



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY
Directorate C – Public Health

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
Directorate E – People

Agenda point: Cancer Plan and Cancer Mission

Purpose and objectives

The purpose of this meeting is to update Member States on the progress of the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan (EU Cancer Plan) and the Mission on Cancer and to continue joint discussions dedicated to cancer, in particular on a possible format and mandate of a cancer sub-group of the SGPP which will be presented during the meeting

Key issues and background

When initiating the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan on World Cancer Day, 4 February 2020, European Commission President Von der Leyen called for a wide-ranging plan to join forces and improve Europe's response to cancer. The Europe's Beating Cancer Plan has been the Commission's flagship initiative in health, and its importance has remained intact after COVID-19 has entered our lives.

The EU Cancer Plan will be finalised in the end of 2020. It will reflect strong commitment to address cancer prevention and care in the coming years, and include valuable contributions of multiple sectors and stakeholders. The EU Cancer Plan will include actions across the entire disease pathway including the following four pillars: prevention, early diagnosis and treatment, as well as life as a cancer survivor and palliative care.

Delivering concrete benefits to citizens through knowledge, secure use of data and outcomes of research and innovation is an important component of the EU Cancer Plan. Therefore, the Mission on Cancer is prepared in close alignment and with the Mission Board acting as an independent advisory board to the EU Cancer Plan. It will propose a set of research and other policy actions in the above mentioned pillar areas and assist in the implementation. On 22 September 2020, the Mission outline was presented to the Commission, and its final Mission Report will be delivered in December 2020.

With respect to tackling cancer as addressed in Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and the Mission on Cancer, the Commission services are exploring policy options and use of financial instruments to initiate a gradual and synergised implementation of both initiatives, in close cooperation with Member States.

Issues/specific questions for the SGPP and Shadow PC to consider at the meeting

At the meeting, we will present a possible format and mandate of a cancer subgroup of the SGPP, which would be composed of members both nominated by the SGPP and

the subgroup on cancer of the Shadow Strategic Configuration of the Horizon Europe Programme Committee. Member States delegates will be asked to provide their views on the potential mandate of such a group.