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Geneva, 22 June 2018

H.E. Dr. David Sergeenko
Minister of Health, Labour and Social Affairs
Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave.
Tbilisi 0119
Georgia

Your Excellency, Dr Sergeenko,

On behalf of the Global Fund, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you personally and to Georgian stakeholders for hosting the visit of a high level German delegation to Georgia from 30 May to 02 June 2018. In particular, we would like to thank Prof. Amiran Gamkrelidze and the PMU at the National Center for Disease Control and Public Health for their hospitality and outstanding professionalism in organizing the visit. Additionally, we are grateful to all health institutions, non-governmental organisations, the Penitentiary Services, the CCM and its Secretariat, and all other stakeholders for taking the time to meet with the delegation and explain their work.

The very comprehensive program allowed the delegation to witness firsthand the impact of the programs supported by the Global Fund over the years, the tremendous progress Georgia has achieved against HIV, TB and MDR-TB after successfully eliminating malaria, the innovations being introduced, the increased support to key populations, as well as the tremendous strides towards Universal Health Coverage. The delegation was also impressed by Georgia's leadership in increasing domestic resources for health to gradually take over costs and make programs sustainable in the long run.

The visit was essential for members of the German parliament economic cooperation and development committee. They approve Germany's yearly contributions to the Global Fund, which is critical to honor funding requests under the current allocation, and they can discuss policy matters with German representatives on the Global Fund Board and Strategy Committee. In this respect, it was important for parliamentarians to hear about the remaining challenges at this critical juncture and to listen to the need for potential bilateral technical support. The visit was also helpful for civil society representatives to deepen their understanding of program successes and challenges in order to strengthen their advocacy efforts for the region.

We look forward to continuing the strong collaboration with Georgia.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Dr Christoph Benn
Director of External Relations