



AIT Alumni Association - Bangladesh

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The first meeting of the Executive Committee of the AITAA Bangladesh Chapter was held on 14 Oct, 2023 (Saturday) at 11:00 am in a local hotel in Dhaka which was presided over by Mr. Abul Kashem Md. Shirin, President of the association. The following members of the Executive Committee were present in the meeting:

SI No	Name	Post / Position
1	Mr. Abul Kashem Md. Shirin	President
2	Engr. Md. Habibur Rahman	Vice President-1
3	Dr. Md. Moqbul Hossain	Vice President-2
4	Dr Md. Abdur Razzaque Akanda	General Secretary
5	Prof. Dr. Parimal Kanti Biswas	Joint Secretary-1
6	Dr. Ashraful Alam	Joint Secretary-2
7	Mr. Abdur Rahman Bhuiyan	Treasurer
8	Ms. Tasnuva Ahmed	Member
9	Mr. Md. Afzal Jamil	Member
10	Professor Dr. Md. Kamal Uddin	Advisor
11	Mr. Khandker Mesbah Uddin Ahmed	Advisor
12	Mr. Emaduddin Ahmad	Advisor

Dr. Md. Golam Faruque, Member, Prof. Dr. Nazrul Islam, Advisor and Mr. Mahbubur Rahman, Advisor of the committee could not attend the meeting.

The following were discussed and decided in meeting:

1. Advertisement for registration of new members of the association in daily newspaper and/or social media mentioning association's website address

The necessity of advertisement for registering new members of the association were discussed in the meeting. After a detailed discussion it was decided to float advertisement in the various social media. This will be made by the Membership Sub-Committee through the PR, Social Media and Website Sub-Committee.



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2. Fixing Yearly Subscription fee that will be effective from 2024

After discussion on this issue, the committee agreed to keep in force the existing subscription of Tk.1,000/- per year (payable in the beginning of each year). This will be USD25/- for the members who are staying outside Bangladesh.

The existing membership entry fee of Tk.2,000/- will also remain in force, which will be USD50/- for the members who are staying outside Bangladesh.

3. Discussion on waiver of all previous subscription dues to the members

After threadbare discussion on this issue, the Committee decided to waive all the dues (if any) of all the existing members for the period from enrollment to end of year 2023.

4. Proposal on waiver of 1st year's subscription for newly registered members

After a full-length discussion on the issue, the Committee decided the following:

- a) Entry fee will be waived for the newly enrolled members who will become member within 30 June, 2024.
- b) The subscription fee has to be paid by a new member which is Tk. 1000/- per annum.

5. Opening of Bank account of the association and selection of its signatories

The Committee discussed the issue of opening a bank account. After a threadbare discussion, it has been decided to open a bank account in the name of the association i.e. "AIT Alumni Association, Bangladesh" in Dutch-Bangla Bank.

It is also decided that the account will be operated by any two of the following three officials of the Executive Committee of the AIT Alumni Association, Bangladesh Chapter:

- a) Abul Kashem Md. Shirin, President
- b) Dr Md. Abdur Razzaque Akanda, General Secretary
- c) Abdur Rahman Bhuiyan, Treasurer.

6. Proposal of Mr. Sanjeev of Advancement & Alumni Affairs, AIT (who recently met the members of EC) to donate at least Baht 2 lac by the AITAA-B which will be used to renovate a room of Dorm-F of AIT

The Committee discussed the issue and decided to participate in the renovation initiative of the rooms of Dorm-F of AIT by donating a minimum of Baht 2.00 lac (equivalent to Taka 6 lac). The amount will be used for renovation of one or more room(s) of Dorm-F of AIT. The estimated cost



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of renovation of each room is about Baht 2 lac. The Committee was informed that if donated, the name of the donor chapter will be written in the front of the room(s) on a plaque which will remain as permanently embossed.

In this regard, it has been decided that a letter will be sent by the General Secretary of the association to all the members of the association for voluntary contribution in this regard on or before 10 November, 2023. The minimum amount of contribution has been fixed as Taka 10,000/- for the members of the Executive Committee and Taka 5,000/- for the general members. However bigger amount is expected from our members for the purpose of some essential renovation activities in our beloved institute.

