

# Global View



## Global Mapping Project—*Can you help?*

A primary project for the Global Alliance is to develop a register of the global eye banking community, as advised by the WHO.

The register would contain details of the number of eye banks, and the services they provide, e.g. cornea only or additional tissue such as sclera.

Such a register would help facilitate dialogue, sharing of knowledge and expertise, and the provision of worldwide collegial support and access to new and ongoing opportunities for service advancement.

It will also assist with ensuring that global projects are sustainable and appropriately developed to support the community.

As a global register of this kind has previously never been developed, the Global Alliance is building the register from scratch through known available lists, partner member data, internet and networks, and word-of-mouth.

While this method has allowed GAEBAs to connect with a wide group of eye bankers, in order to take this

further and connect all eye bankers around the world, the Global Alliance needs your help.

### *Can you help?*

The Global Alliance is currently seeking your help to connect eye banks around the world to the Global Alliance, and the members of the wider community.

If you are currently working in, or know of eye banks or distributors (that handle ocular tissue), and they are not currently a member of one of the 6 partner Associations, then we would be delighted to hear from you.

Additionally, if you have colleagues or friends working within other facilities or organizations then we actively ask you to inform them of the Global Alliance, its website, key objectives and projects and its desire to connect with the wider community.

Please contact Heather Machin for more details via [info@gaeba.org](mailto:info@gaeba.org) or [heather.machin@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:heather.machin@unimelb.edu.au)



## Representative's Message - Gary Jones and Andrea Gareiss-Lok (EEBA)

The **European Eye Bank Association** (EEBA) is proud to be one of the six founding partners of the Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations (GAEBA) and is primed to play an active part in support of the Global Alliance's key aims to help sustain and develop eye banking services around the world, which finds ample resonance with the EEBA's own mission and aims, and the key objectives of our Three-Year Plan for the period 2013-2016, which are to:

- develop and promote best practice guidelines for corneal donation
- help make information from corneal transplant registers available to health professionals working with eye banks and caring for patients with corneal diseases
- provide expert and up-to-date information to patients on eye banking, corneal transplantation and corneal diseases
- become part of the process on regenerative medicine that may expand the fields relevant to eye banks and corneal surgeons
- participate in projects related to tissue transplantation and provide informed comment to external agencies whenever possible.

Recent progresses in ophthalmology, tissue banking and cell therapies are challenging the conventional activities and responsibilities of eye banks, and the ethical and organisational aspects of these advances are complex and important. The application of new therapies will increasingly require eye banks, tissue banks and advanced therapy units to interact with a diverse range of local, national and international regulatory bodies in order to comply with legal, safety and quality standards. It is vital that we are able to maximise the synergies between all stakeholders, in order to overcome potential regulatory restrictions, and promote developments and opportunities which could eventually lead to new and more efficient therapeutic services and treatments for patients with ocular surface diseases.

We believe that the creation of the Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations, with its dedicated website and administration, will serve as an excellent coalition to focus and optimise our efforts to meet these challenges and to develop mechanisms to support the global advancement of the profession. Equally, the Global Alliance will help us fulfil our obligations and duties to both our donors and recipients to optimise the utilisation of donated corneal tissue by thinking outside the confines of our normal service areas and allow us to be a more effective conduit from the donor and their family, and to the surgeon and their patients.

EEBA is looking forward to participating at GAEBA's first Scientific Meeting, which is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2015 in San Diego, USA, and to meeting you there.

### The Global Alliance Partner Representatives

#### Association of Eye Banks of Asia

Professor Donald Tan, and  
Pang Chia-Li

#### European Eye Bank Association

EO Gary Jones, and  
CEBT Andrea Gareiss-Lok

#### Eye Bank Association of America

CEO Kevin P. Corcoran, and  
Dave Korroch

#### Eye Bank Association of Australia and New Zealand

Dr Graeme Pollock

#### Eye Bank Association of India

Dr Samar K Basak, and  
Dr Usha Gopinathan

#### Pan American Association of Eye Banks

Dr Luciene Barbosa, and  
Dr Mark Mannis

#### Development

Heather Machin (ANZ)

*All foundation partner associations have selected their own representative to assist in the establishment and long term development of the Global Alliance.*

**Save the date - April 14, 2015**



**GLOBAL ALLIANCE**  
OF EYE BANK ASSOCIATIONS

**GAEBA SCIENTIFIC MEETING**  
Embassy Suites San Diego Bay  
San Diego, CA, USA  
14 April 2015

*Immediately preceding World Cornea Congress*

# Developing Global Conversations in Eye Banking

[www.gaeba.org](http://www.gaeba.org)

