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და სოციალური დაცვის სამინისტრო  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR, HEALTH AND SOCIAL  
AFFAIRS OF GEORGIA



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№ 01/18108

24 / March / 2017

Dr. Hans Kluge  
Director, Division of Health Systems and Public Health  
WHO Regional Office for Europe

Dear Dr. Kluge,

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to you and the WHO Regional Office for Europe for cooperation and continuous support.

You are well aware that National Center for Disease Control and Public Health together with the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia is working intensively on the strategic development of the public health system in Georgia and elaboration of relevant action plan, which aims to strengthen capacities and services of the existing public health model.

In January 30-31, 2017 on the European Coalition of Partners expert meeting Dr. Amiran Gamkrelidze, Director General of the National Center for Disease Control and Public Health presented draft agenda for actions, which in our point of view provides the main directions of future progress ways, in particular – systematic and coordinated strengthening of the public health services with the focus on four enabling functions: organization of public health system, human resource development, financing and legislation for public health system development. Georgia's case was widely discussed during the consultations and agreement was reached that WHO Regional Office for Europe will actively support Georgia in future development activities for strengthening the public health system in the country.

Elaboration of the future action plan will be based on the results, stated in the “Midterm progress report on implementation of European Action Plan for Strengthening Public Health Capacities and Services”, submitted by the WHO European Region and approved on the 66<sup>th</sup> session of the Regional Committee in September, 2016.

We are deeply convinced that the most cost-effective, comprehensive and sustainable way for reducing the disease burden and improvement of Georgian population's health status will be the strengthening of basic, operational functions of the public health system, which will support universal coverage of population by the public health services and will be in-line with the “United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”.

Agreement was reached on the expert meeting that the Coalition of Partners, WHO Regional Office for Europe, will actively support countries in system evaluation and elaboration of action plans.

Considering the abovementioned, I would kindly ask you to direct the expert mission to Georgia in the nearest future, in order to evaluate capacities of existing public health system functioning in the country as well as public health services provided to the population of Georgia; and to contribute in the elaboration of the future action plan.

Thank you in advance for cooperation and support.

Sincerely yours,

Deputy Minister

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Z. Sopromadze', written in a cursive style.

Zaza Sopromadze