# The Asian Foundation for the Prevention of Blindness Annual Report covering the period September 2016 to August 2017

#### 1. Donation to support 100 cases of free cataract surgery in Heilongjiang Province

Mrs Grace Chan, the Vice-President and CEO of AFPB, visited Heilongjiang Province from 23 to 25 August, 2016 to attend the donation ceremony from the Bank of France (BNP Paribas Wealth Management Hong Kong) for performing 100 cases of cataract surgery as well as the launching ceremony of the Suihua City's Sight Restoration Campaign. After the ceremony, she was arranged to meet the beneficiary patients and to see their eye conditions after surgery. Mrs Chan then met with the leaders of the Heilongjiang Provincial Eye Hospital (Heilongjiang Province Eye Disease Prevention and Control Center), Suihua Municipal Disabled Persons' Federation and Suihua City Beilin District Hospital to have a better understanding of the development of the project. Through AFPB, BNP has donated a total of HK\$100,000 to Heilongjiang for subsidizing 100 cases of surgery (HK\$ 1,000 per surgery) to be performed in two stages in Suihua and Yichun Cities. The first stage of 50 surgeries has successfully been completed by end of September 2016 in Suihua City and the second phase of 50 surgeries has been completed within 2017.

## 2. Donation of the Replacement Mobile Eye Treatment Centre Sight Care No. 13 to Gansu Province on 16 October, 2016

In the morning of 17 October, 2016, a formal donation ceremony for the replacement Mobile Eye Treatment Centre (METC), Sight Care No.13 of the Sight Restoration Campaign for the Poor was held at Gansu Provincial Rehabilitation Centre. The Vice-Governor of Gansu Province, Mr Xia Hongmin attended the ceremony and addressed the audience. A member of the Party Committee of the People's Disabled Persons' Federation and its Director Hua Wen Zhe were also present at the ceremony. Mr Hua represented the beneficiary of the donation to deliver a speech. Both Mrs Grace Chan, Vice-President and CEO of the Asian Foundation for the Prevention of Blindness (AFPB) representing AFPB and Ms Choi Wan Yee, Committee member of the Leung Chik Wai Charitable Foundation, representing the donor addressed the The ceremony was officiated by Mr Zhang Zheng Feng, Deputy Secretary-General of the Gansu Provincial Government. Other VIP guests included Ms Helen Ching, representing the HSBC Trustee (Hong Kong) Limited; Mr Tung Yuk, Committee Member of the Leung Chik Wai Charitable Foundation; as well as the persons in-charge of the relevant departments of the Provincial Health Bureau and the Provincial Disabled Persons' Federation, staff and medical personnel of the Provincial Rehabilitation Centre.

## 3. The 18th "Sight Restoration for the Poor Mobile Eye Treatment Centre Annual Seminar" held from 26 to 29 October, 2016

The captioned Seminar was held in Nanchang, Jiangxi Province from 26 to 29 October, 2016. The Seminar was attended by Mr Peter Sun, President and Mrs Grace Chan, Vice-President and CEO of AFPB; Ms Qin Guo Ying, Vice-Chairman of the China Women's Development Foundation; Mr Song Lei Ming, Deputy Secretary-General of the Jiangxi Provincial People's Government; Mr Chen Weihua, the Provincial Party Secretary and Chairman; Ms Xiao Xiao Lan, Vice-President of the Provincial Women's Federation and Mr Yi Jing Lin, Director of the Nanchang University affiliated Eye Hospital.

Over 150 leaders/representatives of 23 provincial/autonomous regions' Disabled Persons Federations, Health Departments, Women's Federations of the METC Project were also present at the Seminar. We were glad to see that over 40,000 poor cataract sufferers have restored their eye sight during the year and a total of over 550,000 sufferers can see the world again as at August, 2016.

# 4. AFPB 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration - Eye Care Campaign cum Photo Exhibition (7-8 November, 2016)

In celebration of its 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, AFPB had held an Eye Care Campaign cum Photo Exhibition at the Atrium of the Moko Mall, Mongkok East with a view to raise public awareness about the prevention of blindness projects implemented by AFPB in the Asian region, particularly in China, over the past 35 years. The programme included free vision screening for members of the public and free eye care talks on prevention and treatment of common eye diseases conducted by 8 doctors of the Department of Ophthalmology of the Hong Kong University.

The Opening Ceremony which took place at 2 p.m. on 7 November, 2016 was officiated by Mrs Regina Leung, Patron of AFPB who is the wife of the Chief Executive of the HKSAR; Dr Ko Wing Man, Secretary for Food & Health and Mr Alex Fong, the famous artist of Hong Kong. Other officiating guests included: Mr. Peter Sun, AFPB President, Dr. Chow Pak Chin, Medical Director of AFPB, Prof. Jimmy Lai, Acting Head of the Department of Ophthalmology of the Hong Kong University and Mrs. Grace Chan, AFPB Vice President & CEO. The response from the general public was overwhelming. Over 2,000 people toured the photo exhibition, attended the eye care talks and have their vision screened.

## 5. Donation of a replacement METC, Sight Care No.1 to Shaanxi Province (14 November, 2016)

The donation ceremony of a replacement METC, Sight Care No.1 to Shaanxi Province was held on 14 November, 2016 at the Shaanxi Provincial Rehabilitation Hospital. This was the third METC donated to Shaanxi Province. This new METC worth over RMB2,800,000 was donated by Jetta Company through the AFPB. The ceremony was attended by Mr Xue Jianxing, Provincial Government Deputy Secretary-General; Mr Sun Zhenlin, the Provincial Health Planning Committee Deputy Director; Mrs Grace Chan, Vice-President and CEO of AFPB; Mr Luk Hung Bong, Vice-Chairman of the Jetta Co Ltd; Mr Lee Chi Yuen, Chairman and Ms Wong Wan Sze, Vice-Chairman of the Jetta Foundation Co. Ltd. and the relevant personnel. Mr Zhu Feng, Provincial Disabled Persons Federation Party Secretary and Director delivered a speech and Mr Lan Meng Yan, Party Member officiated at the ceremony.

