



**Invitation to the 29th Meeting of the
Joint Working Group on Health and Related Social Issues (JWGHS)
Syktyvkar, Komi Republic**

Dear colleagues,

27 June 2019

We have the pleasure of inviting you to the 29th meeting of the Barents Joint Working Group on Health and Related Social Issues (JWGHS) to be held in Syktyvkar, Komi Republic, on **17-18 September 2019**.

Main items of the agenda for the JWGHS 29 meeting are as follows:

- Preparation for the first Barents health ministers meeting in Oslo 12. November – agenda and ministerial declaration
- Barents HIV/AIDS and TB programs – report from the joint meeting of the two groups held in Helsinki;
- Barents collaboration on children and youth at risk – presentation of the needs assessment summary;
- The 6th Barents framework programme for collaboration – presentation of the final draft before the ministerial meeting;
- Informative visits to Syktyvkar social care institutions.

Please contact one of the chairs by 25th July if you have suggestions for other topics to include on the agenda. To ensure sufficient time for detailed consideration of the items on the agenda we are planning to limit the number of reports from countries/regions to 2-3 countries/regions. We are open to suggestions to which countries/regions should present at the 29th meeting, also by the same date.

The recommended arrival date is 16 September, departure day – 19 September. The official JWGHS meeting will be arranged on the first day, the second day will be devoted to informative visits. On 18 September from 09.00 to 14.00 visits to social care institutions and cultural events will be offered.

Please find enclosed practical information and registration form.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Syktyvkar!

Best regards,

Dmitry Berezin
Minister of Health
Ministry of Health, Republic of Komi
Co-chair of the JWGHS

Vibeke Gundersen
Senior Adviser
Ministry of Health and Care Services, Norway
Co-chair of the JWGHS