



REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA



SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE  
HEALTH NETWORK

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE HEALTH NETWORK

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*Skopje, 18 November 2014*

### Att: Ministers of Health of the South Eastern Europe Health Network Member States

Dear Minister,

The South-eastern Europe Health Network Presidency and Executive Committee express their sincere compliments and high recognition to you and your Government for the active involvement in the activities leading to the fruitful regional collaboration on health, health systems and public health.

In line with the signed documents of the SEE Health Network, the Dubrovnik Pledge (2001), the Skopje Pledge (2005) and the Banja Luka Pledge (2011), the SEE Health Network Memorandum of Understanding (2009 and 2011), the Statutes of the South-eastern Europe Health Network and others, we are pleased to invite you for an **extra-ordinary meeting of the Ministers of Health of the SEEHN Member States, that will be held on 18 November 2014 in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia**. The Meeting will be organised back-to-back with the 34<sup>th</sup> SEEHN Plenary Session that will be held in Skopje on 19 – 20 November, 2014.

The aim of the meeting will be to exchange views, experience and lessons learned with regards to the top common priorities of the SEEHN Member States:

1. Health reforms and the Whole- of-Government approach for the implementing the WHO European Policy Framework on Health and Wellbeing – Health 2020;
2. Human resources for health, their mobility and the educational programmes;
3. Emergencies, preparedness, response in the SEE Health Network Member States.

The meeting will provide an opportunity to reaffirm our political commitment to the sub-regional collaboration in the SEE, exchange and discuss health reforms in the light of WHO H2020, further extend our collaboration and identify common aims for our countries' progress in population health and wellbeing toward, also in line with the SEE2020 strategy "Jobs and Prosperity in a European Perspective".

The meeting will explore the SEEHN potential for development of our human resources in health by introducing a scheme of HRH mobility in the SEE targeted at education and training.

The effectiveness of our sub-regional collaboration in promoting and protecting health; responding to health hazards; and preventing diseases and controlling their spreads was recently proven in the collaborative response to the flooding in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia and Bulgaria, in our sub-region. Thus,

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the meeting offers a unique opportunity to discuss crises coordination aid and establish a task force for this purpose.

We have the pleasure to inform you that the WHO Regional Director for Europe, Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab will be an honoured guest at this very important meeting, in line with the continuous support of WHO Europe as a key partner in the process of the Network's establishment, development and functioning, as well as in line with our common Health 2020 goals of improving the health and well-being of populations, reducing health inequalities and strengthening public health.

The SEE Health Network Presidency, Executive Committee and Secretariat will highly appreciate to receive confirmation for your participation by the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2014.

Year 2014 has been an extremely intensive for the regional collaboration for health, particularly with regards to the implementation of our Banja Luka Pledge (2011), the SEE 2020 Growth Strategy recently endorsed (22 November 2013) by the SEE Ministers of Economy, the EU 2020 Strategy and the WHO European Policy Framework Health 2020 (2012) as well as the European Action Plan for Strengthening Public Health capacities and Services (2012).

Because of the above and in view of the current political, economic, social and health changes that have taken place in the region since the endorsement of the SEE Health Network Memorandum of Understanding in 2008, it is of utmost importance that this Ministerial meeting is conducted accordingly in order to provide for strengthening leadership, managerial and technical opportunities for the Network and the regional cooperation in public health in the SEE to develop further.

We would kindly ask you to submit a scanned copy of your official replies to the following addresses:

*Presidency:* Mr Jovan Grpovski, [jovan.grpovski@gmail.com](mailto:jovan.grpovski@gmail.com)  
*Executive Committee:* Dr Goran Cerkez, Chair: [goran.cerkez@fmz.gov.ba](mailto:goran.cerkez@fmz.gov.ba)  
Dr Maria Ruseva, Member: [rusevamarina33@gmail.com](mailto:rusevamarina33@gmail.com)  
*Secretariat:* Ms Sanja Sazdovska, [sanja.sazdovska@zdravstvo.org.mk](mailto:sanja.sazdovska@zdravstvo.org.mk)  
Mr Aleksandar Kacarski, [aleksandar.kacarski@zdravstvo.gov.mk](mailto:aleksandar.kacarski@zdravstvo.gov.mk)

*Excellency,*

We hope for your positive response and count on your extended political support and leadership for the successful regional cooperation within the SEE Health Network under the auspices of the SEE Regional Cooperation Process and the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC).

Presenting you with our sincere compliments, assuring you of our continuous commitment to the regional collaboration for health and wellbeing in the South-eastern Europe and looking forward to our future joint work, I remain

Yours truly,



Mr Nikola Todorov  
President  
South-eastern Europe Health Network  
Minister of Health  
Republic of Macedonia

**Copy to:**

- National Health Coordinators of the SEEHN Member States
- Mr Jovica Andovski, Director a.i., SEEHN Secretariat

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