

**WHO/International Agency for Research on Cancer  
establishes National Cancer Center as Global Initiative for  
Cancer Registry Development Collaborating Centre**

Tokyo - May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - The National Cancer Center (NCC) has signed a memorandum of understanding with the WHO/International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), to expand collaboration on cancer control in the region, as the very first Collaborating Centre of the WHO/IARC's Global Initiative for Cancer Registry Development (GICR), on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

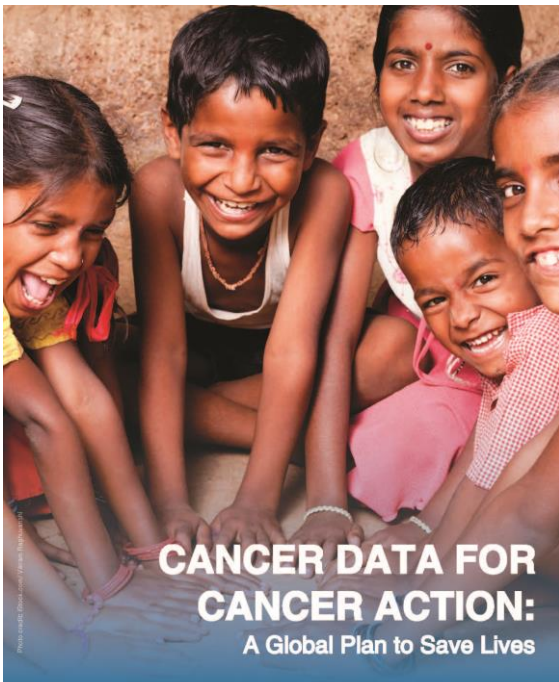
Globally, many regions bear an increasingly larger burden of cancer, yet are still developing means to gauge the full impact. The Global Initiative for Cancer Registry Development (GICR), launched in November 2011, supports the establishment and expansion of cancer registration in such areas, by means of providing analysis to governments, and training through its six Regional Hubs. In Asia, two Hubs have been established in Mumbai, India and in Izmir, Turkey. The NCC, as the new Collaborating Centre in Tokyo will complement the Hubs, strengthening activities in southeast and east Asia, and thus contribute to strengthening cancer control across national borders.

With the new framework, the NCC, together with the WHO/IARC, will develop training material, organize seminars on cancer registration and control, dispatch specialists to offer mentorship, to implement and establish cancer registration, and develop and strengthen capacities for statistics. Dr Tomohiro Matsuda (Section Head – National Cancer Registry Center for Cancer Control and Information Services / International Affairs at NCC) and also President-elect, International Association of Cancer Registries, will coordinate activities with a designated team. Matsuda represents the IACR's 592 members from over 130 countries and regions, and plays a pivotal role in cancer registration.

In Asia, where 46% of the world's incident cases of cancer are diagnosed, and aspects of morbidity, such as prevalence of liver/stomach cancer are shared, cooperation beyond national borders is ever more essential. Japanese expertise, acquired through the strong history of high-quality registration, statistics, and control of cancer is being called for. It is a great privilege to underpin global advances in reducing the burden and suffering due to cancer.



Dr H Nakagama, NCC president, and Dr C P Wild, IARC director, with the signed document



Global Initiative for Cancer Registry Development (GICR) Brochure Cover