

Draft Minutes of AOTA Council Meeting
19:30-21:30, Monday, November 02, 2009
Tokenoma, Hotel Grand Court Nagoya
Nagoya, Japan

Present: Konishi, Murata, Azizi, Huang, Masjhur, Robinson, San Luis, Chen, Shong,
Yamashita, Topliss, & Lee.
Honorary President Nagataki was also present.

Apologies: Chen, Kim, Khoo, Kung, Eastman

<Agenda>

1. Call to order
Dr. Konishi welcomed all participants and called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of Minutes
Minutes of the Council Meeting held on February 04, 2007 in Manila, Philippines were approved.
3. Report of Chairperson, LOC, 9th AOTA congress
As overall chair of Local Organizing Committee (LOC), Dr. Murata, reported on the 9th AOTA Congress. He explained that this Congress was a joint meeting with 52nd Annual Meeting of Japan Thyroid Association (JTA). He also mentioned that approximately 140 people outside Japan and 300 Japanese had pre-registered to the joint meeting of AOTA and JTA.
4. Report of Chairperson, POC, 9th AOTA Congress
POC Chairman, Dr. Yamashita, reported that 186 abstracts were submitted and evaluated in the 2nd POC meeting in Obama. He also mentioned that 21 abstracts were selected for oral presentation and 16 for selected poster presentation.
5. Report of Secretary/Treasurer
Dr. Murata announced that Drs. Masanobu Yamada (Maebashi, Japan) and Fereidoun Azizi (Tehran, Iran) were elected by the Executive Committee as recipients of the Fujifilm Prize and the Nagataki Prize, respectively. He also reported on the AOTA financial accounts as attached. He stressed that the major income was JPY600,000 which had been given by JTA every year. The Council approved the recipients of the AOTA prizes and the financial statements of the AOTA accounts.

6. Future meetings (Decision of the host country for 10th AOTA Congress in 2012)
Iran and Indonesia expressed their intentions to host the 10th AOTA Congress proposing the venues of Tehran and Bali, respectively. Drs. Azizi and Masjhur presented short video clips on their respective countries and the possible venues, made short speeches for their countries' behalf and answered questions prior to voting. The result of the secret ballot was 9 votes for Indonesia and 3 for Iran. It was therefore agreed that Indonesia will host 10th AOTA Congress in 2012.
7. The Nagasaki-Fujifilm Prize:
Up to the 13th ITC, two AOTA prize lectures were delivered in the program. However, the POC of the 14th ITC has decided that only one prize lecture from each sister society would be allowed to be presented. Following this decision, Dr. Konishi proposed that in the next ITC, AOTA would award a combined prize, named as the Nagasaki-Fujifilm Prize, to a leading research thyroidologist. The steps of selecting the recipient are as follows:
 - a. AOTA secretary to ask all members to nominate candidates
 - b. Evaluation of each candidate shall then be done by the Council Members
 - c. After consideration of the evaluation by Council Members, the Executive Committee shall decide on the final recipient.
8. Amendment of Articles about Membership and Dues:
Dr. Murata stressed that JTA had been supporting AOTA finances since the AOTA office moved from Korea to Japan, and that he was concerned that JTA may not be able to continue to support AOTA financially when the office moves from Japan to another country. After discussion how to get stable financial support for AOTA, all agreed, except Dr. Chen, that all members shall pay USD 4.00 as individual membership dues. The representative of each country shall pay the total sum of the dues in behalf of his country. For example, JTA shall pay annual dues of USD 6,000 because there are approximately 1,500 Japanese members. All agreed that this matter should be approved in the General Assembly that was scheduled on November 03, 2009. The issue of sponsorship was also discussed but no conclusion was reached. It was agreed this matter should be discussed in the future.
9. Dr. Konishi announced that World Thyroid Federation (WTF) was asking AOTA to nominate three advisory committee members from AOTA. He therefore requested Council Members to nominate appropriate persons from AOTA.
10. Dr. Konishi then thanked all members for their attendance and participation in the deliberations and closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by

Yoshiharu Murata, Secretary/Treasurer