



**ESMO Statement
for the
WHO Executive Board Meeting
22 January – 27 January 2024**

Agenda item 7: Follow-up to the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

Honorable Chair, Esteemed Delegates,

With [cancer as a leading cause of death worldwide](#), we urge governments to provide cancer services in national health benefit packages that are proportionate to the size of the cancer burden in their countries, in order to optimize resources and to achieve equity in cancer care.

[ESMO's Magnitude of Clinical Benefit Scale](#) can play a critical role in these processes by facilitating improved decision-making regarding the value of anti-cancer therapies, promoting the accessibility and reducing inequity of access to high value cancer treatments.

We also acknowledge the need to tailor national cancer control plans to individual countries' needs, and are proud to have supported the development of the [WHO cancer priority setting and costing tool](#), which can support national strategic health planning in low- and middle-income countries. Having already helped five Member States deliver cost-effective cancer services, we remain available to assist others to do the same.

Thank you.