and
- Computer literacy (Word, Excel, Powerpoint etc.).

Language requirements:

- French – proficient (reading, writing, speaking)
- English - proficient (reading, writing, speaking)

9. *Place of assignment

Not specified

10. Travel

No travel required.

11. Additional information

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Please submit the following documents to antibacterialpipeline@who.int by **7 February 2021 17:00** Geneva time.

- Expression of interest (cover letter);
- CV