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Alcon Celebrates World Sight Day 2020 and Continues Commitment to Improving Worldwide Access to Eye Care

- **Ongoing donation efforts deliver equipment and medical supplies needed for increasingly important eye care services and procedures to help underserved patients during the pandemic**
- **Associates around the world participate in the Steps for Sight Challenge to help improve access to quality eye care**
- **New Alcon Foundation video PSA highlights the importance of eye health screenings, premiering at this year's American Academy of Optometry (AAO) annual meeting**

GENEVA, October 8, 2020 – Alcon (SIX/NYSE: ALC), the global leader in eye care dedicated to helping people see brilliantly, today celebrates World Sight Day through its corporate giving and company-led initiatives focused on improving access to quality eye care. In the spirit of this year's theme, "Hope in Sight," Alcon associates will help spark donations to global nonprofit organizations that advance eye health. The goal is to support people around the world in need of eye care, particularly as eye health issues, including vision loss, myopia, cataracts, refractive errors and more, have emerged or worsened due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This year, our Alcon team has seen firsthand how the COVID-19 pandemic has made access to quality eye care even more challenging for communities across the globe," said David J. Endicott, Chief Executive Officer, Alcon. "Now more than ever, Alcon is proud to partner with nonprofit eye health organizations who are working toward a common goal of improving access to eye care, including offering free eye surgeries and eye care resources to patients, as well as providing training and education to eye care providers across the world. Through these impactful initiatives, we can help improve people's vision and inspire hope in sight."

Celebrated annually, [World Sight Day](#)—coordinated by the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)—is an international day of awareness to bring attention to the global issue of avoidable blindness and visual impairment. Alcon has a long-standing history of donating surgical equipment and medical supplies to NGOs and hospitals providing care to underserved patients. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many necessary eye surgeries and treatments were delayed, causing a backlog of surgeries and leaving people's vision at risk for worsened conditions. Cornerstone Assistance Network's Cataract Clinic—the nation's first free cataract facility for the uninsured, located in the Dallas-Fort Worth area—saw an uptick in patient requests for cataract surgeries since the pandemic began. This World Sight Day, Alcon continues to lend support to Cornerstone Cataract Clinic by supporting surgical services for uninsured patients.

Around the world, Alcon associates are also participating in a variety of activities that support eye health awareness for World Sight Day. Most notably, the Steps for Sight Challenge is a global company initiative that challenges 2,020 associates to take 10,000 steps on World Sight Day to raise a total of \$25,000 for three global eye health nonprofit organizations—long-time partner [Orbis](#), [Optometry Giving Sight](#) and one surprise recipient to be chosen by an Alcon site.

This year, Alcon has created a video trailer as a public service announcement (PSA) to remind people of the importance of eye health and encourage scheduling eye exams. During this year's AAO Academy 2020 meeting, delegates will be encouraged to view the video and share it on their social media channels, with a call-to-action to generate more than 2,020 views to trigger a \$25,000 donation to the American Academy of Optometry Foundation. The video can be viewed on the Alcon Corporate YouTube [channel](#).

Beyond World Sight Day, Alcon's Corporate Giving efforts, including the Alcon Foundation and Alcon Cares, help people around the world see brilliantly year-round by increasing access to quality eye care and driving eye care provider training and skills transfer. In 2019, Alcon supported more than 500 missions to 69 countries, where volunteer surgeons performed 38,000 eye surgeries and contributed \$63 million in product and equipment donations.

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as: "anticipate," "intend," "commitment," "look forward," "maintain," "plan," "goal," "seek," "believe," "project," "estimate," "expect," "strategy," "future," "likely," "may," "should," "will" and similar references to future periods.

Forward-looking statements are neither historical facts nor assurances of future performance. Instead, they are based only on our current beliefs, expectations and assumptions regarding the future of our business, future plans and strategies, and other future conditions. Because forward-looking statements relate to the future, they are subject to inherent uncertainties and risks that are difficult to predict. Some of these factors are discussed in our filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Form 20-F. In particular, our expectations could be affected by uncertainties regarding the success of our separation and spin-off from Novartis. Should one or more of these uncertainties or risks materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those anticipated. Therefore, you should not rely on any of these forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements in this press release speak only as of the date of its filing, and we assume no obligation to update forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

About Alcon

Alcon helps people see brilliantly. As the global leader in eye care with a heritage spanning more than seven decades, we offer the broadest portfolio of products to enhance sight and improve people's lives. Our Surgical and Vision Care products touch the lives of more than 260 million people in over 140 countries each year living with conditions like cataracts, glaucoma, retinal diseases and refractive errors. Our more than 20,000 associates are enhancing the quality of life through innovative products, partnerships with eye care professionals and programs that advance access to quality eye care. Learn more at www.alcon.com.

Alcon Foundation

For more than 50 years, Alcon has partnered with nonprofit organizations that help advance eye health, skills transfer, education and access to quality eye care around the world. The Alcon Foundation awards grants to qualified, U.S.-based tax-exempt public 501(c)(3) charities that provide high-quality programs,

training and community services with well-defined goals to enhance sight and improve the lives of people who otherwise would not have access to proper eye care. For more information, visit <https://www.alcon.com/about-us/corporate-responsibility/eye-care-everyone>.

References

1. Ateev Mehrotra et al., *The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Outpatient Visits: Practices Are Adapting to the New Normal* (Commonwealth Fund, June 2020). <https://doi.org/10.26099/2v5t-9y63>

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