

8th Annual NAPSIPAG Conference

(Network of Asia Pacific Schools and Institutes of Public Administration and Governance)

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BODY MEETING

held on 15th Dec.2011, 3:30 PM,

at Hotel Manang, at Kathmandu Nepal

2011-2016

The following members attended the meeting:

Members from the Steering Committee:

1. Doctor Isaias S Sealza, Director, Research Institute for Mindanao Culture (RIMCU) & Dean, Graduate School, Xavier University-Ateneo de Cagayan, PHILIPPINES
2. Professor Aka Firowz Ahmad, Ph.D. Chairman, Department of Public Administration, University of Dhaka.
3. Prof. Govind Prasad Dhakal, Campus Chief, Public Administration Campus, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal, GPO Box 1509
4. CNSA Vice President Zhou Wenzhang (represented by Dr. Jiang Gougzhu) Chinese Academy of Governance, (Previously CNSA or China National School of Administration) Changchunqiao Road, Haidian District, Beijing The People's Republic of China
5. Dr. Sharif As-Saber, International Business Studies, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia. (Re-elected as Chairperson of the NAPSIPAG Steering Committee)
6. Prof. Amita Singh, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India.
7. Mr. Raza Ahmad, ADB, Manila, Phil.

8. Mr. B.Wijayratne, Director, Srilanka Institute of Development Administration, Malatasekara, Colombo.

Network members:

Ramanie.Samaratunge, Department of Management, Clayton,Monash University, Australia.)

Ken Cogill, Monash University, Australia

Rumki Basu, Jamia University, Delhi

Suman Sharma, University of Delhi, Delhi

Rajesh Kumar, GuruNanak Dev University, Amritsar

Gen. Shafiqul Islam, Dhaka

AKA Feroze Dhaka University,

Deepak Arya, JNU

Jiang Yougzhu (Ginger) CAG, Beijing, China

Gou Na (Yunan) China

(Pl. add more names who attended.....)

(1) The Secretary General presented a snapshot of activities which the members had undertaken in the last three years and activities which were held at the Secretariat to generate local interest and institutional viability.

NAPSIPAG Secretariat Programmes since 2009

<u>S.No.</u>	“The International Congress of Women”. A panel discussion on ‘Reverberations of Hope: Building Capacities of Governments and Public Administrators for Social Change and Gender Justice”	<u>3rd March 2009</u> Parliament, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance and Institute of Gender Justice, 2008,
<u>2</u>	<u>A Dialogue on ‘Implementation Challenges of</u>	Centre for the Study of Law and

	<u>Administrative Reforms' with</u> Hon'ble Nepal Minister Ms.PomphaBhusal, and Australia India Council Team of Prof. Robin Jeffery and Ms. Heather Neate.,	Governance and Australia India Council 5 th March,2009
3	<u>A Cross Culture Dialogue in Research</u> Prof. GeorgioDominese, University of Rome, Prof. Alan Mayne,University of South Australia, and Prof. George Matthew, Institute ofSocial Sciences, speak to the young researchers.	Centre for the Study of Law and Governance And Transition Studies Group of the University of Rome and Governance Knowledge Centre of the DARPG,Gol.
	<u>'Understanding between the Muslim and the non-Muslim world' to launch the Muslim Studies Centre at the University of Adelaide,Aus.</u> Talks by Prof. Pal Ahluwalia, Prof. Alan Mayne and Prof. Adrian Vicary	Centre for the Study of Law and Governance And UniSA,Adelaide June 2009
	<u>Public Lecture by Hon'ble Minister Dr. Veerappa Moily Minister of Law, Justice & Company Affairs, Government of India on "Role of the Youth in Nation Building Process",</u> Chaired by Prof. S.K.Thorat UGC Chairman who interacted on problems faced by students in the Universities.	Centre for the Study of Law and Governance And Governance Knowledge Centre, DARPG,Gol 1 st Oct.2010
	<u>'Happiness Perception Index of Cyber City Gurgaon'</u> An Interaction of Residents with their newly elected Municipal Councillors and 17 Developmental NGOs , Local Governance representatives, on the Role Municipalities are expected to play.	Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, in collaboration with seven NGOs and 2 companies in Developmental and Environmental tasks in the city governance.

