

International Agency for Research on Cancer



**World Health
Organization**

**Governing Council
Sixty-third Session**

GC/63/R1

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
By web conference*

ADMISSION OF A PARTICIPATING STATE – THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The Governing Council,

Having examined the request from the Government of the People’s Republic of China for admission as a Participating State in the International Agency for Research on Cancer ([Document GC/63/2](#)),

1. DECIDES pursuant to Article XII of the Statute of the Agency, that the People’s Republic of China be admitted as a Participating State in the Agency; and
2. EXPRESSES great satisfaction at the admission of this new Participating State.



**Governing Council
Sixty-third Session**

GC/63/R2

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
By web conference*

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed the Director's Report ([Document GC/63/3](#)),

1. THANKS the Director for the Report and for the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) provided therein;
2. NOTES that additional Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound (SMART) KPIs are being developed and will be communicated to the Scientific and Governing Councils at their next respective sessions;
3. NOTES with satisfaction the continued efforts made towards further strengthening coordination and communication between IARC and WHO;
4. THANKS the Secretariat for its report on IARC engagement under the Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors (FENSA) as part of the Director's Report, in accordance with Resolution GC/60/R17; and
5. EXPRESSES its satisfaction with the Director's written and oral Reports.



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GC/63/R3

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
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REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed the Report presented by the Fifty-seventh Scientific Council ([Document GC/63/4](#)) and the Director's response ([Document GC/63/5](#)),

1. NOTES the Report (Document GC/63/4) with great interest;
2. CONGRATULATES the members of the Scientific Council for their supportive and excellent work; and
3. COMMENDS the Director for her constructive responses to the recommendations of the Fifty-seventh Session of the Scientific Council.

IARC MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY (MTS), 2021–2025

The Governing Council,

Having considered [Document GC/63/6A](#)¹: “IARC Medium-Term Strategy 2021–2025”,

1. COMMENDS the Director and her staff on the document which clearly benefited from the wide and transparent process of consultation with stakeholders and experts;
2. THANKS the Secretariat and the Working Group, composed of members of the Governing and Scientific Councils, and a Representative of WHO, for considering and finalizing the draft Medium-Term Strategy document;
3. THANKS the Scientific Council for reviewing the draft Medium-Term Strategy (Document SC/57/4B) and for its comments and recommendation for approval by the Governing Council;
4. ADOPTS the Agency’s Medium-Term Strategy for 2021–2025, as contained in Document GC/63/6A; and
5. REQUESTS the Director to make a proposal for an evaluation approach of the Medium-Term Strategy 2021–2025 to the next Governing Council session in 2022.

¹ Document GC/63/6B corresponds to the IARC Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) for 2021–2025 in a “classic” layout, available upon request.



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GC/63/R5

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
By web conference*

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT, REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

The Governing Council,

Having examined [Document GC/63/7](#) "Annual Financial Report, Report of the External Auditor and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020",

1. THANKS the External Auditor for his Report and "unqualified" audit opinion;
2. THANKS the Secretariat for providing supplementary information on the After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI) long-term liabilities and related funding gap ([Document GC/63/Inf.Doc. No.4](#));
and
3. APPROVES the Report of the Director on the financial operations of the Agency.

International Agency for Research on Cancer



Governing Council
Sixty-third Session

GC/63/R6

Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
By web conference

PROPOSED PROGRAMME AND BUDGET 2022–2023

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed the Agency's Proposed Programme and Budget for the biennium 2022–2023, as contained in [Document GC/63/8](#) and [Document GC/63/8 Corr.1](#),

