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REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
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Date: 17 August 2017

Dr Nino Berdzuli
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs
144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave.
0119 Tbilisi
Georgia

Our reference:	CBR/EGA_	Your reference:
Notre référence:	kha	Votre référence:
Unser Zeichen:		Ihr Zeichen:
См. наш номер:		На Ваш номер:

Dear Dr Berdzuli,

Biosafety Course for National Influenza Centres

28 November – 1 December 2017

Tbilisi, Georgia

I have the honour to inform you that as a part of the Better Labs for Better Health initiative for strengthening the overall laboratory capacity in the Member States, the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe proposes to organize a four-day Biosafety course in collaboration with the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in partnership with the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) and in collaboration with the Richard Lugar Center for Public Health Research of the National Center for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC), for specialists from the National Influenza Centres (NICs) of the countries of eastern Europe.

The primary purpose of the course is to present the best practices to assist in the development of biosafety programs within influenza laboratories. The course will review and discuss laboratory biosafety and biosecurity practices through didactic lecture and hands on exercises and demonstrations within the laboratory.

The draft agenda is enclosed for your information.

The participants attending this course are technical and scientific staff, and laboratory personnel (laboratory technicians, scientists, laboratory biosafety officers and managers), representatives of NICs.

The working languages will be English with simultaneous Russian translation provided.

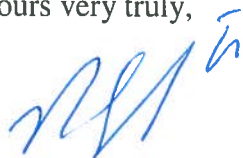
Please note the Regional Office will meet all the costs in relation to organization of this course.

It would be appropriate if this meeting could be held in Georgia because of our long-standing collaboration in the area of influenza and pandemic preparedness. In light of the excellent collaboration between Georgia and the WHO Regional Office for Europe, we hope that you will agree with our proposal and look forward to receiving your confirmation that proposed dates are convenient with the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs.

Dr Caroline S. Brown, Team Leader of the High Threat Pathogens, Infectious Hazard Management, is responsible for this activity, and it would be appreciated if you would address your reply to her (tel.: + 45 45336688 email: hagebrok@who.int).

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours very truly,



Dr Nedret Emiroglu
Director
Division of Health Emergencies and Communicable Diseases

Enclosures:
Draft agenda

Copy for information to:

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Mr Shalva Tsiskarashvili, 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

Mr Niels Scott, United Nations Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative, United Nations Development Programme, UN House, 9 Eristavi St., 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia

Dr Marijan Ivanusa, Head of WHO Office, WHO Country Office, Georgia, UN House, 9 Eristavi St., 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia