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REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE  
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Date: 7 January, 2020

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 Madam,

I have the honour to inform you about the implementation of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) Framework Partnership Contribution (PC) funds.

In 2011, the World Health Assembly unanimously adopted the PIP Framework. Through the Framework, WHO Member States established expectations for the sharing of influenza viruses with pandemic potential in a systematic, rapid and timely manner with the WHO-coordinated network of specialized influenza laboratories known as the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS). Member States also established two benefit-sharing mechanisms: one is a contracting mechanism to enable WHO to secure advance access to specific percentages of pandemic response products such as vaccines and antivirals. The other is a yearly PIP PC that is paid to WHO by influenza vaccine, pharmaceutical and diagnostic manufacturers that use GISRS. That mechanism aims to collect US\$ 28 million per year that WHO uses, in part, to strengthen pandemic preparedness capacities.

In 2018–2023, PC funds will strengthen capacities in six areas of work: laboratory and surveillance; burden of disease; regulatory capacity building; risk communication and community engagement; planning for deployment; and pandemic influenza preparedness planning. All of these support implementation of the core capacities as required by the International Health Regulations (2005).

For 2020–2021, I am pleased to inform you that your country is receiving PIP PC support to strengthen regulatory capacity building. Based on the needs identified jointly between WHO and Ministry of Health technical teams, a work plan has been established.

I thank you for your continued commitment to the PIP Framework. In sharing influenza viruses with pandemic potential and in receiving PIP PC funds, you are contributing to making the world safer, and to ensuring that greater fairness and equity are achieved when the next pandemic strikes.

Yours very truly,

Dr Pirooska Östlin  
Regional Director a.i.

**Copy for information to:**

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