

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN UROLOGISTS HELD ON 9 JULY 2016 AT THE
AUDITORIUM, MAHATMA GANDHI MEDICAL COLLEGE & RESEARCH
CENTRE, PUDUCHERRY**

1. Dr. P. Venugopal rose to make certain averments even as the members were assembling and the President was ensuring that the hall was free of non-members (except the audio-visual team whose assistance was required for the meeting). The President, Dr. Mohan, pointed out to him that the meeting had not even been called to order, and an opportunity would certainly be given to Dr. Venugopal to make his points. Dr. Venugopal rose to say that no opportunity would eventually be given to him, and the President would close the meeting citing lack of time. Dr. Mohan assured him that members would be given enough opportunity, and requested Dr. Venugopal to let the meeting begin.
2. The meeting was then called to order by the President, Dr. A. Mohan after some more comments from the floor had been considered and appropriate clarifications given. Dr. R.Keshavamurthy pointed out that before the agenda could be taken up, the General Body's approval of the Agenda had to be obtained. Approval of the agenda was then obtained from the assembled members after taking into consideration the assertions made by Dr. R. Keshavamurthy and incorporating the same by showing the subject "Conduct of USICON 2020" under an independent head, and not under "Other matters" as had been initially done.
3. The President informed the house about the sad demise of 4 senior members, namely Dr. C.L. Ashok Kumar, Dr. Vasant Krishna, Dr. P.S. Reddy and Dr. Jyothi Reddy during the months of April, May and June 2016, as published and circulated in the Newsletters. Various members including Dr. C. Chinnasamy, Dr. PVLN Murthy and Dr. Joseph Philipraj remembered the services of the departed souls and the house rose and observed a minute's silence in homage to the departed souls.
4. The President informed the house regarding various activities of the Association during the previous one year and expressed his satisfaction over several milestone

achievements which could be made possible only through the collective effort of all the members.

5. A few members including Dr. D. Ramesh and Dr. R. Keshavamurthy wanted the discussion on the Venue for USICON 2020 taken up as a separate point, and not under the head “Other Matters”. The President informed the house that this had been included as an independent point in the main agenda earlier when the agenda was approved.
6. The Minutes of previous Annual General Body Meeting held at Hotel Novotel, Visakhapatnam, published and circulated through the September 2015 issue of ASU Newsletter were confirmed and passed unanimously by the house. **(Proposed by Dr. KSN Chary, Seconded by Dr. Ali Poonawala).**
7. The Secretary read out the Annual Report of the ASU for the period 2015-2016, which was again unanimously passed by the house. **(Proposed by Dr. N. Vijayasankaran, Seconded by Dr. Ganesh Gopalakrishnan).**
8. The Treasurer’s Annual Report & Statement of Accounts (unaudited) were presented by the Treasurer. He informed the house that the final Audited Statement of Accounts were being prepared by the Auditor, which would be circulated as soon as it was available. Dr Keshavamurthy objected to accepting these as the audited statement had not been circulated in advance. Dr. Chengalvarayan pointed out that the audited statement had reached him just the previous day, and hence could not be circulated. Dr. Keshavamurthy and other members expressed the view that there were several lapses in procedure and this pointed to lack of application of mind and supervision by the Executive Council.
9. The President ruled that the audited statement would be circulated to all members and would be placed before the General body at a later date for its approval. The President pointed out that the accounts of the ASU had been in disarray since 2012 on account of certain omissions and wrong entries made with regard to the surplus funds from SZUSICON-2012. That had been carried over year after year since then. In the current year, the Treasurer & the Secretary had systematically engaged with our

Auditor and the Hyderabad Urology Society over this matter, and the best solution in the circumstances had been reached. The President thanked Dr. PVLN Murthy for his great assistance in resolving this issue. The surplus funds of SZUSICON-2012 that were lying in the ASU account would be handed over in full to the HUS after closing the SZUSICON-2012 account which was still active. The house took note of the excess of income over expenditure and many members expressed the desire that the surplus should be wisely utilized.

10. The house approved the decision of the Executive Council to select Dr. Vijayasankaran N from Madurai as the Orator for Prof. H.S.Bhat Oration, 2017 and Prof. Aruna V Vanikar of the Institute for Kidney Diseases, Ahmedabad as the speaker for Prof. P.B. Sivaraman Endowment Guest Lecture, 2017.
11. The house unanimously approved the ASU Handbook, 2016 containing various guidelines and activities of the ASU, incorporating the suggestions of various members and approved by the Council of ASU. It was suggested to keep the ASU Handbook, 2016 in the E-Format only in the website, avoiding printing of the same.
12. The President informed the house that Kochi Urology Club and Urological Association of Kerala had submitted separate offers to host USICON-2020. The Council of the ASU had felt that the two bodies should jointly organise the conference, and all efforts must be made by both of them to come up with a joint team that met the requirements of the USI. Subsequently, the President of the UAK promised to work towards this. The Executive Committee of UAK which met on 8 July 2016 decided to conduct USICON 2020 jointly by UAK and Kochi Urology Club at Kochi. This information was passed on to the President by Dr. Nebu Issac Mammen, President of UAK. The President further informed that subsequent details regarding organizational matters of USICON 2020 would be informed by the hosts, after their General Body Meetings were over, and presented at the AGM of USI proposed at Mumbai, duly forwarded by ASU. Dr. D. Ramesh and Dr. Keshavamurthy objected, saying that the USI had already received a proposal from the Urological Association of Kerala. On inquiry from other members about what the correct procedure was, the President informed them that the Zone had to send the proposal to the USI before its annual General Body Meeting. He informed the house

that plenty of correspondence had gone on in this matter, and following the Executive Council meeting of the Urological Association of Kerala on the afternoon of 8th July 2016, a fresh proposal had been finalized. Dr. Nebu Issac Mammen, the President of the Urological Association of Kerala, had personally informed the President of ASU of a fresh decision of the Executive Council of the Urological Association of Kerala to have the UAK & Kochi Urology Club as joint organisers. Dr Roy Chally made the point that the UAK Executive Council could not overturn the decision of the UAK general body. The President Dr. Mohan pointed out there was time till the Mumbai USICON for submitting the bid, and that the ASU would make its recommendation based on the final decision of the UAK at its next General Body Meeting, in line with the stipulation of the USI, as officially conveyed. The General Body accepted the President's clarification about the procedure.

13. The house accepted the decision of the Council not to award MIUC Travel Fellowship, 2016, since there were no suitable candidates fulfilling the requirements for the same. Several members expressed the view that the stipulations in the fellowship were too rigid and no suitable candidate would be forthcoming, and that these stipulations should be relaxed. Dr. D. Ramesh informed the members that the matter of the MIUC being *sub judice*, no decision should be taken in this matter until the legal position of the fellowship was clarified by the court. Several members expressed the view that the ASU must engage with the donors of the MIUC Travel Fellowship and prevail on them to change the regulations. The President, Dr. Mohan, reasserted Dr. Ramesh's point that the matters *sub judice* included who were the rightful custodians of the MIUC funds, and therefore the ASU would have to wait for the judicial verdict in this matter before changing anything.
14. The house discussed the procedures for institution of new endowed awards/sessions of ASU namely ASU-Pratheeksha Medal for Meritorious Post Graduate Student, ASU-NU Hospitals, Bengaluru Medal for Paediatric Urology Debate and Prof. V. Ravindranath Best Paper Prize Session from 2016. It was observed by some members that though these were approved by the Council, there was some procedural error since the same was not ratified in the General Body. However many members felt the necessity for institution of such awards/sessions and agreed to institute above endowed awards/sessions from this year onwards, since the corpuses for the same

were already received from the donors. Dr. C. Chinnasamy & Dr. C. Ramesh Kumar specifically pointed out that nothing was wrong with receiving the money subject to approval of awards by the General body. This was accepted by the members.

