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WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION
ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ

15 December 2016

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE
REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA
ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

Dr David Sergeenko
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Our reference:
Notre référence:
Unser Zeichen:
См. наш номер:

Your reference:
Votre référence:
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На Ваш номер:

Dear Sir,

**Autumn School of Health Information and Evidence for Policy-making
Georgia, 23–27 October 2017**

The WHO Regional Office for Europe is planning a five-day multicountry Autumn School of Health Information and Evidence for Policy-making on 23–27 October 2017. The annual Autumn School is an interactive workshop that aims to enhance the capacity of Member States to collect, analyse, report and make use of evidence for policy-making. The scope and purpose of the workshop is attached. Dr Claudia Stein, Director of the Division of Information, Evidence, Research and Innovation, would be pleased to provide you with more detailed information about the Autumn School, should you require it.

This will be the fifth workshop organized by the Regional Office for Europe since the inauguration of the Autumn School in Izmir, Turkey, in 2013, which the Turkish Minister of Health and I attended. Poland, the Russian Federation and Romania hosted the Autumn Schools in 2014, 2015 and 2016, respectively. Due to the high demand by Member States, the Autumn School, which accommodates participants from 12–15 countries each year, has become a regular feature of the Regional Office's activities on health information.

At the second session of the Twenty-fourth Standing Committee of the Regional Committee for Europe in December 2016, Dr Stein discussed with Dr Amiran Gamkrelidze the feasibility of conducting the next workshop in Georgia. In this regard, I am writing to request your kind agreement to host the Autumn School on Health Information and Evidence for Policy-making in Georgia from 23–27 October 2017.

Hosting the workshop would provide Georgia with the opportunity to showcase its progress in health information systems and for national experts to benefit from the training. Two experts per country can take part in this event. However, as host country, Georgia would be permitted to nominate up to five participants. Finally, as host country, Georgia would be invited to give a guest lecture on a health information-related topic of its choosing during one of the days of the workshop.

It is anticipated that some 50 participants will attend the workshop, including 1–2 representatives designated by the Government of each invited Member State, participants from WHO collaborating

centres and staff members of the Regional Office for Europe and WHO headquarters. The Regional Office will manage the technical content of the workshop and administer the travel and accommodation arrangements of the participants.

The working languages of the workshop will be English and Russian, and simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

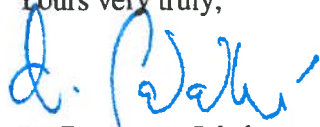
I should be grateful if the Ministry of Health of Georgia would agree to host the Autumn School and would be willing to consider making a contribution to the workshop through the funding of hospitality and the travel costs of participants from certain Member States, or by other means.

Furthermore, I would be delighted and honoured if you would agree to open the workshop on 23 October 2017. It would be fitting if you could include in your opening address an overview of the Georgian perspective on health and health information.

Please kindly address your reply to this proposal to Dr Stein through Ms Tina Dannemann Purnat, acting Unit Leader and Programme Manager, Health Information, Monitoring and Analysis (purnatt@who.int; tel.: +45 45 33 69 78), and Dr Marijan Ivanuša, Head of WHO Country Office, Georgia (ivanusam@who.int; tel.: +995 32 299 80 73).

I very much look forward to collaborating with the Ministry of Health of Georgia in this way, and await your response in due course.

Yours very truly,



Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab
Regional Director

Encls:

Scope and purpose

Copy for information to:

Dr Nino Berdzuli, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, 144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave., 0119 Tbilisi, Georgia

Dr Nana Kavtaradze, Head, Executive Office, Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, 144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave., 0119 Tbilisi, Georgia

Mr Shalva Tsiskarashvili, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Rue Richard-Wagner 1, CH-1202 Genève, Switzerland
H.E. Mr Nikoloz Rtveliashvili, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Georgia, Nybrogade 10, 1st. Floor, 1203 Copenhagen K, Denmark

Mr Niels Scott, United Nations Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative, United Nations Development Programme, UN House, 9 Eristavi St., 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia

Dr Marijan Ivanusa, Head of WHO Office, WHO Country Office, Georgia, UN House, 9 Eristavi St., 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia