

DOGAN Central Council Minutes May 1st, 2025

Meeting started at 9:04 PM Eastern standard time. Meeting was attended by Aamir Ehsan, Danish Seed, Adil Ahmed, Naushad Noorani, Syed Tariq Bin Sagheer, Tariq Jawed Alam, Arshad Khan, Nur-e-Ain Mirza, Nadya Mehdi, Zafar Iqbal and Bilal Hameed.

Dr. Aamir Ehsan, President

Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer, Secretary

Dr. Danish Saeed started the meeting wishing success of the retreat. He also suggested discussing the agenda of the retreat and finalizing, although things can be modified later on. Dr. Aamir Ehsan then went over to the retreat agenda for Friday and Saturday. He went over his recent visit to Chicago and met the host committee and the hotel administration. Friday rooms have crossed more than 110 and Saturday rooms have crossed 114. He suggested that someone should come on Thursday to contact him so Thursday rooms can be arranged. Friday goal is 200 people and Saturday goal is 350 people.

Dr. Aamir Ehsan then went through the proposed agenda for Friday and Saturday. He has arranged a photographer on his own. Most of the booths will be vendor booths and limited bazaar. The Friday night program starts with dinner around 8pm. After the dinner, Dr. Amin Nadim will start the program. There will be 3 national anthems.

Committee chairs of membership committee, YPC, loan committee and communication committee will come and give their presentations. Then Dr. Danish Seed and Dr. Aamir Ehsan will come briefly. The host committee will receive plaques. After the plaques there will be DOW talent show. Dr. Mashood is coordinating a special art and talent show with the children. Then, the Kamran Mehdi show starts. After that, Mushira will start.

In the morning there will be CME. Dr. Mahesh Siddiqui has set up the CME program. There will also be a YPC session at the same time. There will be also a session of internship. There will be a session on merger acquisition.

There will be a talk on entrepreneurship. National president and CEO of RUSH Presbyterian health system will be attending. There will be a talk on alternate pathways. There will be a reunion for class of 1975 and DOW 89-2.

Next, Dr. Mashood will lead a social forum.

There will then be a general body meeting. In the meeting, the value of DOGAN membership will be discussed. How the alumni can help to improve the ranking of the DUHS. Need to have more undergrad elective programs like university of Maryland.

How the alumni can help post graduate programs in DOW university. Also need to nurture extracurricular activities in DOW university. Dr. Aamir Ehsan suggested a multimillion-dollar endowment to support different scholarships.

The evening program will start from 6:30-8pm. Will open with dinner and Dowites welcoming the attendees. There will be talawat and national anthems. Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer can give a small speech and then invite the treasurer Dr. Tariq Alam to give his report. Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer can then invite the chair and the advisor of the host committee.

Then the secretary invites the chair of the board of trustees.

Then Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer will invite the chair of ENDOW.

Then Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer will invite Dr. Danish and Dr. Aamir.

There will be a presentation of Wall-Street alliance.

There is a keynote speaker Kelley Bryan. She donated her liver to Dr. Zaka.

Then the secretary will invite counsel general of Chicago. Then he can invite host committee. After this, there will be a music program and adjournment.

Dr. Danish Saeed said Saturday looks very busy, can some of it be moved to Friday? Dr. Naushad suggested if the alternate pathway seminar can be moved to Friday. Dr. Danish was concerned about overlaps in the programs. Dr. Aamir Ehsan explained there is no overlap, but they are back-to-back.

Dr. Bilal Hameed suggested not to have YPC program at the time of CME. Dr. Tariq Alam mentioned for DEN, there is a very acclaimed speaker coming. He raised a concern whether the prior event can be finished on time. Also Dr. Sohail Rao will be conducting multiple meetings, and it may be difficult for him to do. Also need to give good coverage to Oman Latif. Dr. Aamir Ehsan agreed and said he would look into this. Dr. Bilal Hameed suggested giving stage time to multiple people rather than one person like Sohail Rao. Dr. Aamir Ehsan said he would look into it.

Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer also suggested to move alternate pathway talk to Friday. Dr. Aamir Ehsan said it is not possible anymore.

Dr. Bilal Hameed raised a point of multiple meetings in the same room which may affect the timings. Dr. Aamir Ehsan said they are in different rooms and timed appropriately.

Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer said the Friday program has not been discussed.

Dr. Bilal Hameed suggested only 3 committees are giving update. He suggested membership committee should be on Saturday. Dr. Danish Saeed agreed. He also mentioned the program should finish on time. Dr. Zaffar Iqbal agreed that membership

committee can present on Saturday. Dr. Bilal Hameed asked if central counsel members will be wearing badges.

