



**Governing Council  
Sixty-fourth Session**

**GC/64/Min.2/Rev.1  
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*Lyon and web conference, 12–13 May 2022*

## **MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING – Revision 1**

IARC, Lyon and web conference

Friday, 13 May 2022 at 12:00 Central European Summer Time (CEST)

Chairperson: Dr Stephen M. Robbins (Canada)

Secretary: Dr Elisabete Weiderpass, Director, IARC

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***Participating State Representatives***

Dr Stephen ROBBINS, <b><i>Chairperson</i></b> Ms Madeleine BIRD Ms Jennifer IZAGUIRRE Mr Kay SADIQ Ms Chantele SITARAM Mr Michael URGOLO Mr William WANG	Canada
Professor Pål Richard ROMUNDSTAD, <b><i>Vice-Chairperson</i></b> Dr Karianne SOLAAS ( <i>unable to attend</i> )	Norway
Ms Diane STEBER BÜCHLI, <b><i>Rapporteur</i></b>	Switzerland
Professor Dorothy KEEFE Mr Agastya BHARADWAJ Ms Sarah MCNEILL	Australia
Ms Elisabeth TISCHELMAYER	Austria
Ms Anne SWALUË Mr Pieter VERMAERKE	Belgium
Dr Ana Cristina PINHO MENDES PEREIRA Dr Ronaldo CORRÊA FERREIRA DA SILVA Dr João Ricardo RODRIGUES VIEGAS	Brazil
Professor JIE HE Dr JING WU Dr LIN DUAN Dr XIAOCHEN YANG Dr YANG DING	China
Professor Anders HVIID	Denmark
Dr Markku TERVAHAUTA Ms Tuula HELANDER	Finland
Professor Norbert IFRAH Dr Jocelyne BÉRILLE Ms Christine BERLING ( <i>unable to attend</i> ) Mr Thomas DUBOIS	France
Mr Thomas IFLAND Dr Chris BRAUN	Germany

Professor Gabriella LISZKAY Professor Péter NAGY	Hungary
Dr Jayanta CHAKRABARTI ( <i>unable to attend</i> ) Dr Tanvir KAUR Dr Rupinder SINGH DHALIWAL	India
<i>No Representative</i>	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
<i>No Representative</i>	Ireland
Professor Silvio BRUSAFERRO Dr Mauro BIFFONI Dr Sergio IAVICOLI	Italy
Dr Naoki AKAHANE Dr Masako HORITA Dr Tomohiro MATSUDA Dr Hitoshi NAKAGAMA Ms Kay OHARA Dr Tatsuya SUZUKI	Japan
Dr Rachid BEKKALI ( <i>unable to attend</i> ) Dr Loubna ABOUSSELHAM Dr Latifa BELAKHEL Ms Loubna OLOUY	Morocco
Dr Susan POTTING Mr Pim TEN BROEKE	Netherlands
Dr Al-Hareth M. AL-KHATER Dr Mohammed USSAMA AL HOMSI Dr Mohamed YASSIN	Qatar
Dr Sangkyun HAN Dr Jaekwan JUN Dr Taehwan SHIN Dr Chongwoo YOO	Republic of Korea
Dr Igor KOROBKO Dr Elena KIRSANOVA Dr Eduard SALAKHOV Dr Oleg SONIN	Russian Federation
Dr Elena DOMÉNECH CRUZ Dr Maria José GONZÁLEZ DE SUSO ( <i>unable to attend</i> )	Spain

Professor Madeleine DURBEEJ-HJALT  
Dr Karin SCHMEKEL

Sweden

Dr Mark PALMER  
Dr Mariana DELFINO-MACHIN

United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland

Dr Mara BURR  
Dr Ann CHAO  
Dr Krycia COWLING  
Dr Sarah EMAMI  
Dr Adriana GONZALEZ  
Dr Satish GOPAL  
Dr Dalana JOHNSON  
Dr Gregory McELWAIN  
Dr Marie RICCIARDONE

