Nominee Statement: Aaron Thembinkosi Magava

# Position: IAPB Africa Regional Chair

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| **Nominee Name** | |
|  | Aaron Thembinkosi Magava |
| **Nominee Job Title** | |
|  | Chair Africa Region IAPB/ Ophthalmologist |
| **Nominee Organisation** | |
|  | CBM International |
| **Nominating IAPB member organisation** | |
|  | CBM International |
| **Represented by:** | |
|  | Muhammad Babar Qureshi |
| **Seconded by:** | |
|  | Dr Adel Abdulaziz Al Rushood |
| **Seconding IAPB member organisation:** | |
|  | Al Basar International Foundation |
| **Seconding Statement** | |
|  | Aaron Thembinkosi Magava is an ophthalmologist and a Public Eye Health Expert based in Zimbabwe. He is a member of the Ophthalmological Society of Zimbabwe which is an affiliate of the College of Ophthalmology of East Central and Southern Africa. His work primarily involves eye health administration at Ministry of Health Head Office and Provincial Level as well as facility based patient management in Mashonaland East Eye Health Project. Mashonaland East is an eye health project which is a partnership between Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, Zimbabwe Council for the Blind and CBM.  Aaron is also involved in Human Resource Development through nursing, undergraduate and post graduate training. He is also involved in Eye Health Policy and Strategic document development for Sub Saharan African States as well as advising on Implementation Plans in Eye Health at facility level. This function is performed under several portfolios. These include being the current International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness(IAPB) Chair for Sub Saharan Africa, as a member of the Eye Health Expert committee in the East Central and Southern Africa Health Community(ECSA-HC) which advises Health Ministers on areas pertaining to Eye Health Care, also as the CBM Inclusive Eye Health Initiative medical advisor for Southern Africa and as a member of the National Prevention of Blindness Committee of Zimbabwe in the Ministry of Health. Aaron has strategically led the African region in comprehensive eye care in the last four years. During his tenure as the current Chair for IAPB Sub Saharan Africa, the Core competencies for the eye health worker was launched in conjunction with WHO Afro as well as the Primary Eye Care Manual. Currently the Eye Health Co-Chair of the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community, he was involved in passing of the Health Ministers’ Resolution on eye health in the region. Other advocacy efforts, amongst others, resulted in policy shift within countries to integrate Human Resources for Eye Health into human resources for health as well as addition of eye health indicators in national HMIS for countries in the WAHO Region.  Dr Adel Rushood and I would very much like that you vote for continuation of Aaron as the Regional Chair Africa (full statement attached)   |  | | --- | | **Nominee Statement** | | I Aaron Thembinkosi Magava am an Ophthalmologist and a Public Eye Health Expert based in Zimbabwe and a member of the Ophthalmological Society of Zimbabwe, an affiliate of the College of Ophthalmology of East Central and Southern Africa.  My work primarily involves eye health administration, patient management and health personnel training at Marondera Provincial Hospital in Mashonaland East,project which is a partnership between Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, Zimbabwe Council for the Blind and Christian Blind Mission(CBM).  I am involved in Health Ministry Eye Health Policy and Strategic document development as well as advising on Implementation Plans in Eye Health at facility level. This function is performed under several portfolios I hold. These include being the IAPB Chair for Sub Saharan Africa(which I have occupied in the past four years), as a member of the Eye Health Expert committee in the East Central and Southern Africa Health Community(ECSA-HC) which advises Health Ministers on areas pertaining to Eye Health Care, as the CBM Inclusive Eye Health Initiative medical advisor for Africa South and as a member of the NPBC Committee in the Ministry of Health, Zimbabwe.  Some of the achievements during my tenure as Chair of the Sub Saharan Africa region include the launch of the Core Competencies document for the Eye Health Worker Team with WHO AFRO as well as the Primary Eye Health Training Manual which was field tested in Ghana. We are also involved in the East Central and Southern Africa Health Community as the current Co-Chair. During this time, we facilitated the discussion which resulted in a Ministerial Resolution on Eye Health. Through our advocacy efforts, several countries have integrated Human Resources for Eye Health into the Human Resources for Health. Further advocacy efforts with WAHO has resulted in a change within countries to include eye health indicators in the Health Ministries’ HMIS systems. In the month of March 2021, during the Glaucoma week, IAPB Sub Saharan Africa in conjunction with Light for the world launched the Glaucoma Toolkit. If nominated, I am going to continue efforts to realise universal eye health coverage and making delivery of eye health people centred and inclusive, following the guidelines set within the World Report on Vision. | |