Minutes of the Second Meeting of the NPL Former Scientists Forum, held on March 7, 2003, at 11.00 A.M. in the TEC Conference Room of the National Physical Laboratory

1. **Attendance:** The following attended the meeting:

1. Shri Ashok Kumar Agarwal
2. Mrs. Santosh Aggarwal
3. Dr. Jagdish Raj Anand
4. Shri Gyanendra Kumar Arora
5. Shri Bal Ram Awasthy
6. Dr. Om Parkash Bahi
7. Dr. Virendra Kumar Batra
8. Shri Ram Chand Bhatheja
9. Shri Kameshwer Nath Bhatnagar
10. Dr. Vishwa Nath Bindal
11. Dr. Kailash Chandra
12. Dr. Subhas Chandra
13. Dr. A F Chhapgar
14. Shri Ramesh Chandra Dhawan
15. Mrs. Urmil Dhawan
16. Shri Dedar Singh
17. Dr. Pradip Kumar Ghosh
18. Dr. J K Gupta
19. Dr. Pramod Kumar Gupta
20. Dr. Adeshwar Prasad Jain
21. Dr. Prakash Chandra Jain
22. Shri Vakil Chand Jain
23. Dr. K C Joshi
24. Shri Mahesh Chandra Jusht
25. Shri R S Khanduja
26. Shri Surinder Mohan Khullar
27. Shri Nand Kishore Kohli
28. Dr. (Mrs.) Namita Kundu
29. Shri Ram Krishan Luthra
30. Shri Girdhari Lal Malhotra
31. Mrs. Santosh Manrai
32. Shri T R Marwaha
33. Shri Pramod Kumar Mittal
34. Dr. V S Panwar
35. Shri S Parthasarathi
36. Dr. Man Mohan Pradhan
37. Dr. M K Raina
38. Dr. Rakesh Chandra Saksena
39. Dr. Roshan Lal Seth
40. Shri P C Sharan
41. Shri Surinder Kumar Sharda
42. Dr. Mahesh Chandra Sharma
43. Shri Jagdish Lal Sota
44. Dr. B N Srivastava
45. Shri Om Parkash Tagra
46. Dr. Jagdish Chander Trehan
47. Dr. Tulsi Ram Tyagi
48. Dr. J S Valshya
49. Shri C L Verma
50. Dr. Rajinder Pal Wadhwa
51. Shri Ved Parkash Wasan

Dr. Vishwa Nath Bindal, President, chaired the meeting.

2. **Introductory Remarks:** Dr. Bindal welcome the members to the meeting. He expressed his happiness that the meeting was so well attended, and made a specific mention of Dr. Kailash Chandra who found time to attend the meeting at such a short notice. He said that the credit for this good attendance goes to the various coordinators, and also to Shri G K Arora, the Secretary, who liaised with them from time to time.

Dr. Bindal said that as a number of persons were attending the meeting of the Forum for the first time, it would only be proper to inform them about the background in which the present meeting was being held. At the earlier meeting held on January 17, 2003, a Constitution Committee had been formed and it was requested to draft the Rules and Regulations of the NPL Former Scientists Forum. At that meeting, a nuclear Management Committee consisting of the President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer was also constituted, and financial contributions of Rs.100/= were also made by the members attending that meeting to give it an effective start. In addition to the three Office Bearers, it was decided that the various Coordinators, who play a pivotal role of interacting with the Members and the Prospective Members of the Forum, constituted the Members of this Management Committee.
The Constitution Committee had drafted the Rules and Regulations of the Forum, and these have been considered at two joint meetings of the Management Committee and the Constitution Committee. Shri Arora shall be presenting the details about these meetings. However, Dr. Bindal felt that it was only proper for him to present the highlights of these Rules and Regulations, copies of which have been placed before the Members as per the decision taken at the last meeting of the Forum.

It was felt by the Members of the Management Committee and the Constitution Committee that the Aims and Objectives of the Forum should be as simple and flexible as possible. It was also decided to have a Life Membership Fee of Rs. 500/=, which can be paid in five consecutive yearly instalments of Rs. 100/=, and to adjust the amount already paid by the Members at the last meeting, against this Membership Fee. It had also been decided that persons of the age of 75 years and above may be assigned a special status of Senior Members and they may be exempted from payment of the Membership Fee. Another decision was that all persons above the age of 60 years, who have served as the Director of NPL, or any other person duly approved by the Management Committee, shall be invited to become a Patron of the Forum.