United States of America

### **World Health Organization**

Ms Sigrid KRANAWETTER, Principal Legal Officer, Office of the WHO Legal Counsel

Dr Bente MIKKELSEN, Director, Noncommunicable Diseases Department, WHO  
headquarters

### **Observers**

#### **Scientific Council**

Dr Manami INOUE, Incoming Chairperson, Scientific Council

Dr Janne PITKÄNIEMI, Outgoing Chairperson, Scientific Council

### **Union for International Cancer Control (UICC)**

Dr Sonali JOHNSON, Head, Knowledge, Advocacy and Policy

### **External Audit**

Mr Krishnaraju SUBRAMANIAM, Director of External Audit (WHO), Office of the Comptroller  
and Auditor General of India

### **Secretariat**

Dr E. WEIDERPASS,  
*Secretary*

Dr T. LANDESZ

Dr M. ALMONTE

Dr P. BASU

Ms A. BERGER

Dr F. BRAY

Dr P. BRENNAN

Dr V. CHAJES

Mr C. CHAUVET

Dr G. CLIFFORD

Dr I. CREE

Mr O. EXERTIER

Dr P. FERRARI

Ms E. FRANÇON

Dr M. GUNTER

Dr Z. HERCEG

Mr D. KAVANAGH

Dr M. KORENJAK

Dr Z. KOZLAKIDIS

Dr B. LAUBY-SECRETAN

Mr F. LOZANO

Dr V. MCCORMACK

Dr J. MCKAY

Ms C. MEHTA

Ms A. MENEGHEL

Dr S. RINALDI

Dr M. SCHUBAUER-BERIGAN

Dr J. SCHÜZ

Dr I. SOERJOMATARAM

Dr S. VIRANI

Dr J. ZAVADIL

**1. COVID-19 AND CANCER INITIATIVE: A BUILDING BACK BETTER PROPOSAL (IARC-C19) – REQUEST FOR SUPPORT AND FUNDING: Agenda Item 9 ([Document GC/64/6](#)) (resumed)**

The CHAIRPERSON recalled that the Council had asked an informal working group to prepare a draft resolution.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "IARC's COVID-19 and cancer initiative: request for support and funding" (GC/64/R5):

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed [Document GC/64/6](#) "IARC's COVID-19 and Cancer Initiative (IARC-C19): a global cancer community approach – Request for support and funding",

Noting the support from the Scientific Council in its Report ([Document GC/64/4](#)),

Further noting that in order to implement IARC-C19, a budget of €6 million is needed over a four-year period, and the request from the Secretariat for support in securing two-thirds of this funding (€4 million),

1. FURTHER REQUESTS the IARC Secretariat to further develop the initiative and coordinate with existing initiatives in this area, including the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence, in order to complement and enhance collective efforts;
2. SUPPORTS the funding of this initiative, through voluntary mechanisms such as voluntary contributions by Participating States and others;
3. ENCOURAGES Participating States to make voluntary contributions and provide support to the resource mobilization efforts towards this initiative;
4. REQUESTS updates by the IARC Secretariat on progress throughout the term of the initiative.

Ms STEBER BÜCHLI (Rapporteur) noted that the words "further" at the beginning of paragraph 1 and "voluntary" before "mechanisms" were additions that had been suggested after the working group had concluded its drafting work.

The CHAIRPERSON noted that the word "further" appeared twice in the same sentence.

Ms STEBER BÜCHLI (Rapporteur, Switzerland), speaking on behalf of Switzerland, noted that the phrase "further requests" at the beginning of paragraph 1 was ill placed, as it was the first request to be made. She suggested moving the word "further" to the beginning of paragraph 4.

Dr PALMER (United Kingdom) concurred.

Ms STEBER BÜCHLI (Switzerland) also queried the repetition of the word "voluntary" in paragraph 2.

The SECRETARY proposed that the first usage of the word "voluntary" be removed to avoid needless duplication.