### 6. China-Hong Kong Ophthalmologists Exchange Programme for 2016

In celebration of the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of AFPB, Mr Peter Sun, Chairman of AFPB and the Eye Care Charitable Foundation agreed to increase the sponsorship for this exchange programme to 8 instead of 2 Chinese ophthalmologists from 4 provinces to visit Hong Kong for exchange in November 2016. According to the sequence of the numbers assigned to the METC of each province, two ophthalmologists were chosen from each of the following 4 provinces, i.e. Guangdong, Jiangsu, Shandong and Heilongjiang Provinces. From 19 to 25 November, the eye doctors of the above provinces had visited both the public and private eye hospitals of Hong Kong and the Department of Ophthalmology of the Hong Kong University. Through such visits, they have a better understanding about the management system of eye care in Hong Kong.

From 31 October to 5 November one Hong Kong eye doctor visited Shandong and from 27 November to 3 December two Hong Kong eye doctors visited Jiangsu for exchanges in the professional knowledge and skills in eye care with the provincial eye doctors on the METCs and at the provincial hospitals. Through such exchange of visits, it has promoted the mutual understanding between the eye doctors of China and Hong Kong in regard to eye care services and our purpose of promoting the sustainable development of the METC project has been sustained.

#### 7. The Film "20 : 16"

The film "20:16" funded by Yip's Chemical Holdings Ltd and Ip Chi Shing Charitable Foundation Ltd, one of the important partners of AFPB; was released simultaneously

in China and Hong Kong on 18 May, 2017. Mr. Peter Sun, President and Mrs Grace Chan, Vice President and CEO, Dr. Woo Chai Fong, and the operators of the METCs gave their support through purchase of the movie tickets. Previously, the AFPB also participated in the publicity campaign of the film.

The Ip Chi Shing Charitable Foundation has agreed to donate an additional of 5 METCs through the sales proceeds of this film excluding the necessary expenses for shooting the film.

On 11 May, 2016 the China Disabled Persons Federation (CDPF) held a press conference to announce the "27<sup>th</sup> National Helping the Disabled Day" to be held on 21 May, 2016 with the theme "to promote disability prevention, health means well-off". The press conference was attended by CDPF spokesman; Mr Guo Liqun; Director of the Propaganda Department; Mr Hu Xiangyang, Director of the CDPF Rehabilitation Department; Mr Zhu Bing, Director of CDPF Human Rights Department and more than 20 mainstream news media sent their reporters to publicize the event. The film 20:16 was shown at the press conference. Mr Peter Sun, Mrs Grace Chan, and Ms. Lai Yim Yuen, Communications Manager of Yip's Chemical were invited to attend.

The film premiere was held in Beijing on 12 May, 2016 at the Beijing Solana Blue Harbour Saga Cinema and attended by Mr. Peter Sun, our President; Mrs Grace Chan, Vice President and Chief Executive Officer; Mr Cheng Kai, Vice-President of China Disabled Persons Federation; CDPF Directors & President of China Braille Publishing House, Mr Zhang Wei; Mr Zhou Chang Qiang, Deputy Director of Health and Medical Administration of the State Health Planning Commission; Mr Li Qingzhong, Executive Vice-Chairman of the China Association of the Blind and other VIP guests.

The Hong Kong film premiere was held at the Grand Cinema at Elements on 15 May, 2016 and was attended by Mrs Grace Chan, Dr Chow Pak Chin, Medical Director and Professor Jimmy Lai, Acting Head of the Department of Ophthalmology of the University of Hong Kong.

#### 8. Donation of Replacement METC Sight Care No. 12 to Hebei Province

The donation ceremony of the replacement METC, Sight Care No.12, was held on 14 July, 2017 at the City Hall of Hebei. The ceremony was officiated by Mrs Grace Chan, Vice-President and Chief Executive Officer of AFPB; Ms. Qin Guoying, Vice Chairman of the Chinese Women's Foundation; Ms. Jia Yuying, Chairman of the

Women's Federation of Hebei Province; Mr. Wang Xu, Chief Executive Officer of Yip's Chemical Holdings Ltd and the ceremony was attended by the medical personnel of the First Out-patient Clinic in Hebei Province and the province's major media. We were pleased to see that with the new METC available, thousands of poor cataract sufferers would be able to restore their vision in the very near future.

### 9. Donation of METC Sight Care No.8 to the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region

In July 2010, a METC Sight Care No. 8 was donated to Sichuan Province and has since been operated by the Women's Federation of Guangyuan City in Sichuan Province. During this period, the METC Sight Care No.8 has successfully restored the vision of 5,446 poor cataract patients. However, for the past two years, Sight Care No. 8 was basically not in operation. To fulfill our commitment to the donor and to make full use of all resources, AFPB has decided to transfer Sight Care No. 8 to the operating unit of Sight Care No.24 - Inner Mongolia Chao Ju Eye Hospital Group, taking into account of their operational needs for an extra METC. The transfer was completed on 15 August, 2017.

### 10. Mobile Eye Treatment Centre Project for Cambodia

To actively respond to the Chinese government "Belt and Road" Development Initiative, AFPB has explored with the Ministry of Health of Cambodia about the possibility of launching the METC Project in Cambodia. It is hoped that through the donation of a METC to Cambodia, free cataract surgeries could be performed for the poor cataract sufferers thus improving the livelihood of the Cambodia people and thus contributing to promoting a good relationship between the peoples of China and Cambodia.