

HE Mr. Massimov Karim, Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan  
HE Mr. Tokayev Kassym-Zhomart, Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan  
HE Mr. Dosskaliev Zhaksylyk, Minister of Health  
Mr. A. Sagymbayev, President of Salt Producer Association of Kazakhstan  
Mr. Sharmanov Toregeldy, President of Kazakh Academy of Nutrition

Honorable Sirs:

The Network for Sustained Elimination of Iodine Deficiency hereby acknowledges the request of the Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan for external evaluation of Kazakhstan's Universal Salt Iodization (USI) and Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) elimination programmes.

In response to this request, we have the privilege herewith to recognize the achievement of the elimination of iodine deficiency through universal salt iodization in Kazakhstan. This achievement is clearly described in the document entitled "Dossier on USI Achievement in Kazakhstan" (Astana, September 2007), and we endorse the conclusions and the recommendations made in this report.

We are confident that the Government of Kazakhstan will make all efforts to sustain the elimination of iodine deficiencies. As noted in the report, this remarkable achievement can be enhanced by strengthening the relevant legislation and monitoring systems to include the use of iodized salt in processed foods and the further development of an integrated national USI / IDD monitoring system.

We recognize the important role of the Committee of State Sanitary – Epidemiological Surveillance of the Ministry of Health as well as those of the salt industry and other non-governmental society organizations in the country. We believe that this collaboration is key to the continued success of the USI and IDD elimination programmes.

We wish to congratulate the Government of Kazakhstan for its success in achieving universal salt iodization and the elimination of iodine deficiency disorders as a public health problem. In achieving and sustaining the elimination of iodine deficiencies, the Government is protecting the health and well-being of children and the entire population of Kazakhstan for generations to come.



**Nicholas Alipui**

*Chair*

*Network for Sustained Elimination of Iodine Deficiency*

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

China National Salt Industry Corporation

EuSalt

Salt Institute

Emory University

Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

The International Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD)

Kiwanis International

The Micronutrient Initiative

Tata Chemicals

UNICEF

The World Food Programme

World Health Organization