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Mrs Tamar Gabunia First Deputy Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

30 March 2021

Dear Tamar,

It was a pleasure to meet you alongside Minister Tikaradze on 24 March to discuss the Covid situation and how the UK and Georgia might be able to work more closely in the months ahead. I am pleased that my colleagues are already working with yours on support to the communications strategy around Georgia's national vaccination programme.

I would like to follow up formally on my request for your Ministry's support in the British Embassy's provision of vaccines to our diplomatic and locally-employed staff. The Embassy has received a supply of 320 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine for this purpose.

The vaccine has been approved by the UK's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), and supplied to our foreign ministry directly from Public Health England (PHE), which is the UK's equivalent of Georgia's NCDC and responsible for the UK's national vaccination programme. The 320 doses we have received a part of batch PW40009. I attach a copy of the Certificate of Conformity for the relevant batch.

I would be very grateful if you could help register our Embassy's small supply as soon as possible with the LEPL Regulation Agency for Medical and Pharmaceutical Activities so that we can proceed rapidly with our vaccination programme, and hence play a small part in reducing the prevalence of Covid in Georgia.

In earlier correspondence with Clare Allbless, my deputy, Maia Nikoleishvili kindly indicated the hospitals in Tbilisi that have authority to administer the AstraZeneca vaccine. It would be very helpful if your Ministry could nominate one facility as the most appropriate to store the Embassy's supply and administer it to our staff. The Embassy will then be pleased to follow up directly with the hospital on administrative arrangements, including list of staff to be vaccinated.

Mark Clayton British Ambassador to Georgia