Terms of Reference

CONSULTANT

Supporting Member States in developing and implementing National and Regional Plans of Action for Preventing Violent Extremism as and when conducive to terrorism

BACKGROUND

The United Nations General Assembly adopted, by consensus, resolution 70/291 on the Fifth Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. In the resolution, the Assembly recognized the importance of preventing violent extremism (PVE) as and when conducive to terrorism and encouraged United Nations entities, in line with their mandates, to implement relevant recommendations of the Plan of Action, including by providing technical assistance to Member States upon their request. It also invited Member States, regional and sub-regional organizations to consider developing national and regional plans of action to prevent violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in accordance with their priorities and taking into account, as appropriate, the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action.

Based on the request of Member States, regional and subregional organizations, the Office of Counter-Terrorism leverages the expertise of the United Nations system and specialists to support the development of National and Regional PVE Plans of Action—based on national priorities and ownership—to address drivers of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, complementing counter-terrorism strategies where they already exist.

In this regard, the Office of Counter-Terrorism is looking for experts with context-specific knowledge of the drivers of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism in Asia (Central, South and South-East Asia), the Middle East, Africa (in all its subregions) and South America to assist the Office in its work to supporting requesting Member States and regional organizations with developing and implementing their National and Regional PVE Plans of Action.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This consultancy is located in the United Nations Office on Counter-Terrorism. Under the overall guidance of the Team Leader of the Policy and Coordination Unit, the Consultant will report to the PVE Programme Manager. Based on the respective regional/subregional expertise, the consultant will have the following responsibilities:

• Support the identification relevant actors and partners through outreach and consultations including by liaising with United Nations country teams for the development of policies to prevent violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism;
• Support the conduction of local and regional threat and needs analyses to identify local and national threats and drivers of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism;
• Support the identification of context-specific measures and recommendations to address the identified local and national threats and drivers of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in particular under the seven priority areas of the United Nations Secretary-General Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism:
  o dialogue and conflict prevention;
  o good governance, human rights and the rule of law;
  o engaging communities;
  o empowering youth;
  o gender equality and empowering women;
  o education, skills development and employment facilitation; and
  o strategic communications, the Internet and social media.
• Provide advice on good local, national and regional practices and policies and institutional mechanisms to comprehensively address the local, national and regional drivers of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism;
• Support that development of implementation roadmaps that outline objectives, outputs, activities, possible risks and timelines for the National and Regional PVE Plans of Action;
• Advise on suitable local, national and regional monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for the implementation of National and Regional PVE Plans of Action.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education: Advanced university degree (Master’s degree or equivalent) in political science, public policy, policy analysis, international law, international relations or other relevant field. A first-level university degree in combination with qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

Experience: A minimum of five years of work experience in international affairs with a minimum of three years of work experience in the area of Preventing Violent Extremism, and proven experience in drafting policy papers, reports and summaries on counter-terrorism or political matters. Good knowledge of United Nations and other counter-terrorism conventions, instruments and documents, in particular the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its four pillars. Knowledge of local political structures, local political environment and drivers of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism in one of the following regions is desired: Asia (Central, South and South-East Asia), the Middle East, Africa (in all its subregions) and South America.

Languages: English and French are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. For this position, fluency in oral and written English is required.
Knowledge of any local or regional languages is desirable.

CORE COMPETENCIES

PROFESSIONALISM: Ability to complete in-depth studies and analysis of global policy issues relevant to all major pillars of work of the United Nations. Demonstrates professional competence and mastery of counter-terrorism analysis; Shows pride in work and in achievements; Is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results; Is motivated by professional rather than personal concerns; Shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges; Remains calm in stressful situations.

PLANNING AND ORGANIZATION: Develops clear goals that are consistent with agreed strategies; Identifies priority activities and assignments; adjusts priorities as required; Allocates appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work; Foresees risks and allows for contingencies when planning; Monitors and adjusts plans and actions as necessary; Uses time efficiently.

COMMUNICATION: Speaks and writes clearly and effectively; Listens to others, correctly interprets messages; from others and responds appropriately; Asks questions to clarify, and exhibits interest in having two-way communication; Tailors language, tone, style and format; to match the audience; Demonstrates openness in sharing information; and keeping people informed.

DUTY STATION: Home-based with travel to requesting countries within region of expertise.

DURATION: Short to medium term PVE policy assistance missions with preparation and post-mission work, with possibility of extension.

How to apply? Experts with relevant experience who are available for short-term assignments are invited to submit their personal history profile (PHP), built through Inspira, their CV and short letter of motivation (one page) to UNCCT@un.org by 30 April 2018. In the subject line of your email, please indicate “Application to PVE Plan Consultancy – FIRST NAME LAST NAME”.

United Nations Considerations

The United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs. (Charter of the United Nations - Chapter 3, article 8). The United Nations Secretariat is a non-smoking environment. As per UN policy, Consultants and Individual Contractors may not apply for or be appointed to any position in the Professional or above categories and for positions at the FS-6 and FS-7 levels in the Field Service category within six months of the end of their current or most recent service. This restriction does not apply to associate experts (Junior Professional Officers) appointed under the Staff Rules.

No Fee

THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE AT ANY STAGE OF THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS (APPLICATION, INTERVIEW MEETING, PROCESSING, OR TRAINING). THE UNITED NATIONS DOES NOT CONCERN ITSELF WITH INFORMATION ON APPLICANTS’ BANK ACCOUNTS.