

October 27, 2020

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

Dear First Deputy Minister,

I hope that my letter finds you well even in this difficult time of fighting against Covid-19 pandemic and its socio-economic as well as psychological impact on the population.

However, not even during such hard times our work on development priorities has stopped, so I take the liberty to address you with the request to organize Steering Committee meeting for the project *“Establishment of children’s long term and palliative care service in Georgia”*. Caritas Czech Republic has been implementing this project since 2017 on initiative of your respective Ministry and with financial support provided by Czech Development Agency.

Under the *Memorandum of Understanding* between the parties, the project Steering Committee should gather at least twice a year, but due to understandable reasons, we were not able to summon the meeting this year so far.

Holding the meeting is becoming very urgent matter, as the project parties should update the donor about the status of implementation and request the project extension to next year.

Originally, the project should have been finished by this year, but due to the delay of construction process of new long-term care unit at Zhvania Hospital, some activities have to be moved to 2021. Specifically, in 2021, the equipment for new LTC unit has to be bought, new staff of LTC unit need to be trained, and supervision of the pilot of new LTC services needs to be undertaken. Those changes have to be approved by the Steering Committee composed of the representatives of your respective Ministry, CCRG, CzDA, Czech Embassy and TSMU and it should be communicated to the donor as soon as possible as the donor has to allocate the relevant financial support.

Thank you very much for your cooperation and I am looking forward to meeting your or your colleagues during on-site or on-line meeting.

Mrs. First Deputy Minister, Caritas Czech Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry the assurance of its highest consideration.

With kind regards

Jan Blinža