Dr. Bindal said that in addition to the Rules and Regulations, copies of the Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Forum, held on January 17, 2003, as also of the Membership Form, as finalized at the joint meetings of the Management Committee and the Constitution Committee, had also been circulated. He requested that the filled up forms may be passed on to Shri V P Wasan, the Treasurer, along with their contributions towards the Membership Fee, so that he may be able to give them the receipts before the end of the meeting. He also sought the cooperation of the Members in confirming their particulars in respect of their Residential Address, their Residential Phone Numbers, e-mail addresses etc. as figuring in the BASE LIST of Members and Prospectve Members, and also in providing the information presently lacking in this list.

In regard to mailing of copies of ‘Sameeksha’ by NPL to the Members of the Forum, Dr. Bindal informed that a list of 34 Members, as on 28.02.03, had already been sent to Dr. Anil Kumar Gupta. It was learnt that the next issue of the publication was in press. He also informed that efforts were also being made to collect copies of the various Office Memoranda and Circulars of interest to the Members of the Forum, and their copies shall be made available as and when they are ready.

Dr. Bindal concluded his remarks by inviting suggestions for organization of lectures from experts in the field of Medicine, Income Tax etc. that could be organized for the benefit of the Members of the Forum. He then requested Shri Arora to apprise the Members about the action that had been taken in respect of the various decisions that had been taken at the last meeting of the Forum.

3. Action on the Decisions taken at the meeting of the Forum held on January 17, 2003: Shri Arora said that, as already informed by Dr. Bindal, copies of the last meeting of the Forum, held on 17.01.03, had already been placed before the Members. He had also briefly mentioned about the action that had so far been taken in respect of some of the decisions taken at that meeting. The Minutes of that meeting had been approved by the president, and since there is no specific observation on them from any of the Members, they are deemed to be confirmed. He then informed about the Action that had so far been taken in respect of the various decisions taken at that meeting para by para.

3.1 [Para 1: Attendance]: 32 Members were present at that meeting. While a substantial number of them were also present at today’s meeting also, some others had not been able to attend it and had regretted their inability to do so either to the President, or the Secretary, or the concerned Area Coordinator. This includes the three Coordinators – Dr. J K N Sharma, Dr. K C Nagpal and Shri Shiv Nath. Conversely, Dr. V V Shah and Shri M K Malik, while regretting their inability to attend today’s meeting had sent their Membership contributions through Dr. B N Srivastava.

3.2 [Para 2: Introductory Remarks]: Dr. Bindal had already touched upon the various issues.

3.3 [Para 3: Membership]: In so far as the definition of the term ‘Scientist’ is concerned, reference may please be made to the definition of the term ‘Former Scientist’ at Para 4.4 of the Rules and Regulations. Dr. Bindal has already informed about the Membership Form. Till the date of this meeting, an amount of Rs. 4000/= had been received towards the Membership Fee contribution, including full contributions of Rs. 500/= from 4 for Life Membership.

3.4 [Para 4: Patrons]: Dr. Bindal has already talked about it. In this connection, reference may be made to Para 7 of the Rules and Regulations.

3.5 [Para 5: Honorary Members]: As already informed by Dr. Bindal, it was decided to substitute the term ‘Honorary Member’ by the term ‘Senior Member’, and to reduce the qualifying age limit from 80 to 75 years. Reference may be made to Para 6.1.2 of the Rules and Regulations. A list of Prospective Senior Members has been drawn up and passed on to Dr. Bindal, to take further necessary action. Incidentally, Dr. A F Chhaggar and Shri Shiv Nath who qualify for Senior Membership, had already become Members of the Forum.

3.6 [Para 6: Membership Fee]: Dr. Bindal has already mentioned about this. Reference may be made to Para 9 of the Rules and Regulations.

3.7 [Para 7: Coordinated Decentralization]: It is the result of the efforts of the various coordinators that this meeting is so well attended today. Their role has been spelt out at Para 13.6 of the Rules and Regulations.
3.12 The Rules and Regulations were redrafted by the Secretary. It shall be updated in the light of the enrollment of the new Members at today’s meeting, and the same shall be put on the Mailing List for ‘Sameeksha’ as already informed by Dr. Bindal. The revised and updated rules and regulations again redrafted by the Secretary.

