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და სოციალური დაცვის სამინისტრო
**MINISTRY OF LABOUR, HEALTH AND SOCIAL
AFFAIRS OF GEORGIA**



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13 / November / 2017

To: Dr. Elizabet Paunovic
Head of the WHO European Center for Environment and Health
WHO Regional Office for Europe

Dear Dr. Paunovic,

I would like to take the opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to Regional Office for Europe of World Health Organization and European Center of Environment and Health in Bonn for the continuous support and assistance they render to Georgia to strengthen Public Health institutions and Environmental Health area.

On behalf of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia I would like to express my strong support to the joint project of WHO Regional Office for Europe (WHO/EURO) and the National Centre for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC) of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia: "Establishment of key elements of national systems for a sound management of chemicals in selected countries in Eastern Europe and Caucasus".

The Ministry highly appreciates this initiative and strongly supports the project implementation at the national level. The project is on-line with national priorities in chemicals safety area and will benefit to the harmonization of approaches to achievement of sound chemicals management in Georgia via implementation of good practices in this area.

Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia authorized NCDC to implement the project "Establishment of key elements of national systems for a sound management of chemicals in selected countries in Eastern Europe and Caucasus" on behalf of the government of Georgia; It should be mentioned that NCDC has successfully implemented the first phase of the project "Development of Legislative and Operational Framework for Collection and Sharing Information on Hazardous Chemicals in Georgia". International collaboration with the German Environment Agency UBA and WHO European Center for Environment and Health was tremendously rewarding and productive for sharing their experience and expertise for successful implementation of the project, had strong positive impact across improvement awareness of the concept for collection and sharing information on hazardous chemicals in Georgia among different stakeholders and experts for better internal coordination. In the framework of the project, participants and decision makers raised their awareness regarding European Legislation of chemical safety area. Problems have been analyzed and possible solutions identified.

It is much important as well that the project "Establishment of key elements of national systems for a sound management of chemicals in selected countries in Eastern Europe and Caucasus" will benefit to fulfillment Georgia obligations to perform the

harmonization of its legislation with the legislation of the European Union and introduce internationally recognized environmental approaches, regulations and recommendations.

Achievement of increased quality of life through better health of population requires development of life sciences based on applied research in the field of Environmental Health. NCDC team, involved in this proposal, is outstanding by its background, expertise, and motivation.

The above-mentioned project proposal is of great importance for our country.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Deputy Minister

Nino Berdzuli

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nino Berdzuli', is positioned below the typed name on the right side of the letter.