

Bringing the best minds together to tackle cancer: Let's strive for more!

September 25th, 2024
15.00 – 18.00

Conference Room 6, United Nations Headquarters
405 E 42nd St, New York, NY 10017, USA

Background

There is no one solution to tackling the huge complexity of cancer. But innovation continually offers the best hopes of preventing, diagnosing and caring for the millions afflicted with one form or another of this disease that wreaks such havoc on lives, livelihoods and societies. That is where the International Cancer Patient Coalition will this year during the UN General Assembly High-Level initiate a novel focus in identifying and supporting the best practices to impact on many aspects of the cancer crisis globally.

The event will bring together sharp minds and pioneering teams where the accent is on personal and professional engagement in rising to the challenge that cancer presents. Using this open-innovation approach can bring clearer definition to the most effective ways that that the forces of medicine and society can be combined.

This will be the focus of the event during and it will address the innovative approaches that can help fill the gaps and bridge the inequalities in access to early detection, diagnostics and treatment.

Cancer concerns us all in one way or another. Each region has been working to tackle cancer for decades and its actions have saved and prolonged lives. However, the world has seen major progress in cancer treatment in the last years. Personalised medicine – tailored to individual situations and needs – has radically changed patients' prognoses. Meanwhile, research and innovation, such as mRNA technologies, alongside digital technologies, have dramatically advanced our understanding of cancer initiation and progression, prevention and diagnosis.

The world urgently needs a renewed commitment to cancer prevention, treatment and care that recognises the growing challenges, and opportunities to overcome them, including the developments in cancer care. We need a whole-of-government approach that focuses on the patient and maximises the potential of new technologies and insights; strengthens cooperation and opportunities for international cooperation and the added value that this will bring; eradicates inequalities in access to cancer knowledge, prevention, diagnosis and care; and delivers improved health outcomes to patients.

The International Cancer Patient Coalition is a stakeholder's and political response to these needs. It reflects a commitment to leave no stone unturned to take action against cancer.

Mobilising the collective power of the international collaboration to drive change to the benefit of the global citizens, the Cancer Plan is concrete model that can provide ambitious actions that will support, coordinate and complement countries' efforts to reduce the suffering caused by cancer.

Purpose

The purpose of the event is discuss the political framework in tackling cancer. It is structured around four key action areas where the cooperation can add the most value: (1) prevention; (2) early detection; (3) diagnosis and treatment; and (4) quality of life of cancer patients and survivors. Over the coming years, ICPC will focus on research and innovation, tapping into the potential that digitalisation and new technologies offer, and mobilise institutional support.

With the right political framework, supported coordinated actions, a global Cancer Plan will help countries turn the tide against cancer. It will enable expertise and resources to be shared across the world - supporting countries, regions and cities with less knowledge and capacity. It will help researchers to exchange findings between small and large Member States and to have access to crucial health data on the potential causes of cancer and promising treatments for it. Medical staff and hospitals will be able to tap into a wealth of shared information. Ultimately it will ensure that patients across the world can benefit from better care and treatment. Over the course of two days, we will organise three presidential sessions that will tackle the following theme:

Expected Outcome

However, It is politicians who have the decision-making power, who will influence the environment, and who will, therefore, ultimately determine whether each region and the world more broadly wins the prize that AI can bring for cancer patients or lets it slip through its fingers. That is why this session is taking place during the UN General Assembly High-Level Week and the purpose is to engage this political class.

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.

