

UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Regional Office in the South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia)

2a, Kazbegi Ave. 0160, Tbilisi, Georgia Tel.: +995 32 2386202 Fax: +995 32 2385422 Email: GEOTB@UNHCR.ORG

18 July 2019

Notre/Our code:

GEO/HCR/157/19

Subject:

RE: Integration of refugees and stateless people

Dear Mr. Jashi,

The UNHCR Regional Representation in the South Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia) appreciates the cooperation with the State Commission on Migration Issues (State Commission hereafter) in refugee and statelessness matters including their protection and integration in Georgia.

I would like to inform you of the recent communication between UNHCR and the Ministry of IDPs, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia regarding the meeting of the Integration Working Group and the need to give a further consideration to the development of the integration section of the National Action Plan under the Migration Strategy of Georgia 2016-2020. The integration section of the National Action Plan for 2019 was not prepared at the end of the previous year and remains unattended. UNHCR wishes to revitalize its joint effort with the State Commission and the Ministry to bring back all the relevant stakeholders to the same table to advance discussion in the area of integration of refugees and stateless people.

Likewise, I wish to inform you regarding the recent discussion between the Ministry of Education, a co-chair Ministry of the Integration Working Group, and UNHCR. Among other issues discussed, it is highly important to note the positive efforts made by the Ministry of Education to improve access of refugees (and stateless people) to general and higher education for refugees in support of their integration.

UNHCR wishes to solicit your support in organizing a meeting of the Integration Working Group together with the co-chair Ministries, i.e. Ministries of IDPs, Labour, Health and Social Affairs, and of Education; and in engaging representatives of the respected Ministries and other stakeholders. This event can serve as a platform for the development of the Integration section of the National Action Plan under the Migration Strategy of Georgia 2016-2020, which should

Mr. George Jashi Executive Secretary State Commission on Migration Issues

Cc: Ms. Tamila Barkalaia,

Deputy Minister of IDPs, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

Mr. Kakha Khandolishvili Head of the International Relations Department, Ministry of Education of Georgia reflect the planned interventions by the Ministries and other stakeholders and contribute to the implementation of the national integration framework in Georgia. UNHCR stands ready to provide the necessary support in the organization of this event and looks forward to coordinating closely with the State Commission on relevant organizational aspects.

I thank you in advance for your continued cooperation. I count on your support for organizing the meeting of the Integration Working Group and finalizing the integration section of the National Action Plan.

Yours sincerely,

Yøko Akasaka

Regional Representative a.i.

UNHCR Regional Representation in the South Caucasus

(Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia)