



To David Sergeenko
Chairperson of the Country Coordinating Mechanism, Georgia
Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

Copy to Secretariat of the Country Coordinating Mechanism

April 30, 2018

Honourable Minister Sergeenko,

On behalf of the Eurasian Coalition on Male Health let me express my respect and invite you to participate in *the Second Regional Consultation on HIV among MSM and Trans People in Eastern Europe and Central Asia "New Challenges and Approaches in the Response to the HIV epidemic among MSM and Trans People in Eastern Europe and Central Asia"* and **welcome** the participants in the opening session on May 31.

The organizers will be happy to see Georgian CCM representatives among the participants of the Second Regional Consultation.

The Regional Consultation will take place on May 31 – June 1, 2018, in Marriott Courtyard Hotel, Tbilisi, Georgia.

The overall goal of the Regional Consultation is to strengthen the regional response to the HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people in EECA. The Regional Consultation will gather about 100 participants from the region, representing civil society and community organizations, experts, scientists, government officials and opinion leaders.

Key topics of the Second Regional Consultation are:

- Access to high-quality HIV services for MSM and trans people;
- Impact of the legal environment on the HIV epidemic among MSM in the region;
- Innovative approaches to the work with MSM and trans people;
- Community participation in decision making and its impact on HIV epidemic;



*2nd Regional Consultation on HIV among MSM and Trans People
in Eastern Europe and Central Asia*

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- Sustainability and funding of services;
- Trans people and HIV epidemic in the region.

The organizer of the Second Regional Consultation is the Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM), with support from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, International AIDS Society (IAS), Robert Carr civil society Networks Fund (RCNF), United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA), Regional Civil Society and Community Support, Communication and Coordination Platform-EECA, Equality Movement (Georgia).

The organizers of the Regional Consultation appreciate efforts Georgian Government and your Ministry in particular undertake to fight HIV in the country, paying special attention to key affected populations, the role Georgia plays in the regional arena in addressing public health issues, and we will be happy to see you opening such an important for the region gathering.

Please confirm your participation to the Executive Director of ECOM Vitaly Djuma vitaly@ecom.ngo at your earliest convenience.

Due to the limited number of participants of the Regional Consultation, we will be happy to accommodate at the event up to 5 representatives of Georgian CCM.

The draft program of the Second Regional Consultation is attached to the invitation letter for your attention. Please note that the program is still under development.

With respect,

Vitaly Djuma
Executive Director
Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM)