

International Agency for Research on Cancer



**Governing Council
Fifty-eighth Session**

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Auditorium*

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING

IARC, Lyon

Thursday 19 May 2016, at 14:10

Chairperson: Dr Mark Palmer (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Secretary: Dr Christopher P. Wild, Director, IARC

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Participating State Representatives

Dr Mark PALMER, Chairperson	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Dr Adam BABBS	
Professor Christopher BAGGOLEY, Vice-Chairperson	Australia
Dr Diane STEBER-BÜCHLI, Rapporteur	Switzerland
Dr Britta KUNERT	Austria
Mr Lieven DE RAEDT	Belgium
<i>No representative</i>	Brazil
Dr Stephen M. ROBBINS	Canada
Ms Lucero HERNANDEZ	
Professor Mads MELBYE	Denmark
Professor Juhani ESKOLA	Finland
Professor Sakari KARJALAINEN	
Dr Thierry BRETON	France
Dr Chariklia BALAS	Germany
Professor G.K. RATH (<i>unable to attend</i>)	India
Mr Keith COMISKEY	Ireland
Professor Walter RICCIARDI (<i>unable to attend</i>)	Italy
Dr Pietro COMBA	
Mr Hiroyuki YAMAYA	Japan
Dr Takuma KATO	
Dr Seiichiro YAMAMOTO	
Dr Rachid BEKKALI (<i>unable to attend</i>)	Morocco
Dr Latifa BELAKHEL	
Dr Marianne DONKER	Netherlands
Mr Marc FAKKEL (<i>unable to attend</i>)	
Dr Edgar RIVEDAL	Norway
Dr Karianne SOLAAS	
Dr Al-Hareth M. AL-KHATER	Qatar
Dr Kyungwon HWANG	Republic of Korea
Dr Yoon Jung CHANG	
Dr Svetlana AXELROD	Russian Federation
Ms Lidia GABUNIYA	
Dr Olga GRETSOVA	
Dr Rafael DE ANDRÉS MEDINA	Spain

Professor Jan-Ingvar JÖNSSON (<i>unable to attend</i>)	Sweden
Dr Karin SCHMEKEL	
Professor Murat GÜLTEKIN	Turkey
Dr Lisa STEVENS	United States of America

World Health Organization

Dr Oleg CHESTNOV, Assistant Director-General, Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health
Ms Joanne MCKEOUGH, Office of the Legal Counsel
Ms Françoise MOURAIN-SCHUT, Office of the Legal Counsel
Dr Andreas ULLRICH, Senior Adviser to ADG/NMH, WHO-IARC Liaison Officer
Dr Cherian VARGHESE, Coordinator, Department for Management of Noncommunicable Diseases, Disability, Violence and Injury Prevention (NVI)

Observers

Professor James F. BISHOP, Outgoing Chairperson, Scientific Council
Professor Ellen KAMPMAN, Incoming Chairperson, Scientific Council (*unable to attend*)
Dr Cary ADAMS, Chief Executive Officer, Union for International Cancer Control (UICC)

External Audit

Mr Lito Q. MARTIN, Commission on Audit, Philippines (*unable to attend*)

Secretariat

Dr C.P. WILD, <i>Secretary</i>	Ms E. FRANÇON	Dr R. NJIE
Mr T. LANDESZ	Dr N. GAUDIN	Dr H. OHGAKI
	Dr M. GUNTER	Dr R. SANKARANARAYANAN
Ms A. BERGER	Dr Z. HERCEG	Ms A. SANTHIPRECHACHIT
Dr F. BRAY	Dr R. HERRERO	Dr A. SCALBERT
Dr P. BRENNAN	Dr A. KESMINIENE	Dr J. SCHÜZ
Ms D. D'AMICO	Dr D. LOOMIS	Dr K. STRAIF
Mr P. DAMIECKI	Dr J. MCKAY	Dr M. TOMMASINO
Dr S. FRANCESCHI	Dr M. MENDY	Dr J. ZAVADIL

1. PROPOSAL FROM SPAIN FOR THE REPAYMENT OF ITS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS: Supplementary Agenda item (Document GC/58/22)

The CHAIRPERSON recalled that the Government of Spain had been unable to pay its contributions in 2014 and 2015. Document GC/58/22 contained a proposal from Spain to repay its arrears in a staged schedule between 2016 and 2018.

