



The Institute of Ismaili Studies

**Minutes of the Board of Governors**  
**Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September at the AKC**  
**Meeting No. 06/22**

<b>Governors Present:</b>	Professor Ali Asani Mrs Karina Govindji Dr Nadia Eboo Jamal Dr Arif Jamal Mr Rahim Karim Mr Alykhan Kassam Mr Aryn Kassim-Lakha	Professor Tashmin Khamis Mr Naguib Kheraj Dr Sharofat Mamadambarova Dr Shogufa Mir Malekyar Mr Habib Motani Professor Nacim Pak-Shiraz Professor Farid Panjwani
<b>Governors Absent:</b>	None	
<b>Quorum present:</b>	Yes	
<b>Others present:</b>	Dr Farhad Daftary (permanent guest) Ms Selina Ramji (permanent guest) Dr Walid Ghali, Dr Laila Halani, Dr Shainool Jiwa, Dr Shiraz Kabani, Dr Stephen Burge, Dr Shiraz Thobani, Nadine Chambers, Wasim Moosa, Damon Lane, Dr Maria Bada and Meherin Aklas (invited all day Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> and half-day Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> September)  Professor Leif Stenberg (for item five)  Dr Zamira Dildorbekova, Dr Alex Henley, Dr Wafi Momin, Tara Woolnough, Dr Hakim Elnazarov, Dr Omar Ali de-Unzaga, Dr Gurdofarid Miskinzoda and Mr Hussain Jasani (invited for items five and six on Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> September)	

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The meeting was called to order at 9.00am.

*1. Conflicts of interest*

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

*2. Strategic Plan – Revised Mission Statement, About Us & Guiding Principles*

- a) The Governors and Management considered the submissions and presentations.
- b) Specific comments were provided for consideration by the Senior Management Team.

*3. Strategic Plan – Revised Environmental Scan*

- a) The Governors and Management considered the submission.
- b) Specific comments were provided for consideration by the Senior Management Team.

*4. Strategic Plan – Findings of the survey of staff, students, alumni, academics and Jamati institutions*

- a) The Governors and Management considered the presentation.
- b) Specific comments were provided for consideration by the Senior Management Team.
- c) The importance of triangulating the data with the data received during previous town halls was noted.

*5. Strategic Plan – Constituencies and Stakeholders*

- a) The Governors and Management considered the submissions and presentation.
- b) Specific comments were provided for consideration by the Senior Management Team.

6. *AKU- ISMCs Graduate Programme*

- a) It was noted that IIS may wish to explore opportunities to collaborate with ISMC in the area of graduate studies. This could include, but is not limited to, faculty exchange, the auditing of courses and the provision of educational development for faculty.

7. *Succession Planning*

- a) The Governors were pleased to note and inform the group that Professor Zayn Kassam had accepted the invitation to become the next director of IIS and will take up this position in January 2023.
- b) The Governors were pleased to note and inform the group that Dr Daftary had agreed to continue to pursue his work at IIS as its foremost scholar and has been conferred the lifetime title *Director Emeritus* upon stepping down from his management role in January 2023 and Dr Daftary will then also join the Board of Governors.

8. *Strategic Plan – Thematic Priorities*

- a) The Governors and Management consider the submission and presentation.
- a) The Senior Management Team were asked to consider the following four thematic priorities; Teaching & Learning; Research & Scholarship; Institutional Capacities; and Heritage Preservation. In addition, the following cross-cutting areas should be considered alongside all the thematic priorities: Jamati engagement; Digital; Partnerships; Climate; and Quality Assurance and Enhancement.

9. *2023 Operational Plan & Budget*

- a) The Governors and Management considered the presentation.
- b) It was noted that the timeline for submission of the budget had been brought forward and will therefore need to be signed-off by year-end.

10. *IIS-DJI-ITREB Meeting*

- a) The paper was considered.
- b) Given that the meeting will provide an opportunity for IIS to consult with ITREBs on the strategic plan, holding an in-person meeting, in Q1 2023, would be a good way forward.
- c) It was recommended that the meeting be held in a location that will facilitate virtual participation by those who may not be able to be physically present.

11. *Director's Report*

- a) The Director's Report for August 2022 was noted.

12. *Board Committee and Working Group Updates*

- a) Board Committee and Working Group updates were noted.

13. *Any other business*

- a) The importance of holding formal orientation sessions for new staff was noted.

Selina K Ramji  
IIS Board Secretary  
17<sup>th</sup> September 2022