Professor Dr. Md. Kamal Uddin and Dr. Abdur Razzaque Akanda will collect the fund in time. Professor Dr. Md. Kamal Uddin and Ms. Tasnuva Ahmed will hand over the money to the AIT Authority during next GBM to be held on 25th November, 2023.

7. Finalization of two representatives to attend upcoming Governor's Board Meeting (GBM) to be held at AIT, Bangkok on 24 Nov, 2023

After discussion on this issue, the following two members of the Executive Committee agreed voluntarily to attend the GBM of AIT to be held at AIT, Bangkok on 25th November, 2023:

- a) Professor Dr. Md. Kamal Uddin, Advisor
- b) Ms. Tasnuva Ahmed, Member

The President and other members of the Committee congratulate both of them for their willingness to represent the AITAA Bangladesh Chapter in the upcoming GBM at their own cost.

8. Formation of Various Sub-committees

The members of the Executive Committee who were present in the meeting discussed the need for formation of various Sub-Committees and finally agreed to form three sub-committees as under:

- a) Membership Sub-Committee
 - i) Engr. Md. Habibur Rahman – Convener
 - ii) Dr. Ashraful Alam – Member
 - iii) Ms. Tansnuva Ahmed – Member
 - iv) Mr Md. Afzal Jamil – Member

The Membership Sub-Committee may co-opt a maximum of six members in the Sub-Committee from the general members of the association and the Convener of committee shall inform about the inclusion to the President.

The Membership Sub-Committee shall take various initiatives to communicate and connect to the various AIT Alumni in Bangladesh and convince them to become member of the association. It is



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to be noted that the Entry fee for a new member up to 30 June, 2024 is NIL and taking this advantage, the Sub-Committee has been given a target of making enrollment of at least 50 (fifty) new members by the 30 June, 2024.

b) PR, Social Media and Website Sub-Committee

- i) Dr. Md. Moqbul Hossain – Convener
- ii) Ms. Tansnuva Ahmed – Member
- iii) Mr. Md. Afzal Jamil – Member

The PR, Social Media and Website Sub-Committee will keep various social media like official fb page and WhatsApp group vibrant and post various relevant information and ads to other social media including YouTube. The group is also responsible for keeping the association's website (www.aitaa-b.com) up to date, specially the information on:

- i) Executive Committee,
- ii) various Sub-Committees,
- iii) list of members,
- iv) full list of Bangladeshi AIT Alumni and
- v) activities of AITAA, Bangladesh Chapter.

c) Members Engagement Sub-Committee:

- i) Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque Akanda – Convener
- ii) Professor Dr. Md. Kamal Uddin - Member
- iii) Mr. Khandker Mesbah Uddin Ahmed – Member
- iv) Mr. Emaduddin Ahmed – Member
- v) Mr. Abdur Rahman Bhuiyan – Member
- vi) Prof. Dr. Parimal Kanti Biswas – Member

The Sub-Committee shall arrange various events like picnic, tour, cultural program, games, seminars, workshops etc. for the members and/or their family members during next two years. The first event of the Sub-Committee will be a day-long winter event during January/February, 2024 which may be participated by the family members too and may include picnic, cultural program, games and a one-hour etiquette/motivational speech.

9. Feasibility of conducting an EGM/AGM and finalization of a date & venue to hold such meeting:

In the last AGM, it was decided to arrange an EGM to change the Constitution/Statutes of the association in order to accommodate the following. Accordingly, the members of the Executive Committee present in the meeting unanimously decided to conduct an EGM along with the next winter event of the association (to be decided and conducted by the Member Engagement Sub-Committee) and discuss the following issues:



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- a) Incorporating new membership categories like Life member with different subscription fee

A proposal for incorporation of 'Life Membership' with a one-time payment of Taka 10,000/- only (USD 250/-) may be placed in the EGM for its approval. Such life members shall not require to pay any yearly subscription during his/her life time.

- b) Change in the Constitution/Statutes of the association to redefine eligibility for Regular and/or Affiliate Membership

As per the Constitution/Statutes of AITAA-B:

“Article III, Sec.2: The regular membership shall be given to holders of degrees awarded by AIT... **Holders of Master’s degree and/or Doctoral degree** from AIT are eligible to become the regular member of AITAA-B...

