



## Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

**Held on 26.02.2024 at 06:00 pm in The Islamia University Bahawalpur**

- The meeting commenced with recitation of a few verses from the Holy Quran.
- Prof. Dr. Muhammad Nafees, President PSHS (2023-24) convened the meeting along with co-chairs including Prof. Dr. Aman Ullah Malik, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akbar Anjum and Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad Rajwana
- The chair then extended a warm welcome to all attendees and initiated discussions:

### **Agenda No. 1: Progress review of the year (2023-2024)**

- Dr. Muhammad Amin (General Secretary, PSHS) provided updates on the PSHS activities for the term 2023-24 including website management/development, JHST and HortiMag issues and volumes, membership details, society's representation in events, and budget summary. Among the various events organized/co-organized by PSHS at various institutions, the mega events included:
  1. Mango Festival DHA (Bahawalpur)
  2. Sino-Pak Agriculture Forum at UAF
  3. 8<sup>th</sup> International Horticulture Conference and Expo (IHCE-2024)
  4. Meeting with International Society of Horticultural Science (ISHS)

### **Agenda No. 2: General Discussion/Suggestions/Feedback by the General body**

- Following action plans were suggested and agreed by the house during this meeting:
  1. Increase in conference attendance to be ensured through timely publicity and strong communication (**Responsibility: President PSHS and Team**)
  2. The registration of PSHS with FBR and obtaining NTN and FTRN/STRN (**Responsibility: Finance Secretary along with Dr. Muhammad Amin, IUB**)
  3. Scaling up the membership and outreach of PSHS as per following suggestions:
    - a) Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, UAF proposed:
      - the inclusion of overseas alumni & students (**Responsibility: Overseas Coordinators**)
      - building collaboration with ISHS for collaborative conferences/ symposia (**Dr. Muhammad Amin, IUB**)
      - organizing webinars addressing the relevant proximity areas outlined in the PSHS Resource Guide (**General Secretary**)
    - b) Dr. Muhammad Azhar Nawaz, IUB emphasized the incorporation of corporate memberships from the industry (**Industry Focal Person**)
    - c) Dr. Gulzar Akhtar, MNS-UAM suggested conducting trainings/workshops/webinars under the umbrella of PSHS (at least one/month) (**General Secretary**)
    - d) Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq A. Rajwana suggested to:
      - draft a plan with specific targets for establishing endowment funds
      - hire permanent/part-time staff to manage the day-to-day affairs of PSHSThe house endorsed the suggestions and decide to develop a plan for establishing the endowment fund (**Joint Secretary**)

- e) Dr. Raheel Anwar suggested that:
- Vice presidents should be obligated to hold one or two seminars/workshops in their respective institutes in which they can engage industry stakeholders, students, and faculty members. This event may be free for PSHS members and event organizer should have liberty to consume a reasonable percentage of revenue generated from membership of that event. **(Responsibility: Vice presidents & Joint Secretary)**
- f) Prof. Dr. Aman Ullah Malik (UAF/TUF) made following suggestions:
- inviting international speakers to deliver lectures on cutting-edge topics in Horticulture and possibly other fields to foster cross-disciplinary engagement. **(Responsibility: President PSHS and team)**
  - organizing training sessions, workshops, and seminars focusing on industry-driven or stakeholder-relevant subjects. **(General Secretary)**
  - instituting two awards: an annual Innovation Award (Annual basis) and an Impact Award (after 3 to 4 years) to recognize the contributions of scientists and industry professionals. **(Joint Secretary to develop a proposal and organize cabinet meetings for finalization)**
  - reaching out to international alumni to establish funds and solicit support for the society's initiatives. The following members have expressed their willingness to contribute Rs. 25,000 each for the stated purpose.
    1. Prof. Dr. Aman Ullah Malik
    2. Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq A. Rajwana
    3. Dr. Basharat Ali Saleem
    4. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Nafees
    5. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Azam Khan
    6. Dr. Summar Abbas Naqvi
    7. Dr. Muhammad Azher Nawaz
    8. Dr. H. Nazar Faried**(Responsibility: Finance Secretary)**
- g) Prof. Dr. Akbar Anjum made following recommendations:
- organizing a national-level expo, drawing inspiration from ZTBL model **(President PSHS and team)**
  - expediting the publication process for pending issues of JHST **(Chief editor JHST and team)**
  - inviting full-length papers for potentially publishable abstracts submitted to PSHS conferences. The following members express their willingness to promptly submit research papers:
    1. Prof. Dr. Amir Nawaz - BZU
    2. Dr. Ali Zai - GOMAL
    3. Dr. Saqib - GOMAL
    4. Dr. H. Nazar Faried- MNSUAM
    5. Dr. Sami Ullah - MSNUAM
    6. Dr. Waseem Haider - IUB
    7. Dr. Khalil Ur Rehman – IUB**(Chief editor JHST and team)**
- h) Prof. Dr. Ahmad Sattar Khan proposed:
- incorporating members from both research and extension wings. **(President PSHS to approach research and extension wings)**
  - holding regular general body meetings of PSHS on bi-monthly or quarterly basis **(General Secretary)**

