

Proceedings of the First Meeting of AALDI Executive Council (2025-26)

The First meeting of the newly elected AALDI Executive Council (2025-26) was held on 29th January, 2025 at 3.00 PM in virtual Mode. The following were present:

1. Dr. G.Rathinasabapathy, President
2. Dr. U.S. Jadhav, Senior Vice President
3. Shri Subhash Chand, Vice President
4. Dr. H.K. Tripathi, Secretary
5. Dr. Dilip Choudhary, Joint Secretary
6. Shri Satish Kumar, Joint Secretary
7. Dr. Machendra Nath Vidyasagar, Treasurer
8. Dr. Nirmal Singh, Chief Editor, AALDI Journal
9. Dr. Hemant Kumar Gohain, Member
10. Dr. Sreenivasa Rao, Member
11. Ms. Medha Kamble, Member
12. Dr. Uday Kumar Wati, Member

The meeting commenced with welcome address by the Secretary followed by discussions on the following agenda items:

Agenda 1: Membership Fee Payment System

- To facilitate easier payment of membership fees and increase the membership count, the council unanimously agreed to generate a QR code for the AALDI account.
- Additionally, a provision of forwarding by an existing AALDI life member in the membership form was also approved by the Council.

Action: The Secretary/ Treasurer AALDI

Agenda 2: Waiver of Registration Fee for Retired Life Members

The Executive Council discussed the feasibility of waiving the registration fee for retired life members for participation in AALDI conferences/events. Due to financial constraints, the council did not approve the waiver.

Agenda 3: AALDI Election of Executive Council

As per by-laws, elections of the Executive council shall be carried out by secret ballot system. Votes may be cast either in person or through post.

During the discussion, it was proposed that elections be held in person during the AALDI conference through a ballot paper system only, subject to approval by the AGM.

Action: The Secretary AALDI to include the said items in agenda for the approval of Next AGM of AALDI

Gopalpatil
11/03/2025
President, AALDI

Agenda 4: Eligibility Criteria for AALDI Life Membership

LIS professionals working in private agricultural colleges affiliated to agricultural universities/GOI/State Govt, should also be eligible to get AALDI Life Membership, in addition to working/retired library professionals from NARES Institutes, including agricultural libraries and ICAR institutes.

All members were agreed with, subject to the approval of the AGM

Agenda 5: Institutional Membership regarding

All members of the executive council were agreed to explore institutional membership on payment of an annual fee of Rs. 10,000/- to strengthen AALDI financially. Further, it was unanimously decided that such member institute(s) may be provided a copy of the AALDI Journal and the AALDI Conference volume.

Action: The Secretary/ Treasurer AALDI

Agenda 6: Corporate Membership regarding

To enhance AALDI's financial strength, the Executive Council unanimously agreed to explore corporate memberships at an annual fee of ₹20,000. Corporate members will have the following benefits:

- Opportunity to co-host events such as book fairs in agricultural universities and ICAR institutes.
- Sponsorship options for AALDI conferences and events.
- Participation in virtual seminars and events to showcase/demonstrate their products and services.
- Recognition and appreciation for their financial contributions during AALDI events.

All Executive Council members will actively seek potential corporate members to support the association's initiatives.

Action: The Secretary AALDI may write to national /international organization(s) for getting their support by getting them enrolled as corporate member(s) of AALDI

Agenda 7 : Exploring Membership from National/International Organisation

As per the AALDI by-laws, the President, Secretary, and Treasurer are responsible for exploring potential funding sources, including donations and grants from national and international organizations, to enhance the association's financial strength.

To further strengthen AALDI and expand its visibility, the Executive Council consider introducing an annual membership fee of \$500 for reputed national and international organizations, such as:

- ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research)
- CABI (Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International)
- FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)

G. Prasad
11/08/2025
President, AALDI

- ICRISAT (International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics)
- World Bank
- Asian Development Bank and so on.

Action: The President / Secretary of AALDI may try to reach out to national and international organizations to seek their support by inviting them to enrol as corporate members of AALDI.

Agenda 8: Voting rights for each category of members.

The bye-laws mention three categories of members i.e Ordinary members, Institutional members and Corporate members. As per by-laws, each category of members shall have voting right.

