International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness

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Regional Chairs

The Regional Chair is a voluntary leadership position. Regional Chairs work closely with stakeholders across each region and in coordination with the IAPB global office to advocate for Universal Eye Health and strengthen regional and national activities for the prevention of avoidable blindness and visual impairment. Regional Chairs also serve as an IAPB Trustee and thus contribute to the strategy and governance of the organisation globally.

General Responsibilities

- To support the development and monitor implementation of IAPB regional strategy, in alignment with the IAPB global strategic framework
- To raise the profile of IAPB and Universal Eye Health in their region
- To guide and advise IAPB regional coordinators and other regional staff and assist the CEO in their annual review
- To represent IAPB at a wide range of health and development meetings and forums with a view to increasing awareness of Universal Eye Health among decision-makers and donor institutions
- To regularly update the IAPB Board and Council of Members on IAPB regional strategies, plans and related activities
- To provide recommendations on membership applications from their region
- To establish close relationships with IAPB members with a view to promoting collaborative programmes of work
- To establish close working relationships with regional WHO staff and key Ministries of Health
- To promote a culture of sharing, learning and best practice across the region and enhance the regional capacity to work towards Universal Eye Health
- To design and establish a relevant voluntary support network to help with the fulfillment of IAPB's regional work
- To support efforts to secure funding to extend regional work towards the sector's objectives

Person Specification

A competent leader in the prevention of blindness in the region they represent with:

- Demonstrated commitment to the work of IAPB
 - Advanced understanding of issues around public health in general and eye health in particular;

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- Extensive networks in multiple countries, preferably across governments, intergovernmental organisations, civil society and the private sector
- Commitment to the IAPB values of plurality and collaboration and ability to relate and work cooperatively with peers and colleagues
- Time, energy and commitment to fulfill the role.

Time Commitment and Funding

As well as regional commitments, the role of Regional Chairs will also involve preparation for and attendance at two global board meetings per year. It is essential that those considering taking up a regional chair's position are able to devote enough time to these essential duties.

IAPB Regional Chairs are voluntary positions similarly to that of trustee. Regional chairs are given an annual budget for travel and activities agreed with the CEO and head of staff in the regional office (if applicable). Reimbursements for agreed budget expenses are accorded in line with IAPB's independent trustees expense policy.

Regional chairs serve a term of four years. They may be re-nominated for a further four-year term, after which they will have to stand down for at least one term.