The CHAIRPERSON said he wondered whether the intention had been to eliminate any potential ambiguity around other ways of funding the initiative.

Ms SWALUË (Belgium) said that she thought it was meaningful to list "voluntary contributions" as an example of "voluntary mechanisms".

Dr GONZALEZ (United States of America) explained it had been her country's proposal to add the word "voluntary" in order to make clear that the initiative would be funded through voluntary mechanisms alone and not through any increase in assessed contributions.

The CHAIRPERSON said he took it that the Governing Council wished to move the word "further" from paragraph 1 to paragraph 4 and to leave the word "voluntary mechanisms" in paragraph 2.

It was so **agreed**.

The resolution, as amended, was **adopted**.

## **2. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND CONTRACTS, INCLUDING REPORT ON INTEREST APPORTIONMENT: Agenda Item 13 ([Document GC/64/10](#))**

The CHAIRPERSON recalled that Document GC/64/10 had been made available on the INDICO platform in advance of the session.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Acceptance of grants and contracts, including report on interest apportionment" (GC/64/R9):

The Governing Council,

Having considered [Document GC/64/10](#) "Acceptance of grants and contracts",

In accordance with IARC Financial Regulations,

1. CONFIRMS the provisional approval given by the Governing Council Chair between sessions, in accordance with Resolution GC/52/R13, paragraphs 2 and 3, for the following two projects over €500 000 per annum:
  - a) Extended Follow-up of the Participants of IARC-INDIA HPV Vaccination Study to Evaluate the Effectiveness of one, two and three Doses of Quadrivalent HPV Vaccine in Preventing Cervical Neoplasia [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USA in an amount of €2 822 235.50 for 63 months];
  - b) IARC Monographs on the Identification of Carcinogenic Hazards to Humans – Y39 - Y43 [National Institutes of Health – National Cancer Institute, USA in an amount of €4 155 603.87 for 60 months];
2. NOTES the post facto reporting of grants and contracts accepted by the Director as detailed in Document GC/64/10;
3. NOTES the amount of interest income apportioned; and
4. COMMENDS the staff on its success in winning competitive research grants.

The resolution was **adopted**.

**3. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS: Agenda Item 14 ([Document GC/64/11](#))**

The CHAIRPERSON recalled that Document GC/64/11 had been made available on the INDICO platform in advance of the session and said that Dr Tamás Landeszi (Director, Administration and Finance) was available to answer any outstanding questions.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Acceptance of donations" (GC/64/R10):

The Governing Council,  
Having been informed by [Document GC/64/11](#) of the unconditional donations accepted during the year 2021 under the authority vested in the Director by Resolution GC/4/R3,  
EXPRESSES its deep appreciation to the donors for their generous contribution to the research activities of the Agency.

The resolution was **adopted**.

**4. BIENNIAL REPORT ON PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES, 2020–2021: Agenda Item 15 ([Document GC/64/12](#))**

The CHAIRPERSON said that members of the Secretariat were available to answer any questions arising from Document GC64/12, which had been made available on the INDICO platform.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Biennial report on publication activities, 2020-2021" (GC/64/R11):

The Governing Council,  
Having reviewed [Document GC/64/12](#) "Biennial report on publication activities, 2020–2021",

1. NOTES the Report with great interest;
2. NOTES that the net revenue from the sale of IARC publications to the Governing Council Special Fund amounted to €1 935 517 in 2020, and €1 946 778 in 2021, of which 75% was allocated in the following year to the publication programme; and
3. REQUESTS the Director to continue reporting biennially on publication activities at IARC.

The resolution was **adopted**.

**5. DISCUSSION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE EVALUATION FRAMEWORK OF THE IARC MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY (MTS) 2021–2025 AND ITS KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIs): Agenda Item 16 ([Document GC/64/13](#))**

Mr EXERTIER (Consultant, Director's Office, IARC), illustrating his remarks with slides, presented a summary of the more detailed information that had been made available on the INDICO platform. He said that the ambition of the MTS evaluation was the systematic and objective

assessment of the IARC Strategic Programme for 2021–2025. He noted that the global evaluation was complementary to the individual evaluation of branches, which took place every five years through a peer review process.

