



MINUTES OF THE FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ACTION ALLIANCE FOR RECYCLING BEVERAGE CARTONS "AARC" HELD ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 AT 10:30 AM VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

The meeting was held via video conferencing due to resurgence of COVID-19

Time: 10:30 A.M – 11:30 A.M

MEMBERS PRESENT:

NAME	ORGANISATION
Mr. Cassio Simoes	Tetra Pak India Private Limited
Cdr. Amitabha Ray	Schreiber Dynamix Dairies Private Limited
Mr. Tejas Shah	Halewood Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.
Ms. Hemma Sushmita	United Spirits Limited
Dr. Mukhopadhyay	CavinKare Private Limited
Mr. Rahul Awasthi	Dabur India Limited
Mr. Nitin Jagga	SIG Combibloc India Private Limited
Mr. Ashish Agarwal	Parle Agro Private Limited
Ms. Antara Kapoor	Varun Beverages Limited
Mr. Ganesh Narayanswami	John Distilleries Private Limited
Mr. Naresh Raghav	Radico Khaitan Limited
Mr. Rohan Mishra	Coca- Cola India Pvt. Ltd.
Mr. Rakesh Sahni	JNTL Consumer Health (India) Pvt. Ltd.
Mr. Manish Shahi	India Glycols Ltd. (IGL)
Mr. Atul Pahwa	GLS Elopak Pvt. Ltd.

PRESENT BY INVITATION:

NAME	ORGANISATION
Dr. Praveen Aggarwal	CEO of AARC
Mr. Rajat Kumar & Ms. Muskaan Sharma	Volunteers of AARC

Mr. Sharad Sharma, Mr. Deepten Chatterjee, Mr. Kamlesh Kholiya, Ms. Nirjhara Rastogi and Ms. Chandini Uppal	Tetra Pak India Private Limited
Mr. Susanta Bhattacharyya, Mr. Kishore Wable & Ms. Amrita Sarna	Inbrew Beverages Pvt. Ltd.
Mr. P. Raghunath	GLS Elopak Pvt. Ltd.
Mr. Surojit Bose	Hindustan Coca Cola Beverages Pvt. Ltd. (HCCB)
Mr. Divya, Mr. Hemant, Ms. Jiya & Mr. Mudit	Invitees

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. Sathish Kumar, Authorised Representative of Karnataka Milk Federation as no communication was received from their end to attend the meeting.

Further, leave of absence was granted to Statutory Auditors i.e M/s Ajay K. Sud & Associates as no communication was received from them to attend the meeting.

2. CHAIRMAN & QUORUM

Dr. Praveen Aggarwal, CEO of AARC opened the meeting welcoming the Members of the Society and ascertained the quorum of the meeting.

Mr. Cassio Simoes was elected as Chairman of the Meeting.

Members of the Society attended the meeting through audio-visual mode

3. NOTICE & AGENDA OF MEETING

Dr. Aggarwal read the notice and agenda of 5th Annual General Meeting to Members of the Society and it was taken as read. Thereafter, Agenda items were taken up.

4. TO CONSIDER THE ANNUAL REPORT AS ON MARCH 31, 2023

The Annual Report of the Society as on 31st March, 2023 was placed before the Members for their consideration. Dr. Aggarwal presented the Annual Report and informed that it has been duly circulated to all the members and stated that AARC had a very tremendous & challenging Financial Year 2022-23 with respect to dealing with few policy issues, technical issues while uploading the data on the portal, implementation of EPR etc. He then placed on record his appreciation for the great support from all the leading members of the Society, especially the Parle team for arranging several meetings with the Central Government, MoEFCC, CPCB. He also appreciated and thanked the Tetra Pak team and other members for their support in joining AARC in delegations, providing legal advice etc.

Thereafter, Dr. Aggarwal invited the attention of members and presented before them a detailed summary of the Annual Report.



Accordingly, the following resolution was passed: -

“RESOLVED THAT Annual Report of the Society as on 31st March, 2023, be and is hereby taken on record;

“RESOLVED THAT the Annual Report of the Society as on 31st March, 2023 as placed before the Members be and is hereby approved, and that the same be signed by any of the Members of the Society.”

5. TO CONFIRM THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2022-23

The Audited Financial Statement for the Financial Year 2022-23 including Balance Sheet, Statement of Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Receipts and Payments Account were placed before the Members for their consideration, which were already circulated to the members of Society along with the Notice of AGM dated 15th September, 2023 as Annexure 1.1, 1.2 & 1.3.

Dr. Aggarwal informed that the Financial Statements were approved in the MC meeting dated 13th September, 2023. He further presented before the members, a detailed analysis of the accounts and further invited members' views and asked if anyone has any questions on the same.

