

ICC Board of Directors Meeting

Date: January 4, 2021

Attendees: Ahmad Ehsandar, Moslem Noori, Mohsen Khaniki, Amir H. GhasemiNejad, Saman TabasiNejad, Mehrnoush Ahmadi, Younes Zangiabadi, Kayhan Razavi and Arezoo Khadir

Meeting Agenda:

1. Introduction.
2. Assigning positions
3. Meeting time schedule
4. Members' Privacy issue
5. Statement for PS752 anniversary
6. Point of contact for ICC Lawyer.
7. Insurance for ICC
8. Action plan for the next meeting

The meeting of the Board of Directors (BoD) was called to order at 8:05 pm eastern time by Mohsen Khaniki.

- Minutes of this meeting were taken by Ahmad Ehsandar until 9:23 pm where he left the meeting. Younes Zangiabadi took the minutes afterward.

Assigning positions:

- A motion was moved by Mohsen Khaniki to assign Moslem Noori as the president and was seconded by Ahmad Ehsandar.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by the board members.
- A motion was moved by Kayhan Razavi to assign Arezoo Khadir as the vice president and was seconded by Amir H. GhasemiNejad.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by the board members.
- A motion was moved by Moslem Noori to assign Ahmad Ehsandar as the Secretary and was seconded by Mohsen Khaniki.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by the board members.
- A motion was moved by Arezoo Khadir to assign Mohsen Khaniki as the treasurer and was seconded by Younes Zangiabadi.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by the board members.

Mehnoush asked to be added in the process of decision making in the future, since she was not included by other board members to discuss the positions and the committees prior to this session.

Amir H. Ghaseminejad emphasized that according to the ICC bylaw, the Communications and Public Relations (PR) section is a department, and he suggested that its chair and vice chair positions are better to be held by the president and vice president of ICC.

- A motion was moved by Mohsen Khaniki to assign Moslem Noori as the president of the Communications and PR Department and was seconded by Amir H. GhasemiNejad.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by the board members.
- A motion was moved by Mohsen Khaniki to assign Arezoo Khadir as the vice president of the Communications and PR Department and was seconded by Kayhan Razavi.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by the board members.
- A motion was moved by Moslem Noori to assign Kayhan Razavi as the chair of the Content Development Committee in the Communications and PR Department and was seconded by Amir H. GhasemiNejad.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by the board members.
- A motion was moved by Kayhan Razavi to assign Amir H. GhasemiNejad as the chair of the PR Policy Committee in the Communications and PR Department and was seconded by Ahmad Ehsandar.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by board members.
- A motion was moved by Ahmad Ehsandar to assign Saman Tabasinejad as the chair of the Social Media Committee in the Communications and PR Department and was seconded by Kayhan Razavi.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by board members.
- A motion was moved by Moslem Noori to assign Mehrnoush Ahmadi as the chair of the Mental Health Committee and was seconded by Amir H. GhasemiNejad.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by board members.
- A motion was moved by Ahmad Ehsandar to assign Younes Zangiabadi as the chair of the Research Committee and was seconded by Ahmad Ehsandar.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by board members.
- A motion was moved by Mohsen Khaniki to assign Amir H. GhasemiNejad as the chair of the Department of the Policy Development, defined in the ICC by-laws, and was seconded by Younes Zangiabadi.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by board members.
- A motion was moved by Moslem Noori to assign Saman Tabasinejad as the chair of the Culture Department, defined in the ICC by-laws, and was seconded by Ahmad Ehsandar.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by board members.
- A motion was moved by Younes Zangiabadi to assign Kayhan Razavi as the chair of the Organizational Structure Committee and was seconded by Amir H. GhasemiNejad.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by board members.
- A motion was moved by Kayhan Razavi to assign Mohsen Khaniki as the Chair of the Services Committee and was seconded by Moslem Noori.
 - The motion was adopted unanimously by board members.

It was also stated by Kayhan Razavi to initiate the process to form the advisory group in the near future.

Board Meeting Time Schedule

It was discussed and decided that all future meetings of BoD to be held on the first Thursday of each month from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm Eastern Time unless otherwise decided by the board.

Members' Privacy Issue

Amir H. Ghaseminejad emphasized that ICC does not have access to the membership database (Nation Builder) because of the ongoing settlement and as a result, cannot take any measures at this moment. However, the board will actively pursue this matter through consulting with ICC's lawyer and members to find out a solution as soon as possible.

At 9:23 pm Ahmad Ehsandar left the meeting.

I, Younes Zangiabadi, started to take minutes at 9:23 after Ahmad left the meeting due to a personal matter.

The topic of discussion: **The Use of Nation Builder - Questions and Complexities Around Settlement**

Mohsen: I am in touch with the former board and from what I understand, we don't have access to the Nation Builder and Pouyan is the only person, based on the terms of the settlement, that has access to the Nation Builder until the legal case is fully closed.

Mohsen: Taking this into the consideration, we are not able to send bulk emails to our email list, given that the list is only accessible via the Nation Builder.

Note: The current members along with other people including interested individuals and former members are included in the ICC's email list.

Mohsen: We can still contact our current members using the same members' list available to the board members, which was retained after providing an affidavit prior to the elections.

Moslem: Some may have cancelled their membership ever since.

Amir Hassan: So, we can basically use other platforms other than Nation Builder to communicate to the ICC members using the list we have already access to.

Amir Hassan: Can we use the website given it's on the Nation Builder platform?

Mohsen: I think we face the same scenario here. Pouyan is the only person who could access the Nation Builder.

Amir Hassan: Therefore, we need to communicate this to our members so they know what kind of situation we are dealing with. We have heard that some of our members are saying that we haven't done much work. We need to keep them in the loop.