**Partner Associations**



**E.B.A.I**

Let Your Eyes Change Someone's Life



**Registration opens by July 31**

For Further details, please contact: [info@gaeba.org](mailto:info@gaeba.org) or Heather Machin via: [heather.machin@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:heather.machin@unimelb.edu.au)

## Bioethics: The Declaration of Istanbul—*Does this apply to Eye Banking?*

**The Declaration of Istanbul—on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism**, was developed by *The International Transplant Society* and the *Society of Nephrology* to provide their members and the wider organ transplant community with a bioethical framework to support practice and service advancement on a global scale. The Declaration is also endorsed by the WHO's initiative for *Medical Products of Human Origin*.

As the Declaration was developed to support the organ sector, ocular and other tissue are primarily excluded from the declaration.

While the Declaration may not include ocular tissue, as an eye banking community, the Global Alliance has the opportunity to examine the achievements of the organ sector, and explore the potential opportunity to develop a similar 'declaration' (Bioethical Framework) specifically designed to support eye banking.

Through this, the Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations has decided to place the development of a bioethical framework for eye banking as a project of importance for the Association and the wider global community.

While the development of such a framework will take some time, there is no doubt that the development will support the members to actively engage their

community, health authorities, other key interest groups, and assist with both local and regional service advancement as well as global interest.

Before development of an eye bank bioethical framework, a discussion with the wider global community is required. For this, the Association actively welcomes interest and involvement in this activity.

Eye Bankers from around the world are encouraged to contact their regional association, or the Global Alliance directly, for further information or to be involved.

Please contact: [info@gaeba.org](mailto:info@gaeba.org) to find out more or participate in discussion.

### ***About the Declaration of Istanbul***

The Declaration of Istanbul commenced in 2004, when the World Health Assembly urged member states to take measures to protect the poor and vulnerable from transplant tourism and to address the wider problem of international trafficking of human organs and tissues.

In December 2006, representatives from The Transplantation Society met, with representatives from the Society of Nephrology, and conceived the idea of developing a formal Declaration that serves to inspire and unite all those engaged

in combating unethical practices in organ transplantation. A Steering Committee was developed in 2007 which laid the foundations for the 2008 Istanbul Summit. The Summit goals were to assemble a final Declaration that would define organ trafficking and transplant tourism, and commercialism, and achieve consensus regarding alternatives to address the shortage of organs.

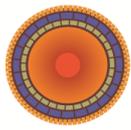
On April 30th 2008, more than 150 representatives of scientific and medical bodies, from 78 countries around the world, and government officials, social scientists and ethicists, convened in Istanbul, Turkey, to draft the Declaration of Istanbul. Working groups were assigned to develop the various components of the Declaration and the results of their meetings were presented at plenary sessions for approval.

The Declaration of Istanbul was derived from the consensus reached by the participants at the Summit in those plenary sessions.

The Declaration of Istanbul was first published on 5th July, 2008 in the *Lancet* and it has subsequently been published in several medical journals and translated into more than a dozen languages.

For further information:

[www.declarationofistanbul.org](http://www.declarationofistanbul.org)



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF EYE BANKING™

Advancing Eye Banking Worldwide

## Call for Papers 2014—*Editor: Jackie Malling*

The *International Journal of Eye Banking* is the world's first and only eye bank focused peer-reviewed journal founded to help advance eye banking research and initiatives worldwide.

The journal is issuing a **Call for Papers** at this time, including manuscripts related to eye bank: research, medical standards, accreditation, inspection, best practices, quality, education or training, regulations, legislations, economics, harmonization, innovation and statistics.

To submit a manuscript, go to:

<http://www.eyebankingjournal.org/ebj/index.php/ebj/about/submissions#onlineSubmissions>

In 2012, the journal launched with an esteemed editorial advisory board and partnerships from these eye bank associations representing various regions of the world: Association of Eye Banks of Asia, European Eye Bank Association, Eye Bank Association of America, Eye Bank Association of Australia and New Zealand, Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations, and the Pan American Association of Eye Banks.

