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REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
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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>

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Date: 31 July 2017

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

Dear Dr Berdzuli,

**Workshop to Define Disease Burden from Seasonal Influenza
Dubrovnik, Croatia, 25-27 September 2017**

I have the honour to inform you that the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe plans to hold the above-mentioned workshop to define disease burden for seasonal influenza. We are inviting representatives from seven countries to participate: Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Montenegro and Turkey.

The overall aim of the workshop is to assist these countries in estimating disease burden from seasonal influenza using their national surveillance and hospital data by employing the *WHO Manual for Estimating Disease Burden Associated with Seasonal Influenza in a Population*. An outline of the scope and purpose of the workshop is enclosed. Participants will be asked to bring their national data with them to Dubrovnik. It is expected that countries will produce estimates of their national disease burden associated with seasonal influenza during the workshop.

I take pleasure in inviting you to nominate two participants for this workshop. The nominees should be the epidemiologist responsible for national influenza surveillance and reporting data for the Flu News Europe (<https://www.flunewseurope.org/>), the joint WHO Regional Office for Europe and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control influenza surveillance platform; and the influenza data manager/analyst. At least one participant must be proficient in the use of Microsoft Excel software in order to perform the analyses during the meeting.

A list of the data required for the workshop and copy of the *WHO Manual for Estimating Disease Burden Associated with Seasonal Influenza in a Population* will be sent to the nominees once they have been identified.

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.

We look forward to receiving your nominations at your earliest convenience, and no later than

15 August 2017, giving the names, functional titles and addresses of the proposed participants. We will then communicate with them directly providing the necessary documentation and administrative information.

Dr Diane Gross, Technical Officer, Health Emergencies Programme is responsible for this activity, and it would be appreciated if you would address your reply to her (tel: + 45 45336723 e-mail: grossd@who.int).

Yours very truly,



Dr Nedret Emiroglu
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, 81 Barnov Street, Apt.4, 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia