



Taiwan Medical Mission (TMM) in the Republic of Somaliland

Hargeisa, Somaliland

Letter of Invitation to Work in Africa

Dear Dr. "New Blood"

Subject: A brief summary of TMM, and a project of capacity building in healthcare system
May 29, 2023

I'm writing to welcome you to the Taiwan Medical Mission (TMM) in the Republic of Somaliland. We look forward to working with you.

As you may already know, TMM is an overseas project that helps the people of Somaliland get health care. Our team of doctors and nurses is made up of an obstetrician, a registered nurse (RN), and an oral and maxillofacial surgeon. We work at the Hargeisa Group Hospital (HGH) in Somaliland to support people and build their capacities with our confidence, resiliency, determination, and empathy, which are all Taiwanese core values. Members of the TMM are willing to adapt to different cultures and settings and work with limited resources and facilities. We desire to learn from local health workers and communities and work together with them.

Our nurse teaches nurses how to think critically, which enhances nursing care. We contribute to the system and equipment upgrades in the orthopedic ward for women. A pap smear project to screen for cervical cancer with the help of the obstetrics and gynecology (OBS/GYN) department and TMM, as well as a telepathology project with a pathologist to read the cytology diagnosis of a pap smear.

TMM also supports surgical tables, orthopedic instruments/implants, the Skryker arthroscopic shaver, a C-arm X-ray machine, autoclaves, a video intubation system, trauma kits for soldiers serving on the front lines of battle, oxygen concentrators, the Vitek 2 Compact bacterial identification system, and other medical devices or medicines for use in hospitals.

We work on non-communicable diseases together with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and instruct interns at the University of Hargeisa. TMM does telemedicine by collaborating with specialists at Wan Fang Hospital, Taipei Medical University (WFH-TMU), where TMM is based.

The emergency specialist at TMM will work on a project to provide quality care to emergency patients. The point-of-care ultrasound was implemented in the emergency department and intensive care unit (ICU) on April 2023 by Dr. Max Fraden (Somalilander-American Health Association, SAHA, [urlhttps://sahainfo.org/our-vision/](https://sahainfo.org/our-vision/)). In addition, with the help of Australian Doctors for Africa (ADFA, URL: <https://ausdocafrica.org/>), a project that will boost emergency care in HGH is currently underway. This initiative will train local physicians and increase the medical staff's professional expertise, enabling them to provide more systematic and thorough care.

Additionally, we want to promote good oral hygiene and screen khat leaf chewers for oral cancer. The HGH medical personnel will also have access to screenings, vaccinations, and treatment options for HBV/HCV viral hepatitis program.

Our core value is:

- TMM offers medical professionals for people in need.
- TMM's presence is supposed to bring happiness and safety to everyone around them by improving their health and well-being.
- When confronted with a challenge, TMM is resilient in persuading its core value.

I want to tell you that even though this is merely short-term work you will soon be going back to Taiwan. You can, however, think about how you can use the skills and experiences you gained here in your future job and life. You can make the most of this time as a chance to learn and grow so that you can help us all get through the challenges that we face here. We think that constant help is important for our overseas mission to be successful. So, the WFH-TMU headquarters offers all of our TMM members mentorship, training, tools, and support networks. We would also like to help you out in this way.

You're invited to join TMM.

Regards,

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