



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

Ref. KK-SC/20.6-1

H.E. Tamar Gabunia
First Deputy Minister of IDPs from the Occupied
Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs
144, Ak. Tsereteli Ave., 0119 Tbilisi, Georgia
15 June 2020

Dear First Deputy Minister Gabunia,

Re: IOM Project - Georgia: Facilitating an Integrated Operational Framework for Migrant Reintegration, Integration and Labour Migration.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN Migration Agency, Mission to Georgia presents its compliments to you and to the Ministry of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia (MoLHSA).

We would like to inform you of the progress made in the framework of the **IOM's Project "Georgia: Facilitating an Integrated Operational Framework for Migrant Reintegration, Integration and Labour Migration"**, initiated in June 2019 for duration of 24 months on the basis of a formal request by the Ministry to the IOM Development Fund (IDF). We would like to discuss the next steps in order to adapt the project to the present situation and needs of the government of Georgia, involving appropriately the newly established structures and division of tasks of various offices in the Ministry.

Building on the long history of successful cooperation between the Ministry and IOM, the project aims to contribute to strengthening the institutional capacity of respective structures of the MoLHSA to enable an integrated approach to effectively managing reintegration, integration and labour migration. The project will build upon the previous experiences, particularly taking stock of the best practices and lessons learned in the past implementation of the State Reintegration Programmes for which IOM provided extensive trainings to the key staff of the respective structures of the ministry and to the managerial and technical-level staff of the NGOs.

The project incorporates three interlinked components: capacity-building, knowledge generation and consultative process facilitating the joint development of an operational framework for MoLHSA's migration-related responsibilities. Accordingly, extensive staff training is foreseen, particularly in the reintegration and integration areas, and especially for newly recruited staff and newly established units; alongside desk and field surveys aiming at generating evidence for informed policy and programmatic solutions; and striving to integrate the management of the reintegration and integration into a larger development concept of the country, available programmes and services relevant to various dimensions of reintegration and integration. The project also looks for possible synergies and integration aspects between the interconnected although very diverse areas of labor migration, reintegration, and integration to advise on the integrated framework for migration-related responsibilities of the Ministry.



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One of the most important areas of the cooperation as mentioned above is the research component of the project. The study on sustainability of reintegration of returnees, as one of its key elements, should survey the beneficiaries of different reintegration programmes such as IOM Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR), reintegration programme of the Office Français de l'Immigration et de l'Intégration (OFII) and the State Reintegration Programme for the last 2 years. The access to the beneficiaries for interviews (online, phone conversation other), based on their initial consent, is of utmost importance for collecting the first-hand data on the sustainability of these programmes in and/or of their particular components.

I would like to request a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to provide more details on the planned approach and discuss the cooperation with your Ministry, notably with the IDPs and Ecomigrants Policy Division and the IDPs, Ecomigrants and Livelihoods Agency.

A brief outline of the project is attached to this letter to illuminate the planned activities, that we can further discuss during the meeting.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN Migration Agency, Mission to Georgia avails itself of this opportunity to renew to you and to the Ministry of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs (MoLHSA) of Georgia the assurances of its highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Celebic', is written over a light blue circular watermark that matches the IOM logo.

Sanja Celebic Lukovac
Chief of Mission
International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Mission to Georgia

Cc: Mr. Davit Kaikatsishvili, Head, IDPs and Ecomigrants Policy Division, Policy Department and Mr. Besarion Simonishvili, Director, IDPs, Ecomigrants and livelihoods Provision Agency, Ministry of IDPs from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs