

**MINUTES OF THE 26th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE TRADE FINANCE ASSOCIATION OF BANKERS**

The 26th Annual General Meeting of the Trade Finance Association of Bankers was held on Thursday 23rd February 2023 at 5.30 p.m. at the 'Lotus Room', Grand Oriental Hotel, York Street, Colombo 01.

ITEM NO 01 – Reading of the notice convening the meeting

The Secretary General read out the notice convening the meeting at the request of the President.

ITEM NO 02 – Welcome Address by the President

The President Mr. Lawrian Somanader addressed the gathering by warmly welcoming the members to the 26th Annual General Meeting of the Association.

The President in his speech pointed out the role played by the TFAB to the banking industry during its last 25 years of existence and celebrating 25th Anniversary Celebration with prevailing economic condition in the country. It is envisaged that the TFAB will continue to play its pivotal role of developing people by enhancing the knowledge and sharpening the skills of Trade practitioners involved in Import and Export business.

Further, he pointed out that the Association along with its members had challenging times during the last few years.

- 2022 was marked by major economic and political upheaval making the year and unprecedented one.
- For the first time in the Sri Lanka announced that it would halt repayment of its foreign debts.
- This resulted in down grading of the countries credit rating which blocked FCY borrowings.
- The inflation hit an all time high of 73% in Sep. 2022

The President highlighted the main events conducted by TFAB during 22/23 as Interbank Cricket Sixes, Multi Religious Ceremony, Port Tour, Quiz and Social and he thanked all the past presidents, members of the advisory committee, all council members and the members of TFAB for the support extended during his tenure as president. He concluded the address by pledging his commitment towards the betterment of TFAB.

ITEM NO 02 – Reading of the notice convening the meeting

The Secretary General read out the notice convening the meeting at the request of the President.

ITEM NO 03 - Adoption of Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting held on 09th March 2022

The minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting held on 09th March 2022, at the Grand Oriental Hotel, York Street, Colombo 01, were presented and approved.

The adoption was proposed by Mr. K. K. Susantha and seconded by Mr. Harsha De Silva.

ITEM NO 04 – Presenting of the Annual Report of the Association submitted by the Secretary General

The Annual Report of the Association for the period March 2022 to February 2023 was presented to the house by the Secretary General.

ITEM NO 05 – Adoption of the Audited statement of Accounts of the Association for the period 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

The audited accounts of the Association for the period 01st January 2022 to 31st December 2022 were tabled for approval.

Mr. Gaya Manamperi pointed out that, Interest flow from Development Fund to Special Account were not indicated on accounts as per the constitution. Mr. President and Treasurer agreed to correct it and circulate among the members.

Adoption of Annual Accounts was proposed by Ms. Halin Hettigoda and seconded by Mr. W Kumarasiri.

ITEM NO 06 – Adoption of any resolutions, notice of which has been received in writing by the Secretary General on or before 16th February 2023.

Amendment to the constitution proposed by the present council (2022/2023) to insert nomination committee to elect office-bearers and council members to the council with effect from 2024.

Quote

Paragraph 16.00 and sub-paragraph 09.04, of the constitution will be amended as follows.

Insert sub-paragraph 16.06 to 16.08

Sub-paragraph 16.06 the “Nomination Committee” will be appointed by the Council

Sub-paragraph 16.07 Nomination Committee will handle all Nomination arrangements

Sub-paragraph 16.08 Nominations for Office Bearers and other Council Members to be called for three weeks before the Annual General Meeting. If no valid nominations have been received for any Office Bearer/s or Council Member/s such Member/s shall be elected at the AGM

Delete sub-paragraph 09.04 “Perform all such duties that may be assigned by the Council from time to time” completely and insert sub-paragraph 09.05 under paragraph 09.00

09.05 Perform all such duties that may be assigned by the Council from time to time

Unquote

Mr. Gaya Manamperi requested to explain on composition of Nomination committee and not to include any council member to the committee as APB’s practice. Then, The President stated that we have already referred several constitutions including APB and come up with this amendment and composition of the Committee will be finalized at the council meeting.

Members of the AGM unanimously approved the proposal.

ITEM NO 07 – Election of Office Bearers, Council members and Auditor

Before vacating the chair Mr. Lawrian Somanader has requested the house to propose the Pro-tem Chairman. Mr. W Kumarasiri proposed Mr. Thushy David to be the Pro-tem Chairman to conduct the proceedings relating to the election of the President for the ensuing year. It was seconded by Mr. Gaya Manamperi.

Mr. Thushy David thanked the house for electing him as Pro-tem Chairman. During his short speech he thanked Mr. Michael Peiris for conducting the AGM as a Pro-tem Chairman over the years and due to his absence agreed to serve as the Pro-tem Chairman. Mr. Thushy David also thanked Mr. Lawrian Somanader for the contribution he made for the association as the president and also briefed the house about the proceedings pertaining to selection of office bearers & council members. He then called upon the house to elect the President for the ensuing year.

