October 2026

Independent Specialist Trustee, WFSA (UK)

The WFSA (UK) is offering an exciting opportunity for an exceptional individual to join our Board of Trustees to help provide strategic oversight, governance and leadership to the charity's efforts of uniting and empowering anaesthesiologists/anaesthetists around the world to improve patient care through education and training. Our vision is universal access to safe anaesthesia worldwide.

Context
5 billion people do not have access to safe, affordable surgical and anaesthesia care when needed. Surgery and anaesthesia have a fundamental and growing impact on global health outcomes. Surgical intervention could address at least 30% of the global burden of disease, and yet the poorest 33% of people receive just 3.5% of all surgery. Parts of the world where surgery and anaesthesia have assumed lesser importance in healthcare provision, mortality rates are 1,000 times greater than in some high-income countries. In some countries as many as 90% of anaesthetic departments are not equipped to provide safe anaesthesia for children.

Purpose of the Role
The Independent Trustee will bring their particular professional expertise, judgment and balance to add to the specialty expertise held by the existing Trustees.

The principal assets sought by the Board are: independence, varied perspectives, scrutiny, critical appraisal skills and the provision of an external view. With these, the Independent Specialist Trustee will add value to the work of the Board and provide a sounding board for senior managers employed by our sister organisation, the WFSA.

Responsible to:
Chair of the Board of Trustees, currently Dr Carolina Haylock-Loor.

Key relationships:
- Chair of the Board of Trustees
- All Trustees
- Company Secretary
- Staff of the charity's sister organisation, WFSA (the Federation)

In addition, the Independent Specialist Trustee may, from time to time, interact with external organisations as a representative of the charity.

Time Commitment

- Attendance at quarterly Board meetings plus reading and preparation for meetings, which equates to approximately four days per annum.
- We hold most meetings via videoconference and at most one per year in-person. In-person meetings are normally held in London, and always with an option to join remotely.

Experience and skills

Key areas of expertise should include one or more of the following areas:

- Public and patient engagement in global health;
- Fundraising for overseas development, global health and related areas;
- High level government/NGO experience (this might include successful lobbying);
- Evaluation and impact measurement relating to delivery of health projects, either in the UK or overseas;
- Ability to contribute ideas and constructive challenge at a time of modernisation and development.

Desirable personal characteristics include:

- Empathy, with an ability to act as a critical friend;
- Be a good communicator;
- The ability to contribute a strategic view and make balanced decisions in an open, collaborative and constructive manner;
- Evidence of probity, integrity, objectivity and fairness, the ability to maintain confidentiality, and commitment to equality and diversity;
- An understanding and commitment to good governance and to the Nolan Principles of public life;
- Be IT literate to allow some work to be carried out by email or via web-based links.

Terms of Appointment

- Following a successful interview and satisfactory reference check an Independent Specialist Trustee will be appointed for an initial two-year term, renewable for up to six years in total;
- An Independent Specialist Trustee may resign giving 90 days' notice in writing to the Chair;
- The Board of Trustees may terminate the appointment at their discretion should there be evidence of conduct contrary to the standards of conduct (Charity Commission UK) or which could bring the charity into disrepute.

Remuneration

- In accordance with Charity Commission rules, Trustees are unpaid. Reasonable expenses for travel may be claimed if in-person meetings are required.

How to Apply

Expressions of interest are invited via a cover letter and an abbreviated CV (maximum 2-3 pages) addressed to Kristine Stave, Company Secretary.

The CV should include relevant information on:

- **Professional Experience** (e.g. senior government, NGO or health sector leadership experience; policy influence and advocacy; project evaluation and impact measurement relating to health programmes).
- **Skills and Expertise** (e.g. strategic thinking, governance experience, ability to contribute ideas and provide constructive challenge during periods of organisational development and change).
- **Volunteer and Public Engagement Experience** (e.g. involvement in global health, overseas development, patient and public engagement, and related initiatives).
- **Key Achievements** (e.g. successful fundraising, grant acquisition, advocacy outcomes, public engagement activities, or organisational impact).
- **Relevant Projects** (e.g. public engagement, health service delivery, global health programmes, or other initiatives demonstrating relevant expertise).

Our Organisational Family

The wider WFSA family is formed of two separate legal entities:

- The World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists, a Dutch-registered association no. 34318914 with charitable 501(c)3 status in the USA and headquartered in London.
- WFSA (UK), registered as a company limited by guarantee no. 09312117 (England) and as a charity in England & Wales no. 1166545.

WFSA is the brand name used to refer to both the WFSA (UK) and its sister organisation, the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists. The Independent Specialist Trustee being recruited, will serve on the Board of Trustees of the UK charity only.