**International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)**

**STRONGER TOGETHER: WORKING TOWARDS
UNIVERSAL EYE HEALTH IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC**

**2018 Year in Review**

IAPB Western Pacific has continued to employ a **member engagement strategy** through 2018. This has allowed us to consolidate IAPB’s program in the region, to plan for key focus areas to coincide with the launch of the World Report on Vision in 2019 and to prepare the foundations for eye health strategy in the years beyond 2020. We gratefully acknowledge the support of our members, friends and stakeholders, without which our 2018 strategy would not have been as effective. The support given to the Regional Chair and Programme Manager, allowing for travel, consultation and the development of advocacy messages has been integral to our success.

Beyond the region the member feedback has been included in meetings at the **Board of Trustees** in April and at the **Council of Members** in September – this has ensured that the opinions and interests of WPRO members have been part of the planning process for IAPB as a new strategic direction was developed. Led by Peter Holland, new CEO of IAPB since May 2018, there has been significant input from the WP Region.

At the Council of Members, held in September in Hyderabad, the engagement of WP members was evident – for example in leading Working Groups related to Myopia, Diabetic Retinopathy, Sustainability and Gender Equity. Further, with 11GA on the horizon – and slated for WP - it was particularly pleasing to see large scale representation at a special WP consultation meeting.

**World Sight Day** brought a similar level of engagement under the 2018 theme: **Eye Care Everywhere**. Events were held across the region – led by Vision 2020 Australia, the Prevention of Blindness Committee in PNG, Cambodia’s Sub-sectoral Working Group, Vietnam’s Eye Care Working Group and Shanghai Eye Disease Prevention and Treatment Centre (including the launch of a special Chinese eye health pop-song). In Seoul, Korean IAPB member organisations joined together to launch a Korean Eye Care Working Group.

It’s important for us in Western Pacific to acknowledge the hard work of the global secretariat team – many of you have now had a chance to meet our communications team, membership coordinators and standard list coordinators. We have a fantastic team, working tirelessly behind the scenes and I know that you will all share my thanks for their support in 2018.

*Please see Appendix A for a full list of members and stakeholders with whom we consulted in 2018.*

Our **Key Objectives for 2018** and highlight milestones achieved are set out below:

**Objective 1 Generate and use evidence to advocate for increased political and financial commitment to eye health**

* RAAB undertaken in Laos by Eye Care Working Group members; results dissemination workshop conducted by IAPB.
* Supporting key advocacy messages of PacEYES at Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust, LINKS and World Ophthalmology Congress meetings in June 2018 (this included HR advocacy messages developed as a result of 2017 activities)
* Developing funding proposals with key sub-sectoral bodies in Australia, Malaysia, PNG and Korea/Federated States of Micronesia plus with key funding bodies in China, UK, Australia and the US.
* Collaboration with WHO, Fred Hollows Foundation Brien Holden Vision Institute (BHVI) and key regional stakeholders for Focus Area meetings on Cataract Surgery Outcomes, Myopia and Health Financing
* Worked with Fred Hollows Foundation and BHVI to develop a Health Financing Strategy – including Introduction to Health Financing workshops in Australia and Mongolia and planned in 2019 for Vietnam and Cambodia
* Worked with Malaysia Ministry of Health and WHO to jointly convene a Cataract Surgery Outcomes meeting in Kuala Lumpur
* Worked with Singapore Eye Research Institute (SERI) and BHVI to jointly convene a meeting on Myopia Control Strategies in Singapore

**Objective 2 Develop, implement and review of national, plans, policies and programmes for Universal Eye Health**

* Collaboration with WHO, Fred Hollows Foundation for World Report on Vision Consultation and the development of a World Report on Vision launch strategy for 2019.
	+ Including co-host (with Fred Hollows Foundation New Zealand) of Pacific Islands Coordinator consultation meeting – the first global World Report on Vision consultation
* Worked with IAPB members in Korea and Laos to establish sub-sectoral working groups.
* Worked with the Vietnam National Institute of Ophthalmology, BHVI, Eye Care Foundation and Eye Care Working Group to support optometry advocacy in line with the Global Action Plan
* Together with the Fred Hollows Foundation, supported National Institute of Hospital Administration to hold the 2nd National China Eye Health Conference, Hefei Anhui, in August.
	+ Included a Belt & Road Dialogue session for IAPB members

