Dear Doctor Sabin:

Institute for Poliomyelitis Research of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR (Moscow) together with Virology Department of Leningrad Institute of Experimental Medicine of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR are holding the IVth Scientific Conference of the Institute and International Symposium on the problem of study and use of live poliovirus vaccine. It will take place in Moscow, May 17-20, 1960.

You are likely to know that in 1959 in the USSR over 15 million persons were successfully immunized with live poliovirus vaccine from A.B. Sabin's attenuated strains. During the first three months of 1960 the number immunized with this vaccine in the USSR reached 50 million persons. Large work on immunization of population with the live poliovirus vaccine is being done in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria and some other countries.

The findings of laboratory, clinical and epidemiological observations on live poliovirus vaccine in the USSR and other countries of Europe and America will be presented and discussed at May Conference on Poliomyelitis in Moscow. Besides Soviet specialists participation of about 40 investigators from European and Asian countries and from the USA and Canada is expected.

The work of the IVth Conference and of the International Symposium will be carried out mainly in English and Russian, but some participants, if they wish, may be provided with French and German interpretation.

It is envisaged by the program of the IVth Conference and International Symposium to have sessions on the following subjects:
1. Theory and practice of manufacture and quality control of live poliovirus vaccine from attenuated strains.
2. Virologic and serologic characteristics of vaccination process in oral poliomyelitis immunization of human beings with attenuated strains.
3. Theory and practice of large-scale oral immunization of population with live poliovirus vaccine.
4. Dissemination of poliomyelitis and nonpoliomyelitis enteric viruses in areas of large-scale immunization against poliomyelitis and their role in interference with the live vaccine; clinical, laboratory and epidemiologic problems of differentiation of diseases among the vaccinated against poliomyelitis.

Short reports and communications of the debaters will be presented on each subject. Complete texts of main reports and short communications or their abstracts in Russian and English submitted to us before April 15, 1960, will be duplicated and distributed among the participants of the Symposium.

Dear Colleague, I have the honor to invite you to participate at the IVth Conference of our Institute and the International Symposium on live poliovirus vaccine, May 17-20, 1960, in Moscow, if the above-mentioned program is of interest to you.
On the elucidation of the Foreign relations Department of the Ministry of Health of the USSR, the whole expenses for travel and sojourn of foreign scientists in the USSR are borne by those countries which send the scientists or by scientists themselves travelling as tourists. We can apply to the "Intourist" for selling you a tourist voucher on favourable terms (about 12.5 American dollars per day), if you wish to come on favourable terms. The matter of your invitation to our Conference has been settled with the Ministry of Health of the USSR and the Society for foreign tourism in the USSR. We promise to make your visit to Moscow pleasant and useful.

I shall appreciate your cabling a reply to our invitation and sending us a title or complete text of your communication on the program, if you would like to make it.

Sincerely yours,

Professor M.P. Chumakov, M.D.
Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences, USSR
Director, Institute for poliomyelitis Research,