Following the successful completion of the first generation of the Alliance to Fight Avoidable Blindness (AFAB), the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development and their partners have decided to launch the second generation of the AFAB for 2018-2022.

This event is dedicated to launching the Second Generation, which is aimed to provide comprehensive, accessible and sustainable eye-care services in 12 countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Cote d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Mali, Mozambique, Comoros, Niger and Togo).

The event is an opportunity to introduce the concept of fighting avoidable blindness, highlight the achievements of the first generation, present the outline of, and officially launch the second generation of the AFAB.

Key issues to be addressed:
1- What is AFAB and how has it changed lives in member countries?
2- What are the achievements of AFAB?
3- How can partners strengthen their support to AFAB?
4- What are the lessons drawn from the first generation of AFAB and how can these inform the second generation?

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Johannes Trimmel is the interim CEO of the International Agency for Preventing Blindness. Previously, he served as Director of Policy and Advocacy in the same organization. For the past 20 years, he has worked in development cooperation for NGOs.

Sidi Ould Tah is the Director General, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa. He is a former Minister of Finance, Mauritania.