



Economic Research Group

Extending the Frontiers of Knowledge on Developing Economies

Resolutions of the 4th Annual General Meeting of the Economic Research Group, 14th August 2007

The Annual General Meeting of ERA was held at a local restaurant in Dhaka. The meeting was attended by the following members of the ERG General Body:

1. Wahiduddin Mahmud
2. Anis Chowdhury
3. Sajjad Zohir
4. Ainun Nishat
5. A. K. Enamul Haque
6. Fahad Khalil

The meeting commenced at 7 pm. and was chaired by ERG Chairman Wahiduddin Mahmud. The agenda for the meeting was approved by the Chair and the Meeting adopted the following resolutions.

1. The Report of the Executive Director was approved with suggestions on minor changes and insertions (see attached revised report).
2. Failure of ERG members in delivering the content of a book on microcredit was noted. It was agreed that Sajjad Zohir and Fahad Khalil will put together papers (a total of three) by December 2007 and free ERG of all obligations to INAFI.
3. Following the Report of the Executive Director, questions were raised on the eligibility of an intern. The Meeting agreed that the general cut-off point for an intern should be a Bachelor's degree in economics. However, in exceptional circumstances, individuals studying economics in universities and having strong recommendations may be taken as interns. It was also noted that internships are meant for providing professional guidance to young minds and not meant to be paid jobs. The Meeting urged all ERG members to contribute towards guiding interns in the future.
4. The proposal of inducting Dr. M. Ashiquzzaman, Professor, Economics Department, Dhaka University as a member of the General Body of ERG was unanimously agreed.
5. The following members whose term as members of the Governing Body had expired recently, have been re-elected for another term of three years:
 - Wahiduddin Mahmud
 - Sajjad Zohir
 - Ainun Nishat
 - A.K. Enamul Haque
 - Syed Mainul Ahsan
 - Siddiq R. Osmani
 - Anis Chowdhury
 - Salim Rashid



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6. M. Ashiquzzaman has also been elected a member of the Governing Body. The Meeting noted that Fahad Khalil is in his second year as a member of the Governing Body. Thus, all ten members of the General Body will continue to be members of the Governing Body of ERG.
7. The term of the Chairman had also expired. The Meeting unanimously decided to elect Wahiduddin Mahmud as the Chairman for a second term of three years.
8. The Meeting noted with thanks the service of auditing provided by M/S Quader Kabir and Associates. It decided to appoint the firm for auditing the accounts of ERG for the 2007-08 financial year (ending in 31 January 2008).
9. It was decided that ERG bank accounts will be opened in with other banks beside the current account in Bank Asia. A proposal to open an account with Prime Bank was agreed by all. In addition, the Executive Director will take initiative to open bank accounts with other banks upon consultation with the Chairman.
10. The Meeting agreed to form the following Research Groups with lead persons for coordinating activities. The Groups will have independence to negotiate research with external agencies within the broad principles laid out in ERG mandate and the financial disciplines of ERG. The Research Groups with responsible persons are listed below. The names and responsibilities may later be revised by the Governing Body.
 - (i) Education and Training: Sajjad Zohir and Enamul Haque
 - (ii) Economic Productivity and Efficiency: Wahiduddin Mahmud and Enamul Haque
 - (iii) Applied Microeconomics: Fahad Khalil, M. Ashiquzzaman and Sajjad Zohir
 - (iv) Human Habitat and Urban Planning: Salim Rashid
 - (v) Natural Resources and Environment: Ainun Nishat and Enamul Haque
 - (vi) Macroeconomic Policy: Wahiduddin Mahmud and Anis Chowdhury
11. A proposal to engage in an MOU with Amar Radio 101 FM was endorsed in principle (see attachment). The Meeting however noted that ERG should announce disclaimers on the opinions expressed by individual contributors in a program even when ERG facilitates the program.
12. The Meeting reviewed the list of ERG Fellows and decided to extend the term for the following persons:
 - Iyanaetul Islam
 - Imran Matin
 - Nigar Nargis
 - AKM Atiqur Rahman
 - Joyashree Roy
 - MA Taslim
 - Lutfun Nahar Osmani
 - Farida Chowdhury Khan



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13. The Meeting reviewed the list of ERG Associates and decided to retain the followings among the existing ones:

- Naser Farid
- M. Zakir Hossain Khan
- Iftekharul Huq
- Mehnza Rabbani
- Biva Arani Mallik
- Salma Begum
- Sabbir Ahmed
- Rushad Faridi
- Syed Naimul Wadud
- Abantee Harun
- Mashfiqur Rahman Khan
- Touhid-uz-Zaman

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Resolutions of the Meeting of the Economic Research Group Governing Body, held on 14th August 2007

The ERG Governing Body meeting was held at a local restaurant in Dhaka. The meeting was attended by the following members of the ERG Governing Body:

1. Wahiduddin Mahmud
2. Anis Chowdhury
3. Sajjad Zohir
4. Ainun Nishat
5. A. K. Enamul Haque
6. Fahad Khalil

The meeting commenced at 7 pm. and was chaired by ERG Chairman Wahiduddin Mahmud. The Meeting adopted the following resolutions.

1. At the request of the out-going Executive Director, the Meeting elected A.K. Enamul Haque as the new Executive Director for a period of three years.
2. The Meeting also elected Sajjad Zohir to act as the Treasurer for the next three years.
3. The Meeting was informed of a proposal submitted by Sajjad Zohir to WFP, which if funded, will involve faculty members at Chittagong University, SUST in Sylhet and Rajshahi University.
4. The Meeting was also informed of two proposals submitted by members and/or associates of ERG to MoFDM/USAID Fund.
5. The Meeting agreed in principle submitting a proposal on food security in collaboration with IUCN for EU sponsorship.
6. The Meeting was informed of several papers under revisions for possible publication as ERG Occasional Papers. These include, a paper on Exclusion, ODI Report on Policy Implementation, SANEI Arsenic Paper, CBFM Paper, PREM Paper, a paper on arsenic with SANDEE support.