



## West African Health Organization

Promoting better health through Regional Integration

MPDER-MRH/EOI/21/007-03

### **WEST AFRICA MEDICINES REGULATION HARMONIZATION (WA-MRH) INITIATIVE**

#### **CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR REGIONAL JOINT MEDICAL PRODUCTS EVALUATION**

##### **FOR LIFE-SAVING MEDICINES:**

- **MATERNAL HEALTH COMMODITIES**
- **NEW BORN HEALTH COMMODITIES**
- **ANTENATAL CORTICOSTEROIDS**
- **CHILD HEALTH COMMODITIES**
- **REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH COMMODITIES**
- **EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION**

##### **INTRODUCTION**

The West Africa Medicines Regulation Harmonization (WA-MRH) Project has agreed a single process for regional medical product evaluation to enable the registration of medicinal products in the 15 ECOWAS Member States.

This call is an invitation to manufacturers of life-saving medicines including maternal health commodities, new born health commodities, antenatal corticosteroids, child health commodities, reproductive health commodities and emergency contraception to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the Regional Joint Medical Products evaluation for registration under this project.

The invitation is published in accordance with the document titled "*WA-MRH Regional Joint Medical Product Evaluation Procedure for pharmaceutical product dossier*", which is dated July 2019 and is available on WAHO Website ([www.wahooas.org](http://www.wahooas.org)) under the section "WAHO Programs and Projects", sub-section "WA-MRH Project".

Assessment of product(s) submitted under this invitation will include evaluation of:

- a covering letter, expressing interest and confirming that the information submitted in the product dossier is complete and correct;
- product dossiers, which must include product data and information as specified in the guidelines for submission;
- each manufacturing site listed in the product dossier, must adhere to good manufacturing practices (GMP) in the required format specified in the ECOWAS Common Technical Guidance Documents for submitting a site master file;
- product samples, which must adhere to the requisite specifications.



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If an evaluation demonstrates that the above four criteria meet the harmonized ECOWAS Common Technical Document (CTD) standards, it would be eligible for inclusion in the products register of each NMRA in all 15 ECOWAS Member States. Such an inclusion would be effected in a Member State on payment of the applicable registration fee by the Manufacturer to the NMRA of that Member State, but this eligibility for inclusion will lapse after two (2) years from the date of issuance of regional recommendation.

### **MEDICINAL PRODUCTS FOR THIS EOI**

The aim of this EOI is to evaluate a specific range of medical products available in relation to the management of life-saving medicines. The medicines listed in this invitation have been identified by the Expert Working Group for Medical Product Dossier Evaluation and Registration of the WA-MRH Project as vital to effective treatment of life-saving medicines, based on WAHO's assessment of the priority health needs in the region, and WHO's evidenced-based treatment guidelines.

### **LIST OF MEDICAL PRODUCTS**

#### **Maternal Health Commodities**

- Magnesium Sulfate Injection 20% or 50% vials
- Calcium Gluconate Injection 100mg/ml
- Mifepristone 200mg Tablet

#### **Newborn Health Commodities**

- Gentamycin Injection 40mg/ml
- Gentamycin Injection 20mg/ml
- Gentamycin Injection 10mg/ml
- Procaine Penicillin Injection 1g
- Ceftriaxone Injection 250mg, 500mg, 1g
- Ampicillin Injection 250mg, 500mg, 1g

#### **Antenatal Corticosteroids and others**

- Betamethasone Injection 4mg/ml 1ml, 8mg/2ml
- Betamethasone Injection 6mg/ml
- Dexamethasone Inj 4mg/ml
- Chlorhexidine 7.1% (as Chlorhexidine digluconate) Gel or Solution

#### **Child Health Commodities**

- Amoxicillin 250mg, 500mg Dispersible Tablets
- Zinc sulfate Tablets 10 mg, 20 mg dispersible tablets
- Zinc Sulfate oral liquid 10 mg per unit of dosage forms



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### Reproductive Health Commodities

- Contraceptive Implants
- Levonorgestrel 75mg/rod (2 rods)
- Etonogestrel 68mg/Rod (1 Rod)

### Emergency Contraception

- Levonorgestrel 1,5mg Tablet
- Levonorgestrel 0,75mg Tablet
- Ulipristal Acetate 30mg Tablet

### HOW TO SUBMIT AN EOI

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the WAHO at the address: [wahooas@wahooas.org](mailto:wahooas@wahooas.org) and the Lead coordinating NMRA as early as possible to discuss specifics of the application. Applications are accepted from legal manufacturers. All manufacturers interested in submitting applications for review are requested to follow the steps below:

1. A pre-submission meeting (all interested applicants can attend) will be arranged by the coordinating NMRA for clarification on the technical requirements for their intended application submission in the 1<sup>st</sup> week of each submission window;
2. Contact of the Lead coordinating NMRA, email: [akepaulakepaul@gmail.com](mailto:akepaulakepaul@gmail.com), [ake.ayodele@nafdac.gov.ng](mailto:ake.ayodele@nafdac.gov.ng), tel: +234 (0)7038111573 to arrange for a meeting/call.
3. Please note that applications will not be accepted without prior consultation with Lead Coordinating NMRA.
4. Application letter would have to be submitted to the Lead Coordinating NMRA.