At the request of the Chairperson, Dr de Andrés Medina (Spain) withdrew from the meeting during discussion of the proposal.

The CHAIRPERSON said that the proposal from the Government of Spain had been received following the appointment of a new internal agency with responsibility for the payments concerned; it was a welcome and positive sign of the Government's commitment to IARC.

Dr BALAS (Germany) supported the remarks by the Chairperson.

In the absence of any further comments, the CHAIRPERSON took it that the Governing Council wished to approve the proposed payment plan.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution, entitled "Proposal from Spain for the repayment of its outstanding contributions" (GC/58/R20):

The Governing Council,

Having considered document GC/58/22 "Proposal from Spain for the repayment of its outstanding contributions",

1. APPROVES exceptionally the proposal from Spain to repay its outstanding contributions for 2014 and 2015, totalling €1 218 017, as follows:
 - €674 759 to be paid in 2016;
 - €271 629 to be paid before the opening day of the regular session of the Governing Council in May 2017; and
 - €271 629 to be paid before the opening day of the regular session of the Governing Council in May 2018;
2. AGREES that in any given year the amount of the arrears must be received in full and credited to the outstanding contributions account of Spain, for reimbursement of the Working Capital Fund, before any contribution may be credited towards the General Fund and hence used for current programme activities.

The resolution was **adopted**.

Dr DE ANDRÉS MEDINA (Spain) thanked the Governing Council on behalf of the Government of Spain. The financial situation in Spain was improving and the Government was pleased to be able to honour its commitments to the Agency.

2. FINANCIAL REPORT, REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015, INCLUDING STATUS OF 2014 AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS: Item 10 of the Agenda (Document GC/58/7)

Ms SANTHIPRECHACHIT (Administration and Finance Officer), illustrating her remarks with slides, said that IARC's financial statements had been prepared on an annual basis, in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). Five financial statements had been prepared, together with schedules of additional information. Following the annual audit, the External Auditor had given an unqualified opinion concerning the financial statements, including their full compliance with IPSAS.

Concerning 2015, the External Auditor had examined the operational processes and had provided six recommendations in three areas: it was noted that some uncollectable receivables had been written off in the preceding four years through the use of Programme Support Cost funds and it was recommended to focus efforts in minimizing the need for write-offs in order to preserve the limited funds; it was further recommended that monitoring controls on the timelines and deliverables in donor reporting should be strengthened. With respect to asset management, it had been recommended that the status of fixed assets that had not been located during the physical inventory should be monitored and appropriate action taken; periodic reviews of the list of assets in the register should be conducted; and there should be a reconciliation of the balances of property, plant and equipment in the accounting records and in the asset register. It was also recommended to enhance the risk information in IARC's risk log.

Twenty of the 27 audit recommendations from 2012 to 2014 had been implemented, while the remaining seven were ongoing or on course for completion during 2016. Following significant delays, a new vendor for implementation of SAP projects will be sought.

The total regular budget for 2014–2015 was €40.425 million of which €19.989 million was for 2014 and €20.435 million for 2015. €0.5 million had been financed from the Governing Council Special Fund and €39.9 million from the assessments from Participating States. The total regular budget for 2014 had been approved for €19.989 million of which €0.250 million had been financed from the Governing Council Special Fund and €19.739 million from assessments from Participating States.

Following the receipt of additional assessed contributions, the total of funds collected for 2015 stood at 95.62% and the total received for 2014 stood at 98.29%, making an overall collection rate for the 2014–2015 biennium of 93.93%. With respect to assessed contributions for 2016, 50.65% had been received, with 12 Participating States having paid in full and two having partially paid.

