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Date: 13 November 2017

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

Our reference:
Notre référence:
Unser Zeichen:
См. наш номер:

Your reference:
Votre référence:
Ihr Zeichen:
На Ваш номер:

Dear Sir,

European Regional Polio Laboratory Network Letter of Laboratory Accreditation for 2018

As part of the annual accreditation procedure, the National Polio Laboratory of your country was reviewed by the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe.

Based on the results of this review, I am pleased to inform you that the National Laboratory is **fully accredited** as a World Health Organization Polio National Laboratory for 2018.

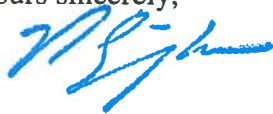
Taking this opportunity, I would like to draw your attention to the report of the 31st Meeting of the European Regional Certification Commission for Poliomyelitis Eradication (RCC) which concluded that as the polio eradication initiative approaches the global eradication of polio, countries hosting WHO polio laboratories should ensure that adequate financial and human resources for laboratory-based polio surveillance continue to be provided through the period of global certification of eradication and into the post-certification period.

The RCC also concluded that Member States should ensure that all non-typed enteroviruses isolated from patients with polio-compatible clinical conditions are screened to exclude poliovirus. All polioviruses detected must be forwarded to an accredited WHO polio laboratory without delay for intratypic differentiation and any further characterization required.

It is also important to point out that all diagnostic work on samples where a presence of poliovirus is suspected should be performed in accordance with Annex 6 of the WHO Global Action Plan to minimize poliovirus facility-associated risk after type-specific eradication of wild polioviruses and sequential cessation of oral polio vaccine use (GAPIII).

I would like to thank you personally for your ongoing support of the National Polio Laboratory and to congratulate staff of the Laboratory with the successful accreditation.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Nedret Emiroglu
Director of Programme Management
Director of the Division of Health Emergencies and Communicable Diseases
WHO Regional Office for Europe

Links:

Report of the 31st Meeting of the European Regional Certification Commission for Poliomyelitis Eradication (RCC)
http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/349586/31st-RCC-report-2017.pdf?ua=1

Global Action Plan (GAPIII) http://polioeradication.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/GAPIII_2014.pdf

Copy for information to:

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