



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

**Agenda item 9: Immunization Agenda 2030**

Honorable Chair, Esteemed Delegates,

The European Society for Medical Oncology representing more than 35,000 cancer professionals from 172 countries, welcomes the Director-General's report on Immunization Agenda 2030, particularly its prioritisation of the human papillomavirus vaccination.

Given that prevention offers the most cost-effective long-term strategy for cancer control, ESMO urges the WHO member states to:

- Include the routine vaccination of girls and boys against human papillomaviruses (HPV) in their national programmes.
- Ensure access to vaccination against the Hepatitis B virus (HBV).
- Remove obstacles - both physical and non-physical - to HPV and HBV vaccinations to increase vaccination coverage.

With the European Council due to release its Recommendations on Vaccine-Preventable Cancers shortly, we would emphasise the importance of these recommendations being reflected therein.

Thank you.