



**Minutes of the General Body Meeting held on 17.08.02024 at Chennai Trade Centre, Nandambakkam, Chennai**

1. **Meeting called to order:** As there is no adequate forum, meeting was adjourned by ten minutes.
2. **Welcome Address by the President:** Dr. Arulmozhi Varman welcomed all the members and requested to take their seats to continue with the agenda for the general body.
3. **Homage** - Dr. Sriram Gopal informed the demise of Dr. S S Badrinath, Dr Ravi Thomas, Dr J Chidambaram, Dr Ram Mohan, Dr Sheela Ramani, V N, Dr Soundarajan N and Dr Tina Jayaraj. A minute silence was observed by all the committee members for the departed souls.
4. **Dr. Joseph Ghandickam Oration** Awardee Dr J K Reddy was introduced by Dr Prathiba and he went on to deliver the oration.
5. **Dr. G. Venkatasamy Community Ophthalmology Oration** awardee Dr. Mehul Shah was introduced by Dr. Arulmozhi Varman, and he went on to deliver his oration.
6. **Confirmation of the minutes of General body meeting held on 05/08/2023 at Trichy.**  
Dr. Sriram Gopal informed that, this has also been circulated, any inputs from the members are welcome and if there are no inputs or comments from the members, it can be passed.

**Proposed by Dr. SS Sukumar and seconded by Dr. Madanagopal V**

**7. Matters arising thereof not covered elsewhere - NIL**

**8. Discussion and Adopting the report of the honorary secretary**

Secretary's report was already presented, circulated and also on the website. There were no queries or clarifications sought hence passed.

The report of the secretary was passed

**Proposed by Dr. Sathyan V and seconded by Dr. Siddarthan V.**

**9. Discussion and adopting the report of the Hony treasurer**

The treasurer report, this has been circulated. As there were no inputs from the members, the treasurer's report was passed.

**Proposed by Dr. M R S Ramakrishnan and seconded by Dr Saravanan J**

**11. Discussion and adopting the report of the Editor**

The Editor's report had been circulated. As there were no inputs from the members, the Editor's report was passed.

**Proposed by Dr. Thangavelu and seconded by Dr. Ashok Kumar.**

## **12. Discussion and adopting the report of Chairman ARC**

The Chairman ARC's report, this has been circulated. As there were no inputs from the members, the Chairman ARC's report was passed.

**Proposed by Dr. Chandrasekar and seconded by Dr. V R Vijayaraghavan**

## **13. Discussion and ratification of new Awards proposals and resolutions**

Dr Sriram Gopal informed the members about of two Awards

One is TNOA-Dr M R S Ramakrishnan award for Best paper in Pediatric Ophthalmology and strabismus proposed by Dr Supraja Kasturirangan. The president Dr Arulmozhivarman informed that this has been approved and passed in the MC meeting.

Two a proposal by Tambaram Ophthalmic society for the creation of a TNOA - TOS – Dr Nirmal Fredrick Award for best paper in comprehensive ophthalmology.

Dr Arulmozhivarman informed that this is accepted in principle since there is an issue with the funding process. He said the issue had been sent back to Tambaram Ophthalmic Society for clarification and accounting details.

**Proposed by Dr. S S Sukumar and seconded by Dr. N Sathyan**

## **15. Announcement of New Presidential Committees 2024-2025 and advisory committees by President**

**Advisor to President** Dr V Siddarthan

### **Ethics Committee**

Dr Arulmozhivarman, Dr Nirmal Fredrick, Dr R Ramakrishnan & Dr Sujatha Mohan

### **Standards Committee**

Dr Arulmozhivarman, Dr Sharmila Devi, Dr Ramesh Durairajan, Dr Aravind Srinivasan & Dr P Sathyan

### **Grievances Committee**

Dr R Ramakrishnan, Dr V thangavelu, Dr Mohanrajan

### **Election Commission**

Dr S S Sukumar (CEC), Dr V Panneerselvam, Dr Vasantha R

### **Advocacy committee**

Dr T Nirmal Fredrick, Dr Rajasekar, Dr Sathyan N, Dr Balasubramaniam K C

### **Insurance Committee**

Dr V Panneerselvam, Dr Murali Ariga, Madanagopal V, Dr Subashini V,

**Proposed by Dr. Madhivanan N and seconded by Dr. J Saravanan**

## **16. Approval of Budget and Auditors for the year 2023 24**

Budget for the forthcoming year had already been presented.

Dr. Balaji R informed that Mr. Kamal – Current auditor can continue with the consent of all the members.

The auditors were approved and the treasurer's report passed

**Proposed by Dr. Ashok Kumar and seconded by Dr. V R Vijayaraghavan**

#### **17. Ratification of New Members**

Dr. Sriram Gopal informed that 415 new members were enrolled over the last one year. The last membership number was 4016, Dr Archana.

**Proposed by Dr. D Chandrasekar and seconded by Dr. Vanaja Vaidyanathan**

#### **18. Election result 2024**

Chief Election Commission Dr. V Siddarthan thanked the past president and the election commissioners for the smooth conduct of the elections. The polling percentage was 61%. He announced that Dr V R Vijayaraghavan had been elected as the vice president.

