

**Proceedings of the Meeting of the Conveners and Co-conveners of Fourth International Agronomy Congress held on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 at 3:00 PM, in the Board Room of ASRB, KAB-I, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110 012**

**The following were presents:**

- 1) Dr Gurbachan Singh, President, ISA and Chairman, ASRB, New Delhi
- 2) Dr A.K. Vyas, Vice-President, ISA and Convener of Finance Committee of Fourth IAC
- 3) Dr I.P.S. Ahlawat, Ex-Head (Agronomy) and Convener of Food and Hospitality Committee of Fourth IAC
- 4) Dr R.L. Yadav, Ex-Director (IISR), and Convener of Publication Committee of Fourth IAC
- 5) Dr B.S. Dwivedi, Head, Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry and Convener of Stage and Hall Management Committee of Fourth IAC
- 6) Dr D.S. Rana, Principal Scientist (Agronomy) and Convener of Registration Committee of Fourth IAC
- 7) Dr V.K. Singh, Head (Agronomy) and Co-convener of Reception Committee of Fourth IAC
- 8) Dr U.K. Behera, Principal Scientist, (Agronomy) and Co-convener of Government Liaison Committee of Fourth IAC
- 9) Dr Dinesh Kumar, Principal Scientist (Agronomy), Convener of Transport Committee of Fourth IAC
- 10) Dr A.K. Singh, Principal Scientist, IIMR, Pusa Campus, New Delhi and Co-Convener of Registration, Finance, Food and Hospitality Committees of Fourth IAC
- 11) Dr Y.V. Singh, Principal Scientist, CCU BGA, Convener of Facilitation Centre Committee of Fourth IAC
- 12) Dr T.K. Das, Principal Scientist (Agronomy) and Co-convener of Transport Committee of Fourth IAC
- 13) Dr Shiva Dhar, Principal Scientist, (Agronomy) and Co-convener of Accommodation Committee of Fourth IAC
- 14) Dr M.L. Jat, Senior Cropping Systems Agronomist & CIMMYT-CCAFS South Asia and Convener of Excursion/Tours Committee of Fourth IAC
- 15) Dr Prabhat Kumar, Senior Scientist, Floriculture and Landscaping, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
- 16) Dr (Ms.) Husnara, Joint Director (Extension) Office, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
- 17) Dr C.M. Parihar, Scientist and Co-convener of Poster Session Committee of Fourth IAC
- 18) Dr Y.S. Shivay, Secretary, ISA, Professor (Agronomy) and Convener of Government Liaison Committee of Fourth IAC

At the outset, Chairperson of the meeting extended his warm welcome to all the committee members of Fourth International Agronomy Congress 2016, and the following agenda items were thoroughly discussed.

**Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the last meeting held on 13 April, 2016 were confirmed since no comments and suggestions were received from the members.

**Review of action taken in the last meeting by different committees of Fourth IAC 2016:** The Conveners and Co-conveners of the different committees did not take action as per decisions taken in the last meeting of the Fourth IAC 2016.

**Review of progress:**

**Technical Session Programme Committee:** The convener of the Technical Programme Committee, Dr A.R. Sharma could not attend the meeting due to pre-occupied. However, Co-convener Dr I.P.S. Ahlawat apprised the house about the progress being made for the Technical Programme of the Fourth IAC. The

President, ISA categorically advised to the Convener and Co-convener of the Committee to finalize the Technical Programme of Fourth IAC latest by 20 September 2016 and asked to the Secretary to upload it on the ISA website.

**Registration Committee:** The Convener (Dr D.S. Rana) of Registration Committee apprised the action taken about the requirements of the registration material for the participants. The President of ISA asked the Convener of the Registration Committee to prepare the list of items to be given at the time of registration to the participants. This list must be provided to the President latest by 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2016. (Action: Dr D.S. Rana, Convener).

