



DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY
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FORT BELVOIR, VA 22060-6201

January 13, 2022

Dr. Jarno Habicht
Representative and Head
World Health Organization Country Office – Ukraine
58, Yaroslavskaya str.
Kyiv 04071

Dear Dr. Habicht,

On behalf of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency's Biological Threat Reduction Program (BTRP), I want to thank you for your continued support for BTRP's projects in Ukraine. Our continued cooperation with our Ukrainian partners is vital, and we share your commitment to increasing Ukraine's health security capabilities as the best defense for global health security.

To start, I apologize for not responding sooner to your letter dated November 5, 2021. I will do my best to make sure that does not happen again, and for future correspondence addressed to me, please send a courtesy copy to Mr. Fred Carter, Chief of the Defense Threat Reduction Office – Kyiv as well. This will ensure we do not miss your messages and that we efficiently reply to you.

I would like to address the subject matter of your letter regarding support from the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) graduates and trainees for the poliovirus outbreak. As you are likely aware, the FETP deployment took place in December, and based on the reporting I received, the exercise was a success. We were happy to be able to support the investigation and the investment in Ukrainian epidemiological capabilities. While BTRP does not usually support investigations into diseases like polio, the critical circumstances surrounding this outbreak allowed trainees to apply their skills to a real-world scenario, which is invaluable from an educational standpoint and for BTRP's mission. Thank you for the opportunity to support this critical effort and to cooperate with the WHO in responding to the poliovirus outbreak.

We highly value the relationship we have with you and your colleagues at WHO. We are very pleased that we were able to provide the necessary support and look forward to strengthening our partnership in 2022 and beyond.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandt Siegel", is written over a horizontal line.

Brandt Siegel
International Project Manager, Ukraine
Biological Threat Reduction Program
Defense Threat Reduction Agency