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

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

Dear Mr Berdzuli,

National focal point for Health Technology Assessment (HTA) – request for confirmation of the existing focal point, or nomination of a replacement

Health technology assessment (HTA) refers to the systematic evaluation of properties, effects, and/or impacts of health technology. It is a multidisciplinary process to evaluate the social, economic, organizational and ethical issues of a health intervention or health technology. The main purpose of conducting an assessment is to inform policy decision-making.

At the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly held in May 2014, Member States adopted Resolution WHA67.23 (Health intervention and technology assessment in support of universal health coverage). The Resolution requested that WHO assess the status of HTA in Member States in terms of methodology, human resources and institutional capacity, governance, linkage between health intervention and technology assessment units and/or networks with policy authorities, utilization of assessment results, and interest in and impediments to strengthening capacity.

An initial survey was conducted in 2015 and a report of the results of the global survey has been publishedⁱ. We wish to update the survey and to collect data from a number of Member States that did not participate in the 2015 survey. By understanding the current status and use of HTA in countries, the WHO Regional Office for Europe will be better able to provide technical support in order to strengthen national capacity for HTA.

The person previously nominated as the HTA focal point is:

Ms Ketevan Goginashvili

Head of the Health Policy Divison of the Health Care Department, Ministry of Labour , Health And Social Affairs

Email: kgoginashvili@moh.gov.ge

We kindly ask you to either confirm the above named person as your national HTA focal point or alternatively, provide us with the contact details of a newly nominated national focal point. We would

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very much appreciate receiving this information by **15 May 2017** at the latest to email address: robertsonj@who.int.

Enquiries relating to the HTA survey should be directed to Hanne Bak Pedersen, Programme Manager (pedersenh@who.int) or Jane Robertson, Technical Officer (robertsonj@who.int) in the Health Technologies Programme, WHO Regional Office for Europe.

Yours sincerely,

Hans Kluge Director Health Systems and Public Health

Copy for information to:

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

i http://www.who.int/health-technology-assessment/MD_HTA_oct2015_final_web2.pdf?ua=1