15. The list of 102 new members & 6 other members who applied for change in Membership Status had been scrutinized by the Executive Council, and had been recommended for approval by the GBM. The list was presented by the Secretary, and was approved by the house. **(Proposed by Dr. P. Venugopal, Seconded by Dr. Laxman Prabhu).**
16. The Treasurer informed the house that since there was surplus money in the income over expenditure for the last financial year ending March 2016, the new Council could prepare a budget for spending this amount for the forthcoming year keeping in mind the wishes of the members expressed from the floor.
17. The house approved the date and venue for the fourth ASU-HSB Midterm Workshop (27 Nov 2016 at the SSIHMS, Puttaparthi with the theme Urinary Stone Disease). Dr. R. Keshavamurthy would be coordinating with the SSIHMS authorities. The President thanked Dr. Keshavamurthy for taking on this responsibility.
18. Dr. Chodiseti Subbarao, organizing secretary of SZUSICON 2015, Visakhapatnam informed the house that the accounts of this conference were finalized, audited and submitted. He then handed over Rs. 50,000.00 as the share of the surplus money from SZUSICON-2015 held at Vishakhapatnam and due to the ASU. Dr. Keshavamurthy remarked that the organisers of SZUSICON 2015 made 'crores of money' in conducting the conference and only a pittance money had been given to ASU. The house appreciated and thanked the organisers of the conference.
19. Dr. Krishnasamy Kannan informed the house that he had inspected the venue and arrangements for conduct of SZUSICON 2017 at Manipal and expressed his satisfaction over the same. Since Dr. Arun Chawla, organizing secretary of the conference was not present, the details of the PAN Card and hosts could not be made available to the house. Dr. Kannan and the Executive Council would follow-up on this. There were some difficulties with respect to the opening and operation of the

conference accounts. The President, Dr. Mohan, requested Dr. Keshavamurthy who was the USI Treasurer and had good experience in dealing with these matters to assist Dr. Arun Chawla in finding a solution.

20. Dr. Hamza Thayyil from Kozhikode informed the house that the Venue for SZUSICON 2018 was being finalized either at Vythiri or at Kozhikode and details would be conveyed soon to ASU.
21. The President informed the house that the documents (FD Receipt, Passbook and Cheque Book) on the surplus amount remaining in the SZUSICON-2012 at Andhra Bank, NIMS Branch, Punjagutta, Hyderabad started under the PAN Card of ASU, were handed over to the ASU, with the Secretary and Treasurer of ASU as the new authorized signatories. He further informed the house that the entire surplus money in the account was due to the Hyderabad Urology Society as per the undertaking signed by the then office bearers of ASU in 2013 with the Income Tax Department. Therefore, the President informed the house that steps were being taken with respect to closure of the Fixed Deposit, transfer of the principal and interest to the SB Account to Hyderabad Urology Society after closing the SZUSICON-2012 Account at Andhra Bank, NIMS Branch, Punjagutta, Hyderabad. The Hyderabad Urology Society would issue a receipt for the amount and this matter would have satisfactorily concluded.
22. The General Body authorised the Treasurer to close all accounts pertaining to SZUSICON-2012 being held at the Andhra Bank, Hyderabad, and hand over the balance in those accounts through a cheque to the Hyderabad Urology Society.
23. The Secretary informed the house that the details of State Chapter Meetings were not available as of now.
24. Constitution Amendments proposed by the Council, circulated to all members and incorporating their suggestions were unanimously approved by the General Body, except for the proposal to have the quorum for the General Body Meetings fixed at 100 or 1/3 the membership of the Association. It was decided to retain the quorum as it was at present. The house requested the Secretary to submit the amended

constitution to Registrar of Societies, Chennai for registration so that it would come into effect soon thereafter. (**Proposed by Dr. Ganesh Kamath, Seconded by Dr. Kammela Sreedhar**).

