



Indian Association Geneva

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Indian Association Geneva (IAG) Held on 13th February 2023 at via zoom (Virtual meeting)

The 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Indian Association Geneva was opened at 6:30 pm. Since the quorum of 30 members was not present, as per the Association's Constitution the AGM was reconvened after a lapse of 10 minutes with the 18 members who were present, and 12 proxies received.

The IAG President Dr. Maneesh Wadhwa welcomed the participants and requested a member to chair the AGM, as required under the Constitution. Dr. Maneesh Wadhwa proposed Mr. Rajagopalan Sampatkumar to chair the AGM. This was seconded by Mr. Vinay Khosla and Mrs. Sadaf Shamsie attending the General Assembly. Mr. Rajagopalan Sampatkumar kindly agreed to chair (hereinafter referred to as "the Chairperson") the meeting.

The Chairperson thanked the President and the AGM members for honouring him to chair the meeting. The Chair requested all the IAG members to either register for the AGM or send their proxies so that in future the AGM can be conducted without having to adjourn for lack of quorum.

Following his welcoming remarks, the below-mentioned agenda as proposed in the invitation letter was adopted:

1. Approval of [minutes of AGM](#) held on 5 February 2022
2. Consider and adopt the [annual report](#) for 2022
3. Consider and adopt the [financial accounts](#) and [audited statement](#) for 2022
4. Consider for approval the new Executive Committee
5. Handing over to the new Executive Committee
6. Nomination of Auditor
7. Fix annual membership fees
8. Any other business

1. Approval of minutes of AGM held on 5th February 2022

The Chair asked if there were any suggestions or comments with regard to the minutes of the AGM held on 5th February 2022. As there were no comments/suggestions and remarks the minutes of AGM were adopted.

2. Consider and adopt the annual report for 2022

The Chair invited the President, to present the 2022 annual report.

The President, on behalf of the IAG and the Indian diaspora living in and around Geneva congratulated Dr. Archana Sharma for receiving the Pravasi Bhartiya Samman Award by the President of India at the PBD Convention in Indore for her contribution in Science and Technology.

The President briefly talked about the activities organized by the IAG during 2022

- **IAG's Membership increased by 14%** compared to 2021 reaching to 265 memberships
- **Events** –IAG organised **20 events in 2022**

The President **highlighted 4 events organised/supported by IAG**

- **IAG collaborated and supported Heart for India Foundation event "Reve Indien", which was a 1 day event showcasing Indian dance, music, yoga, Ayurveda, Indian stalls. More than 50** volunteers and local artists participated at the event.
- **Literature and Music Rendezvous – IAG organized this event to** celebrate achievements of local diaspora. There was a book launch by Dr. Archana Sharma and Dr. Arun Pabari and sitar recital by Ustad. Ikhtlaq Khan.
- **5th Namaste Geneva** – Celebration of Diwali, Eid, Gurpurab and Christmas. The event was well attended by the Indian diaspora living in and around Geneva
- **India@75 Events-** IAG collaborated with and supported the PMI/CGI office during the celebrations of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, which aims to bring the diaspora closer and celebrate the achievements of the people in the field of science, culture, literature, art and wellbeing.

On behalf of IAG committee the President extended his sincere gratitude for an excellent relationship, involvement, and support on continuous basis, and was looking forward to continuing working together with Permanent Mission of India, Consular General office in Geneva and Indian Embassy in Bern.

- **Sponsorship** – The President thanked Boundary Holding, Bollywood Movies, Jena Logistics Consulting, Hinduja Foundation, Les Jardin de Malyar and Madhura for their continuous support to the IAG and their sponsorship for the directory.
- **Member Mobile App** – The President reminded the members that since 2017 IAG has put in place a digital member management infrastructure with an aim to provide seamless experience where an application can take care of reservations and payments for an event in advance with a single click. Later in 2018, new Member App was

launched. The new app can be download from Apple store "Wild Apricot" for members. The new app allows

- **check, modify and maintain their profiles** up to date, no more manual errors
 - **consult Membership directory** at their fingertips
 - **send Email or Call** to other members
 - **book events and pay online**, straight through process help minimizing food wastage and queues at the venue
- **Financial Report** – The President **said** that there was an excess of income (CHF 42,183) over expenditure (CHF 39,903) of CHF 2,279 in 2022. He thanked all the members for the IAG Executive Committee for their hard work and dedication in running the Association.
The Chair thanked the President for his commitment and leadership in past years in carrying out the functions skillfully and successfully. He also thanked him for presenting a very comprehensive report with all details.

As there were no other comments/suggestions, the Chair proposed that the Annual report be adopted. Mr. Ravindra Chopra seconded it. The report was adopted

3. Consider and adopt the financial accounts and audited statement for 2022

The Chairperson invited the treasurer, Mr. Sameer Pujari to present the report.

