

Proceedings of Executive Council meeting of the Indian Society of Weed Science held on 20/02/2013 at DWSR, Jabalpur

After declaring the results of election of ISWS, a meeting of the old and new EC members was held at the Directorate of Weed Science Research, Jabalpur on 20th February, 2013 to hand over the charge of the Society to the newly-elected Office Bearers, and to discuss various issues for revamping the Society. The following members were present:



Interim Executive Council (2011-12):

Dr. T.V. Muniyappa	-	President
Dr. Sushilkumar	-	Secretary
Dr. V.P. Singh	-	Treasurer
Dr. K.N.K. Murthy	-	Joint Secretary -1
Dr. M.L. Kewat	-	Joint Secretary -2

Dr. C.T. Abraham, Vice President, Dr. U.S. Walia, Vice President, and Dr. Samundr Singh, Chief Editor of the Society could not attend the meeting due to their preoccupation.



Newly Elected Executive Council (2013-14):

Dr. N.T. Yaduraju	-	President
Dr. T.V.R. Prasad	-	Vice President
Dr. A.R. Sharma	-	Secretary
Dr. ShobhaSondhia	-	Treasurer



Dr. C. Chinnusamy, Joint Secretary could not attend the meeting due to his preoccupation.

Dr. Megh Singh, Professor (Weed Science), University of Florida, USA also participated in the meeting for a brief period and shared his views.

At the outset, the newly-elected EC members were welcomed by the old EC members by presenting bouquet of flowers. Dr. T.V. Muniyappa briefed the members about the work done by the past Executive Council and conduct of the elections as per the resolution passed by the GB Meeting held at KAU, Thrissur (Kerala) on 19th April, 2012. Dr. Sushilkumar, outgoing Secretary appraised about the achievements made by the past EC. He told that at present the life membership of the Society has increased to more than 900, besides many annual members and

library subscriptions. He also briefed about the efforts made by the EC to update the address/Email of life members as well as to improve the website of ISWS. All the members in the meeting thanked Dr. DevrajArya for conducting the election in very smooth and unbiased manner.

The charge of ISWS was symbolically handed over to the new EC by offering the Chair occupied by the outgoing President, Dr. T.V. Muniyappa to newly-elected President, Dr. N.T. Yaduraju.

Dr. N.T. Yaduraju after taking over the reign of Society thanked all the members for electing him as the President of the Society. He thanked Dr. T.V. Muniyappa and Dr. Sushilkumar for their efforts in handling the crisis of ISWS efficiently and conducting the election in time as well as the Biennial Conference at Thrissur (Kerala). He mentioned that the new EC has to move fast by seeking cooperation of all members and reinstate their confidence in the Society. Dr. Yaduraju desired to strengthen the role of Councilors and enlarge the scope of ISWS activities in all states of the country.

Dr. A.R. Sharma mentioned that all members should work selflessly and begin a new era in the ISWS. He expressed the hope that by cumulative efforts and team work, the Society will regain its lost ground and the rating of the Indian Journal of Weed Science will be improved in the coming years. After the opening remarks by the Secretary, point-wise discussion was held on the agenda items placed before the EC.

1. **Registration /Renewal of the Society:** Dr. Sushilkumar appraised about the current situation for renewal of registration of the Society. He informed that the EC has to submit the audited accounts along with the proceedings, photographs and signatures of all the members of EC. All these documents along with the request for renewal are required to be submitted to the Registrar of Society at Bengaluru. It was decided to submit the application after auditing of accounts for the current year. Meanwhile, efforts should be made to activate the frozen account at SBI, Adhartal, Jabalpur and transfer all the fixed deposit to a single account. Dr. Samunder Singh and Dr. R.K. Pannu were requested to close the account at SBI, Hisar and transfer the fund into the existing account of ISWS in Bank of India at Jabalpur. Dr. T.V. Ramachandra Prasad and Dr. KalyanMoorthy were requested to pursue the work of recognition and renewal of the Society with Registrar of the Societies at Bengaluru.
2. **Co-opting of Vice President and Joint Secretary:** After detailed discussion and considering the overall merit of the members and providing representation to all parts of the country, it was decided to nominate Dr. R.K. Ghosh, Professor, BCKVV, Kalyani, West Bengal for the post of Vice President (Co-opt) and Dr. J.S. Mishra, Principal Scientist, Directorate of Sorghum Research, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh for the post of Joint Secretary (Co-opt).

3. **Election of Councillors:** After detailed discussion, the following names were unanimously decided as Councilors representing different states of the country.

Andhra Pradesh	: Dr. A.S. Rao(Hyderabad)	Assam	: Dr. J. Deka (Jorhat)
Bihar	: Dr. Devendra Singh (Pusa)	Chhattisgarh	: Dr. A.P. Singh (Raipur)
Goa	: Dr. B.L. Manjunath	Gujarat	: Dr. R.B. Patel (Anand)
Haryana	: Dr. S.S. Punia (Hisar)	Himachal Pradesh	: Dr. Neelam Sharma (Palampur)
Jammu & Kashmir	: Dr Anil Kumar (Jammu)	Karnataka	: Dr. Ramesh Babu (Dharwad)
Kerala	: Dr. T. Girija (Thrissur)	Madhya Pradesh	: Dr. M.L. Kewat (Jabalpur)
Maharashtra	: Dr. P.S. Bodke (Rahauri)	New Delhi	: Dr. MadhubanGopal (New Delhi)
Orissa	: Dr. M.M. Mishra (Bhubaneswar)	Punjab	: Dr. M.S. Bhullar (Ludhiana)
Rajasthan	: Dr. N.K. Sinha (Jaisalmer)	Tamil Nadu	: Dr. R.Balasubramanian (Madurai)
Pondicherry	: Dr. R. Poonguzhalan (Karaikal)	Uttar Pradesh	: Dr. Narendra Kumar (Kanpur)
Uttranchal	: Dr. S.K. Guru (Pantnagar)	West Bengal	: Dr. P.K. Mukarjee (Cooch Bihar)
North-Eastern Region (excluding Assam) : Dr. D.J.Rajkhowa (Barapani)			

Councilors from Industries:

Dr. Abhijeet Bose	: Atul Pesticides	Dr. DevrajArya	: Monsanto
Dr. Prajwal P. Nalwade	: Excel Crop Care	Dr. Rajendara Deshmukh	: Syngenta

Dr. A.R. Sharma was requested to send a letter/email to the elected Councillors to take their consent.

4. **Constitution of Editorial Board:** All the members expressed strong displeasure over the delay in publication of the Indian Journal of Weed Science as no issue has been published for the year 2012 till date. It was decided that the new Editorial Board should make all out efforts to complete the backlog in the shortest possible time. Dr. Samunder Singh was asked to send all the reviewed papers to Dr. Sushilkumar. The constitution of the Editorial Board for the biennium 2013-14 was decided as follows:

Chief Editor, IJWS - Dr. Sushilkumar Jabalpur			
Editor, Newsletter - Dr. J.S. Mishra Hyderabad			
Editors			
Dr. Suresh Gautam	Palampur	Dr. R. Devendra	Bangalore
Dr. V.S.G.R. Naidu	Rajamundry	Dr. C.R. Chinnamuthu	Coimbatore
Dr. ShashiBala Singh	New Delhi	Dr. Ashok Yadav	Hisar
Dr. R.P. Dubey	Jabalpur	Dr. T.K. Das	New Delhi
Dr. A.N. Rao	Hyderabad	Dr. B. Duary	Sriniketan
Dr. K.N. Kalyan Murthy	Bengaluru		
Overseas Editors			
Dr. K.N. Reddy	USA	Dr. Prasanta C. Bhowmik	USA
Dr. Mahesh K. Upadhyaya	Canada	Dr. B.S. Chauhan	Philippines
Dr. Megh Singh	USA		

The ISWS Newsletter will be published electronically only. In future, efforts will be made to publish print journal also in electronic form.

