



Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: 14/06/2018 To: 14/06/2020

Part I. Statement of Continued Support

12th of June 2020

Secretary General to the United Nations,
Mr. Antonio Guterres,

Dear Stakeholders,

The [Children's Cancer Center of Lebanon \(CCCL\)](#) is proud to reaffirm its commitment to the UN Sustainable Goals and its 10 principals. In order to make our world a better place for the future generations, end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all, the CCCL will continue providing its contribution to the national and international community to help achieve the targets set in agenda 2030. Moreover, we recognize the interlinks of all SDGs and that urgent actions are necessary to improve the developments of all the global goals, hence we think that the CCCL's actions will ultimately improve the outcomes of implementing all SDGs on communities, societies and our planet if achieved. In this Communication of Engagement, we include the actions that CCCL has taken to support the UN Global Compact Network and its Principles

The CCCL promises to share this information with our stakeholders using all channels of communication available to us and we welcome any comments and feedback on its contents.

Sincerely yours,

Hana Char Choueib
CCCL General Manager

Part II. Description of Actions

The Children's Cancer Center of Lebanon (CCCL) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the treatment of pediatric cancer at no cost to parents. CCCL was established in 2002 under Notice no.138AD and operates under the applicable Lebanese laws of the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Social Affairs.

CCCL is governed by a Board of Trustees and has no affiliation with any political party. It is a NGO affiliated with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN, USA and operates in association with the American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC). The CCCL covers the treatment of all children without any types of discrimination such as gender, religion, culture, race or nationality.

CCCL actions include:

- 1- Working towards Universal Health Coverage and reaching goal 3.4 of the agenda 2030 by ensuring access to quality childhood cancer treatments for patients aged between 1 day and 18 years.
- 2- The CCCL provides a continuous and comprehensive psychosocial and wellbeing program to patients and survivors that include sports, educational, mindfulness and entertainment sessions assisting to improve treatment outcome and help them cope with their physical, mental and psychosocial situation.
- 3- Establishing new local partnerships especially with Ministry of Public Health in October 2019 related to the support and management of the Pediatric National Cancer Registry and expanding pediatric cancer awareness to rural areas of Lebanon. In addition to, to participation in global, regional, and local events emphasizing collaboration and networking in support of childhood cancer control.
- 4- Building dialogue with international institutions, cancer control organizations and Lebanese and non-Lebanese NGOs involved in the UN Global Compact Network.
- 5- CCCL conducted applied research and thought leadership to advance best practices, and delivered quality educational and awareness sessions in collaboration with medical workers, in addition to assessing, planning, training, advising and building smaller NGOs' capacity (internally and externally) by



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providing necessary tools to ensure high level of services, sustainability and international standardization.

CCCL management supported the promotion of the Global Compact 10 principals and the SDGs among the CCCL employees through various educational emails and participation in events and 5 online UNGC webinars.

Promoting the international commemoration days and months that include the United Nations' ones and SDGs-related days on CCCL social media channels' while using the relevant hashtags and tagging the concerned parties.

Promoting sustainable development in Lebanon by uniting different cancer-related civil society to advocate for cancer patients and unify efforts.

Initiating a network of hospitals throughout Lebanon to help provide treatment to more children in Lebanon.

Establishing an environmentally friendly culture at work and through introducing tips and awareness actions.

Reaffirming the gender and status equality policies and guaranteeing the implementation of the equal opportunity practice.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

Implementing its mission of supporting the treatment of kids with cancer, and in line with the universal health coverage plans and agenda 2030 3.4 target, the Children's Cancer Center of Lebanon (CCCL) is supporting almost 40% of total childhood cancer patients in Lebanon regardless of any backgrounds and with zero tolerance to any sort of discrimination.

Since 2002, the CCCL provided over 5,000 medical consultations and post treatment follow up examinations. Since joining the network, the CCCL treated 285 children with cancer; an increase of 10% on similar period pre-joining UNGCL as per the below table.

2016 -2018	2018-2020
256	285

Sponsored by the Ministry of Social Affairs, the CCCL developed its Patients' Wellness Program at both inpatient & outpatient facilities, where more than 40% of children totaling 116 of them benefited from over 300 sessions of expressive art, yoga, musical therapy, art craft and music lessons. A similar program was offered to cancer survivors with the initiation of the Champions' Circle in 2018 and included periodic activities like sports, positive thinking, yoga, cooking, expressive art and healthy living. As a result, the number of the Champions' Circle members, since its creation in 2018 grew by 100% to reach 240 members today.

Although the CCCL always had a fair gender representation throughout the years of operation, in 2018 and 2019 the staff divided as follows:

- In 2018: 12 males and 23 females, so 34.25% males and 65.75% females.
- In 2019: 12 males and 22 females, so 35.29% males and 64.71% females.

In line of SDG5, the CCCL has included gender equality policies in July 2019 to its "Recruitment & Benefits Procedures" and the following statement as a gender equality rules and practice:

"CCCL is keen on equal opportunities for employees, irrespective of the employee's gender, religion or origin, and the benefits at CCCL."

