

February 11, 2024

Nominee Statement for Dr. Pelin Munis

Dear Board of Trustees and Members of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness,

I am honored to submit my nomination to serve as a Board of Trustee at the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB). IAPB has been the driving force behind the global effort to eliminate avoidable blindness and vision impairment, bringing together the public, private, and civil society sectors to advance eye health as a fundamental component of universal health coverage and sustainable development. As a leader in the vision sector, I am committed to strengthening IAPB's impact and ensuring its mission translates into meaningful, lasting impact for billions of people worldwide.

As CEO of RestoringVision, I have led the organization through transformative growth in the last ten years, expanding our reach from 2 million to over 34 million people served across 150 countries. We've built strategic partnerships with 3,000+ NGO, government, social enterprise, and private sector partners, demonstrating the power of collaboration in scaling access to vision services. Today there is an even greater opportunity to drive transformative change, and I am eager to contribute my skills and experiences to further advance IAPB's strategic priorities and ensure the organization has the resources and partners it needs to achieve its purpose.

Beyond RestoringVision, I am actively engaged in global initiatives alongside IAPB. As a UN Friends of Vision Secretariat member, we've advocated for policies that prioritize eye health in universal health coverage and the sustainable development goals. As a Steering Committee member of the Coalition for Clear Vision, I've helped to shape the strategies to elevate eye health and refractive error services at the national level and enable private sector development. In addition, I serve on the Foundation Committee of the Global SPECS Network and as Co-Chair of the Awareness and Demand Generation workstream, advancing the SPECS 2030 Initiative. These efforts closely align with IAPB's leadership in policy advocacy, and I am committed to strengthening these synergies to drive greater progress.

As a Trustee, I would bring a collaborative, value-driven, and results-focused approach to supporting IAPB's vision and its leadership. We have a unique opportunity to create a world where access to quality eye care is universal, and where preventable blindness is no longer a barrier to human potential. IAPB plays a critical role to which I am eager to contribute and serve alongside fellow leaders who share this vision.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a fluid, cursive-style name that appears to be 'Pelin Munis'.

Pelin Munis, Ph.D.