

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

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

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Date: 4 January 2024

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

Dear Madam,

WHO European Regional Measles and Rubella Laboratory Network Laboratory Accreditation for 2024

As part of the annual accreditation procedure, the National Measles/Rubella Laboratory of your country, as a member of the WHO Global Measles and Rubella 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 Measles/Rubella Laboratory for 2024. Enclosed is the accreditation review summary including the scope of the accreditation and the recommendations of the review for your information.

Measles continues to pose a relentlessly increasing threat worldwide, with an alarming rise in sizable measles outbreaks in the WHO European Region recently. (See the following article: <u>A 30-fold rise of measles cases in 2023</u> in the WHO European Region warrants urgent action.)

More than ever, it is critical that measles and rubella laboratories are adequately supported to play their essential roles of providing timely case investigation and confirmation and of ensuring, through national oversight and quality assurance programmes, the reliability of measles/rubella results provided by other laboratories. Additionally, strengthening collaboration between laboratories and epidemiological surveillance is key to complying with elimination-standard surveillance and to determining the molecular epidemiology of sporadic cases and chains of transmission, as required to support the verification of disease elimination.

I would like to thank you personally for your ongoing support of the measles and rubella elimination programme 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

Encls:

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