Planned activities for the 2014–2015 biennium had progressed well and 100% of the approved budget had been utilized. The change of functional currency to the euro had significantly reduced foreign exchange exposure and only €0.092 million was used in 2015 to cover unforeseen budget cost due to currency realignment.

€1.617 million from the Working Capital Fund was used to establish the allowances for assessed contribution in arrears as required by IPSAS.

The Governing Council Special Fund remained stable with a closing balance of €11.981 million.

The Voluntary Contributions Account stood at €11.334 million at the end of the year. The increase of 20.5% in the voluntary contributions account balance and the increase of 84.99% in deferred revenue from the previous year were the result of the successful resource mobilization efforts of the Agency, particularly the high-value multi-year donor agreements signed in 2015. Details of the donors had been provided in Document GC/58/Inf.Doc. No.3.

Revenue under the Special Account for Programme Support Costs had been collected from designated voluntary contributions at the standard rate of 13%, in accordance with IARC's Financial Regulations and Resolution WHA34.17. As a result of the stable flow of revenue from designated voluntary contributions and the recovery of allowances for doubtful account receivables, the account had a fund balance of €4.094 million at the year end.

There was a total of €32.619 million of unfunded liabilities which related to employee benefits, largely arising from the unfunded portion of the After-Service Health Insurance; the valuation had been carried out by professional actuaries and the liabilities were given in United States dollars. The increase in the liabilities in 2015 had been caused by the continued devaluation of the euro against the United States dollar which had resulted in an unrealized foreign exchange loss of €3.280 million. The additional net increase of €1.4 million was due to the decrease in the discount rate from 1.6% in 2014 to 1.5% in 2015, and to the increase in the medical cost trend annually, i.e. 3.6% until 2033 and 2.9% increase from 2034 onwards.

Ms HERNANDEZ (Canada) said that the unqualified opinion issued by the External Auditor concerning the financial statements was an important recognition of the efforts that IARC had made with respect to transparency and accountability. She was pleased to note the Agency's compliance with IPSAS and that the budget utilization rate had been 100%, since it indicated that the Agency had adequate operational capacity to implement the budget. She was concerned, however, that IARC had run a budget deficit for the second year in a row; it might be opportune to discuss a timeframe in which to balance the budget. The increase in designated voluntary contributions, which was the result of a successful resource mobilization strategy, was an important achievement. She asked whether the funding gap of the After-Service Health Insurance, which had increased as a result of the devaluation of the euro, would be manageable or whether an additional strategy should be devised with respect to the increased liability.

Dr STEVENS (United States of America) commended the Agency on the unqualified opinion received from the External Auditor. The long-term accrual for staff entitlements was significant; she wished to learn whether the approach developed by the Agency, in line with WHO, would be sufficient to fully fund the liability within 30 years.

Ms SANTHIPRECHACHIT (Administration and Finance Officer), responding to comments, said that the increase in the gap in the After-Service Health Insurance fund resulting from unrealized currency exchange loss was perceived to be temporary and therefore no immediate measures would be taken in order to address it. The rate of staff contributions, which increased by 4% each year, would be regularly reviewed and, if necessary, increased in order to ensure that the underlying funding gap would be closed. The net deficit of €2.4 million in 2014 had increased to €4.56 million in 2015: the deficit had been caused by arrears in assessed contributions, with an allowance set for doubtful receivables reducing the revenue from assessed contribution. The second main reason for the deficit had been the increase in the After-Service Health Insurance liability due to the foreign exchange loss. Responding to further questions from Ms HERNANDEZ (Canada), she confirmed that the appreciation of the euro in the coming year would help recover the level of deficit.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution on the financial report, report of the External Auditor and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 (GC/58/R4):

The Governing Council,
Having examined Document GC/58/7 ("Financial Report, Report of the External Auditor, and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015"),

1. THANKS the External Auditor for his report and opinion; and
2. APPROVES the Report of the Director on the financial operations of the Agency.

The resolution was **adopted**.

3. PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WORKING GROUP FOLLOWING THEIR REVIEW OF THE PRODUCTION OF CURRENT STANDARD REPORTS: Item 12 of the Agenda (Document GC/58/9)

The SECRETARY, illustrating his remarks with slides, said that a joint Working Group had been established to review the reports submitted by the Agency to the Scientific Council and to the Governing Council following a proposal by the Scientific Council to prioritize discussion of the science conducted by the Agency; the added value of some reports had also been queried. A balance was required between transparency in reporting and ensuring the usefulness of the documents produced. The results of the review had been presented to the Scientific Council in January; it was proposed that the Interim Annual Report (produced in alternate years and translated into French) should be replaced by an oral presentation and supplemented by a full list of publications on the IARC website so that all of the outputs of the Agency were recorded. The Scientific Council had also agreed to receive oral presentations, with copies of the corresponding slides, on the Report of the previous Governing Council session; the Director's update from the previous Scientific Council; and Actions taken as a result of the previous year's Section Reviews.

The report of the Scientific Council would record comments and required actions as a follow-up to these oral reports. The Biennial Report of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee would be provided solely to the Governing Council. With respect to the list of standard reports that were delivered solely to the Governing Council, it was proposed that the report on publication activities should be produced biannually and that consideration should be given to updating the procedure for the appointment of new Scientific Council members.

The CHAIRPERSON thanked the members of the Working Group for their input and underscored the purpose of the exercise, which was to rationalize the considerable number of documents produced in the continuous reporting cycle.

Dr DONKER (Netherlands) asked whether the recommendations of the Working Group would be helpful to staff by reducing the workload of the Agency; the reporting burden might be further limited by making the content of some reports more succinct or referring to information already available on the IARC website.

Professor ESKOLA (Finland) supported the proposal to provide some reports to the Scientific Council in oral form. He noted the proposal that the oral presentation on the Interim Annual Report would be accompanied by a list of publications but wondered whether any other deliverables might be included since, in Finland, emphasis was also placed on research and on the work of advisory bodies.

The SECRETARY, responding to questions, confirmed that the proposal was of help in reducing both the workload of Agency staff and translation costs, particularly in the case of the Interim Annual Report, which was a substantial document. Reports could be made more succinct and plans had been made to post the list of publications on the website instead of producing it in hard copy format. Lists of courses and meetings, which were currently included in the Director's report, could also be published directly on the website. He agreed that publications were certainly not the only measure of the Agency's endeavours and the Director's oral report would continue to describe the full range of activities and a broad view of achievements each year.

Professor MELBYE (Denmark) welcomed the very reasonable initiative to cut down on administrative tasks as it had been presented.

Mr DE RAEDT (Belgium) said that he could agree to the recommendations although he sought assurance that the report of the Scientific Council would continue to be produced since his Government relied on the advice it contained, especially with respect to the purchase of equipment made through the Governing Council Special Fund.

The SECRETARY said that, although the report by the Director to the Scientific Council would be provided in oral form, the full report of the Scientific Council to the Governing Council would continue to be provided in writing.

Dr STEVENS (United States of America) endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group, which she had chaired, and thanked the Director and staff for the timely information provided to the Working Group.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution on the production of standard reports including IARC biennial and interim annual reports (GC/58/R6):

The Governing Council,
Recalling its Resolution GC/27/R4,
Having taken note of the recommendations of the Working Group to review the production of standard reports (Document GC/58/9),

1. THANKS the Scientific Council for its review of the proposals;
2. ADOPTS the recommendations on the production of standard reports contained in paragraph 7 of Document GC/58/9, to be effective from 2017;
3. DECIDES that the current practice of the Director making an Interim Annual report of the Agency's activities in odd-numbered years be replaced by the production of a list of publications of Agency staff and by an oral presentation by the Director of major scientific highlights; and
4. REQUESTS the Director to continue to publish, in even-numbered years, a Biennial Report reviewing the entire range of activities during the preceding two-year period.

