**MINUTES OF THE 7TH MEETING OF THE HUB GOVERNING BODY (HGB) OF “I-HUB FOUNDATION FOR COBOTICS” HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2ND DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2022 AT 10.30 A.M. AT INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI (IIT DELHI), HAUZ KHAS NEW DELHI-110016** **THROUGH HYBRID MODE**

**MEMBERS PRESENT PHYSICALLY**:

1. **Prof. Rangan Banerjee (Chairman)**
2. **Prof. Subir Kumar Saha, IIT Delhi-Member & Project Director, IHFC**
3. **Dr. Ekta Kapoor, Mission Director, NM-ICPS, DST-Member**
4. **Mr. Dileep Mangsuli, Siemens Healthineers – Member**
5. **Prof. Sunil Kumar Khare, Dean IRD, IIT Delhi**
6. **Mr. Ashutosh Dutt Sharma, CEO, IHFC-Member Secretary**

**MEMBERS PRESENT THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING**:

1. **Dr. Gautam Shroff, TCS-Member – Through Video Conference**
2. **Dr. Aloknath De, Samsung-Member – Through Video Conference**

**SPECIAL INVITEE ATTENDED PHYSICALLY:**

**Dr. JBV Reddy, DST**

**CHAIRMAN:**

**Prof. Rangan Banerjee** was requested to chair the meeting which he agreed and welcomed members of the HGB.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

The leave of absence was granted to Prof. Santanu Chaudhary**,** a member of Hub Governing Body, who could not attend the meeting due to preoccupation somewhere else.

**TO TAKE NOTE OF RECEIPT OF AGENDA FOR THE CURRENT HGB MEETING BY ALL THE HGB MEMBERS**

Notice, Agenda of the HGB Meeting along with notes and other the supporting annexure of the HGB meeting was tabled before the HGB and all Members present at the meeting had confirmed the receipt of the same.

**TO TAKE NOTE OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS HGB MEETING**

The Minutes of the 6th HGB meeting were read and the HGB took note of the same. Action Taken Report (ATR) was placed before the HGB Update on the actionable from the 6th HGB meeting was given to all HGB members.

**1. TO WELCOME PROF. SUNIL KUMAR KHARE, DEAN IRD(IITD) EX-OFFICIO AS A NEW MEMBER OF HGB:**

The Hub Governing Body was informed that members of the Hub GoverningBody have approved the appointment of **Prof. Sunil Khare** who is a **Dean of IRD ( IITD) Ex-officio** as a new member of Hub Governing Body in the previous meeting held on **4th May 2022**. The members of the Hub Governing Bodywelcomed him for his first meeting as Hub Governing Bodymember.

**2. TO DISCUSS THE ROLE OF HUB GOVERNING BODY (HGB) MOVING FORWARD:**

The members of the Hub Governing Bodywere informed thatas per the guidelines from DST, the Company would play the role of an advisory body. Further, an outline of the key role/responsibilities of the Company, had been discussed with the member in the meeting, which was agreed upon and duly accepted by all the HGB members.

**3. TO GIVE AN UPDATE ON GRAND PROJECTS AND MODE OF FUNDING THE PROJECTS:**

The members were updated about the 7 grand projects (initiated during 2021) of the Company. HGB was also apprised of the reviews and three tier classification of all projects. HGB suggested to implement the recommendations of panel of experts after following the evaluation process for all the projects.

HGB was apprised of the recent engagement of IHFC with National Science Foundation (NSF), USA. NSF is collaborating with 6 Technology Innovation Hubs of DST (under NMICPS) as a part of Indo-US collaboration in the field of technology research and development. IHFC is one of the selected six hubs and has got lion’s share of projects (12 out of 36) as a part of this collaboration, where PIs associated with IHFC will be working with 12 selected PIs from US for these collaborative projects. HGB commended the achievement and also advised to put special focus on these projects.

HGB was further apprised of the progress on the new grand projects launched in 2022 (Autonomous Vehicles, Nanorobotics and Blockchain for Robotics Applications). The proposals received for these grand projects have undergone one round of evaluation and now at a stage of formulation of grand projects. For these new grand projects IHFC has decided to improvise a little further, where IHFC would select the relevant team members (from set of similar projects and having relevant knowledge and experience in the domain) for the execution of identified projects from amongst the PIs who submitted the proposals. It was also proposed that IHFC will also play a critical role in redefining the scope and proposals in alliance with the selected team members.

This model was very well received and appreciated by the HGB members. The above said matter were discussed by the members in the meeting and the members took note of the same.

**4.TO GIVE AN UPDATE ON MEDICAL COBOTICS CENTER (MCC)**

The Hub Governing Body was updated regarding the progress on Medical Cobotics Center. The members were updated that the Human Patient Simulator has been procured and the installation process in Medical Cobotics Center (IIITD campus in Okhla) is in progress.