He outlined the MTS evaluation methodology, which began with a literature review, interviews and benchmarking, followed by a series of technical working groups, and subsequently a strategic working group with governance involvement.

He recalled that the MTS 2021–2025 presented four *fundamental priorities*: Data for Action; Understanding the Causes; From Understanding to Prevention; and Knowledge Mobilization. It also identified three *emerging priorities*: Implementation Research, Evolving Cancer Risk Factors and Populations in Transition, and the Economic and Societal Impacts of Cancer. He also recalled that, after approving the MTS in 2021, the Governing Council had requested the Secretariat to develop a conceptual framework of indicators for assessing the Agency's progress in achieving its objectives.

The impact pathway of the MTS was influenced by the theory of change, was research-driven, based on feedback from cancer control interventions, and informed by global public health priorities (including SGDs & GPW13). It also corresponded to the United Nations' results-based management methodology.

The Working Group had defined four categories of indicators. "Inputs" referred to finances and resources; "outputs" referred to what was produced; "outcomes" referred to the results and "impacts" were the changes made as a result. The framework had been developed following an extensive literature review and drew inspiration from one developed by the United States Center for Disease Control and by the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. He said that support from the WHO Evaluation Office had confirmed that it made sense to consider the public health impact, within the UN system and within the WHO context.

The logic model for the MTS evaluation was based on the Input-Output-Outcome-Impact (IOOI) model, with KPIs for each. Both qualitative and quantitative indicators were included, with quantitative indicators appearing mostly under "inputs" and "outputs", and qualitative indicators predominantly under "outcomes" and "impacts".

He said that the "inputs" related to the four categories of governance, budget, workforce (which included gender and geographical balance) and infrastructure (which included the Nouveau Centre and data protection policy). "Outputs" related to publications, learning courses and training, fellowships and MTS implementation. Noting that the publications indicators had provoked considerable discussion, he said the Agency had signed the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) guidelines. "Outcomes" related to partnerships and international collaborations, capacity building, dissemination and visibility, as well as open science, which was a major priority of the MTS. "Impacts" referred to cooperation with WHO on implementation, prevention policies, clinical practices, economic and societal impacts.

He explained that a list of case studies had been agreed, which corresponded to the priorities of the MTS: the Global Initiative for Cancer Registry Development; Health economics and cancer inequalities; the Mutographs programme; EPIC programme, the population-based long-term



surveillance Team (International Team with Japan); Codes Against Cancer; ABC-DO programme; the Tumour classification programme; the Handbook programme; Monographs programme; the three WHO global initiatives on cancer; resource mobilization and fundraising; the open science and scientific IT platform; the biobank; and the Nouveau Centre.

He presented a summary of the next steps in the planning timeline of the evaluation methodology. That included the preparation of case studies in 2023, followed in 2024 by the evaluation of MTS 2021–2025, leading into the elaboration of the MTS 2026–2030 in 2025. The goal was to use the evaluation to inform the Agency's priorities and help define the new MTS.

Dr HAN (Republic of Korea) expressed gratitude to those involved in developing the MTS. He said his country was honoured to have participated in IARC projects, including a summer school and a monograph, with the national cancer centre of Korea. He commended the Agency's resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic. He said Korea would continue to work in close partnership with the Agency so it could achieve the KPIs and deliver the MTS 2021–2025 to the world.

Professor IFRAH (France) said that the exhaustive and cooperative nature of the recommendations attested to the goal of the process being not just bibliometric analysis, but to evolve the concept and practice of the Agency: he commended the collaborative approach taken.

Dr GOPAL (United States of America) expressed appreciation for the recommendations of the Working Group on the MTS 2021–2025 and for having had the opportunity to contribute to its development. He said that the proposed methodology and framework would allow a truly objective assessment to determine the efficiency and impact of the Agency's activities.

