

**High-level Conference**  
**Fighting Cancer around the World: A Framework for Action**  
*Institute of Global Health*  
*University of Geneva, Campus Biotech - G6*  
*Chemin des Mines 9, 1202 Geneva*  
*Switzerland*  
**September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Background**

The problems of tackling cancer are, like the disease itself, many-headed. Increased scientific understanding reveals ever more profound complexities in the manifestations of cancer and the mechanisms behind it. Rapidly advancing technology offers an ever-increasing range of new and potential tools to diagnose and treat in a more personalized manner, wherever the battle is joined. Rising attention to and provision of public health care is leading to expanded and more sophisticated efforts for screening at-risk populations and caring for the growing numbers of survivors and the difficulties many of them face during continued monitoring and even after successful treatment.

In parallel to the strictly health-related issues, the costs of cancer—in terms of direct costs in diagnosis and treatment, and indirect costs in working lives lost or reduced by disease and by care—present a major challenge in their own right, to the individuals and families affected, but also to the collective and public health systems.

Similarly, the organization of care systems, the investment in infrastructure to enable advanced care, the continuation of support for cancer research (including into why some populations are more susceptible than others to particular cancers), and the conduct of large-scale targeted screening are the consequence as much of policy debates and political decisions as the response to scientific or health issues. Still more widely, as the link between cancer and environmental conditions of populations becomes more clear, even broader social considerations relating to matters as diverse as air pollution or housing come into play.

**Purpose:**

The aim of this series of sessions is to identify how different global regions are tackling cancer, what the differences are in cancer care around the globe and what mechanisms are used to fight cancer. To contribute to understanding the inevitable complexities, this conference will examine, from a range of perspectives, the provision of care and policies relating to cancer, principally across Africa, Asia and the Middle East, and Latin America, with some regional generalizations and some country-specific details.



## **Outcome**

The conference provides a chance to re-align priorities to evaluate the needs of patients, healthcare professionals and health systems to facilitate improved and safer access to diagnostics with the support of the pathology community.

## **Attendees**

Attendees will be drawn from key stakeholders whose interaction will create a cross-sectoral, highly relevant and dynamic discussion forum. These participants will include public health decision makers, representatives from institutions, patient organisations, and umbrella organizations representing interest groups and associations actively engaged in the field of cancer. Each session will comprise panel discussions as well as Q&A sessions to allow best possible involvement of all participants.



**Thursday, Sept 19th, 2024**

**Moderator: Denis Horgan, EAPM Executive Director**

08:00- 08:45: Registration, coffee, networking

08:45 - 09:45 **Setting the Scene**

**Welcome:**

**Marcel Tanner**, Director emeritus of the Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute and Professor (chair) of Epidemiology, University of Basel (confirmed)

**H. P. Dina Mired**, Immediate Past President, Union for International Cancer Control, Jordan (*confirmed*)

Panel:

- **Vivek Subbiah, M.D.**, Chief, Early-Phase Drug Development, Sarah Cannon Research Institute (SCRI) (*confirmed*)
- **Hesham ElGhazaly**, *Professor of clinical Oncology, Ain Shams University, Egypt & member of the IARC/WHO Scientific Council*
- **Dr. Lori Minasian**, *Deputy Director for the Division of Cancer Prevention, NCI* (*confirmed*)
- **Annika Nowak**, *Head of Sector Cancer Mission DG Research, European Commission*
- **Bettina Borisch**, Executive Director, World Federation of Public Health Association (*confirmed*)

*Discussion*

09:45 - 11:00 **Plenary Session I: Tackling the implementation Gap: to bring Innovation into healthcare systems**

Setting the Scene: **Andrè Ilbawi**, *Department of Noncommunicable Diseases. World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland*

Panel:

- **Ying Wang**, *Vice President, China Anti-Cancer Association (CACA); Secretary General, Asian Oncology Society (AOS), China* (*confirmed*)
- **Ruggero De Maria**, President, Alliance Against Cancer, Institute of General Pathology, Catholic University of Rome (*confirmed*)
- **Zainab Shinkafi Bagudu**, Founder, MedicAid Cancer Foundation; Pediatrician and Cancer Advocate (*Confirmed*)



- **Hadi Mohamad Abu Rasheed**, *Head of the Cancer Awareness and Professional Development Department, Qatar Cancer Society (confirmed)*
- **Eduardo L. Cazap**, *President & Founder -Latin-American & Caribbean Society of Medical Oncology (SLACOM) (tentative)*

#### *Discussion*

11:14-11:45 **Coffee**

11:45-13:00 **Plenary Session II: Age, Early Detection and Chronic Pain**

#### Panel:

- **Olivier Michielin**, *Lausanne University Hospital and University of Lausanne, Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, Lausanne, Switzerland (tentative)*
- **Rami Rahal**, *Chief Executive & National Director of Cancer Control, Tumuaki,*
- **Kenji Lopez-Cuevas**, *President, Cáncer Warriors Of México Foundation, Mexico (confirmed)*
- **C.S. Pramesh**, *Director, Tata Memorial Hospital; Professor and Head of Thoracic Surgery, Tata Memorial Centre; Convener, National Cancer Grid, India*
- **Maira Caleffi**, *Volunteer President FEMAMA (confirmed)*

#### *Discussion*

13:00 - 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 - 15:30 **Plenary Session III: Coordination of Cancer Plans, implementation and Role of Data**

#### Panel:

- **Zisis Kozlakidis**, *Laboratory Services and Biobanking at IARC/WHO (confirmed)*
- **Asem Mansour, MD**, *Chief Executive Officer/Director General, King Hussein Cancer Foundation and Center (confirmed)*
- **Victor Piana de Andrade**, *Chief Executive Officer, AC Camargo Cancer Center (confirmed)*
- **Dato' Dr Saunthari Somasundaram**, *President/ Medical Director, National Cancer Society Malaysia (NCSM) (tentative)*
- **Yavuz Anacak**, *Professor of Radiation Oncology, Ege University School of Medicine*



*Discussion*

**15:30 – 15:45 Concluding Session: Coordination, Coordination, Coordination**

- **Marcel Tanner**, *Director emeritus of the Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute and Professor (chair) of Epidemiology, University of Basel. (confirmed)*
- **Vivek Subbiah, M.D.**, *Chief, Early-Phase Drug Development, Sarah Cannon Research Institute (SCRI) (Confirmed)*
- **Denis Horgan** *EAPM Executive Director (Confirmed)*