

VISION 2020 INDIA Quarterly Report

July – September 2021

INTRODUCTION

VISION 2020 INDIA's Strategic Plan to guide our activities for the next five years has been developed through a series of consultations with various stakeholders. The document has been approved by the Board of Management in early July. The annual action plan along with the annual budget have also been approved by the Board. The plan has been disseminated to all members and the invite has been extended to other stakeholders viz., AIOS, EBAI, ACOIN, COSI, GSI etc.

This quarter also focused on addressing the questions and meeting additional requirements of documents as asked by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, towards our application for renewal of FC registration.

During this quarter, a lot of planning was done providing clarity for our next phase of actions.

ADVOCACY

Declassification of spectacles (Spectacles, Spectacle Frames and Spectacle Lenses) from the Medical Devices

VISION 2020 India submitted a representation to The Drug Controller General, Government of India on 2 October 2020 providing rationale and requesting not to include spectacles and frames in the medical devices category. The representation was made in coordination with All India Optical Federation and Mumbai Optical Association.

The Drug Controller General, Government of India issued a notice dated 9 August 2021 where Spectacles, Lenses and Frames are not included in the medical devices category. This is helpful to have hassle free business environment in the country.

National Program for Control of Blindness & Visual Impairment

CEO, VISION 2020 INDIA met Dr Rajiv Garg, Professor of Excellence at NPCB&VI. The following were the discussion points:

CEO, VISION 2020 INDIA apprised about VISION 2020 INDIA initiative, its mandate, activities, accomplishments, and how VISION2020 India has been coordinating with NPCB&VI in the last 17 years.

From collection to utilisation: the need for shift in government policy on reimbursement of processing fees to eye banks – CEO, VISION 2020 INDIA introduced the issue and the proposed solution.

Developing a decadal road map for eye health and 3 years action plan for the national programme: CEO, VISION 2020 INDIA updated that the idea was discussed with NPCB&VI in January 2020, and subsequently a two-day national consultation was planned. However, it could not be implemented due to COVID pandemic. CEO, VISION 2020 INDIA offered VISION 2020 INDIA's pro-bono technical support to help the national programme develop the broad road map for 2021-2030 and a 3 years action plan in line with WHO report, 'World Report on Vision'.

DBCS reimbursement system revamping: CEO, VISION 2020 INDIA recalled the proposed system of revamping DBCS reimbursement under NPCB&VI in terms of making data verification online (SMS and IVR based) rather than through DPM and State paying to NGOs directly instead district releasing dues.

World Sight Day 2021

VISION 2020 India printed WSD 2021 posters and dispatched to its members.

PROGRAM DEVELOPEMNT

VISION 2020 INDIA organised a webinar on "Quality for Me". This was conducted by LVPEI team. Total 55 people participated.

Cataract Outcome Registry is ready for launch.

Strategic Plan for 2021-2026 has been developed including annual action plan and annual budget. The dissemination of the plan ben completed providing clarity to member institutions.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Executive Committee meetings held on 7 July, 4 August and 1 September.

71st Board Meeting held on 25 September 2021.

17th Annual General Body Meeting held online.

MEETINGS

1. CEO, VISION 2020 INDIA discussed with IMPRI team and Seva Foundation to understand their current research work.
2. CEO, VISION 2020 INDIA had a discussion with SightLife regarding the Executive Committee's inputs on cornea representation to NPCB&VI.
3. Support to Jayapriya Foundation to set up a Low Vision clinic. VISION 2020 India, connected Dr Anuja from Jayapriya to Dr Tanuja Britto, CBM low vision consultant and trainer to provide her inputs and guidance.
4. CEO, VISION 2020 INDIA had a meeting with EkAurKadam Foundation, a not-for-profit Trust in USA, working in India. The Foundation works for ensuring quality education and employment opportunities to the visually impaired people. The Foundation explored to coordinate with VISION 2020 India members in these areas.
5. CEO, VISION 2020 INDIA attended IAPB session on 'Strategies and Tactics' under Advocacy to Action series.
6. A joint session with India Vision Institute was organised in the 2nd international Optometry conference. 70 people participated. The 90 mins session focussed on discussing on "*how can India achieve 40 percentage points increase in effective refractive error coverage*" through a five-members panel discussion preceded by the key note address.
7. North zone members meeting was held. 4 members institutions participated. Email communications sent in July with a structured questionnaire seeking members' feedback on certain issues. The results were presented in the North zone meeting and top 2 issues have been identified for further discussion.
