

CALL FOR EXPERTS FOR THE CONTAINMENT WORKING GROUP OF THE GLOBAL CERTIFICATION COMMISSION (GCC-CWG)

Application deadline: 15 April 2024

The Department of Polio Eradication of the World Health Organization (WHO) is seeking experts to serve as members of the Containment Working Group (CWG) of the Global Commission for the Certification of the Eradication of Poliomyelitis (GCC).

Requested expertise

Candidates with demonstrated expertise in the following domains will be considered:

1. Management system auditing
2. Biorisk management, biosafety, biosecurity
3. Risk assessment
4. Vaccine production and storage
5. Laboratory science and work
6. High-containment engineering
7. Poliovirus virology
8. Communicable disease prevention and control

CWG operations

The working language of the CWG is English.

CWG members are expected to review, following the WHO Containment Certification Scheme¹, the containment certification applications received from facilities retaining polioviruses, and collectively discuss and finalize their review at:

1. monthly CWG teleconferences
2. quarterly, 3–5-day CWG in-person meetings at different locations

The frequency and duration of CWG meetings or teleconferences are subject to change.

CWG members do not receive any remuneration from WHO for the work performed. However, when attending in-person meetings at the invitation of WHO, travel cost and per diem is covered by WHO in accordance with applicable WHO rules.

For more information, please refer to the attached CWG Terms of Reference.

CWG membership duration

Members of the CWG are appointed to serve for a period of 3 years with the possibility of renewal(s).

¹ *Containment Certification Scheme to support the WHO Global Action Plan for Poliovirus Containment (CCS*, https://polioeradication.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/CCS_19022017-EN.pdf, accessed on 1 March 2024), currently undergoing revision

CWG member eligibility

CWG members must be free of any real, potential or apparent conflicts of interest. To this end, applicants are required to complete the WHO Declaration of Interests for WHO Experts.

All CWG members will serve in their individual expert capacity and shall not represent any governments, any commercial industries or entities, any research, academic or civil society organizations, or any other bodies, entities, institutions or organizations. They are expected to fully comply with the Code of Conduct for WHO Experts (<https://www.who.int/about/ethics/declarations-of-interest>).

Expression of interest

Please submit the following documents by 15 April 2024 to containment@who.int using the subject line 'Expression of interest for the CWG':

1. Brief cover letter indicating your motivation to apply, your expertise and how you satisfy the eligibility
2. Your curriculum vitae, including a recent photo, your postal and email addresses, and your telephone number
3. A signed and completed Declaration of Interests (DOI) form for WHO Experts, available at <https://www.who.int/about/ethics/declarations-of-interest>.

WHO reserves the right to accept or reject any expression of interest, to annul the open call process and reject all expressions of interest at any time without incurring any liability to the affected applicants and without any obligation to inform the affected applicants of the grounds for WHO's action. WHO may also decide, at any time, not to proceed with the selection of new members or their reappointment, disband the existing group or modify the work of the CWG.

WHO shall not in any way be obliged to reveal, or discuss with any applicant, how an expression of interest was assessed, or to provide any other information relating to the evaluation/selection process or to state the reasons for not choosing a member.

Useful websites

1. Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI): <https://polioeradication.org/>
2. Poliovirus containment: <https://polioeradication.org/polio-today/preparing-for-a-polio-free-world/containment/>
3. Poliovirus containment resources: <https://polioeradication.org/polio-today/preparing-for-a-polio-free-world/containment/containment-resources/>

If you have any questions, please e-mail containment@who.int.