



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PLANNING, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Agenda Statement on Pillar Coordination Mechanism for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs)

Presented by the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment (NICRAT), Nigeria

Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the National Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment (NICRAT), Nigeria, we are honoured to contribute to the deliberations on the pillar coordination mechanism for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, with particular emphasis on cancer prevention and control.

Cancer remains a significant and growing public health challenge in Nigeria and across low- and middle-income countries. In response, NICRAT has initiated a multi-pronged approach focused on the routinization and decentralization of cancer prevention services to improve access, early detection, and treatment outcomes.

Key among our strategic activities is the institutionalization of preventive oncology clinical services in tertiary health facilities across Nigeria. This initiative aims to make routine cancer screening a standard component of clinical care, thereby enabling early identification and management of cancer cases.

Recognizing the critical role of frontline healthcare workers, NICRAT has prioritized capacity building programs aimed at equipping them with the necessary skills to perform basic cancer screening, ensure prompt referral of suspected cancer cases, and provide treatment of precancerous cervical lesions.

To achieve sustainability and wide-scale impact, we are integrating cancer prevention services into primary healthcare platforms, including antenatal care, immunization, and family planning services. This is being achieved through strong collaboration with the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), ensuring that cancer screening becomes a routine part of essential health services.

NICRAT is also committed to building national capacity for cancer research, with a focus on innovative screening techniques, context-specific interventions, and community-based communication strategies to raise awareness and promote behavioural change.

We reaffirm our commitment to the global NCD agenda and emphasize the importance of coordinated, cross-sectoral action in addressing the cancer burden. We call on global partners to

Room 1103. 11th Floor, Federal secretariat Complex, Phase III, Ahmadu Bello Way, Central Area
P.M.B. 083, Garki - Abuja

E-mail: dhprs@health.gov.ng Website: www.health.gov.ng

support national efforts through technical collaboration, capacity strengthening, and sustainable financing models.

Thank you.