



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ
WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION
ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE
REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA
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Date: 1 March 2018

Mr Giorgi Kvirikashvili
Prime Minister of Georgia
Government of Georgia
7 Ingorokva St.
Tbilisi 0114
Georgia

Dear Prime Minister,

**68th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe
Rome, Italy, 17–20 September 2018**

I have the honour to invite you to the 68th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe (RC68), which will be held in Rome, Italy, from 17 to 20 September 2018. The Regional Committee is the highest decision-making body of the 53 Member States of the WHO European Region, convening once a year for a four-day session, at which ministers of health meet to shape the activities to improve the health and health conditions of the people living in the European Region.

The Regional Office for Europe is planning to invite the Director-General of the World Health Organization, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, to attend RC68. Additionally, I am inviting one or two Presidents or Prime Ministers of European countries to the session to share their own country experiences as keynote speakers under different agenda items.

On 25 September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 70/1, “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. The 2030 Agenda is a plan of action for people, the planet, prosperity, peace and partnership, which all countries and stakeholders, acting in collaboration, will implement. Health and well-being are at its centre. Last year, at its 67th session, the Regional Committee adopted the roadmap to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Health 2020, the European policy framework for health and well-being.

Given your outstanding contribution to advancing the 2030 Agenda, I would like to invite you to participate in a round table discussion, with Prime Ministers from selected European countries, on progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for the health and well-being of all at all ages. It would be a privilege for us if you could participate in this round table, which will take place on the morning of Tuesday, 18 September, under the agenda item on implementation of the roadmap to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Health 2020 and review of the joint monitoring framework.

In addition to the official programme, two evening receptions will be held during RC68. The Minister of Health of Italy will host a reception on Monday evening and I will host a reception on Tuesday evening. You are cordially invited to attend one or both of these events.

Moreover, I would like to stress that you would be welcome to attend any other part of RC68 that might be of interest to you. For your information and orientation, please find enclosed the provisional agenda.

General information, including all documentation concerning RC68, will be available on the website of the Regional Office for Europe (<http://www.euro.who.int/en/about-us/governance/regional-committee-for-europe>) during the first week of August.

I would be grateful to receive confirmation of your participation as a member of the round table at your earliest convenience.

Please accept, Prime Minister, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours very truly,



Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab
Regional Director

Encls:
Provisional Agenda

Copy for information to:

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

Mr Mikheil Janelidze, Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sh. Chitadze str. 4, 0118 Tbilisi, Georgia

Dr Sofiko Belkania, Head, Executive Department, National Counterpart, Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, 144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave., 0119 Tbilisi, Georgia

H.E. Mr Victor Dolidze, 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

Dr Marijan Ivanusa, WHO Representative and Head of WHO Office, WHO Country Office, Georgia, 81 Barnov Street, Apt.4, 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia

Rome, Italy
17-20 September 2018

02 March 2018

Draft provisional agenda of the 68th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe

1. Opening of the session

- (a) Election of the President, the Executive President, the Deputy Executive President and the Rapporteur
- (b) Adoption of the provisional agenda and the provisional programme

2. Addresses

- (a) Address by the Regional Director and report on the work of the Regional Office since the 67th session of the Regional Committee for Europe
- (b) Address by the Director-General
- (c) Address by the invited speaker

3. Matters arising from resolutions and decisions of the World Health Assembly and the Executive Board

4. Report of the Twenty-fifth Standing Committee of the Regional Committee for Europe

5. Policy and technical topics

- (a) The European health report 2018
- (b) Implementation of the Roadmap to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Health 2020 and review of the joint monitoring framework
- (c) Action plan to implement vision of 21st century public health
- (d) Financial protection in the WHO European Region
- (e) Outcome document of the WHO high-level meeting “Health systems respond to NCDs”: policy implications (Sitges, Spain, 16–18 April 2018)
- (f) Development of a five-year action plan to improve public health preparedness and response in the WHO European Region

- (g) Strategy on the health and well-being of men in the WHO European Region
- (h) Implementation of the Regional framework for surveillance and control of invasive mosquito vectors and re-emerging vector-borne diseases: lessons learned and the way forward
- (i) Vaccine-preventable diseases and immunization: realizing the full potential of the European Vaccine Action Plan 2015–2020
- (j) Outcome document of the WHO high-level meeting on Health systems for prosperity and solidarity: Leaving no one behind (Tallinn, Estonia, 13–14 June 2018)
- (k) Countries at the centre: the strategic role of country offices in the WHO European Region
- (l) Proposed programme budget 2020–2021 and the regional perspective
- (m) WHO reform: progress and implications in the WHO European Region
- (n) Accreditation of regional non-State actors to the WHO Regional Committee for Europe
- (o) Progress reports

Category 1: Communicable diseases

- Regional framework for surveillance and control of invasive mosquito vectors and re-emerging vector-borne diseases, 2014–2020 (resolution EUR/RC63/R6)
- Tuberculosis action plan for the WHO European Region 2016–2020 (resolution EUR/RC65/R6)
- European Vaccine Action Plan 2015–2020 (resolution EUR/RC64/R5)

Category 2: Noncommunicable diseases

- Physical activity strategy for the WHO European Region 2016–2025 (resolution EUR/RC65/R3)
- Roadmap of actions to strengthen the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in the European Region 2015–2025 (resolution EUR/RC65/R4)
- Action plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in the WHO European Region (resolution EUR/RC66/R11)

Category 3: Promoting health through the life-course

- European child and adolescent health strategy 2015–2020 and the European child maltreatment prevention action plan 2015–2020 (resolution EUR/RC64/R6)
- Strategy and action plan for refugee and migrant health in the WHO European Region (resolution EUR/RC66/R6)
- Implementation of the European Environment and Health Process

Category 4: Health systems

- Priorities for health systems strengthening in the WHO European Region 2015–2020: walking the talk on people centredness (resolution EUR/RC65/R5)
- Action plan to strengthen the use of evidence, information and research for policy-making in the WHO European Region (resolution EUR/RC66/R12)

Category 5: Preparedness, surveillance and response

- European strategic action plan on antibiotic resistance (resolution EUR/RC61/R6)
- Health emergencies – readiness and response operations in the WHO European Region

Category 6: Corporate and enabling functions

- Compliance and audit
- Work of the geographically dispersed offices (decisions EUR/RC63(1) and EUR/RC63(2))
- Governance of the WHO Regional Office for Europe (resolution EUR/RC60/R3)

Cross-cutting

- Implementation of Health 2020, including indicators (resolution EUR/RC63/R3)

6. Private meeting: elections and nominations

- (a) Nomination of two members of the Executive Board
- (b) Election of four members of the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee
- (c) Election of six members of the Regional Evaluation Group
- (d) Nomination of one member of the Joint Coordinating Board of the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (JCB)

7. Confirmation of dates and places of regular sessions of the Regional Committee

8. Closure of the session

Technical briefings

- to be confirmed

Ministerial lunches

- to be confirmed