**UNITED NATIONS**



### OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME

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| ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER | 03-CON-15 |
| DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS | 29 January 2015 |
| TITLE  | Consultancy to conduct a literature review on stimulant use and HIV: (1) crack and cocaine, (2) other stimulant drugs, particularly ATS and (3) new psychoactive substances (NPS) that are stimulants. |
| ANTICIPATED DURATION | 22 days until 30 March 2015 |
| ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT | UNODC, DO/DHB/HAS |
| DUTY STATION | Home-based |
| ESTIMATED REMUNERATION\* | to be determined |

# ANNOUNCEMENT FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

\* This assignment does not carry any entitlement to social benefits such as medical insurance, pension, sick leave, etc.

**BACKGROUND AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

While the focus in HIV prevention among people who use drugs has concentrated on the injection of opiates, reports indicate that there are also HIV-related risks attached to other forms of drug use and to the unsterile injection of other drugs including cocaine, amphetamine type stimulants (ATS) and some new psychoactive substances (NPS). In particular, there seems to be a nexus between stimulant drug use and HIV transmission. The use of crack cocaine has been associated with sexual transmission of HIV, including in Brazil and the Caribbean, often mediated through sex work or other forms of transactional sex. Also, there have been reports of ATS use and associations with HIV, particularly in South-East Asia. Injection of ATS, some NPS and cocaine has been reported as a possible main contributor to HIV incidence among people who inject drugs in some regions such as in Eastern Europe.

In addition, in its June 2009 session, the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) called upon *“*Member States, civil society organizations and UNAIDS to increase attention on certain groups of non-injecting drug users, especially those who use crack cocaine and amphetamine type stimulants, who have been found to have increased risk of contracting HIV through high-risk sexual practices…’’.

The UNAIDS Fast Track strategy for 2020 and 2030 <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2014/JC2686_WAD2014report> requires a most focused response including for people who use drugs.

Given this background, UNODC, as the UNAIDS convening agency for drug use and HIV, is planning to commission a review of literature on HIV and injecting and non injecting stimulant use. This review will support the future development of Technical Guidelines for HIV prevention, treatment and care among people who use: (1) crack and cocaine and (2) other stimulant drugs, particularly ATS and stimulant NPS – both injecting and non-injecting use.

Under the supervision and technical guidance of the Senior Advisor on Drugs and HIV, HIV/AIDS Section, UNODC, the consultant will assist UNODC by carrying out the following tasks:

* Conduct a review of scientific and grey literature on the extent, pattern and geographic distribution of injecting and non-injecting stimulant use, particularly crack, cocaine, ATS and stimulant NPS, in MSMs, SWs, and other at risk groups of stimulant users and their possible link to HIV and hepatitis B & C vulnerability and transmission.
* Carry out a review of scientific and grey literature, on effective interventions for prevention, treatment and care of HIV and hepatitis B&C among people who use stimulant drugs particularly crack, cocaine and ATS, stimulant NPS (injecting and non-injecting use).Consultation with groups and networks of people who use drugs and other relevant technical experts to secure access to peer and other expert resources.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

Education: An advanced university degree in social sciences, public health. epidemiology, or in another relevant discipline.

Professional Experience:

1. A minimum of 10 years experience in drug related research, especially concerning crack, cocaine and ATS use and HIV.
2. Proven social research, analysis and report writing abilities.
3. Excellent analytical and drafting skills.

Languages: English and French are the working languages of the United UN Secretariat. For the position advertised, fluency in English with proven drafting skills is required. Knowledge of other UN languages will be an asset.

All applicants are requested to complete a United Nations Personal History form (PHP), available online (inspira.un.org) or send a complete United Nations Personal History form (P.11). **Applicants should also outline in a cover letter why they consider themselves qualified for the** **position. Due to the expected high volume of applications, only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted.** All applications should be sent to consultants@unvienna.org, by e-mail with PHP/P.11 in pdf format attached and with the announcement number mentioned clearly in the subject line. **Preference will be given to equally qualified women applicants.**