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Unser Zeichen:
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На Ваш номер:

Date: 18 June 2025

Ms Helen Sõber
Adviser
European Union Affairs and International Co-
operation Department
Ministry of Social Affairs
Suur-Ameerika 1
10122 Tallinn
Estonia

Dear Ms Sõber,

I have the honour to share the revised Terms of Reference (TOR) for National Influenza Centres (NICs) that replaces the NIC TOR (2017). This includes a new annex (Annex 1) which details the ongoing benefits available and provided to Member States through the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS). The updates apply to the human seasonal component only, with the objective to improve clarity on the scope and purpose of sharing seasonal influenza virus materials with WHO Collaborating Centres (WHO CCs) of GISRS. The continued sharing of influenza virus materials is critical for risk assessment and in the prevention and control of emerging influenza viruses.

These updates in the revised NIC TOR are based on extensive consultations with key stakeholders, including representatives from Ministries of Health, Directors of pilot and non-pilot NICs, Directors of WHO CCs, Nagoya Protocol focal points, and Convention on Biological Diversity: Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) focal points. We kindly request the following:

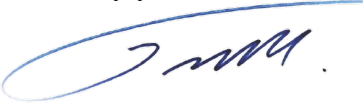
1. acknowledgment of receipt of this letter and confirmation of the continued participation of the National Influenza Centre (NIC) in your country under the revised NIC Terms of Reference (TOR), in consultation, as appropriate, with relevant national stakeholders; and
2. information on your current national Nagoya Protocol and ABS position, if applicable, regarding page 4, paragraphs 9 & 10 of the NIC TOR.

The Global Influenza Programme, WHO Headquarters would appreciate receiving your response within 60 working days of receipt of this correspondence. Kindly send your reply to Dr Dmitriy Pereyaslov, e-mail: gisrs-whohq@who.int with copy to Regional Focal Point Dr Karen Nahapetyan, email: nahapetyank@who.int, and NIC Director in your country.

WHO counts on your continuous support to the NIC in your country in fulfilling the WHO NIC TOR as part of GISRS surveillance, preparedness, and response operations at national, regional, and global levels.

I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to thank you for the continued fruitful collaboration.

Sincerely yours,



Ihor Perehinets
Regional Emergency Director

Encls:

Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System National Influenza Centres Terms of Reference

Copy for information to:

Ms Agne Nettan-Sepp, Head, European Union Affairs and International Co-operation Department, Ministry of Social Affairs, Suur-Ameerika 1, 10129 Tallinn, Estonia

H.E. Ms Riia Salsa-Audiffren, Ambassador Representative of the Republic of Estonia, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Estonia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Chemin du Petit-Saconnex 28A, CH-1209 Genève, Switzerland

H.E. Mr Andre Pung, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Republic of Estonia, Frederiksgade 19, 4th floor, 1265 Copenhagen K, Denmark

Ms Kristina Köhler, Liaison Officer, WHO Country Office, Estonia, Paldiski Road 81, 10617 Tallinn, Estonia
Johanna Kristina Tamm, Laboratory for Communicable Diseases, Health Board Health Board, Paldiski mnt 81 Tallinn 10614 Estonia