The Name of Mrs. Rochell Fernando was proposed by Mr. K. K. Susantha and Seconded by Mr. Gaya Manamperi. Since there were no other names proposed, Mrs. Rochell Fernando was duly elected as the President for the ensuing year.

The following Office Bearers and Council Members were elected unanimously.

Council 2023/2024

	Name	Bank	Post	Proposed By	Seconded By
1	Rochell Fernando	BOC	President	K K Susantha	Gaya Manamperi
2	Indika Liyanage	PABC	Secretary	Gaya Manamperi	Lawrian Somanader
3	Shyam De Silva	HNB	Snr. Vice President	Chelaka Bandara	Nirmala Baraneshwaran
4	Rajaratnam Naguleshwaran	DFCC	Vice President	Sherine Shanmugarajah	Jitha Seneviratne
5	Kanchana De Silva	Union	Treasurer	Nalin Ahangama	Nisansala Kalupahana
6	Kasun Muthukuda	NTB	Asst. Secretary	Shailajah Sukumaran	Navamali De Silva
7	Tharinda Amarasinghe	Samp	Asst. Treasurer	Sameera Fernando	Lakshan Wijethithilake
8	Susantha Weerasinghe	PB	Council Member	Vijitha Kumarasiri	Shehara Hajibdeen
9	K K Susantha	BOC	Council Member	Palitha Atampawala	Sudarshana Jayakody
10	Dilan Wijegunawardena	Seylan	Council Member	Ilanko Kathiravelupillai	Rohitha Gunawardene
11	Shehani Peters	SCB	Council Member	Mayuri Fernando	Kevin Fernando
12	Mahesha Hassen	Public	Council Member	Devinka Kulathunga	Eranda Weerakoon
13	Harsha De Silva	Citi	Council Member	Milan Ranawana	Eranda Weerakoon
14	Shaariz Zabith	HSBC	Council Member	Amila Methsiri	Himansa Gunewardene

15	Niranjan Dabere	Deutche	Council Member	Thushy David	Isuru Rajapakse
16	Melani Nawaratna	NDB	Council Member	Nipun Dias	Upul Fernando
17	Kumari Bastiasz	Comme	Council Member	Lawrian Somanader	Buddhika Perera
18	Shanaka Weimen	Cargils	Council Member	Suchehthana Wijesiri	Ajith Alirajah
19	Lakshana Fernando	Amana	Council Member	Gaznaffer Jalaldeen	Faique Zurfick
20	Ramesh Amarasinghe	SBI	Council Member	Charith Samarakoon	Nilushika Wijeratne

Immediate Past President – Mr. Lawrian Somnader

ITEM NO 08 – Election of Auditor

The President then requested the house to appoint an Auditor. The name of M/s G M S Associates was proposed by Mr. A S M W Kumarasiri and seconded by Mr. Gaya Manamperi. There being no other proposals M/s G M S Associates were appointed as the Auditor.

ITEM NO 09 – The induction of the newly elected President

Induction of the new president was done by garlanding Mrs. Rochell Fernando with the symbolic gold medal by Mr. Lawrian Somanader. Then, newly appointed president took oath in the presence of Mr. Lawrian Somanader. Then the outgoing president read the profile of newly elected president.

ITEM NO 10 – Address by the newly elected President

The President thanked each one of the participants which is testament to their interest and support towards the association, Outgoing president Lawrian Somanader and committee for their relentless efforts in setting high standards of discipline for the association. She emphasized the core objectives of the Association such as facilitate the exchange of views on Trade Finance, Promote consistency in Trade Finance Practices, Engage in Educational activities for membership, publish periodic Newsletters, Coordinate with regulatory authorities and goodwill and fellowship.

Further, The President pledged before the membership to make every effort and endeavor to uplift the spirit of the membership during this year of recovery for enhancing the TFAB activities lined up in the calendar. She welcomed the members suggestions for better improvements.

She concluded her speech by citing the quote of Michelle Obama, “ People who are truly strong lift others up, people who are truly powerful bring others together”. She ensured that the TFAB emerges stronger and continue to achieve its core objectives.

ITEM NO 11 – Any other business

Mr. Susantha Fernando former president of the TFAB took opportunity to wish Newly elected president Mrs. Rochelle Fernando being a first Female president after 25 years of the association.

The president presented the Medal to outgoing president Mr. Lawrian Somanader marking his service in last two terms.

ITEM NO 12 – Vote of thanks by the Secretary General

The President requested the Secretary General to propose the vote of thanks.

The Secretary General thanked the members for having trust and confidence in him and electing him as the Secretary General. On behalf of the association, he thanked the house for their participation despite the pandemic situation in the country. He also said that the committee will be able to make their commitment in full towards the activities of the association and to achieve its goals and objectives. He then thanked the Advisory Committee, Council Members, Photographer Mr. Hatharasinghe and the Management & the staff of Grand Oriental Hotel.

The meeting adjourned the customary fellowship and dinner.

Indika Liyanage
Secretary General
Trade Finance Association of Bankers