

Council of Members Meeting
21 September, 2014

AGENDA ITEM 2.1b: Regional reports (for information only)

IAPB-EMR PROGRESS REPORT APRIL-SEPTEMBER 2014

Reporting regional progress in the Eastern Mediterranean against the three objectives of ‘Universal Eye Health: A Global Action Plan 2014-2019’

Objective 1 - Evidence generated and used to advocate increased political and financial commitment of Member States for eye health

1. RAAB DR survey conducted in northern region of Saudi Arabia from May –July 2014.
2. EMR trachoma alliance has developed proposals for mapping of Pakistan, Somalia and Afghanistan to the Global Mapping of Trachoma Project.
3. Two persons from EMR trained as RAAB DR trainers at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.
4. More RAAB DR trainers to be trained by IAPB- EMR between now and next year.

Objective 2 - National eye health policies, plans and programmes for enhancing universal eye health developed and/or strengthened and implemented in line with WHO’s framework for action for strengthening health systems in order to improve health outcomes

1. Morocco and Islamic Republic of Iran have developed their National Eye health plan in line with Global Action plan. Earlier the following countries have developed theirs- Egypt, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Libya and the State of Qatar.
2. Pakistan, Sultanate of Oman Sudan and Yemen have set out dates to have a stakeholders meeting to develop their national plans within the new few weeks.
3. Yemen enhancing eye health (EYE) project which is multi-collaborative eye health intervention in 4 governorates of Yemen is to formally commence in the 4th quarter of 2014
4. A low vision and rehabilitation program has been designed for Bahrain and it is planned to commence by the first quarter of 2015. It is to be funded by Standard Chartered bank.
5. EMR Regional meeting to review progress and built more capacity of National coordinators to develop and implement the new global action plan will be held from 18-20 December 2014 at the WHO EMRO office Cairo. The meeting will also review status of eye health data within national health management information systems (HMIS) in the EMR countries, and how it can strengthen the new national action plans.



Objective 3 - Multisectoral engagement and effective partnerships for improved eye health strengthened

1. World Bank, WHO and IAPB-EMR to collaborate on NTD/Trachoma control in Yemen. A consultative meeting for this was held at WHO Geneva in June 2014.