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Global Platform for Access to Childhood Cancer Medicines

Stakeholder Engagement Webinar

*The Global Platform in Action: How Country Led
Collaboration is Strengthening Access to Childhood
Cancer Medicines*

29 October 2025



Welcome and Webinar Introduction



Mr Santiago Millan
Cancer Team, Technical Lead
Global Platform
World Health Organization

Housekeeping

- **Interpretation** is available in French, Spanish, Arabic and Russian
- **Automated live captions** by Zoom in **+30 languages** (in the meeting controls toolbar, click the show captions icon )
- **Q & A function** available in Zoom to submit questions or comments (please indicate your **name and organization**)
- This meeting is being **recorded**
- Materials will be shared after the meeting



Webinar objectives

- 1** Engage a broader audience on the Global Platform's readiness principles and practices
- 2** Provide an overview of what country readiness means in the context of the Global Platform
- 3** Explore how readiness is achieved through collective action across civil society, governments, health facilities and partners
- 4** Explore lessons learned from countries on achieving country readiness

Agenda Overview

Time (CEST)	Topic
14:00 – 14:05	Welcome
14:05 – 14:15	Opening remarks: 'Childhood Cancer in the Political Declaration of the Fourth United Nations High Level Meeting on NCDs' Building momentum: 'Referencing outcomes of the UN General Assembly St. Jude side-event'
14:15 – 14:25	What does country readiness mean in the context of the Global Platform?
14:25 – 14:30	Moderated Q&A session
14:30 – 15:00	Panel Discussion: How does collective action work in practice to achieve country readiness?
15:00 – 15:20	Panel Discussion: In-country lessons learned
15:20 – 15:30	Closing remarks

Opening Remarks



Ms Dévora Kestel Director
Director a.i.
Department of Noncommunicable Diseases and
Mental Health (NMH)
World Health Organization



Dr Carlos Rodriguez-Galindo
Executive Vice President
Director, St. Jude Global
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

What does readiness mean in the context of the Global Platform?



Dr Jennifer Pauley
Director, Global Pharmacy
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital



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Global Platform for Access to Childhood Cancer Medicines

What is Readiness for the Global Platform?

Jennifer L. Pauley, PharmD

Director, Global Pharmacy
Department of Global Pediatric Medicine
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital



Meeting Outline

1. What is readiness?
2. What are the criteria that define readiness?
3. How is readiness achieved?

What is the goal of the Global Platform?



