WMO - World Meteorological Organization

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**Junior Professional Officer Program (JPO)**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. **General Information**

Title: Junior Professional Officer

Sector of Assignment: ***Development Partnerships***

Organization/Office: ***Cabinet and External Relations Department – Development Partnerships Office (DPO)***

Country and Duty Station: Geneva, Switzerland

Duration: 1 year with possibility of extension for another year

1. **Supervision**

**Title of Supervisor:**  *Director, Development Partnerships Office*

**Content and methodology of supervision:**

* bi-weekly meetings with supervisor;
* establishment of a work plan, with clear key results;
* participation in meetings including at managerial level to ensure integration and operational effectiveness;
* guidance and advice in relation to learning and training opportunities within the field of expertise.

1. **Duties, Responsibilities and Output Expectations**

* Contribute to the establishment/implementation of the WMO Advisory Service Mechanism (WASM) that will shape the provision of WMO technical advisory services to developing countries and development partners , in support of effective investments and policies for hydromet development by countries and development partners including:
  + Contributing to the development/implementation of quality assurance including assisting in:
    - Defining standards and procedures governing the delivery of WMO Advisory products;
    - Developing technical guidance documentation to complement existing materials;
  + Supporting the establishment of the WASM, including the articulation of human, financial and technical resources for delivery of expert services to countries and partners.
  + Supporting interaction by DPO with WMO technical departments regarding the delivery of WMO Advisory Service products.
* Provide support for the development and implementation of the Country Support Initiative, a vehicle aimed at tapping WMO institutional network to provide just-in-time technical expert service to developing countries and their hydrometeorological services. This would include:
  + Contribute to background analytical work (identify and analyse/collect relevant information at country and WMO level);
  + Support engagement with beneficiary and delivery partners of the Programme;
  + Contribute to drafting relevant documents and reports.
  + Support the Development Partnerships Office in shaping and promoting an Alliance for Hydromet Development, in close collaboration with selected development partners. The planned Alliance for Hydromet Development would bring together international partners and NMHSs to contribute to more sustained, scaled up and programmatic hydromet interventions.

1. **Qualifications and Experience**

**Education**: MSc or equivalent Master’s degree from a recognized university or technical institute in meteorology, hydrology, physics, engineering, computer science or other relevant field of study, preferably with some exposure to or interest in earth science.

**Work experience**: a minimum of 2 years of professional experience in one or more of the following areas: weather, water, climate or air pollution observations or observing systems, statistics, data analysis, data visualization, GIS, data management, communication of science, data policy for scientific data. Good understanding of international development and climate finance would be an advantage.

**Languages**: Excellent knowledge of English. Knowledge of other official languages of the WMO Secretariat would be an advantage. (The working languages of the WMO Secretariat are English and French. The official languages of the Secretariat are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.)

**Other skills**: Ability to work efficiently in a multicultural environment Interest in societal, technical and policy-related issues pertaining to weather and climate observations. Good communication skills.

1. **Learning Elements**

On completion of the assignment, the JPO will have

* Gathered a deep understanding and knowledge of all relevant mechanisms and stakeholders in the context of the WMO Development Partnerships Office activities
* Developed a good overview of interagency mechanisms and a deep understanding of the individual mandates, priorities and challenges of UN system organizations
* Been exposed to coordination, decision-making and experience exchange at Senior and Executive level across UN System organizations
* Gained insight into communication with a variety of stakeholders including Member States and Governing bodies, with the ability to draft documents for submission of Governing bodies
* Developed presentation skills and have benefitted from gradually enhanced exposure to senior managers) of UN System organizations, in particular, the Director of the Development Partnerships Office , and have built a professional network across the UN system.

1. **Background Information**

**World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**

is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) with 191 Member States and Territories. It is the UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behavior of the Earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the land and oceans, the weather and climate it produces and the resulting distribution of water resources.

The mission of WMO is to:

* Facilitate worldwide cooperation in the establishment of networks of stations for the making of meteorological observations as well as hydrological and other geophysical observations related to meteorology, and to promote the establishment and maintenance of centres charged with the provision of meteorological and related services.
* Promote the establishment and maintenance of systems for the rapid exchange of meteorological and related information.
* Promote standardization of meteorological and related observations and to ensure the uniform publication of observations and statistics.
* Further the application of meteorology to aviation, shipping, water problems, agriculture and other human activities.
* Promote activities in operational hydrology and to further close cooperation between Meteorological and Hydrological Services.
* Encourage research and training in meteorology and, as appropriate, in related fields, and to assist in coordinating the international aspects of such research and training.

**Sector of Assignment:**

The upcoming WMO Strategic Plan 2020-2023 sets an ambitious goal – to close the capacity gap on weather, climate and water services between developed and developing countries. *Scaling up effective partnerships* is one of the strategic objectives to achieve this goal. Delivering on this objective requires moving beyond business as usual and stepping up efforts for scaled-up, coordinated, sustained and increased impact of support to developing countries through strategic partnerships fostered by the WMO Secretariat and the f Development Partnerships Office (DPO).

The WMO Secretariat and DPO will act as a:

* Catalyst – for more and better investments aiming at closing the capacity gap of hydromet services in developing countries;
* Expert adviser – tapping and providing the combined expertise of the WMO institutional network and its partners in support of developing countries;
* Innovator – fostering new ways and mechanisms to increase impact of hydromet investments in developing countries.

DPO will, in particular, develop a WMO Advisory Services Mechanism which will provide WMO’s core technical and scientific expertise, shifting WMO’s role from an implementer of projects to a technical expert adviser, from competition with other project implementing institutions to WMO unique expertise positioning. WMO advisory service provision will draw on the knowledge and experience of the vast WMO network in a systematic manner through a structured mechanism, including from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS), Technical Commissions, Regional Climate Centers…

A Country Support Initiative is being developed and aims at mobilizing financing from bilateral partners to provide “gap filling” technical expert service advice to speedily address demands from developing countries and their NMHSs that cannot be met through the project-by-project approach. This support will be provided on demand, just-in-time and hands-on and aims at leveraging larger resources.

WMO is also spearheading, jointly with the World Bank and in coordination with the Green Climate Fund, an Alliance for Hydromet Development that will bring together all major partners, creating a framework for scaled-up, coordinated, sustained and more impactful hydromet development.

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