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IARC renews key partnership with the National Cancer Centre of the Republic of Korea

The IARC Director, [Dr Christopher Wild](#), and the President of the National Cancer Centre of the Republic of Korea ([NCC-RK](#)), [Dr Jin-Soo Lee](#), signed in Lyon a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), to further strengthen relations between the two organizations and broaden the scope of joint research activities and academic interchanges.

The NCC-RK is the national comprehensive cancer centre established by the Government of the Republic of Korea in 2000. It leads research, medical care and education on cancer and supports the Government in formulating and implementing national cancer control policies and programmes. Its mission is to be one of the world's best cancer centres by developing a new paradigm in cancer research, rendering the best quality care to cancer patients and functioning as an educational and training hub for the next-generation cancer specialists.

The present agreement updates and expands an earlier MoU between the two organizations signed in 2008. Current collaborations between IARC and NCC-RK include: (i) Cancer registration – cooperation on cancer surveillance in the Republic of Korea and on the preparation of technical publications in this area; (ii) Early diagnosis and prevention of cancer – e.g. investigating the impact of *Helicobacter pylori* eradication on the prevention of stomach cancer; (iii) Cancer etiology – collaboration in the area of nutrition and cancer, e.g. development of customized dietary assessment methodologies for the Republic of Korea.

Dr Christopher Wild, speaking at the signature ceremony, said: “*We are confident that the signing of this agreement will lead to a further expansion of the research collaborations between IARC scientists and colleagues from NCC-RK, as well as from other research institutes in the Republic of Korea*”. Dr Wild went on to add: “*This work, building on the success of the joint research projects already underway, will further strengthen the efforts of both organizations in the development and implementation of initiatives for the prevention and control of cancer in the Asia-Pacific region*”.