

February 12, 2025

To the IAPB Board of Trustees,

It is with great pleasure that I formally nominate Dr. Pelin Munis, CEO of RestoringVision, to serve on the IAPB Board of Trustees. Having worked closely with Pelin and her team over the past three years, I have seen her dedication to ending the global vision crisis, her team and partnership building efforts, her relentless focus, and openness to collaborate.

Under her leadership, RestoringVision has grown significantly, increasing the number of people helped from 2 million to 34 million, expanding its presence from 70 to 150 countries, and building a network of more than 3,000 implementing partners, including NGOs, governments, and social enterprises. The organisation's low-cost, high-impact model has made vision correction accessible to millions, further reinforcing its role as a key player in the global eye health sector.

Beyond her work at RestoringVision, Pelin actively contributes to major global initiatives that align with IAPB's mission. She serves as a member of the Steering Committee for The Coalition for Clear Vision, playing an instrumental role in shaping its strategic direction. Additionally, she is a critical contributor to the WHO SPECS 2030 Network, serving on the Foundation Committee and as Co-Chair of the Awareness and Demand Generation workstream. Her involvement extends to the United Nations Friends of Vision Secretariat, where she advocates for equitable access to vision care on a global scale.

Pelin is a visionary leader and strategic thinker who fosters meaningful collaborations across INGOs, NGOs, governments, and the private sector. She is deeply committed to ensuring that eye health solutions address the unique barriers faced by different populations, advocating for equitable and sustainable approaches to vision care. Her ability to engage diverse stakeholders, coupled with her expertise in driving progress and expanding impact, makes her an outstanding candidate for the IAPB Board.

Her leadership, passion, and expertise in eye health will be invaluable assets to IAPB as the organization continues its mission to eliminate avoidable blindness and vision impairment worldwide. I am confident that Pelin's dedication and innovative approach will contribute significantly to advancing global efforts in this field.

For these reasons, I wholeheartedly endorse Dr. Pelin Munis for a position on the IAPB Board of Directors. I have full confidence that her contributions will be instrumental in furthering the mission of IAPB and improving access to vision care for millions around the world.

Professor Andrew Bastawrous OBE
Founder & CEO Peek Vision
Professor of Global Eye Health - International Centre for Eye Health @ London School of Hygiene Tropical Medicine
Co-founder & Trustee Vision Catalyst Fund