

SINGAPORE INVENTORS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

(UEN Ref: S82SS0011F, SIDA is registered under Singapore Registry of Society, <https://www.ros.gov.sg>)
65A JALAN TENTERAM #07-02/03, ST MICHAEL'S INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, SINGAPORE 328958



Meeting minutes of SIDA Annual General Meeting

Date: 15 Jan 2022
Time: 2pm to 5pm
Place: Online zoom meeting
Purpose: Annual General Meeting for the year 2022

ATTENDANCE

Members: TanYinLeong, DavidChen, GeorgeChan, LeeTatCheng, KimOng, AlexBong, EddieChan, JasonLeow,

Visitors: Shantha, Mahesh

AGENDA

1. Ground rules

- The meeting rules were highlighted using YouTube video presentation (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=VpTazKhXay4>).

2. Visitors

- Two visitors (Ms Shantha, Mr Mahesh) were invited to attend this meeting.

3. Quorum check

- The minimum number for quorum is 4 based on total members of 12. We have eight members in this meeting. So there is no issue with the quorum.

4. Sida membership fee

- The membership fee for most of the members was collected. Those who have not paid will be reminded again through WhatsApp.

5. Financial statement

- George (SIDA Treasurer) explained the detail of the financial statement. There was no issue from SIDA members. The financial statement was declared to be approved.
- Bank Balance and Cash In Hand as of 31 Dec 2021 was \$11,064.71 and \$48.11 respectively.

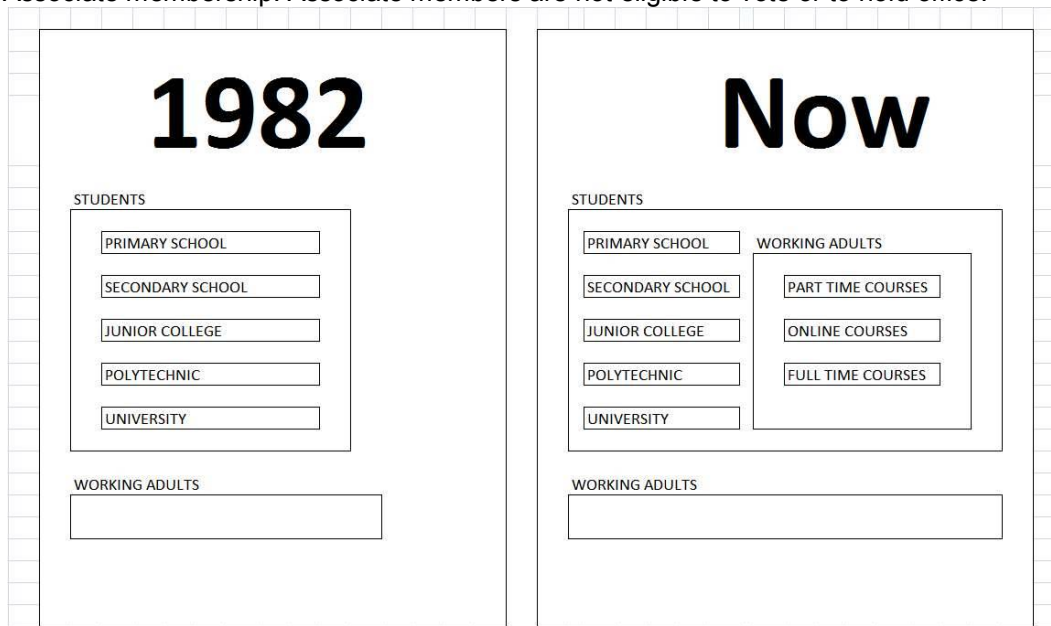
6. Committee election

- The following is the result of the election for the term of 2022 and 2023.
SIDA President Mr Tan Yin Leong
SIDA Vice President Mr Chen Siew Hong David
SIDA Hon. Secretary Mr Leow Wee Dar Jason
SIDA Asst. Hon. Secretary Ms Kim Ong Seok Khim
SIDA Hon. Treasurer Mr Teo Chei Wei Nicky
SIDA Asst. Hon. Treasurer Mr Chan Meng Kong George
SIDA Consultant Mr Lee Tat Cheng

SIDA Committee Ms Chan Pui Teng Michelle
 SIDA Committee Mr Chan Kong Thoe Eddie
 SIDA Committee Mr Bong Boon Hwee Alex
 SIDA Auditor Ms Xu Xiu Feng