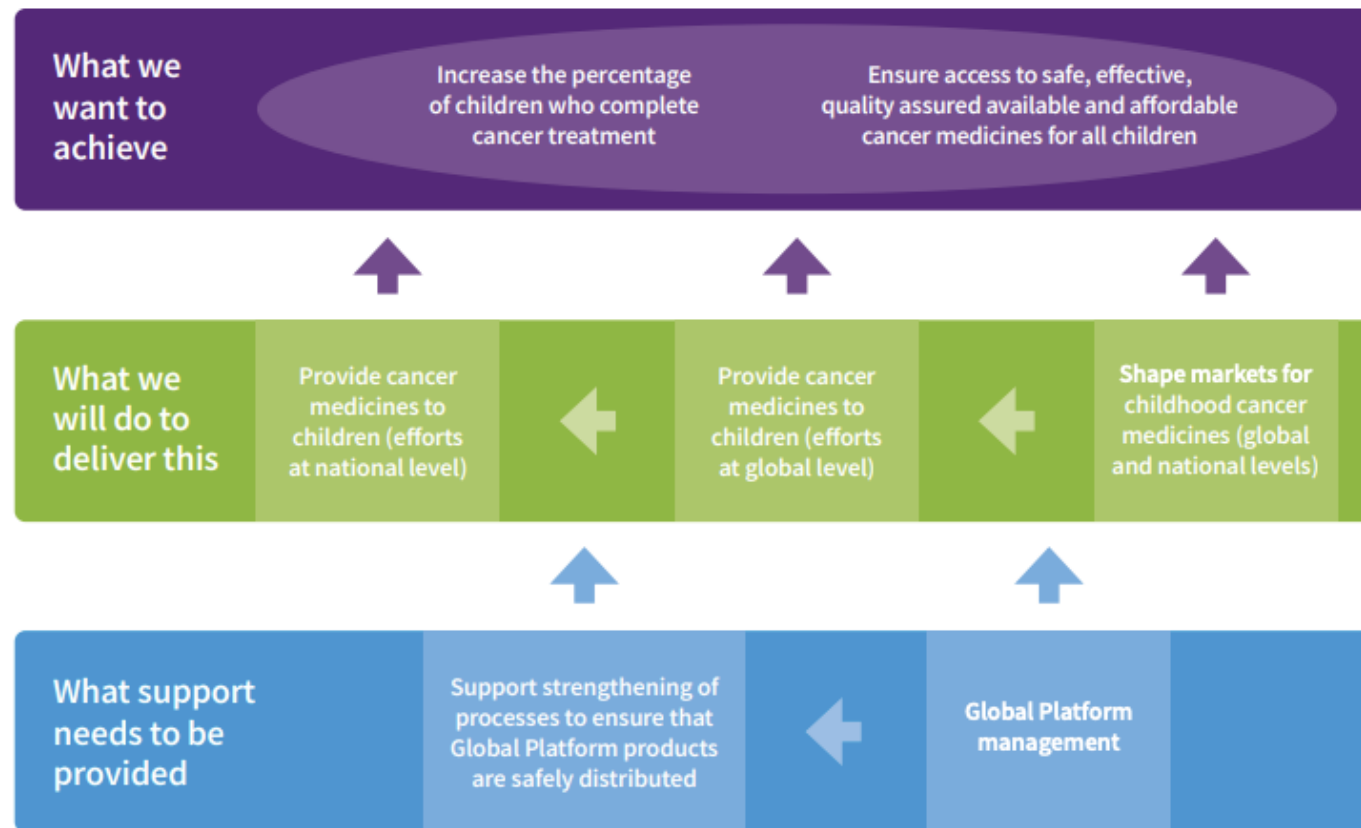
Goal:

Provide an uninterrupted supply of quality-assured childhood cancer medicines (53 formulations) with end-to-end support from selecting what formulations are needed to quantifying demand, to procuring, distributing and storing products safely, and administering medicines according to the best possible care standards.



What does the Global Platform set out to do?

- Launched by **St. Jude** and **WHO** in **2021**, in collaboration with **UNICEF** and **PAHO SF**
- A goal to provide medicines to approximately **120,000 children**
- Efforts at **national and global** levels
- Addressing **four pillars**:
 - Availability
 - Affordability
 - Accessibility
 - Quality assurance
- Not a donation programme, but a **co-created investment in health systems readiness** in advance of delivery of medicines