The resolution was **adopted**.

4. PROPOSAL FOR AN EVALUATION APPROACH OF THE IARC MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY (2016–2020): Item 13 of the Agenda (Document GC/58/10)

The SECRETARY, illustrating his remarks with slides, said that the item addressed the way in which the Governing Council and the Scientific Council could gain a sense of the achievements of the Agency when measured against the Medium-Term Strategy as a whole. Peer-reviews of the scientific sections were conducted over a five-year cycle, but it was deemed that a higher level assessment of results and of the contributions made to the priorities set out in the Medium-Term Strategy would be an important addition. Proposals on the process were set out in Document GC/58/10. The Governing Council was invited to examine the proposal to establish a Working Group that would review progress at the mid-term. Members of the Governing Council would be appointed to the Group at the current session while, in order to avoid unnecessary delay, authority

could be delegated to the Director and to the Chairpersons of the Governing and Scientific Councils to agree on the nominations of members from the Scientific Council. The proposed evaluation framework would be reviewed by the Group in late 2016 and it would be submitted to the Governing Council for approval in May 2017; the final report on the evaluation of the Medium-Term Strategy, with the Director's response to it, would be presented to the Governing Council in May 2019.

The CHAIRPERSON said that the Secretary had provided a helpful summary of the timelines proposed in Document GC/58/10.

The SECRETARY, responding to a question from Dr ROBBINS (Canada), confirmed that it would be helpful if the members of the Working Group were drawn from different Participating States in order to ensure as broad a representation as possible.

Dr DONKER (Netherlands) said that she had no objection to the action proposed. She requested that, in addition to the three broad areas set out in paragraph 9 of the document, the Working Group should consider the impact of research on society.

Dr BALAS (Germany) said that the timeline proposed was ambitious. She had no objection to the members from the Scientific Council being appointed by the Director and the Chairpersons of the Governing and Scientific Councils. She asked whether the Working Group would meet in person.

The SECRETARY agreed that the impact of research on policy and public health should be included in the assessment, with reference being made to case studies which showed how the work of IARC was used. It was envisaged that at least one face-to-face meeting would be held with further use of teleconferencing.

Dr BABBS (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) asked whether Scientific Council members would need to have sufficient term left to enable them to participate in the meetings through to 2019. He asked whether any of the activities described in the timeline would stretch into the term of a new Director.

Dr STEVENS (United States of America) applauded IARC's commitment to fulfilling its mission through implementation of the Medium-Term Strategy and supported the creation of the joint Working Group. She sought confirmation of the numbers of members proposed for the Working Group and how participation would be incorporated from WHO and from the leadership of IARC.

The SECRETARY said that it was envisaged that the same Scientific Council members would be involved in the development of the framework and in the evaluation of IARC's report although that would necessarily restrict the selection of members to those who had been appointed for a term that covered the entire period. His term as Director would end in 2018 and therefore a newly-appointed Director would present the final report to the Governing Council in 2019. It had been proposed that four Governing Council members and six Scientific Council members would serve on the Working Group with one staff member from WHO and three staff members from IARC, including the Director.

Dr BELAKHEL (Morocco) welcomed the proposal to establish an evaluation process. However, if the timeline between development of the framework and the evaluation could be accelerated, there would be more time to implement the findings of the report.

The SECRETARY said that, because of the cycles of Governing Council meetings, if the process was brought forward, it would mean that the evaluation would take place only 18 months into the Medium-Term Strategy. If the Director received the report of the Working Group by December 2018, then it would be possible for the report of the Director to the Governing Council in 2019 to contain any changes made as a result of the evaluation. Responding to a question from Dr ROBBINS (Canada), he agreed that an end-of-term evaluation could be conducted in 2020. He emphasized that the cycle of in-depth peer-reviews would continue at the same time as the Medium-Term Strategy evaluation.