Moreover, All advertised vacancies include a disclaimer stressing the fact that CCCL is an equal opportunity employer committing further to SDG5.

In May 2019, as part of promoting the decent work place, CCCL conducted an Employees' Satisfaction Survey with 100% participation as well as a succession planning exercise. Below are the results:

- 83.5 % of employees are satisfied at work, treatment, benefits, pay and being part of the CCCL, which reflects the employees' turnover of the 3.03% only in 2018 and 2019.
- Human resources started to implement the concerns and comments given by staff. And will report on progress in the following COE.

5 Sophrology sessions were offered to 100 % of CCCL team members to ensure their mental health and reduce their stress, which resulted in achieving most of the target set in 2018 and 2019.

Soft trainings were offered to employees of the center as per the needs and based on equal opportunity for all. 31 training were done during 2019; they were divided as per the below:

1. 14 trainings for males
2. 17 trainings for females

In 2019, supported and encouraged by Management, we launched the CO2 saving competition among 30 members of CCCL's staff. The competition aim was to raise awareness about the necessity of acting on the climate change and the green houses' effect on the environment, which resulted in saving 138 metric tons from the usage of electricity (combined) and 52 metric Tons from transport; thus contributing to lessening the various dangerous pollutants that may remain in the atmosphere for decades and affect the health, water and air resources. In return, the CCCL distributed solar panel lightings to winner participants.

Since joining the UNGCN Lebanon, CCCL has established a comprehensive recycling program for PET and paper. The program managed to recycle 200 kg of papers and 30 kg of PET saving 38 meters of trees. (The numbers reflected above were hindered due to over the last 9 months prior to this report of instability and lock down imposed by government in Lebanon). In addition, staff took initiatives to reduce utilizing the plastic cutleries and cups and replaced them with metal and recyclable ones.

In 2019, the CCCL in partnership with 8 hospitals, established the "National Fund": a special Fund for treating patients in a variety of hospitals as per the below, hoping to reach 95% of the Lebanese territories (an increase of 20%).

Beirut:

- Geitaoui Hospital
- Makassed General Hospital

South:

- Hammoud Hospital University Medical Center
- Nabatieh Governmental Hospital

North:

- Centre Hospitalier du Nord

Mount Lebanon:

- Ain Wazein Hospital
- Bahman Hospital

In 2018 and 2019, the CCCL joined 3 international institutions such as the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), the Childhood Cancer International (CCI) and the International Humanitarian City (IHC) Dubai. Moreover, CCCL pursued other sector partnerships by attending 2 War on Cancer conferences organized by the Economist and both IHC Assembly General meetings to share and exchange experience and activities such as the action on SDGs and the agenda 2030.

Events attended as an advocate for cancer, active partner and member:

UICC World Cancer Congress Kuala Lumpur 2018	Presented 2 abstracts and participated in a panel discussion. Used the membership status to vote in the board of executive and new chair
UICC World Leaders Summit Kazakhstan 2019	Attended and participated in global discussion
Global SIOP/CCI Japan 2018	Presented 1 abstract and exhibited a painting for a survivor
SIOP/CCI ASIA 2019	Presented 2 abstracts
Global SIOP/CCI France	Attended
United Nation Interactive session on 2018	Attended and published a statement of support for the UN work on health issues
United Nation general assembly on Universal Health Coverage 2019	Attended
World Health Assembly 2019	Attended and participated in global discussions
Beirut Cancer Awareness Village event 2019/20	Exhibited the center's work and involved survivors and staff
Swiss Alternative Medicine Geneva 2019	Attended and participated in discussions, workshops and global discussion
Amman Adolescent Cancer conference 2019	Participated and presented the Champions' Circle
ALSAC and St Jude Global meeting 2018 – 2019	Training attended and presented the center to a global alliance

In total, 6 departments and 13 members around 40% of total employees benefited from those international and national engagements. After the outbreak of the pandemic, we will be focusing on attending virtual events due to COVID-19.

300 adults in 2018/19 benefited from cancer awareness and education sessions throughout Lebanon involving partners NGOs and medical workers, as follows:

- 50 Bekaa with LOST and AUBMC
- 50 Bent jbeil municipality with Amalouna and AUBMC
- 70 with Amalouna and Ibaad AIRahman
- 30 with KMC and AUBMC Medical Centers
- 100 at the 6th Rotary District 2452 Conference

North Autism Center (NAC) benefited from the assessment, empowerment and capacity-building program and peer-to-peer support training/discussion. Moreover, CCCL produced in collaboration with WHO and AUBMC a guidebook for pediatricians on Childhood Cancer to be distributed in 2020.

Advocating for the 10 principals and SDGs, the CCCL engaged its stakeholders, staff, patients and followers on social media by activating many related international days, such as Earth Day, Children and human rights days, childhood cancer days, world health day and many more.





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