- i) Mr. Ali Zia from Gomel University proposed studying the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS), American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS), etc., as success stories. Furthermore, he stressed the importance of organizing an activity in collaboration with ISHS, whether it be a symposium or webinar, which should be cost-free and aligned with their priority areas. **(President PSHS and team; Dr. Muhammad Amin, IUB)**
- j) Mr. Irfan Nawaz from the industry suggested:
- activating the society's webpage to provide authentic and valuable information
  - promoting research-based content on platforms like YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram.
- (IT Secretary)**
- k) The house also agreed to compile a list of skill-based courses offering completion certificates, along with a roster of consultants or trainers who could be farmers or industry professionals. **(General Secretary)**

### Agenda No. 3: General Body Election

Following senior horticultural scientist/expert were proposed to be included in the advisory board of PSHS with the given respective roles:

1. Prof. Dr. Aman Ullah Malik, Ex. Director Horticulture/Dean Agri., The University of Agriculture Faisalabad/Director ASR, The University of Faisalabad (TUF) (Mobile: +92-333-6516883, Email: malikaman1@gmail.com) **ROLE: Patron in Chief**
2. Prof. Dr. Akbar Anjum, Ex. Chairman Horticulture, BZU, Multan (Mobile: +92-322-5067885, Email: akbaranjum@bzu.edu.pk) **ROLE: Patron**

Following *General Body* of PSHS was constituted and approved w.e.f. February 26, 2024 until next annual conference to be organized by PSHS in 2025.

<b>President</b>	Prof. Dr. Muhammad Azam Khan, Department of Horticulture, PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (Mobile: +92-300-6884470, Email: drazam1980@uair.edu.pk)
<b>Vice President (Punjab)</b>	Dr. Basharat Ali Saleem, Director, Horticulture Extension, Govt. of Punjab, Lahore, (Mobile: +92-300-7705152, Email: basharatuaf@gmail.com)
<b>Vice President (Sindh)</b>	Dr. Rana Mazhar Abbas, Associate Professor, Department of Agriculture and Agribusiness Management, University of Karachi, Karachi (Mobile: +92-321-6685249, Email: mazhar.abbas@uok.edu.pk)
<b>Vice President (KP)</b>	Dr. Atiq Ahmad Alizai, Assistant Professor, Gomal University. (Mobile: +92-321-9602847, Email: atiqahmadalizai@gu.edu.pk)
<b>Vice President (AJK)</b>	Dr. Noosheen Zahid, Assistant Professor, Department of Horticulture, University of Poonch, Rawalakot, Azad Jammu & Kashmir (Phone: +92-302-7489383; Email: noosheen.zahid@upr.edu.pk)
<b>Vice President (Baluchistan)</b>	Mr. Aslam Khetran, Horticulturist, Agriculture Department, Quetta, Govt. of Balochistan (Phone: +92- 0333 8107230; Email: aslamkhetran123@gmail.com)