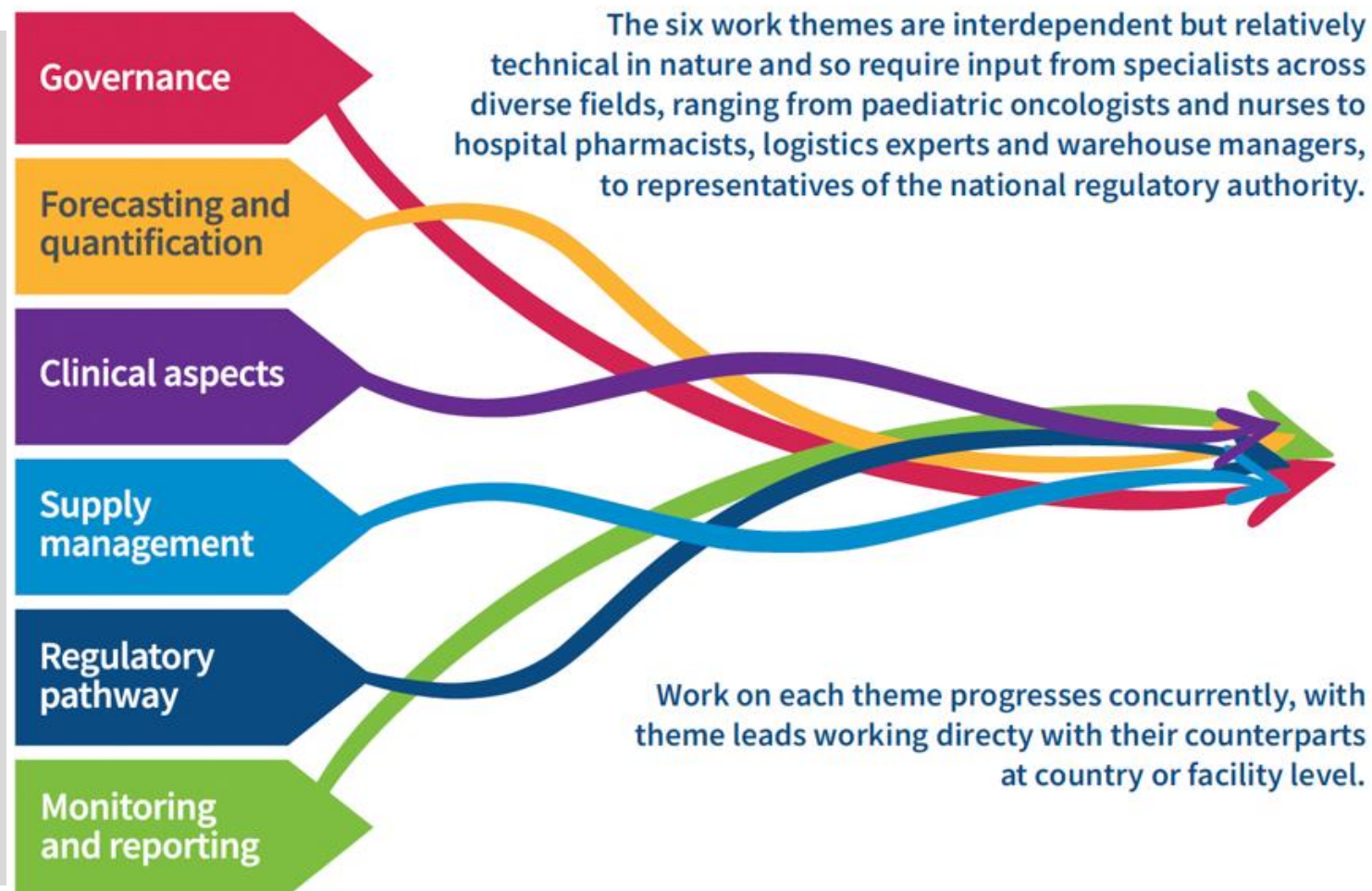


How we work: six interdependent work themes

With input from specialists with **expertise** across diverse fields such as **paediatric oncologists** and **nurses**, **logistics experts** and **warehouse managers**, **hospital pharmacists**, **logistics experts** and the **regulatory authority**.

Across each of these work themes, partners work **collaboratively** and **in detail** to develop the technical cornerstones that have formed the foundation of our work with the countries.

Together, they constitute a springboard for our work going forward.



Phases of country engagement



For most countries, the readiness phase spans Year 1 of engagement.

Focused on priority actions to enable countries to safely receive, transport, store and administer medicines.

Most countries begin to receive medicines in Year 2 of engagement.

Countries receive regular shipments of medicines and monitor and report quarterly.

Eventually, countries access medicines through a sustained supply mechanism co-designed with the Global Platform.



