

MINUTES OF 101th EC MEETING

Venue: Conference Room, Godrej Experience Centre, Mumbai

Date: 14th December 2024

Timing: 12.30 – 18.30

Elected and Co-opted members

Members present

1. Urmila Rajadhyaksha	Honorary President
2. Devayani Deshmukh Upasani,	Honorary Secretary
4. Deepak Rao,	Honorary Treasurer
5. Rukkumany R H,	EC member
6. Ankur Jajpuria,	EC member
7. Sarang Bhide,	Co -opted member

Invited members

8. Hrishikesh Phadke,	IFLA APR Core Organizing Committee member.
9. Dhara Shah	Chairperson ISOLA Mumbai
10. Bhakti Thakoor	Member ISOLA Mumbai
11. Nilesh Deshpande	Donor committee member

Members absent with notice

12. Rohini Prasad	Hon. Vice President
13. Dr.Sridevi Rao	Past President
14. Maithily Velangi	EC member
15. Rashmi Paramesh	EC member

Hon. President Urmila Rajadhyaksha presided over the meeting.

1. Appraising the members regarding the Research grant

Devayani Deshmukh updated the members that the recipient of the first ISOLA Award grant, Rahul Sukumaran, was asked to submit a detailed proposal, timeline, and milestones for the way forward. This plan was presented to the review committee members and received their approval. The paperwork for the first stage of disbursement is currently in process.

2. ISOLA Awards

The ISOLA Awards 2025 were declared on the ISOLA Awards night celebration on the date and venue. As discussed earlier the online presentations by the award winners is scheduled to be will be conducted on 18 Jan and 25 January. Maithily Velangi and Rashmi Parmesh have volunteered to organise the same.

3. Education Board update

Rukkumany RH shared that two new colleges from Mumbai – VESCOA and IES, Mumbai – had applied for ISOLA student membership recognition. The review committee, consisting of three senior members, completed the due process of reviewing the applications and approved them. Rukkumany highlighted the key points of the review committee's findings

and presented the applications to the EC for approval. Based on the committee's recommendations, the EC unanimously granted provisional recognition to the two colleges. Additionally, it was noted that the renewal of recognition for three institutions—Dr. MGR Educational and Research Institute, Chennai; VIT's Padmabhushan Dr. Vasantdada Patil College of Architecture, Pune; and Manipal University, Jaipur—is due in 2024. Of these, the application for renewal from Manipal University, Jaipur, has been submitted to the ISOLA EB and is currently under review.

4. ISOLA membership

Corporate membership discount

The Corporate membership discount was approved at the 19th ISOLA AGM. Devayani Deshmukh updated that based on the considerable discussion during the AGM about the number of members for an office to avail the corporate membership discount scheme, it was proposed that the ISOLA secretary circulate a Google form to gather data on the number of Landscape Architects employed in each landscape office. It was decided that the minimum number of members needed for any office to qualify for corporate membership discount will be determined based on the responses to this form.

Grand Amnesty scheme

The Grand amnesty scheme for past ISOLA members whose membership has lapsed was approved at the 19th ISOLA AGM. As per this scheme the penalty for membership lapse would be waived for a fixed period of time. Devayani Deshmukh updated that the scheme will be launched mid-February and will be active till 31st March so that the revived membership cycle coincides with the existing one.

5. Finance committee update

Urmila Rajadhyaksh raised concern that the Finance committee is currently dormant, and it needs to be activated.

6. Appraising the members regarding the 2025 IFLA APR Regional Congress preparations: Hrishikesh and Urmila Rajadhyaksha appraised the members that the logistics (Mumbai LOC team) has shortlisted 7 venues which were then compared based on various factors for the suitability for the congress.

Based on the comparisons the two venues, Jio convention centre and NCPA were shortlisted and compared by the team. Based on the factors of flexibility, logistics central location, space availability and comparable costs Jio convention centre was suggested by the team. Urmila Rajadhyaksha further updated that since the Nehru centre was suggested by Savita Punde as a venue, she visited the centre to review the possibility of it for hosting the Congress. However, the centre did not suit the present requirements of the congress and hence was not considered further.

All the members who were absent with notice: Rohini Prasad, Dr. Sridevi Rao, Manjusha Ukidave, Maithily Velangi and Rashmi Parmesh were connected with on calls and a detailed discussion regarding the venue was done with each of them.

Post the discussions with all EC members the venue of the congress was finalized as Jio Convention centre unanimously.

