

**Working with Sub-Saharan Africa, strategies employed and success**  
*Dr. Catherine Patte, GFAOP, Paris, France*

**Tackling inequalities in childhood cancer care in Europe**  
*Professor Gilles Vassal, Gustave Roussy, SIOP Europe Board Member and Chair of the SIOPE Policy Committee*

**The I-BFM Experience and Success in Treating Childhood Leukemia and Lymphoma: A Crucial Ally in Reducing Global Disparities**  
*Professor Arndt Borkhardt, I-BFM, Duesseldorf, Germany*

**Palliative Care in Childhood Cancer: The Sunflower Programme, Integrating symptom management with Oncology**  
*Professor Ross Pinkerton, Emeritus Professor of Oncology, University of Queensland, Australia*

**Bridging the Gap: Addressing Global Disparities in Neuroblastoma Care and Outcomes**  
*Professor Angelika Eggert, Head, Department of Pediatric Oncology and Hematology, Charité Hospital, Berlin, Germany*

**Health behaviours in survivorship: a strategy to reduce disparities in long-term outcomes**  
*Professor Linda Sharp, Professor of Cancer Epidemiology, Newcastle University, UK*

**DAY 2: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025 / 09.00-15.30**

**SESSION 4: The Cyprus International Action Plan for Childhood Cancer**

**9.00-11.00**

Session presented and moderated by: Professor Loizos G. Loizou, ELPIDA and Professor Petros Agathaggelou, President, Cyprus Medical Association, Dr Michalis Anastasiades, President, Pediatric Association of Cyprus, Professor Ioannis Patrikios, Deputy Dean, School of Medicine, European University Cyprus and Mr. George Kallenos, District Governor, American Hellenic Educational and Progressive Association, Cyprus.

1. The Cyprus International Action Plan for Childhood Cancer (Cy-IAPCC): Vision, strategy and implementation
2. Questions, answers and suggestions from the experts
3. What next?
4. The Declaration of Nicosia.

**11.00** Closing of the International Experts Scientific Convention

**The Cyprus International Action Plan for Childhood Cancer**  
*Global Hope for Childhood Cancer: Bridging Gaps, Saving Lives*

**Inaugural International Convention of Experts on Childhood and Adolescent Cancer**

*Defeating childhood and adolescent cancer and reducing global inequalities*



**HILTON Hotel • Nicosia, Cyprus, 13-14 February 2025**

Organised by



European University Cyprus



UNIVERSITY of NICOSIA | MEDICAL SCHOOL  
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Uniting Efforts and Forces with

**World Health Organisation (WHO)**  
**International Society of Pediatric Oncology, Section Europe (SIOPE)**  
**Groupe Franco-Africain d'Oncologie Pédiatrique (GFAOP)**  
**St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (USA)**  
**International Berlin-Frankfurt-Münster Study Group (I-BFM)**

# PROGRAMME

Inaugural International Convention of Experts  
on Childhood and Adolescent Cancer  
*Defeating Childhood and Adolescent Cancer and Reducing Global Inequalities*

**DAY 1: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2025 / 09.00-15.30**

**8.30-9.00**

## REGISTRATION

**9.00-9.40**

## Welcome Address and Inaugural Remarks

1. Professor Maria Michailidis, ELPIDA Foundation
2. Music School of Nicosia, Musical Introduction
3. Ms. Stella Kyriakides, Former European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety 2019-2024
4. Dr. Irshad Shaikh, WHO Special Representative and Head of Country Office, Cyprus
5. Minister of Health of Cyprus, Mr. Michalis Damianos

**9:40-10:10**

## Why we are here: Setting the stage, introducing the experts, building connections, and shaping collaboration

*Professor Loizou G. Loizos, ELPIDA Foundation, Cyprus*

### SESSION 1:

## STATE OF THE PROBLEM, GLOBAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS

**10:10-10:50**

*Session moderated by: Dr. Eleni Papachristodoulou*

## Overview of the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer and the CureAll framework

*Dr. Catherine Lam, Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Childhood Cancer, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital*

## Childhood cancer inequalities, inter-countries and intra-countries: Introduction and the situation in the WHO Europe Region

*Dr. Marilys Corbex, WHO Europe, Copenhagen Denmark*

## Childhood cancer inequalities in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region

*Dr. Troisi Giuseppe and Dr Azar Jihan, WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO), Cairo, Egypt*

## Childhood cancer inequalities in the WHO African Region

*Dr. Dille Mahamadou Issimouha, WHO Africa, Cité Djoué, Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo*

**10:50-11:20**

## GROUP PHOTO & COFFEE BREAK

### SESSION 2:

## COUNTRY-SPECIFIC PROBLEMS

**11:20-13:00**

*Session moderated by: Dr. Evaggelia Karaoli*

## Country specific current situation, challenges, proposed solutions

1. Armenia, Dr. Shushan Hovsepyan
2. Australia, Dr. Ashraf Khizar
3. Botswana, Professor Mogomotsi Sandy Matshaba and Dr. Katlego Tsimane
4. Burkina Faso, Professor Kissou Senkaye-Lagom Aimée
5. Germany, PD Dr. Friederike Erdmann
6. Greece, Professor Antonis Kattamis
7. India, Professor Ajay Vora
8. Israel, Professor Isaac Yaniv
9. Jordan, Dr. Rawad Rihani
10. Kyrgyzstan, Dr. Sultan Stambekov
11. Nepal, Dr. Krishna Poudel
12. Russia, Dr. Kirill Kirgizov
13. Senegal, Dr. Fatou Binetou Diagne Akonde
14. United Kingdom, Dr. Richard McNally
15. Central Asia, Dr. Shakhnoza Tashkhodjaeva

**13:00-14:00**

## LUNCH & Networking time

### SESSION 3:

## HOW TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION?

**14:00-15:00**

*Session moderated by: Dr. Anastasios Loizos*

## Innovations to tackle inequalities in childhood cancer

*Dr. Vitaly Smelov, WHO Europe, Copenhagen, Denmark*

## Building capacity, early diagnosis, and access to essential medicines

*Dr. Catherine Lam, Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Childhood Cancer, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital*