Reviewer's report

Title: Reforming Sanitary-Epidemiological Service in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union: An Exploratory Study

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Reviewer: Hans Maarse

Reviewer's report:

This is a descriptive study with no or little theoretical pretention. But as a description on the reform of sanitary-epidemiological services in CEE en fSU, it is very informative and helpful, the more so because I do not know of any such study. So I recommend to accept the article. Probably, we should only ask the authors to speculate about the potential consequences of decentralisation (CEE) or non-decentralisation (fSU) for the quality/effectiveness S-E services. This is an important point, because reforms are based 'by definition' upon assumptions regarding the impact of the reform on the services delivered.