The CHAIRPERSON said that the objective was not to increase the amount of reporting but to ensure that the Governing Council had oversight of the Medium-Term Strategy. He invited comments on the draft resolution contained in GC/58/R7. Responding to a question from Mr DE RAEDT (Belgium), he confirmed that the word "metrics" in paragraph 1 of the draft resolution referred to both quantifiable and qualitative indicators. Responding to a query from Dr STEVENS (United States of America), he confirmed that a final evaluation report on the Medium-Term Strategy would be made to the Governing Council in 2019.

The SECRETARY said that an update of the 2019 report could be presented to the Governing Council in 2020 since it would be relatively easy to record achievements against the evaluation framework.

Dr STEVENS (United States of America) agreed that it would be helpful to receive an update in 2020.

During the ensuing discussion, the frequency of evaluations, the desirability of conducting them at regular intervals and the necessity of providing an update in 2020, as well as a final report, were raised; nominations were taken for membership of the Working Group and it was agreed

that five members would be appointed from the Governing Council and five members from the Scientific Council. Contributions to the discussion were made by: Professor KARJALAINEN (Finland); Ms MCKEOUGH (WHO Office of the Legal Counsel); the SECRETARY; Dr STEVENS (United States of America); Dr ROBBINS (Canada); Professor MELBYE (Denmark); Mr DE RAEDT (Belgium); Dr DONKER (Netherlands); Dr AXELROD (Russian Federation); Dr SCHMEKEL (Sweden); and Dr BABBS (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

The RAPPORTEUR read out the draft resolution (GC/58/R7) on the evaluation approach of the IARC Medium-Term Strategy (2016–2020), which had been amended in line with comments made above:

The Governing Council,

Having considered Document GC/58/10 "Proposal for an evaluation approach of the IARC Medium-Term Strategy (2016–2020)",

1. DECIDES to establish a Working Group, to discuss and define the metrics for evaluating the implementation of the IARC Medium-Term Strategy (2016–2020) that shall be composed of:
 - a. Five members of the Governing Council (the representatives of Canada, Finland, Germany, Turkey and United States of America),
 - b. Five members of the Scientific Council, to be selected by the Director in consultation with the Scientific Council Chair and Vice-Chair,
 - c. A representative of WHO, and
 - d. Three members of the IARC Secretariat (i.e. the Director and two senior IARC scientists),
2. REQUESTS the Director to submit the Working Group's recommendations on this evaluation framework, for discussion at the Scientific Council meeting in January 2017, and a final version, incorporating the Scientific Council's comments, for discussion and approval at the regular session of the Governing Council in May 2017;
3. REQUESTS the Director to carry out the evaluation of the IARC Medium-Term Strategy's implementation in mid-2018, and submit his report for review by the Working Group in late-2018;
4. REQUESTS the Director to submit the Working Group's comments and conclusions for discussion at the Scientific Council meeting in January 2019, and a final evaluation report incorporating the Scientific Council's recommendations, for discussion at the regular session of the Governing Council in May 2019;
5. REQUESTS the Director to submit to the Governing Council in May 2020 an update to the implementation of the recommendations of the final evaluation report that were adopted by the Governing Council in May 2019; and
6. REQUESTS the Working Group to review the frequency and timing of evaluation of Medium-Term Strategies.

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

5. UPDATE OF THE GUIDELINES FOR PEER-REVIEWS AT IARC: Item 14 of the Agenda (Document GC/58/11)

Dr SELEIRO (Scientific Officer, Director's Office) presented the report set out in Document GC/58/11. Members were invited to consider and to approve the proposed changes marked in red in Annex 1 of the document.

Dr BABBS (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) said that it was commendable that additional elements were being incorporated into the peer-reviews of the programmes; a large, strategic investment of that kind should involve not only reviews of the individual programmes in isolation but should also recognize their added value and synergies.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution on the update of the guidelines for Peer-Reviews at IARC (GC/58/R8):

The Governing Council,

Having considered Document GC/58/11 "Update of the guidelines for Peer-Reviews at IARC",

1. THANKS the Scientific Council for reviewing the new guidelines and for its recommendation to approve them;
2. ADOPTS the update of the Guidelines for IARC Scientific Review Process contained in Document GC/58/11 and its Annexes 1 and 2, appended hereto; and
3. REQUESTS the Scientific Council and the Secretariat to conduct future Scientific Review in accordance with the revised process appended hereto.

Ms MCKEOUGH (Office of the WHO Legal Counsel) suggested that the last part of paragraph 2 should be amended to read: "...contained in Annexes 1 and 2 of Document GC/58/11".

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

6. BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE (OHSC), 2014–2015: Item 15 of the Agenda (Document GC/58/12)

Dr LE CALVEZ-KELM (Chair, OHSC Committee) presented the report contained in Document GC/58/12.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution on the biennial report of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee (OHSC), 2014–2015 (GC/58/R9):

The Governing Council,

Having examined the "Biennial Report of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee (OHSC), 2014–2015" as contained in Document GC/58/12,

1. THANKS the Scientific Council for reviewing the Biennial Report of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee, 2014–2015;
2. NOTES that, according to the decision regarding the production of standard documents (Resolution GC/58/R6), the OHSC Biennial Reports will henceforth be presented to the Governing Council only;
3. EXPRESSES satisfaction with the arrangements which are in place to ensure the health and safety of the Agency's staff; and
4. REQUESTS the Director to continue reporting biennially on occupational health and safety issues at the Agency.

The resolution was **adopted**.

7. REPORT ON PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING REPORT ON FUNDING ALLOCATION: Item 16 of the Agenda (Document GC/58/13)

Dr GAUDIN presented the report contained in Document GC/58/13.

Dr STEVENS (United States of America) commended IARC for its strong record on publications in 2015 and for its commitment to developing new knowledge that would be disseminated to the scientific and public health communities. She supported the move to biennial reporting on publication activities and congratulated the Agency on the launch of the new publications website, which would enhance usability and updating capabilities.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution on the report on publication activities, including report on funding allocation (GC/58/R10):

The Governing Council,
Having reviewed Document GC/58/13 "Report on publication activities, including report on funding allocation", and
Recalling its Resolution GC/51/R10 in which it requested the Director to report on an annual basis on publication activities,

1. NOTES the Report with great interest;
2. NOTES that the net income to the Governing Council Special Fund from sales of publications in 2015 was €700 413 of which 75% was allocated to the publication programme in 2016;
3. REQUESTS the Director, in accordance with the decision on the production of standard reports (Resolution GC/58/R6), to report biennially on publication activities at IARC; and
4. NOTES that the next report on publications activities will be at the 60th Session of the Governing Council in May 2018.

The resolution was **adopted**.

8. PROPOSED PRIORITIES FOR RESOURCES ACTIVELY MOBILIZED AS UNDESIGNATED VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS: Item 18 of the Agenda
(Document GC/58/15)

Ms SANTHIPRECHACHIT (Administration and Finance Officer), illustrating her remarks with slides, recalled that the Special Account for Undesignated Contributions had been founded by the Governing Council in 1982 under Resolution GC/23/R6. The account was credited with voluntary contributions for which donors had not specified a purpose. The amount accumulated could be used for special projects recommended by the Scientific Council with the approval of the Governing Council. Most of the funds in the account had been received from private individuals. Two standing authorizations partially financed two 12-month Fellowships and a Visiting Scientist Award. It was proposed that the funds allocated to the Fellowships should be increased in order to meet the actual costs of the Fellowships. Significant efforts were currently being made with respect to resource mobilization of un-earmarked fund to this account and it was proposed to allocate new funds to the five priority projects outlined in Document GC/58/15.

Dr COMBA (Italy) expressed appreciation for the requests and for the underlying work that was apparent from the report; he supported the proposal.

The SECRETARY, responding to a question from Professor MELBYE (Denmark), said that the Visiting Scientist Award would continue to be made as before.

