

April 2, 2020

The First Deputy Minister of IPDs from
Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and
Social Affairs of Georgia, Mrs. Tamar Gabunia

Dear Mrs. Deputy Minister,

Let me greet you in this difficult time for the World. I would like to reassure you in the continuous and firm support of Caritas Czech Republic to the Government of Georgia (GoG) in the fight against COVID-19.

You are already aware that Caritas Czech Republic submitted a grant proposal to the Czech Development Agency (CzDA) with the request of further support to primary health care reform in Georgia. The proposal has been under review within the previous months. However, in connection with COVID-19 pandemic, CzDA accelerated the review process and now there is a possibility to finalize all grant-awarding procedures by next week. Moreover, they are ready to review and add to the project some additional COVID-19 response related activities that will be in line with the GoG's needs.

We received and reviewed a donor coordination matrix distributed by the GoG and decided to align a new PHC project with the MoDPLHSA's requirements. It will be one of the Czech Government's contribution to the COVID-19 response in Georgia.

Specifically, we will be responding to the Ministry's requirements regarding "Building information system for effective COVID-19 surveillance, data management and contact tracing systems". More precisely, we will support in refining the Unified Laboratory Information system for COVID-19, which will enable the testing registration process of patients, logistic component for samples collection and test results tracking. We also will help to roll out the system countrywide. The functions of currently developing information system will be improved, the tablets for epidemiologists purchased (in case of such requirements), and trainings will be facilitated to introduce it to specialists. The information system will be integrated into the PHC unified information system.

Within the need "Strengthening first-point-of contact strategy for possible COVID-19 cases", we will assist in building capacity of primary care providers. Specifically, three PHC experts will conduct online training sessions and provide online supervision to 20 online PHC clinics (out of 24) in Eastern Georgia and Samegrelo- Zemo Svaneti on all suspected cases of COVID-19 in accordance with the newly approved State protocol. This will include trainings in infection prevention and control

measures, screening the needs of home visits, communication with patients on COVID-19 messages, support in organization of remote triage and reporting system, conduct distance teaching and consultation to solve difficult cases. In parallel with these activities, PHC experts will support to continue fundamental PHC services (chronic disease care, immunization etc.) by developing and teaching distance consultation methods.

Should you have any comments to the list above or have any other requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Jan Blinka
Head of Mission

