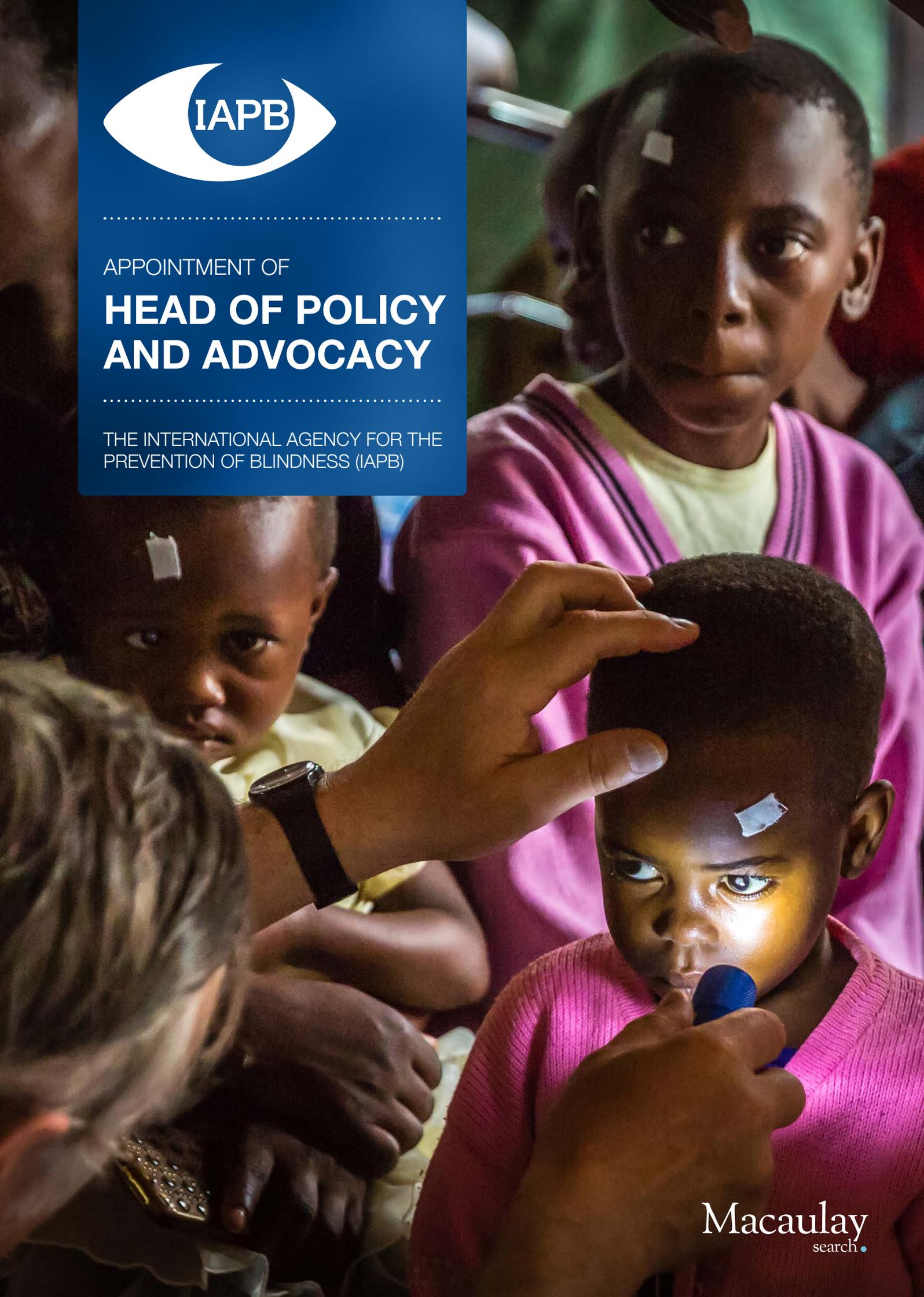




APPOINTMENT OF
**HEAD OF POLICY
AND ADVOCACY**

THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR THE
PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS (IAPB)





Cover photo: Terry Cooper

INTRODUCTION

250 million people around the world are blind or have significant sight loss. For 3 out of 4 of those 250 million people, their sight loss is totally avoidable. A further billion can't see properly because they don't have a pair of glasses.

Would you like to use your outstanding policy and advocacy skills to influence global health policy and practice to eliminate preventable blindness worldwide?

The International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness is an alliance of over 150 civil society organisations, corporates and professional bodies promoting eye health through advocacy, knowledge and partnerships. Eye health, whether in the form of cataract surgery, laser treatment or the provision of spectacles is one of the most cost-effective and life-enhancing forms of healthcare. IAPB's mission is to eliminate the main causes of avoidable blindness and sight loss by bringing together government, NGOs and other eye care organisations to facilitate the planning, development and implementation of eye care as part of sustainable national health systems.

This is a moment of great opportunity. There have been real gains over the past 20 years in improving eye health and reducing the prevalence of blindness.

