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Date: 16 May 2017

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

Our reference:	SHH/mab	Your reference:
Notre référence:		Votre référence:
Unser Zeichen:		Ihr Zeichen:
См. наш номер:		На Ваш номер:

Dear Dr Berdzuli,

The European Regional Certification Commission for Poliomyelitis Eradication (RCC) was greatly encouraged by the success with which the polio outbreak simulation exercise (POSE) package and experience has been further developed and deployed. The RCC strongly recommended that all Member States should undertake POSE as a matter of course.

I am glad to inform you that, following the initiative of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia on conducting the national exercise, WHO Regional Office for Europe will provide technical and financial support to the exercise. We propose that Dr Shahin Huseynov, Technical Officer, Vaccine preventable diseases and immunization, visits Georgia during 30 June – 1 July 2017 to assist the national immunization programme in facilitating and leading the workshop.

The aim of the national POSE in Georgia will be to increase the country's preparedness for the potential importation of wild poliovirus or emergence of type 2 vaccine-derived or Sabin like polioviruses, through critical review and update of the existing national preparedness plan and improved understanding of actions needed in responding to a new polio outbreak in line with revised Standard Operating Procedures. It is expected that the event will be attended by up to 25 participants representing major areas of work (epidemiology, immunization, vaccine regulation, public health, communication) as well as partners and staff from UNICEF and WHO country offices.

We believe that the proposed dates for the exercise and the visit are agreeable to the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs. Should you have questions or need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Shahin Huseynov, Vaccine-preventable Diseases & Immunization, Division of Health Emergencies and Communicable Diseases (email: huseynovs@who.int or tel.: +45 4533 6924).

We thank you for cooperation and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Nedret Emiroglu,
Director
Division of Health Emergencies and Communicable Diseases

Copy for information to:

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