





Governing Council Sixty-fifth Session GC/65/Min.1 Original: ENGLISH

Lyon and web conference, 10–12<sup>1</sup> May 2023

### MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING

IARC, Lyon and web conference

Wednesday 10 May 2023, at 14:00 Central European Summer Time (CEST) Chairperson: Professor Norbert IFRAH (France) Secretary: Dr Elisabete WEIDERPASS, Director, IARC

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> No summary record was prepared for the session on Friday 12 May 2023, the inauguration ceremony for the Nouveau Centre.

#### **Participating State Representatives**

| Participating Stat  | Participating State Representatives |  |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Professor Norbert IFRAH <i>, <b>Chairperson</b><br/>Dr Thomas DUBOIS<br/>Ms Christine BERLING<br/>Dr Nicolas ALBIN</i>  | France                              |  |  |
| Dr Mara BURR, <i>Vice-Chairperson</i><br>Ms Christina TAYLOR<br>Dr Maya LEVINE <i>[unable to attend]</i><br>Dr Tracy CARSON <i>[remotely]</i><br>Dr Satish GOPAL<br>Ms Adriana GONZALEZ | United States of America            |  |  |
| Professor Dorothy KEEFE<br>Ms Sarah McNEILL, <b>Rapporteur</b>  | Australia                           |  |  |
| Ms Elisabeth TISCHELMAYER   | Austria                             |  |  |
| Dr Marc VAN DEN BULCKE<br>Ms Anne SWALUË <i>[remotely]</i><br>Ms Eloïse DELFORGE  | Belgium                             |  |  |
| Dr João Paulo DE BIASO VIOLA<br>Dr Luis Felipe RIBEIRO PINTO [unable to attend]   | Brazil                              |  |  |
| Dr Fei-Fei LIU<br>Ms Jennifer IZAGUIRRE   | Canada                              |  |  |
| Professor Jie HE<br>Ms Qi SHI<br>Ms Xin HUANG<br>Dr Wenqiang WEI<br>Mr Wanqing CHEN<br>Ms Ni LI<br>Ms Jing WU   | China                               |  |  |
| Dr Morten FRISCH  | Denmark                             |  |  |
| Dr Markku TERVAHAUTA<br>Ms Tuula HELANDER   | Finland                             |  |  |
| Mr Thomas IFLAND  | Germany                             |  |  |
| Professor Péter NAGY  | Hungary                             |  |  |
| [No Representative]   | India                               |  |  |
| Dr Yunes PANAHI<br>Dr Sajad SAHAB NEGAH   | Iran (Islamic Republic of)          |  |  |
| Mr Eoin DORNAN <i>[unable to attend]</i><br>Mr Andrew KELLY   | Ireland                             |  |  |
| Dr Mauro BIFFONI  | Italy                               |  |  |
| Dr Hitoshi NAKAGAMA<br>Dr Takashi SUZUKI<br>Dr Kanami KOBAYASHI<br>Ms Kay OHARA   | Japan                               |  |  |
| Dr Latifa BELAKHEL<br>Dr Youssef CHAMI KHAZRAJI   | Morocco                             |  |  |
| Ms Susan POTTING<br>Mr Pim TEN BROEKE   | Netherlands                         |  |  |