Participating countries are encouraged to view their engagement with the Global Platform as a **sustained partnership**, the nature of which will change over time

Defining the workstreams

WHAT

Definition of Readiness:

Capacity to safely and effectively provide Platform medicines to children with cancer, complementing other initiatives like the Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer.

WHY

Commitment:

Beyond donation — ensuring medicines safely reach patients in the correct form for use.

HOW

Readiness Criteria:

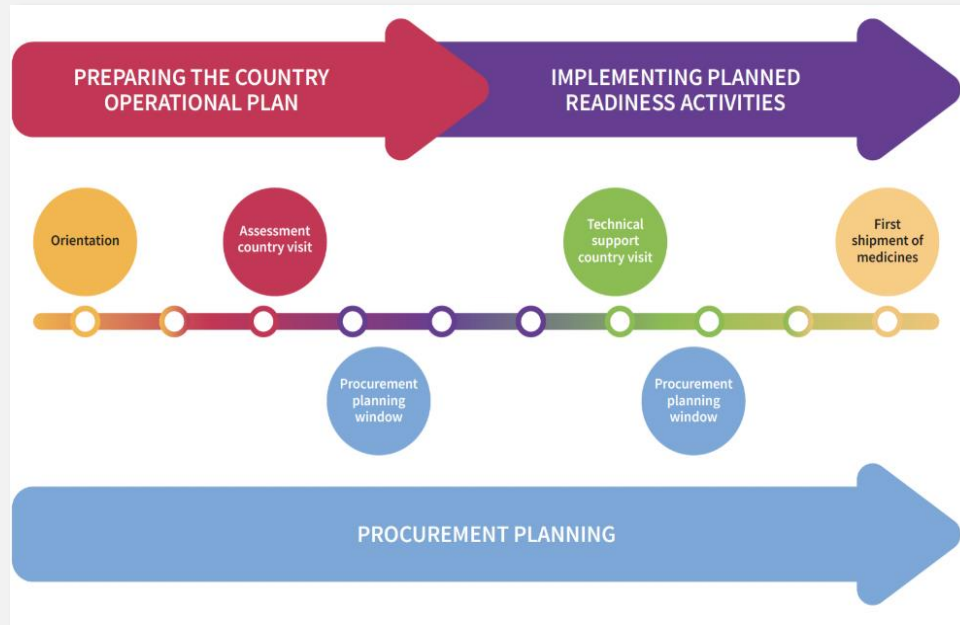
Defined by Minimum Standards; gaps identified at baseline are addressed through operational plans, with technical or financial support available to achieve readiness.

WHEN

Assessment Process:

An initial facility visit identifies which minimum standards are met; the governance mechanism sets timelines for remaining activities, all of which must be completed before medicines arrive.

Phases of country implementation: system readiness



Countries are assessed against minimum standards and an Operational Plan is developed and implemented to address recommendations



In parallel, forecasting and quantification work feeds into procurement planning, leading to procurement and supply by UNICEF or PAHO SF

