



International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness

IAPB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE 5th February 2013

Teleconference

MINUTES

Date -	Tuesday, 5 th February 2013
Time -	14:00-15:30 London time
Venue -	Teleconference
Attending -	Chair: Bob McMullan Member(s): Johannes Trimmel; Adrian Poffley; Kathy Spahn; Serge Resnikoff, Abdulaziz AlRahji In attendance: Peter Ackland, Richard Bennett, Alessandro Di Capua

Minutes

1. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. There were no matters arising which were not covered in the Agenda.

2. Membership

The Executive Committee approved the Group C membership application from Addenbrooke's Abroad, which had also received the recommendation of the Europe Regional Chair / Co-Chair.

3. Strategic Plan 2013-2017

BM referred to RB's report on the members' survey about the next strategic priorities for IAPB. RB confirmed that just over 70 responses had been received, distributed in roughly a proportional way among all membership categories.

3.1. Strategic Aims and Priorities

Discussion ensued, including the following points:

- There was overall consensus on Advocacy and Capacity Building as the two broad strategic aims IAPB should be focusing on, and that both were equally important;
- There was agreement that IAPB's approach to Advocacy should be flexible and modular, so that different stakeholders (board, staff, global, regional, secretariat, members) could lead on different issues based on who was best placed to do so on a case by case basis;
- It was noted that it would help the discussion in Bangkok to have, alongside the strategic framework, also the indication of a few tangible priorities IAPB should be focusing on in the first half of the strategic plan period; this would provide concrete examples to inform the discussion around the framework;

ACTION: RB and PA to put forward suggestions about Advocacy priorities for the period 2013-2015

- It was noted that the four priorities outlined within the Capacity Building aim, Information/Training/Best Practice/Procurement, may require prioritisation as efforts to take all of them on may dilute focus and quality of service;
- There was general agreement that providing Information to members and the general public should be a priority within the Capacity Building aim;
- It was noted that within the Best Practice and Training priorities, IAPB could play a facilitating role, for example concentrating in creating spaces / platforms for members to learn from each other and share success stories;
- It was also agreed that procurement was a useful service IAPB should continue concentrating on for the next strategic plan;

3.2. Structure

Discussion also continued whether the strategic review should also be looking at the governance and membership structure of IAPB. There was general agreement that it would make more sense to concentrate initial work on identifying the strategic priorities first. It is intended that this should be followed by a structural review to reflect the agreed functions. This will commence in 2014.

It was also noted the intention to review the choice of IAPB being a UK registered entity during the strategic framework timeframe.

3.3. Resourcing

Finally, it was discussed the issue of how should IAPB resource itself in order to pursue its next strategy.

It was highlighted the distinction between IAPB mobilising resources for eye health in general and IAPB fundraising to resource its own operations. With regards to the latter, there was general agreement in the principle of IAPB being able to fundraise insofar that it was not done in direct competition with members; as per the former, it was noted that the focus should be in ensuring that more resources were made available for eye health, rather than in proactively seeking to manage grant-giving programmes similar to Seeing is Believing.

BM thanked everybody for the constructive discussion and noted that a draft strategic plan will be available by the end of February and circulated to all members for further feedback then.

The meeting was then declared closed as there was no other business.