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Date: 9 July 2018

Dr Sofiko Belkania
Head, Executive Department
National Counterpart
Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs
144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave.
0119 Tbilisi
Georgia

Dear Dr Belkania,

**Nominating a focal point for a Coalition of Partners initiative to
strengthen public health capacities and services in the European Region**

In 2016, a mid-term progress report on the implementation of the European Action Plan to Strengthen Public Health Capacities and Services was presented at the 66th meeting of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, recommending that additional efforts be invested in engaging partner organizations. In response, in January 2017, the Regional Office launched the Coalition of Partners to Strengthen Public Health Services and Capacities in the European Region.

The Coalition of Partners initiative is a collaborative platform that brings together experts and practitioners from within national public health services, international organizations, civil society and academia. The approach is highly participatory and action oriented, inviting partners to jointly co-create an agenda for action and form solutions to strengthen public health services at the national level while emphasizing the need to take joint responsibility for implementation. The Coalition of Partners focuses its efforts on the enabler functions of public health services: human resources for public health, financing of public health services, organization and governance of public health services and legislation to enable public health services.

The Coalition of Partners convened for the first time in January 2017 in Copenhagen, Denmark and again in November 2017 in Helsinki, Finland. As a result, several collaborative projects were initiated as a part of its Agenda for Action, including developing tools and delivering joint capacity-building activities at the country level. More information about this initiative as well as the summary of previous meetings could be found at www.euro.who.int/public-health-services.

To more effectively communicate with Member States on this initiative, I would kindly ask you to nominate one focal point responsible for further communication and engagement on the Coalition of Partners initiative.

I look forward to receiving your nomination. Please provide the name, functional title and address of the proposed focal point at your earliest convenience. We shall then communicate with the nominee directly and provide the necessary documentation and administrative information in good time.

Nurlan Algashov is the first point of contact regarding the nomination process. Please reply directly to him at algashovn@who.int. We would appreciate it if you would communicate your nomination to us as soon as possible, and preferably by 31 August 2018.

For any technical matters, you may contact Dr Anna Cichowska Myrup, Programme Manager, Public Health Services at cichowskaa@who.int.

Yours very truly,



Hans Kluge
Director, Division of Health System and Public Health

Enclosure:

Scope and purpose

Copy for information to:

H.E. Mr Victor Dolidze, 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 Gigi Gigiadze, 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, WHO Representative and Head of WHO Office, WHO Country Office, Georgia, 81 Barnov Street, Mailing address: UN House, 9 Eristavi street, 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia