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Date: 2 October 2017

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

Dear Dr Berdzuli,

National data on antimicrobial medicines consumption – request for approval for publication of 2011-2015 data

The WHO Europe Antimicrobial Medicines Consumption (AMC) network is an initiative of the WHO Regional Office for Europe and aims to support data collection in countries of the WHO European Region that are not part of the European Surveillance of Antimicrobial Consumption Network (ESAC-Net) coordinated by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

There are 17 Member States as well as Kosovo (in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)) participating in the network. These countries have contributed one or more years of antimicrobial consumption data using information provided by Ministries of Health, Medicine Regulatory Authorities, Health Insurance agencies or commercial providers.

In 2017, the WHO Regional Office for Europe published its first report of antimicrobial medicines consumption data (2011-2014) that included data from 12 Network members. The report described the antimicrobial medicines consumption data of the participating countries, assessed changes over time and provided cross-national comparisons on a small number of indicators.

In 2014, a paper was published in *Lancet Infectious Diseases* (Versporten *et al*) that included 2011 data from AMC Network members. We would like to update this publication focusing on 2015 data and in addition to share experiences in developing the AMC network in the peer-reviewed literature.

We are therefore writing to request approval for the antimicrobial medicines consumption data collected for the period 2011-2015 and for their analysis and publication in the peer-reviewed literature. The manuscript(s) will only include countries providing Ministry of Health approved data.

We request Ministry of Health approval of the antimicrobial medicines consumption data by 17 November 2017 at the latest so that the Regional Office can complete analyses of the antimicrobial medicine consumption data and preparation of the manuscripts.

Should we not hear from you by this time we will assume that approval is not forthcoming and your country data will not be included in the manuscripts.

Enquiries relating to the AMC Network and data collection should be directed to Hanne Bak Pedersen, Program Manager (pedersenh@who.int) or Jane Robertson, Technical Officer (robertsonj@who.int) in the Health Technologies and Pharmaceuticals Program, WHO Regional Office for Europe.

Yours very truly,



Hans Kluge,
Director
Division of Health Systems and Public Health

References:

World Health Organization. WHO Regional Office for Europe Antimicrobial Medicines Consumption (AMC) Network. AMC data 2011–2014 (2017) <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/Health-systems/health-technologies-and-medicines/publications/2017/antimicrobial-medicines-consumption-amc-network-amc-data-20112014-2017>

Versporten A, Bolokhovets G, Ghazaryan L, et al, on behalf of the WHO/Europe-ESAC Project Group. Antibiotic use in eastern Europe: a cross-national database study in coordination with the WHO Regional Office for Europe. *Lancet Infect Dis* 2014;14(5):381-387. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099\(14\)70071-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099(14)70071-4)

Encls:

Approval for analysis and publication of antimicrobial medicines consumption data 2011-2015

Copy for information to:

Dr Sofiko Belkania, Head, Executive Department, 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 Gigi Gigiadze, 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, WHO Representative and Head of WHO Office, WHO Country Office, Georgia, 81 Barnov Street, Apt.4, 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia



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Approval for analysis and publication of antimicrobial medicines consumption data (2011-2015) by WHO Regional Office for Europe

To: Ms Hanne Bak Pedersen,
Programme Manager, Health Technologies and Pharmaceuticals

I hereby provide Ministry of Health approval for the analysis and publication of data on antimicrobial medicines consumption in Georgia collected during the period 2011-2015.

I understand that these data will be included in manuscripts and reports relating to antimicrobial medicines consumption data (2011-2015) being prepared by the WHO Regional Office for Europe.

I agree that these data may also be used in all future editions, in all languages and formats (print and non-print, including electronic) and in other publications involving WHO Europe.

The transfer of the data to WHO Europe shall not convey any intellectual property rights in the data to WHO Europe.

The Ministry of Health has the full legal right to share these data with WHO Europe for the purpose of this letter and that such data does not violate any intellectual property rights of any third party. WHO Europe will accept no liability or responsibility on the grounds that the data is in violation of the above warranty. WHO Europe will transfer any claims in that regard to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Health will deal directly with such third party claims.

This letter is an administrative arrangement between WHO and the Government of Georgia.

1. Any difference of interpretation or application of this letter will be resolved through consultations or negotiations between the duly authorized officials of WHO Europe and the Ministry of Health.

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2. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as a waiver of any of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by WHO Europe under national or international law and/or as submitting WHO Europe to any national court or jurisdiction.

Date: Signature:.....

Name: (Please print):

Position:

Please return the signed and scanned form to Dr Jane Robertson (robertsonj@who.int)
by **17 November 2017** at the latest (Copy to lindhardtl@who.int; iwamotok@who.int)