

Mercy Tembon
Regional Director

May 27, 2019

Ms. Natia Turnava
Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development
Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development
Tbilisi, Georgia

Mr. David Sergeenko
Minister of Internally Displaced Persons
from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health
and Social Affairs
Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons
from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health
and Social Affairs
Tbilisi, Georgia

Dear Ms. and Mr. Ministers:

Re: Energy Efficiency and Social Equity
Assessment of Social and Economic Costs of Underheating for Buildings in Georgia
June 7-17, 2019

I am pleased to inform you that on June 7-17 the World Bank Group team comprising Joseph Melitauri (Senior Operations Officer), Tamer Rabie (Lead Health Specialist), Stephen Dorey (Consultant), Kristie Ebi (Consultant) and Fatima Barry (Young Professional) will carry out fact finding mission for the analytical work on Energy Efficiency and Social Equity. Sheoli Pargal (Lead Energy Economist) and Nino Moroshkina (Consultant) will provide remote support to the mission.

As you are aware, the World Bank, through support from the European Commission, is carrying out assessment of social and economic costs of underheating for public and private buildings in Georgia. A large part of public and private buildings in Georgia are underheated leading to substantial social, economic, and health costs. An increased frequency and severity of extreme temperatures caused by climate change exacerbates impacts on health. In addition, climate change and variability has been identified as the greatest global health threat of the 21st Century, posing a serious risk to countries' efforts to reduce poverty and increase shared prosperity.

The main objectives of the mission are: (i) to conclude analytical work on assessment of social and economic costs of underheating. The mission will validate quantitative and qualitative data for assessment of the health impacts of extreme weather conditions caused by climate change and underheating and (ii) to estimate health impacts of low (and high) ambient temperatures in Georgia. The mission is led by the Energy and Extractives global practice

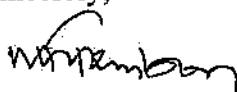
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together with the Health, Nutrition and Population global practice through its Health-Climate and Environment Program (H-CEP). An outcome assessment report from this mission will build on a second line of work that H-CEP is also overseeing to quantify the relationship between ambient temperatures and health outcome in Georgia and the modulating effect that housing has on this.

The Bank team will closely coordinate with the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs, and other key counterparts. We hope that the proposed timing of the mission is convenient for the Government and would appreciate the opportunity to brief you during the mission.

Sincerely,



Cc: Mr. Ivane Matchavariani, Minister of Finance
Mr. Nikoloz Gagua, Deputy Minister of Finance
Mr. Zaza Bokhua, First Deputy Minister of IDP, Labour, Health and Social Affairs
Ms. Tamar Gabunia, Deputy Minister of IDP, Labour, Health and Social Affairs
Ms. Tamila Barkalaia, Deputy Minister of IDP, Labour, Health and Social Affairs
Mr. Amiran Gamkrelidze, Director General, NCDC and Public Health
Ms. Silviu Damente, Head of WHO Country Office
Mr. Koen Davidse, Executive Director for Georgia, the World Bank
Mr. Jan De Boer, Advisor to Executive Director, the World Bank
Mr. Ozan Semivli, Senior Operations Officer for the South Caucasus, the World Bank