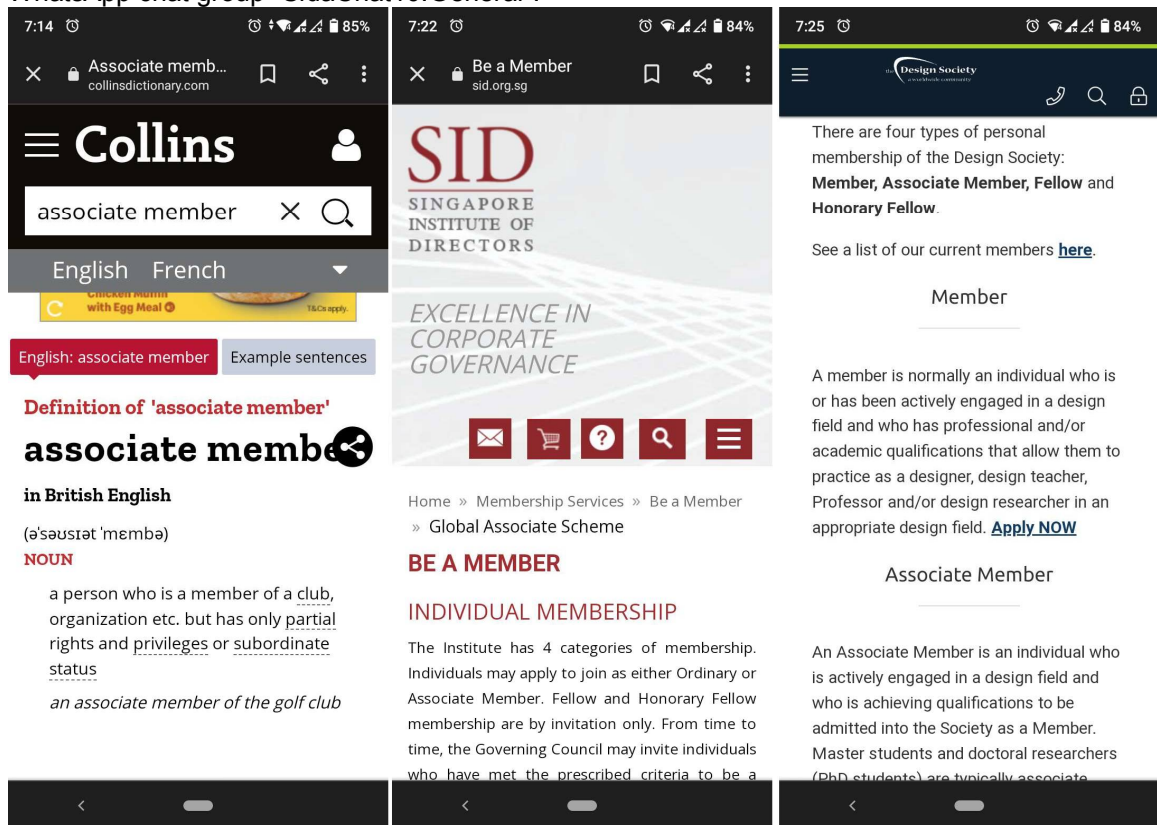
7. Constitution revision #1 (Section 3B: Associate membership)

- Current SIDA constitution:
 "3B.Students and those on apprenticeship who are creative and inventive shall be eligible for Associate membership. Associate members are not eligible to vote or to hold office."



- Back in 1982, the definition of students was targeted at young people studying in University and below. These are people with little or no financial earning capability. Therefore, it makes sense to charge them with a lower membership and an entrance fee.
- In current year, many working adults are adopting a lifelong learning approach with they continue to earn a living. In theory, working adults may now be classified as a student.
- The use of associate membership has become a system loop hole.
- We need to separate tighten the criteria of associate membership so that only young people studying in university and below are eligible for the Associate membership.
- Propose change:
 "3B.Students and those on apprenticeship (**under the age of 21 years old**) who are creative and inventive shall be eligible for Associate membership. Associate members are not eligible to vote or to hold office."
- The age limit of 21 is based on Singapore official voting age of 21 years old.
- Voting was conducted by SIDA members for the additional of student requirement of below 21 years old. There was a total of seven votes (TanYinLeong, DavidChen, GeorgeChan, LeeTatCheng, KimOng, AlexBong, JasonLeow) that approve the revision. It was decided that this revision will proceed.
- Some members highlighted that the Wording for "Associate membership" is inappropriate and should be replaced by "Student membership". A voting session was conducted. The result was three votes (TanYinLeong, GeorgeChan, JasonLeow) against the replacement. Four votes (LeeTatCheng, KimOng, AlexBong, DavidChen) to approved the replacement.
- The proposal for the replacement to "Student membership" will need to be further study to make sure that it does not create complication in other part of the constitution. This proposal will be placed on hold until further investigation by Jason. This proposal will be discussed in another meeting.

- The following was not discussed in the meeting. It was later highlighted in the SIDA WhatsApp chat group "SidaChat10:General".



