

Nino Kochiashvili

From: IVANUSA, Marijan <ivanusam@who.int>
Sent: 25 January, 2017 19:22
To: David Sergeenko
Cc: Nino Berdzuli; Nino Kochiashvili; Nana Kavtaradze (nana@moh.gov.ge); KLIMIASHVILI, Rusudan
Subject: WHO-EU-LUX meeting, Brussels, March 2017
Attachments: agenda_draft_Brussels_meeting_170112 v4.docx

Dear Dr David Sergeenko, Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs,

This is to inform you that WHO organizes the **5th Annual Inter-Country Technical Meeting of the EU/LUX-WHO UHC Partnership, Brussels, 21-23 March 2017**.

The meeting is organized by the WHO Headquarters, Department for Health Systems Governance and Financing within the broader context of the European Union/Luxembourg-WHO Universal Health Coverage Partnership. This is a global meeting and will serve as a follow-up to the 2016 (Barcelona), 2014 (Hammamet), 2013 (Brazzaville) and 2012 (Geneva) meetings.

The main purpose of this meeting is to synthesize the achievements and results of the Partnership thus far and also to discuss and evaluate with country representatives how it can contribute to the national health planning and policy processes. Participants will include among others ministerial representatives of all twenty-eight member countries (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Mali, Moldova, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia) plus two observer countries (Congo and Lesotho), delegations from the European Union and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, and relevant WHO staff at the corresponding country and regional levels including the HQ coordination team.

WHO Barcelona Office for Health Systems Strengthening in the name of the WHO Regional Office for Europe invites you to nominate the representative of Georgia, who will participate at the meeting of the Partnership.

The overall objectives of the meeting are to:

- give countries in the partnership an opportunity to share experiences and learn from each other
- showcase the partnership's achievements to the donors

We see the meeting as an **excellent opportunity for Georgia** to demonstrate to the Partnership secretariat (WHO HQ) and to the donors:

- the significant progress Georgia has made towards UHC since 2013
- why Georgia would be an excellent candidate for intensified WHO support in the next three years.

Our plan is to include Georgia both in panel discussions and in making a presentation. We will also include Georgia in WHO poster on financial protection.

Hopefully this would help us in bringing Georgia to the EU/LUX-WHO Partnership and thus securing additional funding through the partnership which can be used to **support you in moving towards UHC in Georgia**.

By the time of the Brussels meeting we should have developed and agreed with you a draft list of activities that could be covered using the UHC Partnership funds (with a timeline), in case they become available for Georgia. This would be to show the donors that in Georgia there is a coherent strategy/plan in place. We can then discuss this further during and after the Barcelona meeting scheduled for April 2017.

It is important that the representative of Georgia is fluent in English, has good presentations skills and is competent in the area of health system financing / universal health coverage, so the representative can contribute to the discussion.

Kindly note that all costs related to this meeting will be covered by WHO for at least one participant. In case you decide for two participants, we will have to check the availability of funds for the second participant.

A draft agenda is attached as a preliminary information. It is rather long meeting and the arrival shall be planned for 20 March in the evening (latest) and departure on 23 March late evening or 24 March.

Having in mind current activities, we see Dr Nino Berdzuli, Deputy Minister, as possible participant of the meeting; it is however on you to decide who shall represent Georgia at this important meeting.

We look forward to your response with the nomination, which we expect before 31 January 2017, to be able to inform WHO Headquarters about participation of Georgia at the meeting.

Thank you and best regards,

Marijan Ivanuša
WHO Representative
Head of WHO Country Office Georgia

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