The Lead Coordinating NMRA for this invitation for EOI is the NMRA of Nigeria, the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) (<https://www.nafdac.gov.ng>).

In order to submit an expression of interest for product evaluation, the applicant must do the following:

1. The applicant will pay the management fees of USD 500 for the lead coordinating NMRA (NAFDAC-Nigeria) for reception, screening, file management and communication when submitting the file. The Bank account details are as follows:



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Account Name: CBN/NAFDAC GLOBAL FUND  
Account Number: 100367-USD-CLBANK-60  
Bank: FBN BANK UK LTD  
Address: 28 FINSBURY CIRCUS FBN BANK (UK) LTD, EC2M 7D  
LONDON, ENGLAND  
Swift Code: FBNIGB2L  
IBAN: GB94FBN140520410036760

2. The applicant should download and complete the Market Authorization application (MA) file in accordance with the harmonized Common Technical Document (CTD) format in the WA-MRH project section under the Program and Projects at WAHO website ([www.wahooas.org](http://www.wahooas.org)). The completed application MA file should be submitted electronically to the lead coordinating NMRA ([registration@nafdac.gov.ng](mailto:registration@nafdac.gov.ng)) with a hard copy sent to NAFDAC Office Complex, Plot 1, Isolo Industrial Estate, Oshodi-Apapa Expressway, Isolo, Lagos, Nigeria (telephone: +234 (0)7038111573).
3. The applicant should provide samples of the medical product and reference substances. The sample size shall be in line with the quantity defined by the EWG for Quality Control and published under the WA-MRH Project section at the WAHO website. The samples should be submitted together with the Dossiers to the lead coordinating NMRA (NAFDAC-Nigeria).
4. After screening, a certificate of eligibility or non-eligibility for full evaluation will be sent to the applicant by the lead coordinating NMRA. On receipt of a certificate of eligibility the applicant should pay the full evaluation fee within 30 calendar days to the WA-MRH secretariat bank account specified in the certificate:-the applicable fee for the processing of the application.

### **(a) Certificate of Eligibility**

Applicants in the West Africa Region will pay USD 8,000

Applicants in other regions of Africa will pay USD 10,000

Applicants outside Africa will pay USD 12,000

The full fees for a product evaluation is USD 23,750, but WAHO, as the WA-MRH Secretariat, has undertaken to absorb the difference in cost in the initial stages of this project. The full fees may therefore be implemented in future EOs at a later date.

### **(b) Certificate of Non-Eligibility**

In the event of an applicant receiving a certificate of non-eligibility, the applicant may resubmit another Market Authorization (MA) application file for screening and pay the management fee of USD 500 to the lead coordinating NMRA upon resubmission.



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### **QUALITY CONTROL ASSESSMENT AFTER SUBMISSION OF AN EOI BY AN APPLICANT**

As part of the full evaluation for Market Authorization, quality control assessment of a product will be undertaken to ensure that it meets international quality requirements and is manufactured in compliance with good manufacturing practices (GMP).

The procedure for quality control assessment incorporates:

- General understanding of the production and quality control activities of the manufacturer;
- Assessment of product data and information on safety, efficacy and quality submitted by the manufacturer, including product formulation, manufacture and test data and results;
- Assessment of the manufacturing site's adherence to GMP, and its consistency in production and quality control of starting materials, with specific emphasis on active pharmaceutical ingredients and the finished product;
- Assessment of quality control units for compliance with good laboratory practices, as appropriate;
- Testing of product samples submitted.

Previous evaluation conducted by a National Medicines Regulatory Authority (NMRA) within the region may be taken into account during the evaluation conducted by WAHO.

Product dossiers that have received WHO pre-qualification or other international regulatory authorities eg. The Food and Drug Authority of the United States (US-FDA) should be presented with evidence and the full package of the approved dossier by the institution.

### **REFERENCES AND FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information on the WA-MRH regional Joint Medical Product Dossier Evaluation and Registration, and Common Technical Document, please visit WAHO website at <https://www.wahooas.org> under the section Programs & Projects, sub-section WA-MRH Project.

Deadline for the submission of medicines dossiers to the Lead Coordinating NMRA (NAFDAC-Nigeria) is Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 at 23:59 GMT.