Thereafter, the Chairman shared the importance of CSR and stated that Tetra Pak shall continue to contribute in the CSR projects and invited the members to contribute more in this area, Dr. Aggarwal also urged members to undertake their CSR projects through AARC.

Accordingly, following resolution was passed: -

“RESOLVED THAT the Auditors Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Society comprising of Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2023 and the Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st March, 2023 and Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 31st March, 2023 together with notes attached thereto, be and are hereby taken on record.”

6. REAPPOINTMENT OF STATUTORY AUDITORS FOR FY 2023-24

Dr. Aggarwal informed that in order to comply with the provision of regulation 8(k) of the Rule & Regulations of the Society, it is necessary to reappoint the Auditors for the ensuing year and fixing their remuneration. In this regard, it is hereby informed that AARC has received the proposal from M/s Ajay K. Sud & Associates, Chartered Accountants for their re-appointment at the same fee as previous financial year and MC members had approved their re-appointment as the Statutory Auditor in the 2nd MC Meeting for Financial Year 2023-24 held on 13th September, 2023 is required to be regularized for the FY 2023-24.

He appreciated the services of the firm that AARC has been receiving since their Appointment and explained the members about their expertise in managing the accounts of NGOs and Society and further informed that besides being the Auditors, they have been a great support to AARC and have even supported AARC in the matter of ITAT appeal as well.

Accordingly, following resolution was passed: -



“**RESOLVED THAT** M/s Ajay K. Sud & Associates, Chartered Accountants (FRN: 03939N) be and is hereby appointed as Statutory Auditors of the Society to hold office and audit the accounts for Financial Year 2023-24, as per the terms of the proposal received from them.”

7. TO CONSIDER THE BUDGET ESTIMATES OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR

Dr. Praveen Aggarwal apprised the members that budget estimates for FY 2023-24 were presented and approved in the MC meeting held on 30th March, 2023. The budget estimates included projected income & expenses, administrative expenses and awareness project expenses.

Dr. Aggarwal then presented before the members the approved budget estimates and briefed the same. He informed the members about the enhanced membership fee from Producer Members (Tetra Pak and SIG) which amounted to INR 10 Lakhs. It was then informed that there has been an increase in the expected revenue as new members have joined and paid their respective fees. Further, more funds are expected through organising workshops and other awareness activities during this financial year by requesting current members to contribute to the extent of INR 15 Lakhs.

After this, he further briefed on projected expenses, administrative expenses which have already been approved and are recurring in nature which includes project management & coordination expenses paid to Consocia Advisory with nominal increase of INR 50,000/- in the fee, Social Media campaign and Legal & professional charges paid to KrayMan Consultants LLP and awareness project expenses which includes organising webinar for ecosystem, awareness & advocacy workshops in select states, travelling expenses related to excise policy matters, secretariat etc., and participation in events / exhibition.

Mr. Sharad appreciated the work and efforts of AARC and its Secretariat for planning these workshops which may be organised in coming October or November and requested the members to attend and participate in large numbers in the same.

8. TO UPDATE THE MEMBERS ABOUT THE DETAILS OF MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF AARC INCLUDING NEW MEMBERS AND CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF EXISTING MEMBERS

Dr. Aggarwal apprised the members about the addition of new members in AARC and also appreciated and thanked AARC's secretariat for their continuous efforts in expanding its membership base. He informed the addition of below four organisations as the new members of AARC:

- India Glycols Ltd. (Associate)
- Hindustan Coca Cola Beverages Pvt. Ltd. (Associate)
- GLS Elopak Pvt. Ltd. (Producer-Subscriber)
- Inbrew Beverages Pvt. Ltd. (Subscriber)

He further apprised about the request received from Halewood Laboratories Pvt. Ltd. (Halewood) to downgrade their membership from Subscriber to Associate Member and the same was approved in the MC meeting dated 13th September, 2023.



The Members were informed that Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) had shown their desire to discontinue their membership and be out of the alliance. However, AARC had been trying to persuade and put in the best efforts to meet their senior official.

9. TO UPDATE THE MEMBERS ABOUT THE ADVOCACY EFFORTS IN FY 2022-23

Dr Aggarwal apprised the members about the advocacy work undertaken in FY 2022-23 with the various stakeholders which included- MoEFCC, FSSAI, PMO, CII, USIBC, MOFPI, NITI AAYOG, EODB, FICCI, AIPMA, CPCB etc. He further briefed the members in detail about the engagement with the following authorities:

Engagement with Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India (MoEFCC):

- AARC continued to engage with MoEFCC pertaining to Industry's requests and concerns as a trusted partner in addressing environmental concerns and sustainable waste management
- AARC engaged with Secretary & Add. Secretary and submitted industry concern pertaining to manufacturing capability of alternatives to plastic straw
- AARC's efforts led to a very favorable letter being sent to MoEFCC by MOS MOFPI for providing relaxation to the industry in July
- It was confirmed that compostable straws aren't under EPR regulations

