

Here are the minutes of the General Body Meeting

Shyam gave the president note. He emphasized on the fact that there is a dearth of volunteers in Asha now, and that we must actively try and get people to join and volunteer for Asha.

He also mentioned that Asha must remain a neutral body and associate with all other Indian /cultural associations in Zürich.

I gave the general secretary's report (on behalf of Bharath), Shreya gave the report on Akshardeep (on behalf of Deepa), Shyam gave the SACSAS report (on behalf of Sujit) and the also the NSP report. The report on VMS was given by Indranil.

The **executive committee elected** for the next year are as follows

President- Shyam Chikatamarla

General Secretary – Divya Ail

Treasurer – Indranil Bhattacharya

Public Relations/ Publicity\* – Nandan Maheshwari

Project Co-ordinators

Akshardeep – Shreya Paliwal

VMS – Kirtimalini Gadre

SACSAS – Sujit Acharya

\* This new position was created owing to the fact that we need to advertise our events more in order to get a good turn out, and also to increase the no. of active volunteers.

### **Akshardeep**

We agreed upon sending the funds to Akshardeep (which has been sent by Indranil now)

We have to request Swadhar/Akshardeep to have our logo on their website as an acknowledgement of our support (Shreya could you please take care of this)

### **Weltmarkts**

Kirti has taken the responsibility of organizing and managing the asha stall at the weltmarkts this year. She will take care of the menu, the team of women who would cook for us etc.

### **Volunteers Picnic**

We decided on having a 1 day picnic for the asha volunteers and their families. The details of this event will be sent soon in a separate mail.

Asha disco

It was decided to have this event in April, but due to unavailability of a DJ, we have to postpone this, most probably until June/July.

### **Publicity stalls**

We will put up publicity stalls at various events.

Holi event by IAGZ in Affoltern- 19 March'11- we went there today.

We will try to get a stand at the Indian Ball organized by IAZ on 2 April'11 (Shyam could you please look into this)

An event in Luzern on 18 June'11 (Vijay will send the details)

If anyone is aware of events taking place in and around Zurich, please inform us. We will try to be there whenever possible.

### **Fund Raising**

We have been having an asha donation box at all our publicity stalls and the response has been good, so we will continue with this.

We plan to sell coupons at the weltmarkt stall for CHF. At the end of the day there will be a lucky draw in which 1 person will win a small gift.

We should try to get some artists to donate a part of their proceedings from an exhibition/performance for Asha. (So if any of you know any artists try to convince them for this)

We also planned to give small 'Asha hundis' (piggy banks for collecting small change). People can take these home and put small change into it whenever possible, then we declare a date when they have to bring these back and donate them to Asha. As a start this will be done at the first weltmarkt event that we participate in this year.

We also decide that we will talk to swiss international schools and try to get their students to take up our projects/ volunteer for us. (doing charity work is apparently a part of their curriculum)

### **Eshop**

Nandan wil set up the eshop and try to collaborate with artisans/ small businesses in India for the articles to sell via the eshop. He will make a catlogue of the stuff he bought from India, and price them. We will review and discuss this catalogue in the next asha meeting.

### **Annual report**

Some changes were suggested in the AR. These will be incorporated and the AR will be sent to all the donors soon.

With Warm Regards

Divya