

NPL FORMER SCIENTISTS FORUM

Minutes of the Forth Meeting of the Management Committee of the NPL Former Scientists Forum, held jointly with the Constitution Committee on Friday, June 20 2003 at 11.00 A.M. in the Conference Room of the National Physical Laboratory.

As had been indicated in the Secretary's letter dated April 3, 2003, notifying the Agenda that was proposed to be taken up, the members who had sent their comments on the Draft of the Rules and Regulations of the Forum, circulated at the time of the Meeting of the Forum held on 07.03.03, had also been invited to present their views at the meeting.

Attendance: The following attended the meeting:

1.	Dr. V N Bindal	...	...	...	President
2.	Dr. P C Jain	...	...	...	Member
3.	Dr. A P Jain	...	...	...	Member
4.	Dr. B N Srivastava	...	...	...	Member
5.	Dr. V S Panwar	...	...	...	Member
6.	Dr. (Mrs.) N Kundu	...	...	...	Member
7.	Dr. K C Nagpal	...	...	...	Member
8.	Dr. P K Gupta	...	...	...	Member
9.	Shri N K Kohli	...	...	...	Member
10.	Dr. S K Sharma	...	...	...	Convenor, Constitution Committee
11.	Shri V P Wasan	...	...	...	Treasure
12.	Shri G K Arora	...	...	...	Secretary

Dr. V V Shah had regretted his inability to attend the meeting. Dr. O P Bahl, Dr. J C Trehan, Dr. J K N Sharma, Shri R C Dhawan, Mrs. Santosh Aggarwal, and Shri Shiv Nath – all Members of the Management Committee, and Dr. S V Gupta – Member of the Constitution Committee, did not attend the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Introductory Remarks by the President: Dr. V N Bindal invited the members to the meeting. He said that a lot of time and effort had been put in the drafting and re-drafting of the Rules and Regulations of the Forum, and this issue tended to drag on. As such, it was felt at today's meeting, all the major objections in respect of the various Sections may be thrashed out and the Document given a final shape so that it could be placed before the Forum at its next meeting to be held on April, 25, 2003 for adoption. If there are still some minor lacunae, they could be looked into at a later stage.

Dr. Bindal said that the main purpose of the Forum should be the periodic get-together of its Members and others who may like to join it, to organize talks of common interest, and to share information that may be of benefit to the members e. g. guest house facilities available to the Members in the various National Laboratories/Institutes, Medical circulars and OMs etc.

2. Status Report by the Secretary: Shri G K Arora said that after going through the various comments that had been received on the Draft Rules And Regulations circulated at the last meeting of the Forum held on march 7, he had felt that the three issues which were specifically commented upon and his observations thereon, which he had also sent to the president before the meeting, were as under:

2.1 Preamble to the Rules and Regulations: The general practice followed by the various Associations is not to give any Preamble to the Rules and Regulations.

2.2 Constitution of the Management Committee: While Dr. Shah has expressed the extreme view that there is no need to have any Committee, but only some person who volunteers himself to serve as its Convenor, the views of the other Members are in favour of constituting as small a Management Committee as possible. In particular, it has been felt that there is no need to have two Vice-Presidents

2.3 Registration of the Forum Under the Societies Registration Act: It has been felt that the Registration of the Forum under Societies Registration Act will give it the shade of a trade union, and as such, this should not be done. In this respect it is to say that similar Associations viz. the CSIR Pensioners Welfare Association and the Pensioners Welfare Samaj, Green Park, have been registered under the Act. However, it was pointed out that

this issue had been considered in detail at the joint meeting of the Management Committee and the Constitution Committee held on February 28, 2003, at which it had been decided to defer this issue for the present. Accordingly, the "Memorandum of Association", which is a requirement for Registration of a Society, had been dropped from the draft considered at that meeting, and accordingly a number of the Sections of the "Rules and Regulations", had also been already been deleted. If however, there is still some oblique reference to registration in the draft which had been circulated at the meeting of the Forum held on) 07.03.03, it could be taken care of.

3. Status Report by the Treasurer: Shri v P Wasan said that so far he had booked a very small amount of expenditure, and there was nothing significant under the 'Debit Head' to report upon. He had prepared the Membership Receipts for all the Members from whom the contributions had been received in cash till date, but some of them still remained to be issued to them. For those Members who come to attend the Forum meeting on 25th April, the receipts will be given by him on the spot.

4. Consideration of suggestions received from Dr. E S R Gopal: Shri Arora informed that the following two suggestions had been received from Dr. Gopal:

- (i) We should interact with similar bodies like the CSIR Association and CSIR Pensioners Group at NAL
- (ii) We should have the channel of accepting donations from individuals and institutions to improve our finances and to promote the activities.

The e-mail from Dr. Gopal dated 27 March, carrying the above suggestions was read out at the time of the meeting.

Shri Arora said that he had already acknowledged the e-mail on 27th, and sent a copy of it to the President. Dr. Gopal had also been requested for a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the CSIR Pensioners Welfare Association and the CSIR Pensioners Welfare Group of NAL, or alternatively, to indicate the contact persons of these Associations. In response to this, he had sent an e- mail to Dr. Somashekar, (who is looking after the NAL Association) on April 8, advising him to establish contact with us.

It was felt that both the above suggestions were very good, and be kept into view while finalizing the Rules and Regulations of the Forum.

5. Consideration of the comments received in respect of the Rules and Regulations: Dr. B N Srivastava and Dr. P K Gupta presented their viewpoints before the Committee and also on the observations that the Secretary had earlier sent to them while inviting them for the meeting. Shri Kohli, however, did not offer to make any specific observations as his views had been covered in the deliberations on the views of Dr. Srivastava and Dr. Gupta.

Decision: It was decided that Dr. S K Sharma, Convenor of the Constitution Committee, may draw up the Final Draft of the Rules and Regulations in the light of the various observations that had been made, and the same may be placed before the Forum at its meeting on April 25, for adoption.

6. Revised Lists of Members/Prospective Members for interaction by the Coordinators for the next meeting of the Forum to be held on Friday, April 25, 2003, at 11.00 A.M. in the TEC Conference Room of NPL: Shri Arora passed on the revised Lists of Members / Prospective Members that he had prepared for the Coordinators for interaction in connection with the next meeting of the Forum to be held on 25.04.03. He was advised to send the Lists for the other Coordinators who could not be present at the meeting as enclosures to the letters notifying the Agenda for the Forum Meeting on 25th April.

7. Suggestions for items to be included in the Agenda for the next meeting of the Forum on April 25: Dr. Mrs. Kundu offered to give a talk on "Art of Living". It was felt that this would constitute one of the main attractions for the meeting

8. Any other Item with the Permission of the Chair

8.1 Enrolment of New Members: Dr. Bindal informed about the filled up Membership Form that he had received from Shri S C Vasishth whom he had written to enroll as a Senior Member. This Form together with its covering letter was passed on to Shri Arora to acknowledge and to invite him for the meeting of the Forum on April 25.

Shri Arora informed that he too had received a filled up Membership Form along with an amount of Rs. 100/= from Dr. S P Varma

The Committee approved the enrollment of Shri Vasishth and Dr. Varma as new Members of the Forum

8.2 Guest House Facilities: It was felt that it would be appropriate if information about the addresses of the various CSIR Laboratories / Institutes, together with the Phone Numbers etc of their Directors, the COAs and the Guest House In charges could be collected and made available to the Members

Decision: Shri Arora to explore the possibility of compiling the information in this regard.

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