

## REVISITING AOFOG'S CALL TO ACTION AND COMMITMENT ON **CERVICAL CANCER ELIMINATION**

There were 348,000 deaths from cervical cancer in 2022 occurring in the low and middle income countries. Asia Oceania contributes to more than 50% of these cases worldwide. Cervical cancer disproportionately affects younger women and as a result twenty percent of children lose their mothers to this disease.

Cervical cancer is preventable and curable, as long as it is detected early and managed effectively. Few diseases reflect global inequities as much as cancer of the cervix. This is where the burden of cervical cancer is greatest. Access to public health services is limited and screening and treatment for the disease have not been widely implemented.

We in AOFOG heeded the call of WHO to undertake the global strategy to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem. All countries much reach and maintain an incidence rate of below four per 100,000 women. Achieving these goals rests on three key pillars: > Vaccination: 90% of girls fully vaccinated with the HPV vaccine by the age of 15