



United Nations Population Fund



أصدقاء مرضى السرطان  
Friends Of Cancer Patients  
الإمارات العربية المتحدة  
United Arab Emirates

The second Regional Cervical Cancer Forum  
**Accelerating Action on HPV and  
Cervical Cancer** 27-28 JANUARY 2021



# Sharjah Declaration on Cervical Cancer (2nd edition 2021)

*Our commitment, our pledge*

## Accelerating Action on HPV and Cervical Cancer

27-28 January 2021, Sharjah, UAE

We, representatives of governments, academia, international organizations, civil society and advocates, participating in 'Accelerating Action on HPV and Cervical Cancer: A regional forum to follow up on progress and boost the national and regional response to take action against cervical cancer elimination', virtual meeting in Sharjah on 27-28 January 2021 under the Patronage of her Highness Sheikha Jawaher Bint Mohammed Al Qasimi, wife of the Ruler of Sharjah, Founder and Royal Patron of FoCP, International Ambassador of the World Cancer Declaration for the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), International Ambassador for Childhood Cancer for UICC, affirming our commitments to improving access to screenings, vaccines and treatment for HPV and cervical cancer in the Arab region, and in line with the World Health Organization call for action toward the elimination of cervical cancer, hereby make the following declaration.

Building on the progress so far since the first edition 2019 of the [Sharjah Declaration 3x3](#) and as part of the global commitment to implement the [Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health](#) 2016-2030 and the [ICPD@25 Nairobi commitments](#).

We strongly pledge our commitment to the health and wellbeing of girls and women globally and the need to tackle the interconnected burdens of HPV and cervical cancer in the Arab region. We agree with the goal of the [UN Joint Global Programme on Cervical Cancer Prevention and Control](#) to build on the world's collective endeavors so that in a generation, death from cervical cancer ceases to be a public health issue.



Furthermore, we ensure our commitment to support the [Global Strategy for the Elimination of Cervical Cancer](#) and roadmap of the 90-70-90 targets to be reached by 2030

- 90% of girls fully vaccinated with the HPV vaccine by age 15
- 70% of women are screened with a high-performance test by 35 and 45 years of age
- 90% of women identified with cervical disease receive treatment (90% of women with pre-cancer treated; 90% of women with invasive cancer managed)

Cervical cancer is one of the preventable and treatable forms of cancer, as long as it is detected early and managed effectively. Scaling up access to crucial preventive, testing and treatment tools is critical to a comprehensive approach to cervical cancer control. We must expand our efforts to achieve a region and world where no more women die because of cervical cancer by increasing coordinated action and political will through incorporation of new screening modalities and selection of appropriate triage/diagnostic work-up into an organized program during crisis to ensure equity and proper access in cervical cancer care.

The response to COVID-19 pandemic has shown how fast governments were able to allocate resources to the procurement and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. We can draw lessons from the procurement, storage, distribution, provision and community mobilization that could be implemented in the roll-out of the HPV vaccine.

**We commit to:**

1. Advocating for regional and national cervical cancer strategies that align with global initiatives, and do so, by taking into account the national capacities in order to ensure their implementation in every single country;
2. Establishing cooperative efforts and enhance south-south cooperation in order to improve countries' and organizations' cervical cancer control capacity and nationwide HPV vaccine program implementation despite the current and future health emergencies;
3. Investing in better data collection, analysis and utilization for evidence based decision making and to identify and address current inequities with regard to HPV vaccine and cervical cancer detection and treatment;
4. Endorsing an establishment of a robust monitoring framework for the progress of HPV vaccine implementation and Cervical cancer elimination.

We will act on this declaration in solidarity and coordination with governments, national and international organizations and all other stakeholders. Tackling cervical cancer will contribute to achieving Universal Health Coverage. The Arab region could be among the pioneers in the world to eliminate cervical cancer if we act now. Together we can help accelerate action on HPV and cervical cancer, and achieve better health and wellbeing for all.