



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ
WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION
ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ

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

Head office:

UN City, Marmorvej 51,
DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark
Tel.: +45 45 33 70 00; Fax: +45 45 33 70 01
Email: contact@euro.who.int
Website: <http://www.euro.who.int>

Date: 4 May 2017

Dr David Sergeenko
Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs
Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs
144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave.
Tbilisi 0119
Georgia

Our reference: Refl
Notre référence:
Unser Zeichen:
См. наш номер:

Your reference: MNH/P2
Votre référence:
Ihr Zeichen:
На Ваш номер:

E-mail: moh@moh.gov.ge; info@moh.gov.ge

Dear Sir,

WHO Project on adults with mental disabilities living in institutions in the European Region

I am writing to inform you of the progress in the implementation of the *WHO Project on adults with mental disabilities living in institutions in the European Region* and to seek your continued support and collaboration in the next project phase, in which quality assessments of 3–4 institutions are to be carried out in each participating country.

In its first phase, the project conducted a survey to map the numbers of institutions and demographic characteristics of residents in the participating countries. A draft survey report has been prepared based on submissions from 28 countries and will be updated as any additional data become available. I would very much appreciate receiving the survey data from your country as soon as feasible. The complete findings of the survey will be incorporated in the project's final report on the state of institutional care of adults with mental disabilities in the European Region, which is due in mid-2018.

As noted above, the second phase of project implementation will concentrate on carrying out quality assessments of a small sample of institutions for adults with mental disabilities in participating countries, using the *WHO QualityRights toolkit* as the main instrument. National multidisciplinary teams will be appointed and trained by WHO to perform the assessments. As previously agreed, the institutional assessment reports will be confidential and shared only with the assessed facilities and the relevant ministries. In order to ensure a timely completion of the project, the institutional assessments should take place by the end of July 2017. The costs associated with implementing the assessments will be covered by WHO.

In the coming weeks, the project team will be contacting the focal point already nominated for your country. To initiate the action, the focal point will be requested to assemble a small national multidisciplinary team, who should jointly identify 3–4 eligible institutions to undergo quality assessments, and seek a formal authorization from your Ministry to proceed with the proposed institutional assessments. In case that one or more of the selected institutions fall under the authority

of another relevant sector, I kindly ask for your assistance in obtaining the necessary permission to visit the institution(s).

Cognizant of the many and complex challenges many of our Member States are facing in their efforts to transform the provision of long-term care for people with mental disabilities in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, it is indeed gratifying that this initiative has been met with such enthusiasm, with 40 Member States having confirmed their participation to date. Equally encouraging is the general recognition of this project's potential to underpin the current deinstitutionalization efforts in many countries. The Regional Committee in September this year will include an interim report of the project's outcomes and provide us with an opportunity to consider the way forward.

Dr Daniel Chisholm, Programme Manager for Mental Health, manages this project at the regional level. He can be reached by email at chisholmd@who.in or by telephone (+45 45 33 6784)

Yours very truly,



Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab
Regional Director

Copy for information to:

Dr Nino Berdzuli, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, 144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave., Tbilisi 0119, Georgia, E-mail: nberdzuli@moh.gov.ge; nkochiashvili@moh.gov.ge

Dr Sofiko Belkania, Head, Executive Department, Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, 144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave., Tbilisi 0119, Georgia, E-mail: sbelkania@moh.gov.ge

Mr Shalva Tsiskarashvili, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Rue Richard-Wagner 1, Genève CH-1202, Switzerland, E-mail: geomission.geneva@mfa.gov.ge

H.E. Mr Gigi Gigiadze, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Georgia, Nybrogade 10, 1st. Floor, Copenhagen K 1203, Denmark, E-mail: Copenhagen.emb@mfa.gov.ge

Mr Niels Scott, United Nations Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative United Nations Development Programme, UN House, 9 Eristavi St., Tbilisi 0179, Georgia, E-mail: niels.scott@undp.org; registry.ge@undp.org

Dr Marijan Ivanusa, Head of WHO Office, WHO Country Office, Georgia, UN House, 9 Eristavi St., Tbilisi 0179, Georgia, E-mail: ivanusam@who.int