Sec.3: Holders of diploma degree / AIT certificate holders from AIT are eligible to become the Affiliate Member of AITAA-B. In case of the diploma degree holder / AIT certificate holders must have residential stay and study of **at least one year** in AIT. Any alumnus with Bangladeshi national having above mentioned qualifications can apply for the Affiliated Membership of AITAA-B.”

However, the AIT Alumni Association, mother chapter has the following clauses regarding membership:

“Article II, Sec. 2 Regular Members, Rights and Privileges:

The Regular Membership shall be given to **holders of degrees and diplomas** awarded by AIT or the former SEATO Graduate School of Engineering.

Rights and Privileges of a Regular Member: A Regular Member shall vote for and may be elected to any office in the Chapter to which he/she belongs or of the AITAA...

Sec. 3 The Affiliated Membership shall be given to **AIT Certificate holders who have gone a training of minimum one term/semester** at AIT. They should voluntarily apply to the Executive Committee for the membership.”

The members of the Executive Committee of AITAA-B present in the meeting decided to place the issue before the EGM to discuss and decide on the membership issue.

- c) To incorporate a clause in the Constitution/Statutes to fix tenure of a member as president as maximum 2 terms (4 years) with the provision that the same person is eligible to become president after a break of one term

The members of the Executive Committee present in the meeting unanimously decided to place the above issue before the EGM for discussion and decision.



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10. Adding Bangladeshi AITians (non-members) in the WhatsApp and fb group of the association

The issue was discussed in the meeting and decided to add the Bangladeshi AIT Alumni (irrespective of membership status) in the WhatsApp and fb group of the association. However before adding, the admin should confirm that the person to be added is eligible for a Regular or Affiliate members of the association as per the Constitution/Statutes.

11. Establishment of Relationship with Thai Embassy

To establish a relationship with Thai Embassy, it has been decided that the members of the Executive Committee of the AITAA-B will take an appointment to have a meeting with the Honorable Thai Ambassador and other high officials in its office. In the meeting, the Executive Committee will propose to collaborate between Thai Embassy and the AITAA-B on regular basis. The Committee will invite the Honorable Ambassador to our events like next Winter Event for his/her brief presence and will request them to invite us in their various events, if the event-issue permits.

The first meeting shall be arranged by the President of the association in consultation with Thai Embassy.

12. Two years activity plan of the association

This topic was discussed in detail. After a lengthy discussion, the Committee decided that the two years plan of activities of the association will be formulated by the Members of the Engagement Sub-Committee.

However, the first event of the Sub-Committee will be a day-long winter event to be held during January/February, 2024 which will be participated by the association members and their family members and the activities may include picnic, cultural program, games and an one-hour etiquette/motivational speech. The program may be inaugurated by the Honorable Thai Ambassador (if s/he agrees).

13. Miscellaneous Issues:

a) Domain registration & website hosting

The www.AITAA-B.com Domain was registered and the website of the association was hosted in cloud 3 (three) years back. This month, the domain registration was extended for another 3 (three) years and the web hosting for another one year. All the payments were made by Mr. Abdul Kashem Md Shirin as complementary to the Association. As the web hosting is very costly, the committee decided to host the website locally from next year.



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b) Zoom purchase

The committee opined that all the meetings of the committee can't be conducted physically. Therefore, it was decided to use Zoom for conducting meeting virtually. The President of the association proposed that he will subscribe a zoom link at his personal cost, which may be used for conducting meeting of the association. The members of the committee agreed to the proposal of the President.

c) Office address, email address and telephone number of the association to be used in the letter head pad.

The letterhead pad may be designed to contain logo, name of association and website address in the header and address, mobile no and email of the President in the footer.

d) Distinguished Alumni Award (DAA) - last date of submission is 15th October, 2023 as the next GBM will be held during 24-26 November, 2023.

As the last date of submission of nomination for the Distinguished Alumni Award is 15th Oct, 2023, the Committee opined that we may drop submission of nomination for DAA this year. However, the Committee will call for the proposal for Distinguished Alumni Award (DAA) from the members of the association in January, 2024. The proposals will be collected and examined by an expert committee. A short list of the preliminarily selected proposals will be made and these proposals will be formatted and enhanced as per the requirement of AIT. Finally, the expert committee will select one or more proposal(s) to submit to AIT authority.

This process will continue from now onward for every year.

There being no other agenda to discuss, the president concluded the meeting with vote of thanks to everyone attended the meeting.

Abul Kashem Md Shirin
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