Engagement with Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)

- AARC maintained constant communication with the Central and State Pollution Control Boards. AARC wrote to CPCB on various occasions to discuss:
 - Recyclability of the Beverage Cartons
 - Separate Category identity to Beverage Cartons for enabling proper recycling
 - Various challenges faced by industry pertaining to the EPR portal
 - Effective plastic credit system
- ICWMR launch
 - AARC met with Dr. Prashant Gargava (Member Secretary, CPCB) on December 20, 2022. We shared industry concerns and challenges with him. Dr. Gargava seemed willing to meet with AARC delegation
- Launch of Prakriti and Green Initiatives on Plastic
 - AARC team was specially invited by Shri Tanmay Kumar (Chairman, CPCB) in April 2022 for this event highlighting its significance as an industry alliance
 - During the launch event, AARC interacted with Sh. Bhupendra Yadav and other senior officials, including Ms. Leena Nandan (Secretary, MoEFCC) and Mr. NP Gangwar (Add. Secretary, MoEFCC)
 - The event offered an opportunity for AARC to showcase its commitment to environmental responsibility and foster collaboration with CPCB and MoEFCC on key initiatives

Engagement with Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)



- Post continuous engagements with DPIIT to foster a favorable beverage carton industry environment and support in Ease of Doing Business
- AARC was able to have a successful meeting on May 26, 2022, with Joint Secretary Ms. Manmeet Nanda. DPIIT endorsed AARC's cause.
- After this, AARC was invited for a virtual Meeting on June 15, 2022, chaired by Smt. Manmeet Nanda wherein MOEFCC and MOFPI representatives also participated. There was discussion on industry efforts, challenges, and dedication to government objectives

Dr. Aggarwal apprised the members about the ban on beverage cartons for packing alcohol in some states. To promote the use of beverage cartons for alcohol packaging in Uttar Pradesh, AARC organised meetings with UP Excise Commissioner on January 3, 2023 and conducted a virtual session with UP Distilleries Association on February 7, 2023. AARC also addressed awareness, education, waste management, and collaboration with environment and excise departments AARC also expanded UBC message in UP, established UBCs as preferred packaging. Due to AARC's initiatives and efforts, aseptic beverage carton were included in Excise Policy 2023.

10. TO APPRISE THE MEMBERS ABOUT THE CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) PROJECT DONE UNDER AARC

Dr. Aggarwal apprised the members about Tetra Pak's CSR project undertaken by AARC this year as well. This CSR project had been undertaken with our long-time partner RUR Green Life and was aimed towards the objectives of our society for spreading awareness about recycling and segregation.

Thereafter, Mr. Kamlesh from Tetra Pak briefed the members about their CSR initiative, its background and objectives which were as follows-

- Eco Education to raise awareness
- Promotional Activities like Communication to masses and Social Media dissemination

11. OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

a) Regarding the vacant position of Treasurer in the Society

Dr. Aggarwal informed that Mr. Tusar Ranjan from Dabur had been handling the duties and responsibilities of Treasurer and had shown his inability to continue as Treasurer which was informed and discussed in the MC meeting dated 13th September, 2023. Therefore, in order to fill this vacancy, AARC had already reached out to MC members. Currently, AARC has received only one nomination, that too from Dabur. He then confirmed from all the MC members present in the meeting if any MC member would like to nominate themselves otherwise this position can be filled with Dabur only. However, no other MC member came forward.

b) Announcement by Vice-Chairman regarding his retirement from Schreiber Dynamix Dairies Private Limited

With the permission of the Chair, Cdr. Amitabha Ray, the Vice-Chairman of the Society informed the members about his retirement from Schreiber Dynamix Dairies Private Limited after a long journey of over three decades. He stated that the effective date of his retirement would be 30th September, 2023. Accordingly, he shall be leaving the position of Vice-chairman



of AARC and this position shall be replaced with some other official from the Company which shall be disclosed soon. He then placed on record his heartfelt thanks to all the members especially Tetra Pak and stated that Tetra Pak has created a legacy in this country by creating consumer awareness regarding dealing in cartons much before the Government had initiated any regulatory measures. He expressed his gratitude to be a part of AARC for the last 6 years and also thanked the Secretariat of Consocia who had been coordinating and leading all the efforts that AARC had been making for the last 6 years and also to make this initiative a grand success.

Dr. Aggarwal placed on record his appreciation for all the guidance and support that had been extended by him for all these years. He further expressed his desire to retain him in AARC in some other capacity.

Thereafter, detailed discussion happened on EPR targets, MLP, recyclability, separate category, etc. Dr. Aggarwal then requested AARC secretariat to organise a session next week to deal with these issues and it was proposed to organise this session physically, to which Dr. Aggarwal also agreed.

There being no other business to transact, the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Date:
Place:

Chairman