

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Health and Peace Consultant

#### Interpeace

Interpeace is an international organization for peacebuilding. Its aim is to strengthen the capacities of societies to manage conflict in non-violent, non-coercive ways by assisting national actors in their efforts to develop social and political cohesion. Interpeace also assists the international community (and in particular the UN) to play a more effective role in supporting peacebuilding efforts around the world. For more information about Interpeace, please visit [www.interpeace.org](http://www.interpeace.org)

#### Background

The Sustaining Peace resolution of the Security Council and the UN-World Bank report on “Pathways to Peace” have called upon humanitarian, development, stabilisation and peace actors to evolve their ways of working to become more effective at enabling sustainable peace and preventing violent conflict. This has very real implications in the public health sector. The COVID-19 pandemic and the response to it have further increased conflict dynamics and have contributed to a climate of mistrust, misinformation and social tension in many countries. While it is clear that health and peace are intrinsically linked, the precise connection points have largely remained under-explored.

There is a growing consensus at the policy level that the international community and practitioners must better capitalise on the interlinkages between health and peace and the opportunities that arise, both for health interventions to avoid exacerbating conflict dynamics and instead to contribute to peace, as well as for peacebuilding efforts to create the conditions for health interventions in conflict-affected areas. To invigorate this agenda and provide a forum to advance it politically and practically, Interpeace is launching a new initiative with the following objectives:

- To foster political support – especially amongst governments – for enhanced synergies and cooperation between health and peace interventions in humanitarian, development and conflict contexts;
- To develop a set of proposals aiming to strengthen the global architecture on health and peace at the inter-agency/organisation level;
- To facilitate the use of health interventions for building peace and cooperation; and
- To improve the quality of health interventions by more systematically adopting a peacebuilding lens in their design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

The role of the consultant is to guide Interpeace’s exploratory work to define and start delivering the organisation’s Health and Peace agenda.

#### Assignment Objectives

The objectives are to:

1. Map potential political stakeholders and supporters of a new initiative to foster collaboration between international peace and health actors, as well as their different thematic and geographic interests;

2. Identify existing and forthcoming policy and political dialogue related to the Health and Peace agenda, particularly in the World Health Organisation and at the World Health Assembly in order to ensure mutually-reinforcing coherence and alignment;
3. Map potential thematic areas and evidence on the interconnections between peace and health programming, in coordination with the Peace Responsiveness team in Interpeace;
4. Provide recommendations both on the substantive focus and the required political engagement and advocacy necessary to advance collaboration between international health and peace actors;
5. Organise, prepare and support meetings with interested stakeholders including advancing a potential sustained network for fostering future collaboration on peace and health.

The Consultant is based in the Policy, Learning and Advisory Services Unit of Interpeace, reporting to its Director. The Consultant works closely with colleagues in the Peace Responsiveness team. The Consultant also works closely with the President of Interpeace and with the Strategic Partnerships team that is responsible for government relations.

The assignment is for an initial period of six months.

### Scope of Work

The consultant is expected to carry out the following tasks:

- 1) Map potential political stakeholders and supporters of a new initiative to foster collaboration between international peace and health actors, as well as their different thematic and geographic interests.

This will include:

- a. Research on the political positions and interests of key governments and agencies;
- b. Research and recommendations on potential thematic and geographic entry points;

- 2) Identify existing and forthcoming policy and political dialogue related to the Health and Peace agenda, particularly in the World Health Organisation and at the World Health Assembly in order to ensure mutually-reinforcing coherence and alignment.

This will include :

- a. Establishing an overview of past, present and forthcoming policy streams related to Health and Peace including at the World Health Organisation, identifying in particular opportunities to support and strengthen the WHO's own work on health and peace;
- b. Identification of key policy and advocacy opportunities at different levels including at the World Health Assembly.

- 3) Map potential thematic areas and evidence on the interconnections between peace and health programming, in coordination with the Peace Responsiveness team in Interpeace.

This will include:

- a. Mapping of key thematic areas and evidence on the interconnections between health and peace, drawing on research already being conducted by the Peace Responsiveness team;

- b. Formulate recommendations on the most relevant and strategic topics for further research work to advance the strengthening of mutually reinforcing linkages between the international agendas on peace and health
- 4) Provide recommendations both on the substantive focus and the required political engagement and advocacy necessary to advance collaboration between international health and peace actors.

This will include:

- a. Be the internal focal point at Interpeace for the Health and Peace agenda and ensure coherence between different Interpeace workstreams including country-based programmatic peacebuilding as well as policy and thought leadership work on peacebuilding;
  - b. Provide recommendations of a political and public policy/advocacy nature in order to advance the strengthening of mutually reinforcing linkages between the international agendas on peace and health;
  - c. Identify entry points to foster implementation of the political/policy/advocacy recommendations above through relevant political various stakeholders.
- 5) Organise, prepare and support meetings with interested stakeholders including advancing a potential sustained network for fostering future collaboration on peace and health.

This will include:

- a. Organise meetings both from an administrative/organizational and a substantial point of view;
- b. Send preparation materials ahead of meetings;
- c. Support facilitation of meetings;
- d. Drafting of reports and follow-up materials.

#### **Deliverables and Timeframe**

- Political engagement strategy
- Mapping interest of representatives of governments and relevant international organisations and agencies
- Mapping thematic areas and evidence of interlinkages between health and peace
- Design and background materials for convenings of Group of Friends

#### **Qualifications**

Considering the inter-disciplinary nature of this research, the ideal candidate would have experience both in the health sector and in the peacebuilding sector. Given Interpeace's own expertise in peacebuilding, previous experience and knowledge of the health sector would be given more weight.

Requirements:

- At least 10 years of professional experience in the public health sector and (ideally) peacebuilding/making
- Skilled in research
- Experienced in political engagement, public policy formulation and advocacy

- Strong motivation to explore multi-disciplinary thinking
- Experience in/with UN agencies is desirable
- Programmatic experience in health sector and/or peacebuilding in developing countries is desirable
- Previous experience working in or on conflict-affected countries is desirable.