Specifically, over the past few years we've had some key successes:

- National eye health plans aligned with the WHO's Global Action Plan have sprung up across the globe;
- The sector has been equipped with a comprehensive platform bringing together data, advocacy tools and other features to help us align our messages and strengthen our voice;
- Our advocacy efforts have gained real purpose and focus, particularly around the case for eye care services to be key elements of Universal Health Coverage;
- The capacity of the sector to carry out, review and learn from blindness prevalence surveys has grown remarkably;

We have energetic new leadership and a new 3 year plan with the following priorities:

- **Global Advocacy:** raise profile of eye care so it receives the attention and resources needed
- **Strengthening the network:** facilitate partnership building to tackle the barriers to delivering eye care for all
- **Connecting knowledge:** be the authoritative source for data and information; enable sharing of knowledge and experience
- **Providing services to members:** good quality, economically viable, add value, contribute a surplus

We believe that we are now a more united, effective and relevant player in the health and development arenas than we were at the start of the current plan.



ROLE DESCRIPTION

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

1. To provide direction and leadership to IAPB’s global policy and advocacy work.
2. To be the professional policy and advocacy lead for IAPB.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Provide leadership in delivering IAPB’s policy and advocacy objectives

- In collaboration with the Chief Executive develop IAPB’s policy objectives and an Advocacy strategy that implements and delivers those global objectives.
- Develop a clear policy and advocacy strategy on eye health with members.
- Provide technical leadership and ensure IAPB’s policy analysis is based on the best evidence available, drawing on the latest in thinking from across the sector.
- Lead the delivery of major policy and advocacy initiatives.

2. Provide leadership in IAPB on key international processes.

- In partnership with members, develop and lead IAPB’s engagement strategy and approach with key international institutions, including WHO, UN and others.
- Lead, with the Chief Executive, on IAPB’s engagement with relevant international networks and campaigns such as Eyelliance, Clearly, Our Children’s Vision.
- Ensure balance between planned and reactive advocacy work. Identify emerging issues and opportunities.
- Ensure that IAPB’s policy messaging is clear, evidence based and responsive.

3. Representation and Networking

- Represent IAPB at the highest level to decision makers, international and multilateral institutions, NGOs, public forums and at senior-level. Deputise for the Chief Executive when required. Foster good relations with relevant stakeholders and networks.
- Develop strong and effective working relationships with members and their policy and advocacy teams to ensure there is a coordinated approach across the sector.
- Help position IAPB as a leading global voice in eye health.
- Work closely with the Communications team to raise the profile of IAPB messages, including providing content for internal and external communications.



4. Support the development of relevant advocacy technical capacity within IAPB

- Provide technical guidance and support to members on advocacy approaches, and measurement where requested.
- Support Regional Coordinators and members in regional and country level advocacy, particularly when requested by members.

5. Team and organisational leadership:

- Provide leadership to the policy and advocacy team and provide direct line management of up to four members of staff.
- Member of the IAPB senior management team. Contribute to the overall direction of IAPB, and planning and budget management processes.





KEY RELATIONSHIPS

IAPB is a small, team orientated organisation. The postholder will work with all members of staff. In particular, s/he will work closely with:

- Chief Executive
- Director of Development, Membership and Communications
- Regional Coordinators
- Communications Team

IAPB NETWORK

- Senior leaders in member organisations
- Trustees/Board members
- Policy teams in member organisations

EXTERNAL

- Government decision-makers and influencers
- Multi-lateral policy staff
- Alliance partners
- Policy networks
- Sector peers
- Other NGO peers
- Media
- Academic partners



PERSON SPECIFICATION

KNOWLEDGE (EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE):

Essential

- Track record of engaging in successful advocacy initiatives and influencing policy at an international level in Government, multilateral organisations or civil society.
- Representational experience including to external bodies; experience in forging effective networks and in measuring impact of policy and advocacy efforts.
- Good understanding of policy development.

Desirable

- Knowledge and understanding of international health policy and health systems development.
- Knowledge of current issues and best practice in development particularly in education, rights and governance.

SKILLS, QUALITIES AND BEHAVIOURS

- Ability to represent the organisation at a high level of engagement to external bodies.
- Proven ability to build strong relationships of influence with multi-stakeholder groups likely to be found within a network organisation; and with external stakeholders and audiences. Able to build robust and effective cross cultural relationships.
- Persuasive communication, influencing and interpersonal skills with the ability to listen, formulate shared positions, and negotiate with key stakeholders. Excellent presentational and public speaking skills. Able to inspire commitment in others.
- Ability to think strategically and translate strategy into effective action plans.
- Demonstrable track record of successful delivery in complex and fast moving environments.
- Strong analytical skills for dealing with complex, multifaceted and ambiguous issues. Intellectual curiosity.
- Demonstrable commitment to collaboration and team working.
- Highly resilient, tenacious and patient to deliver change over extended periods of time. Flexible, including ability to travel internationally.
- Ambition and agility in a fast-changing environment.
- Passionate about effecting change at a global level with a deep commitment to the vision and values of IAPB

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The role is full time. It will involve regular travel. The Selection Panel is open to basing the Head of Policy and Advocacy in another global centre such as Brussels or Geneva. The salary will be circa £60,000 – 65,000 depending on the competencies and experience of the successful candidate. The package also includes other benefits.

HOW TO APPLY

IAPB is working with Macaulay Search to make this important appointment.

Interested candidates are directed to email their application to mark.powys-smith@macaulaysearch.com

Your application should comprise:

- A covering note of not more than 1 and a half pages outlining motivation and relevant experience for the role.
- A full CV, including educational and professional qualifications, a full employment history showing the more significant positions, responsibilities held and relevant achievements.

The deadline for applications is 5pm GMT on Wednesday 12th December.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview during the week of 13th January 2019. A smaller number of candidates will be invited to a final interview in London during the week of 20th January 2019.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this opportunity and to learn more about the work of IAPB.

