



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

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE
REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA
ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

Head office:
UN City, Marmorvej 51,
DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark
Tel.: +45 45 33 70 00; Fax: +45 45 33 70 01
Email: contact@euro.who.int
Website: <http://www.euro.who.int>

Our reference:	MDD/	Your reference:
Notre référence:	Childhood	Votre référence:
Unser Zeichen:	TB event	Ihr Zeichen:
См. наш номер:	nomination	На Ваш номер:
	letter	

Date: 12 July 2018

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

Dear Dr Belkania

Operational Research Course of the European Tuberculosis Research Initiative Copenhagen, Denmark, 1–12 October 2018

Research Innovation is one of the three main pillars of the Global End Tuberculosis (TB) Strategy endorsed by all WHO member states during World Health Assembly 2014 and Tuberculosis Action Plan for the WHO European Region 2016-2020. In order to end TB, it is crucial to implement an evidence-based approach using operational research (OR) as a tool for sound decision making. To this end, we are pleased to inform you that the abovementioned event will be organized by the WHO Regional Office for Europe, at our premises in UN City, Copenhagen, Denmark, 1–12 October 2018.

The European Tuberculosis Research Initiative (ERI TB) Operational Research course is an innovative adaptation of previous result-oriented WHO SORT IT (Structured Operational Research and Training Initiative) courses, where participants are Principal investigators (PIs) of predetermined research questions. It will be the first of a continuous stream of capacity building workshops on operational research, guided by the predetermined priority research questions, identified by each Member State in the framework of the ERI TB. The participants to this first course will be 12 candidates, ideally two per country, nominated by the Ministry of Health of the six selected high MDR-TB burden countries in the WHO European Region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine).

We are hence pleased to invite you to nominate two to four candidates to attend the above mentioned course. Those nominees not selected for the first workshop will still have the opportunity to attend planned courses for the following months. The participants will receive support from WHO Regional Office for Europe, including travel, accommodation and per diem.

In order to ensure that the OR projects of participants have a strong and sustainable impact, we also invite you to nominate one supervisor for your candidates. The supervisor role is to support the participants throughout the project from your country, and ensuring that the necessary data is accessible for them to properly conduct the research.

After the successful completion of the course, PIs and their supervisor will be invited to participate in a dedicated session of a regional TB conference in The Hague, Netherlands, in May 2019. The session will focus on sharing the results of their research projects and especially their impact on the decision making as part of an evidence-based process within countries, translating findings into practice.

More details can be found in the attached brief ([Annex 1](#)), together with the participant selection criteria for your kind consideration ([Annex 2](#)).

Nominations and application forms can be forwarded to Dr Andrei Dadu, Medical Officer, eurotb@who.int, no later than 3 August 2018. Invitation letters from WHO Regional Office from Europe, together with supporting documentation, will follow in due time.

For any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We thank you for your cooperation and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Masoud Dara
Coordinator
Communicable Diseases
Director of the Division of Health Emergencies and Communicable Diseases

Encls:
ERI TB OR Course Brief

Copy for information to:

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, Genève CH-1202, Switzerland.

H.E. Mr Gigi Gigiadze, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Georgia Nybrogade 10, 1st. Floor, Copenhagen K 1203, Denmark.

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

Dr Marijan Ivanusa, WHO Representative and Head of WHO Office, WHO Country Office, Georgia. 81 Barnov Street, Mailing address: UN House, 9 Eristavi street. Tbilisi 0179