

We, the First Ladies of the OIC Member and Observer States, Health Professionals, Scientists, Advocates against cancer and other relevant stakeholders came together on the sidelines of the 13<sup>th</sup> Islamic Summit in Istanbul on 14 April 2016 to raise awareness about the increasing cancer burden on OIC Member and Observer States and to support efforts for expanding access to effective cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care.

- **Reaffirming** our determination to lead our citizens by setting an example in the struggle against cancer in our countries;
- **Acknowledging that** cancer is a preventable and treatable disease which poses major challenges and threat to the social and economic development of our countries;
- **Recalling** the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Islamic Conferences of Health Ministers (ICHM) and the Steering Committee on Health (SCH), including Resolution No. 2/5-ICHM On Healthy Life Style, Prevention and Control of Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases, and Health Emergencies and Disasters adopted by the 5<sup>th</sup> ICHM (Istanbul, 2015) underscoring that a comprehensive cancer control approach is essential to fight cancer effectively;
- **Taking** into account Resolution No. 3/42-S&T on Health Matters adopted by the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Kuwait City (27-28 May, 2015) urging member states to undertake necessary steps to promote healthy life style and strengthen control against non-communicable diseases;
- **Being aware** that the 4<sup>th</sup> session of the Islamic Conference of Health Ministers (Jakarta, October 2013) adopted the OIC - Strategic Health Programme of Action (SHPA) 2014 – 2023 *dealing inter alia with Disease Prevention and Control*;
- **Bearing** in mind that the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015 adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), setting the targets of reducing, by one-third, premature deaths from cancer and other non-communicable diseases, including diabetes, heart and lung diseases, by 2030



## ISTANBUL DECLARATION

- **Recognizing** that the unsatisfactory living conditions, poverty, lack of education, rapid urbanization, and environmental degradation are among the contributing factors of the rising incidence and prevalence of cancer disease;
- **Noting** that around one third of the cancer deaths arise from the behavioral and dietary risks attributable to high body mass index, low fruit and vegetable intake, lack of physical activity and tobacco use;
- **Noting also** that other one third of the cancer deaths are preventable and treatable with early detection;
- **Alarmed** by the fact that the number of new cancer cases is expected to rise by about 70% over the next two decades;
- **Recognizing** that tobacco use is one of the most important risk factor for cancer causing around 20% of global cancer deaths and around 70% of global lung cancer deaths;
- **Recognizing also** the importance of early detection and treatment of cancer in preventing cancer-related deaths and that the provision of palliative care for all individuals in need is an urgent humanitarian responsibility;
- **Acknowledging** that addressing the root causes of cancer is the most cost-effective strategy in fighting cancer;
- **Being mindful** of the need for careful planning and priority-setting in the use of resources in order to undertake effective activities to reduce the cancer burden;
- **Recognizing** the importance of adequate funding for cancer-prevention, control and palliative care programmes in OIC Member and Observer States;
- **Taking note** of the prospects offered by partnership between OIC-IDB and IAEA and with other international and national organizations and **welcoming** signing of 'Practical Arrangements' between the OIC General Secretariat, IDB and IAEA;



- **Appreciating further** the role of Turkey as Lead Country Coordinator for OIC - SHPA thematic area two on Disease Prevention and Control and its willingness to share experience and best practices with fellow member states through organizing training workshops on Cancer Screening and Monitoring Programmes.
- **Commending** the leadership of the First Lady of the Republic of Turkey, Her Excellency Emine Erdoğan for hosting this event which is the first of its kind among OIC Member States;

Having listened to the various presentations, we undertake to encourage and actively participate in promoting cancer awareness and advocacy programmes in our respective countries. We also pledge to advocate the prioritisation of cancer prevention and control in health agenda at both national and international level through multi-sectoral approach. We hereby call upon;

**Member States to;**

- Invest more resources in addressing the risk factors associated with cancer by launching public education campaigns about healthy diets targeting adults; engaging with representatives of the food industry to ensure compliance with guidelines on healthy diet and promoting physical activities as part of everyday life;
- Enhance the participation of civil society and community in fostering partnerships for dissemination of information about cancer disease and provision of services for the prevention and control, treatment and care, including palliative care for the cancer patients;
- Integrate cancer prevention into their primary healthcare systems and promote greater public awareness about the importance of cancer prevention measures;
- Strengthen implementation of screening programs for woman with a focus on breast cancer and cervical cancer, which are the most frequent and detectable cancers;



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- Embrace Tobacco Free OIC initiative by participating in the training and capacity building programs organized by SESRIC to facilitate the development and implementation of sustainable national tobacco control strategies in the OIC Member Countries in line with the guidelines set by WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control;
- Develop population-based cancer registry and scale-up national cancer control programmes that meet the increasing need for prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment and palliative care to coordinate and optimize resources available to apply evidence-based and high-impact interventions;
- Share regional best practices and promote regional coordination mechanisms in cancer registry, cancer control planning and implementation in order to strengthen health systems;
- Strengthen national capacity for research and development, including research infrastructure, equipment and supplies in research institutions, and the competence of researchers to conduct good-quality research;
- Improve access to appropriate technologies, with support of relevant partners, for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, in order to promote early diagnosis and treatment;
- Report to the Islamic Conference of Health Ministers on the progress achieved in strengthening the national health systems to ensure sustained delivery of effective cancer control programmes including establishment of population-based cancer registry;