1. APPROVES the budget for the biennium 2022–2023 at the level of €45 371 329;
2. ACKNOWLEDGES that the presentation and priorities of the proposed budget for 2022–2023 are aligned with the IARC Medium-Term Strategy for 2021–2025 ([Document GC/63/6A](#));
3. DECIDES that the budget shall be financed solely by annual assessments on Participating States as follows:
 - (1) €22 413 548 shall be assessed on Participating States on 1 January 2022,
 - (2) €22 957 781 shall be assessed on Participating States on 1 January 2023,
4. RESOLVES to appropriate an amount of €45 371 329 to the six main Level 2 objectives of the IARC Project Tree (Document GC/63/6A Annex 2) for the biennium 2022–2023 as follows:

| Section | IARC Project Tree – Level 2 Objectives | Amount (€) |
|---------|---|------------|
| 1. | Describing the occurrence of cancer | 3 947 686 |
| 2. | Understanding the causes of cancer | 10 505 426 |
| 3. | Evaluating cancer prevention interventions | 5 310 608 |
| 4. | Synthesizing and mobilizing knowledge and strengthening global capacities in cancer science | 6 388 053 |
| 5. | Strengthening the Agency's leadership, governance, strategic engagement, and advocacy | 5 184 683 |
| 6. | Strengthening the efficiency and effectiveness of the Agency's research and collaboration | 14 034 873 |
| | Total | 45 371 329 |

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PROPOSED PROGRAMME AND BUDGET 2022–2023

5. DECIDES that the Director shall have authority under Financial Regulations Article III, Paragraph 3.3 to transfer credits between sections of the budget, provided that such transfers do not exceed 15% of the section from which the credit is transferred. Transfers in excess of 15% of the section from which the credit is transferred may be made with the prior written concurrence of the majority of the Members of the Governing Council;
6. DECIDES to grant authority to the Director to use a maximum of €500 000 in the biennium 2022–2023 from the Governing Council Special Fund to cover unforeseen budgetary costs due to currency realignments, subject to availability of cash balances in the Fund, noting the base rate of exchange for 2022–2023 is €0.907/US\$;
7. REQUESTS the Director to report on the use of the Fund for this purpose in future financial reports; and
8. ENCOURAGES Participating States to contribute to the Core Voluntary Contribution Account to supplement the regular budget.



**Governing Council
Sixty-third Session**

GC/63/R7

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
By web conference*

ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND CONTRACTS, INCLUDING REPORT ON INTEREST APPORTIONMENT

The Governing Council,

Having considered [Document GC/63/17](#) "Acceptance of grants and contracts",

In accordance with IARC Financial Regulations,

1. NOTES the post facto reporting of grants and contracts accepted by the Director as detailed in Document GC/63/17;
2. NOTES the amount of interest income apportioned; and
3. COMMENDS the staff on its success in winning competitive research grants.



ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

The Governing Council,

Having been informed by [Document GC/63/18](#) of the unconditional donations accepted during the year 2020 under the authority vested in the Director by Resolution GC/4/R3,

1. EXPRESSES its deep appreciation to the donors for their generous contribution to the research activities of the Agency; and
2. NOTES that, in accordance with the standing authorization granted to the Director under Resolution GC/58/R12, €163 622.43 were allocated from the Special Account for Undesignated Contributions to the Nouveau Centre Plus project in 2020.

International Agency for Research on Cancer



Governing Council
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GC/63/R9

Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
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REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNING COUNCIL SPECIAL FUND

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed [Document GC/63/9](#) "Request for support from the Governing Council Special Fund: A. Scientific equipment and B. Core IT infrastructure and services" and [Document GC/63/Inf.Doc. No.2](#) "Projection of Governing Council Special Fund Account for 2021–2023",

Noting the support from the Scientific Council (as contained in [Document GC/63/4](#)),

AUTHORIZES the Director to use up to a maximum of €420 000 from the Governing Council Special Fund, subject to there being sufficient fund balance, for the acquisition of scientific equipment detailed below (€70 000) and for core IT infrastructure and services (€350 000):

| | Approximate cost (€) |
|--|----------------------|
| Equipment for the Histopathology laboratory | |
| Digital imaging upgrade | 20 000 |
| Histostainer | 30 000 |
| Cryostat | 20 000 |
| Sub-total for equipment | 70 000 |
| Core IT infrastructure and services | |
| Cloud Services, Storage Systems, Servers, Software Licenses (Virtualization, Disaster Recovery, Backup, Monitorization) | 350 000 |
| Sub-total for Core IT infrastructure and services | 350 000 |
| Total requested budget | 420 000 |

