

The NAPSIPAG Steering Committee meeting was held on the 12th Dec 2009, 8 pm at UUM, Alor Setar, Kedah, Malaysia. The meeting was attended by the following members:

Dr. Sharif As-Saber (in the Chair),

Prof. Alex Brilliantes, Jr. (Philippines),

Prof. Johanes Basuki and Prof. Amir Imbaruddin (representing Prof. Asmawi Rewansyah, National Institute of Public Administration, Indonesia),

Prof. Amita Singh, Secretary General,

Ms. Dong Qing, Deputy Director General and Assoc. Prof. Zhang Xinwei (China National School of Administration- special invitees),

Dr. Ahmad Martadha Mohammad (as the local host of the 2009 Conference) and

Ms. Sylvia Yambem the Executive Research Coordinator.

1. The meeting opened with a vote of thanks to the local organizer Dr. Martadha for his exceptional skills and commitment in organizing the 2009 conference at Alor Setar, Malaysia.
2. The Chair informed the members that the minutes of the last Steering Committee meeting held at Jawaharlal Nehru University at New Delhi were not sent by the previous Secretary General to the Steering Committee. It was also recorded that the transition of the Secretariat from INTAN Malaysia to JNU New Delhi was a difficult one and in the process much of the information which might have been with the previous office could not be retrieved. The members expressed their appreciation for the new Secretariat team for providing untiring support to NAPSIPAG during this period and also for their time and effort in restarting the whole office and the website.
3. The members appreciated the concerns expressed by Ms. Dong the Deputy Director from CNSA such as the functioning of the Secretariat, paper selection process and call to participants for the annual conference. The Chair explained and satisfied them with available information.
4. The Executive Research Coordinator read out the financial transactions and the status of funds with the NAPSIPAG.
5. The Executive Research Coordinator read out the membership details about the previous members and the new institutional and individual members. During the conference, the number of individual membership raised was 9 while institutional membership was 1. Altogether, NAPSIPAG has 61 individual members and 36 institutional members.
6. The Committee appreciated the efforts of the Secretariat in getting the previous conference papers published through Macmillan and bringing the book to the 2009 conference for being released.
7. The Secretary General informed the committee about the two projects which are being planned and the Institute on Asia Pacific Research on Women in Conflict being started by Ms. Sreerupa Mitra Chawdhury who has been a great support in the 2008 conference. The first project is being offered by the SPEG (Society for the promotion of E Governance and UNESCO E-Governance Group titled ‘ Public Private Partnership in E-Governance projects’ and the second project is on

- ‘A Study of the Implementation and Impact of Women’s programmes in selected countries in Asia’ this would depend upon a selection of countries on the basis of their relative comparability and investment in women’s programmes. The members suggested many funding organizations active in the region for carrying on these studies on a broader and meaningful manner. The Secretary General also informed the members that the PPP project will start from South Asia but has to be carried forth into other rapidly progressing countries as well. This project will have to be completed within 2010 and as informed by the SPEG Director at the World Bank, will have to be translated into a World Bank paper after completion. It was suggested that the budgets of these projects should carry one head under which ‘conference organizing’ would be included to reduce the burden on NAPSIPAG annual conference organizers in providing travel funding to participants. A call for nomination of 2 members from the respective NAPSIPAG institutional members will be announced on the website.
8. To help share and shape experiences of governance in the Asia-Pacific region, the annual NAPSIPAG conference is to be also organized at other relatively non-developed countries. However, all measures will be taken to ensure that the standard of quality and excellence is maintained.
 9. Paper submission: The selection of the conference theme would be left to the local organizers. The local organizer along with the Secretariat would open a single email accessible to both sides so that no coordination problem arises at any point of time during the selection and publication process. The suggestion for opening a BBB account which provides a password to the authors for clear access to their submission and funding status as extended by the delegates from China was discussed and accepted by the Committee members. It was decided that the call for papers be made sometime in April and the deadline for completed paper submission should be not later than 30th August and the funding and other clearance related formalities would be completed by the end of October. This will give the local organizers as well as the participant’s substantial time for making the necessary arrangements. Further, all participants whose papers have not been selected by the peer review team would be provided with reasons for the same. Further, no abstracts will be accepted, only full papers.
 10. From the year 2008 it was decided that for all conference related publication, there will be 4 editors- 2 from the local host and 2 international. This policy will continue for all future conference related publications.
 11. The title of Academic Advisors has been changed to simply ‘Advisors’. This would now have the following names in the given order; Prof. Yuan Shuhong (China) email: cnsa_napsipag@hotmail.com, Mr. Raza Ahmad (Pakistan): raza.ahmad@gmail.com, Dr. Martadha Mohammad (Malaysia).
 12. A separate column titled as PATRONS has been added under which the name of Prof. Tan Sri Dato’ Dzulkifli Abd Razak, Vice Chancellor, University Sains Malaysia has been included. It has been decided that those people of caliber and academic brilliance who would bring value to NAPSIPAG through their presence and inclusion in the forum would be placed under patrons.
 13. In the Constitutional By-laws Article Six, titled EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR has been replaced by SECRETARY GENERAL, to be elected by the Steering

Committee in its first meeting from amongst the newly elected Steering Committee members. An Executive Research Coordinator will be appointed to coordinate all administrative and research matters within the Secretariat. The salary of the Executive Research Coordinator would be funded by the NAPSIPAG funds. This stands approved with retrospective effect of the last Steering Committee Meeting held in JNU 6th December 2008 and the Executive Meeting held at Kuala Lumpur 22nd January 2009 at INTAN. However due to a transition of Secretariat business notes the minutes could not be received for approval and ratification.

14. The NAPSIPAG website will include a new tab on NAPSIPAG's history. The Chinese delegates would provide the Secretariat with information on the names of the former Chairmen and related information.
15. An Annual Report on the activities of NAPSIPAG would be initiated.
16. The Steering Committee approved Dr. Martadha suggestion that a certificate of membership in print form for both the individual/institutional NAPSIPAG members is to be introduced.
17. On behalf of the Committee members the Chair extended a note of appreciation to Ms. Sylvia Yambem for her consistent effort and dedication in getting the NAPSIPAG book published in record time and carrying on the responsibilities of the Secretariat with meticulous care and commitment. It was decided that when the new projects are finalized her salary should be increased to match her job requirements.
18. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.