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**Terms of Reference**

1. **\*Purpose of the APW**

Procurement of the laboratory consumables, reagents and devices for improving the laboratory capacities to respond the ongoing COVID-19 emergency and Ukrainian refugee influx emergency in the Republic of Moldova.

1. **\*Background**

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Moldova has been working to manage the COVID-19 pandemic emergency associated with another, Ukrainian refugee influx emergency. While the COVID-19 epidemiological situation is stable the public health response, including laboratory capacities have to be in place in order to be ready to response to other potential wave of COVID-19 cases. In addition, since 24 February 2022, when war in Ukraine started more than 500,000 refugees have entered the country. While most refugees have left for other countries directly or after a short stay, approximately form ~80,000 to ~100,000 of Ukraine refugees are currently hosted in the Republic of Moldova. The massive influx of refugees, both for transit and for medium/long-term stays, puts enormous pressure on Moldova's health system. It faces an additional burden, as most refugees are women with children or elderly people who need long-term care.

The COVID-19 pandemic situation and refugee influx emergency determine the increasing number of patients who require treatment at both primary and hospital level due to respiratory disorders and digestive problems as well as potential outbreaks with vaccine preventable diseases. The early detection, identification and confirmation of the cases of infectious diseases as well as functionalities of the surveillance of communicable diseases and event-base surveillance system require strong and well-functioning laboratory network, including the Mobile Laboratory capacities.

The COVID-19 pandemic emergency in combination with Ukrainian refugee influx require the health system to be flexible with rapid response capacities to identify the microorganisms and to implement the copping public health measures, therefore consumables and reactive have to be available and laboratory services have to be offered in the efficient, quality and timely manner. The COVID-19 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan approved by the Extraordinary Committee for Public Health Emergency (March 2021) and Ukrainian Refugee Emergency Contingency Plan for the Health sector approved by the Ministry of Health (nr 590 from 17 June 2022) underlined the importance of the public health laboratories network and emphasize the necessity to equip the laboratories (Reference national and regional public health, mobile and hospital ones), furthermore to ensure the access to the equipment, reagents and consumables.

1. **\*Planned timelines** (subject to confirmation)

12-25 July 2022

1. **\*Requirements - Work to be performed**

Objective: Procurement of the laboratory consumables, reagents and devices for improving the laboratory capacities to respond the ongoing COVID-19 emergency and Ukrainian refugee influx emergency in the Republic of Moldova.

1. **\*Requirements**

***The list of items and technical specifications in a separate file***

1. **Inputs**

The overall activity shall be coordinated with inputs from the Requesting Officer from WHO CO.

1. **\*Characteristics of the Provider**
2. **\*Place of assignment**

The consumables, reagents and devices will be donated following the WHO and donor visibility procedures to the National Reference laboratory of the National Agency for Public Health.