Dr. Tariq Alam suggested the membership committee should have its own session.

Dr. Bilal Hameed suggested we should ask the members what they want, and we should listen to them and their ideas.

Dr. Nur-e-ain Mirza suggested we need to look into bringing more benefits to the members.

Dr. Aamir Ehsan mentioned they got reports on only a handful of committees for the magazine. Dr. Nashad Noorani mentioned many committee chairs did not submit committee reports. Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer, when he was the chair of the disaster relief committee there was a lot of fundraising and things to talk about. There is not much going on currently.

Dr. Aamir Ehsan again emphasized keeping the program on time.

Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer there are no central council members on the stage on Friday. Friday is still a DOGANA event, so we need more central council members present on the stage other than just Danish and Aamir. Like central council members should be recognized on Friday also on the stage along with Saturday. They do not have to talk, you can introduce, or they can introduce themselves.

Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer mentioned that the chair of the host committee is the MC, and secretary is not coming on the stage at all. Dr. Aamir Ehsan said business is more on Saturday and he is focusing Saturday for the secretary and keep the host committee theme on Friday. Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer mentioned secretary should still come on the stage as he is the secretary of DOGANA and this is still a DOGANA event. He can come first and introduce the chair of the host committee. Dr. Aamir Ehsan agreed.

Dr. Naushad Noorani said some people may object to Talawat as DOGANA is a secular organization. Also, he was asking if we will play all three anthems on Friday and Saturday. Maybe we do not play the national anthem on Friday. Dr. Zafir Iqbal agreed. Dr. Zafir Iqbal also said there may be some Hindus in the audience along with Christians. We are just catering to Muslims with Talawat.

Dr. Nur-e-Ain Mirza said there can be a message about interreligious harmony. Dr. Danish Saeed mentioned reciting a verse is beneficial for everyone, not just Muslims. It is not controversial as we are not trying to persuade anyone as 80-90% of the people attending will be Muslims. Dr. Aamir Ehsan said, "how does it look to start with Talawat and end the meeting with music?" Dr. Zaffar Iqbal mentioned to welcome minorities. Maybe we could talk about spirituality and inclusiveness. Dr. Tariq Alam mentioned in

St. Louis a few words about spirituality became a 5-minute speech. In another meeting, an MC started with saying "in the name of God" and then started the program.

Dr. Nur-e-Ain Mirza suggested a message of peace and harmony and maybe a child could do it.

Dr. Syed Adil Ahmed mentioned to do a 2-minute Talawat with English translation as a tradition. Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer mentioned a young boy or girl who is hafiz or who has good Talawat can do this and this will also give exposure to young generation. Traditionally we have done Talawat. Message of peace is good but not in DOGANA, we ourselves are minorities.

Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer asked about awards. Dr. Aamir Ehsan said it would be given to different people and host committee is making a list. Some awards on Friday and some on Saturday for the host committee. Dr. Danish Saeed mentioned recognize the host committee on Friday and give them plaques. Plaques to central committee can be given on Saturday. Dr. Aamir Ehsan agreed to the award for the host committee on Friday and other awards on Saturday. Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer mentioned in the past to save time plaques have been given ahead of time. People then come on the stage with the plaques and take pictures. However, some plaques should be individualized like lifetime achievement award and presidential award.

Dr. Bilal Hameed had some questions about youth program. Dr. Aamir Ehsan said it will be both undergraduate students and adults.

Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer mentioned in general body meetings there is no time for members to give feedback and questions. Dr. Aamir Ehsan said they will have this opportunity in summer meetings.

Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer asked for some clarification about YPC and elective programs. Dr. Aamir Ehsan said Dr. Saeed Qureshi asked alumni help for electives.

Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer mentioned counsel general should be on Saturday. Dr. Tariq Alam asked why we need a counsel general in the meeting.

Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer reminded that the central council should come on the stage on Friday as well. Dr. Aamir Ehsan mentioned they will be.

Dr. Danish Saeed mentioned to share the plan with central council. Dr. Aamir Ehsan said give me time till tomorrow I will put input and send it to you.

Dr. Danish asked if there are any alternate hotels. Dr. Aamir Ehsan mentioned there are 2 hotels across the street. Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer in the next E-blast those two hotels should be mentioned. Dr. Tariq Bin-Sagheer also mentioned the final programs should also be shared with BOT and some senior members. Dr. Aamir Ehsan agreed.

In the end, Dr. Tariq Alam presented the budget and asked to approve the budget for the retreat. Dr Tariq Bin-Sagheer seconded the motion. It was then approved unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Syed T. Bin-Sagheer, MD

Secretary DOGANA

Aamir Ehsan, MD (signed by)

President DOGANA