

Minutes of General Body meeting held on 11.1.2014 at the SIHAM 2014 Conference in Coimbatore

The meeting was chaired by Dr Savitri Sharma President SIHAM. 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 Siliguri during the 9th SIHAM conference were circulated all members through News Letter . The acceptance and was proposed by Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti, and was seconded by Dr. P Manikandan.
2. **General Secretary's report-** Hard copies of the report that was presented by the General Secretary on the inaugural function on 09.01.2014, was circulated amongst the members in the General Body. The report was accepted. It was proposed by Dr. Ranganathan Iyer and seconded by D. Uma Tendulkar.
3. **Treasurer's report-** Dr. M.R. Shivaprakash, treasurer explained the current status. He informed the house that there were 405 life members and since 2012, and there was an addition of 70 new members. Dr. Nibedita Halder's generous contribution of Rs. 50000/ to SIHAM fund from the left out expenditure of SIHAM 2012, that she organized, was also highlighted. The Treasurer submitted audited statement up to March 2012.However; the total audited report would be available by March 2014. Acceptance of the report was proposed by Dr. Jagannath Balu and seconded by Dr. Malini Capoor.
4. **SIHAM News Letter-** Dr. Savitri Sharma complimented MSD for the support in publishing the news letters. It was agreed by all that Dr. Savitri Sharma would carry out the news letter publication work for the coming two years. Dr Savitri Sharma kindly accepted the proposal.
5. **SIHAM Network Development** -. Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti informed the house that the network development is functioning well. He described the details of progresses made by various working groups and also stated that in some of the working groups, like candidemia networking, the final data analysis was in progress.
6. **SIHAM Web Site** –Dr HC Gugnani proposed that up-to-date addresses and email IDs of all members should be there in the web site. Dr MR Shivaprakash informed the house that the excel file containing the updated list and correspondence addresses and email IDs were available in the web site. Since Dr BL Sherwal was looking after the web site from its inception, Dr Chakrabarti suggested that Dr Sherwal may take this responsibility in future and may officiate as the web site manager. The house felt that all recent

developments and information must be provided to Dr. Sherwal by the Secretary/ other executive members, so that Dr. Sherwal could incorporate all updated information in the website. The General Secretary was given the responsibility of providing all recent developments to Dr. Sherwal.

Dr. Arunaloke Chakrabarti advised for popularization of the website. Dr. MR Shivaprakash informed that the latest excel sheet containing up-to-date information on the current status on the member strength is available in the website. It was agreed by all the members that the correct email IDs and addresses be circulated to all members. Dr. Savitiri Sharma, however requested Dr. Manikandan to provide a copy of the names and email IDs of those who registered in SIHAM 2014, so that the task would be easier and an updated list of members and their correct addresses could be available with us for future correspondences if any. Since Dr. B.L. Sherwal was looking after the website, Dr. Chakrabarti informed that, the website manager (Dr. Sherwal) and the News letter editor should attend the executive committee meeting in future, though they will not have any voting rights in the executive committee. The executive committee may also invite the past presidents or any other member as special invitee during its meeting for their suggestions and advice.

7. **Changing the name of the Society** - This was proposed in earlier GB meetings. Dr. Nayak explored all possibilities to change the name of the Society. The Registrar of Societies, New Delhi would not agree to authenticate any name pre-fixed with “Indian” and declined to authenticate the name of “**Indian Society for Medical Mycology**”, which was the unanimous decision in the 2012 GBM. Members were requested to choose any name without “India” or “Indian “at the beginning. After thorough deliberation, the following names were suggested.
 - a. Society for Medical Mycologists of India – SMMI
 - b. Association for Medical Mycologists of India – AMMI
 - c. All India Association of Medical Mycologists- AIAMM

Though the first choice of the house was “AIAMM”, the other two names were kept as options if required while registering the society.

8. **EQAS** – Dr. Chakrabarti and Dr. Shivaprakash gave the valuable information that 42 members have joined the programme. Dr. Savitri Sharma suggested that EQUAS should be widely circulated through website and news letter. The steps and procedures involved in becoming participants to the EQAS should also be provided in the web site. Answering

to the queries raised by Dr Sentameselvi about External Quality Assurance Program, Dr. Chakrabarti explained in detail about EQAS. He also informed the house that, apart from strain identification, the EQAs is proposing to include serology and histopathology in near future.