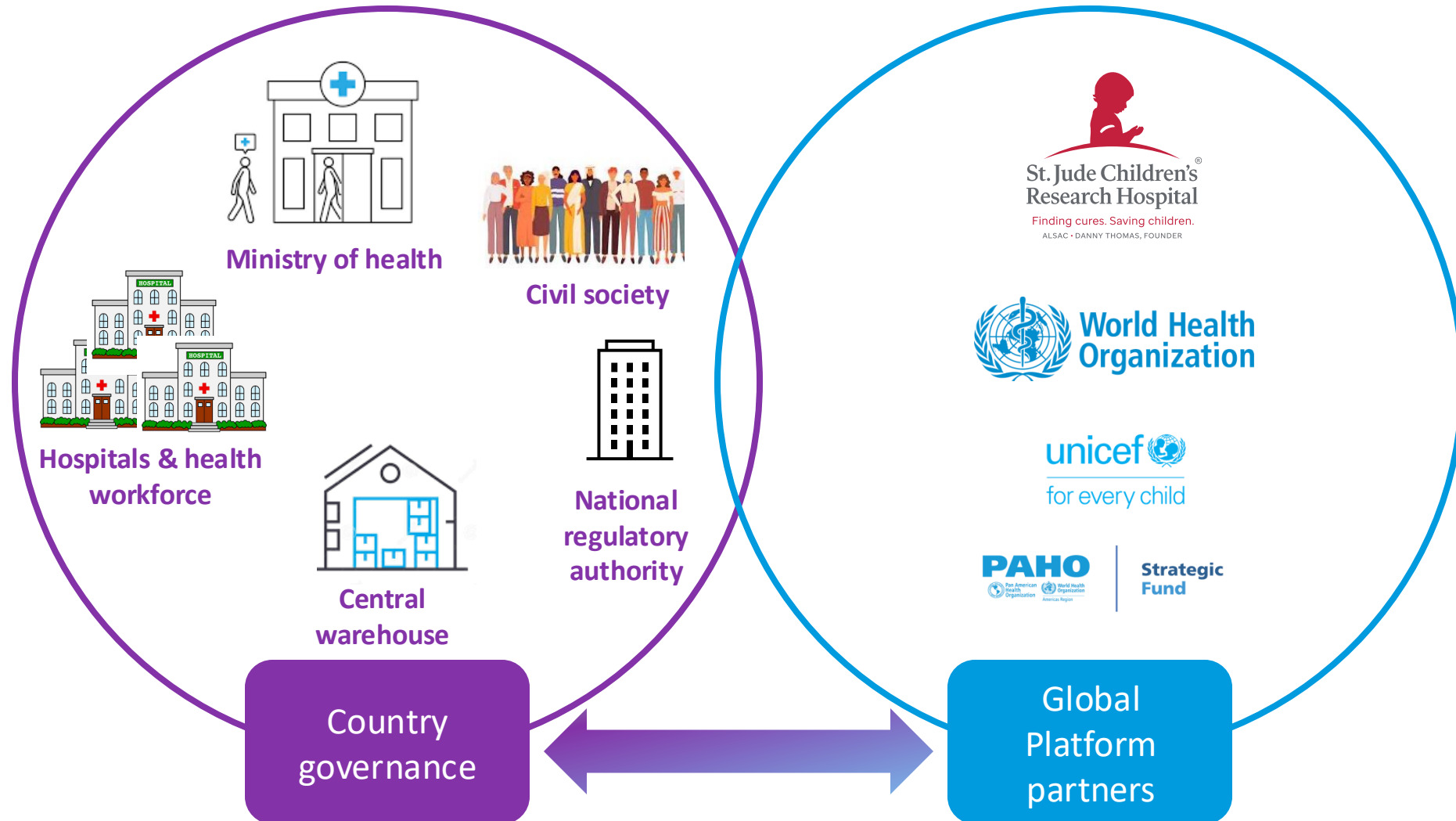


How quickly readiness activities can be implemented will determine when the first shipment of medicines is received

Fostering ownership and opportunities

Countries must:

- ✓ Terms of reference, representatives, meeting arrangements
- ✓ Strategic documents and agreements
- ✓ Operational Plan implementation
- ✓ Communications
- ✓ Accountability, monitoring and reporting
- ✓ Coordination with Global Platform partners



Collaborative approach to readiness and strengthening

- **Country-led** situational analysis (shared assessment primer)
- Global Platform **assessment visit** based on **supply chain** and **clinical minimum standards**
- **Co-designed Operational Plan** identifies **readiness activities** to be implemented, enabled by tech/financial support



Supply chain assessment

- Transport and distribution
- Central **warehousing**
- **Temperature and humidity** mgmt
- **Inventory** control
- **Dispensing, replenishing**, reporting



Clinical assessment

- **Personnel** training
- **Protection** measures for cytotoxic
- Chemotherapy **preparation, prescribing, administration**
- Incident **management**



Readiness activities

- **Technical support:** capacity building, development/enhancement of SOPs
- **Financial support:** infrastructure, equipment, distribution, training, QC, inventory management



How is readiness assessed?