The journal is becoming an important platform to publish relevant and timely eye bank information. Thus far, the journal's website has had more than 10,000 visits by 5,695 unique visitors from 112 different countries. Twenty articles by 60 different authors have been published. All articles published

have undergone a thorough peer review process. The publications reach includes 449 subscribers, 86 registered reviewers, and 134 registered authors. Anyone may subscribe and view the journal by registering at: <http://www.eyebankingjournal.org/index.php/ebj/index>

The journal thanks the authors and reviewers for their important contributions (see Reviewer Acknowledgment 2012-2013 in the spring 2014 issue). The publication is possible because of the guidance and support of numerous individuals, our editorial board, eye bank associations, various organizations, and our sponsors (view at: [www.eyebankingjournal.org](http://www.eyebankingjournal.org)). The journal especially thanks the founding major sponsorship by the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation and recent major sponsorship from the Eye Bank for Sight Restoration.

Upcoming goals for the journal include speeding up the publication process by publishing articles as soon as they are ready, applying to become indexed, considering alternative, easier systems for managing the submission and peer review process, and increasing awareness and funding of the journal. Our authors and reviewers can help improve the process by submitting articles, accepting (or not) invitations to review articles, and completing reviews and responses to reviews in a timely manner.

To support the journal visit:

[https://makingagift.umn.edu/onlinegiving/enterOnlineGiving.do?owner=O\\_MFIJEB](https://makingagift.umn.edu/onlinegiving/enterOnlineGiving.do?owner=O_MFIJEB)

[www.eyebankingjournal.org](http://www.eyebankingjournal.org)

## Showcasing a Global Alliance Partner:



### **Eye Bank Association of India**

Eye Bank Association of India is a not-for-profit society with over 515 registered members.

The policies of the organization are framed by an Executive Committee which comprises of Ophthalmologists and Eye Bankers who are elected by members of the committee.

Any person or organization can become a member, and help strengthen the eye donation movement.

EBAI is a national association that acts as a resource centre for all eye banks and organizations involved in the eye donation movement. The main objectives are to: increase collection, introduce uniform standards, and to educate the public on eye donation and prevention of corneal related blindness. [www.ebai.org](http://www.ebai.org)

## EVENTS

### 2014

#### September

26-28 6th National Eye Bank CME. Hyderabad, India. [www.ebai.org](http://www.ebai.org)

27-29 International Transplant Nurses Society Symposium. Texas, USA. [www.itns.org](http://www.itns.org)

#### October

17-18 Australian Transplant Nurse Conference. Perth, Australia. [www.tna.asn.au](http://www.tna.asn.au)

18-21 Corneal Society/EBAA at American Academy of Ophthalmology Conference. Chicago, USA. [www.aao.org](http://www.aao.org)

### 2015

#### January

16-17 EEBA Annual Meeting. Venice, Italy. [www.europeaneyebanks.org](http://www.europeaneyebanks.org)

#### March

4-6 32nd Corneal Conference and EBAANZ Meet. Perth, Australia



#### April

14 Global Alliance of Eye Bank Associations — Scientific Meeting. San Diego, USA. [www.gaeba.org](http://www.gaeba.org)

15-17 World Corneal Congress, San Diego, USA [www.cornealsociety.org](http://www.cornealsociety.org)

### 2016

#### February

5-9 World Ophthalmology Congress, Guadalajara, Mexico. [www.icoph.org/events/event\\_detail/194/World-Ophthalmology-Congress-WOC-2016.html](http://www.icoph.org/events/event_detail/194/World-Ophthalmology-Congress-WOC-2016.html)

## What is Project NOTIFY?

Launched in 2010, Project NOTIFY provides open access on surveillance and vigilance, and adverse event reporting, through their website library, in order to provide a comprehensive reference to types of serious adverse events and reactions, and their underlying root causes.

It also provides a communication hub for institutions and organizations worldwide, to collaborate in the access and exchange of vigilance and surveillance information.

Following the adoption of Resolution *WHA63.22*, the Project Notify interface was developed under a joint venture between the WHO and the Italian National Transplant Centre (CNT) in collaboration with the European SOHO S&V Project.

[www.notifylibrary.org](http://www.notifylibrary.org)

## Up-Date from Around the World

### **EBAANZ Leadership change**

- Chair/Treasurer (Acting): Graeme Pollock
- Deputy Chair: Lisa Buckland
- Secretary: Pierre George

## Share your story or event

The Global Alliance would like to share your stories, experiences and up-coming events with other members within your region and around the world.

Please submit items by September 2014 ready for publication in the November 2014 edition

Email to: [info@gaeba.org](mailto:info@gaeba.org)