Nominee Statement: Dr. Wei He

# Position: IAPB Board Group C Trustee

|  |
| --- |
| **Nominee Name** |
| Dr. Wei He, He Eye Specialist Hospital (HESH), China |
| **Nominee Job Title** |
| Founder and President |
| **Nominee Organisation** |
| Shenyang He Eye Hospital |
| **Nominating IAPB member organisation** |
| Shenyang He Eye Hospital |
| **Represented by:** |
| Helen Yan, Director of Social Responsibility Department |
| **Seconded by:** |
| Sara Jahani |
| **Seconding IAPB member organisation:** |
| HelpMeSee |
| **Seconding Statement** |
| It is with great pleasure that I write this letter in support of the nomination of Dr. He Wei from Shenyang He Eye Hospital for the Group C Trustee. As the CEO and President of HelpMeSee Inc., a not for profit organization headquartered in New York City and a Group C member of the IAPB, I am committed to HelpMesSee’s mission of restoring vision to people living with severe visual impairment and blindness due to cataract worldwide. Dr. He Wei is one of the most passionate and giving leaders I have met in working to ensure global standards and access to eye health. In 2006, Shenyang He Eye Hospital, founded by Dr. He, became the first private sector in China to join the IAPB. During his tenure as the China Co-chair of the IAPB Western-Pacific Region, Dr. He also mediated Liaoning Provincial Department of Health to become the first province in China to join VISION 2020. Dr. He is a keen supporter of the IAPB sponsored Belt and Road Forum at the annual China National Eye Health Conference and continues to be a leader among the IAPB members in China. For his years of robust and collaborative partnership with the IAPB, Dr. He was given the IAPB Outstanding Achievement Award in 2019, and Vision Excellence Award in 2020. Dr. He Wei also has committed to developing global strategies to improve eye health in Africa and Southeast Asia. Dr. He has co-hosted three Eye Health Forum on China-Africa Cooperation together with the IAPB and other partners since 2018. Dr. He has also implementing training programs to ophthalmologists from Africa and Southeast Asia together with HelpMeSee. Although I have not had the opportunity to personally visit Shenyang He Eye Hospital, I was impressed by my colleagues’ feedback on the standards of training and innovation employed there. I know the history between Dr. He Wei and the IAPB has been successful but still is in its early years. Without hesitation, I believe Dr. He will continue to support the work of the IAPB to make greater contributions to achieve universal access to eye health. |
| **Nominee Statement** |
| Co-Chair for the IAPB Western Pacific Region (2008-2016) |

 IAPB Outstanding Achievement Award Recipient in 2019

Vision Excellence Award Recipient in 2020

I am an ophthalmologist and a passionate leader in blindness prevention in China with more than 30 years’ experience in ophthalmology. I founded He Vision Group, which combines with He University, 100 He Eye Specialist Hospitals and Clinics, He Postgraduate institute of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and China Eye Industry Base. We have 10,000 university students, 100 postgraduates and 1,000,000 patients and 60,000 surgeries annually. I have been formally involved in the IAPB activities since 2005 and in 2015 I became the Co-Chair of the IAPB China Committee, which is affiliated with the IAPB Western Pacific Region and responsible for promoting the eye care advocacy and programs in China.

In 2020, I was re-elected as Vice Chairman of the Chinese National Guiding Committee for the Prevention of Blindness.

My organisations have extensive experience working in China and in the IAPB Western Pacific, Southeast Asia and Africa regions. This includes feasibility studies into activities in Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Cambodia. Under the Belt and Road Initiative I have organized a number of IAPB-supported conferences between China and African countries since 2018, including three China-Africa Eye Health Forum and Belt and Road Nations 2019 Eye Health Forum. This dialogue series was the first official opportunity for China and African countries to hold discussions on eye care. It led to cooperation agreements with countries, including Nigeria, Ethiopia, Uganda and Rwanda to extend the He Eye Specialist Hospital model – not least through the training and up-skilling of in-country specialists at He University.

I am currently planning a global program on children’s eye health which is now launching in Pakistan, Cambodia and Myanmar, to help building the first national innovative, sustainable, low-cost, efficient and comprehensive children’s eye health model based on digital technology and big data analysis.

I would very much appreciate your support in this election to the iAPB Board of Trustees. If elected, my vision is as follows:

**Current Vision as IAPB Trustee (if elected)**

1．Advocacy: establishing more dialogue mechanisms between China and other countries in the post-COVID era.

2．Innovation: engaging AI based technology to more developing countries in Africa and South East Asia.

3．Integration: providing more training opportunities with a series of innovative applications.