**Title: Senior Laboratory Specialist/Molecular Biologist**

**DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES**

In close coordination with NPO labs WCO, the individual will perform the following duties at the DS (based at Islamabad);

The individual will perform the following duties;

1. Support the NPO Labs in laboratory support in COVID-19 testing labs including direct supervision of the technical lab staff performing COVID19 testing
2. Conduct detailed laboratory capacity assessments using the WHO LAT assessment tool for COVID19 testing labs as required
3. Support implementation of standard operating procedures and information management systems for COVID-19 and biosafety / laboratory quality guidelines
4. Coordinate with Department of Health, Team Leads/ focal persons at provincial PHL and other labs, laboratory focal points at NIH and WHO Country Office
5. Conduct training needs assessment of Lab staff and coordinate with WHO and Department for successful accomplishment of training.
6. Review and strengthen reporting system including LIMS for lab network
7. Management in coordination with local surveillance/Public Health staff as required
8. Coordinate with Department of Health, Team Leads/ focal persons, laboratory focal points at WHO Country Office

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

**Duration 03 Months**

**Education**

**Essential**: Post graduate qualifications (M.Phil) in Microbiology/ Molecular biology

**Desirable**: PhD Degree in Microbiology/molecular biology

**Experience**

**Essential**: At least 3-4 years’ experience in Molecular Biology/ Virology/

Experience in performing Real time PCR for infectious diseases and COVID19 is mandatory

**Desirable**:

1. At least 01-year experience in public sector/Government Organizations
2. Previous work experience with WHO, other UN organizations or international organizations will be an asset.

**Skills/ Techniques**

1. Understanding of lab biosafety levels, equipment requirements, Human Resource management and Quality Assurance in Lab
2. Theoretical and practical knowledge of molecular biology, with specific reference to Real time PCR for COVID-19 and interpretation/analysis of PCR run data.
3. Proven skills in the development and implementation of laboratory testing plans and projects
4. Experience with development of lab-based surveillance, diagnostic algorithms, analysing data and reporting
5. Strong professional skills in development of daily reports, and updates for sharing with WCO and NIH Experience in molecular detection including nucleic acid extraction and PCR assays for HCV, HBV, Dengue, COVID-19 or TB etc on semi-automated or fully automated platforms
6. Experience with lab information management system (LIMS) and other reporting systems