



Third quarter 2011



Save



print

In This Issue

- [Doha conference calls on governments to implement the 2007 UN convention on people with disabilities](#)
- [Diabetic Retinopathy control committee set up in Saudi Arabia](#)
- [RAAB DR pilot study in the Eastern province of Saudi Arabia](#)
- [Vacancy for Project Manager in Jordan](#)

[Doha conference calls on governments to implement the 2007 UN convention on people with disabilities](#)



A regional conference on early intervention for children with visual or multiple impairments has called on governments of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to fully implement the 2007 UN Convention of the Rights of People with disabilities.

This was one of the many recommendations at the end of the conference held in Doha from 27-30 April 2011. It was organized by Al Noor institute Doha in collaboration with the International Agency for the

Prevention of Blindness Eastern Mediterranean Region (IAPB EMR) and Prevention of Blindness Union (PBU).

The conference the first of its kind in the Gulf States was aimed at raising the awareness amongst health, education, rehabilitation, and social service fields on the importance of early intervention for children with visual or multiple disabilities.

It attracted the whole spectrum of professionals and stakeholders involved in the care of children with disabilities. For full contents of the conference recommendations visit [please click here](#)

Partner News:

Nadi Al Bassar

- [Nadi Al Bassar honored by Islamic Development Bank](#)
- [Nadi Al Bassar organized the 14th international course](#)

[back to top](#) ↑

[Diabetic Retinopathy control committee set up in Saudi Arabia](#)

The National Prevention of Blindness Committee (NPBC) of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had established a Diabetic Retinopathy Control committee.

The Chairman of the NPBC Prince Abdulaziz Ahmed Abdulaziz Al Saud set up the committee to develop an action plan for the control of diabetic retinopathy in the Kingdom. Saudi Arabia has one of the highest prevalence of Diabetes mellitus in the world.

A recent RAAB +DR survey in one region of the country reported Diabetic prevalence of 29% among persons 50 years and older, with over 35% having some form of DR and about 17% with Sight threatening diabetic retinopathy.

The committee is headed by Prof Ahmed Abu Al Asrar , a renowned vitreoretinal surgeon with King Saud University Riyadh, membership of the committee includes representation from NPBC, MOH, other major tertiary and private institutions

CHEF International

- [CHEF international launches new vision and strategic plan](#)

What is PBU?

The Prevention of Blindness Union (PBU) is an International union of Nongovernmental Development Organizations working in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) and Africa. It has the following reputable international NGOs and bodies as members:

- IMPACT-EMR Saudi Arabia
- AlBasar International Foundation Saudi Arabia
- Al Noor Foundation Egypt
- Nadi AlBassar Tunisia
- CHEF International Pakistan
- Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND)
- Islamic Development Bank,(Ex-Officio member)
- Middle East Africa Council of Ophthalmology - MEACO

[back to top](#) ↑

[RAAB DR pilot study in the Eastern province of Saudi Arabia](#)

A pilot study of the Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness plus Diabetic Retinopathy (RAAB+DR) will be held from September to November 2011 in Al Ahsa region of the Eastern province of Saudi Arabia.

It is being organized by the Saudi National Prevention of Blindness committee and the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the PBU and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

A similar study was conducted in the Taif region of the kingdom earlier this year.

[back to top](#) ↑

- WHO EMR. (Ex –Officio member)

The union is under leadership of HRH Prince Abdulaziz Ahmad AlSaud

The **Vision** of PBU is to facilitate the provision of comprehensive eye care to all segments of the society based on the principles of equity and justice.

The **Mission** of the union is to support, coordinate, collaborate and advocate activities in the field of comprehensive eye care (promotion, preventive, curative and rehabilitation) with all stakeholders (such as Governments, Non-Governmental Development Organizations (NGDO), regional and international organizations, professional bodies and institutions) in the EMR and Africa.

For more information on PBU please visit: www.pbunion.org.

Vacancy for Project Manager in Jordan

The PBU is seeking to recruit a Project manager for a Diabetic retinopathy program in northern Jordan. The project is with the support of Standard Chartered Bank and Ministry of Health Jordan. It will last for 4 years. For details please visit www.pbunion.org.

[back to top](#) ↑

Partner News:

Nadi Al Bassar

Nadi Al Bassar honored by Islamic Development Bank

Nadi Al Bassar was honored by the Islamic development bank during the banks annual meeting of its Governors which was held in Jeddah Saudi Arabia from 29-30 June 2011 .

Nadi Al Bassar is being recognized for its global efforts in the fight against avoidable blindness especially in North and West African regions. The award was received by Dr Ahmed Trabelsi on behalf of the organization. PBU felicitates with Nadi Al Bassar for this award.



[back to top](#) ↑

Nadi Al Bassar organized the 14th international course

Nadi Al Bassar organized its 14th annual international course in Hotel Ramada Gammarth, Tunis, Tunisia from 3-4 June . Highlights of the program were Glaucoma and Vitreo- retinal courses that were held in collaboration with the Middle East Africa Glaucoma Society (MEAGS) and the Middle East Africa Vireo Retinal Society (MEAVRS).



[back to top](#) ↑

CHEF International

CHEF international launches new vision and strategic plan

CHEF international had launched a new vision, mission, strategic plan and structure in order to enhance its ever expanding services. The organization had also moved to new permanent building in Charsada, Pakistan. PBU congratulates CHEF for these progressive moves and wishes it more progress in its endeavors.



New CHEF headquarter

PBUnion Head Office: P.O.Box 7947, Riyadh 11472, Saudi Arabia.
Tel: +966 1 466 1085 - Fax: +966 1 466 1049 - info@pbunion.org

[Back to top](#)