The SECRETARY expressed her appreciation of the comments made by the representatives of the Republic of Korea, France and the United States of America in support of the framework.

Ms SWALUË (Belgium) welcomed the recommendations, in particular the combination of quantitative and qualitative indicators, and expressed satisfaction that the planning timeline would allow the evaluation to contribute to the development of the next strategy.

Dr AKAHANE (Japan) expressed appreciation for the recommendations of the Working Group and satisfaction that Japan was on the list of case studies.

Dr DUAN (China) said she appreciated the efforts of the Working Group in producing the evaluation framework for the MTS 2021–2025. In general, China agreed with the priorities listed. The proposed evaluation framework was well prepared and the corresponding KPIs comprehensively covered the entire chain of the evaluation model, which would facilitate achievement of the goal of the MTS – namely, to improve cancer prevention and reduce the global cancer burden. She welcomed the inclusion of KPIs relating to training the next generation of scientists and leaders on cancer research and policies. The IARC Learning and Capacity Building Branch had played a remarkable role in providing life-long cancer research education and training to scientists and professionals globally. She noted that training currently took place at headquarters; to amplify impact, she asked IARC to consider providing more local training opportunities, especially in low- and middle-income countries. She called for a more diversified training offer, such as the establishment of satellite training centres that could be jointly operated by IARC staff and local investigators, or for IARC staff to guide local institutes to establish their

own training systems. Such a programme could, she said, significantly increase training capacity and so improve the impact of training on the next generation.

She also called for training materials to be developed to enhance the training of frontline workers, as frontline workers were an essential component to ensuring cancer prevention measures were effectively implemented. China looked forward to working with IARC to explore the possibility of establishing a joint training centre in China.

The SECRETARY thanked the representatives of Belgium and France for their support. She welcomed the interesting suggestion by the representative of China for the Agency to increase training for early career researchers and frontline workers, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. She said that, although current resources would not permit the Agency to run in-country training of that kind, it did have the capacity and vision to provide such training if Participating States were minded to provide funding for that purpose. She looked forward to a dialogue with China in that direction.

Professor LISZKAY (Hungary) asked why the published mortality and incidence rates for Hungary, which were based on Global Cancer Observatory (GLOBOCAN) data, had not been harmonized with data from a Hungarian cancer registry that had been operating in Hungary for more than 20 years.

The SECRETARY explained that over the previous two years the Agency had been working with the Hungarian scientist Dr Andras Weber to improve the quality of cancer registration in Hungary, which had already resulted in publication of one scientific article with others pending.

Dr BRAY (Cancer Surveillance Branch Head) said that the Agency had been collaborating with the National Institute of Oncology of Hungary in Budapest to evaluate the coding systems used by the Hungarian national cancer register and examine discrepancies with the GLOBOCAN registry in order to consider divergencies by cancer type. He said that the system developed in Hungary was highly interesting and that the Agency continued to work with national colleagues in Hungary; a paper on the subject was nearing completion and would be submitted to an international journal. The Agency would then look at further improving the quality of the data and follow-up for patients, such as by looking at survival estimation.

Professor KEEFE (Australia) noted with satisfaction that the recommendations of the Working Group incorporated the recommendations of the Scientific Council. However, she observed a potential conflict between the discussion in the Strategy of the need to achieve a 25% increase in IARC's revenue over the following 10 years, mostly derived from a significant expected increase in direct funding, and the 0% nominal growth in contributions over the previous decade.

The SECRETARY agreed that the goal was extremely ambitious. She said the question was whether the Governing Council was willing to allow the Agency to retain the ambitious goal while accepting the possibility of failing to meet the goal. Striving for a larger budget was appropriate, she explained, as the world needed IARC, and IARC needed an increased budget.

