



Ipas President and CEO Anu Kumar to Step Down in June 2027

Board launches search for successor as Kumar concludes 24 years of leadership at Ipas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (October 13, 2026) — Ipas President and CEO Anu Kumar will step down in June 2027 after 24 years with the global reproductive justice organization, including nine years as president and CEO.

Under Kumar's leadership, Ipas advanced research and activism on abortion stigma, developed its sustainable abortion ecosystem model, expanded support for country and regional programs, and adopted a post-colonial network model centered on shared leadership and local ownership.

"Anu's leadership has strengthened Ipas and advanced the global movement for gender equality and reproductive justice," said Hans Linde, chair of the Ipas Board of Directors. "Her commitment to justice, compassion and systemic change has positioned Ipas well for this transition and its next chapter."

Kumar's work in driving visibility and resources to Ipas's country and regional programs around the world has meant millions of people from Ethiopia to Mexico to Nepal are able to access safe abortion care.

"It has been my honor and privilege to serve this organization for 24 years," Kumar said. "This is my dream job. It's not easy to leave. Yet to usher in fresh perspectives, I need to make room so new leadership can emerge, and Ipas continues to flourish. I have always been passionate about our mission, and I always will be."

During Kumar's tenure, Ipas became the first organization focused on abortion to receive significant support through The Audacious Project. The organization also expanded its work

in humanitarian and climate-affected settings and continued helping millions of people worldwide access safe abortion care.

The Ipas Board of Directors has begun the search for Ipas's next president and CEO immediately. Kumar will serve as president and CEO through June 2027; and she will remain at Ipas for a short time to support a smooth transition.

About Ipas

Ipas is an international reproductive justice organization that works to expand access to abortion and contraception, using a comprehensive approach that addresses health, legal and social systems. We believe every person should have the right to bodily autonomy and be able to determine their own future. Across Africa, Asia and the Americas, we work with partners to ensure that reproductive health services, including abortion and contraception, are available and accessible to all.

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