NEPAD PLANNING AND COORDINATING AGENCY

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: SENIOR PROGRAMME OFFICER – PUBLIC HEALTH NO.VA/NPCA/18/16

The African Union (AU), 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 New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) is a programme of the African Union adopted in 2001 in Lusaka, Zambia, aimed primarily at poverty alleviation and promotion of economic growth and sustainable development in Africa. As a consequence of the integration of NEPAD into the structures and processes of the African Union, the NEPAD Agency has been established by the Decision of the 14th AU Assembly of February 2010 as the technical body of the African Union, in replacement of the NEPAD Secretariat.

The mandate of the NEPAD Agency is to:

i. Facilitate and coordinate the implementation of continental and regional priority programmes and projects;
ii. Mobilise resources and partners in support of the implementation of Africa’s priority programmes and projects;
iii. Conduct and coordinate research and knowledge management;
iv. Monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and projects; and
v. Advocate on the AU and NEPAD vision, mission and core principles/values.

The offices of the NEPAD Agency are located in Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Background

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is a socio-economic development programme of the African Union (AU) whose primary objective is poverty alleviation and promotion of economic growth and sustainable development in Africa. From the inception of NEPAD in 2001, health has been one of the priorities for development as assigned by African leaders. The then NEPAD Secretariat was given the responsibility to prepare a NEPAD Health strategy which was adopted at
the 1st Conference of Health Ministers of the AU and at the AU Summit in Maputo in 2003.

The NEPAD Health Unit is implementing the Health Programme under the Industrialization, Science, Technology and Innovation Portfolio and as part of the African Health Strategy (2016-2020). The purpose of the NEPAD Health Programme is to renew the momentum for implementation of the NEPAD Health Strategy by consolidating the various health programmes implemented by NEPAD Agency including the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization Programme Strategic Plan (2011-2015); ST&I for health programmes; and the Southern Africa Tuberculosis and Health Systems Support Project (SATHSS). In consolidating the various efforts on health, alignment to the African Union policy frameworks and decisions is taken into account. Key policy decision, declarations, frameworks and strategies on health which have been taken into account include: i) The Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB), Malaria and other related infectious diseases (2001); ii) Africa Health Strategy (2016-2020); iii) Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA) Business plan (2012); iv) the AU Roadmap on Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity in response to HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria in Africa (2012); Agenda 2063 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**NEPAD Health Vision, Goal and Purpose:**
The NEPAD Health Vision is to see Africa rid of the heavy burden of avoidable ill-health, disability and premature death. The Goal is to dramatically reduce the burden of disease, especially for the poorest people in Africa by facilitating access to health care services, medical products and health technologies. The Purpose is to renew the momentum for implementation of the AU Policy Frameworks on Health by consolidating, coordinating and ensuring alignment of the various health programmes implemented by AU Member States, RECs and Partners.

The Health Programme aims to have a better understanding of the existing, new and endemic diseases affecting Africa such as EBOLA, HIV/AIDS, TB & Malaria; maternal and child health; and neglected tropical diseases and strategies to address them. Research and development on new medical products and utilization of existing traditional and herbal medicines will be given priority including investment in production of new and effective medicines, diagnostic tools, vector control tools and vaccines. Policy coherence and alignment of public health, STI, industrial development and trade policies is thus promoted. These efforts build on the AU Science, Technology, and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA):2024 which focuses on using STI for prevention and control of diseases, and ensuring wellbeing of the African population.

Other areas of focus include; i) analysis of the implementation of existing continental policies and frameworks at country and regional levels to determine gaps and
develop strategies for health systems strengthening; ii) documentation and promotion of innovative health initiatives for regional and continental scale-up; iii) scaling up and alignment of regulatory systems strengthening and harmonization initiatives across the continent and transitioning into the African Medicines Agency (AMA); and iv) Monitoring and evaluation frameworks to facilitate evidence policy and decision making, and accountability.

Based on the Host Agreement between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the African Union for NEPAD to serve as the interim AU Office Operating outside the African Union Headquarters, the NEPAD Agency invites applicants who are citizens of African Union Member States for the post of Senior Programme Officer, Public Health.

A. Post

Job Title: Senior Programme Officer, Public Health.
Position Level: P3
Duty Station: NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Supervisor: Principal Programme Officer, Policy Specialist.

B. Key Performance Areas

Under the supervision of the Head of Health Programme (HHP), the Senior Programme Officer, Public Health will coordinate and facilitate development and implementation of policies on health and medical products and ensure their alignment with industrial development; trade; science, technology and innovation polices in advancement of the African Health Strategy and the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA).

