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REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
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Date: 7 March 2018

Dr Sofiko Belkania
Head, Executive Department
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Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs
144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave.
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Our reference:	MR/SHH/mab	Your reference:
Notre référence:		Votre référence:
Unser Zeichen:		Ihr Zeichen:
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Dear Dr Belkania,

Mission on strengthening country's capacity to fulfil requirements of the verification process for measles and rubella elimination, Tbilisi, Georgia, 23-25 April 2018.

At its meeting in June 2017, the European Regional Verification Commission for measles and rubella elimination (RVC) concluded that progress in interrupting endemic transmission of measles and rubella across the Region is evident, and that further activities to promote the elimination goal, technical support and trainings to counterparts in countries would help countries to achieve and sustain disease elimination. The RVC also highlighted the importance of maintaining efforts to improve and strengthen the timeliness and quality of data reported by National Verification Committees (NVC).

In this regard, the WHO Regional Office for Europe is proposing an expert mission consisting of Dr Patrick O'Connor, Team Lead for Accelerated disease control, Dr Shahin Huseynov, Technical Officer, Vaccine-preventable diseases and immunization programme, and Dr Andrey Lobanov, Vice-chairperson of RVC, to visit Georgia from 23 to 25 April 2018. The objectives of this mission are to meet with representatives of the national public health system and the NVC to inform on verification process and activities in 2018, requirements for preparing national data in updated form and other issues to support the country in achieving and sustaining disease elimination. This mission will also provide an opportunity to review the ongoing measles outbreak in the country and use the occasion of the European Immunization Week to further advocate the measles and rubella elimination.

We believe that the proposed dates for the visit of WHO staff and RVC member are agreeable to the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs.

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

Yours sincerely,

Dr Nedret Emiroglu
Director of Programme Management
Director of the Division of Health Emergencies and Communicable Diseases

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