**Accommodation Committee:** The Convener of the Accommodation Committee, Dr Ravinder Kaur could not attend the meeting as she had some pressing engagements. However, Co-convener (Dr Shiva Dhar) apprised the progress made so far. He was advised to collect the exact number of rooms available in IARI Guest Houses, NASC Complex Guest House, NBPGR Guest House and IASRI Guest House's from the concerned authorities. The consolidated list of the rooms available in the ICAR Guest Houses will be provided by the Convener and Co-Convener of the Accommodation Committee to the President latest by 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2016. Hotel accommodation will be looked after by the Event Manager, and he will be responsible for correspondence with all the participants in this regard. As per the norms of the hotels, Event Manager can ask to make one day advance payment by the participants. We must ensure that participants should be satisfied with the services provided for their accommodation as per their need and budget.

**Finance Committee:** Dr A.K. Vyas, Convener apprised the progress made so far by the Committee for raising the funds. He informed that we have received commitment from different sources amounting to approximately Rs. 24.8 lakhs including ICAR grant of Rs.10 lakh. The President was not satisfied with the progress of raising the fund for Congress. He advised to work hard by approaching different funding agencies including equipment/implements manufacturers, seed companies, pesticides and fertilizers companies etc. He advised that personal involvement of the convener and co-convener is desired with the funding agencies. He empathetically suggested that we need to raise approximately Rs. 60 to 70 lakh over and above the registration fee.

**Transport:** The Convener of the Transport Committee Dr Dinesh Kumar informed the house about the steps taken for facilitation of transport to the participants. He was advised to make a consolidated requirement including number of buses, mini buses and cars required for movement of the participants. Further, it was also emphasized that good quality vehicles are rented for the Congress. It was suggested to invite the quotations for hiring the vehicles through the ISA website at the earliest. President also advised to provide one shuttle service for the participants from Pusa Gate to the Venue of Congress. Further, it was also suggested that we should make a provision for the Ambulance and Fire Brigade in place during the Congress.



**Excursion/Tours Committee:** The Convener of the Excursion/Tours Committee Dr M.L. Jat informed the house about the planning of excursion tours for the participants of the Congress. He was advised by the President, ISA to organize 2 types of excursion tours, namely paid tour to Agra and Jaipur, and another free educational visit/tour to Karnal. The President, ISA advised the convener to prepare a brochure for field visit. This brochure can be shown to the President, ISA for finalization of the information of the Excursion Tours.

**Publication Committee:** The Convener of Publication Committee Dr R.L. Yadav, apprised the progress of the Publications planned for the Congress including special issue of Indian Journal of Agronomy on Pulses, Indian Journal of Fertilizers, Indian Farming and Kheti. The articles for these publications have been processed for printing. He further informed that extended summaries have been given to different committee members and are under process of review and editing. He assured the house that all the publications for the Congress will be available well in time. Further, President asked about the three text books planned to be released during the Congress. It was informed by the Secretary, ISA that the work is in progress for two books. However, weed management book (materials/chapters) is still awaited from the Coordinators of this book (Dr A.R. Sharma and Dr N.T. Yaduraju).

**Exhibition Committee:** The convener of the Exhibition Committee Dr J.P.S. Dabas could not attend last 2 meetings and he has also not shown his interest to organize the Exhibition in the Fourth International Agronomy Congress. The President of Indian Society of Agronomy expressed his dissatisfaction and suggested Dr V.K. Singh, Head, Division of Agronomy to take this responsibility to which he agreed. However, Dr Rajbir Singh, Co-convener, ATARI, Director, Ludhiana will continue as co-convener for the Exhibition Committee and will mobilize the support for 15–20 best KVK's performers for the Exhibition stalls during the Fourth International Agronomy Congress. President, ISA advised that we should plan to have at least 80 to 100 Exhibitors Stalls during Congress to generate the funds.

**Cultural Programme Committee:** Both Convener & Co-convener could not attend the meeting. President, ISA was of the opinion that we must organize a memorable cultural event by inviting the School childrens to perform various cultural activities like Bhangra, Gidda, Folk Dance etc. We will provide them hospitality and accommodation especially in IARI, Guest Houses. It was also discussed and decided to provide the dresses and other logistic support if desired for the artists.