| Professor Pål Richard ROMUNDSTAD   |                | Norway  |                                 |  |  |  |  |
|--|----------------|---|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Dr Karianne SOLAAS <i>[remotely]</i><br>Dr Al-Hareth M. AL-KHATER<br>Mr Abdullatif Ali AL-ABDULLA <i>[unable</i> | to attend]     | Qatar   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Dr Min Won LEE<br>Dr Hyeon Gyu PARK<br>Mr Yeol KIM   | -              | Republic of Korea   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Dr Eduard SALAKHOV<br>Mr Ivan TARUTIN<br>Dr Anton BARCHUK <i>[unable to attend</i> ]                             | 1              | Russian Federation  |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| [No Representative]  |                | Spain   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Professor Madeleine DURBEEJ HJALT<br>Dr Karin SCHMEKEL   |                | Sweden  |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Mr Florian DOLDER  |                | Switzerland   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Dr Mark PALMER<br>Dr Isobel ATKIN  |                | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| World Health Organization  |                |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Dr Bente MIKKELSEN   |                | Director, Noncommunicable Diseases, WHO<br>headquarters                                     |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Ms Sigrid KRANAWETTER  |                | Principal Legal Officer, WHO headquarters   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Observers  |                |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Scientific Council   |                |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Dr Manami INOUE  |                | Chairperson   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
|  | IARC Ethics    | Committee   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Dr Samar AL-HOMOUD   |                | Chairperson   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Union for International Cancer Control (UICC)  |                |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Dr Cary ADAMS Chief Executive Officer  |                |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| External Audit   |                |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Ms Ritu DHILLON [remotely]   |                | Director of External Audit (WHO), Office of the<br>Comptroller and Auditor General of India |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Secretariat  |                |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Dr E. WEIDERPASS, Secretary  | Mr O. EXERTIER |   | Dr J. MCKAY                     |  |  |  |  |
| Dr T. LANDESZ  | Dr P. FERRARI  |   | Ms C. MEHTA                     |  |  |  |  |
| Dr P. BASU Dr Z. HERCEC  |                |   | Ms A. MENEGHEL<br>Dr S. RINALDI |  |  |  |  |
| Ms A. BERGER Dr M. JENAB   |                |   | Ms C. SALIGNAT                  |  |  |  |  |
| Dr F. BRAY Mr D. KAVANAG   |                | iΗ  | Dr M. SCHUBAUER-BERIGAN         |  |  |  |  |
| Dr P. BRENNAN Dr Z. KOZLAKIDI  |                |   | Dr J. SCHÜZ                     |  |  |  |  |
| Dr A. CARVALHO Dr B. LAUBY-SEC   |                |   | Dr I. SOERJOMATARAM             |  |  |  |  |
| Dr V. CHAJES Ms T. LEE   |                |   | Dr S. VIRANI                    |  |  |  |  |
| Mr C. CHAUVET Mr F. LOZANO   |                |   | Ms V. VOCANSON                  |  |  |  |  |
| Dr G. CLIFFORD Dr F. MADIA   |                |   | Dr J. ZAVADIL                   |  |  |  |  |
| Dr I. CREE   | Dr V. MCCORMA  | ACK   |                                 |  |  |  |  |

### 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION: Item 1 of the Provisional Agenda

The CHAIRPERSON welcomed participants to the Sixty-fifth session of the Governing Council, the first to be held in person since the pandemic of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), with a small number of representatives participating online, and the first to be held in the IARC new building. In particular, he welcomed Dr Bente Mikkelsen, Director, Department of Noncommunicable Diseases, WHO headquarters; Dr Manami Inoue, Chairperson of the Scientific Council; Dr Samar Al-Homoud, Chair of the IARC Ethics Committee; Dr Cary Adams, Chief Executive Officer of the Union for International Cancer Control and Ms Ritu Dhillon, Director of External Audit (WHO) who will attend on 11 May.

On behalf of the Governing Council, he welcomed China as a new Participating State of the Agency.

The representatives of China took places at the Governing Council table.

The SECRETARY welcomed participants to the Agency's new home at the Nouveau Centre. She was proud of the way the Agency had responded to the challenges of the pandemic and the move to the new premises and welcomed the ever-closer relationship with WHO. The Agency would continue its work to reduce the global burden of cancer, which had affected 20 million people in 2020 alone.

Dr LANDESZ (Director of Administration and Finance) outlined a number of practical arrangements, noting in particular that the Code of conduct to prevent harassment, including sexual harassment, at WHO events applied to the current session.

The flag of China was raised outside the Nouveau Centre.

### 2. ELECTION OF RAPPORTEUR: Item 2 of the Provisional Agenda

On the proposal of Dr PALMER (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Ms Sarah McNeill (Australia) was elected Rapporteur, the proposal being seconded by Professor ROMUNDSTAD (Norway).

### 3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Item 3 of the Provisional Agenda (Document GC/65/1 (Prov.) Rev.3)

The agenda was **adopted**.

# 4. INTERVIEW MODALITIES FOR THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR (CLOSED SESSION) Item 4 of the Agenda

## 5. INTERVIEW OF CANDIDATE FOR THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR (CLOSED SESSION): Item 5 of the Agenda

The Governing Council met in closed session from 15:00 to 16:15.

