Dear Mr. Roland Mollerus,

I would like to thank you for considering Georgia as one of the beneficiary countries of the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) Project "Strengthening national policy capacities for jointly building the Belt and Road towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)". We expect a very fruitful discussion on the implementation of the Project with the DESA project team during the scoping mission to Georgia, 4 – 7 December 2018.

The Belt and Road Initiative is a significant initiative aiming to deepen cooperation between Georgia, China and other countries in a plethora of fields such as infrastructure, investment, trade, finance, culture and social integration.

While Georgia is actively involving in the cooperation activities under the Initiative, we also seek to better understand the potential economic, social and environmental implications of the B&R Initiative and how we can harness the activities for the acceleration of the SDGs.

Therefore, we welcome the Project and its promised policy analysis and capacity development support. The utilization of macroeconomic modelling tools will also build up much-needed national capacity in data collection and analysis, so that we can better assess various policy options that may impact national goals and development priorities.

We also expect the Project can deliver more in-depth training and dissemination workshops to enhance and sustain the analytical capacity of public officers in Georgia.

Please, feel free to let us know if we can provide any facilitation in the Project implementation. Look forward to working closely with you.

Yours sincerely,
Chief of Staff

Dr. Giorgi Abashishvili