Kayhan: I agree; we need to communicate with our members about our roles, responsibilities, and ask for help and more participation in the ICC's activities so that we can keep them engaged.

Moslem: As instructed by the ICC lawyer, Daniel Fridmar, we need to wait for Justice Haney's court order to officially close the settlement in order to access the Nation Builder ourselves. This may take up to a few weeks, according to Dan's (the ICC Lawyer) suggestion.

Action plan:

- We need to revisit the settlement to see if Pouyan can send emails and update the website on our behalf.
- Moslem will prepare an email to be sent to the members in order to communicate the news about the first board meeting and the roles of the BoD members.

The topic of Discussion: **Statement on the Anniversary of Downing of Flight PS752**

Background information:

Saman Tabasinejad volunteered to craft the statement. She reached out to all BoD members on January 2, asking them to pass her their suggestions for the statement. Mehrnoush Ahmadi also prepared her own statement and asked the board members to read it prior to the first official meeting of the ICC. Merhnoush mentioned in an email that the statement should address the following points:

- "1. It was not a crash or an accident etc. It was a downing by IRGC.*
- 2. We request that the Government of Canada pressure the Islamic Republic's authorities and international bodies such as International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) more actively and resolutely to conduct a comprehensive investigation of this tragic event.*
- 3. We commit to fully support you [families] in your endeavour to seek justice for your loved ones."*

After taking all the suggestions from the board members, Saman Tabasinejad prepared a draft and shared it with all other board members prior to the meeting.

Mehnoush: She doesn't support Saman's statement for variety of reasons listed below:

- The term used “encourage” is not forceful enough when addressing the Islamic Republic. There needs to be a tougher language used in the statement.
- The terms used “Iran” should be changed into “Islamic Republic of Iran” to highlight the difference between the regime and the Iranian people.
- The term “justice” must be added to the fourth point in the statement
- The term “crime” must be included in the statement.
- The part about the Prime Minister’s statement about the escalations in the region, contributing to this tragedy must be removed as it releases pressure from the Islamic Republic and it distorts the messaging needed to pressure the government in Iran.

The board as a whole agreed to add the word “justice” one more time in the second paragraph of the statement as agreed by Mehrnoush Ahmadi.

The term Islamic Republic was also extensively discussed to be used in the statement among the board members.

However, it was later agreed that the use of the term “Islamic Republic” would make it complicated as it would make it odd to use the full name of other governments involved in this tragic event.

Younes: I think it makes the statement longer if we use “Islamic Republic of Iran throughout the statement. Also, are we going to also call Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan” or Sweden, the Kingdom of Sweden? It won’t flow well in the statement. If we resort to what international leaders and organizations use in their statements, “Iran” is the right term to use especially when used in the same sentence as the term “international community.”

The 7 members of the board excluding Ahmad, who left earlier due to a personal matter and was in absence, and Mehrnoush, ultimately agreed to use the term “Iran” in the statement.

Mehrnoush: As mentioned earlier, I like to say once again, I oppose this statement despite changes made and discussions held by the board. And, I would like to put out my own statement on social media so that the Karzar (name used in her campaign) supporters know where I stood on this matter.

Younes: It’s important for everyone to sometimes inform the secretary to note what they said exactly, given that the minutes of this meeting will be published. So, if you really want your words to be heard in the same way it was said, it’s best to tell the secretary when you make your points in the meeting.

The statement for Flight PS752 was passed with 7 board members including Mohsen Khaniki, Moslem Noori, Amirhassan Ghaseminjead Tafreshi, Younes Zangiabadi ,Saman Tabasinejad,

Arezou Khadir and Kayhan Razavi voting in favour, Mehrnoush Ahmadi voting against, and Ahmad Ehsandar in absence.

Saman: Everyone please share the links of the events that are planned on the anniversary of the downing so that we could share it under our public statement.

Subject of discussion: **Point of Contact for the ICC Lawyer**

It was discussed and decided that as President, Vice President, and Treasurer, Moslem Noori, Arezou Khadir, and Mohsen Khaniki will be the point of contact with the ICC lawyer.

Subject of discussion: **Insurance for the ICC**

Moslem: We need to find an insurance for the organization as the previous insurance has expired.

Moslem put forward a motion to conduct research on finding a good insurance company to work with. Younes seconded.

This motion was unanimously passed.

Action Plan:

Younes and Mohsen agreed to work on this and report to the board on this matter.

Subject of Discussion: **Emails to Members Asking for Volunteers for Each Committee**

Side note raised by Moslem: We need to come up with a 3 to 6 month plan for the committees that we lead.

Kayhan: We need to ask our members what committee they like to volunteer for and we need to create a volunteer form or something that members can share where they want to work or be more active.

Moslem: I agree with this idea. However, let's not share our personal emails and use the ICC email. Then, we can always use the info@iccongress.ca to inform the board members how many volunteers are interested in working with them within their committee.

This motion was put forward by Moslem and seconded by Younes.

It was unanimously supported by the board.

Amirhassan put forward another motion, asking for him, Saman, and Mohsen to work together on researching and finding a hosting company server (cloud sub-domain) to reduce the cost and increase the efficiency and effectiveness for our website and emails.

Amirhassan believes there are many other online services available that are much cheaper and for some of ICC needs are better than Nation Builder.

Younes seconded this motion and it was passed unanimously by the board.

Saman put forward a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Mohsen, which was unanimously passed by the board.

Note: Ahmad Ehsandar left the meeting at 9:23 PM. Therefore, when the term, "unanimously" is used in the minutes, it refers to everyone but Ahmad Ehsandar who was absent from the rest of the meeting.