



The Institute of Ismaili Studies

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees
Held on 11 February 2019 at Aiglemont
Meeting No. 01/19**

Trustee Present: His Highness the Aga Khan (In the Chair)
Mr Naguib Kheraj
Mr Zauhar Meghji
Dr Shafik Sachedina

Trustees Absent: None

Quorum present: Yes

Others present: Prince Rahim Aga Khan – by telephone
Professor Afzal Ahmed
Dr Farhad Daftary
Dr Aziz Esmail
Mr Aryn Kassim-Lakha
Mrs Selina Ramji
Mr Shams Vellani

Others absent: Dr Mohamed Keshavjee

The meeting was called to order at 10.35am.

Conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of interest over and above the current standing list of interests notified to the Board.

2019 Operational Plan and Budget

1.1 The proposed operational plan and budget for 2019 were considered and approved.

Finance

1.2 A medium-term financial strategy was agreed to enable IIS to fund its programme for the next five years.

Research and Scholarship

1.3 The Board noted the publications, and their impact, in 2018.

1.4 Materials related to the proposed conference by the Quranic Studies Unit should be shared with the Board when they are ready.

1.5 With regard to the proposed exhibition in Russia, it was noted that the Aga Khan Trust for Culture will be holding an exhibition in Russia towards the end of 2019 so IIS should coordinate with them.

Development of the IIS as a Resource and Archival Base

- 1.6 The Board was supportive of the Aga Khan Library, London raising its public profile.
- 1.7 It was agreed that manuscripts and other items loaned to the IIS by the Ismaili Imamat for research and educational purposes should be covered by a formal loan agreement between the Imamat and IIS.

Building Institutional Capacity

- 1.8 The Board was pleased to note the validation of the Graduate Programme in Islamic Studies and Humanities (GPISH) and the Secondary Teacher Education Programme (STEP) by SOAS.
- 1.9 The IIS registration with the Office for Students (OfS) was noted. It was agreed that we should address the additional OfS requirements soon.
- 1.10 It was agreed that IIS should develop a road-map for degree granting status.
- 1.11 The IIS should consider ways of enhancing its relationship with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) and leveraging the AKTC's resources on culture and the built environment.
- 1.12 The Board endorsed the proposal to hold a communication event for IIS donors in 2019.

Any other business

None

The meeting closed at 12.45pm.

Selina K Ramji
IIS Board Secretary
19 February 2019