

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE
PAKISTAN BOTANICAL SOCIETY (2011-12) HELD AT ISLAMABAD
ON 9th DECEMBER 2011**

The 2ND meeting of the newly elected Executive Council of the Pakistan Botanical Society (2011-12) was held under the Chairmanship of *Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari*, President, Pakistan Botanical Society on **9th DECEMBER 2011**. The meeting started at 05:00 pm at the Department of Biotechnology, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad with the recitation of a few verses from the Holy Qur'an by Dr. Khan Bahadur Marwat, Vice Chancellor, University of Agriculture, Peshawar.

Following members attended the meeting:

- 1) Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari President
Chairperson, Department of Biotechnology,
Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad
- 2) Prof. Dr. Ikram ul Haq Ex-President
Ex-Officio Member
GCU, Lahore
- 3) Prof. Dr. Asghari Bano Secretary/Treasurer
Chairperson, Plant Sciences
Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad
- 4) Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Vice President (Punjab)
Dean, Faculty of Sciences,
University of Agriculture, Faisalabad
- 5) Prof. Dr. Khan Bahadur Marwat Vice President (KP) Member
Vice Chancellor ,
University of Agriculture, Peshawar
- 6) Prof. Dr. Rehana Asghar Vice President (AJK)
Chairperson Biotechnology,
University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir
- 7) Prof. Dr. Muhammad Qaiser Chief Editor (PJB)
Vice Chancellor,
Federal Urdu University, Karachi
- 8) Dr. Tehreema Iftikhar Joint Secretary
Assistant Professor,
Department of Botany, GC University, Faisalabad

The meeting was formally started with recitation of a few verses from the Holy Quran by Prof. Dr. Khan Bahadur Marwat.

Agenda Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the first meeting of the Executive Council

Decision:

The house unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting held on June 26th, 2011.

Agenda Item 2: Progress report Pakistan Journal of Botany

A comprehensive briefing was given by the staff of the Journal (Mr. Rehan Saleem & Prof. M. Qaisar) about the current status of manuscripts submitted to Pakistan Journal of Botany. They informed the house about the articles lying with the journal and the progress so far.

Decision:

The house appreciated the efforts of the Quaid-i-Azam University and the organizer of the International workshop on “Conservation & Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants”, for successfully holding the event as well as timely publication of the special issue.

Agenda Item #3: Face page of Pakistan Journal of Botany

It was proposed by the council members that the background picture of the face page of the PJB may be annually changed. Dr Muhammad Qaiser, Chief Editor PJB showed some photographs of the endemic plants.

Decision:

All the members unanimously agreed to the proposal of Dr. M.Qaiser and allowed him to change the main figure of the face page of the PJB by keeping the main theme of the page constant and adding new picture of endemic species each year. This must start from 2012.

Agenda Item#4: Revision of the Editorial Committee

It was suggested by the worthy council members that the Editorial committee may be revised or more names should be added keeping in view the geographical distribution.

Dr. Shinwari suggested the name of the Prof. Dr Allan Showalter, Ohio University, USA.

Decision

It was unanimously decided that renowned scientists from industrially developed countries like UK, Japan & New Zealand should be added to the editorial committee. The names of Prof. Dr Allan Showalter, Dr. Shafeeq ur Rehman (University of Kohat), Dr. Asghari Bano (Quaid e Azam University, Isb), Dr. Ajmal Khan (University of Karachi) and Dr. Rehana Asghar (AJK) were also added to the editorial committee of the Pakistan Journal of Botany. The remaining names of the committee will be reviewed. A letter will be sent to the members appreciating their efforts and seeking their consent whether they can afford time to be on the committee or otherwise.

Agenda Item # 5: Revision of Editorial Board

All the members were of the opinion that the board needs to be changed and fresh blood has to be added to the board with responsibilities and such effort may be repeated after every five years. The subject editors must respond and assist the Chief Editor frequently.

Decision:

Following decision was made:

1. Dr. Furrukh Hussain (Univ. of Peshawar)
Replaced by Dr. Khan Bahadur Marwat (Univ of Agriculture Peshawar)
2. Dr. Shahida Husnain (Univ. of Punjab)
Replaced by Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari (QAU)
3. Dr. Abdul Ghaffar (UOK)
Replaced with Dr. Ikram ul Haq (GCUL)

The subjects may also be revisited. The decision of the last meeting by keeping a scientist from GCU-Lahore stands amended as Dr. Ikram ul Haq is being added to the list.

Agenda Item 6: Honorarium for the review of the articles

It was pointed out by Dr. Asghari Bano that an honorarium should be given to the reviewer of the articles so that the review of manuscripts shall speed up. After a thorough discussion it was decided that each reviewer shall be paid Rs. 500/- as an honorarium. However, the council members will not be paid the honorarium.

Decision:

House approved the suggestion

Agenda Item #7: To clear backlog of the PJB

It was pointed out by the Council members that “turnitin” shall be applied to all the submitted manuscripts. After a thorough discussion it was decided that Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari and Dr. Tehreema Iftikhar will check all manuscripts submitted to PJB for plagiarism. Efforts will geared up to remove the backlog of the old articles by speeding up the publication process.

Decision:

House agreed with the suggestion

Agenda Item #8: Contribution by the authors

It was pointed out by Dr. Marwat that in some of the publications a number of irrelevant authors' names are usually added. After a thorough discussion it was unanimously decided that percent author's contribution shall be ensured at the time of submission of each manuscript and no new name shall be added after review/revision. The article may be rejected if the editors are not convinced with the authors' contribution.

Decision:

House approved the suggestion.

Agenda Item #9: 3rd International Conference

The schedule of the upcoming national meeting of plant scientists & 3rd International Conference has been decided as the mid of September, 2012 at QAU, Islamabad.

Decision:

House agreed to the suggestion

Agenda Item #10: Funding Source

Funding sources for the upcoming conference was discussed and the council members shall workout and coordinate with the president in this regard time to time. Dr. Muhamamd Ashraf was requested to send draft proposals which he submitted to the donors to seek funding. The house also requested the former president (Dr. Ikram-ul-Haq) to submit the account statements/adjustments to all the funding agencies and also to submit a report to the present management of the society.

Decision:

House agreed to the suggestion

Agenda Item #11: Event at AJK

As decided in the previous meeting that prior to the international conference AJK University may host a conference and executive council meeting in April 2012. The House also requested Dr Rehana Asghar to organize the event.

Decision:

House agreed to the suggestion

Agenda Item #12: Amendment in Council Formulation

It was pointed out by Prof. Ashraf that while reviewing the bylaws of the society, it was found that the ex-president and Sec. General are not ex-officio members. This practice though was followed by previous managements of the society this needs approval of the council and the general body. It was decided to add the former president as an ex-officio member in anticipation of the approval of the general body.

Decision:

House agreed to the suggestion

The meeting ended with vote of thanks from and to the chair.

Prepared by
Prof. Dr. Asghari Bano
Secretary General PBS

Approved by
Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari
President PBS