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## **Improving the capacity of national prevention of blindness coordinators in Africa to achieve VISION 2020**

*A course offered at the Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology (KCCO)  
in collaboration with IAPB & WHO*

March 23-26, 2009  
Moshi, Tanzania

National prevention of blindness coordinators or national VISION 2020 coordinators are in place in virtually every country of Africa. The roles are generally not well-defined and few have received training relevant to their roles and responsibilities. Consequently, there has been a request by a number of national coordinators for training and there has been recognition in the IAPB Regional Business Plan for Africa of the need to build their capacity. The training, organized through IAPB and in collaboration with WHO, will be held at the KCCO from March 23-26, 2009.

Capacity building will focus on the following topics:

1. How to develop and nurture partnerships with non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, other governmental bodies, and selected international groups that will lead to effective coordination of activities.
2. How to help lead partners through the process of effective planning (for service delivery, human resource development, monitoring).
3. Basic human resource management strategies (supportive supervision, job descriptions, organigrams)
4. How to assist VISION 2020 "districts" to develop practical implementation plans
5. Leadership development for effective national planning, implementation, and monitoring.
6. How to delegate responsibilities in such a way as to both empower people as well as to strengthen accountability.

The capacity building session will be March 23-26, 2009 at the KCCO in Moshi, Tanzania. The session will be open to National Prevention of Blindness Coordinators from countries of "eastern" Africa (about 12 countries) as a number of the national coordinators from these countries have requested assistance for such a course. As 2009 will be the first course, we anticipate 6-8 participants.

Potential instructors for this course include: Dr. Daniel Etyaale, Dr. Amir Bedri, Dr. Hannah Faal, Mr. Tony Maynard, Dr. Kovin Naidoo, Dr. Paul Courtright and Dr. Susan Lewallen.