Hub Governing Body was apprised of some of the challenges which were facing by the Company in execution at IIIT. After the due discussion, Hub Governing Body advised to expedite the process of installation and initiate the utilization of the infrastructure as soon as possible. The members recommended that the Company should organise a visit of few Hub Governing Body members to the **Medical Cobotics Center** space identified at IIIT Delhi. IHFC also intends to put a partner in place for running the training programs at MCC and one of the experienced organisations will be identified to run the same.

The board discussed the matter and took note of the same.

**5.TO GIVE AN UPDATE ON DRONE TECHNOLOGY PARK (DTP):**

The members were informed about the training program to be initiated at **Drone Technology Park**

in Sonepat campus. It was suggested that the Company should tie up with some organisation/s having expertise in this domain to execute the plan. The Hub Governing Body was also apprised regarding plans of setting up an RPTO (Remote Pilot Training Organisation) at **Drone Technology Park**  and for this purpose,Companymay need to acquire a license from DGCA for the same. IHFC also intends to put a start-up/organisation to run the RPTO thus set-up.

It was informed to the members that the Company has authorised the **Mr. Ashutosh Dutt Sharma,** CEO of the Company in the previous board meeting, to sign and enter in to the various agreements and MOU’s on behalf of the Company. It was further informed to the members that by virtue of this authority, he can enter in to the various agreements and MOU’s and decide the terms and conditions of the respective Agreements and MOU’s.

One of the member updated the HGB that the Company has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with North East Centre for Technology Application & Research (NECTAR) for setting up Drone Training infrastructure in the North East (starting with Guwahati). It was further informed to the members that the Company has submitted the proposal (in collaboration with Drone Federation of India) to MEITY and DGCA, for setting up a testing and validation centres for drones.

The matters were discussed and the members took note of the same.

**6.TO GIVE AN UPDATE ON START-UP INCUBATION/INVESTMENT AND POLICY:**

It was informed to the Hub Governing Body that the Company has signed Memorandum of Understanding (for incubation)/incubated/accelerated ~10 start-ups till date. The Company is in planning to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with We Founder Circle (AN angel investor platform) and EvolveX (an accelerator) for a joint go to market (GTM) and sourcing of start-ups for incubation/acceleration/investment through joint efforts/events.

It was further informed to the board that the Company made a request to IIT Delhi for providing some dedicated space allocated to IHFC at Research and Innovation (R&I) Park, for incubating its start-ups.

The Hub Governing Body was also apprised of the start-up call that IHFC has come out with in association with DISQ (TCS Foundation). 67 proposals have been received for the same and are under evaluation currently. The members of the Hub Governing Body appreciated all these developments and appreciated the efforts made by the team to bring the start-up ecosystem to such a level in a short period of time.

**7.TO GIVE AN UPDATE ON SKILL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES OF THE COMPANY:**

The members were updated about the progress made on alliance with CISCE Board. The curriculum made by the Company has been approved by CISCE Board and students shall start undertaking the same starting 2023 session. The scope of the Company might also get enhanced to other activities including teacher training, lab set-up etc.

It was informed to the members of the Hub Governing Bodythat the Companyhas also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with School of Speacial Education (SoSE), Delhi Government for enabling curriculum, infrastructure and help operationalizing special schools in field of Robotics and other emerging technologies.

Further, the Company has also successfully conducted Robocon 2022 (national and international) as knowledge partner and expects to play more significant role to take the event to the next level. Training was also conducted on Drone Technology for the SIW unit of BSF with a very positive feedback from BSF.

The matter was discussed and the members took note of the same.

**OTHER AGENDA ITEMS WHICH WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA BUT CONSIDERING THEIR REQUIREMENT WERE DISCUSSED IN THE MEETING WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRPERSON AND WITH CONSENT OF ALL THE MEMBERS PRESENT IN THE MEETING**

**TO DISCUSS TO PAY THE ADDITIONAL GST TO SOME INSTITUTES:**

One of the members briefed the Hub Governing Body that the Company has funded some projects (as a part of grand projects), to some of the institutes. The Company has transferred the amount with stipulated GST (18%) over and above project ask. Further, it was informed to the members that post implementation of new GST rule for SIRO certified institutes (GST raised from 5% to 18%) for equipment. Therefore, some institutes are requesting to pay additional 13% citing cash flow issues. The members discussed the matter and advised not to pay double GST on the released fund and suggested to push back any such requests from the institutes since the requisite GST payment has already been made once.

The matter was discussed by the members and the members took note of the same.

**VOTE OF THANKS:**

There being no other matter on the agenda, the meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**Place: New Delhi CHAIRPERSON**

**Date of Entry: 30.11.2022**