### 6. UPDATE ON IARC'S COVID-19 AND CANCER INITIATIVE: Item 6 of the Agenda (Document GC/65/3)

Dr BRAY, Head, Cancer Surveillance, recalled that, at its Sixty-fourth session, the Governing Council had been requested to provide support in securing €4 million of the €6 million required to deliver IARC's COVID-19 and Cancer Initiative (IARC-C19) over a four-year time frame. He thanked the Medical Research Council of the United Kingdom and the Department of Health Australia for their contributions, which amounted to one quarter of the €4 million requested.

The initiative had evolved as the pandemic had unfolded. In light of a conclusion reached at a recent meeting of the WHO International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) Emergency Committee for COVID-19 that COVID-19 no longer constituted a public health emergency of international concern, the focus had shifted to how the initiative could inform cancer control and support governments and agencies as they moved beyond the acute phase of the crisis, quantifying the likely impact of disruption to cancer services and the positive impact of mitigation and recovery strategies on cancer outcomes.

Dr SOERJOMATARAM, Deputy Head, Cancer Surveillance, said that, in collaboration with WHO and partners around the world, information had been gathered on the impact of the pandemic on national cancer services. Data collected from 60 million people in more than 30 countries confirmed a decline in procedures undertaken to diagnose cancer and postponement of cancer screening. Compared to the year before the pandemic, only half as many people had been targeted for screening and some 27% fewer people had received cancer treatment. The impact was larger in low-resource settings. Patient-level data from high-income countries, including IARC Participating States, were still being received, with analysis and dissemination planned before the end of the year. There had been a decline in cases overall and in the recovery time needed to resume normal services and catch-up on missed diagnoses, although data collected at the subnational level also pointed to large differences within some countries. In order to derive an in-depth understanding of key factors driving the magnitude of the impact, an assessment of interviews of stakeholders in the United Kingdom had just been finalized while an analysis had been performed on whether cases diagnosed during the pandemic had been more aggressive and on the knock-on effect on outcomes such as cancer-specific survival.

Development of an online decision-making dashboard had begun to provide a detailed and systematic mapping of policy responses, with a primary focus on responses that impacted cancer-related services and outcomes. Earlier work done on behalf of WHO for the cervical elimination initiative that could be adapted to national contexts had been used to capture mitigation and recovery in future potential crises. In addition to data on the cancer burden allied to public health (the number of cases or deaths) economic and financial data had been included to map out the financial resources needed for national policy options.

Moving forward in a post-pandemic world, the initiative sought to assess health systems resilience and a global platform was being developed to inform national cancer planning before, during and after national or international emergencies with an initial focus on cervical, breast, colorectal and lung cancer. Data would be collected from population-based cancer registries, complemented by WHO mortality data. Impacts of lockdowns on countries would be assessed via a quantitative assessment of cancer survival and excess mortality. Hypothetical scenarios of both delay and mitigation could then be developed, modelling the impact of national disruption and the impact on future excess mortality. In terms of knowledge dissemination, the global modelling platform was being developed as part of IARC's Global Cancer Observatory. On governance, experts from different disciplines and geographical areas would be represented on an International Advisory Panel.

Dr LIU (Canada) said that it was evident that COVID-19 had caused significant disruption to health-care services, including prevention, screening and treatment of cancers. The study on cancer screening and the impact on mortality was critical: Canada continued to strongly support IARC's efforts to advance research in that area and was pleased with the progress made in delivering IARC-C19. She underscored the importance of the objectives, values and intended deliverables of the initiative and the value for governments of being able to share information and learn together. She was pleased to note that the initiative was pivoting towards post-pandemic health system resilience and supported the proposed governance structures and collaborations to address pandemic preparedness. She encouraged IARC to continue to leverage and coordinate collective efforts in that area, including with WHO.

Dr GOPAL (United States of America) said that COVID-19 had caused unprecedented disruption in screening, diagnosis and treatment of cancer and for that reason the United States strongly supported the goals of IARC-C19. Achieving the goals would require that many of the proposed activities for strengthening data collection systems, improving health system resilience and ensuring knowledge dissemination were integrated with existing work streams and partnerships. He looked forward to welcoming an IARC team to the United States in June 2023 with a view to discussing current and possible future research collaborations on that topic.