PROPOSED PRIORITIES FOR RESOURCES MOBILIZED AS UNDESIGNATED VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed [Document GC/63/10](#) “Proposed priorities for resources actively mobilized as Undesignated Voluntary Contributions”,

Noting the mechanism for allocation of funds from the Special Account for Undesignated Voluntary Contributions in between its yearly sessions,

1. APPROVES a standing authorization to the Director, for the period 2021–2025, to allocate *un-earmarked* funds mobilized into the Special Account for Undesignated Voluntary Contributions to the four priority projects listed below:
 - a. Global Initiative for Cancer Registry Development (GICR);
 - b. IARC Monographs and IARC Handbooks of Cancer Prevention;
 - c. IARC Training Fellowships;
 - d. IARC Nouveau Centre Plus.
2. REQUESTS the Director to report to the Governing Council on the use of the Special Account for Undesignated Contributions on a yearly basis, clearly indicating funds mobilized and allocated according to the programmatic priorities listed above.

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
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UPDATE ON THE “NOUVEAU CENTRE” AND THE “NOUVEAU CENTRE” FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

The Governing Council,

Having considered [Document GC/63/11](#) “Update on the “Nouveau Centre” and the “Nouveau Centre” fundraising campaign”,

1. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the French national authorities, the Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, the Métropole de Lyon, and the City of Lyon for the strong support received both for the continued efforts to ensure adequate conditions of the current premises and for the progress made on the “Nouveau Centre” project;
2. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the IARC Secretariat for closely monitoring the building works and for its efforts to mobilize funds;
3. ACKNOWLEDGES the remaining funding gap of €7.6 million for a fully operational, modern, smart and open building, with €2.6 million to be mobilized prior to September 2021 to ensure that “Priority 1” operational equipment is purchased prior to the move to the Nouveau Centre, currently planned in the last quarter of 2022;
4. AUTHORIZES the Director to accept donations in cash or in kind for the purpose of furnishing and equipping the Nouveau Centre, subject to and in accordance with applicable internal rules and regulations, including inter alia with regard to FENSA and partner recognition;
5. AUTHORIZES a loan of up to €1 million from the Governing Council Special Fund to fund “Priority 1” items, should there remain a funding gap for such critical items prior to September 2021, to be reimbursed over a five-year period from the operational budget and/or resource mobilization results;
6. ENCOURAGES Participating States to make voluntary contributions and provide support to the resource mobilization efforts towards the Nouveau Centre; and
7. REQUESTS the Director to report, every six months, on resource mobilization efforts and to keep the Governing Council Working Group on Infrastructure apprised of major future developments in relation to the “Nouveau Centre”.

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**Governing Council
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GC/63/R12

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
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APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

The Governing Council,

In accordance with the provisions of Article VI of the Statute of the Agency,

1. APPOINTS

Professor Walter Berger, Austria)

Dr Luis Felipe Ribeiro Pinto, Brazil)

Professor Marie-Elise Parent, Canada) to serve for four years on the Scientific Council

Professor Jie He, China)

Dr Mathilde Touvier, France)

Dr Einas Abdulaziz Eid Al Kuwari, Qatar)

2. THANKS the outgoing members of the Scientific Council, Drs Salha M. Bujassoum Al Bader (Qatar), Jacqueline Clavel (France), Christine Friedenreich (Canada), Maria Sibilia (Austria) and João P.B. Viola (Brazil) for their valuable work in the Scientific Council and for the contribution which they have made to the research activities of the Agency.



