

MINUTES OF THE 42ND GOVERNING
BODY MEETING OF
FORUM OF INDIAN REGULATORS (FOIR)

Venue : “Cypress” Hall
First Floor
India Habitat Centre (IHC)
Lodhi Road
New Delhi-110003

Day / Date : Friday, the 16th September, 2016

The 42nd Governing Body meeting of the Forum of Indian Regulators (FOIR) was chaired by Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson, CERC / Hony. Chairman, FOIR. The list of participants is **enclosed** at **Annexure-I**.

2. Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan, Chairperson, CERC and Hony. Chairman, FOIR welcomed the Members of the “FOIR” Governing Body. Thereafter, the Governing Body took up the agenda items for discussion and decision thereof.

AGENDA : **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 41ST MEETING OF GOVERNING BODY OF "FOIR" HELD ON 24TH JUNE, 2016 AT PUDUCHERRY.**

Minutes of the 41st Meeting of Governing Body of “FOIR” held on 24th June, 2016 as circulated were confirmed.

AGENDA : INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS INTO THE GOVERNING BODY OF "FOIR".

As of today, "FOIR" is represented by Regulators from the electricity sector, Airport Economic Regulatory Authority, Competition Commission of India, Petroleum and Natural Gas Board and Tariff Authority of Major Ports. The latest in the series is the interest evinced by TRAI and WDRA to become members of FOIR.

The Governing Body was appraised that according to Section 11 of the FOIR's Rules and Regulations, there are 6 positions of Hony. Vice Chairman which are all filled, leaving no vacancies in this category. However, considering that the FOIR needs to be represented by all the regulators in various infrastructure sectors, the Governing Body resolved that Chairpersons of Central Sector Regulatory institutions should, by default be inducted in the Governing Body as Hony. Vice- Chairman.

The GB further accepted the proposal to include both TRAI and WDRA as Hony. Vice-Chairman (Central Infrastructure sector) of "FOIR".

The GB further decided as follows:

- (i) The proposal of induction of new members to the GB of "FOIR" will be taken up before the AGM for giving retrospective effect to the membership.

(ii) The Rules and Regulations of "FOIR" to be amended to give effect to the change in the structure of the GB, to the extent that the Chairpersons of any Central Sector Regulatory Authority(ies) may be inducted as Hony. Vice-Chairman by default.

(iii) As regards increasing the strength of "FOIR", the Secretariat was instructed to once again write to SEBI requesting them to join "FOIR".

Thereafter, the Governing Body members were joined by Chairperson, TRAI and Chairperson, WDR. Shri Gireesh B Pradhan, Chairperson, CERC/FOIR welcomed the new members to the Governing Body of "FOIR" and stated that "FOIR" was further strengthened by the presence of the new members and the Forum looks forward for a fruitful association with all the sectoral regulators.

On the issue of annual fee, it was discussed that the annual membership fees of FOIR were increased to Rs.4 lakhs per annum / Rs.2.5 lakhs per annum primarily to meet the estimated expenses of RRTI for two years. One suggestion was that the members could make a onetime contribution for this purpose which could be aggregated into a Corpus fund. The interest earned on this corpus could be used to fund the expenses of RRTI. In case there is a shortfall in the corpus, FOIR may approach any funding organizations or Niti Aayog for financial assistance. This will obviate the need for enhancement of annual fee for FOIR

Members. It has decided that FOIR Chair could write to the Member organizations for onetime contribution and the Secretariat could apprise the Governing Body about the status in this regard in the next Meeting. The Governing Body can then take a decision on the annual fee to be paid by Members.

AGENDA : DISCUSSION ON THE UPCOMING PROGRAMME OF THE REGULATORY RESEARCH & TRAINING INSTITUTE (RRTI).

Chairperson, CERC / Hony. Chairman, FOIR appraised the GB of the concept of the Regulatory Research & Training Institute (RRTI), initiated by FOIR which would address the training needs and the requirement to share the best practices in various verticals of the regulatory sector. The new members were further apprised of the decision of FOIR to house the RRTI for the first two years in the premises of CERC.

In pursuance of the decision taken by the GB in its 41st meeting to kick start the RRTI with a programme for the Chairpersons / Members of the Regulatory Authorities and Regulatory Commissions; Hony. Chairman, FOIR appraised the GB of the draft program for the **1st Executive Management Workshop for Regulators**. The same was circulated for comments and suggestions.

After discussion, the following was agreed :

- (a) The topics could cover common regulatory issues including Regulatory Impact Assessment, Process of framing regulations, Regulatory Best practices (national and international), Cross reference between sectoral and competition regulators, Evolving jurisprudence across sectors , Digital platform and how it affects businesses.
- (b) A pool of resource personnel could be formed which would include experts and resource persons from Universities / Institutes / Law firms could be invited to deliver talks / take sessions.
- (c) A core group of the Secretaries of the Regulatory Authorities, coordinated by Secretary, CERC/FOIR to be formed who can work out the modalities of this programme.

AGENDA : NEXT MEETING OF THE FOIR “GOVERNING BODY”.

Chairperson, CCI informed the GB that CCI has been requested by the office of the Chief Minister of Gujarat seeking participation of the sectoral regulators in a special session earmarked for Regulators during the Vibrant Gujarat summit scheduled from 10th to 13th January, 2017.

Chairperson, CCI proposed that the next GB of FOIR could be held in Gujarat back to back with the Vibrant Gujarat summit. While expenses of the regulators invited to attend the Vibrant Gujarat summit would be borne by the

State of Gujarat, FOIR can fund the expenses for the GB meeting. Chairperson, GERC (who is also a member of the GB of FOIR) was requested to coordinate with the office of the Chief Secretary of State of Gujarat to facilitate smooth conduct of the meeting.

At the end of the meeting, Chairperson, CERC/ Hony. Chairman, FOIR placed on record, deep appreciation and thanks on behalf of members of FOIR to Shri S.P. Nanda, Chairperson, OERC and Shri V.K. Shrivastava, Member, CSERC who would be demitting office in October, 2016. He stated that their support and contribution has been very valuable for FOIR.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

/ ANNEXURE – I /

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED

42ND GOVERNING BODY MEETING OF FOIR HELD ON 16TH SEPTEMBER, 2016

AT INDIA HABITAT CENTRE (IHC), NEW DELHI.

S. No.	Name & Designation	Organisation
1.	Shri Gireesh B. Pradhan Chairperson	CERC
2.	Shri S. Machendranathan Chairperson	AERA
3.	Shri Devender Kumar Sikri Chairperson	CCI
4.	Shri Anand Kumar Chairperson	GERC
5.	Shri Satya Prakash Nanda Chairperson	OERC
6.	Shri A.K. Singhal Member	CERC
7.	Shri A.S. Bakshi Member	CERC
8.	Shri V.K. Shrivastava Member	CSERC
9.	Shri K.P. Singh Member	UERC
10.	Shri A.B. Bajpai Member	MPERC
11.	Ms. Shubha Sarma Secretary	CERC
12.	DR. Sushanta K. Chatterjee Jt. Chief (RA)	CERC
<u>SPECIAL INVITEES</u>		
13.	Shri R.S. Sharma Chairperson	TRAI
14.	Shri G.C. Chaturvedi Chairperson	WDRA
15.	Dr. M.K. Iyer Member	CERC