The CHAIRPERSON, speaking on behalf of France, asked whether there had been evidence that treatment had been modified in some countries owing to a lack of radiology equipment or lack of available operating theatres or hospital capacity.

Dr SOERJOMATARAM, Deputy Head, Cancer Surveillance, confirmed that data had been received from some countries on the individual therapies available including radiotherapy, surgery and chemotherapy and there was evidence of a lot of adaptations of treatment and of mitigation strategies during the pandemic.

The CHAIRPERSON, speaking on behalf of France, said that data on modification of treatments had been collated in France and could be made available to the Secretariat.

Mr DOLDER (Switzerland) asked for further information on the lessons learned from the initiative and how they could be used to add value to the success of the IARC Medium-Term Strategy 2021–2025.

Dr BRAY, Head, Cancer Surveillance, said that the Scientific Council had recognized the importance of the initiative in determining future cancer control policies by gaining a better understanding of the challenges faced by cancer services as a result of disruptions; the mitigation and recovery strategies that had been deployed could be modelled to determine the impact on excess mortality when populations did not come forward for treatment. Normative guidance could then be developed with WHO to inform responses in future emergencies.

Dr SOERJOMATARAM, Deputy Head, Cancer Surveillance, said that data had been collected on mitigation strategies across health system functions which would be linked to real-world data and to stakeholder interviews to determine future best practices.

Dr VIOLA (Brazil) asked what data were available from middle- and low-income countries.

Dr BRAY, Head, Cancer Surveillance, said that data would be collected from population-based cancer registries in every region.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "IARC'S COVID-19 and Cancer Initiative: regular update" (GC/65/R4):

The Governing Council,

Having reviewed <u>Document GC/65/3</u> "Regular update on IARC's COVID-19 and Cancer Initiative (IARC-C19)",

Recalling its Resolution GC/64/R5,

1. NOTES the IARC Secretariat's efforts to coordinate with existing initiatives in this area;

2. ENCOURAGES Participating States to make voluntary contributions and provide support to the resource mobilization efforts towards this initiative; and

3. REQUESTS regular updates by the Secretariat on progress throughout the term of the initiative.

The resolution was **adopted**.

## 7. THE NOUVEAU CENTRE BUILDING AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION: Item 7 of the Agenda (Document GC/65/4 Rev.1)

Ms FRANÇON (Administrative Services Officer) recalled that IARC had been hosted by the French public authorities since its creation in 1965. From 1972 to 2022, IARC had carried out its activities at the Grange Blanche site in Lyon, within the Tower Building owned by the City of Lyon and in three additional buildings built by IARC. The move to the Nouveau Centre in the Biodistrict of Lyon-Gerland had taken place in late 2022 and the official inauguration of the new headquarters would take place on Friday 12 May 2023. Some works at the Nouveau Centre had yet to be completed by the Design and Build team. Biobank and laboratory activities had been delayed but were progressively restarting.

The Nouveau Centre project started some 12 years previously because of the age of the buildings, which were no longer able to support modern scientific research. The French authorities had paid for the construction of the new building while IARC remained responsible for the equipment and the physical transfer of its activities. On 27 October 2022 the Métropole de Lyon had signed an agreement with IARC to provide the building free of charge for 30 years, with the possibility to extend. The previous premises built by IARC had been sold to the Ville de Lyon and the IARC Secretariat had requested the Governing Council's approval to use the funds to equip and furnish the Nouveau Centre. Equipping and furnishing of the building was still ongoing.

Mr CHAUVET (Strategic Engagement and External Relations Officer) thanked the French authorities for having paid for the new building. Resource mobilization campaigns had been launched some years ago, reaching out to new donors and supporters to help finance the purchase of equipment for the new site. Potential donors included high-net-worth individuals and Governments, corporate donors providing inkind contributions and local donors. He thanked the Government of Norway for its sizeable contribution. In-kind contributions included the furniture in the reception area and in a part of the cafeteria. An opportunity for private individuals to make an affordable donation of  $\xi$ 50 to  $\xi$ 150 enabled contributors to have their name engraved on the glass doors of the entrance. The move to the new building had not been fully completed with equipment still being required for the laboratories, the biobank and the building itself. He appealed to Participating States to continue considering making voluntary contributions. The fundraising campaign had also served to increase the visibility of the Nouveau Centre, thereby contributing to IARC's strategy to embrace open science and to pursue partnerships with local and international institutions in the fight against cancer. A guided tour of the new building would be available for representatives of Participating States.

