WORKING LANGUAGE
The working language of the Forum will be English.

REGISTRATION FEE
No registration fee is charged to participants.

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CONFERENCE WEB PAGE
Detailed information on administrative procedures including participation and registration is provided on the Forum web site:
https://www.iaea.org/about/policy/gc/gc63/events/scientific-forum
BACKGROUND

Cancer is one of the leading causes of mortality worldwide and in 2018 alone was responsible for an estimated 9.6 million deaths. Developing countries bear a significant part of this burden, which places an additional strain on their scarce health resources.

Since its inception, the IAEA has been supporting its Member States in the use of nuclear science and technology to better diagnose, treat and manage cancer. As the disease incidence grows, it is increasingly important for countries, particularly in the developing world, to have the necessary tools and expertise to meet this challenge.

This year’s Scientific Forum will review achievements in cancer control over the last ten years, with a focus on the support provided by the IAEA. In four sessions over two days, leading scientists and experts from around the world, as well as IAEA experts, will review successes and challenges related to the setting up and delivery of nuclear and radiation medicine to fight a growing cancer burden.

OPENING SESSION

Acting IAEA Director General Cornel Feruta will open the Forum and will be joined by other high level speakers.

SESSION 1

TEN YEARS OF CANCER CONTROL — THE EXPERIENCE OF MEMBER STATES

Speakers from Member States will describe their experience in establishing infrastructure for nuclear and radiation medicine as part of cancer care efforts. The role played by the IAEA will be highlighted in areas related to the introduction of comprehensive cancer control policies, support in the development of legislation and a regulatory framework for nuclear safety and security, as well as the acquisition of technology and equipment.

SESSION 2

THE IAEA RESPONSE TO THE EVOLVING NEEDS OF MEMBER STATES

This session will focus on addressing the evolving needs of Member States in cancer control. It will cover areas such as prioritizing needs for maximum impact and keeping pace with changing technology—including through education and training, the use of information technologies and the development of networks. The session will also look at quality management, dosimetry services, and advisory missions.

SESSION 3

OVERVIEW OF TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES IN NUCLEAR AND RADIATION MEDICINE

This session will showcase how imaging techniques play an increasing role in providing precise cancer diagnosis, more effective treatment and better assessment of therapeutic impact. It will also provide an overview of the existing uses of radiation in medicine, including radiotherapy, radiopharmaceuticals and theranostics.

SESSION 4

SUPPORTING CANCER CONTROL PROGRAMMES THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

The session will provide an opportunity to share experiences and explore avenues to help Member States in cancer control efforts, including through strategic partnerships with global institutions and the development of bankable documents. The topic of health economics will also be discussed in relation to resource mobilization for cancer care activities.

CLOSING SESSION

The final session of the Forum will underline findings and draw conclusions for Member States and the IAEA.