

To: The International Association for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) Secretariat

Nomination Statement for Dr. Azra Herceg

Dear colleagues at the IAPB Secretariat,

5 February 2025

On behalf of Light for the World, I am pleased to nominate Dr. Azra Herceg for the position of Regional Chair for Europe. As an EBO-certified ophthalmologist and public health advocate, Dr. Herceg has been a leading voice in the fight against preventable blindness. Her extensive policy experience—as State Secretary at Slovenia's Ministry of Health and coordinator of the Strategic Council for Healthcare—has shaped health agendas at the WHO, UN, and EPSCO Council meetings.

Dr. Herceg is an active member of IAPB's European Advocacy Network, working to elevate eye health as a priority across the region. Her dedication is further reflected in her clinical and research contributions, particularly in keratoconus and specialised contact lenses, where she successfully integrated crosslinking into medical practice. Her passion for ensuring access to cutting-edge treatments and prioritising eye health across Europe and on international platforms makes her an excellent candidate for this role.

We are pleased to nominate Dr. Herceg for this important role in these critically important times for our collective mission.

Sincerely,

Katri Bertram

International Director, Impact & Advocacy

Light for the World International