

Important information on Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) Missions

Thank you for offering your support in response to the GOARN Request for Assistance.

We would like to ensure that you are aware of some of the principles of the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN), including the usual mechanism for deployment of experts to support field responses.

About the Network and GOARN missions

- GOARN is a network of **institutions** that collaborate to provide rapid assistance at an international level, particularly for outbreak response and emergencies. GOARN strengthens coordination on alert and response to infectious disease outbreak and public health emergencies, via the rapid deployment of experts, materials and provision of technical guidance when requested by WHO.
- WHO is a founding partner in GOARN, and provides the secretariat, or Operational Support Team (OST).
- The OST supports coordination, and communications with partners, and manages the deployment of international teams/experts identified through the Network.
- Currently there are over 200 member institutions in GOARN. Institutions and collaborative entities are eligible to join the Network if they have capacity to support international outbreak and emergency responses and are not-for-profit. Each partner designates one or several focal points through which information is cascaded, including the Requests for Assistance.
- Experts identified through GOARN partners are deployed to the field following a Request for Assistance issued by the Operational Support Team (OST).
- The duration of a deployment is typically of 3 - 4 weeks. Depending on the event and type of response, longer mission durations are sometimes preferred, and details are provided in the Request for Assistance.

General terms and conditions of the GOARN mission

When deploying with the GOARN mechanism, WHO provides the following:

1. The expert to be deployed, is issued a standard WHO Short term consultant contract, without remuneration. This contract has a nominal value of 1 USD and provides health and security coverage. WHO does not usually provide any other remuneration for staff deployed through GOARN. Experts have to complete necessary steps required for the issuance of the standard WHO Short Term Consultant Contract. This includes a medical check-up by your treating physician.
2. WHO covers the cost of air fare in economy class, and fares for other required travel to and from the duty station.
3. Daily allowance (per diem) as per standard UN rates for the specific duty station in the country of deployment is provided to cover local expenses, including accommodation/hotel, food and transport.
4. Basic health insurance is provided as part of the short term consultant contractual agreement with WHO. Further details are provided in the tables below.

5. Security coverage involves the UN Department of Safety and Security clearing the travel of the expert. GOARN experts are thereby accounted for as UN staff in the country of arrival, as would be the case for other WHO employees on mission. The experts to be deployed are required to complete two online trainings with UNDSS (Basic and Advanced Security in the Field) in order to be cleared for travel.

When deploying with GOARN, it is expected that the home institution provides the following for their staff:

1. Continued payment of salary and benefits to the staff member released for deployment.
2. Continued health insurance, accident and other coverage accorded to the staff member as part of their contract.
3. Agreement that each expert abides by the GOARN Code of Conduct on behalf of the institution (provided as annex).
4. Agreement that each expert deployed, works as a member of the WHO team, under the leadership of the Ministry of Health and the supervision of the WHO Representative/team lead.
5. Agreement that experts deployed will submit a final mission report upon their return from the field, and will be permitted to partake in post-mission debriefing and reviews..

Terms of the WHO Health Insurance coverage for Consultants

Compulsory insurance coverage	Details
Medical expenses for accident or emergency illness*	USD 50,000.- max. per event
Emergency medical evacuation/repatriation**	USD 10,000.- max. (incl. in USD 50,000.- above)
Compensation in case of accidental death	Lump sum = 3 x annual pensionable remuneration P4.step 1 (annual pensionable remuneration P4.step 1 = USD 143,031.- as at 1 Feb 2013)
Compensation in case of permanent (total or partial) disability due to accident or illness	Lump sum = Percentage of 3 x annual pensionable remuneration P4.step 1 according to the degree of disability
War and terrorism risks	Included (nuclear/chemical/biological risks excluded)
Premiums	USD 1.30 per day - paid by Organization

*Emergency illness = A life-threatening situation or situation where the patient must start treatment within 48 hours and for whom travel is not possible for medical reasons.

**Transportation by professional ambulance service to the nearest hospital where treatment can be given or repatriation to home country or medical evacuation to country where care can be given.

Voluntary Complementary Coverage	Details
Medical expenses for non-emergency illness	USD 50,000.- max.
Compensation in case of death due to illness	Lump sum = 3 x annual pensionable remuneration P4.step 1 (annual pensionable remuneration P4.step 1 = USD 143,031.- as at 1 Feb 2013)
Premiums	USD 3.21 per day - paid by the insured

Detailed information on compulsory coverage and how to purchase voluntary complementary coverage is available on the Cigna website: www.cignahealthbenefits.com. Under 'Plan members' the insured should fill in the standard reference number **378/WHCPVE** and on the next screen fill in the standard date of birth: **DD/MM/YYYY**.

All interactions relating to voluntary complementary insurance shall be between Cigna and the insured, without the involvement of WHO.

We thank you for your interest in working with WHO and GOARN. The OST remains available to answer questions and provide further clarifications.

GOARN Operational Support Team (OST)

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