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Moderator: Denis Horgan, *Executive Director, European Alliance for Personalised Medicine*

14.00 Arrival to the UN

15.00-15:30: Setting the Scene for the ICPC

Welcome: Ambassador Donal Cronin, *Deputy Permanent Representative (Confirmed)*

High level Speeches:

- **Muhammad Ali Pate**, *Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Nigeria*

Setting the scene:

- **Denis Horgan, PhD** *EAPM Executive Director, Chair, ICGC ARGO Independent Advisory Committee, International Cancer Genome Consortium (Confirmed)*
- **Vivek Subbiah, M.D.** *Chief, Early-Phase Drug Development, Sarah Cannon Research Institute, Nashville, TN (Confirmed)*
- **Phil Hogan** *Former EU Commissioner for Trade (Confirmed)*

15.30 – 16.15 Tacking the implementation Gap through Policy Guidelines

Keynote Speech: Amina J. Mohammed, *Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group. (tbc)*

Panel:

- US: **Asal Sayas**, *Senior Advisor, White House Cancer Moonshot (Confirmed)*
- Africa: **Zainab Shinkafi Bagudu**, *Founder, MedicAid Cancer Foundation; Pediatrician and Cancer Advocate" (Confirmed)*
- Equity of Access: **Hubertus von Baumbach**, *Chairman of the Board of Managing Directors of Boehringer Ingelheim (Confirmed)*
- North Africa: **Hesham Elghazaly**, *Professor of Clinical Oncology, Head of Medical Research Center MASRI Ain Shams University, President of BGICS, Head of the Presidential Initiative of Woman's Health (PIWH) (Confirmed)*
- International: **Cary Adams**, *UICC CEO (Confirmed)*
- Latina America: **Maria F Navarro**, *Regional Director Latin America, City Cancer Challenge Foundation (Confirmed)*

- European Union: **Ruggero De Maria**, *President, "Alliance Against Cancer; Institute of General Pathology, Catholic University of Rome; Italian Institute for Genomic Medicine (Confirmed)*

Debate & Discussion

16.15 – 17.00 Equity, excellence and AI, Modern cancer care for all

Setting the Scene: **Maurizio Massari**, *Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations (tbc)*

Panel:

- **Ali W AlKharusi**, *Board Member, Oman Cancer Association*
- **Larry Norton**, *Deputy Physician in Chief, Memorial Hospital at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (Confirmed)*
- **Pratheesh Sathyan PhD**, *Head of Illumina AMR Oncology Medical Affairs (Confirmed)*
- **David Hyman**, *Chief Medical Officer for oncology at Loxo Oncology Lilly Oncology. (tbc)*
- **Miriam Mutebi**, *Vice-President for East Africa, AORTIC; Chairperson, KESHO, Board Member, UICC; Co-founder, PAWAS (Confirmed)*
- **Don Dizon**, *Professor of Medicine and Professor of Surgery;; Vice Chair for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI), and Professional Integrity, SWOG, Brown University (Confirmed)*
- *AstraZeneca*

Debate & Discussion

17.00 – 17.45 The cost of not tackling cancer, access to Clinical Trials and climate change

The total cost of cancer to the global economy will reach 25.2 trillion international dollars between 2020 and 2050, according to an analysis of 29 cancers across 204 countries. What actions need to be done to mitigate this?

Setting the Scene: **Gabriele Giordano Caccia**, *Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations (tbc)*

Panel:

- **Navid Madani**, *Senior Scientist in Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Department of Cancer Immunology and Virology (Confirmed)*
- **Sewanti Limaye**, *Director of Medical & Precision Oncology, at Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital (Confirmed)*
- **Roberto Pestana**, *Clinical Oncologist at Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein, São Paulo, Brazil (Confirmed)*

- **Julia Ismael, M.D.**, former Director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI in Argentina). (Confirmed)
- **Nur Aishah Taib**, Senior consultant breast surgeon and professor of the Department of Surgery at University Malaysia (Confirmed)
- **Surbhi Grover**, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, Oncology Lead Botswana-UPenn Partnership, University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine (Confirmed)
- Sanofi Speaker

Debate & Discussion

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17.45– 18.00 Closing, Discussion & Next Steps

- **Vivek Subbiah, M.D.** Chief, Early-Phase Drug Development, Sarah Cannon Research Institute, Nashville, TN (Confirmed)
- **Denis Horgan, PhD** EAPM Executive Director, Chair, ICGC ARGO Independent Advisory Committee, International Cancer Genome Consortium (Confirmed)

End