**Reception Committee:** Dr R.K. Jain, Convener could not attend the meeting. Co-convener Dr V.K. Singh informed the house about the progress being made for the reception committee. He informed that he will arrange a meeting and finalize the *modus operandi* for the smooth functioning of the reception committee for the Fourth International Agronomy Congress.

**Government Liaison Committee:** The Convener of the Government Liaison Committee Dr S.S. Sindhu could not attend the meeting. Dr U.K. Behera, Co-convener of the committee briefed about the progress being made on account of Government Liaison before the Congress. The President, ISA advised the co-convener of the Committee for getting the approvals from the External Affairs Ministry, Ministry of

Home Affairs, Delhi Police, Fire Brigades, Messages from VIP's for the Souvenir and also make a liaison with event manager for all these activities.

**Press Media Committee:** Dr J.P. Sharma, Convener could not attend the meeting. Dr Prabhat Kumar, Member of the Press Media Committee briefed the house about the wider publicity of the Congress including the flyer on the ICAR, IARI Websites. However, President, ISA advised not to upload on the face book page of ICAR due to certain reasons, WhatsApp group, contact through emails and mobiles are the better source of connectivity. In this Congress, we need to be more proactive for publicity through print media (newspaper). Arrangements should be made for organizing a Radio and TV talk on the theme of the Congress. For wider coverage and publicity inaugural session should be covered by the DD Kissan Channel, National Channel and All India Radio. Press conference will be organized as usual a day before the Congress at the Press club.

**Stage and Hall Management Committee:** Dr B.S. Dwivedi, Convener of this committee apprised about the progress being made by the committee. He informed that he is shortly arranging a meeting with the Event Manager and Organizing Secretary of the Congress to finalize the requirements and *modus operandi* for better coordination between stage and hall management committee and event manager activities. The President, ISA has shown his concern to put all efforts for better coordination and execution.

**Poster Session Committee:** Dr K.S. Rana, Convener, could not attend the meeting. Dr C.M. Parihar, Co-convener apprised the house regarding the progress being made for the Poster Session Committee requirements. This Committee needs to work out exact requirements for the space and other logistic requirements for the proper display of the posters. The committee will submit their detailed requirements to the Organizing Secretary before 15<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

**Food and Hospitality Committee:** Dr I.P.S. Ahlawat, Convener of the food and hospitality committee informed the house about the progress of the committee. Dr Ahlawat apprised the house that we will not leave any stone unturned to maintain the quality of food and hospitality to the participants. President, ISA shown his concern to provide memorable food quality and its serving in a better way to the participants.

**Facilitation Centre Committee:** Convener of this Committee Dr Y.V. Singh apprised the house about the mandate of the Committee and better delivery in terms of services to the participants during the Congress. Further, President, ISA advised the convener to work hard to avoid any inconvenience to the participants during the Congress.

**Additional role of Event manager's in the Fourth IAC 2016:** It was thoroughly discussed and decided to engage the event manager for Hotel booking for the participants considering the trade fair and other important activities in Delhi during the period of the Congress. However, it was unanimously decided that the services provided by the Event Manager should commensurate with the need of the participants as per their budget and other considerations. The event manager agreed for the same.



**Possibility to explore the Waving off (10-12 lakhs) booking charges of IARI, Mela Ground:** It was thoroughly discussed and unanimously decided to request the IARI authorities to charge for the exact dates of the Congress 22-26 November, 2016 as it was also done during 2012 at the time of Third International Agronomy Congress. In this Congress, IARI is also one of the partners.

**Any other items with permission of the Chair:**

- (i) **Acceptance letters to all extended summaries:** It was discussed and decided to send the acceptance letters of all the extended summaries received irrespective of the mode of presentation.

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



(Y.S. Shivay)



(Gurbachan Singh)