01.

Initial baseline assessment of readiness

- **Orientation Call**
- **Assessment Primer**
- **in-country assessment**



Countries will not meet readiness at this stage



02.

Continuous assessment, tracking minimum standards

Minimum Standards



Operational Plan



03.

Alignment on minimum standards

Country Governance mechanism and Global Platform readiness panel will agree when minimum standards and other readiness standards are met



Systems readiness approval criteria

- Countries submit evidence on a rolling basis using the Global Platform readiness checklist
- The readiness panel reviews the evidence to confirm all criteria are met before approving transition to the active receipt phase

Box 1. Checklist of systems readiness approval criteria

- ☐ A governance mechanism has been established in line with the Global Platform and is operating to support Global Platform activities
- ☐ The letter of agreement has been signed
- ☐ A country operational plan has been developed and endorsed
- ☐ Agreement has been reached on the validity of procurement
- ☐ A regulatory pathway for medicines received through the Global Platform has been established and agreed with Platform team.
 - ☐ All medicines to be received have received market authorization
 - ☐ Any discrepancies related to labelling and importation requirements have been resolved
- ☐ The government and participating facilities have reporting in place to compile the data requested by the Global Platform
 - ☐ A focal point for reporting has been identified
 - ☐ Operational changes required at warehouse or facility level, such as product tracing or inventory tracking, are adequately in progress
 - ☐ Government and facility staff who require training on aspects of Global Platform reporting have been identified and trained accordingly.
- ☐ The priority activities set out in the country operational plan in response to the Global Platform team's recommendations have been completed or are adequately in progress.
- ☐ Satisfactory evidence has been supplied that the country's facilities and systems meet or exceed all applicable minimum standards, as recorded in the minimum standards activity tracker tool.



Orientation guide

for countries joining the Global Platform for Access to Childhood Cancer Medicines in 2025

Global Platform
for Access to Childhood
Cancer Medicines

Strengthening access through systems readiness

- The Global Platform aims to prepare countries for system readiness ahead of medicine delivery
- There are defined criteria used to assess for readiness
- Readiness is a collaborative process between the Global Platform, the country, the facilities, and all the members of the team involved





Thank You!

Panel 1:

Collective Action in Practice to Achieve Country Readiness



Moderator:

Dra. María Liliana Vásquez Ponce
Technical Officer, Childhood Cancer

PAHO Regional Office Focal Point, El Salvador and Ecuador
Member of the Global Platform for Access to Childhood Cancer
Medicines Stakeholder Engagement WG

Panelists



Ms Natalia Vîlcu-Bajurean
Parent Organisation "Viata fara
leucemie" (engl. Life
Without Leukemia), Moldova



Dr Sucharita Tuladhar
Pediatric Hematologist Oncologist
Assistant Professor, Patan Academy of Health
Science, Nepal



Dr Koku Awoonor
Technical Advisor
Chair of the National Steering
Committee, Ghana

Panel 2: In Country Key Lessons Learned



Moderator:
Mr Terence Fusire
Technical Officer for the Global Platform
World Health Organization

Panelists



Dr Ayesha Isani Majeed
MoH Representative and Chair of the National
Steering Committee of Pakistan
Director General Health, Pakistan



Dr Lisette Marmol
Childhood Cancer, Ministry of
Public Health and
Global Platform Country Focal
Point, Ecuador

Closing Remarks



Dr Alarcos Cieza
Unit Head
Department of NCDs and Mental Health
World Health Organization



Dr Bente Mikkelsen
Director, Global Engagement Strategies
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital



Global Platform for Access to Childhood Cancer Medicines

Thank you

LINKS

[Global Platform website \(WHO\)](#)

[Global Platform website \(St. Jude\)](#)

CONTACT

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