



World Cancer
Leaders' Summit

Cancer and

Universal Health Coverage

15-17 October 2019
Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan

World Cancer Leaders' Summit ends with strong call to action in Kazakhstan

Governments need to fulfil their commitments to Universal Health Coverage and the cancer community stands ready to provide support

17 October 2019, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan – The 2019 World Cancer Leaders' Summit ended with a strong call to action in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan. In his closing speech, the CEO of the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) Dr Cary Adams urged the global health leaders to drive action so that Universal Health Coverage is achieved in every country.

"We need to see governments fulfilling the commitments they have already made by adopting the Political Declaration on UHC in New York on 23 September," said Cary Adams. "We need strong health systems that can deliver the services that people need and we need investments by all stakeholders. I wholeheartedly believe, that we, the cancer community, have the expertise, passion and commitment needed to make UHC a reality and ensure that every country steps up to ensure that no cancer patient is left behind."

Organised by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) and hosted by the Kazakh Institute of Oncology and Radiology (KazIOR), the World Cancer Leaders Summit brought together 350 global health leaders from 82 countries to discuss the progress made on UHC and the main challenges faced by countries when including cancer services in their UHC plans.

Participants included Ministers of Health, First Ladies, city and industry leaders, senior executives and other influential players from the cancer, health and development community. In workshops and panel discussions they exchanged views on how all sectors can work in partnerships to design and deliver UHC.

"Governments around the world have recognised how important it is to deliver UHC, including accelerating efforts to tackle cancer. But while the recent adoption of the Political Declaration on UHC in New York was a very important step, it is only the beginning of a much longer journey. In many countries people have lost

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trust in their health systems. Regaining their trust, and investing better and smarter is key to making progress”, said H.R.H Princess Dina Mired of Jordan, President of UICC.

Showing the evidence and data supporting the call for action on cancer in UHC, the all-new 3rd edition of the Cancer Atlas by the American Cancer Society, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and UICC was launched at the 2019WCLS. The Atlas offers a comprehensive global overview of cancer around the globe, and concludes that progress in the fight against cancer is not only possible, but achievable. Under the theme “Access Creates Progress”, this current edition draws attention to the means of tackling the cancer burden through access to information and services. The Cancer Atlas will, once again, be circulated widely with the aim to inspire all those who want to see improvements in cancer control.

The Summit also witnessed the announcement of Greater Petaling, Malaysia, as a new member of the City Cancer Challenge Foundation family. The next Summit will take place in Muscat, Oman, in October 2020 and will be hosted by the Omani Cancer Association (OCA).

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For reference:

The **World Cancer Leaders’ Summit** – The World Cancer Leaders’ Summit (WCLS) is a major annual high-level policy meeting dedicated exclusively to furthering global cancer control. The event brings together key decision makers from around the world and encourages timely debate on emerging issues related to cancer. It provides an important platform to secure a coordinated, multileveled global response to address the spiralling cancer epidemic, and takes place in different locations, worldwide, each year. UICC’s Summit partners are the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

About the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC)

The Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) is the largest and oldest international cancer-fighting organization. Founded in Geneva in 1933, UICC has over 1,150 member organizations in 173 countries. It enjoys consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and has official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). UICC has over 50 partners, including associations, companies and foundations committed to the fight against cancer. UICC is a founding member of the NCD Alliance, the McCabe Centre for Law & Cancer, the International Cancer Control Partnership (ICCP) and established the City Cancer Challenge Foundation in January 2019.

UICC’s mission is to both unite and support the cancer community in its efforts to reduce the global cancer burden, promote greater equality and ensure that cancer control remains a priority on the global health and development agenda. It pursues these goals by bringing together global leaders through innovative and far-reaching cancer-control events and initiatives, building capacities to meet regional needs and developing awareness campaigns.

More information is available at www.uicc.org

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