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GC/63/R13

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
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BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE IARC ETHICS COMMITTEE, 2019–2020

The Governing Council,

Having examined the Biennial Report of the IARC Ethics Committee 2019–2020, as contained in [Document GC/63/16](#),

1. WELCOMES the Biennial Report of the IARC Ethics Committee 2019–2020; and
2. REQUESTS the Director to continue reporting biennially on issues related to ethics at the Agency.



**Governing Council
Sixty-third Session**

GC/63/R14

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
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PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE XIII OF THE IARC STATUTE

The Governing Council,

Recalling its Resolution GC/62/R17,

1. THANKS the Working Group for examining additional possible options¹; and
2. DECIDES to leave Article XIII of the Statute as it is and modify Article 7.3 of the Financial Regulations to "7.3 A Participating State which withdraws from participation in the operation of the Agency under the provisions of Article XIII of the Statute shall be required to pay the full amount of its contributions up to and including the second year of the biennium in which the withdrawal becomes effective."

¹ [Document GC/63/12](#)



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GC/63/R15

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
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MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE ADMISSION OF NEW PARTICIPATING STATES

The Governing Council,

Recalling its Resolution GC/18/R14 nominating members of the Subcommittee on the Admission of new Participating States and the requirement to nominate new members at the end of each session of the Governing Council,

Recalling its Resolution GC/53/R20 deciding that the number of members and composition of the Subcommittee shall be agreed upon at each regular session of the Governing Council,

DECIDES that this Subcommittee shall be composed of the Chairperson of the Governing Council (member *ex officio*), and representatives of Brazil, Japan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, who shall hold office until the next regular session of the Council.



**Governing Council
Sixty-third Session**

GC/63/R16

*Lyon, 17–18 May 2021
By web conference*

DATE OF THE SIXTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

The Governing Council,

1. DECIDES to hold its next regular session in Lyon, France, or in a hybrid form, for two days within the two weeks preceding the opening of the World Health Assembly in the year 2022; and
2. REQUESTS the Director to inform members of the Council as soon as these dates are known.

**EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
AND COLLABORATION ON CANCER
IN THE MIDST OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

The Governing Council,

Acknowledging that since its foundation in 1965 the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has been making important contributions to the global fight against cancer, notably through its capacity to bring together people and organizations from across the world that share common values and objectives,

Reaffirming its resolve to maintain IARC as a centre of scientific excellence fostering peaceful worldwide collaboration and progress on cancer research,

Acknowledging the importance of the work of IARC in international collaboration and technical cooperation with scientists and partners globally, including the sharing of data, contributions to publications on cancer epidemiology and supporting cancer registries,

1. REAFFIRMS that the objective of IARC, as stated in Article I of its Statute, is to promote international collaboration in cancer research, serving as a means through which Participating States and the World Health Organization, in liaison with the Union for International Cancer Control and other interested international organizations, may cooperate in the stimulation and support of all phases of research related to the problem of cancer;
2. RECOGNIZES the importance of maintaining and enhancing existing, as well as supporting future, technical cooperation with scientists and partners globally, regardless of whether they are located in Participating States of IARC or elsewhere;
3. COMMITS to promote inclusive international collaboration in cancer research and scientific cooperation with governments, national agencies and other institutions;
4. REQUESTS the IARC Secretariat:
 - 4.1 to continue catalysing international collaboration, including through joint publication with international collaborators, and seeking opportunities to develop research collaborations with governments, national agencies and other entities including individual researchers and scientists that adhere to the goals and values of IARC, including by upholding the highest standards in transparency, data quality, and transmission;

- 4.2 to this end, to maintain and enhance the existing, as well as support future, participation of scientists and partners globally, regardless of whether they are located in Participating States of IARC or elsewhere;
- 4.3 to report to the Governing Council on any proposal to alter IARC documents and publications regarding the reference to any academic or research institute with which IARC maintains collaboration, or the reference to the affiliation of any individual collaborator.