8. Constitution revision #2 (Section 18: Quorum)

- Current SIDA constitution
"18. The quorum at the Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting shall be not less than one third of the total members, eligible to vote. In the event of there being no quorum, the meeting shall be adjourned to the same day in the following week at a place and time to be appointed and should the number then present be insufficient to form a quorum those present shall be considered a quorum, but they shall have no power to alter or make additions to any of the existing rules."
- The problem exist in the "...meeting shall be adjourned to the same day in the following week...". If the AGM or Extraordinary General Meeting is held in 7 Jan 2022, then the adjourned meeting must be conducted in 14 Jan 2022. This is inflexible and may cause inconvenient for members who want to attend but cannot attend on the specific date.
- Propose change:
"18. The quorum at the Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting shall be not less than one third of the total members, eligible to vote. In the event of there being no quorum, the meeting shall be adjourned to ~~the same day~~ in the following ~~week~~ **weeks** at a place and time to be appointed and should the number then present be insufficient to form a quorum those present shall be considered a quorum, but they shall have no power to alter or make additions to any of the existing rules."
- Voting was conducted by SIDA members. There was a total of seven votes (TanYinLeong, DavidChen, GeorgeChan, LeeTatCheng, KimOng, AlexBong, JasonLeow) that approve the revision. It was decided that this revision will proceed.

9. Constitution revision #3 (Section 19: Meeting notice)

- Current SIDA constitution:
"19. At least fourteen days notice shall be given of an Annual General Meeting or

Extraordinary General Meeting either by (a) writing addressed to members by ordinary post individually or (b) three publications in one of the local English newspapers."

- Notice by ordinary post and publication in English newspapers are outdated, not efficient and waste money.
- Proposed change:
"19. At least fourteen days notice shall be given of an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting either by (a) writing addressed to members by ordinary post individually or (b) three publications in one of the local English newspapers, or (c) website publication, or (d) online communication system (Example, email, whatsapp, telegram, signal and etc.)"
- Voting was conducted by SIDA members. There was a total of seven votes (TanYinLeong, DavidChen, GeorgeChan, LeeTatCheng, KimOng, AlexBong, JasonLeow) that approve the revision. It was decided that this revision will proceed.

10. Strategy discussion

- BACKGROUND:
 - 11 Jan 2020, discussion on SIDA letter head on "Patent is a rich person game, we help the poor person join the game".
 - Committee voting result decided that this phrase should not be included in the letterhead. (<https://www.sida.org.sg/2019/12/05/sida-annual-general-meeting-agm-on-11-jan-2020-sat-2pm/>)
 - Main reason was that it was too extreme and discriminate against a rich person from joining SIDA (20200111A3_SidaAgm_ApprovedCopy.pdf , item 43 to 50)
 - President (Mr Tan Yin Leong) feels that this phrase should be used in our SIDA main strategy to elevate our association to the next level.
 - Below is a summary of YinLeong's strategy through a phone conversation with Jason on 14 Jan 2022.
- STRATEGY
 - Assuming that Inventors is divided into two groups. The rich Inventors and the poor Inventors.
 - Rich Inventors includes large corporation or person with huge resources to do development and patent.
 - Poor Inventors include individuals with little resources to do development and patent.
 - Rich Inventors can approach Singapore government agencies (Example IPOS, Enterprise Singapore and etc) for help with their inventions and patent. They have huge negotiation power. Every success for the rich inventors is a success (politically, economically, jobs growth) for the ruling political party.
 - Poor Inventors has little negotiation power to approach Singapore government agencies.
 - SIDA finds it difficult to attract rich Inventors. There is no motivation for rich inventors to come to SIDA. Therefore, SIDA should focus its strategy on poor Inventors. When our poor inventors manage to produce good quality patent, the rich inventors will start to take interest in SIDA.
- DISCUSSION
 - TREND. There will be more poor Inventors with high education level who wants to do their own patent but no place to seek help. The trend for poor inventors are "Yesterday don't have, today got some, tomorrow become many, future is huge."
 - EDUCATION. Most Singapore residents are highly educated, there is no reason why they cannot learn to become proficient in writing their own patent.
 - IPOS MISSION. IPOS cannot encourage Inventors to write their patent because it goes against their mission of developing Singapore IP hub through the Singapore lawyer's community. There is little that they can do to help poor inventors.
 - IPOS ALTERNATIVE. IPOS can refer poor Inventors to SIDA. The success of the poor inventors will no more be in the hand of IPOS.
 - PATENT QUALITY. Many patent law firms are profit driven. They want to produce patents in high quantity unusually at the expense of quality. If the patent is not well protected in a certain aspect, their usual excuse is that the Inventors did not highlight this aspect to them for protection. The patent lawyer cannot read the mind of the

Inventors and fully understand the inventions. Poor inventors who wrote their own patent have no excuse. He has to consider all aspects of infringement during his patent writing process. If he fails, he will have to blame himself and learn from his mistake. Therefore, a poor inventor has high potential to produce high quality patents.

- PROPOSAL
 - Reconsider plan to add in the phrase "Patent is a rich person game..." into SIDA letterhead.
 - To emphasize the phrase in SIDA website main banner.

11. Others

- SIDA members express great concern in the inconvenient caused during usage of the Zoom software. This was because it was a free version with a 40 minutes limitation. SIDA committee agreed that a paid version of the Zoom software should be used in the next SIDA meeting.

- SIDA RECEIPT. This topic was not discussed in the meeting, but it was discussed and approved in SIDA WhatsApp chat group "SidaChat20:Committee".

