



THE ASSOCIATION OF GYNAECOLOGIST AND OBSTETRICIANS OF TANZANIA

(Affiliate of International Federation of Gynaecologists and Obstetricians)

HEAD OFFICE :
P. O. Box 65117
Dar es Salaam
Tanzania.
Tel.: 151367 / 9 ext. 1179
Fax : 151471 / 151577

Our Ref.: AGOTA/cancer/01/08

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Your Ref.:
To: Cervical Cancer Action

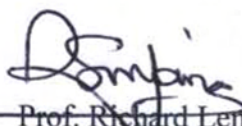
RE: AGOTA SUPPORT FOR GLOBAL ACTION FOR CERVICAL CANCER PREVENTION.

Our country Tanzania and AGOTA (The Association of Gynaecologists and Obstetricians of Tanzania) is submitting this letter to express our country's and our organization's strong support for rapid global access to comprehensive programs to protect girls and older women from cervical cancer.

We join the scores of other countries and leaders of civil society who share our commitment to improve cervical cancer prevention for all women and girls, no matter where they live. In our opinion, cervical cancer is something we can and should do something about.

This terrible disease is one of the most common causes of cancer-related death in Tanzania and other developing countries in Africa, in large part because screening and treatment programs do not reach many women in time. Cervical cancer afflicts women in their prime of life, and the ripples of this devastating disease are felt for their children, grandchildren, and larger communities. Access to improved screening and treatment, along with future vaccination, will be important elements of comprehensive programs to reduce cervical cancer mortality in our country. The faster we can get these technologies to our women, the faster we can save lives.

We share your commitment that access to new technologies should follow disease not wealth. We are counting on the leadership of multilateral organizations, governments, and industry to work to reduce the costs of the HPV vaccine and new screening technologies and increase access as quickly as possible. We stand ready to work in partnership with the global community to make these new tools available appropriately and effectively to the girls and women who need them most.


Prof. Richard Lema
President AGOTA