



ASIA PACIFIC ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held on Sunday, 29th October 2023 via the Zoom online platform

Present

Dr Onder Aydingoz (Turkey) - Chair
Dr Saeed Al Thani (UAE)
Dr Nicolaas Budhiparama (Indonesia)
Dr David Choon Siew Kit (Malaysia)
Dr Bedri Karaismailoglu (Turkey)
Dr Arif Khan (Pakistan)
Dr JP Leung (Philippines)
Dr Denny Lie (Singapore)
Dr Ted Mah (Australia)
Dr Ellewellyn Pasion (Philippines)
Dr Mohammad Iqbal Qavi (Bangladesh)
Dr Buland Thapa (Nepal)
Dr Gowreeson Thevendran (Singapore)

Absent with Apologies

Dr Anup Agrawal (India)
Dr Jamal Ashraf (India)
Dr Tanya Burgess (Australia)
Dr Mahmut Nedim Doral (Turkey)
Dr Amber Haseeb (Malaysia)
Dr In-ho Jeon (Korea)
Dr Hong Geun Jung (Korea)
Dr So Kato (Japan)
Dr Eng Hin Lee (Singapore)
Dr Frankie Leung (Hong Kong)
Dr Rujuta Mehta (India)
Dr Tanay Prabhoo (India)
Dr Marinis Pirpiris (Australia)

The meeting was called to order at 2100 hours (GMT+8) with Dr Onder Aydingoz in the chair.

1	Chair's Welcome
	Dr. Onder Aydingoz, Chair of Education Committee, welcomed the members of the Education Committee to the meeting.
2	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held on 24th September 2023
	The minutes were read and passed unanimously.

3	Education Committee Projects for 2023-2024
3.1	APOA e-Library
3.1	Dr. David Choon notified the Committee that the e-library has almost been completed. He said that the focus should be on finding moderators for several sections on the website, such as the Free Paper page and Journal Club. He added that the website gives access to many journals of APOA federation members and allows individuals to create their own discussions and suggested that the Education Committee could help in monitoring the Journal Club activities on the website.
3.2	APOA Primary Trauma Care Courses (PTCC)
	Dr Arif Khan said that there was not much progress since the last meeting. An update was awaited from Dr Anup Agrawal. Dr Onder Aydingoz said that the first APOA Primary Trauma Care Course would be held at the Dubai Congress in 2024. Dr David Choon suggested that rather than waiting for the course content to be developed, the Committee could run a previous PTC which was planned before. It was agreed that Dr Onder Aydingoz, Dr Arif Khan and Dr David Choon could discuss this further when they meet at the National Congress 2023 of the Turkish Orthopaedics and Traumatology Society which would be held the following week.
3.3	APOA Curriculum of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
	Dr Onder Aydingoz stated that instead of sending the respective sections of the curriculum to the Specialty Sections, it would be better for the Education Committee to go through the full document first. He thanked Dr Bedri Karaismailoglu who assisted in compiling the documents and also revised them. Dr Onder Aydingoz and Dr Bedri Karaismailoglu would work out the curriculum which would be discussed by the working group first and thereafter sent to the Education Committee by the end of November 2023. The updated document could thereafter be sent to the sectional chairs and Council members for feedback.
3.4	Diploma Programme from the APOA Platform
	Dr Ted Mah updated the meeting that there was not much progress on this matter as they were unable to have a quorum for a meeting which was scheduled before this Education Committee Meeting. He said that the Diploma Working Group has acquired consensus on the minimal requirements for the fellowship of each subspecialty and the criteria for the centre of excellence. He stated that the diploma programme has almost been completed and hoped that it could be finalized before the Dubai Congress 2024. Dr Onder Aydingoz opined that this programme would probably not be finalized by the end of this term, it could serve as a starting point for the next Ex Co and education committee Dr Ted Mah proposed that the basic principles could be presented to the Council first, and the finer details for each section could be sorted out later. It would be good to have timelines and for the sections to go through and update their details respectively.
4	Update on the Scientific Programme of the APOA 2024 Dubai Congress
	Dr David Choon said that there were advertisers who contacted the Dubai Congress Organizers directly, as well as sponsors who were willing to sponsor specifically the registration fees of local delegates. He added that the APOA has set up a lucky draw, whereby participants who submitted their free papers could stand a chance of having their registration fees refunded by the APOA. He said that the website traffic has reached 9157 visitors so far. Dr Saeed Al Thani stated that the local event organizers have confirmed that the preparations were going on smoothly. He said that other divisions have started to reach out to him to nominate people from the region and UAE to be a part of the faculty. Dr Onder Aydingoz requested Dr Saeed Al Thani to send him a copy of the APOA Dubai Congress

	<p>flyer so that this could be advertised at TOTBID 2023.</p> <p>As for sponsorship, Dr Saeed Al Thani said it is important that the companies should be made aware that they are sponsoring an international and not a local event and they should thus work with their regional / international headquarters on the sponsorship. He has reached out to a few orthopaedic companies.</p> <p>Dr David Choon pointed out that usually the local companies would put up booths at the congress. Dr Onder Aydingoz reminded Dr Saeed Al Thani that he would need to obtain approval from MedTech before he could proceed to invite the implant companies, as the companies might be unable to join if no approval has been obtained from MedTech.</p> <p>Dr Ted Mah opined that the scenarios have changed and that the Organising Committee should actively engage directly with the international companies via their executives to build up a relationship with them and to encourage them to sponsor APOA events. Dr David Choon opined that it would be easier to ask companies from neighboring countries from where the Congress is being held, such as Oman and Saudi Arabia. Dr Saeed Al Thani said that this might not be feasible as neighboring countries might not be willing to allocate an international budget for this Congress. Dr Nicolaas Budhiparama concurred with Dr Ted Mah about reaching out to companies at their headquarters and suggested that the APOA should appoint someone to manage industrial relationship with the companies.</p> <p>Dr Saeed Al Thani said that it has been a collaborative work of the Organising Committee in reaching out to global companies for the current Congress and suggested that, for future events, an individual could be assigned to be an industrial relations manager. Dr Ted Mah pointed out that reaching out to global companies is very important as the APOA depends very much on the income from the yearly congress. Dr Ted Mah suggested that the APOA can assign an individual who can discuss and negotiate with international companies to ensure that APOA's yearly congress goes on smoothly and financially sustainable. Dr Ellewelyn Pasion stated that the Committee could learn from this year's Congress and do better in the next congresses.</p> <p>Dr David Choon pointed out that in the present APOA system, it might be difficult to provide for the appointment of an industrial relations manager. Dr Saeed Al Thani added that the Committee Members could use their personal contacts with orthopaedic companies to build relationships and engagements so as to make it easier to invite them to sponsor future events.</p>
5	Any Other Matters
5.1	Date of Next Meeting
	Dr Onder Aydingoz proposed that the next meeting be on 26 th November 2023 at 7 pm (Kuala Lumpur time).

The meeting adjourned at 2130 hours (GMT +8) with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Minutes prepared by:

Ms ZhenYi Heng

Minutes vetted by:

Dr Onder Aydingoz
Chair, Education Committee

Dr Arif Khan
Secretary General, APOA