

# THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CANCER CONTROL CONGRESS

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Over the past decade, the International Cancer Control Congresses (ICCCs) have striven to promote population-based cancer control. In 2005, when the first ICCC was held in Vancouver, Canada, the goal was to raise awareness about the need for population-based, national cancer control plans. As these have become more established, ICCC has further evolved to address: cancer and noncommunicable disease plans; the need to move beyond planning to implementation; the requirement for integrated activity across public/population health and clinical medicine; the recognition of differing “contexts” for cancer/noncommunicable disease (NCD) control in differing cultural and regional settings; and the necessity for collaboration across disciplines and sectors of practice and between agencies, institutions and nations as a means of learning, teaching and sharing how best to advance population disease control. For each ICCC, the goal has been to impact the cancer and NCD control plans and practices of the host organization and regional and international partners through catalyzing participant interaction within a global forum.

For ICCC-5, a “logic model” was developed to align the purpose, goals, directions, inputs and outputs of the Congress. Key outputs included the creation of a neutral forum to facilitate discussion of ideas and exchange of information regarding sustainable regional cancer and integrated NCD plans; linking the global cancer and NCD agendas and exchanging ideas about how global commitments are being realized at national and regional levels; addressing regional, political and policy level key targets identified in the UN Global Action Plan (1); continuing development of regional broad-based action plans for integrated cancer and NCD control plans; increasing momentum to share progress towards targets through 2014–2025; fostering partnerships and collaborations between countries and international agencies to maximize expertise and resources; and providing the opportunity to share, exchange and develop

capability for cancer and NCD control within the host country (Peru), the region (RINC, Latin America) and at a global level.

Implementation of cancer and NCD control plans requires alignment of resolve and support – both “top-down” (political and professional) and “bottom-up” (advocates, patients and public). Without this alignment of purpose, population-based disease control plans are merely “medical documents”, rather than “blueprints” for societal change and health advance. To promote alignment and dialogue, stakeholders from all disciplines and sectors involved in cancer/NCD control were invited and encouraged to attend. The co-hosts of the Congress were the International Cancer Control Congress Association (ICCCA), National Cancer Institute of Peru (INEN) and the Ministry of Health, Peru (MINSa). The World Health Organization (WHO) was the co-sponsor. The meeting was endorsed and supported by the President and First Lady of Peru, the government and Ministry of Health of Peru, the government of Canada (PHAC and CPAC), RINC (the Association of National Cancer Institutes in Latin America and the Caribbean), ISNO (International Society of Nurses in Oncology), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), several international cancer agencies (IAEA-PACT, NCI/US, ACS/US, INCTR, UICC, IARC) and patient advocacy organizations (Esperanza, Peru and Campaign to Control Cancer, Canada). Through full engagement and active participation of patients, public health professionals, including administrators, and politicians (policy-makers) ICCC-5 aspired to move conventional medical thinking about cancer and NCDs to a new level – the control of cancer as an “all of society” commitment.

## The ICCC-5 Programme

ICCC-5 in Lima, Peru, examined key themes in cancer/NCD control in five sessions:

- Improving and sustaining prevention in cancer.
- Mobilizing “all of society” for effective cancer control.