Dr ROBBINS (Canada) said that he supported the proposal to allocate un-earmarked funds to the five priority areas, as outlined in the document, and for the Governing Council to receive a yearly update on how the funds had been used.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution on proposed priorities for resources actively mobilized as undesignated voluntary contributions (GC/58/R12):

The Governing Council,
Having reviewed Document GC/58/15 "Proposed priorities for resources actively mobilized as Undesignated Voluntary Contributions",
Noting the increased cost of Fellowships,
Noting the mechanism for allocation of funds from the Special Account for Undesignated Voluntary Contributions in between its yearly sessions,

1. AUTHORIZES an increase of funds, from €34 650 to €80 000 per year, to finance two twelve-month Fellowships, as long as a sufficient balance is available in the Special Account for Undesignated Voluntary Contributions; and
2. APPROVES a standing authorization to the Director, for the period 2016–2020, to allocate *un-earmarked* funds mobilized into the Special Account for Undesignated Voluntary Contributions to the five priority projects listed below:
 - a. Global Initiative for Cancer Registry Development (GICR);
 - b. IARC Monographs and IARC Handbooks of Cancer Prevention;
 - c. The LMICs Biobank and Cohort Building Network (BCNet);
 - d. IARC Training Fellowships;
 - e. IARC Nouveau Centre Plus.
3. REQUESTS the Director 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 above.

The CHAIRPERSON, responding to a question from Professor GÜLTEKIN (Turkey), said that the allocation of funds to the Visiting Professor Award would remain unchanged.

Dr DE RAEDT (Belgium) proposed that the words "from the Medium-Term Strategy" should be inserted in paragraph 2 after the reference to "the five priority projects".

Professor KARJALAINEN (Finland) suggested that the phrase “based on the Medium-Term Strategy” would be more appropriate.

The SECRETARY, responding to a question from Professor MELBYE (Denmark), confirmed that funds would be set aside for the IARC Nouveau Centre Plus project but that they would not be spent until IARC moved into the new premises.

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

9. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND CONTRACTS, INCLUDING REPORT ON INTEREST APPORTIONMENT: Item 19 of the Agenda (Document GC/58/16)

Ms SANTHIPRECHACHIT (Administration and Finance Officer) said that Document GC/58/16 set out the grants and contracts accepted by the Agency during 2015. Three grants had been received from the private sector and from non-profit foundations.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution on acceptance of grants and contracts, including report on interest apportionment (GC/58/R13):

The Governing Council,

Having considered Document GC/58/16 “Acceptance of grants and contracts, including report on interest apportionment”,

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 three projects; two, (a) and (b) in collaboration with the private sector and one (c) over €500 000 per annum:

- (a) Global Initiative on Cancer Registries (GICR) [€467 460], ESTAMPA [€44 100], IARC Summer Course [€26 460], and BCNet biobanking [€26 460] [National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute (NIH/NCI), USA (through CRDF Global) in a total amount of €564 480 for 10 months];
- (b) Coordination of the International Birth Cohort Harmonisation Group [Ministry of the Environment, Japan (through Japan NUS Co., Ltd) in an amount of €65 540 for 24 months];
- (c) 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 €2 670 697 for 60 months];

2. NOTES the post facto reporting of grants and contracts accepted by the Director as detailed in Document GC/58/16;
3. NOTES the amounts of interest income apportioned; and
4. COMMENDS the staff on its success in winning competitive research grants.

The resolution was **adopted**.

10. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS: Item 20 of the Agenda (Document GC/58/17)

Ms SANTHIPRECHACHIT (Administration and Finance Officer) drew attention to the donations received in 2015. Responding to a question from Professor BAGGOLEY (Australia), she confirmed that Mrs Benmoussa, a cancer patient with no close relatives, had not been known personally to the Agency but that she had left her generous contribution in a legacy.

The RAPPORTEUR read out the following draft resolution on acceptance of donations (GC/58/R14):

The Governing Council,
Having been informed by Document GC/58/17 of the unconditional donations accepted by the Director under the authority vested in him 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**.

The meeting rose at 17:25.