

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tue, 14 Apr 2020 10:32:21 -0400
To: Tengiz Tsertsvadze
Subject: Re: US-Georgia biomedical collaboration

Tengiz:

Thank you for your kind note. I am pleased to see that Georgia has controlled the outbreak very well. Stay well.

Best regards,

Tony

On Apr 14, 2020, at 10:24 AM, Tengiz Tsertsvadze (b) (6) wrote:

Dear Dr. Fauci,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the community of infectious diseases specialists of Georgia to express our deepest respect to you. I recall with great pleasure all our previous meetings, especially the last one in 2017, when I, together with my team members, had an opportunity to visit you at NIH.

We are grateful to you and your team for the most important contribution to establishing US-Georgia biomedical collaboration that significantly increased our country's research and practical capacities. Your personal role in combating HIV and other emerging epidemics such as SARS, MERS, Zika, Ebola, cannot be overestimated. I am confident that your leading role in this fight against COVID-19 will be crucial for defeating the pandemic not only in the United States, but around the globe.

We closely follow your briefings and interviews on COVID-19 (including recent very interesting conversation with Dr. Howard Bauchner at JAMA) and as always your views are very apt and to the point. We fully agree that the approaches you suggest are the most effective way to defeat the pandemic. Most importantly your recommendations are applicable not only to the United States, but to other countries as well and we eagerly take them into consideration while planning our strategies here in my country of Georgia.

I would like to use this opportunity to update you on COVID-19 situation in my home country of Georgia: The country quickly responded to this threat first by stopping flights with China in January, followed by more strict measures after the first case was diagnosed on February 26. These measures included national lockdown, active contact tracing, isolation and quarantine. The Government of Georgia appointed me to lead the National Committee on the clinical management