

Minutes of the IIS General Body Meeting held in hybrid mode on 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023 at AIIMS, NEW DELHI in association with the Golden Jubilee 51<sup>st</sup> IMMUNOCON

1. Dr. Taruna Madan, President IIS, welcomed the IIS members and tabled the minutes of the GBM 2022 held at PGIMER, Chandigarh, that were previously circulated among the IIS members. Prof. Mehra proposed for approval of the minutes and Dr. Nibhriti Das seconded.
2. Dr. Uma Kanga, Organising Secretary and Convener of the 50<sup>th</sup> sought permission to record the proceedings of GBM. All the members attending online and offline approved for the same.
3. Dr. Taruna Madan invited Dr. Kaustuv Nayak, Treasurer IIS, to present the annual financial report.
4. Prof. NK Mehra enquired regarding the amounts in the Fixed Deposits in the society's bank accounts and the last year interest earned on the fixed deposits. The details of deposits and interest earned was shared with the members. Senior Members suggested IIS-EC to discuss the tax planning and exemption with the Chartered Accountant. Prof. Mehra further informed that as per the Chartered Accountant, if you are a charitable trust, 80% of all the interest earned during a financial year needs to be spent in the same year. It should be explored whether this rule applies to our society. The financial report was approved by the GBM.
5. The serious issue that the organisers of IMMUNOCON 2022, Chandigarh, have not deposited the 10% of the registration fee collected from the IMMUNOCON participants to the society account was discussed at length. This happened despite the understanding that as per the Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM) of the Society held on 8.2.2011 at 1.00 PM at Jammu in "General Zorawar Singh Auditorium Complex" University of Jammu, Point No. 7 on page 2, 10% of the registration fees should be submitted to the IIS account along with the profit gained. Dr. Kaustuv apprised the GBM that PGIMER Chandigarh didn't deposit the 10% of the registration fee even after being notified through e-mail on 21.6.2023 with the minutes of University of Jammu meeting (as mentioned above). The issue of the Virtual IMMUNOCON (2021) organized by 4 members of former IIS EC (2018-2022) was also discussed where the seed money was returned partly without any prior or post-facto approval from the IIS-EC. Senior members advised that the rules should be followed by all the IMMUNOCON organisers and a copy of the rules related to the organization of IIS supported IMMUNOCONs, CMEs, and World Immunology Day should be sent to the organisers as well as to the administration of the host Institution. A signed and endorsed undertaking should be provided by the organisers to the EC prior to release of sanction letter or seed money or financial support. The audit statement should be ratified by a Chartered accountant preferably a government approved chartered accountant. The GBM gave approval and empowered the IIS-EC to discuss regarding the disciplinary action to address the problem about the two defaulters and find solutions and to prevent/deter any such incidence in the future IMMUNOCON.
6. As per the detailed discussion in the GBM, following points regarding IMMUNOCON conference were reiterated:
  - Conference organizers will sign and submit an agreement to abide by the conference rules, duly endorsed by the host institution.
  - Seed money, if taken, will be returned completely.
  - 10% of all the registration fee collected from the participants will be deposited to the society account.
  - Any profits earned by the event will be deposited to the society account.
  - The conference accounts will be audited by a Chartered accountant preferably a government approved chartered accountant and submitted to the society.
7. Prof. NK Ganguly placed on record that this was one of the best organized IMMUNOCON he has attended so far with several talks of great quality.

8. IIS fellowship related issue was discussed and it was felt that proper rules and regulations need to be framed by IIS-EC for the selection of the IIS Fellows.
9. GB approved the agenda for considering a reasonable concession of IIS Life Membership Fee to commemorate IIS Golden Jubilee Celebration (upto 3 months post circulation of these minutes) for members studying/working in B (25% concession) and C cities (50% concession) as per the Annexure-A-Classification-of-Cities-1.pdf (icai.org).
10. GB approved the agenda for purchasing a mobile sim dedicated to IIS for the purpose of permanent email and other social media platforms for the Society to be handled by EC.
11. GB agreed to increase the Life membership fees of the society to Rs. 5000/- from the year 2024 (from 3 months post circulation of these minutes). Corporate membership should be Rs. 25,000/- per annum. Rules need to be framed for the Corporate Membership.
12. Dr. Nibhriti Das, Dr S. N. Das, and Dr. Pawan Sharma were appointed by GB as Election Committee Members to hold the elections for the year 2024 under the chairmanship of Dr. Pawan Sharma.
13. The Issue of election result announcement and takeover by the new EC was discussed further. And after a lengthy debate, it was agreed upon, that by 15<sup>th</sup> August elections will be announced in the election year, new EC will take over as soon as the results are announced in an online GBM (to be announced, chaired and conducted by the election committee) and can be formalized in the upcoming IMMUNOCON.
14. Voter list for the upcoming IIS elections will be frozen on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023 (one year prior to the election commencement). (Minimum one-year membership is mandatory to cast the vote).
15. After a lengthy discussion and some changes, GB approved the Revised Draft of IIS constitution and also approved the guidelines for conducting IIS sponsored CME and WID. Members placed on record their sincere gratitude and appreciation to Prof. Pawan Sharma, Prof. NK Mehra, Prof. Santosh Kar, Prof. Sarat Dalai, Dr. Taruna Madan, Dr. K. Balakrishnan, Dr. Uma Kanga, Dr. Kalpana Luthra, Dr. Dipankar Nandi, Dr. Kaustuv Nayak, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Gupta, Dr. Sunil Raghav, members of Constitution Amendment Committee 2023.
16. GB approved the institution of a new IIS award, Prof. NK Mehra LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD towards translational immunology research comprising of a citation, medal and a cash award. This award will be supported with a generous support of Rs 2 lakhs by Prof NK Mehra to IIS.
17. GB approved the agenda for Inviting members to take the Editorial Responsibility for the next Issue of the IIS Newsletter “ImmuneCONNECT” and approved the continuation of Dr. Rupesh Srivastava, AIIMS, New Delhi as the Editor for the upcoming issue.
18. Presentation for the 52<sup>nd</sup> IMMUNOCON was given by Dr. Ambak Rai, MNNIT, Prayagraj, UP and showcased the appropriateness of the historical and scenic venue, strength of the host team and facilities available at the host institution. Although, Dr. Dil Afroze, a senior IIS member and former EC member from Srinagar had officially not mailed her bid to the IIS secretariat, she was given a chance to speak and put forward her case for hosting IMMUNOCON. When the previous Kashmir IMMUNOCON meeting was planned and had to be cancelled due to security issues, Dr Dil was assured of a future IMMUNOCON organization. GB conducted a voice vote to decide who, of the two proposers, should be hosting the IMMUNOCON-2025. Dr Ambak Rai won the bid by the voice vote. GB approved the proposal for 52<sup>nd</sup> IMMUNOCON at MNNIT, Prayagraj, UP.
19. The meeting was attended by a total of 79 members, with 66 members present in-person and 13 members online.
20. The meeting, after a duration of approximately 2.5 h, ended with a round of applause for the 50<sup>th</sup> IMMUNOCON organizing Team and GBM attendees.

