

RETRAIT D'UN ETAT PARTICIPANT – LA TURQUIE

1. Le Gouvernement de la Turquie a fait part au Directeur général de l'Organisation mondiale de la Santé de son intention de se retirer du Centre international de Recherche sur le Cancer.
2. Conformément à l'Article XIII du Statut du CIRC, des copies de la correspondance indiquée ci-dessous sont jointes en annexe au présent document :
 - Lettre datée du 3 décembre 2018 du Ministère de la santé de la Turquie adressée, par l'entremise de la Mission permanente de la République de Turquie auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies de Genève, au Directeur général de l'Organisation mondiale de la Santé – Annexe 1
 - Lettre datée du 20 décembre 2018 du Directeur général de l'Organisation mondiale de la Santé adressée au Ministère des affaires étrangères de la Turquie – Annexe 2
3. Le Conseil de Direction est prié de prendre note de la décision de la Turquie de se retirer du Centre.

ANNEXE 1



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA

2018/62441669-BMCO DT/22682840

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the World Health Organization (WHO) and has the honour to enclose herewith the letter by Prof. Emine Alp Meşe, Deputy Health Minister of the Republic of Turkey, addressed to Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General of the World Health Organisation, regarding the withdrawal decision of Turkey from the membership of International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) due to a recent process of reallocation of resources to international organizations by Turkey.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the World Health Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 3 December 2018



Encl: As stated

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REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director General
World Health Organization
Geneva
SWITZERLAND

Dear Director General,

I am writing to you regarding the membership status of Turkey to the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). As you kindly know Turkey is a member of IARC since 13 May 2011.

As a country whose efforts to fight against Noncommunicable Diseases have been rewarded by WHO and UN Agencies, we appreciate all efforts to fight against cancer of all UN Agencies, WHO in particular. In this success story, WHO's expertise and guidance has been one of the strongest leverage for us.

I would like to inform you that we are in the process of reconsidering our resources allocated to the International Organizations. As a consequence of this process, regrettably, Turkey submits its withdrawal from IARC in accordance with the Article XIII of the IARC Statute, Rules and Regulation. I kindly request from you to initiate the necessary steps for completion of our withdrawal from IARC.

I wish all the success in your works to further promote health and well-being of people. Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Prof. Emine Aho Mesa,
Deputy Minister of Health,
Republic of Turkey

CC: Mr. Pavel Ursu, WHO Representative in Turkey, Çankaya, Ankara
Mr. Tamás Landes, Director of Administration and Finance, IARC, Lyon, France



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ANNEXE 2



**World Health
Organization**

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Your reference:

H.E. Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Dr Sadik Ahmet Cad. No. 8
Balgat
TR-06100 Ankara

20 December 2018

Dear Mevlüt,

I have the honour to write to you following my discussion in Bueno Aires with His Excellency Mr Recep Erdogan, President of the Republic of Turkey, about Turkey's membership of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the cancer agency of the World Health Organization (WHO). I am recently in receipt of a letter on this subject from Professor Emine Alp Mese, Deputy Minister of Health, notifying me of the withdrawal of Turkey from its membership of IARC. A copy of this letter is attached for ease of reference.

Turkey joined IARC as a Participating State in 2011 and brings a vitally important regional representation to the IARC Governing Council, with a unique perspective among the 26 Participating States which helps shape the Organization's global cancer research agenda. Turkey's outstanding leadership in the fight against noncommunicable diseases, including cancer, aligns closely with IARC's mission within WHO of conducting "cancer research for cancer prevention". In fact, IARC collaborates with scientists worldwide to provide the scientific evidence on which cancer control policies, guidelines and recommendations are based.

ENCL: (1)

cc: The Head, Foreign Relations Department, Ministry of Health, Ankara
The Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva and
other International Organizations in Switzerland
The WHO Representative and Head of Country Office, Ankara

منظمة الصحة العالمية • 世界卫生组织

Organisation mondiale de la Santé • Всемирная организация здравоохранения • Organización Mundial de la Salud

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ankara

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Turkey has recently made major strategic and pioneering advances in protecting the health of its citizens through the creation of the new Health Institutes of Turkey, of which the Turkish Cancer Institute is one. Earlier this year, Dr Christopher Wild, Director of IARC, received a senior-level delegation from the Turkish Cancer Institute, and a number of new opportunities for collaborative research were identified. Turkey also hosts the IARC Regional Hub for Cancer Registration, supporting cancer registry development in surrounding countries where expertise is currently lacking. These developments substantiate remarkable potential for continuing and enhanced cooperation between Turkey and IARC at this critical time for the global cancer research agenda, as well as the further development of Turkey's Cancer Institute.

Turkey has a vital strategic presence on the IARC Governing Council as a Participating State. Turkey's withdrawal would represent a major loss to both IARC and WHO, and would result in a missed opportunity for cancer researchers in Turkey to participate in wider international collaborations, thus impairing global cancer research efforts.

For these reasons, I respectfully request you to reconsider the decision to withdraw Turkey from its role as an IARC Participating State. WHO stands ready to support Turkey's continued engagement and participation in IARC, and will continue to support Turkey in your country's fight against Noncommunicable diseases.

Please accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

*with my very best
personal regards.*



Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General