

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ

> REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA EBРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

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Dear Madam,

Date: 6 December 2023

Dr Ala Nemerenco Minister of Health Ministry of Health 2, Vasile Alecsandri str. Chisinau MD-2009 Republic of Moldova

## WHO European Regional Polio Laboratory Network Laboratory Accreditation for 2024

As part of the annual accreditation procedure, the National Polio Laboratory of your country, as a member of the WHO Global Polio Laboratory Network, 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 Polio Laboratory for 2024. Please find enclosed the Accreditation Review Summary for your information. All technical recommendations have been shared with the laboratory using the WHO Global Polio Laboratory Network Management System platform.

The Polio Eradication Strategy 2022–2026 (<a href="https://polioeradication.org/gpei-strategy-2022-2026">https://polioeradication.org/gpei-strategy-2022-2026</a>) continues to emphasize the importance of rapid poliovirus detection. To that end, the introduction of molecular intratypic differentiation (ITD) in all polio laboratories would prepare them to adopt direct molecular detection of polioviruses once this approach becomes available. I trust that you will continue providing your kind support to the polio laboratory in your country by ensuring that the WHO ITD method is accepted and endorsed for use in your country and that the polio laboratory is adequately resourced to continue its critical function.

I would also like to emphasize the importance of following the containment requirements for laboratories handling any poliovirus type 2 and wild poliovirus type 3 materials, as both are currently under the scope of the global poliovirus containment provisions and must be promptly destroyed or transferred if stored outside a poliovirus-essential facility.

I would like to thank you personally for your ongoing support of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and to congratulate the staff of the laboratory on the successful accreditation.

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Yours very truly,

Dr Hans Henri P. Kluge Regional Director

## Encl.: Accreditation Review Summary

## Copy for information to:

Ms Tatiana Avornic, Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Representative and Chargée d'affaires a.i., Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Avenue de France 23 Geneva 1202, Switzerland

H.E. Mr Veaceslav Dobindă, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, agréé, Embassy of the Republic of Moldova Gotlandstrasse 16, Berlin D-10439, Germany

Mr Simon Springett, United Nations Resident Coordinator, UN Development Coordination Office, United Nations House 131, 31 August str., Chisinau MD-2012, Republic of Moldova

Dr Miljana Grbic, WHO Representative and Head of WHO Country Office, WHO Country Office, Republic of Moldova, Sfatul Tarii Str. 29, Chisinau MD-2012, Republic of Moldova