5. **Updating the membership along with Email / phone number:** It was decided to update the addresses of all the members along with email and phone number. Dr. Sushilkumar informed that efforts were made in the past to update the addresses but so far only about 350 members have provided the required details. When members shift from one place to another, they do not inform the Society office. Dr. A.R. Sharma suggested that henceforth email ID of the newly admitted members should be mandatory. It was decided that the newly elected Councilors of different states should be requested to collect the latest addresses of members of their states along with email and phone number. It was also decided to mention the field of specialization of the members in the membership list. Dr. Sharma was requested to send the letters/email to Councilors to this effect. It was also proposed that members whose whereabouts are not known despite repeated efforts, their names may be deleted from the mailing list.
6. **Online submission of research articles and online enrolment of membership:** Dr. Sushilkumar informed that it has already been made mandatory that all authors should submit their research articles for publication in the Society's journal by email only. These articles are also being sent to the referees for peer review by email. The membership forms are already on the website both in PDF and MSWORD format. A need was felt to make a provision for the interested persons to become the members of the Society by online submission of membership form and payment of fee through net banking. It was decided to charge Rs 100/- as admission fee from the new members. Secretary and Treasurer were requested to provide necessary bank information on the website so that members can transfer the fee through internet into Society's account.
7. **Website management:** The members of the Executive Council appreciated the efforts made by Dr. Samunder Singh to upload the journal contents since its first publication in 1969 as well as to put all other information about the Society on the website. Dr. Sushilkumar informed that the present website (www.isws.org.in) has been improved further by adding many new features. He also gave a demo of the website. All members appreciated the efforts made but suggested to add more features to the website to make it more informative. It was decided to maintain the Society's website at Jabalpur with www.isws.org.in, keeping in view the availability of skilled manpower at the Directorate. Dr. N.T. Yaduraju desired to upgrade the Weed Scientists Directory brought out long time back, and also to put on website the weed terminology for the benefit of the ISWS members. It was also decided to update the list of registered herbicides in India as well as information on important weed related books on

the ISWS website for the overall benefit of the readers. Dr. Yaduraju suggested Dr. Sushilkumar to visit Mr. Himanshu at DKMA, ICAR for getting help on complete electronic (paperless) processing of research articles. Dr. Himanshu is prepared to help ISWS in installing the needed software at DWSR. Dr. T.V. Ramachandra Prasad was requested to prepare an E-module of “Techniques of herbicide application” and upload on the website for the benefit of the users.

8. **ICAR grant for the Society:** It was informed that the Society is not getting grant from the ICAR for quite some time. Dr. A.R. Sharma was requested to pursue the matter with the ICAR for availing the grant.
9. **Publication of IJWS by adopting new style as per NAAS rating standards:** It was decided that it is absolutely necessary to bring out four issues of the journal on a regular basis. Other measures like date of receiving the article, date of review and acceptance of the article should also be indicated. It was felt that the present style of the journal is almost following the patterns of the journal “Weed Technology” which was pointed out by many readers in the past. It is a must to mention the email ID of the corresponding author as well as to give the details of the article like date of receiving, date of review and acceptance in order to enhance the credibility of the journal in the eyes of readers. It was decided to mention the full name of the journal in references instead of abbreviations. Dr. Sushilkumar was asked to prepare the ‘Guidelines for contributors’ as per international norms and mention the same in the first issue of each volume. .
10. **Online availability of IJWS:** Dr. A.R. Sharma proposed that all articles of Indian Journal of Weed Science should be uploaded on the website of the Society so as to make it freely available to all scientists. This will help in enhancing visibility and rating of the journal. The EC supported his view and it was decided to upload the full journal on the website. It was also decided to continue the online availability with www.indianjournals.com till the expiry of the present agreement. Dr. Sushilkumar was requested to ensure that all papers published in the journal should be uploaded on the website since its publication in 1969. Dr. Samundar Singh was requested to transfer all such assets of the Society available at Hisar to the HQ at DWSR, Jabalpur so that all the information could be uploaded in due course on the website as well as to keep the physical records of the Society at the HQ.
11. **ISWS awards and honours:** It was decided that ISWS awards should be conferred purely based on merit instead of regions and standing of the members in the Society. Suitable guidelines in this regard will be formulated in order to ensure transparency and objectivity in the selection process. No member of the Executive Council will be eligible to be considered

