## **International Agency for Research on Cancer**



Governing Council Fifty-eighth Session

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# PROPOSED PRIORITIES FOR RESOURCES ACTIVELY MOBILIZED AS UNDESIGNATED VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

- 1. Currently, approximately two-thirds of IARC activities are funded from the regular budget paid by Participating States and the remaining from extrabudgetary resources. The main funding source of the latter is the designated voluntary contributions that are mobilized predominantly through competitive grants, although increasingly these resources are complemented through direct funding.
- 2. The Secretariat is actively engaged in identifying new funding opportunities and is investing efforts to mobilize resources. An experienced senior consultant was recently hired to assist the Director in putting in place a resource mobilization strategy aimed at enlarging the portfolio of strategic donors and to raise external funds to enable the Agency to fulfil its potential, including the goals described in the recently approved IARC Medium-Term Strategy 2016–2020.
- 3. Resources will continue to be mobilized for specific projects while at the same time efforts will be made to increase contributions that are undesignated voluntary contributions. In accordance with Resolution GC/23/R6, the voluntary contributions for which no purpose is specified by the donor or *un-earmarked* funds are credited to the Special Account for Undesignated Contributions and the amount accumulated under this account may be used for special projects recommended by the Scientific Council and approved by the Governing Council.
- 4. Thus far the accumulated funds under the Special Account for Undesignated Contributions have been received through unsolicited donations, including individual legacies. There are two standing authorizations for the Director to use funds from this account each year, insofar as a balance is available, to finance the Fellowships and Visiting Scientist Awards as follows:
  - a. Resolution GC/24/R7, paragraph (2): financing of two twelve-month fellowships, up to an amount of €34 650 (US\$ 50 000 @0.693);
  - b. Resolution GC/34/R9, paragraph 2 (ii): financing of the Visiting Scientist Award, up to an amount of €55 440 (US\$ 80 000 @0.693).
- 5. Since the adoption of Resolution GC/24/R7 in 1983, the cost of fellowships has gradually increased. To enable the Agency to fund two twelve-month Fellowships, the Secretariat is requesting the Governing Council to consider increasing the standing authorized amount from  $\in$ 34 650 to  $\in$ 80 000 for this purpose.

- 6. The Agency will continue to prioritize the current fund balance in the Special Account for Undesignated Contributions, which was exceptionally increased in 2015 by Mrs Benmoussa's legacy (see Document GC/58/17), toward these two standing authorizations during the next six years.
- 7. The *un-earmarked* funds mobilized under the new strategy will be added to this account. The Director is requesting the Governing Council to approve a mechanism for allocation of these funds without having to wait for the following Governing Council meeting. Accordingly, for the period 2016–2020 the Governing Council is requested to approve a standing authorization to the Director to allocate these resources to the five priority projects of the Agency listed below:
  - a. Global Initiative for Cancer Registry Development (GICR)

The GICR (<a href="http://gicr.iarc.fr/">http://gicr.iarc.fr/</a>) is a multi-partner project coordinated by IARC, aimed at producing a step change in the quality and coverage of accurate data on cancer worldwide. It aims to achieve this by supporting the development of population based cancer registries, through the creation of a series of IARC Regional Hubs that provide technical and advocacy support to registries in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) in their regions. The WHO has endorsed the GICR as the tool to support Member States in measuring the indicator on "cancer incidence, by type of cancer, per 100 000 population" in the NCD Global Monitoring Framework.

### b. IARC Monographs and IARC Handbooks of Cancer Prevention

The IARC Monographs Programme (<a href="http://monographs.iarc.fr/">http://monographs.iarc.fr/</a>) is the Agency's flagship international, interdisciplinary programme of carcinogenic hazard identification, which has gained a well established reputation for its authoritative and independent evaluations. The IARC Handbooks of Cancer Prevention programme (<a href="http://handbooks.iarc.fr/">http://handbooks.iarc.fr/</a>) is a complementary initiative to the IARC Monographs, which undertakes comprehensive reviews of the evidence on the effectiveness of selected agents and primary and secondary interventions for cancer prevention. The evaluation process closely follows the model of the IARC Monographs, consisting of a comprehensive, critical summary and review of the published scientific literature carried out by Working Groups of scientific experts who are invited to participate on the basis of their contributions to the relevant areas of science.

#### c. The LMICs Biobank and Cohort Building Network (BCNet)

The BCNet (<a href="http://bcnet.iarc.fr/">http://bcnet.iarc.fr/</a>) was established to provide an opportunity for biobanks from LMICs to work together in a coordinated manner to jointly address the many challenges in developing biobanking infrastructure, including ethical, legal, and social issues (ELSIs). In addition, BCNet is facilitating the sharing of resources (e.g. expertise, protocols, governance models, policies, etc.), furthering the development of joint projects, boosting the quality of resources and increasing the competitiveness of LMIC biobanks in applying for international funding.

### d. IARC Training Fellowships

The IARC Education and Training Programme (<a href="http://training.iarc.fr/">http://training.iarc.fr/</a>) manages a range of short and long term IARC Fellowships for early career and visiting scientists. One of its key components are the IARC Postdoctoral Fellowships which provide young scientists from any country an opportunity to continue training at IARC integrated within one of the research Groups. The Agency remains particularly committed to promoting the development of expertise in cancer research in LMICs by training researchers from these countries. The quality of the IARC Postdoctoral Fellowships was reflected in the award of two successive EU Marie Curie COFUND competitive grants, which allowed the expansion of the Fellowships since 2010. The additional funding is being sought to ensure its sustainability as the Agency was informed earlier this year that it is no longer considered eligible for the EU co-funding.

#### e. IARC Nouveau Centre Plus

A budget of €48 million has been committed by the French Government and local authorities for the IARC Nouveau Centre project. This budget and the potential funds from the sale of the Latarjet building will cover the core requirements within the project scope. In addition, the Agency will mobilize additional funds to support the costs of the move to the new building as well as to modernize its laboratory and biobank facilities and office environment (see Document <u>GC/58/8</u>).

8. The Director will continue to report to the Governing Council on the use of the Special Account for Undesignated Contributions on a yearly basis, clearly indicating funds actively mobilized and allocated according to the programmatic priorities listed in this document.