**Objective 3 Support members, engage other sectors and strengthen the partnership for eye health**

* Continued a regular newsletter, including the profiling of newer and smaller members and the highlighting of key member activities
* Initiated a series of blog posts – including a week in June dedicated to the China National Sight Day with posts in Mandarin and English
* Engaged with the WHO WPRO office to align work-plans for 2018 & 2019 on both key focus areas (Cataract Surgery Outcomes & Myopia) and World Report on Vision development and rollout
* Worked with WHO and PNG PBL to develop a plan for a national cataract blitz
* Engaged with both members and national bodies, attending sub-sectoral conferences in Australia, China, Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Mongolia, PNG, New Zealand
* First of a series of consultation meetings for development of 11GA strategy was held in Shanghai to engage our Chinese members (hosted by Shanghai Eye Disease Prevention and Treatment Centre – SEDPTC)
* Regular informal discussions with members to understand and support their needs and priorities and to facilitate greater cooperation between members
* 4 new members joined IAPB as a direct result of engagement and strengthening the network

**Objective 4 Embedding of Gender Equity into IAPB-led events and national conversations.**

* Dialogue session led by Gender Equity Working Group co-chair at Cataract Surgery Outcomes meeting in Malaysia
* Presentation by Gender Equity Working Group co-chair at Myopia Control Strategies meeting in Singapore.
* Adoption of gender equity as a standing agenda item on Korea and Laos Eye Care Working Groups
* Presentation on gender equity in the context of Global Burden of Avoidable Blindness issues in Inner Mongolia and Taiwan

As mentioned above, critical to our strategy has been membership engagement. We couldn’t have done this without the support and input of our members, potential members and partners. We are proud to have a particularly strong partnership with WHO in Western Pacific and we are grateful for the operational support provided by the Fred Hollows Foundation Australia and the Brien Holden Vision Institute. Also, thank you to Fred Hollows Foundation New Zealand, Project BOM, Shanghai Eye Disease Prevention and Treatment Centre, National Institute of Hospital Administration in China, Ministry of Health Malaysia, Singapore Eye Research Institute and Eye Care Foundation for significant in-kind contributions.

**Appendix A:**

List of Member and Stakeholder consultations in 2018

* Our colleagues in the London Secretariat and Hyderabad Communications team,
* Vision 2020 Australia,
* Fred Hollows Foundation Australia, (including Cambodia, China, Laos, Philippines & Vietnam offices and Australasia sub-region)
* Brien Holden Vision Institute
* PNG Eye Care
* CBM Western Pacific Region
* Centre for Eye Research Australia,
* Australian College of Optometry,
* RANZCO,
* Sight For All,
* Fred Hollows Foundation New Zealand,
* PacEYES,
* Members of the Prevention of Blindness Committee of PNG
* Members of the Eye Care Working Group Vietnam,
* Orbis,
* Helen Keller International,
* Eye Care Foundation
* Vietnam National Institute of Ophthalmology, (VNIO)
* Seva Foundation,
* Cambodia Ophthalmology Society,
* National Ophthalmology Centre, Laos
* Singapore Eye Research Institute,
* Global Clinic,
* Pellucid,
* Eyetess
* PBL Malaysia,
* National Institute of Hospital Administration of China (NIHA)
* AIER Group,
* Shanghai Eye Disease Prevention and Treatment Centre,
* Zongshan Ophthalmology Centre,
* Chaojou Group,
* Huaxia Group
* He Vision Experts
* Sightlife
* Onesight
* Project BOM,
* Good People International
* Heart to Heart
* Korean Ophthalmology Society
* Korean Society for the Prevention of Blindness
* Juntendo
* Ministry of Health Mongolia
* World Diabetes Foundation,
* WHO, WPRO and World Report on Vision team, Geneva
* Lions Club International Foundation

**New Co-ordination Bodies Established in 2018:**

(thanks to Fred Hollows Foundation Regional office for support with TOR)

* Laos Eye Care Working Group
* Korean Eye Care Working Group