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Written contribution from the European CanCer Organisation (ECCO) to agenda item (3)
**Matters arising from resolutions and decisions of the World Health Assembly and the
Executive Board**

WHO Draft global strategy to accelerate cervical cancer elimination

The European CanCer Organisation (ECCO) expresses its warm congratulations to the WHO for embracing an ambitious agenda for cervical cancer elimination and, in so doing, helping to inspire again a new generation of the enormous benefits that can be achieved for patients and healthcare systems by this kind of focused international cooperation.

Indeed, the WHO efforts in this area have inspired ECCO and its members to do our part in assisting the effort.

Prepared via a series of roundtable and consultation and outreach activities over recent months, involving stakeholders from across the healthcare professional, patient and other communities, we have recently tabled at the ECCO 2019 European Cancer Summit a powerful resolution on HPV elimination designed to support the WHO cervical cancer elimination strategy.

We call upon the EU and all European countries to make all efforts possible to combat the eminently defeatable scourge of HPV related cancers, including, but not limited to, cervical cancer.

The action plan that supports our resolution calls for such initiatives as:

- Gender-neutral HPV vaccination, with a target vaccination rate by 2030 in all European countries of at least 90% of adolescents for both genders;
- Global cooperation to be fostered, through WHO or other agents, to resolve vaccine supply chain issues to ensure no country's HPV vaccination programmes are impacted because of shortage;
- In line with the proposed WHO goals, at least 70% of women in Europe should have been screened for cervical cancer with an appropriate high precision HPV test within the last 5 years;
- actions towards increasing public, patient and healthcare professional understanding and awareness about HPV;
- Combatting of fake news about the HPV and other vaccinations;
- EU level monitoring of member state progress towards HPV elimination

Working with ECCO members, such as ESGO – European Society of Gynaecological Oncology, and others, we are happy to be embracing this challenge and providing our own leadership role to assist the WHO in achieving lofty ambitions for public health improvement.

We hope to work closely alongside the WHO, many other organisations in the room today, and beyond our meeting to achieve together an exciting range of possibilities for health improvement.

Cancer patients should expect nothing less from us and we do not intend to fail them.

Statement endorsed by the following organisations:

- European CanCer Organisation (ECCO)
- Council of Occupational Therapists for European Countries (COTEC)
- International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO)
- International Association for Hospice & Palliative Care (IAHPC)
- Norwegian Cancer Society
- Studiorum
- World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT)



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