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Dr Karmen Joller
Minister of Social Affairs
Ministry of Social Affairs
Suur-Ameerika 1
10129 Tallinn
Estonia

Dear Madam,

WHO European Regional Measles and Rubella Laboratory Network Laboratory accreditation for 2026

As part of the annual accreditation procedure, the national measles and rubella laboratory of your country, as a member of the WHO Global Measles and Rubella Laboratory Network (GMRLN), was reviewed by the WHO Regional Office for Europe. Based on the results of this review, I am pleased to inform you that the laboratory is **fully accredited** as a WHO national measles/rubella laboratory for 2026. Enclosed is the accreditation review summary, including the scope of the accreditation and the recommendations of the review, for your information.

To implement the laboratory-supported elimination-standard surveillance of measles and rubella and to optimize laboratory contribution to the verification of disease elimination, it is of the utmost importance that WHO-accredited national laboratories:

- comply with the requirements of the [WHO Manual for Measles Rubella Laboratories](#) and the guidance [Eliminating measles and rubella in the WHO European Region](#);
- report their laboratory data monthly to the newly established [WIISE MR Lab System](#); and
- are empowered to oversee laboratories outside the GMRLN performing measles and rubella testing, to coordinate national measles and rubella laboratory networks, and/or to establish periodic measles and rubella serology and molecular external quality assessment schemes.

Technical advice is available from the WHO Regional Office for Europe to assist in these processes.

In the current context of reduced funding and a rapidly evolving public health landscape, I urge national health authorities to reaffirm their commitment to supporting the sustainability and the expertise of WHO measles and rubella laboratories. These laboratories are integral to our collective efforts to eliminate measles and rubella, diseases that continue to pose significant health threats across the WHO European Region.

I appreciate your continued support to the measles and rubella elimination programme and would like to congratulate the staff of the laboratory on the successful accreditation.

Yours very truly,

Dr Ihor Perehinets
Health Security and Regional Emergency Director
Division of Health Security

Encls: Accreditation review summary

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

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