Scope of Work for Consultant - Pharmacologist

1. Background:

The National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) is one of the key instruments in balanced healthcare delivery system of a country which includes accessible, affordable, quality medicine at all the primary, secondary, tertiary levels of healthcare. In line with WHO Model List of Essential Medicines, Nepal has been implementing a National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) since 1986 AD. NLEM is the basis for the selection of medicines for government health facilities in Nepal. NLEM was revised in 1992, 1997, 2002, 2011, 2016 and 2021 AD. The revision exercise identifies cost effective medicines for priority conditions, together with reasons for their inclusion, linked to evidence based clinical guidelines and giving special emphasis on public health aspects and considerations of value for money. Considering the needs to meet the common contemporary and priority health needs of the population of the country and giving special emphasis of public health aspects with due regard to relevant disease prevalence and changing health care needs, the revision of NLEM in a timely manner is needed. Revision of the NLEM 2025 is suggested to align with Basic Health Care Service package and different national vertical programs.

2. Objective:

The consultant – pharmacologist will provide technical pharmacological input in reviewing and updating the NEML, ensuring medicines high clinical efficacy and pharmacological standards.

3. Key Responsibilities:

- Review WHO Model List, national guidelines, and the Basic Health Care Service package for alignment.
- Lead the technical review of pharmacological content in the NEML 2021.
- Collect, organize, and validate data for all proposed inclusions and deletions.
- Ensure incorporation of AWARE categorization for antibiotics to enhance rational use.
- Participate in consultations with stakeholders and the EML expert review committee.
- Provide pharmacological assessments and justifications for all proposed revisions.
- Assist in drafting the revised NEML from a pharmacological perspective.

4. Duration and Timeline:

The consultancy will span 30 working days, commencing in May and concluding by July 15, 2025.

5. Reporting Requirements:

- Submitting a comprehensive technical review report on pharmacological aspects.

- Providing validated data sets for proposed inclusions and deletions.
- Detailed input and assessment for the revised NEML.
- Submit draft revised NEML and compile the feedback for finalization.

6. Payment Terms

Payments will be disbursed in two installments based on successful completion and approval of deliverables:

- **Payment 1 (50%)**: Upon submission and approval of the report from stakeholder consultations on pharmacological aspects.
- **Payment 2 (50%)**: Upon submission and approval of the final draft of the revised NEML.

7. Qualifications:

- Degree in pharmacy, pharmacology, or a related field, with specialized training in clinical pharmacology.
- Atleast 5 years of experience in pharmacological reviews, essential medicines lists, and clinical protocols.

8. Performance Standards

All deliverables must meet Helen Keller International's quality standards. Timely submission and responsiveness to feedback are required throughout the consultancy period.

9. Confidentiality & Ethics

The consultant is expected to fully comply with Helen Keller International's confidentiality, ethical, and safeguarding policies during the entire engagement.