CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 1.8: IAPB REGIONAL UPDATES – SOUTH EAST ASIA

SOUTH EAST ASIA PROGRESS REPORT
Based on workshop of 16 January 2013 and subsequent actions

Regional co-chairs from Thailand, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Nepal and India met together with representatives of Vision 2020 India and INGOs to take stock of the current situation.

The following was the summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Highlights (Positives &amp; Challenges)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>• Five times increase in budgetary allocations to eye care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 11th five year plan’s targets have been achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• There is overall reduction in prevalence of blindness and improvement in CSR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 12th five year plan is expected to increase budgetary allocation towards implementation of eye care activities under the NPCB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Challenges:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Limited advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Poor implementation of National Policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Low monitoring and evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Insufficient research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>• Financial commitment from the Govt. for subsidy of surgeries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• HR challenges are many</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Residency program is poor (takes 15 years for students to complete)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Cost of consumables is very high and taxes are also high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>• Success story – 50% reduction in prevalence of blindness in the last 30 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Political will and leadership was resulted in the success experienced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Issues and Solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Priority area for IAPB – Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lack of political will</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Job of the society and not the government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blinding is not a priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advocacy by the society to engage the government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>90% of the ophthalmologists work for private and only 10% of them are government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SEAR representatives should accompany the Indonesian Society to meet and advocate with the Government and explain about the seriousness of the problem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community participation is very high (health volunteers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Success story which should be replicated by other countries in the region</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Decision:**
- Country Focus on three countries: Indonesia, Bangladesh and Myanmar
- Issue based Focus in three countries: Nepal, India and Sri Lanka
- Situational analysis is planned for Myanmar in June 2013
- Focussed meeting on Pediatric Retinal Disease with special emphasis on Retinopathy of Prematurity in Indonesia is planned in June 2013
- Corneal Blindness with special emphasis on Eye Banking is planned in India in September 2013.