



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
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ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE
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Date: 19 March 2021

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.
0119 Tbilisi
Georgia

Dear Ms Gabunia,

Annual status update (ASU) on measles and rubella elimination – 2020

The Vaccine-preventable Diseases and Immunization Flagship programme (VIF) of the WHO Regional Office for Europe is pleased to inform you that the 10th meeting of the European Regional Verification Commission for Measles and Rubella Elimination (RVC) will be held in June 2021, to review status and achievements towards measles and rubella elimination in countries and in the Region. The RVC will base its decision on the status of measles and rubella elimination in each Member State and the Region on reports submitted by the respective national verification committees (NVCs).

All Member States are requested to submit their ASU on measles and rubella elimination activities for the year 2020 with all relevant information **no later than 1 May 2021**. Adhering to this deadline is essential to ensure sufficient time for the analysis of data before the RVC meets. An ASU template for 2020 and all additional documents, prepared and approved by the respective NVC, should be uploaded to SharePoint or submitted via e-mail (eurvc@who.int) to the WHO Regional Office for Europe (RVC Secretariat). We kindly ask you to use the credentials and instructions for using SharePoint as previously provided.

Attached you will find a template for the 2020 ASU. To ensure consistency, please follow the proposed format as explained in the instructions. To facilitate your work on preparation of the ASU 2020, please use an Excel file and its pre-prepared tables with formulas that will help you in calculating data. A few extra worksheets are developed to facilitate analysis of data at subnational level and to allow presenting detailed molecular epidemiology information if available, for your convenience. We recommend submitting this file together with ASU 2020.

In addition, we encourage you to submit any additional information that will assist the RVC in determining the status of measles and rubella elimination in your country. Additional information that does not fit in the template may be uploaded as a separate document. VIF stands ready to support you in ensuring timely completion of the ASU.

We would like to take this opportunity to re-emphasize the importance of ensuring that data submitted in this annual update are accurate and consistent with other national reports submitted to the Regional Office.

We would also like to stress that all reports and additional information received from the NVCs during the verification process will be carefully reviewed and analysed. RVC conclusions based on this information will be publicly presented in various forms, as part of planned communication activities to recognize Member States' efforts and progress towards the Region's immunization goals.

Should you have any questions regarding the provided template and uploading of documents, please contact Dr Dragan Jankovic (jankovicd@who.int) and Ms Florencia Biviano (bivianof@who.int).

We would like to stress that your efforts in documenting the absence of endemic transmission in your country are highly appreciated and critical to achieving measles and rubella elimination in the Region.

The RVC and Secretariat are committed to providing you with any support that you may require.

Sincerely yours,



Dr Nino Berdzuli
Director
Division of Country Health Programmes

Copy for information to:

H.E. Mr Alexander Maisuradze, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Rue Richard-Wagner 1, CH-1202 Genève, Switzerland

H.E. Mr Gigi Gigiadze, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Georgia, Kalvebod Brygge 45, 1560 Copenhagen, Denmark

Ms Sabine Machl, United Nations Resident Coordinator, UN Development Coordination Office, UN House, 9 Eristavi St., 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia

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