The CHAIRPERSON, speaking in his national capacity, said that Canada attached a great deal of importance to the MTS and evaluation work. He encouraged the Governing Council to consider the MTS 2021–2025 as a working document that could adapt in response to future evolutions in

the field. He expressed the hope that IARC's use of a mix of quantitative and qualitative measures to measure the impact of science would serve as a model to others.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Evaluation Framework of the IARC Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) 2021–2025 and its Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)" (GC/64/R12):

The Governing Council,

Recalling its [Resolution GC/63/R4](#) in which it requested the Director to make a proposal for an evaluation approach of the IARC Medium-Term Strategy 2021–2025,

Having reviewed [Document GC/64/13](#) "Recommendations of the Working Group on the evaluation framework of the IARC Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) 2021–2025 and its Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)",

1. THANKS the Working Group for its recommendations.
2. THANKS the Scientific Council for reviewing the recommendations; and
3. APPROVES the proposed evaluation approach described in Document GC/64/13 as well as the list of indicators as appended.

*Note: the list of indicators appended to the resolution reproduces those found on pages 9–12 of Document GC/64/13.*

The resolution was **adopted**.

## **6. PROCEDURE FOR THE ELECTION OF THE IARC DIRECTOR IN 2023 (closed session): Agenda Item 17 ([Document GC/64/15](#))**

The Governing Council met in closed session from 12:55 until 13:45 CEST. Following resumption of the meeting in open session, the RAPPORTEUR read out the following resolution, entitled "Procedure for the election of IARC Director in 2023" (GC/64/R14), which had been **adopted** during the closed session:

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed [Document GC/64/15](#) "Procedure for the election of the IARC Director in 2023",  
Recalling its Resolution GC/59/R7 through which it adopted the procedure to be followed for the election of the Director,

DECIDES to maintain the existing procedure for the next election of the Director, to be held at its 65<sup>th</sup> Session in May 2023.

**7. APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL (closed session):  
Agenda Item 18 ([Document GC/64/14 Rev.1](#))**

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following resolution, entitled "Appointment of new members of the Scientific Council" (GC/64/R13), which had been **adopted** during the closed session:

The Governing Council,

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

**1. APPOINTS**

Professor Jeanette Falck Winther, Denmark )

Dr Sirpa Heinävaara, Finland )

Professor Valery Lemmens, Netherlands ) to serve for four years on the Scientific Council

Dr Ben Spycher, Switzerland )

Dr Satish Gopal, United States of America )

**2. THANKS** the outgoing members of the Scientific Council, Drs Hendriek Boshuizen (Netherlands), James Robert Cerhan (United States of America), Janne Pitkäniemi (Finland), Sabine Rohrmann (Switzerland), Anne Tjønneland (Denmark) and Kazem Zendehtdel (Islamic Republic of Iran) for their valuable work in the Scientific Council and for the contribution which they have made to the research activities of the Agency.

The CHAIRPERSON welcomed the new members to the Scientific Council and look forward to their continued contributions.

Dr BURR (United States of America) thanked the members of the Scientific Council completing their term of office for their service, expressed pride at the appointment of her fellow countryman Dr Gopal, and welcomed all the new members.

**8. MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE ADMISSION OF NEW PARTICIPATING STATES: Agenda Item 19**

The CHAIRPERSON asked for volunteers to serve on the Subcommittee. He recalled that the current membership of the Subcommittee comprised Brazil, Japan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, in addition to the Chairperson of the Governing Council as an ex officio member.

Dr BURR (United States of America) indicated her willingness to continue on the Subcommittee. She said that reaching out to potential new Participating States was an important priority for the Agency, which therefore needed to pursue a comprehensive strategy for engagement despite the curveball that had been thrown by the pandemic.

Dr AKAHANE (Japan), Dr PALMER (United Kingdom) and Dr PINHO MENDES PEREIRA (Brazil) also indicated their willingness to continue on the Subcommittee.

Ms POTTING (Netherlands) said that the Netherlands declined to stand again.

The CHAIRPERSON asked for clarification as to whether there were any restrictions or recommendations as to how many members were required for the Subcommittee.