### **OIC General Secretariat, relevant OIC institutions and International Organizations to;**

- Coordinate with relevant partners, work together to support Member States in their efforts to prevent and control cancer and mitigate its impacts by providing technical assistance and capacity-building for the national health systems;



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- Support public awareness events on cancer organized by and under the patronage of respective First Lady of Member States for effectively addressing the cancer menace;
- Strive for strengthening cooperation between OIC Member States in line with the “Prevention and Control of the Diseases” Thematic Area of the OIC - SHPA;

**ISSUED AND SIGNED IN İSTANBUL ON THE 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016**

### SIGNATURES

1- H.E. Madame Emine Erdoğan  
First Lady of the Republic of Turkey

2- H.E. Madame Mihriban Aliyeva  
First Lady of the Republic of Azerbaijan

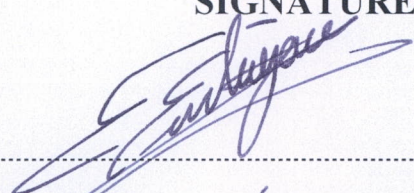
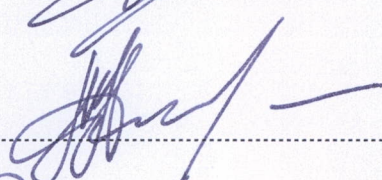
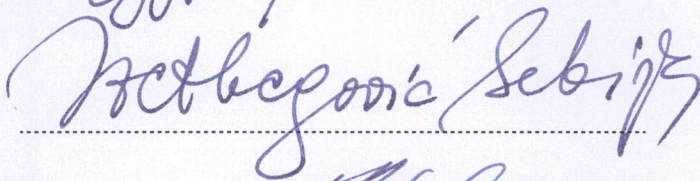
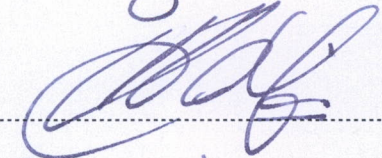
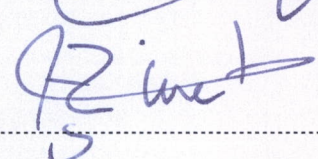
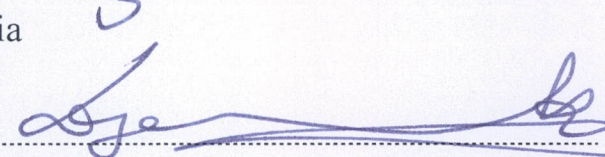
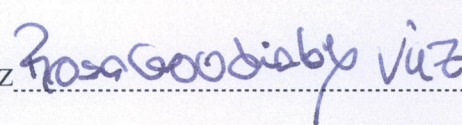
3- H.E. Madame Sebija Izetbegovic  
First Lady of the Bosnia & Herzegovina

4- H.E. Madame Sika Kabore  
First Lady of Burkina-Faso

5- H.E. Madame Zineb Yahya Jammeh  
First Lady of the Islamic Republic of Gambia

6- H.E. Madame Hadja Djene Conde  
First Lady of the Republic of Guinea

7- H.E. Madame Maria Roza Teixeira Goudiaby Vaz  
First Lady of the Republic of the Guinea-Bissau



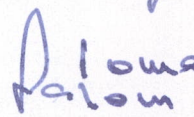
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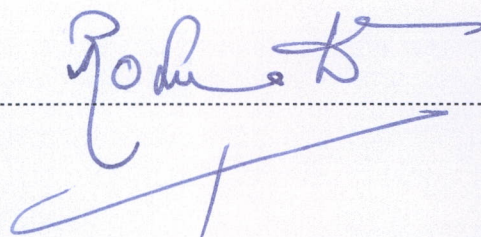
8- H.E. Madame Raisa Atambaeva  
First Lady of Kyrgyz Republic



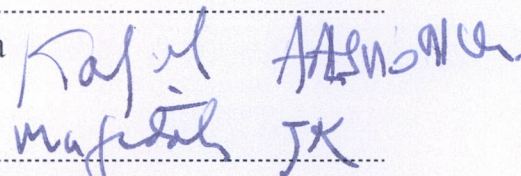
9- H.E. Madame Lama Salam  
First Lady of the Republic of Lebanon



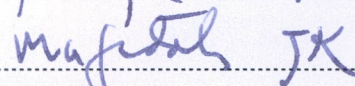
10- H.E. Madame Rosmah Binti Mansor  
Spouse of the Prime Minister of Malaysia



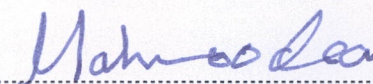
11- H.E. Madame Mufidah Jusuf Kalla  
The Spouse of the Vice President of Republic of Indonesia



12- H.E. Madame Amina Aboubakar Bello  
Spouse of the Governor of Niger State of Federal Republic of Nigeria



13- H.E. Madame Begum Mahmooda Mamnoon  
First Lady of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan



14- H.E. Madame Aminata Tall  
President of Economic, Social and Environmental Council of Republic of Senegal



15- H.E. Madame Meral Akıncı  
First Lady of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

