

21 January 2025

Dear Nominations Sub-committee

Re: 'Nomination for 2025 IAPB Western Pacific Regional Chair'

On behalf of The Fred Hollows Foundation (The Foundation), I hereby nominate Mr Brandon A. M. Ah Tong for the position of IAPB Western Pacific Regional Chair for the term beginning 2025. Brandon has 20 years' experience in the broader eye health sector as a policy and advocacy professional and has been an exceptional member of the senior leadership team at The Foundation since August 2016. Brandon currently holds the position of Director, Global Policy & Advocacy, where he consistently demonstrates outstanding leadership, professionalism, and a commitment to excellence that will be a particular asset to IAPB and the membership in the Western Pacific Region at this time.

Throughout his tenure with The Foundation, Brandon has excelled in various capacities, showing remarkable versatility and adaptability from the global to local level. He is the focal point for our official relations collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) and leads our engagement at the United Nations in New York. He has also played a pivotal role in helping the sector embrace the broader opportunity of reframing eye health as a sustainable development issue.

In addition to being exceptionally technically proficient in the field of eye health, Brandon possesses a keen ability to guide long-term institutional and sector-wide strategic direction and tangible change that has benefited the Western Pacific region. His relationship with the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific, resulted in the placement of the first Sensory Functions technical officer in 2022, which continues today supporting Member States and IAPB members in the region in advance of Integrated People-centred Eye Health. His strong interpersonal skills and ability to foster relationships with a broad range of stakeholders, will hold him in good stead consulting and collaborating with members, governments and other stakeholders towards achieving the IAPB 2030 In Sight Strategy.

I highly recommend Brandon for this important role of Regional Chair at this unique time. His skills and experience will be essential as we seek to harness the power of the collective to achieve the ambition of the Global Summit on Eye Health.

Yours sincerely,



Jennifer Gersbeck
Executive Director, Influence & Scaling Impact
The Fred Hollows Foundation