Hrishikesh Phadke updated that the broad budget for the congress is 4 crores and the donor committee would be presenting a detailed breakup of the expenses and sources of fund generation in the next meeting scheduled on 15th December 2025

Elected and Co-opted members, Chapter representatives and Invited members
Venue: Conference Room, Godrej Experience Centre, Mumbai
Date: 15th December 2024
Timing: 12.30 – 18.30

EC Members present

1.Urmila Rajadhyaksha	Honorary President
2.Devayani Deshmukh Upasani,	Honorary Secretary
3.Deepak Rao,	Honorary Treasurer
4.Rukkumany R H,	EC member
5.Ankur Jajpuria	EC member
6.Maithily Velangi	EC member
7.Sarang Bhide,	Co -opted member

Chapter Representatives

8. Sudhir Chougule,	Bangalore
9. Sujata Hingorani	Delhi
11. Sarath Rajiv,	Hyderabad
12. Ganga Krishnan,	Kerala
13. Prachi Wakaley,	Maharashtra
14. Dhara Shah,	Mumbai
15. Savita Raje,	Madhya Pradesh
16. Hemanshu Taneja,	Rajasthan
17. Arun Karthik,	Tamil nadu and Pondicherry

Invited members

18. Hrishikesh Phadke,	IFLA APR Core Organizing Committee member.
19. Nikhil Dhar	Content committee representative
20. Neelima Soni	Representative, Government connect
21.Bhakti Thakoor	Member IFL A APR organising committee
22.Nilesh Deshpande	Donor committee member

Members

23.Madhup Muzumdar	Donor committee member
24. Jasleen Wariach	Donor committee member

Members absent with notice

25.Rohini Prasad	Hon. Vice President
26.Dr.Sridevi Rao	Past President
27.Rashmi Paramesh	EC member
28.Priyanka Kanhare	CR, Gujarat

Hon. President Urmila Rajadhyaksha presided over the meeting.

1. **Appraising the members regarding the points discussed in the EC meeting held on the previous day**

Devayani Deshmuh updated the members regarding the meeting on 14th December 2025 including update about research grant, ISOLA awards presentation, Grand amnesty scheme, process of venue selection for IFLA APR congress.

2. Further update on the IFLA APR congress

- Donor and expo committee update

Hrshikesh Phadke updated the members regarding the proposed budget of the IFLA APR congress and the various methods explored by the donor committee for fund generation. He updated that the donor committee has explored various slabs of donation and means of donation to generate funds for the congress including best possible combinations for generating maximum funds for the Congress including best possible layout for expo. Based on the discussion, Sujata Hingorani and Sudhir Choughule who represented the Expo committee volunteered to share a updated overall layout for the congress.

Neelima Soni raised a query whether the funds raised for the congress would be taken from the ISOLA Corpus. Hrshikesh Phadke reverted that the financial planning for the congress done considering that the ISOLA savings remain undisturbed.

After the detailed discussion on venue selection, budget and fund raising as well as donor committee update all the members

- IFLA APR event manager update

Hrshikesh Phadke updated the members that the requirement of event manager for IFLA APR congress is as per the suggestion by the ISOLA auditor Rajnikant Trivedi. The logic behind the appointment of the event manager is as follows.

a. Foreign Currency Transactions: ISOLA, as a trust, can only accept payments in Indian Rupees. An external agency enables transactions in other currencies, ensuring seamless international participation.

b. Tax Benefits for Donors: Under Section 80G, donors can expense only 50% of their donation to ISOLA. However, if they contribute to an external agency, they can expense the entire amount as a business expense.

c. GST Input Tax Credit (ITC): ISOLA does not have a GST registration and thus cannot claim Input Tax Credit on GST payments. By appointing an event manager with a valid GST number, the ITC benefits can be passed on to ISOLA, reducing overall costs.

He further updated the members that as per multiple suggestion by the working committee a list of ten event management firms has been curated and the process of setting up meetings for the same has been initiated.

- Content committee update

Nikhil Dhar presented the update from the content committee, which included the session titles and descriptions along with a list of probable speaker. Sujata Hingorani, Madhup Mujumdar and Jasleern Wariach suggested that the speaker list needs to be more balanced in terms of experts from practice and academics. Nikhil Dhar requested all the members to email their suggestions to the content committee so that they can deliberate and include the suggestions as they deem appropriate.

- Organizational, Institutional and Government connect

Urmila Rajadhyaksha suggested that a Google form can be shared by the ISOLA secretary and circulated by the chapters with their members to create a base document for possible suggestions for institutes, organizations, and government departments. Devayani Deshmukh requested Prachi Wakale, Savita Raje and Rohini Prasad to share the requisite Google form which she could further circulate.

- Post conference Tours

The Chapter representatives were requested to share details of the post congress tours at the earliest. A google form has been shared with all the chapters regarding the same.

- Pre-congress events

Maithily Velangi shared that she and Rashmi along with other volunteers would get back with the framework of pre-congress events shortly.

- Nature culture map and Isola monograph

Devayani Deshmukh and Urmila Rajadhyaksha updated that the Nature culture map of Mumbai and ISOLA monograph would be launched during the congress. The call for interest for ISOLA monograph has already been shared with the members and one response has been received. Another call will be shared for further responses.

Post the discussions with all EC members the venue of the congress was finalized as Jio Convention centre unanimously. The meeting was concluded at 3:00 pm for all members to then visit Jio convention centre.

Minutes of meeting by

Devayani Deshmukh Upasani, Hon Secretary ISOLA

Drafted by

Rukkumani RH, ISOLA EC member