

From: Prof. Tomris Ozben – IFCC President

Date: May 28th, 2026

Ref: IFCC Task Force on Global Newborn Screening (TF-NBS)
Call for membership

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**To: IFCC Full Member Societies' National Representatives
IFCC Affiliate Societies' Representatives
IFCC Corporate Members' Representatives**

Dear All,

As you might be already aware of, IFCC back in 2020 created a **Task Force on Global Newborn Screening (TF-NBS)** as Joint Task Force of IFCC and *International Society of Newborn Screening (ISNS)*, to directly impact healthcare and patient outcomes in developing countries, details at: <https://ifcc.org/executive-board-and-council/eb-task-forces/task-force-on-global-newborn-screening/>.

Newborn screening (NBS) significantly reduces infant morbidity and mortality by initiating early detection, treatment, and management of newborns with congenital disorders. In 2015, it was estimated that only one third of infants around the world receive screening at birth. The IFCC TF-NBS has established a Global Newborn Screening Initiative to address this critical gap. As part of this initiative, the IFCC has initiated NBS Pilot Projects in selecting developing countries. Emphasis has been placed on scientific and technical support for the development of laboratory policies and procedures, training of staff, as well as equipment required for NBS implementation.

At the end of December 2026 Co-Chairs and Members will finish their 2nd term. With this letter we are now calling for nominations for the positions below:

- 1 Chair
- 5 TF members (1 member will be a young scientist, < 40 years)
- 1 Corporate Member representative.

The Chair and members of the Task Force will be selected by the EB from among the nominees. Members will provide expertise, plan for the development of the program and direct the scientific teams for on-site visits and training. The Task Force directly reports to the IFCC Executive Board quarterly with a document summarizing progress made within that quarter.

IFCC Full/Affiliate Societies and Corporate Members are invited to nominate experts in the field of NBS to join this important Task Force. The 1st term of office will be January 2027-December 2029, with the possibility of renewal for a second term.

Nominations should be directly sent to Smeralda Skenderaj at the IFCC Office (smeralda.skenderaj@ifcc.org) **before June 30th, 2026**.

The information must include:

- A formal letter explaining the nominee's interest in the position and the contribution that can be expected from the candidate, particularly highlighting the issues which could be important for his/her selection;
- A short CV
- Support letter on behalf of the Full/Affiliate nominating Society or Corporate Member's Representative.

Task Force members will be selected from nominations received based on expertise in NBS as demonstrated by high quality publications, activities, meetings attended/organized in the field. These are the most important criterion for selection of Task Force members. Candidates that have not been selected should indicate their will to become corresponding members of the Task Force.

Yours sincerely



Prof. Tomris Ozben
IFCC President