for any award / honour of the Society. After detailed discussion, the following decisions were taken:

Lifetime Achievement Award: One award will be given in two years to retired weed scientists on the basis of nominations by the members and not by inviting applications.

ISWS Fellow: Applications in the prescribed format will be invited and scoring will be done on the basis of identified criteria. The number of Fellows will be 4-6 for the two years period.

ISWS Gold Medal: Two Gold Medals will be given in two years to those who have been conferred ISWS Fellow or Recognition Award of the Society in the past. For this also, applications will be invited and scoring will be done based on the identified criteria.

Young Scientist Awards: Two awards will be given (one for each year) to applicants below age of 35 years. This will also carry a cash award of Rs. 10,000/- .

Best Ph.D Thesis Award: This will also be given on annual basis, and will carry cash award of Rs. 5000/- .

Best Article Awards: Best three articles published during the year in the IJWS will be identified, and cash awards of Rs. 3000, Rs. 2000 and Rs. 1000 will be given.

MNC's will be approached for sponsoring these awards.

12. ***Future activities of ISWS:*** Dr. N.T. Yaduraju suggested to grant seed money to the Councillors, who wish to do any activity related to weed science in their state under the aegis of Society. Such an activity could be a 1-2 day seminar / workshop / quiz competition / weed contest for students etc. It was decided to give Rs 10,000/- as seed money to any Councillor who desires to conduct such an activity in his/her state after approval of EC. Dr. A.R. Sharma was requested to write to all Councilors and PIs of AICRP on Weed Control, and Heads of Agronomy Department at all agricultural colleges in this regard.

It was proposed to hold a workshop on “Weed-crop interaction under the regime of climate change” during 2013. Dr Sharma was requested to initiate action in this regard at the earliest. It was also decided to host the next Biennial Conference of the Society at DWSR, Jabalpur during 2014 coinciding with the Silver Jubilee of the Directorate.


It was informed that the 25th Asia-Pacific Weed Science Society (APWSS) Conference will be held in India in the year 2015, for which, a bid has already been made by Dr. N.T. Yaduraju, Dr. R.K. Ghosh and other representatives from India who attended APWSS Conference held in Australia during 2011. Although, Jabalpur as a venue came up for discussion, DrYaduraju asked everyone to keep the option open. However, a final decision is required to be taken, so

that it could be communicated at the forthcoming conference of APWSS to be held in Indonesia in 2013.

13. **Sanctioning of Money/Issuing of Cheque:** It was decided that Secretary will take the permission of the President on email for any expenditure more than Rs. 50,000/- for a single item, and a report of all expenditure of the Society will be presented by the Treasurer in the EC meeting. It was also decided to have all the transactions of the Society by cheque only for proper maintenance of the account for audit purpose as well as for transparency.

In the end, Dr. N.T. Yaduraju asked all EC members to work wholeheartedly and demonstrate a visible change in the functioning of the Society over the next 6 months. Dr. A.R. Sharma assured that sincere efforts will be made to win back the confidence of the members and all the support needed from the DWSR will be provided to the Society.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks by the Secretary.


(A.R. Sharma)
Secretary, ISWS