

Ref. #: LG/015/2018
14 February 2018

Mr. David Sergeenko
Minister
Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs
114, Tsereteli Avenue, Tbilisi

**Subject: Invitation to the Meeting with the Municipalities on “State Policies
Combating Violence and Ensuring Well-being of Children and Families”**

Your Excellency,

The Office of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in Georgia presents its compliments to the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs and would like to extend invitation for participation in a strategic discussion with municipalities on State Policies Combating Violence and Ensuring Well-being of Children and Families which will take place on February 20-21 at Radisson BLU Iveria Hotel in Tbilisi.

Municipalities have an essential role in the protection of the rights of children in general and in ensuring violence-free environment in particular. However, it remains difficult for municipalities to plan and offer effective measures with positive impact based on the needs of children and families.

A two-day working meeting with Municipalities is co-hosted by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure and UNICEF. It will gather representatives from all municipalities (mayors and heads of social departments), the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Correction and Probation, the Ministry of Culture and Sports, the Human Rights Secretariat, the Prosecutor’s Office of Georgia, the Public Defender Office, and non-governmental organizations involved in social sphere, donor community and the UN family.

The meeting aims to discuss and develop a shared understanding of the roles and responsibilities of central and local government to address family vulnerabilities and Violence against Children. This platform will bring together major players with the objective to:

- Present measures adopted by the government of Georgia in response to violence against children;
- Share with municipalities existing best practices as regards to response to violence against children and family vulnerabilities to enhance elaboration of effective social system at municipal level;
- Identify the needs for technical support and to agree upon the next steps for the implementation of the CPRP.

The meeting will also contribute to development of the State De-Centralization Strategy and implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy 2014-2020 and its Action Plan.

As the Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, leading the Child Welfare Reform agenda in Georgia, and contributing to the development of effective prevention mechanisms and support services to end violence against children, your participation in the strategic meeting would be of utmost importance.

We express sincere hope to see you at the meeting. Please, accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Sincerely,



Laila O. Gad
UNICEF Representative

Attachments:

- Agenda of the meeting
- Concept Note