9. **Life-time achievement award** – This was instituted by Dr. Aravind A Padhey, one of our life members in the USA, with a generous donation of rupees two lakhs. Dr Savitri Sharma read out the criteria formulated earlier by Dr. Hemashettar for this nomination. The General Body approved the criteria for giving this award. Dr Anuradha Chowdhury suggested that honorary members should also be considered for the same award.
10. **Holding Regional International Medical Mycology Conference in January 2015** - Dr. Arunaloke expressed the *pros* and *cons* of holding joint regional conference with ISHAM and Asian Fungal Working Group in India. The GB agreed to hold the meeting in India in 2015. But the responsibility was given to Dr Chakarabarti to explore the modalities and to select out his helping hands in conducting this event either in New Delhi or in Goa.
11. **Venue of next SIHAM congress**- Dr. Anil Kanga, Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology, Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla sent his message for his willingness to hold the next SIHAM 2016 in Simla. Since he was not present, nor any of his colleagues were present, his message was read out before the house by Dr Savitri Sharma and the GB agreed to have the next meeting in Simla in the end of February in 2016.
12. **New Executive Body**- Valid nominations within the last date were received for the following posts. The following office bearers were elected uncontested:
 1. Dr. Niranjan Nayak – President (New Delhi)
 2. Dr. Atul Patel – Vice President (Ahmedabad)
 3. Dr. M R Shivaprakash – General Secretary (Chandigarh)
 4. Anup Ghosh – Treasurer (Chandigarh)Since there were no nominations for the other posts like Joint Secretary and Executive members, within the stipulated time i.e. 30th November 2013; it was, thus, felt that the nominations for the same may be made open to the house. So the following members were nominated and elected unopposed in the GB meeting itself.

Dr M Jayahar Bharti- Joint Secretary

Nominated by Dr Anuradha Chowdhury and seconded by Dr Philip A Thomas

Executive Members

1. North Zone- Dr Malini R Capoor (New Delhi)

Nominated by Dr Sangeetha, Seconded by Dr Murali

2. South Zone- Dr P Manikandan (Coimbatore)

Nominated by Dr Lalitha Prajna and seconded by Dr Salu

3. East Zone- Dr Ranjana Devi (Manipur)

Nominated by Dr Nibedita Halder and seconded by Dr Uma Tendolkar

4. West Zone- Dr Uma Tendolkar (Mumbai)

Nominated by Dr Ranganathan Iyer and seconded by Dr Vijaylatha

5. Central Zone- Dr Ranganathan Iyer (Hyderabad)

Nominated by Dr Arunaloke Chakrabarti and seconded by Dr Sundaram

13. **Publications of the abstract of papers presented in SIHAM conference** – The members unanimously agreed to publish the abstracts of papers presented in SIHAM conferences in “Mycoses”, as there was consent from the Mycoses editorial board. However, it was felt that consents from the authors should be obtained before further action on editing etc., were taken up. All members felt that it was not possible to gather all the abstracts and the informed consents from all members who presented their work in the SIHAM 2014 conference. So the decision was taken to publish all abstracts in “Mycoses” from the 2016 conference onwards. Prior intimation has to be provided to Mycoses. Prior intimation should also be provided to the organizers, who should be able to print the matters in the abstract books in a manner so that it may become easy for the editing purpose. Editing the materials to be published would be looked after by Dr Chakrabarti and the team he will formulate in near future

14. Any other agenda

The matter regarding SIHAM member representing in the Asia Pacific Society of Medical Mycology (APSMM) meetings was discussed at large, as Dr Hemashettar in an email (read out by Dr Savitri Sharma) expressed his inability to represent any further. Dr Sentamelselvi proposed the name of Dr R Madhu, Senior Assistant Professor, Department of Dermatology, Madras Medical College to be nominated to APSMM. The house approved Dr R Madhu as the SIHAM representative in APSMM.

The house was adjourned with vote of thanks to the chair.

Dr M R Shivaprakash

General Secretary