The Treasurer said that in 2022 IAG generated the highest recorded incomes in the history of IAG as well as organized the most events in terms of expenditures with a very diverse set of portfolios and programmes that IAG has delivered until now. Continuing the momentum of the Executive Committee did not overspend at any stage and kept within the budget and the time frame. We were hampered massively by non-availability of halls and cancellations. As a result, we had to adjust our programmes, this had financial implications. There was an excess of income over expenditure (CHF 42,183) over expenditure (CHF 39,903) of CHF 2,279 in 2022. These accounts have been approved and cleared by the auditor. At the last AGM, the then Auditor, Mr. Nakshatra had proposed that AGM should nominate a new auditor from time to time. Accordingly, the Executive Committee had identified Mr. Krishna Varahan who has in previous years been the auditor for the IAG to succeed Mr. Nakshatra. The Treasurer thanked Mr. Krishna Varahan for accepting this role and assume responsibility at such a short notice.

The Treasurer asked the Chair if he had any questions or comments regarding the financial report. The Chair thanked the Treasurer and said that he is very happy to see that the excess of income over expenditure has increased from the last year and for the excellent financial management that has been instituted. The Chair asked for comments and questions on the Financial Report; there were no comments from the floor.

The Chair had a question to The Treasurer regarding the report. He said that at the last AGM it was said that the contribution made by PMI and CGI as well as the contribution from the Indian embassy in Bern came late therefore it was not accounted for in the previous statement of accounts, the Chair wanted to know where this amount was inserted in 2022 statement of accounts. Mr. Pujari replied that as per the recommendations of the audit this amount is listed under "Sponsorship and Promotions". As a detailed breakdown IAG received CHF 5000 from CGI and PMI and CHF 1996 from the Embassy of India in Bern. The Chair suggested that there should be a separate entry in the annual accounts under "Sponsorship and Promotions" for these grants/contributions from these institutions. The Treasurer responded that a footnote can be added explaining these contributions.

The Chair invited the auditor Mr. Krishna Varahan to make his comment to the financial report. The Auditor thanked the President and the Treasurer for the cooperation extended during the audit. He had no comments to the report.

As there were no more comments the annual report for the year 2022 was adopted.

4. Consider for approval the new Executive Committee.

The Chair invited the President to suggest the new Executive committee for 2023-2025. The President thanked the Chair and proposed the following Executive Committee for 2023-25:

President: Dr. Maneesh Wadhwa
Vice-President: Mr. Betsen Baby
Secretary: Mrs. Sadaf Shamsie
Treasurer: Mr. Sameer Pujari

Members:

Mrs. Parwati Menon
Mrs. Upasana Sharma
Mrs. Sumana Konuganti
Ms. Ruby Bhat

Ms. Aushee M. Gupta

Extended Members (Ad Hoc, as per need):

Mr. Pardeep Prasad
Mr. Anand Mamtora
Ms. Flavia Sequira
Mr. Vinay Khosla

Nominated Member

Mr. A. Sunil Achaya

The Chair thanked the President and the Executive Committee team for their hard work. and requested the AGM to approve Dr. Wadhwa's proposal. The proposal was seconded by Mr. Ravindra Chopra.

5. **Handing over to the new Executive Committee**

As the office bearers of the new Executive Committee are the same as the previous year there was no handover.

6. **Nomination of Auditor:** The treasurer suggested Mr. Krishna Varahan to continue as the auditor. The proposal was seconded by Mr. Ravindra Chopra. The Chair thanked Mr. Krishna Varahan for accepting this position and nominated him as the auditor for 2023-2025

7. **Fix annual membership fee**

The membership fees remain unchanged. It was agreed that the last date of payment of annual membership fees will be 31 March and thereafter a penalty of CHF 10 will be charged

8. **Any Other Business**

Mr. Sunil Achaya thanked the Chair and the IAG members. He expressed his appreciation to be a part of the IAG. He reassured that the PMI and CGI office in Geneva is always ready to offer any help, support, assistance, or guidance. Mr. Achaya informed about the flagship events which are going to take place in Geneva in the coming months

- International Women's Day from 13 to 17 March
- Screening of Kantara movie- The producer of Kantara movie, Rishabh Shetty will be visiting Geneva to participate in a UN event. His movie will be screened for the Indian diaspora.
- The new premises of the Indian mission in Geneva will be inaugurated by the Hon. Foreign Minister of India, Dr Jai Shanker in April. There will be an occasion for the Indian diaspora to interact with him at a reception at the India House.

Mr. Sunil Achaya appealed to the members of the Indian diaspora to support and participate in these 3 upcoming events and all the other events on the occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav and Amrit Kaal.

Mr. Achaya introduced his colleague, Mr. Ajay Jha who has joined his team as the Second Secretary and would be fully involved in the Community Affairs. Realising the importance of the Indian Community this new position has been created to help PMI to interact closely with the Indian diaspora.

Mr. Achaya asked the Indian diaspora to welcome him and support him.

The Chair thanked Mr. Achaya for his statement.

The Chair said that in the last AGM the Executive committee had said that it was going to frame new financial bylaws, he wanted to know if anything was done in this regard. The treasurer said that it was not the financial by laws but revise the Constitution in general. It was a recommendation and the Executive committee had called for volunteers but as no one came forward, we will reach out again

The Chair thanked the Executive Committee for the excellent job they have been doing and wished them good luck for their new term. The Chair also thanked the members of the AGM to enable him to conduct the AGM. The meeting was adjourned at 7



Mr. Rajagopalan Sampatkumar
AGM Chairperson



Ms. Sadaf Shamsie
IAG Secretary, IAG