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Our reference: JP/cp
Notre référence:
Unser Zeichen:

Your reference:
Votre référence:
Ihr Zeichen:

Dear Ms Söber,

**Meeting on prevention of drowning in western European countries
Leeuwenhorst, Kingdom of the Netherlands, 18–20 November 2024**

It is my pleasure to inform you that the WHO Regional Office for Europe, in conjunction with the Ministry of Health Welfare and Sport of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, plans to hold a meeting to discuss prevention of drowning in western European countries. This follows on from the first WHO workshop on scaling up drowning prevention in high-burden countries in Europe, held in Minsk, Belarus, in February 2020.

The aim of the meeting is to highlight the burden and circumstances of preventable drowning in western Europe, and to identify opportunities for scaling up governance and management approaches to national coordination of drowning. The meeting will also provide the opportunity to enhance collaboration between national policy entities and nongovernmental lifesaving organizations, and will explore opportunities for the European Union and its various entities to support the objectives of drowning prevention.

I am delighted to invite you to nominate a delegation of up to three stakeholders in drowning prevention to participate in this meeting. Reflective of the intersectoral nature of drowning prevention, we request that the delegation comprise representatives of relevant ministries and government agencies involved in drowning prevention (including health), along with representatives from national lifesaving and rescue organizations.

The working language will be English, and no simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

WHO will cover local costs for confirmed participants, including accommodation and catering. All transport to the venue is to be covered by participants.

I look forward to receiving your nominations, giving the names, functional titles and addresses of the proposed participants at your earliest convenience, but not later than **27 September 2024**. We will then communicate with them directly, and provide them with the necessary documentation and administrative information in good time.

Mr Jonathon Passmore is responsible for this activity, and it would be appreciated if you would address your reply to him at passmorej@who.int.

Sincerely yours,

Mr Robb Butler
Director

Division of Communicable Diseases, Environment and Health

Date: 21 August 2024

Ms Helen Söber
Adviser
European Union Affairs and International Co-
operation Department
Ministry of Social Affairs
Suur-Ameerika 1
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Encls:

Scope and purpose

Copy for information to:

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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 William Mart Laanemäe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Republic of Estonia, Frederiksgade 19, 4th floor, 1265 Copenhagen K, Denmark

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