**BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT:**

Between October 2024 and 20 January 2025, 480,000 people were newly displaced due to fighting in North Kivu. Additionally, intense clashes in Kalehe territory in South Kivu, between 4 and 20 January 2025, led to the displacement of 178,000 people. On 22 January 2025, heavy clashes between the Congolese Armed Forces (FARDC) and its allies, and M23 (positioned respectively in Nzulu and the Minova peninsula) triggered large-scale population movements from Nzulu to other locations, including towards Goma. The situation evolved rapidly on 23 January 2025; reports indicated that M23 had taken control of Sake – which lies about 20 kilometers to the west of Goma. Significant population movements have been observed, with reports of an increasing number of unaccompanied children or children separated from their families. The fighting has forced thousands to flee, exacerbating the existing displacement. Most health facilities outside Goma are closed, and international NGO activities have been suspended due to insecurity. This leaves the most vulnerable populations, particularly children, without the care they desperately need.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**ROLE PURPOSE:**

* Establish and maintain an appropriate cluster coordination mechanism;
* Provide a platform to ensure that the WASH response is driven by the agreed strategic priorities among partner
* Develop mechanisms to eliminate duplication of service deliver
* Inform strategic decision-making of the HC/HCT for the humanitarian response
* Coordinate and implement needs assessment and gap analysis (across other sectors and within the sector
* Analyze to identify and address (emerging) gaps, obstacles, duplication, and cross-cutting issues
* Develop sectoral plans, objectives and indicators directly support realization of the HC/HCT strategic prioritiee
* Develop and ensure application and adherence to existing emergency WASH response standards and guideline
* Clarify funding requirements, prioritization, and cluster contributions to HC’s overall humanitarian funding considerations (Flash Appeal, CAP, ERF/CHF, CERF)
* Identify advocacy concerns to contribute to HC and HCT messaging  and action
* Undertaking advocacy activities on behalf of cluster participants and the affected population
* Monitoring and reporting the implementation of the cluster strategy and results; recommending corrective action where necessary
* Contingency planning/preparedness for recurrent disasters whenever feasible and relevant.
* Ensure that mechanisms on accountability to affected populations are developed and implemented

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS (**please adapt according to role/context needs)

* Minimum of (8) years direct WASH emergency experience at least two of which would be based in the field at a Team Leader/WASH programme management level.
* A minimum of 2 years experience of responding to first phases of an emergency.
* A minimum of 5 years experience with either the UN and/or NGO.
* Fluency in English & French is required (verbal and written). Good written and spoken skills in the language of the humanitarian operation