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**Tripartite Zoonoses Guide Expert Workshop
Geneva, Switzerland, 26 to 28 February 2018**

Dear Dr Chakhunashvili,

I am pleased to inform you that the World Health Organization (WHO), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), will be organizing the Tripartite Zoonoses Guide Expert workshop in Geneva, from 26 to 28 February 2018, to further advance the development of the Tripartite Zoonoses Guide (TZG) mentioned in the subject line and discuss overarching issues and specific topics related to the TZG content.

Collaboration between national animal health and public health sectors is required to prepare for, detect, assess, and respond to both high-impact zoonotic disease events and endemic zoonoses. Countries must take collaborative, multisectoral “One Health” approaches to detection, assessment, and response to health events in order to meet their obligations under the International Health Regulations (2005).

There is currently international and national interest in having a set of agreed standard operational tools to guide countries in implementation of collaborative, multisectoral approaches, especially if issued by the WHO, OIE, and FAO together. Only one jointly-developed, zoonoses-specific guidance document exists for use by countries: the 2008 Tripartite “Zoonotic Diseases: A Guide to Establishing Collaboration between Animal and Human Health Sectors at the Country Level”. The Tripartite is currently updating this 2008 guide with the help of experts from around the world.

The workshop to further the development of the TZG will be held in Geneva and will assemble the project TZG focal points, as well as leads and co-leads of the seven Topic Area Working Groups, members of the working groups, regional representatives of the Tripartite organisations, and experts from countries. The experience in the country of Italy in implementing such approaches would greatly contribute to ensuring that the TZG is grounded in practical experience and lessons learned. In this connection, we would like to invite you for participation in order to discuss Italy’s operationalization of “One Health” approach for zoonoses, including the national and sub-national

coordination of zoonoses activities among the sectors and specifically on integration of surveillance, outbreak investigation and intersectoral collaboration.

Preliminary programme is attached for your reference.

The working language of the meeting will be English.

WHO headquarters will cover the travel expenses, hotel accommodation and a daily subsistence allowance relating to the participation in the workshop.

Should you have questions or need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Elizabeth Mumford, Tripartite Zoonoses Guide project lead, Country Health Emergency Preparedness & IHR Department, (email: mumforde@who.int).

With kind regards,



Dr Ute Sylvia Enderlein
Programme Area Manager
Country Health Emergency Preparedness & IHR
Division of Health Emergencies and Communicable Diseases
World Health Organization

Enclosures:

Tentative agenda
Information for participants