



**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL CONSULTANT  
TECHNICAL ADVISOR ON SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**

<p><b>1. Introduction</b></p>	<p>Liberia has an unacceptably high maternal mortality ratio of 742/100,000 live births.</p> <p>The current contraceptive prevalence rate for modern contraception is 24%, and the unmet need for family planning is at 33%, according to the 2019/2020 Demographic Health Survey. Challenges with the quality of maternal care, including Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care at the point of service delivery, result from a multifaceted gap in the provision of preventive and curative services for reproductive health care.</p> <p>Social and cultural norms, myths, and misconceptions affect attitudes and practices at the community level. Sexual debut is early (15 years) among adolescent girls compared to boys (17%). The adolescent pregnancy rate is approximately 30% and has remained the same over the past 2 to 3 decades. The recent population and housing census reports that approximately 10% of adolescent girls aged 10 -14 have begun childbearing. This proportion increases to 30% by age 19 years. The high adolescent pregnancy rate may be fueled by an early sexual debut at 16 years for nearly 50% of adolescent girls and an unclear public health law, social-cultural norms, and limited prioritization of responsive contraception services. Approximately 45% of sexually active unmarried women have an unmet need for family planning.</p> <p>Gradual progress towards domestic financing for reproductive health is worth commending in recent years. Notwithstanding, financing for maternal health and family planning remains heavily donor-reliant. There is an integrated supply chain system with good progress made in inventory management and distribution. However, challenges with weak inventory management at the subnational level significantly impact commodity stockout as a contributing factor to accessing quality care.</p> <p><b>Justification:</b> Regardless of the current challenges, the Government of Liberia is committed to improving the sexual and reproductive health (SRH) of its population. In addition to limitations at service delivery points, effective coordination, governance, and accountability play a significant role in identifying critical issues, disseminating information for partners and MoH support, coordinating partners, and delivering quality services. These limiting factors contribute to ineffectiveness and inefficiencies in the implementation of SRHR interventions, thereby impacting the acceleration of maternal and newborn mortality management and the</p>
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	<p>functionality of health facilities in delivering quality reproductive health care services.</p> <p>The Senior Management of the Ministry of Health has demonstrated a significant commitment to reducing preventable maternal and newborn deaths. In line with this commitment and the recommendations of the H6 Mission, UNFPA is supporting an advisory position on sexual reproductive health and rights for the Office of the Deputy Minister for Health Services.</p> <p>This advisory position is intended to serve as additional technical support to boost the overall performance, effectiveness, oversight, coordination, and implementation of SRHR interventions and commitments that contribute to the acceleration of the reduction of Maternal and Newborn deaths under the leadership of the Chief Medical Officer.</p>
<p><b>2. Purpose of consultancy:</b></p>	<p><i>General Objective:</i> The overall objective of the Technical Advisor on SRHR is to provide strategic advice and technical support to the Deputy Minister of Health on SRH matters.</p>
<p><b>3. Scope of Work</b></p>	<p>The consultant will be responsible for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide strategic advice to the Deputy Minister of Health on SRH policies, programmes, and initiatives, including planning, proposal development, etc.</li> <li>2. Provision of technical support in the development and implementation of SRH policies and programmes in collaboration with other MOH departments and units,</li> <li>3. Provide a supportive and coordinating role in strategic SRH interventions, working closely with other MoH Departments, Divisions, and Units such as the Family Health Division, Community Health, Supply Chain, and others,</li> <li>4. Support coordination of other government ministries, agencies, and partners on relevant SRHR matters, including the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Finance and Development Planning,</li> <li>5. Support the Monitoring and evaluation of SRH programs and services implemented by the Ministry of Health, including those supported by UNFPA,</li> <li>6. Support and participate in the development of reports, briefs, and relevant documentation of plans, challenges, and progress,</li> <li>7. Support the Deputy Minister in Advocacy and resource mobilization roles as defined by the Deputy Minister,</li> <li>8. As desired by the Deputy Minister of Health, participate in national and international travels on account of SRHR issues,</li> <li>9. Spend 70% of their time at the Ministry of Health,</li> <li>10. The MoH SRHR Technical Advisor will spend 30% of their time at the UNFPA Country Office,</li> </ol>

	<p>11. He/She will work in collaboration with the Deputy Representative and Program Specialist on SRHR matters,</p> <p>12. He/She will participate in program coordination meetings, proposal development, strategic planning, reporting, and implementation of SRHR and related interventions,</p> <p>13. The advisor is also expected to follow up on the implementation of UNFPA and MoH joint annual workplans.</p>
<p><b>4. Deliverables</b></p>	<p><i>Expected results:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. National-level coordination mechanisms for SRHR are in place and functional, (Steering Committee meetings, TWG meetings and other relevant coordination meetings) under the guidance of the CMO and UNFPA,</li> <li>2. The CMO Office is supported to effectively advocate and provide oversight of SRHR interventions across the country,</li> <li>3. National Policies, Strategies, and Guidelines for SRHR, including maternal health, family planning, and Clinical Management of Rape and other SRHR interventions,</li> <li>4. Strategic interventions that have a multiplier effect in the acceleration of the reduction of maternal and newborn mortality are promoted and implemented,</li> <li>5. Periodically brief UNFPA on the strategic direction of the MoH on SRHR issues,</li> <li>6. The Country Office, in the development of the Country Programme Document, has inputs from the MoH priority plans for Maternal Mortality Reduction,</li> <li>7. The Family Health Division is Supported in the implementation of the UNFPA and MOH annual workplan.</li> </ol>
<p><b>5. Duration and working schedule:</b></p>	<p>One Year;</p> <p>70 percent at the Ministry of Health 30 percent at UNFPA</p>
<p><b>6. Required Qualifications</b></p>	<p>The consultant must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced degree in public health, medicine, or a related field</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A seasoned Public Health Specialist with 7 to 10 years’ experience,</li> <li>• An OBGYN Specialist with years of experience in Family planning policy and guideline document management over 5 to 7 years,</li> <li>• Excellent writing and organizational skills in workshop facilitation,</li> <li>• Excellent analytical skills and a high capacity to synthesize information,</li> <li>• A thorough knowledge of the United Nations system in general and UNFPA in particular would be an asset,</li> <li>• Excellent communication and interpersonal skills,</li> <li>• Ability to work independently and as part of a team, and</li> <li>• Fluency in English.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Place where services are to be delivered</b></p>	<p>Monrovia with expected travels to other parts of the country as well as potentially international travels.</p>
<p><b>8. Delivery dates and how work will be delivered</b></p>	<p>February 1, 2025, to January 31, 2026 (One year with possible renewal)</p> <p>Four Quarterly Progress Reports will be submitted to the Ministry of Health and UNFPA</p>
<p><b>9. Monitoring and progress control, including reporting requirements, periodicity format and deadline</b></p>	<p>The UNFPA Deputy Representative will manage the overall consultancy in close collaboration with the Programme Specialist, SRHR, Quality of Care and Services, who will provide direct day-to-day oversight of the strategy development process.</p> <p>The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) and technical team will also provide oversight at the Ministry of Health level.</p> <p>The SRHR Technical Advisor will submit quarterly reports to the office of the CMO and to UNFPA on achievements and Plans for the next quarter.</p> <p><b><i>Direct Reports:</i></b></p> <p>The SRHR Advisor will report directly to the UNFPA Deputy Representative and the Deputy Minister of Health</p> <p><b><i>Direct Collaboration:</i></b></p> <p>At the MoH level, the Advisor will maintain close relationships and collaboration with the Director of the Family Health Division, while at the UNFPA level, the Advisor will maintain close relationships and collaboration with the SRHR Quality of Care Service Specialist.</p>

<p><b>10. Supervisory arrangements:</b></p>	<p><i><b>Supervisory, Reporting, and Collaboration Relationships</b></i></p> <p>The Technical Advisor on SRHR will have a dual reporting responsibility to the Deputy Minister of Health and the UNFPA Deputy Representative. Regarding collaboration and technical relationships, the SRHR advisor will work closely with the Family Health Division and the SRHR programme at UNFPA.</p>
<p><b>11. Inputs / services to be provided by UNFPA or implementing partner (e.g support services, office space, equipment), if applicable:</b></p>	<p>UNFPA will ensure that adequate and timely administrative support services are provided and that the necessary IT equipment and other tools are readily available.</p> <p>DSA will be paid at the prevailing UN rate during travel when the technical advisor travels locally and internationally.</p> <p>IT support facilities and office space will be provided at MOH and UNFPA.</p>
<p><b>12. Application Procedure</b></p>	<p>Applicants can submit their application with a current CV detailing relevant qualifications and experience to the email addresses below:</p> <p><a href="mailto:mulumba@unfpa.org">mulumba@unfpa.org</a>, and <a href="mailto:neblett@unfpa.org">neblett@unfpa.org</a></p> <p>The deadline for application is 17 January 2025.</p>

