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Date: 18 November 2019

Ms Ekaterine Tikaradze  
Minister  
Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons  
from the Occupied Territories, Labour,  
Health and Social Affairs  
144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave.  
Tbilisi 0119  
Georgia

Dear Minister,

Thank you for your letter dated 4 October 2019 regarding collaboration with WHO on further strengthening the health system in Georgia, with a specific focus on the regulation of pharmaceuticals.

Regulation of pharmaceuticals is critical to ensure access to safe, quality and affordable medicinal products and to meet the universal health coverage targets, specifically target 3.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals. WHO welcomes this letter of intent and congratulates the Ministry on its achievements to date. In 2018, a draft action plan on improvement of medical product regulation in Georgia was presented by WHO to the Ministry, which was accepted and became a road map for implementation with a number of recommendations.

The action plan enabled WHO to provide Georgia with substantial support to the reforms in relation to the regulation of medicines: training of pharmaceutical inspectors, five of whom were recognized as suitable to conduct inspections; assistance in creation of the Good Manufacturing Practice/Good Distribution Practice (GDP) inspectorate and development of the inspectorate's quality management system; training of two GDP inspectors in 2019; and assistance in the revision of the Law of Georgia on Medicinal Products.

One immediate result of this support and the actions undertaken by your country was that Georgia was able to become a member of the WHO certification scheme on the quality of

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pharmaceutical products moving in international commerce. Georgia is to be congratulated for this achievement.

WHO is ready to continue to support Georgia in strengthening its medical products regulatory system as a part of the strengthening of its health system. To enable this, WHO would like to propose a mission to Georgia in January 2020 to facilitate detailed planning of further activities under the Biennial Collaborative Agreement the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia and the Regional Office for Europe of the World Health Organization 2020–2021.

If you are in agreement with this proposal, please could you respond directly to Dr Sarah Garner, Programme Manager ad interim, Health Technologies and Pharmaceuticals (garners@who.int) by 1 December 2019.

Yours very truly,

  
Dr Pirooska Östlin  
Regional Director ad interim

**Encls:**

Letter from MoH Georgia dated on 04 October 2019

**Copy for information to:**

Ms Tamar Gabunia, First Deputy Minister, National Counterpart, Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs, 144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave., Tbilisi 0119, Georgia

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, Kalvebod Brygge 45, Copenhagen 1560, Denmark

Ms Sabine Machl, United Nations Resident Coordinator, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UN House, 9 Eristavi St., Tbilisi 0179, Georgia

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