



IAPB Executive Committee

17th February 2015 – Teleconference

Time - 15:00-16:00 London time

Venue - Teleconference

Attending - Chair: Bob McMullan

Members: Adrian Poffley; Serge Resnikoff; Kathy Spahn

Apologies: Jennifer Gersbeck; Neil Murray; Johannes Trimmel

In attendance: Peter Ackland; Joanna Conlon; Elizabeth Tinsley; Alessandro Di Capua

Agenda

1. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

PA confirmed that a review of the reward policy had now been inserted into the work plan for 2015 as per agenda item 8 of the previous meeting minutes.

2. Executive Committee elections

BM confirmed the re/election of Kathy Spahn, Serge Resnikoff, Jennifer Gersbeck and Neil Murray as the four representatives of the board on to the Executive Committee.

The latter two will be joining their first meeting in Dubai.

3. Update from Geneva/Washington meetings on Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

PA updated the committee on recent meetings with WHO and the World Bank concerning the possibility of inclusion of cataract surgery coverage (CSC) as one of the indicators to measure UHC.



The first draft of a WHO report on UHC to be published in May now included two pages on CSC, including a case study.

There had been also positive discussions to include CSC in a second broader report from WHO on 100 core health indicators.

These were positive developments, particularly in view of the post-2015 debates to include cataract surgery as one of the indicators for the UHC goal.

4. Update from Regional Taskforce

No report was available from the taskforce as JT, chairman of the group, was experiencing connection problems from Ethiopia. This had also impeded him to join a taskforce's conference call the day before.

A written update would be sought prior to the meeting in Dubai instead.

5. Board meeting agenda

The agenda for the board meeting in Dubai was approved, with only a few minor changes reflected in the updated agenda.

KS suggested inclusion of an update on the parallel global advocacy initiative being mounted by a group of IAPB member organisations.

SR raised the opportunity to invite Ivo Kocur of WHO, or to enable him to call in for the Global Action Plan part of the agenda. PA/ADC to action.

6. Finance

AP referred to the management accounts in the papers. He noted that the new Head of Finance, Elizabeth Tinsley, had seamlessly taken over from Blandine Labry with no glitch.

He noted that the finance papers reflected the provisional situation as per December 2014, with reserves well above the benchmark agreed by the trustees, and confirmed that no particular change was expected once this was going to be presented to the Board in Dubai. He also noted that the audit, which was half way through its work, had not till now thrown out any particular issue worth of consideration.



7. Membership applications

The membership applications of Eye Samaritans International and Eye Care Foundation were approved.

It was agreed that going forward notice of no objection from the regions in which the proposed new members operate should also be sought, together with the endorsement from the one where it was registered.

8. AOB

a. Future meetings

It was agreed that conference calls going forward should be scheduled at the best possible time for all the areas involved, i.e. at early morning USA Eastern Time Zone / evening Australia Time Zone.

b. HR issue

PA reported on a recent HR issue that had taken place. In summary, tax reliefs for employee's pension payments had been accounted twice in the pension of some of the staff (i.e. those making employee's contributions) since the current pension scheme had been set up. In practice the tax relief had been accounted for both in the payroll and through the pension provider, resulting in a surplus in the employees' pensions and equal gap in tax payments.

PA confirmed that all employees had been informed and agreement had been reached with all as to the recoup of the excess funds from each employee's pension in order to clear the underpayment in taxes.

It was confirmed that, apart from one employee who had left IAPB through a compromise agreement for which IAPB would not recoup the small unpaid tax amount of few hundred pounds, the costs were going to be picked up by each employee through their overpaid pension funds and not by the charity.

PA regretted the accident and confirmed that once all outstanding dues had been resolved, a review of control systems would be undertaken with both the payroll and the auditors to understand how the mistake had happened and to ensure nothing similar would happen in the future.

The matter was also going to be raised at the Audit Committee meeting.



c. Executive Committee pre-meeting in Dubai

It was agreed that the Executive Committee would meet prior to its scheduled 11am meeting on 29th March in Dubai, over breakfast, or in the empty slot 9-10.30am, on the same day. This would enable informal welcome of the new members and the possibility for the regional taskforce/regional chairs to input on any proposal arising from the regional taskforce.

As there was no other issue, the meeting was declared closed.