World Health Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Europe**

TERMS OF REFERENCE
National Expert on Cybersecurity and Data Protection

1. Background

The Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, in collaboration with national and international partners, is implementing efforts to strengthen cybersecurity and privacy protection in digital health systems. This assignment is part of the Joint Programme on "Bridging the Digital Health Divide in the Kyrgyz Republic", implemented with support from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Fund (UN SDG Fund). The Programme aims to ensure equitable, inclusive, and secure digital health transformation, particularly in underserved and rural areas.

These efforts are also aligned with the WHO Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) for Kyrgyzstan 2024–2030, which identifies "Data, Digital Health, and Delivery for Impact" as one of its seven strategic priority areas under Pillar 1. The CCS emphasizes the importance of strengthening institutional capacity for data protection and cybersecurity as critical enablers of safe, ethical, and sustainable digital health transformation in the country.

As part of this broader agenda, the Ministry of Health intends to adapt and institutionalize the WHO "Cybersecurity and Privacy Maturity Assessment and Strengthening Tool for Digital Health Information Systems", and to lay the foundation for its national deployment. The selected expert will support the adaptation, interagency validation, and guidance development for this tool, while the actual assessment will be carried out by a designated implementing organization.

2. Deliverables

The expert is expected to deliver the following outputs:
1. **Adapted version of the WHO Cybersecurity and Privacy Maturity Assessment Tool**, customized to the legal, institutional, and technical context of the Kyrgyz Republic.
2. **Technical note** outlining key modifications, justifications for adaptation, and alignment with national cybersecurity and data protection frameworks.
3. **Presentation and facilitation materials** to support interagency consultations and endorsement of the adapted tool (e.g. slide deck, discussion brief).
4. **Validated version of the tool**, incorporating stakeholder feedback and facilitate formal agreement by the Ministry of Health and relevant national bodies.
5. **Final report** summarizing the adaptation process, stakeholder engagement, and recommendations for operationalization, including handover guidance for the implementing organization.
6. **Ad hoc technical advice** to the implementation team during initial rollout or piloting phase (as agreed).

Financial statement: financial statement is required and shall be submitted upon completion of the work.

3. Contract duration

45 effective person-days within 3 months.

4.	Qualifications, experience, skills and languages

Qualifications:

Required:

- Advanced university degree (Master's level or equivalent) in law, information security, digital governance, or a related field.
- Proven knowledge of legal and regulatory frameworks in cybersecurity, data protection, and digital health.

Experience:

Required:

- At least 10 years of relevant professional experience in the areas of cybersecurity, data protection, law, or digital regulation, preferably with a focus on the public sector or digital health.
- Demonstrated experience in adapting international frameworks or assessment tools to national contexts, including legal review and institutional alignment.
- Proven track record of working with government institutions, interagency processes, and international organizations.

Desirable:

- Previous work with WHO, UN agencies, or similar organizations.
- Familiarity with WHO frameworks, the GDPR, ISO/IEC 27001, and other global cybersecurity/data protection standards.

Skills/Knowledge:

Required:

- Strong analytical and legal drafting skills, with the ability to bridge technical and legal perspectives.
- Ability to engage effectively with diverse stakeholders, facilitate consensus, and deliver clear recommendations.
- Excellent organizational and time-management skills, with attention to detail and quality of deliverables.

Languages:

Required:

- Fluent written and spoken Russian.

Desirable:

- Knowledge of Kyrgyz is an asset.

5.	Supervision

Bakyt Dzhangaziev, Technical Officer (Data Science and Digital Health), bdzhangaziev@who.int

6.	Location (including in-country missions, if any)

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan