

**TERMS OF REFERENCE
FOR
INTERNAL REVIEW TEAM FOR THE NATIONAL MALARIA PROGRAMME REVIEW –
(CASE MANAGEMENT – Diagnosis)**

Background

Malaria is endemic in Nigeria and remains one of the leading causes of childhood and maternal morbidity and mortality in the country. All Nigerians are at risk of malaria due to living in areas with varying transmission intensities. Nigeria accounted for 27% of the 247 million cases of the global burden of the disease or 31% of the 619 global malaria deaths reported in the 2022 World Malaria Report (WHO, 2021). The financial loss due to malaria annually is estimated to be ~132 billion Naira in the form of treatment cost, prevention and loss of man-hours.

The National Malaria Elimination Programme (NMEP), with the support of partners have committed itself to a strategy of universal coverage for all malaria interventions as the optimal approach to malaria control. The current Malaria Strategic Plan covers the period 2021 and 2025 and is meant to achieve a parasite prevalence of less than 10% and reduce mortality attributable to malaria to less than 50 deaths per 1,000 livebirths by 2025. Some of the core interventions implemented by the programme include Integrated Vector Management and its strategies include the use of Insecticide Treated Nets (ITNs), indoor Residual Spraying (IRS), Larval Source Management (Larviciding and Environmental Management) and personal protective measures such as house screening, durable linings and the use of repellents.

Other significant strategies include Malaria chemoprevention and its strategies include Chemoprophylaxis for non-immune immigrants & at risk groups, Intermittent Preventive Treatment in Pregnancy, Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention – SPAQ as well as the use of Malaria Vaccine and Bio-Technology once they become accessible. Additionally noteworthy strategies include diagnosis, treatment, health system strengthening and other cross cutting interventions. Also, huge investments have been made so far in the National Malaria Control Programme from government and donors in anticipation of a malaria free Nigeria.

In view of the above, the NMEP is conducting a Mid-Term Review (MTR) of its current National Malaria Strategic Plan (2021-2025). The MTR will focus on the review of the malaria epidemiology, entomology, capacity to implement, policy & programming framework, organization, financing, structure and management. The MTR will review the programme performance by interventions, thematic areas. Malaria in humanitarian crisis (emergency preparedness and response), health equity, gender equality and human rights and service delivery levels beginning from the Federal Ministry Level to community level. It is hoped that the findings of the review will provide evidence on the progress made towards achieving national, regional and global targets as well as defining steps to improve programme performance or redefining the strategic direction and focus

including revision of policies and strategic plan and the updating of the current strategic plan.

Different categories of experts, both international and national, are required for the MTR, which will be conducted in 4 phases. Also visits would be made to selected states based on some criteria to be approved by the Technical Working group on Malaria (TWG).

Rationale

The MTR requires sound technical knowledge, expertise, experience, collective work responsibilities and coordination. The NMEP, Federal Ministry of Health in collaboration with its Partners is seeking experienced consultants for internal review, under the leadership and guidance of the Malaria Mid-Term Review (MPR) Coordinator to assist NMEP, MTR Advisors, External Review team, Subcommittee chairmen and Roll Back Malaria (RBM) partners to review the performance of each work stream within the thematic areas of the NMEP strategic plan. The consultant will participate in thematic desk reviews; planning meetings and produce a technical report.

Purpose

The purpose of the internal review consultant is to do an assessment of key streams of malaria control in preparation for the external team arrival. The consultant will also be involved in the finalization of the recommendations and reports.

Scope of work

The scope of this input will be Malaria Parasite Case Management with emphasis on malaria Diagnosis. Summarized below are the specific tasks to be carried out the internal review consultants. The Case Management consultant will lead the internal review team on the Case Management.

Specific Tasks for the Consultants – Diagnosis

1. Receive briefing from NMEP, MTR coordinator and Case Management Sub-committee chairman
2. Develop / adapt WHO guidelines and finalize it for the review of background document
3. Review the list of documents and highlight gaps to the MPR coordinator
4. Use the finalized guideline to review Case Management – Diagnosis background documents
5. Analyzing and documenting information on Diagnosis for Malaria control using but not limited to the headings below ;
 - o The current status of program indicators; progress towards set targets;
 - o Major program activities, achievements, best practices and lessons learnt;

- o Major problems, bottlenecks or barriers to implementation and scaling up; Appropriateness of the diagnosis guideline.
 - o Appropriateness of Case Management (diagnosis) outcome indicators (inclusion and appropriateness of Case Management (diagnosis) indicators included in the NMSP; appropriate phrasing and smartness of indicators) as well as progress towards CP outcome targets.
 - o Appropriateness of the policy and outcome indicators for Diagnosis
 - o Progress towards NMSP Case Management (diagnosis) outcome targets
 - o Trends of the proportion of suspected malaria cases tested
 - o Trends of the proportion of test positives that received ACTs
 - o Trends of management of severe malaria according to policy
 - o Enablers and constrainers
6. Work closely with the other thematic review groups and subcommittee as may be necessary;
 7. Develop a summary of not more than 10 pages of the desk review and prepare a PPP to be represented at the entry meeting
 8. Assist the Case Management subcommittee to review the generic WHO data collection tools and adapt them according to the gaps identified in the thematic desk review.
 9. Participate in the entry meeting and use comments to finalize summary of the thematic area and data collection tool with the support of the external team and advisors.
 10. Conduct consultations, interviews and collection of relevant data at national, State, LGA, health facility and community levels.
 11. Work with the MTR team to analyse data and prepare reports;
 12. Assist the Case Management in scoring performance against standard for Diagnosis.
 13. Develop thematic desk review presentation slides and present the in-depth review meeting on MTR findings to the FMOH officials and partners.
 14. Carry out other activities assigned by MTR secretariat and National Coordinator.

Deliverable

- Internal desk review summary report and presentation to external review team.
- Draft Data collection tool
- Presentation of the MTR recommendations and reports

Type of Consultant Required

- Post graduate qualification in Public Health/ Internal Medicine/ Malariology
- A minimum of 5 years' previous experience in malaria control
- Experience in management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of health care activities
- Prior experience in conducting program review for Malaria Case Management – Diagnosis
- Well versed with conducting health related desk reviews
- Excellent analytical and report writing skills
- Excellent communication and presentation skills.

Period of Consultancy

One (1) CM Consultant (Diagnosis) needed for 21 days

Submission of Application

A copy of the Expression of Interest (EoI) with a detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV) should be addressed to the National Coordinator as stated below and submitted to: nmeprecruits@nmep.gov.ng with the code: NMEP/PM/MPR-CM/2023/2 written as the subject of the email:

The National Coordinator
National Malaria Elimination Programme (NMEP)
Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH)
1st Floor Abia House,
Central Business District, Abuja, FCT

Note: The closing date for receiving the application is two (2) days (Monday, 18th to 20th September 2023) from the day of publication. **Any application received after the stipulated two (2) days will not be accepted.**

For: NMEP