China joins the International Agency for Research on Cancer

Lyon, France, 17 May 2021 – The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the specialized cancer agency of the World Health Organization, is pleased to welcome China as a new Participating State. IARC now has a total of 27 Participating States.

“I am delighted to count China amongst IARC’s Participating States,” says IARC Director Dr Elisabete Weiderpass. “This new membership will further strengthen our collaboration in key cancer research areas and allow China to join a network of leading countries shaping global research priorities in cancer control and cancer prevention.”

Active cancer research is under way in China in areas such as cancer registration, cancer screening, epidemiological research, etiological research, and clinical research.

Over the years, IARC has had many collaborations with institutions in China, either directly or as part of large international collaborations led or coordinated by IARC. Chinese scientists have worked at IARC as staff members or visiting scientists, or have been trained in Lyon or at other research institutions through IARC fellowships.

The close ties that have developed between Chinese and IARC scientists over the past decades have produced significant results that have both advanced knowledge of the biology and epidemiology of cancer and supported the development of practical cancer prevention and control programmes in the field.

For more information, please contact

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The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is part of the World Health Organization. Its mission is to coordinate and conduct research on the causes of human cancer and the mechanisms of carcinogenesis, and to develop scientific strategies for cancer control. The Agency is involved in both epidemiological and laboratory research and disseminates scientific information through publications, meetings, courses, and fellowships. If you wish your name to be removed from our press release emailing list, please write to com@iarc.fr.