25. Dr. Krishnasamy Kannan, Returning Officer of ASU Elections informed the house that the election for New Office Bearers was conducted smoothly and declared the following results:

- 1) **President Elect 2016-2017** : Dr. C. Mallikarjuna, Hyderabad (sole nomination received)
- 2) **Secretary 2016-2018** : Dr. Laxman Prabhu GG, Mangaluru
- 3) **Treasurer 2016-2018** : Dr. H. Krishna Moorthy, Kochi (sole nomination received)
- 4) **Council Member from Kerala 2016-2018** : Dr. Vinod KV, Thiruvananthapuram (sole nomination)
- 5) **Council Member from Karnataka 2016-2018** : Dr. Dilip Dhanpal, Bengaluru (Dr. Shivalingaiah had withdrawn his nomination in the forenoon of 9.7.2016)
- 6) **Council Member from Andhra Pradesh & Telangana 2016-2018** : Dr. Suryaprakash V, Nellore (sole nomination)
- 7) **Council Member from Tamil Nadu 2016-2018** : Dr. Prabhakar M, Erode (sole nomination)

26. The house congratulated the newly elected office bearers.

27. At this point, some members raised the issue of why the present Secretary had to submit his nomination for the Treasurer's post for the coming term. He was told to decline the post. Dr. Shivalingaiah repeatedly said that this was a denial of opportunity for younger members like himself who were keen to serve the Society and would do an even better job. The President Dr. Mohan explained that the posts available for contest in the Elections had been duly notified, adequate time as per the constitution had been given for any interested candidate to be nominated to any of the vacant post. Despite this, only one nomination was received for the post, and hence that person had to be declared elected as per the constitution. The returning officer had no choice in the matter.

28. Dr. Shivalingaiah said that the election for the Treasurer's post could be cancelled, and held from the floor of the house. Dr. Mohan pointed out that election to one post alone could not be cancelled as it would be both unconstitutional and illegal to do so. Dr. Shivalingaiah wanted to know what would happen if the entire election was cancelled and fresh nominations were called for again. Dr. Mohan pointed out that under the constitution, elections had to be held after a proper notification, giving time for nominations, scrutiny & withdrawals – they could not be held from the floor of the house. Dr. P. Venugopal wanted to know why the elections could not be cancelled and an extraordinary General Body Meeting called for at a later date with the sole purpose of holding elections. Dr. Mohan pointed out that this would mean no new office-bearer could take office, and the offices of the Secretary, President-elect, Council members from Kerala & Andhra Pradesh – Telangana as well as that of Treasurer would have to be shown as vacant in the statutory filings before the Registrar of Societies. In that eventuality, the Registrar might conclude that the Association was not capable of taking care of its affairs, could place the Association under administration and appoint an official of the Department as administrator. ASU would be unable to use any of its funds without the administrator's approval and may not be able to hold its annual meetings and other activities till such time as the Registrar chose to restore the *status quo ante*. The President said this would not be a desirable outcome for the ASU.

29. Dr. Shivalingaiah again asserted that the incoming Treasurer should step down and elections should be held from the floor as he was willing to shoulder the responsibility. The President told Dr. Shivalingaiah that his point had been made several times over during the discussion, and he should now permit the meeting to go on. Dr. P. Venugopal objected vociferously to this and said the President was being undemocratic and was not permitting members to voice their opinion. Dr. Mohan pointed out that as President he had a duty to conduct the meeting in an orderly fashion and the points that Dr. Shivalingaiah was making had been made several times over. He also pointed out that the provisions in the amended constitution precluded such an occurrence in future.

30. Dr. Chinnasamy felt that the incoming Treasurer should still consider relinquishing the post, and was assured that his suggestion would be reflected upon and considered.

31. The house discussed the possibility of rescheduling the timing of AGM in order to encourage the participation of more members. However various members opined that AGM if held during the day time would consume valuable scientific time and hence the proposal was not accepted by the house

32. The President thanked the house and declared the Annual General Body Meeting for 2016 closed.