Through recent multimedia campaigns, Namibia has made significant progress in raising awareness of and reducing exposure to cancer risk factors, and also addressing the cultural stigma associated with the disease. The Cancer Association of Namibia (the Association) has also helped drive national progress with respect to screening and early detection of cancers, through the rollout of numerous community awareness and screening campaigns in 2015. These campaigns remain a high priority in 2016 and will focus on breast, cervical, prostate and testicular cancer screening.

Furthermore, as a result of collaboration between the Ministry of Health and Social Services of Namibia and several international partners, Namibia will see its first HPV and HBV vaccination campaign kicking off in 2016. The campaign will target state schools and health clinics.

**Key successes**

The Namibian Government implemented the Tobacco Control Act No. 1 (2010) for the control, use, distribution and marketing of tobacco products in an attempt to help fight cancer, lung and heart diseases in the country. As the CAN Association is seen as the ‘responsible body’ to fight cancer in Namibia, the Association would welcome the establishment of more urgent action on cancer awareness, and medical treatment and care within the Ministry of Social Services.

**Key challenges**

As the CAN Association is seen as the ‘responsible body’ to fight cancer in Namibia, the Association would welcome the establishment of more urgent action on cancer awareness, and medical treatment and care within the Ministry of Social Services.

**UICC Member’s achievements**

The Association is a registered non-profit organisation that serves as the umbrella body for cancer awareness, education and financial support for the fight against cancer in Namibia. The Association raises funds for all its activity, with no additional assistance from the government or international agencies.

The Association recently embarked on a national awareness campaign targeting the most rural areas of the country, which have previously not been reached. The aim is to reach at least 70% of the Namibian population of 2.4 million and educate them on cancer in their mother tongue. This involves delivering information in thirteen languages across over 824,000 square kilometres by the end of 2017.

Additionally, this campaign has led to the creation of the first ‘Cancer Manual for the Republic of Namibia’, which has been developed in English as well as other Namibian languages, and was distributed for free on World Cancer Day. Information from the manual was also aired on local radio stations.