#### **19. Announcement of 72<sup>st</sup> TNOA Conference in 2025**

Dr Vanaja Vaidyanathan thanked welcomed all the members of the committee and on behalf of POS invited them all for the 72<sup>st</sup> TNOA Conference, Cherrycon in 2025 to be held in Suganya Convention Centre, Pondicherry on August 1,2,3, 2025

#### **20. Selection of venue for 2026 conference**

Dr Arulmozhivarman informed that only CSOS had bid for that year to be conducted in Coimbatore.

Dr S S Sukumar mentioned that proper protocol needs to be followed in future inaugurations due to the lapses this year.

Dr Arulmozhivarman mentioned that those were due to the profile of the dignitaries, the health minister and Sportsman Ashwin Ravichandran. He apologized for the lapses.

Dr Mohanrajan concurred with that and added that it was compounded by the traffic.

Dr Vanaja Vaidyanathan played the promo video for Cherrycon 2025.

#### **21. AIOS Information**

Read by the secretary in his report

**Proposed by Dr Kishore and Seconded by Dr Mohanrajan**

#### **22. Any other matter with permission of the chair.**

Dr Mohan wanted popular programs like visual field to be in the main program rather than wet / dry labs alone.

Dr Arulmozhivarman explained that these have been covered in regular sessions too and will ensure this practice is followed.

Dr Madhivanan N applauded and raised a query on the "TNOA heroes awards presented along with the inauguration. He commented that this should have been passed in the GB to be included in the inauguration.

Dr S S Sukumar queried on what basis the awards were selected

Dr Nirmal Fredrick said there should be some guidelines and it can be part of the other programs by the LOC. But to be a part of the inauguration it need to have guidelines an be passed by the MC and then accepted by the GB.

Dr Sriram Gopal explained this was not a part of the inauguration at all. It was originally an LOC idea. He had sent a mail to Dr Atheek not to infringe in the inauguration or the GB. It was supposed to be given after the national anthem in the inauguration. However the late arrival of the dignitaries created an impasse and this was preponed with the sole intention of filling in the time.

Dr Arulmozhiarman concurred with the same

Dr Kasinathan raised a query regarding his hospital being black listed by an insurance company and how he wrote to the TNOA insurance committee. He lamented that he received very little support from the TNOA. He explained that he had to tackle that crisis on his own. He wanted to know how the TNOA is going to help and support with issues like this.

Dr Arulmozhiarman explained that the TNOA had sent out an advisory warning aggregators. This issue was about an aggregator suing the name of the hospital illegally. He explained that TNOA cannot implead itself since has no Locus standi. He said that the NTO only can gather data and suggest ways to get out of this problem.

Dr Kasinathan wanted the TNOA to mediate between the hospital and the company. He explained after an initial meeting there was no response or support from this side and he had to do all the background work and sort out the problem himself.

Dr Nirmal Fredrick explained this was already discussed not only with TNOA but also AIOS. He said this was sub judice and around 400 hospitals across India had been involved. He explained they have prevailed to call it "Excluded list" rather than "Black listed". He clarified that the RIDA has given a 9 point criteria for this process. He went on to say how the aggregator issue has compounded the problem. He said the GIC is looking into the issue and hoped to bring it up in the meeting with the IRDA and to find a solution.

Dr Sriram Gopal quoted the example of Jaipur Ophthalmic Society to send a communication to the insurance company asking them to follow proper procedure. He explained that the member wanted that more than the TNOA impleading his case.

Dr Nirmal Fredrick said that the association has only an advisory role and cannot come in between. He said that only the doctors are members of the association and not the hospital. He went on to say that the AIOS is taking it up in a big way and hoped for a solution.

Dr Siddarthan clarified that the secretary's report usually has the achievements of the members and the TNOA heroes award was just taking it a step forward. He requested the recommendations of the constitution review committee to be taken up and passed in a SGB.

Dr Arulmozhiarman mentioned that it had been passed in the MC and it will be taken up.

Dr Mohanrajan explained how repeated warnings were given to stay away from aggregators.

Dr Sriram Gopal recalled when, how and how many circulars have been sent so far.

Dr Thangavelu raised a query regarding societies registration status.

Dr Sriram Gopal updated the status and explained the glitch faced every year is the lack of quora in the GB and the digital vs manual filing.

Dr Satyan N mentioned that there are still a few hospitals tied up with the aggregators. He wanted to insist they come out of the agreement if ever they needed help from the TNOA.

Dr Arulmozhivarman asked for data so that the TNOA can send a individual letter alerting them of the dangers of such an association.

Dr Nirmal Fredrick mentioned that some companies don't remove hospitals even when the MOU has expired.

Dr Arulmozhivarman said if any such specific instance is brought to his notice the TNOA can send a letter to the company asking for a reason for such an act.

Dr Arulmozhivarman called Dr Mohanrajan on stage and announced his candidature for the post of Vice president AIOS in 2025

Dr Mohanrajan requested the help and support of all the TNOA members.

Dr Arulmozhivarman encouraged all the TNOA members to vote en masse.

Dr Sukumar SS wanted to stop physical voting in TNOA.

Dr Arulmozhivarman explained that this will be taken care in the constitution revision

Dr Sriram Gopal pleaded that profile updation was important to hold a fully online election

Dr Srinivas Rao wanted to follow the MOS example and ask all TNOA members to vote for Dr Mohanrajan

### **23. Vote of Thanks**

Presented by Dr Sharmila devi, Jt Secretary

The General Body Meeting was adjourned by Dr. Arulmozhivarman

**Minutes prepared by Hon Gen Secretary Dr Sriram Gopal**