However, the Executive Council decided that only AALDI Life Members shall have the right to vote. It was decided that a proposal may be submitted before the AGM for amendment to by-laws in this regard.

Action: The Secretary AALDI to include the proposed agenda item for the approval of Next AGM of AALDI for its by-law amendments

Agenda 9: Eligibility to contest the election for membership

The Executive Council proposed with its clarity that only Life Members from NARES institutes only, including Agricultural Universities and ICAR institutes, shall have the right to contest elections for office-bearer positions, subject to the approval by AGM (Annual General body Meeting) of AALDI.

Action: The Secretary AALDI to prepare agenda item for the approval of Next AGM of AALDI

Agenda 10: Circular for the Upcoming AALDI Conference

To facilitate the smooth organization of the next AALDI Conference, the Executive Council decided to issue a circular inviting proposals from NARES institutes for hosting the event. Interested institute(s) must first secure approval from their competent authority and confirm the availability of necessary funds and facilities before submitting their request. The final decision on the conference venue and host institution will be made during the Executive Council meeting.

Action: The Secretary

Agenda 11: Fund utilization report submission after completion of AALDI Conference

Funds Utilization report should be submitted by the respective Organizing Secretary of the conference to AALDI headquarters within three months after conclusion of conference. This report should include detailed financial records along with any remaining balance amount. The surplus amount, if any be transferred to the AALDI account with an intimation to the Secretary and Treasurer of AALDI.

Action: The Secretary / The Treasurer AALDI.

Gopal Singh
11/05/2017
President, AALDI

Agenda 12: Development of the AALDI Website

Considering financial constraints, the Executive Council agreed to explore the possibility of engaging technical personnel and/or students to develop the AALDI website. If it is not feasible, the web site design work may be outsourced on competitive quotation basis. Once it is developed, an Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) with an outsourced firm may be considered for ongoing updates and maintenance. The website will include:

- A brief history of AALDI
- By-laws of the association
- A list of life members with their email addresses
- A membership form with a QR code for fee payments
- Publication details of AALDI
- Additional content and further updates will be discussed in future Executive Council meetings.

Action: The Secretary AALDI & The Chief Editor

Agenda 13: Establishment of the AALDI Secretariat

The Executive Council emphasized the need to establish a formal AALDI Secretariat at the AALDI headquarters to centralize and maintain all important communications/documents. Currently, key records, including General Body meeting proceedings, bye-laws, membership registers, financial statements etc., are scattered and not compiled at a single place.

All documents available at the secretariat will be officially handed over to the newly elected General Secretary/ Treasurer at the time of the next AALDI election.

Action: The Secretary, AALDI

Agenda 14: Guidelines with respect to the AALDI Journal

The Executive Council outlined the following key guidelines for the Editor of the AALDI Journal to enhance its quality and reach:

1. The journal should be published two times in a year, on half yearly basis and with strict adherence to publication schedule, considering the vast library network of the NARES system and other scientific libraries.
2. The journal's scope should be expanded beyond agricultural and biological sciences to improve its visibility and impact.
3. Both national and international authors specializing in Library & Information Sciences should be invited to contribute their research papers.
4. The Chief Editor, AALDI Journal should actively seek financial grants from ICAR and other organizations to ensure timely publication of journal and the associated expenses should be covered through these grants.

Action: The Chief Editor AALDI Journal

J. J. J.
11/03/2025
President, AALDI

Agenda 15: Nomination of Co-opt Members

As per by laws of AALDI, to co-opt two Council members, by nomination to the Secretary/Treasurer cum chief editor in routine work.

By a two-thirds majority of Executive council, the following members were nominated as co-opted Council members:

1. Dr Hans Raj, Ex-Information System Officer, DKMA, ICAR, New Delhi
2. Dr Rakesh Mani Sharma, University Librarian, Dr RPCAU, Samastipur, Bihar

Action: The Secretary & The Chief Editor, AALDI

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks.

All agenda i.e. 1 to 14 are approved except Agenda 15. The agenda 15 may be placed before the next EC meeting for taking further action with consensus.

Jyupally
11/03/2025
President, AALDI