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REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
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Our reference:	2017 rva	Your reference:
Notre référence:	meeting	Votre référence:
Unser Zeichen:	LVA	Ihr Zeichen:
См. наш номер:		На Ваш номер:

Date: 19 May 2017

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

Dear Dr Berdzuli,

**Rotavirus Sentinel Surveillance Network Meeting for Participating European Member States
Riga, Latvia, 20-22 June 2017**

I have the pleasure of informing you that the WHO Regional Office for Europe is organizing a meeting on the role and results of rotavirus sentinel surveillance. The meeting will be held on 20-22 June 2017 in Riga, Latvia.

It is expected that participants at the meeting will include representatives from countries involved in conducting rotavirus surveillance, technical specialists from WHO, and global and regional experts working in the field of rotavirus surveillance or rotavirus vaccine impact evaluations.

The objectives of this meeting are to discuss progress achieved in rotavirus sentinel surveillance, results of genotyping data from participating countries, use of surveillance data to make informed decisions on rotavirus vaccine introduction and to evaluate vaccine impact, strengthen national capacity to analyze rotavirus surveillance data, discuss the sustainability of rotavirus surveillance and define future priorities. The scope and purpose of the meeting is enclosed.

We would like to invite you to nominate three participants from your country: national coordinator involved in the day-to-day implementation of rotavirus surveillance activities, a laboratory coordinator of investigations for rotavirus infection, and the epidemiologist/statistician responsible for analysis of rotavirus surveillance data.

The working languages of the meeting will be English and Russian and simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Travel for participants will be arranged and paid for by this office, and they will also receive a daily subsistence allowance for the duration of the meeting in accordance with our travel regulations.

I look forward to receiving your nominations giving the names, titles and contact details of proposed participants. We shall then communicate with the participants to provide them with a draft agenda and other documentation as well as the necessary administrative information.

We would be grateful if the required information could be directed to the WHO Regional Office for Europe, attention of Ms Natalia Nemirova nemirovan@who.int no later than 24 May 2017.

Should you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the technical focal point for the meeting Ms Danni Daniels, Technical Officer, Vaccine-preventable Diseases and Immunization danielsd@who.int.

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

Yours very truly,



Nedret Emiroglu, M.D.

Director

Division of Health Emergencies and Communicable Diseases

Encls:

Scope and Purpose

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, Head of WHO Office, WHO Country Office, Georgia, UN House, 9 Eristavi St., 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia