

## **2016 Asia SIOP Annual Business Meeting**

Date: 28 May 2016

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Venue: The Russian Academy of Science, Moscow

Present: Drs. Purna Kurkure (India), Akira Nakagawara (Japan), Shamvil Ashraf, Saghir Khan (Pakistan), Chi-kong LI (Hong Kong, China), Penya Seksam, Surapon Wianguon, Rachata Lumkul, Darintr Sosothikul, Samart Pakakasama, Suradij Hongeng (Thailand), Varfolomeeva Svetlana, Kirill Kirgizov (Russia).

Attending: Paul Rogers (Canada, Secretary General SIOP), Benson Pau (CCI, Asia)

### Minutes:

- 1 Welcome by Chi-kong Li: Chi-kong Li (CL) welcomed members to attend the Annual Business Meeting at Moscow.
- 2 Report on 2015 Asia SIOP Annual Business Meeting at Cape Town: The Meeting notes were sent to members for comment before this meeting, and also posted up at the Newsletter (April 2016 issue). There was no comment from the members.
- 3 Report on 2016 Asia SIOP Congress, Moscow: The Russian Local Organising Committee presented the attendance and also the meeting organization of the congress. (Attachment 1, 2) This was a great success with 948 participants from 39 countries. A total of 288 abstracts were received and there were total of 45 sessions held. The Congress was preceded by a Nutrition Workshop and Surgical Workshop. There was also separate Nurse session and CCI session for patients and parents. The members rated the congress as a great success with largest number of attendance for SIOP Asia Congresses.
- 4 Report on 2017 Asia SIOP Congress, Bangkok: The Thai Local Organising Committee (LOC) made a presentation on the proposed programme. The members suggested the programme should include more Asian topics and speakers. The venue was fixed at Bangkok as the transport and conference facilities would be the best in Thailand. The original proposed date of the congress was 28-31 May 2017. Members pointed out that the Ramadan in 2017 would start from 27 May 2017, many representatives from Muslim countries might not be able to attend. It was proposed to the LOC that alternative dates of

the Congress should be considered to avoid clash with Ramadan. Members also proposed that the Congress might include the popular sessions such as Nutrition Workshop, and Education Day. (Post-meeting: the Thai LOC decided to change the dates of Congress to 25 to 28 May 2017)

- 5 Discuss the statutes of Asia SIOP: CL asked members opinion for need of amendment to the Statutes of Asia SIOP which was formulated in 2001. Over the past 15 years, the contents of the Statutes might be not be implemented. This issue was posted up in the Newsletter (April 2016) but no comments received from the members. The following points needed to be reviewed or amended in the Statutes:
  - 5.1 Continental President stated in Article 9: SIOP Board had defined in the Constitution and Byelaws on the role of Continental Presidents:
    - 5.1.1 Continental Presidents are elected by members with voting rights in the respective continents, and is by electronic ballot.
    - 5.1.2 A new President is elected at least 1 year before the term of office of the sitting Officer ends. Continental Presidents serve for a term of 3 years.
    - 5.1.3 The purpose of the Continental Branches is to address problems of delivery of care, scientific research and advocacy which are specific to the respective continents.
    - 5.1.4 Continental Presidents will represent their region within the SIOP Management Structure and are expected to act in close liaison with established regional societies and associations pertaining to paediatrics and paediatric and adolescent oncology.The above arrangement was not included in the 2001 Statute and should be updated.
  - 5.2 Membership: Article 6.2 of Asia SIOP stated that “Any non-member of SIOP from Asian countries who wishes to become a SIOP Asia member and whom the board considers is qualified”. Since this was not in line with the SIOP Constitution, this point should be amended.
  - 5.3 Board: Article 9 described the formation of a board of 8 members. There was 6 regional representatives and a secretary general. Over the years, the board formation was not strictly followed, and the function was not clearly defined. The Board formation needed to be reviewed and amended if necessary.
  - 5.4 Budget and financial affairs of Asia SIOP as stated in Article 10: so far there was no financial income and also no budget for SIOP Asia. This part might require amendment too.

5.5 The members discussed the above points and considered a more organized discussion with a proposed amendment to be presented at next Annual General Assembly for decision.

Action: CL would draft an amended Statute and send to members for comment, and further discuss in coming Annual General Assembly in Dublin.

- 6 Discuss the method of bidding future Asia SIOP Congress: The proposed bidding method was supported by the members. Since Japan will be hosting the main SIOP Congress in 2018, it was decided to hold the annual Asia SIOP Congress for one year in 2018. The 2019 Asia SIOP Congress would be opened for nomination end of 2016 and then election in early 2017. There was also a proposal of requiring the Asia SIOP Congress local organizing committee to contribute part of the registration fee, say 5-10%, to support young investigators to attend the main SIOP congress and join as Young Investigators, if their posters are selected as price winner in regional congress. CL commented that this proposal needed further elaboration and should not apply to 2017 Congress as we did not stipulate such regulation when the LOC bid for the congress. However this new regulation might be adopted in future congresses if this is endorsed by members.
- 7 Report on Newsletter of Asia SIOP : Brijesh Aurora reported on the work of two previous issues of Newsletter. Members congratulated for his team's excellent work and commended the very high quality. The next issue will be released before October SIOP Congress.
- 8 Any other business: Nil.

The meeting was closed.