In addition to the above generality, the incumbent shall provide the following specific duties and responsibilities:

1. Provide coordination role in aligning policy frameworks for advancing public health as a socio economic development agenda for Africa:
2. Facilitate domestication of the AU Model Law on medical products regulation in at least two (2) regional economic communities.
3. Facilitate domestication of the Model Law by the African Union member States.
4. Assess implementation of the AU Model Law on medical products regulation in Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Africa Union (AU) Member States.
5. Facilitate review of the Model law based on needs identified by RECs and AU Member States.
6. Facilitate the development and adoption of the AU Research for Health Strategy.
7. Facilitate the designing of and resource mobilization for health research and innovation projects
8. Support RECs and countries in the implementation of the AU research for health strategy.
9. Improved alignment of public health and pharmaceuticals policies with industry; trade; science, technology and innovation policies.
10. Support strengthening of health policies and protocols at national and regional levels.
11. Support the development and implementation of policies that create conducive environment for private sector investment in health and pharmaceutical production in at AU Member States.
12. Support improvement in research and innovation systems for delivering medical products and technologies to the end-user.
13. Support alignment of pharmaceutical policies with other sectoral policy frameworks to ensure coherence between public health; industrial development; trade and STI as they relate to pharmaceutical manufacturing plan for Africa (PMPA) and Africa Health Strategy.
15. Facilitate establishment of a planning, monitoring, evaluation and learning system for the health programme.
16. Facilitate identification and integration of indicators for health into the African Peer review Mechanism (APRM) process.
17. Facilitate advocacy for high-level political buy-in for multi-sectoral approach to public health agenda.
18. Perform any other related duties as may be assigned.

C. Job requirements

i. Demonstrated experience in policy oversight including development and coordination of implementation of public health programmes.
ii. Demonstrated experience in undertaking research analysis with regional and continental bodies such regional economic communities and the African Union.
iii. Expertise in designing and executing public health advocacy at national and regional levels.
iv. Ability to convene and facilitate high level regional and national policy consultations and dialogue processes.
v. Maintain confidentiality at the highest level at all times.
vi. High level of accuracy, attention to detail and thoroughness.
vii. Ability to work under minimal supervision, be proactive, take initiative and with sound judgment.
viii. High level of integrity and accountability, flexible approaches to work coupled with enthusiasm, commitment and energetic.
ix. Ability to leverage limited resources and staff for maximum impact.
x. Ability to perform multiple tasks and work under pressure with a wide range of individuals and institutions.
xi. Creative thinking and problem solving skills.
xii. Good organization, planning and time management skills.

xiii. Excellent written and oral communications and interpersonal skills.

xiv. Sound analytical skills.

xv. Ability to work in a multi-cultural and multi-national environment.

D. **Educational and Experience:** The Senior Programme Officer, Public Health must hold a minimum of a Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health and a relevant Bachelor’s degree in medicine. In addition, the candidate must possess seven (7) years of progressively responsible experience in the area of public health policy development and implementation in the public sector, multilateral institutions, and international non-governmental or similar organizations nationally.

E. **Other relevant skills:**

i. Experience in designing and operationalizing communities of practice and/or technical working groups.

ii. Excellent working knowledge of computer applications (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Publishing Software.

iii. Technically competent, knowledgeable, with experience in international development issues.

F. **Language requirement:** Proficiency in one of the following (English, French, Portuguese and Arabic) African Union working languages is a requirement. Knowledge of one or more of the other AU working languages would be an added advantage.

G. **Tenure of Appointment:** The appointment will be made on an AU fixed-term contract for a period of two (2) years, of which the first three (3) months will be considered as a probationary period.

H. **Gender Mainstreaming:** The NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency is an equal opportunity employer and qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

I. **Application:** To apply, please submit the following:

a. A motivation letter stating reasons for seeking employment with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency.

b. A detailed and updated curriculum vitae (CV), not exceeding five (5) pages and indicating your nationality, age and gender.

c. Three (3) referees with good knowledge of the candidate’s work, furnishing full contact details, telephone, fax and e-mail addresses.

d. Certified copies of degrees and diplomas.

J. **Remuneration:** Indicative basic salary of **US 39,603.00** per annum plus other Entitlements e.g. Post Adjustment (57% of basic salary), Housing allowance
($ 21, 196.80 per annum), gratuity (15% of gross salary) in conformity with the rules and procedures applicable to internationally recruited staff of the African Union.

K. Applications must be received not later than **Monday, April 24 2017** and should be addressed to:

Head of Human Resources  
NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency  
P O Box 218 Midrand 1685  
Johannesburg  
South Africa  
Email: hr@nepad.org; ericf2@nepad.org

Please note, should you not hear from us within six (6) weeks after the closing date, kindly consider your application to be unsuccessful.

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is a vision and strategic framework for Africa’s renewal that is based on a shared understanding that it is imperative to eradicate poverty and position African countries on the road to sustained economic growth and development. NEPAD works closely with the African Union Commission (AUC), regional economic communities, national governments, research institutions and civil society organisations in its attempts to eradicate poverty in Africa whilst also voicing Africa’s concerns at the global level. For more information go to: [www.nepad.org](http://www.nepad.org).