The Secretary General highlighted the fact that it took almost three years for INTAN to transfer all financial documents to JNU as there were local administrative and financial regulations and NAPSIPAG lost more than US\$9000 in seeking Bank transfers from Malaysia to India. The last of the balance funds arrived in August. An individual member Dr. Rajesh Kumar raised the concern that if the Secretariat is located permanently at one place, it would work in a more cost-effective manner besides generating sustained support both in human and financial resources to become self-steering.

(2) The Chairperson shared the progress on the Journal publication front. The 'Journal of Administration and Governance (JOAAG)' is the official journal of

NAPSIPAG. The journal is a bi-annual online journal dedicated to publish significant, interesting, and timely articles, both conceptual and empirical, on issues concerning public administration and governance. In addition to the article section, JOAAG has three other sections on 'Case Study', 'Research Note' and Book Review' that have allowed to include quality material from a wide range of research as well as practitioner perspectives.

(3) The Secretary General presented the financial statement of NAPSIPAG funds. The shortfall of 2,47538 INR was balanced through convergence of activities with other running projects of the Secretariat.

The House appreciated the Secretariat Management at JNU and some members expressed the need for a more sustainable financial support mechanism. The Steering Committee Members urged members to pay their membership dues regularly to the NAPSIPAG Secretariat.

(4) The Secretary General presented the Constitutional Amendments proposed by the Steering Committee for ratification of the General Body. These Amendments were suggested under the procedure for Amendment to the NAPSIPAG Constitution given under the following Clause.

Article XII – Amendments to this document can only be made by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Steering Committee or upon the proposal of the majority of the member institutions. A two-thirds vote of the General Assembly is needed for amendments to take place. Amendments may either be circulated in advance or maybe raised during the General Assembly.

Under Art IV:

EXISTING CLAUSE,	SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS
Under Art.V Annual General Body Meeting: Last Para: “Only Institutional Members can vote during this meeting. Observers and Associate Members can participate in the debate but have no voting privileges.”	“All members(Institutional, Advisors and Individuals) can vote.

<p><u>Eligibility for membership</u></p> <p>“The Steering Committee shall decide whether an applicant is eligible to become a member of the Network. For applicants to become members of the Network, they shall be required to pay the annual dues, submit a duly accomplished application form and accomplish other requirements that the Steering Committee may need such as the pertinent information that will be helpful for the Network’s database.”</p>	<p><u>Eligibility for membership</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee shall decide whether an applicant is eligible to become a member of the Network. For applicants to become members of the Network, the basic requirements are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (In Case of individual membership)They should be employed in a public or private or autonomous or international organization on a regular (continuing) basis or a scholar retired from the above position. 2. They should be an academic of high standard performance in research and publications in the Asia Pacific studies/ a PhD in relevant area of administrative research/ a policy analyst with a research organization / an senior administrator with the government with leanings towards publications and research. 3. Young researchers enrolled in PhD in various universities who have some record of publications and research contributions can become members without voting rights.
<p><i>No fee has been prescribed in the Constitution but is left to the Steering Committee to decide, which has so far decided for an annual membership of US\$300 (for developing countries) and US\$700 for developed countries. For individual annual membership it has been US\$100.The Secretariat spent more money collecting and chasing payments.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The distinction between the developing and developed countries was deleted and both be taken at par for membership purposes. 2. Institutional membership US\$750 for five years. Those who wish to payfor ten years may pay US\$1000 only. 3. Individual membership of US\$300 for ten years. There is no annual membership but only for this transitional period if some members have paid US\$100 for the year may be allowed to pay the balance of US\$200 in the coming year for the ten year membership.
<p>“The five members of the Steering Committee shall be elected at large by a simple majority of the General Assembly during the Annual Business Meeting. <u>They shall serve as members of the Committee for a three-year term and may be re-elected only once.</u> Election shall be by secret balloting.”</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. They shall serve as members of the Committee for a five year term and may be re-elected only once. 2. The Steering Committee members were increased from five to seven so that regional voices and marginalized island states may be better heard in the NAPSIPAG network.

<p>“Election of the five members of the Committee is not synchronized and shall take place within two consecutive years. Two members are elected one year and three are elected the following year. This process shall start two years after the first set of the five-member committee is elected and the two members who ranked 4th and 5th during the first election should be replaced first.”</p>	<p>“Election of the five members of the Committee is synchronized and would take place every fifth year. If any member recedes to leave or resign then the issue would be brought up to the General Assembly which may discuss and ratify the decision of the Steering Committee for co-opting new members for the remaining period only .”</p>
<p>“In case of a vacancy, a new member of the Committee may be elected for a three-year term during the next meeting of the General Assembly.”</p>	<p>“In case of an institutional vacancy(other than the defaulter), a new member of the Committee may be co-opted for the remaining tenure till the next meeting of the General Assembly.</p>
<p>“A Chairperson who shall be elected by the members from among themselves shall head the Steering Committee. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the overall leadership and direction of the Network. His/her term shall also <u>last for three years and may be renewed for another term.</u> The term of the Chairperson starts at the end of the Annual Business Meeting wherein s/he is elected and ends at the close of the same, <u>three years</u> thereafter.”</p>	<p>“A Chairperson who shall be elected by the members from among themselves shall head the Steering Committee. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the overall leadership and direction of the Network. His/her term shall also <u>be five years renewable only for another term.</u>The term of the Chairperson starts at the end of the Annual Business Meeting wherein s/he is elected and ends at the close of the same, <u>five years</u> thereafter.”</p> <p><u>Suggested: The Steering Committee may decide to appoint a Co-Chair to accelerate certain research, funding and project related demands . This appointment would be made keeping in mind the sustainable interest , strive for excellence in Public Administration Research of NAPSIPAG network.The Co-Chair may have all the rights and responsibilities of the Chairperson and would be expected to work in collaboration with the Chairperson.</u></p>
<p>Chapter VI on ‘Network Secretariat’ says nothing on its tenure but suggests in the opening sentence that this office would ‘bring stability to the Network’. In 2008, New Delhi GBM the Secretariat was voted for its location in JNU,Delhi. The Secretariat could only be located with an institutional member in the Steering Committee. The JNU link person becomes the Secretary General while continuing to represent the institution to the Steering Committee.</p>	<p>Suggested: ‘<i>Secretariat should have a tenure of ten years in one country. During this period it would draw local experts, neighbouring linkages and research publications in public policy issues, connect to the public sector institutions and involve the regional scholars in training and capacity building in Governance Research.</i>’</p> <p>The Secretary General continues for the period of the tenure of the Secretariat as an ex-officio member with full voting rights.</p>

Prof. Ken Cogill from Monash University, Australia, recommended that the amendments made to the NAPSIPAG Constitution be adopted. This was seconded by Dr. Ramanie Samaritunga of Sri Lanka.

(5) The Secretary General informed the House that the tenure of the present Steering Committee ends on 16th Dec as per rules. The Returning Officer for conducting the new elections Prof. Lalitha Fernando conducted elections of seven new Steering Committee members. There were 5 nominations only from paid institutional members who could legitimately contest the elections. Thus they were all elected. The two seats remained vacant and were kept on hold in consideration of the GBM suggestions and would be thrown open for elections in the next year GBM in Sri Lanka. Mr. B. Wijayarathne Director, SLIDA was nominated as a new advisor to the Steering Committee.

The new Steering Committee Members are as follows:

ELECTED MEMBERS:

1. Doctor Isaias S Sealza, Director, Research Institute for Mindanao Culture (RIMCU) & Dean, Graduate School, Xavier University-Ateneo de Cagayan, PHILIPPINES
2. Professor Aka Firowz Ahmad, Ph.D. Chairman, Department of Public Administration, University of Dhaka.
3. Prof. Govind Prasad Dhakal, Campus Chief, Public Administration Campus, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal, GPO Box 1509
4. CNSA Vice President Zhou Wenzhang (represented by Dr. Jiang Gougzhu) Chinese Academy of Governance, (Previously CNSA or China National School of Administration) Changchunqiao Road, Haidian District, Beijing The People's Republic of China
5. Dr. Sharif As-Saber, International Business Studies, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia. (Re-elected as Chairperson of the NAPSIPAG Steering Committee)

ADVISORS (in continuity):

1. Mr. Raza Ahmad, ADB, Manila, Phil.
2. Mr. B.Wijayratne, Director, Srilanka Institute of Development Administration, Malatasekara, Colombo.

SECRETARY GENERAL (to continue for 10 years 2008-2018)

Prof. Amita Singh, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India.

CHAIRPERSON (one from the elected Steering Committee Members)

Dr. Sharif As Saber was re-elected (his name proposed by Dr. M.Shamsur Rahman and seconded by Dr. Ramanie Samaretunga).
