**TERMS OF REFERENCE- Temporary Appointment**

**Summary**

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| **Post Title** | Child Protection Specialist (Unaccompanied and Separated Children) |
| **Proposed level** | P4 |
| **Location** | Sudan, Port Sudan |
| **Duration** | 364 days |
| **Supervisor**  | Chief Child Protection |
| **WBS & Grant** |  |

**Background**

Recent developments, such as the 2019 revolution and the global COVID-19 pandemic, created new challenges and opportunities. The space for civic engagement, including notably for youth and women’s groups, widened and has recently presented a space for new types of engagement. In addition, following the ousting of the previous regime, strides were made for legal reform and policy development, providing a more robust framework for realising the rights of girls and women.

The military coup of 25 October 2021 brought about a more fluid environment with uncertainties in the implementation landscape. The situation worsened with the armed conflict which erupted on 15 April 2023, resulting in widespread violence and insecurity, tribal conflict, minimal public services (health, nutrition, protection, water and sanitation), mass displacement, breakdown of state functionality (banking and customs are non-operational, transportation is hampered, and water, fuel and power supplies and networks are not reliable) and economic fall-out constraining delivery of public services and humanitarian assistance.

Over 4.2 million people are internally displaced, and over 1 million have crossed into neighbouring countries. It Is estimated that unaccompanied and separated children comprise three per cent of internally displaced and refugee children.

As a result of this aforenamed humanitarian situation, UNICEF developed a humanitarian response plan to address the immediate and life-saving needs of children in Sudan, alongside the nexus humanitarian-peace-development. Child protection priorities have been organized around three pillars:

* Delivery of specialized services, including case management, addresses the specific protection needs of children survivors of violence, abuse, and exploitation. This includes but is not limited to, response to GBV and UASC (Alternative Care & Reunification)
* Access to Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
* Provision of knowledge and skills to prevent death and injury caused by explosive hazards and other child protection concerns, including GBV prevention.

The CP Humanitarian response plan has been developed in compliance with the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Actions, particularly Commitment 2 - Strengthening of Child Protection Systems and Commitment 4 - Unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), under child protection, and commitment 2.5.2 Large-scale movements of refugees, migrants and internally displaced persons (children on the move).

A Child Protection Specialist (Unaccompanied and Separated children and children on the move) in Emergencies is urgently needed due to the emergency in Sudan and the limited staffing capacity in the Child Protection section to support the response.

**Purpose**

As part of UNICEF’s Core Commitment for Children in Humanitarian Action, the Country office is expected to provide support to the UASC and children on the move coordination structures within the Humanitarian Cluster approach as well as address UASC and children on the move from a programming perspective, within the child protection system strengthening approach.

To fulfil this function, under the overall guidance and supervision of the Chief of Child Protection, the UNICEF Child Protection Specialist will be responsible for mitigation, preparedness, and response to UASC and Children on the Move, alongside the nexus humanitarian-peace-development to strengthen programming and coordination efforts in affected areas.

**Key accountabilities, duties and tasks**

* Work with the child protection section and other UNICEF sectors to ensure mitigation, preparedness and response to Unaccompanied and Separated Children and Children on the Move is adequately addressed across sectors and humanitarian interventions, alongside the nexus of humanitarian-peace development.
* Provide technical support to government counterparts, NGO partners, UN system partners and country office partners/donors for programming strategy, advocacy, policy documents, best practices and approaches on child protection and related issues to support program management, implementation, and delivery of results, in the area of Unaccompanied and Separated Children and Children on the Move, including case management.
* Create linkages between CP working groups, the national task force on case management, and relevant groups/task forces on children on the move to ensure that all UASC are identified, registered and safely reunified and reintegrated with primary caregivers or other family members, family-based care or in a suitable, safe, alternative care arrangement and are provided with an individual case management/care plan.
* Build and sustain effective close working partnerships with relevant government counterparts, national stakeholders and global partners/allies/donors/academia through active networking, advocacy and effective communication to build capacity, exchange knowledge/expertise and reinforce cooperation to achieve sustainable and broad results in child protection
* Promote and facilitate the inclusion of Unaccompanied and Separated Children and Children on the Move into humanitarian appeal processes and partner proposals.
* Provide technical assistance for specific Unaccompanied and Separated Children and Children on the Move programs for emergency and non-emergency affected areas, alongside the nexus humanitarian-peace-development.
* Develop new or adapt existing training materials to the local context and implement training as needed.
* As needed, conduct assessments and/or consolidate existing information about Unaccompanied and Separated Children and Children on the Move.
* Plan and/or collaborate with internal and external partners to establish monitoring benchmarks, performance indicators and other UNICEF/UN system indicators and measurements to assess/strengthen performance accountability, coherence and delivery of concrete and sustainable results for the assigned sector in child protection programs.
* Prepare/assess monitoring and evaluation reports to identify gaps, strengths/weaknesses in program and management, identify lessons learned and use knowledge gained for development planning and timely intervention to achieve goals.
* Actively monitor programs/projects through field visits, surveys and/or exchange of information with partners/stakeholders to assess progress, identify bottlenecks and potential problems and take timely decisions to resolve issues and/or refer to relevant officials for timely resolution.
* Monitor and verify the optimum/appropriate use of sectoral program resources (financial, administrative and other assets), confirming compliance with organisational rules, regulations/procedures, donor commitments, standards of accountability and integrity and ensuring timely reporting and liquidation of resources.
* Prepare regular/mandated program/project reports for management, donors and partners to inform them of program progress.

**Minimum Requirements:**

* Advanced university degree in social work, child psychology, or other relevant fields.
* Excellent communication and interpersonal skills and proven success in facilitating multisectoral and interagency processes to achieve a common goal,
* A minimum of 8 years of child protection experience with the UN and/or NGO, focusing on unaccompanied and separated children in complex emergencies and case management.
* Fluency in English (verbal and written). Fluency in Arabic is an asset.