Ms GONZALEZ (United States of America) said she looked forward to the inauguration of the new centre and hoped that its proximity to the WHO Academy, the WHO Lyon office and other research institutes would help to foster increasing collaboration. She would like to see the reported construction delays resolved.

Dr PALMER (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) said that, having been present at the Governing Council when the decision concerning the Nouveau Centre had been taken 12 years previously, he was delighted to see the project come to fruition and he congratulated all within the Agency who had worked so hard to ensure its successful delivery. He asked whether the term Nouveau Centre would be replaced.

The SECRETARY said that the term Nouveau Centre had been the working name for the building; it would be replaced by a new name after the inauguration. Several meeting rooms and facilities would be named after donors.

Dr NAKAGAMA (Japan) expressed deep gratitude to the French authorities for having provided accommodation to IARC since its establishment and to the Métropole de Lyon for the provision of the new premises. He commended the Director and her team for having managed the transfer to the Nouveau Centre and for having mobilized resources, including through crowdfunding, which allowed many more donors to contribute. Japan was grateful that the contribution of Princess Takamatsu would continue to be acknowledged in the naming of one of the meeting rooms in the new building.

Professor KEEFE (Australia) commended the use of the resource mobilization strategy to cover funding shortfalls. She congratulated IARC on the opening of the Nouveau Centre and expressed appreciation to the Government of France and the regional, municipal and city authorities for promoting the continued presence of IARC in Lyon.

Ms IZAGUIRRE (Canada) extended sincere congratulations for the achievement of the move to the new premises which represented an important milestone for IARC, establishing a new headquarters and a new era that would enable the Agency to enhance its vision of open science and collaboration in cancer research. She asked for an update on the delays in completing essential building works, the impact on IARC's work and whether there would be any potential legal implications. She commended the Secretariat's continued efforts to successfully reduce the total additional costs and to fund the three priority areas in order to have a fully operational building. She urged the Agency to continue to leverage partnerships for potential cost-sharing of the new building, including the WHO Academy, as a means of alleviating financial pressures and to further promote efficiencies and collaboration. As the move to the new building drew to a close, she requested information on how the lessons learned would be captured and communicated.

Ms FRANÇON (Administrative Services Officer), responding to questions raised, said that some delays had been anticipated and therefore partners in Lyon had been found to host some laboratory activities during the move; laboratory activities had restarted progressively and according to plan. Partnerships with the WHO Academy and others were ongoing, including on procurement processes that would avoid duplication of efforts and joint contracts would be entered into for building services.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "The Nouveau Centre building and resource mobilization" (GC/65/R5):

The Governing Council,

Having considered <u>Document GC/65/4 Rev.1</u> "Nouveau Centre building and resource mobilization – Revision 1",

1. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the City of Lyon, for their continued efforts and strong support throughout the challenging period preceding the move to the new building, and to the French national authorities, the Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, the Métropole de Lyon, and the City of Lyon for their continued support;

2. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the IARC personnel for their resilience during the transition phase and the move to the Nouveau Centre;

3. EXPRESSES its deep appreciation to the donors for their generous contributions, in cash or in kind, to the "Nouveau Centre" project;

4. AUTHORIZES the Director to accept further 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. ENCOURAGES Participating States to make voluntary contributions and provide support to the resource mobilization efforts towards the Nouveau Centre; and

6. 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" project.

The resolution was **adopted**.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Agreement on early termination and financial compensation (IARC's former premises)" (GC/65/R16):

The Governing Council,

Recalling its <u>Resolution GC/60/R10</u>, whereby it authorized "the Director to sign the agreement(s) with the City of Lyon" regarding IARC's former headquarters,

1. WELCOMES the agreement on early termination and financial compensation signed with the City of Lyon on 5 December 2022, which enacted the following, in particular: (i) the mutually agreed early termination of the convention signed on 10 May 2002, regarding the premises previously occupied by IARC on 150 cours Albert Thomas 69008 Lyon; and (ii) the financial compensation due by the City of Lyon to IARC as a result of the transfer of ownership of, and right to use, the buildings that were built by IARC

on the aforesaid premises – the Sasakawa Memorial Hall (also comprising the Princess Takamatsu Hall), the EPIC building (Biological Resource Centre, BRC), and the Latarjet building;