3.9 [Para 9: Constitution Committee]: The Constitution Committee and the Management Committee had their first joint meeting on 04.02.03 to consider the First Draft of the Rules and Regulations that could be prepared by the Secretary, incorporating the information exchanged between the members through e-mail and telephone. At that meeting it was decided that the President, in consultation with the Secretary and any other Member of the Forum that he may like to be associated with him, may prepare a revised draft, incorporating the various suggestions given by the Members attending that meeting. However it was felt that the following additional issues required to be considered before giving the Rules and Regulations a final shape:

1. Admission Fee
2. Acceptance of the Membership Form
3. Rights and Privileges of Members
4. Termination of or Cessation of Membership
5. Duties of the Members
6. Readmission of the Member
7. Appeal
8. Sources of Income
9. Need to have a re-look at the Aims and Objectives of the Forum to make them crisp and to add some more clauses thereto
10. Redefinition of the term ‘Scientist’, and whether to include any persons other than those who had been on the regular rolls of NPL, as Members
11. Replacing the term ‘Honorary Member’ by the term ‘Senior Member’
12. Finalization of the Membership Form

The Rules and Regulations were redrafted by the Secretary (Second Draft) after incorporating the views that had been received, for consideration at a meeting called by the President on 21.02.03. For this meeting, held in Dr. O P Bahl’s Room in NPL, only 9 members of the Management Committee and the Constitution Committee had been invited to participate, out of which 7 were present. At this meeting, the Membership Form was first finalized, and in this context, clarity emerged in respect of the following:

- Aims and Objectives
- Eligibility Requirements for Members
- Membership Fee

It was decided to print these three features of the Rules and Regulations on the reverse of the Membership Form also. It was also felt that the Rules and Regulations may be kept as simple and flexible as possible, and some more suggestions were made in this regard. In the light of these suggestions, yet another draft of the Rules and Regulations (Third Draft) was prepared by the Secretary and the same was considered at length at the second joint meeting of the Members of the Management Committee and the Constitution Committee, held on 28.02.03. The Rules and Regulations again redrafted by the Secretary (Fourth Draft) had now been placed before the Members of the Forum at today’s meeting, for their consideration.

3.10 [Para 10: Participation in the Laboratory Activities]: The list of Members (numbering 34 as on 28.02.03) had been drawn up by the Secretary. It shall be updated in the light of the enrollment of the new Members at today’s meeting, and the same shall be passed on to the Director NPL.

3.11 [Para 11: Laboratory/CSIR Publications]: The list of 34 Members (as on 08.02.03) has already been sent to Dr. Anil Kumar Gupta for putting them on the Mailing List for ‘Sameeksha’ as already informed by Dr. Bindal. The revised and updated list of Members mentioned above shall also be sent to him. Information about the entitlement of two CSIR Journals free of cost to the retired CSIR Scientist could not be collected so far. This shall be done shortly.

3.12 [Para 12: Other Issues of Common Interest]: Efforts have been made to obtain copies of Office Memoranda and Circulars of interest to the Members of the Forum. The status in this regard is as under:

- Guest House Facilities at the various CSIR Laboratories: Copies of two Office Memoranda No.CSIR/GH/91-Gen – one dated 10.11.98 and the other dated 01.10.99 relating to Guesthouse Facilities for CSIR Pensioners and Members of their Families, have been obtained, and their copies shall be made available to the Members.

- Medical Facilities: The following Office Memoranda issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health) have come to the notice of the Management Committee:
  1. S-110306/2001-CGHSP dated 05.11.2001 on the subject of ‘Treatment in All India Institute of Medical Sciences in respect of CGHS beneficiaries without any prior permission/approval’.

The above mentioned Office Memoranda will be requested for copies of the above and other such Office Memoranda and Circulars of relevance to retired CSIR Pensioners and their Family Members, as adopted/endorsed by the CSR, and these shall be brought to the notice of the Members.

3.13 [Para 13: Social Activities]: The following Members/Prospective Members had their Birthdays falling between 17.01.03 (date on which the last meeting of the forum was held) and 07.03.03 (today’s meeting), as per the available information. They are wished a long, active, healthy and happy life:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Birth</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Shri Prem Prakash [01. 03]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917</td>
<td>Dr. P T John [13. 02]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Shri Madan Mohan [26. 01]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Dr. J S Dhillon [01. 02]; Shri A N Bulsara [18. 02]</td>
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<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>Shri C S Dua [02. 02]; Dr. A P Mitra [21. 02]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1932</td>
<td>Shri B R Bakshi [18. 01]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>Shri Vakil Chand Jain [06. 03]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>Dr. S L Dahake [04. 02]; Shri Kameswer Nath Bhatnagar [20. 02]; Dr. M S Hegde [27. 02]; Shri M G Sehgal [01. 03]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>Shri M K Malik [01. 02]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>Shri R K Nayar [14. 02]; Shri G S Hans [02. 03]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>Dr. R C Joshi [18. 01]; Shri O P Bahl [22. 01]; Shri Om Parkash Tagra [01. 03]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Dr. Mian Mohan Pradhan [10. 02]; Shri R S Sharma [06. 03]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>Dr. V K Agarwal [01. 02]; Shri Ved Prakash [01. 02]; Mrs. Santosh Manrai [17. 02]; Shri D S Sachdeva [05. 03]</td>
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4. Other Action Taken since the Last Meeting of the Forum held on 17.01.03 : The Secretary also informed about the following:

4.1 Government of India’s Liberalised Policy towards Pensioners in respect of Health Care: It was learnt from Dr. M R Verma, that Shri Purshotam Dass, who had retired from the Accounts Department of CSIR, and who was presently his neighbour in Saket, had prepared a circular letter that could be sent by individual CSIR pensioners to Shri Sudhir Kumar, Joint Secretary (Admn.), CSIR, in regard to the delay in implementation of the Government of India’s liberalized policy towards pensioners in respect of health care. Shri Dass was approached for a copy of the draft letter that he had prepared. The same has been redrafted and is available for use by Members who may like to write to Shri Sudhir Kumar.

Decision: It was decided to defer action on this till the next meeting of the Forum.

4.2 BASE LIST: The BASE LIST of Members/Prospective Members covered about 180 persons at the time of the last meeting of the Forum. Out of this, the confirmed information about the addresses and residential telephone numbers available till then was about 80 persons. This list has now been amplified and lists about 250 Members/Prospective Members. Out of this the confirmed information about the addresses and residential telephone numbers of about 105 persons is now available. This has been possible on account of the efforts made by the Coordinators and the other Members of the Forum.

Decision: It was decided that a list of the Members of the Forum may be culled out of the BASE LIST, and copies of it be provided to the Members at the next meeting of the Forum.

4.3 Letterhead: A Letterhead for the Forum has been drafted by the Secretary on the Computer, and the same is proposed to be got printed for which action has been initiated by Dr. A P Jain.

Decision: It was decided that this issue may also be deferred for the present, as elections to some of the posts of Office Bearers proposed in the Rules and Regulations had yet to take place.

5. Adoption of the Rules and Regulations of NPL-FSF: Dr. Bindal sought the views of the Members of the Forum regarding the adoption of the Rules and Regulations that had been placed before the Members. He said that while a substantial effort had gone into the drafting of this document, it was possible that there was some scope for improvement, for which a provision had also been made in Para 21.

Dr. Bindal also said that the Management Committee had decided that a Savings Fund may also be opened with the Syndicate Bank, National Physical Laboratory, in the Name of “NPL Former Scientists Forum”, and for this a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Forum was also required to be submitted to the Bank.

The general feeling of the Members was that since it had not been possible to study the Rules and Regulations, it would be desirable to defer their adoption till the next meeting of the Forum. Accordingly it was decided that comments and suggestions that any Member may like to make may be sent to the Secretary, Shri G K Arora, so as to reach him by March 31, 2003, to enable him to place them before the members of the Constitution Committee and the Management Committee for any changes that may require to be made in the document. Accordingly, the decision of opening a Bank Account in the name of the Forum also stood deferred.

6. Next Meeting of the Forum : It was decided to have the next meeting of the Forum on Friday, April 25, 2003, at 11.00 A.M. Dr. Bindal invited suggestions for any specific items that the Members may like to be taken up at the next meeting of the Forum. These could be passed on either to him or to the Secretary, for ensuring their inclusion in the agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.