<b>Vice President (GB)</b>	Dr. Ghulamullah Saqib, Deputy Director Agriculture Ghanche, Gilgit (Phone: +92-346-8116943; Email: saqibgm@gmail.com)
<b>Industry Focal Person</b>	Mr. Irfan Nawaz, Head Agronomy Division, Jaffar Brothers (Mobile: +92-301-6064219)
<b>Finance Secretary</b>	Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Associate Professor, Institute of Horticultural Sciences, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (Mobile: +92-334-7416664, Email: iahmad@uaf.edu.pk)
<b>Information (IT) Secretary</b>	Dr. Raheel Anwar, Associate Professor, Institute of Horticultural Sciences, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Punjab (Mobile: +92-336-1728833, Email: raheelanwar@uaf.edu.pk)
<b>General Secretary</b>	Dr. Umer Habib. Assistant Professor, Department of Horticulture. Phone: +92-317-4693269, Email: umer@uaf.edu.pk)
<b>Joint Secretary</b>	Dr. Hafiz Nazar Faried, Assistant Professor, Department of Horticulture, MNS-University of Agriculture, Multan (Mobile: +92-333-4882877, Email: nazar.farid@mnsuam.edu.pk)
<b>Overseas Coordinators</b>	Dr. Muhammad Sohail Mazhar Director Plant Industries, Stuart Park, Northern Territory, Australia (Mobile: +61-434-133969, Email: MuhammadSohail.Mazhar@nt.gov.au) Dr. Muhammad Adnan Shahid, Assistant Professor, North Florida Research and Education Center, USA (Mobile: +1- 850-875-7150, Email: mshahid@ufl.edu) Dr. Faisal Hayat, Post-Doctoral Researcher, Nanjing Agricultural University, Nanjing, 210095, China (Mobile: +86-13182890317, Email: faisalhayat@cau.edu.cn) Dr. Mujahid Raza, Quality Inspector/Controller, ISB Company, Hamburg, Germany (Mobile: +49-176-57943194, Email: mujahidraza2000@gmail.com) Dr. Muhammad Moaaz Ali. College of Horticulture, Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University Fuzhou 350002, P.R. China (Mobile: +86 183 9650 3226; moaaz@fafu.edu.cn)
<b>Student Councilors</b>	To be announced by each Vice President

#### **Agenda No. 4: HortiMag**

The house appreciated the HortiMag's team for regular publication of HortiMag. Dr. Muhammad Saqib (Assistant Professor, Department of Horticulture, University of Agriculture, D.I. Khan University, 0332-6772159, saqib.younus65@gmail.com/muhammad.saqib@uad.edu.pk) was nominated by the house to be included in HortiMag team as associate editor. Rest of the HortiMag editorial board will remain as such.

#### **Agenda No. 5: Journal of Horticultural Science & Technology (JHST)**

- 1. Publication Regularity:** The house critically discussed the matter of irregularity of JHST, which has become one of the key factors causing hinderance in getting the HEC accreditation. It was stressed that each head of Horticulture disciplines at different institutions should submit research articles to the journal on six-monthly basis to ensure the regularity of JHST.
- 2. HEC Recognition:** The general body desired to put emphasis on fulfilment of the requirements and apply for HEC recognition/accreditation.
- 3. Editorial Board:** The house agreed to shift the editorial office of JHST to Department of Horticultural Sciences, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur with the task to complete the pending volumes of JHST and work on fulfilling the HEC requirements for recognition.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Nafees, Chairman, Department of Horticultural Science, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur (Mobile: +92-300-6381974, Email: muhammad.nafees@iub.edu.pk) was elected as the Chief Editor of JHST. The chief editor will develop his own editorial team comprising of active members across the country to bring the journal publication process on track and fulfil the HEC requirements for recognition.

4. **Article Publication Fee:** It was decided to make the journal free for foreign and national submissions until its revival and recognition from HEC

#### **Agenda No. 6: IHC-2025**

5. Next “International Horticulture Conference” in 2025 will be organized by Department of Horticulture, PMAS Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi in collaboration with PSHS.

#### **Closing**

- Prof Dr. Muhammad Nafees (*President, PSHS*) along society’s cabinet members (2023-24) thanked all for participating in the 8th Annual General Meeting 2024. He also welcomed newly elected members and handed over the flag for IHC-2025 to newly elected president.
- Prof. Dr. Muhammad Azam Khan (*Elected President, PSHS*) for 2024-25, addressed the society body members and expressed his commitment to uplift PSHS and hold next conference with full zeal and zest.
- Meeting was concluded with the vote of thanks by meeting Chairs.



**Prof. Dr. Muhammad Nafees**  
President (2023-24), PSHS



**Dr. Muhammad Amin**  
General Secretary (2023-24), PSHS