

## **REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

1. The following is a summary report on the 55<sup>th</sup> Session of the Governing Council restricted to aspects directly related to the work of the Scientific Council. The full Minutes of the Governing Council meeting (GC/55/Min.1–4) are available on the IARC Governance website (<http://governance.iarc.fr/GC/GC55/index.php>).

### **Admission of new Participating States**

2. Brazil and Qatar were admitted as Participating States of IARC.

### **Interim Annual Report 2012 and Director's Report (see documents GC/55/2 and GC/55/3)**

3. The Governing Council expressed its satisfaction with the work accomplished and commended the Agency's staff for the achievements outlined in the Interim Annual Report.

### **Report on the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the Scientific Council (see documents GC/55/4 and GC/55/4 Add.1) and Director's response (Document GC/55/5)**

4. The Governing Council expressed its satisfaction with the Scientific Council's support for the Agency's work programme and with the Director's responses to its recommendations.

5. The Scientific Council's positive feedback on the new format of the agenda of its sessions was welcomed, namely conducting the Section reviews immediately preceding Scientific Council sessions, and the Governing Council approved the continuation of this procedure.

6. The proposal for the adoption of a new scoring system for the peer reviews of Sections, as developed by the Scientific Council in consultation with the Secretariat, was discussed and approved by the Governing Council, with a request that the Scientific Council reports on its assessment of the utility of the new scoring system in 2015.

7. Finally, the Scientific Council's satisfaction with future directions of the Education and Training Group (ETR) was noted, and the Governing Council requested that a biennial report on ETR activities be submitted to the Scientific Council starting in 2015.

## **Programme and Budget 2014–2015**

8. The Agency had proposed a budget of €41 214 017 for the biennium 2014–2015 and after extended discussions the Governing Council approved a budget of €40 424 491.

## **Proposal to align the Programme, the Budget and the Medium-term Strategy cycles (see Document GC/55/8)**

9. The Governing Council approved a proposal to align the programme, budget and medium-term strategy planning cycles. Starting in 2016–2017 the programme and the budget will become aligned in a two-year cycle. The five-year medium-term strategy will be prepared during the first year of each Director's new mandate and will come into effect after completion of the second year, during which it will be considered by the Scientific Council and approved by the Governing Council.

10. In order to better align these two cycles the Governing Council accepted the recommendation of the Scientific Council (Document SC/49/13, page 7) that the current medium-term strategy be extended by one year, therefore covering the period 2010–2015, with the next medium-term strategy covering the period 2016–2020.

## **Update on the infrastructure project and the scientific vision behind the "Nouveau Centre" (see documents GC/55/9A and GC/55/9B)**

11. Progress over the last year on the negotiations between the Secretariat, the Working Group on Infrastructure and representatives of the Agency's hosts (City of Lyon, Grand Lyon and French Government) were presented to the Governing Council.

12. The Governing Council acknowledged the need to move forward with the "Nouveau Centre" project and endorsed the ongoing negotiations and the specific solutions proposed. It re-stated that no mandatory costs should be incurred by Participating States as a result of the "Nouveau Centre" project, although voluntary contributions would be welcomed. It agreed to surrender the IARC-owned buildings on the current site without compensation providing an agreement is reached on alternative premises that meet the Agency's requirements.

13. The Governing Council endorsed the principles outlined in the document prepared by the Secretariat on the scientific vision for the Agency's future and its implications on the design priorities for the "Nouveau Centre" project (document GC/55/9B) including facilities for the biobank. The Governing Council emphasized the creation of an environment that maximizes collaboration across Sections, and thanked the Scientific Council for its comments and recommendations on these matters (Resolution GC/55/R12).

14. Finally, the Governing Council confirmed its support for the continuation of the negotiations and delegated to its Working Group on Infrastructure on ongoing decisions, including the final decision on agreeing with the "Nouveau Centre" project, if the host country and local partners confirm their commitment to providing the required funding prior to the next Governing Council regular session in May 2014.

**Request for use of funds from the Governing Council Special Fund (see documents GC/55/14B, GC/55/14D and GC/55/14F)**

15. The Governing Council authorized the Director to return 75% of the total annual proceeds from the sale of IARC publications to the Publications Programme up to a maximum of €525 000.

16. The Governing Council approved the use of €485 295 for the purchase of scientific equipment as endorsed by the Scientific Council.

17. The Governing Council authorized the use of an additional €150 000 for the purchase of IT equipment to increase data storage capacity and processing speed for the benefit of the Agency's scientific activities.

**Appointment of new members of the Scientific Council (see document GC/55/12)**

18. Five new members were appointed across a range of disciplines complementary to existing members:

Dr Al-Hareth M. Al-Khater	Qatar
Professor Françoise Clavel-Chapelon	France
Professor Lukas A. Huber	Austria
Dr Luis Felipe Ribeiro Pinto	Brazil
Professor John J. Spinelli	Canada

**Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the IARC Governing Council**

19. Dr Mark Palmer (Director, International Strategy, Medical Research Council, London, UK – E-mail: [mark.palmer@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk](mailto:mark.palmer@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk)) was elected Chairperson of the Governing Council and Professor Agnès Buzyn (President, National Cancer Institute (INCa), Paris, France – E-mail: [abuzyn@institutcancer.fr](mailto:abuzyn@institutcancer.fr)) was elected Vice-Chairperson.