

## **Minutes of General Body meeting held on 19.3.2016, 12 noon -2.00pm at the SIHAM 2016 Conference in Kufri, Shimla**

The meeting was chaired by Dr Niranjan Nayak, President SIHAM in presence of general secretary, treasurer and other members of the executive council.

The following agenda were discussed one by one.

1. **Minutes of the last General Body meeting** – The minutes of the last general Body meeting held in Coimbatore during the 10<sup>th</sup> SIHAM conference were circulated to all members during this meeting. The acceptance was proposed by Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti, and was seconded by Dr. B.L. Sherwal. The minutes were accepted.
2. **General Secretary's report-** Hard copies of the report that was presented by the General Secretary during the inaugural function on 18.03.2016, was circulated amongst the members in the General Body. The acceptance was proposed by Dr. Ranjana and seconded by Dr. Uma Tendolkar. The report was accepted
3. **Treasurer's report-** Dr. Anup K Ghosh, the treasurer updated the members on the current status of membership. He informed the house that at present there are more than 500 life members. During the previous two years 100 new members joined the society. He presented the audited statement of 2014 (not presented at Coimbatore) and the current one up to March 2015. Acceptance of the report was proposed by Dr. Savitri Sharma and seconded by Dr. Malini Capoor. The report was accepted.
4. **SIHAM News Letter-** Dr Savitri Sharma, editor of the SIHAM newsletter highlighted to the GB that she is unable to bring out two issues of the newsletter every year as the response for publishing in the newsletter was not encouraging except for a few centers. Hence she could not bring out two issues of the newsletter every year. It was therefore suggested that the executive council member of each zone should be active to collect and send materials for publishing. For every issue of newsletter at least one material needs to be provided by the corresponding executive member. It was also decided and accepted by the GB that in future two issues of the newsletter should be published every year (every six months) instead once in a year.
5. **SIHAM Network Development** – Dr. M R Shivaprakash, raised the issue of increase in cases of relapse/recalcitrant/resistant dermatophytosis being recognized by the Dermatologists of our country. The dermatologists are approaching the mycologist to initiate the study on this burning issue. After discussion on this issue, it was decided that it is the apt to initiate the SIHAM network study on this issue. A committee including Dr. Shukla Das (Delhi), Dr Anupma Joyti

Kindoo (Chennai), Dr. Purnima Barua (Assam), Dr. Malini Capoor (Delhi), Dr. MR Shivaprakash (Chandigarh), Dr. Vijaylatha (Ajmer), Dr. Ranjana (Imphal), Jayanthi Savio (Bengaluru) was formulated to chart out the feasibility of raising funds and initiating the study.

6. **SIHAM Web Site** – It was felt that there was a need to make the website dynamic and to create the member area in which all materials that can't be publically displayed may be shared amongst the members. Since Dr BL Sherwal has been handling the web site since its inception, Dr. A. Chakrabarti suggested that Dr BL Sherwal may take this responsibility in future and may officiate as the web site manager which was accepted. The General Secretary was given the responsibility of providing all recent developments to website manager. It was also decided that collecting the updates in the medical mycology activities in each zone is the responsibility of the executive council member of that zone and the update should be sent to the SIHAM secretary.
7. **Changing the name of the Society** - Dr. Niranjan Nayak who had taken the responsibility of changing the name of the society updated the status to the general body. He again reiterated that the society's name will be changed from “**Society for Indian Human and Animal Mycologists (SIHAM)**”, to “**Indian Society of Medical Mycologists (ISMM)**” for which he had submitted all the relevant documents to the registrar office at Delhi. Due to change in the jurisdiction of the SIHAM office from the original office where it was registered earlier, the case was transferred to the corresponding jurisdiction leading to delay in the process.
8. **Increase the SIHAM membership Fees:** Dr. MR Shivaprakash proposed to increase the membership fees of the society as it was not revised since a decade. With the permission of the Chair the matter was discussed in detail and it was agreed on to raise the membership charges. The revised membership fees with immediate effect are Life membership fee for Indian national – INR. 3000/-; Annual membership fee for Indian national – Rs.1000/-; Student membership fee – Rs.1000/- for 2 years; Annual membership fee for SAARC countries – Rs.1000 or equivalent USD; Life membership fee for SAARC countries – Rs.3000 or equivalent USD; Annual membership fee for other than SAARC countries – USD 200/-; Life membership fee for other than SAARC countries – USD 500/-.

9. **Waiver of registration fees of SIHAM conference for senior members:** This issue was discussed in detail and all members present in the GB meeting agreed to waive off the registration fees for all senior members. It was decided that all senior members aged 70 years or above, attending SIHAM conferences would get complete waiver of the registration fees. The decision to waive off the accommodation charges for the conference will be taken by the organizing committee of the corresponding conference based on available funds.
10. **EQAS** – Dr. A. Chakrabarti and Dr. M R Shivaprakash informed that 74 laboratories or institution were presently enrolled in the program. All the members appreciated the work carried out by Dr Chakrabarti and his team.
11. **Life-time achievement award** –The GB acknowledged and thanked the generous contribution of Dr. Arvind A Padhye to institute the life time achievement award of SIHAM in the name of his teacher Dr. M J Thirumalachar. The General Body approved the criteria laid by the committee for giving this award. Dr. A. Chakrabarti suggested that honorary members should also be considered for the same award. The GBM acknowledged the decision to bestow the first Dr. M J Thirumalachar Life-time achievement award of SIHAM to Dr. Basavaraj Madivalappa Hemashettar from Belgaum, Karnataka for his contribution to medical mycology. Details about the award will be placed on the website. A photograph and brief CV of Dr. M J Thirumalachar can be included in the souvenir of every conference of SIHAM for information to all.
12. **Venue of next SIHAM congress** – Dr Jayanthi Savio from St. Johns’s Medical College, Bengaluru and Dr Prabhuprakash Gupta from SN Medical College, Jodhpur Medical College proposed to organize the next SIHAM conference to be held in 2018. The GB was asked to choose the next venue. As majority of the members favored St. John’s Medical College, it was agreed and finalized by all that the next conference will be organized by Dr Jayanthi Savio at Bengaluru.
13. **New Executive Body-** The President, Dr. Niranjan Nayak announced the following names of the valid nominations received and elected uncontested.
- Dr. Uma Banerjee – President (New Delhi)
  - Dr. M R Shivaprakash – General Secretary (Chandigarh)
  - Dr. P. Manikandan - Joint Secretary

- Dr. Anup Ghosh – Treasurer (Chandigarh)
- Dr Jayanthi Savio - Executive member (South)

Since there were no nominations for the other posts like Vice President and Executive members of other regions, the house was requested to nominate the persons for these posts.

The following members were nominated and elected unopposed in the GB.

Dr. Nivedita Halder – Vice President (Proposed by Dr. Savitri Sharma and seconded by Dr. Chakrabarti)

Executive Members:

1. North Zone- Dr. Shukla Das (New Delhi) {Nominated by Dr Malini Capoor, Seconded by Dr. Sangeetha Mohan}
2. East Zone- Dr. Sanjay Bhattacharyya (Kolkata) {Nominated by Dr. Umabala P and seconded by Dr Jayanthi Savio}
3. West Zone- Dr Vijaylatha Rastogi (Ajmer) {Nominated by Dr B L Sherwal and seconded by Dr Malini Capoor}
4. Central Zone- Dr. Debashis Biswas (Bhopal). {Discussed with the candidate by Dr. M R Shivaprakash and Anup Ghosh in person as permitted by the GB}

Attendance record of all members present in the meeting was collected.

Dr M R Shivaprakash

General Secretary