2. NOTES the agreed total amount of the aforementioned financial compensation, amounting to two million eight hundred thousand euros ( $\leq 2\,800\,000.00$ );

3. ACKNOWLEDGES that, in accordance with what was agreed between the City of Lyon and IARC, of the total amount of the financial compensation, one million two hundred and sixty thousand euros (€1 260 000.00) have been committed by the City of Lyon to be deposited with the Métropole of Lyon as a second support fund (*"fond de concours"*) towards the "Nouveau Centre" building project; and that in return for such commitment, IARC will not seek to recover this sum;

4. FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGES that the remaining amount of the financial compensation, i.e. one million five hundred and forty thousand euros (€1 540 000.00), due by the City of Lyon to IARC, has been duly paid in full to IARC; and

5. AUTHORIZES the Secretariat to use the sum received as financial compensation as mentioned in paragraph 4 above, to continue to equip and furnish the Nouveau Centre.

The resolution was **adopted**.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Site of the Agency's headquarters" (GC/65/R6):

The Governing Council,

Considering Article IX of the Statute of the International Agency for Research on Cancer regarding the site of the Headquarters of the Agency,

1. WELCOMES the new convention signed with the Métropole of Lyon on 27 October 2022, which secures the lease of the "Nouveau Centre" building for the next thirty years under conditions acceptable to the Agency; and

2. ACKNOWLEDGES that the site of the Headquarters of the Agency is now situated at 25 avenue Tony Garnier, CS 90627, 69366 LYON CEDEX 07 FRANCE.

The resolution was **adopted**.

## 8. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS: Item 8 of the Agenda (Document GC/65/10 Rev.1)

Dr LANDESZ (Director of Administration and Finance) said that IARC had received €23 857.84 in unconditional donations in 2022 which had been credited to the Special Account for undesignated contributions in accordance with Resolution GC/23/R6. In accordance with the standing authorization granted to the Director under Resolution GC/63/R10, €80 000 of the undesignated contributions had been allocated to postdoctoral fellowships. He expressed deep appreciation to the donors for their contribution to the research activities of the Agency.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Acceptance of donations" (GC/65/R11):

The Governing Council,

Having been informed by <u>Document GC/65/10 Rev.1</u> of the unconditional donations accepted during the year 2022 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 <u>Resolution GC/63/R10</u>, €80 000 were allocated from the Special Account for Undesignated Contributions for Postdoctoral Fellowships in 2022–2023.

The resolution was **adopted**.

## 9. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND CONTRACTS, INCLUDING REPORT ON INTEREST APPORTIONMENT: Item 9 of the Agenda (<u>Document GC/65/11 Rev.1</u>)

Dr LANDESZ (Director of Administration and Finance) invited the Governing Council to note the post facto reporting of grants and contracts accepted between March 2022 and March 2023 as set out in Document GC/65/11 Rev.1. Of particular note were two grants received between sessions from the European Commission and approved by the Chair in accordance with Resolution GC/52/R13 concerning the European Code against Cancer of  $\leq$ 1 500 000.00 and an amount of  $\leq$ 580 483.00 for Strengthening cancer screening data collection to update the European Cancer Information System and improve quality and coverage of cancer screening programmes in Europe.

The previous biennium had been very successful in terms of fundraising, with the European Commission becoming the largest external funder of the Agency. He thanked IARC's scientists and the research mobilization team for their role in securing the funds.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Acceptance of grants and contracts, including report on interest apportionment" (GC/65/R12):

The Governing Council,

Having considered Document GC/65/11 Rev.1 "Acceptance of grants and contracts – Revision 1",

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:

a) Revision and update of the European Code against Cancer [European Commission -European Health and Digital Executive Agency / EU4H (BE) in the amount of €1 500 000.00 for 48 months];  b) Strengthening cancer screening data collection to update European Cancer Information System and improve quality and coverage of cancer screening programmes in Europe [European Commission - European Health and Digital Executive Agency / EU4H (BE) in the amount of €580 483.00 for 18 months];

2. NOTES the post facto reporting of grants and contracts accepted by the Director as detailed in Document GC/65/11 Rev.1;

- 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**.

The meeting rose at 17:30.