Ms KRANAWETTER, Principal Legal Officer, Office of the WHO Legal Counsel, clarified that no specific number of Subcommittee members was mandated.

The SECRETARY thanked the Netherlands for its past service on the Subcommittee, as well as those who had expressed their willingness to continue to serve. Emphasizing the value of geographical balance, she encouraged the representatives of Qatar and Morocco to consider joining the Subcommittee. However, she noted that their input could also be sought in other ways if they were unable to join the Subcommittee.

Dr AL-KHATER (Qatar) said he would be happy to serve on the Subcommittee.

Dr BELAKHEL (Morocco) said that she was not in a position to accept membership of the Subcommittee.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Membership of the Subcommittee on the Admission of New Participating States" (GC/64/R15):

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, Qatar, the United Kingdom and the USA, who shall hold office until the next regular session of the Council.

The resolution was **adopted**.

#### **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Agenda Item 20**

There was no other business.

#### **10. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR NEXT SESSION: Agenda Item 21**

On the proposal of Ms STEBER-BÜCHLI (Switzerland), Professor Ifrah (France) was elected as Chairperson, the proposal being seconded by Dr ROBBINS (Canada).

Ms STEBER-BÜCHLI (Switzerland), supported by Dr ROBBINS (Canada), welcomed the election of Professor Ifrah. She said it was fitting for France to chair the Governing Council in the year of IARC's move to the Nouveau Centre, as the move would not have been possible without the support of the French Government.

On the proposal of Professor ROMUNDSTAD (Norway), Dr Burr (United States of America) was elected as Vice-Chairperson, the proposal being seconded by Dr ROBBINS (Canada).

Dr BURR (United States of America) expressed her country's strong commitment to IARC. She expressed gratitude, support and respect for the outgoing Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, as well as the IARC Secretariat for their resilience through the particularly difficult and challenging years of the pandemic.

Dr BIRD (Canada) welcomed the election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson and thanked the outgoing Chairperson for his valued leadership during the three years he had served in the role. She expressed her gratitude and respect to the outgoing Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, and to IARC staff for having powered through the especially challenging time of the pandemic.

#### **11. DATE OF NEXT SESSION (10-12 May 2023): Agenda Item 22**

The CHAIRPERSON said that the next session would be held at IARC's new premises and would coincide with the inauguration of the Nouveau Centre on 12 May 2023.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Date of the Sixty-fifth session of the Governing Council" (GC/64/R16):

The Governing Council,  
DECIDES to hold its next regular session in Lyon, France, in the « Nouveau Centre » (25 avenue Tony Garnier, 69007 Lyon), on 10–12 May 2023.

The resolution was **adopted**.

#### **12. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION: Agenda Item 23**

The CHAIRPERSON thanked all participants, as well as the Director and her staff for their work in preparing the session. He particularly commended the IT staff for having enabled the Council to work so effectively in the virtual format. As it was to be his last Governing Council, he also took the opportunity to thank his own Government for entrusting him with the role.

The SECRETARY said that countries at all income levels faced significant challenges in responding to the growing burden of cancer. Inequities in cancer outcomes were widespread, both between and within countries, leading to avoidable cancer deaths. IARC's Biennial Report had highlighted several studies that attested to the long-term beneficial impact of prevention interventions, emphasizing the tremendous potential to invert the projected trends in cancer burden. The Agency's mission was therefore more important than ever, and reinforcing national collaboration to achieve that mission was crucial. She expressed satisfaction that IARC was moving forward with implementation of its scientific strategy and preparing to move in to the Nouveau Centre at the end of the year.

Acknowledging the unwavering commitment and resilience of the IARC Secretariat, she appealed for the Governing Council's support to ensure that the Agency's scientists had the best possible working environment to help them to achieve the medium-term strategy objectives. She said she was counting on the Governing Council to position IARC as the leading authority for cancer prevention, and enable it to do the cancer research that mattered.

The CHAIRPERSON declared the session closed.

**The meeting rose at 15:20 (CEST).**