

Dear colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure, on behalf of the International Union Against Cancer (UICC), to extend my support to the African Organization for Research and Training in Cancer (AORTIC) on the occasion of its 7th International Cancer Conference, entitled "Cancer in Africa: the New Reality".

Each year, almost 8 million people die from cancer worldwide and more than 11 million new cases are diagnosed. In today's world, everyone will be touched by cancer – as a patient, a family member or a friend.

The AORTIC Conference provides an important platform for sharing research relating to cancers prevalent in Africa and for raising awareness of the challenges of cancer control in the region. Within the context of the World Cancer Declaration recently launched by UICC, the conference will surely strengthen collaboration and lead to new partnerships to help shape the cancer control agenda in the African region. UICC looks forward to joining you in this important exchange of science and friendship.

Congratulations to the organizing committee and members of AORTIC for the organization of the 2009 AORTIC Conference and best wishes for a successful and fruitful conference.



David Hill
President, International Union Against Cancer (UICC)