

May 24, 2024

15:30 – 16:45 hrs.

IIIT Bangalore

**Minutes of the Fifth meeting of IIITB  
COMET Foundation's Hub Governing Body (HGB)**

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<b>Meeting by:</b>	<b>called</b> IIITB COMET Foundation	<b>Type meeting:</b>	<b>of</b> HGB meeting
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<b>Facilitator:</b>	IIITB COMET Foundation
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**Attendees:**

1. Prof Debabrata Das (Chairman)
2. Prof Uday B Desai
3. Mr Samir Kumar
4. Dr Kumar N Sivarajan
5. Prof R Chandrashekar
6. Mr Amit Biswas (IFD)
7. Ms Tanushri Sharma, DST Nominee
8. Mr Sridhar Pillalamarri
9. Mr Abrar Ahmed
10. Mr Amudheesan Nakkeeran (Note taker)

**Minutes of the meeting:**

1. The Chairman, IIITB COMET Foundation welcomed everyone and gave an overview of IIITB COMET Foundation and the four funded projects. He also welcomed Mr P. Sridhar, the new CEO of IIITB COMET Foundation into the HGB meeting. He then set the agenda for the meeting:
  - a. Update on COMET activities.
  - b. Update on Project Monitoring and Review Committee (PMRC) reviews of funded projects.
  - c. Update on the COMET investment policy.
  - d. Presenting the COMET IP policy.
  - e. Presentation of financial details.
2. Mr Sridhar welcomed everyone and started by presenting the updates on technology development and PMRC reviews. The PMRC had found all the projects to be on the right track and had recommended continuation of all the four funded projects. The PMRC had also recommended re-estimating the project budgets given the progress of the projects and their future trajectories.
3. The HGB members were happy with the progress of the projects so far and agreed with the PMRC reviews to continue funding to all the funded projects. They had the following comments regarding technology development and the funded projects:
  - a. Prof Desai suggested that COMET should work with TSDSI to push the RIS standards (developed through the funded projects) to 3GPP actively. The HGB members concurred.
  - b. Prof Desai agreed with the PMRC suggestion on re-estimating the project budgets. He suggested that COMET should move quickly to get the re-

estimated budget details from the project PIs and facilitate future progress of the projects. He also suggested that since COMET is doing well on the technology development front, COMET can reach out to Mission Office, NM-ICPS, DST to increase the already sanctioned INR 150 Crore budget to cover the re-estimated budgets. The HGB members agreed.

- c. Mr Samir suggested that this is the right time to start looking at potential customers for the technology products being built by COMET. He suggested that COMET talks to possible beneficiaries such as BSNL, Tejas Networks, and C-DoT. The HGB members agreed.
  - d. Prof Desai suggested that COMET should explore setting up of an individual booth at the Mobile World Congress (MWC), Barcelona based on the budget constraints, in order to showcase its products since this will help in visibility and to attract potential customers from abroad as well. The HGB members agreed.
  - e. Ms Tanushri suggested that COMET should actively participate in the upcoming technology and product demonstration which will be conducted later this year for IMC. The HGB members agreed and the Chairman responded that COMET, along with IIITB and Mantiswave Networks Pvt. Ltd. (the start-up supported by COMET) will actively participate.
4. Mr Sridhar then presented on the entrepreneurship development activities at COMET, and related upcoming plans on inducting cohorts on start-ups and Entrepreneurs in Residence (EiRs).
- a. Prof Desai suggested that COMET should talk to companies like Bosch and Honeywell since they are also actively working in the area of cyber-physical systems. The HGB agreed.
5. Mr Sridhar then presented the HR development activities at COMET, and the related upcoming plans to replicate the Future Wireless Communication (FWC) program at IIITB as well.
- a. Prof Desai suggested that COMET should reach out to Prof GVV Sharma to find out roughly what percentage of the FWC graduates were placed since this will add more shine to the program when it is replicated in Bangalore as well.
6. Mr Sridhar then informed the HGB that COMET's investment policy was approved by the Board of Directors (BoD), on the basis of which COMET had invested in Mantiswave Networks Pvt. Ltd. on a CPS basis. The HGB concurred with the investment policy approved by the BoD.
7. Next, Mr Sridhar presented the IP policy and licensing agreements. The tabled IP policy proposed a 45:55 split (45 in favour of IIITB COMET Foundation and 55 in favour of the funded institute) in revenue generated by the IPs developed through the funded projects. It also proposed that the exclusive right to license the IP generated as a result of COMET funded projects will rest with COMET, who can choose to transfer this exclusive right to partner institutes for a specific period of time for commercialization. It also proposed that IP generated as a result of funding by industry partner along with COMET will be governed by the terms and conditions of the agreement between the concerned parties.

The HGB deliberated on the IP Policy. Ms Tanushri of NMICPS, DST confirmed that the IP policy can be decided by the HGB and the BoD, as per the tripartite agreement between COMET, IIITB, and Mission Office (NM-ICPS, DST).

8. The HGB was satisfied with the tabled IP policy and suggested that COMET gets it ratified by the BoD as well.
9. Mr Sridhar then brought to the HGB's attention that while re-estimating the budgets for the funded projects and reaching out to DST for additional funds to increase the already sanctioned INR 150 Cr funding, there should be an adjustment in the already sanctioned recurring and non-recurring split as well. This is to allow the funded projects to best utilize the sanctioned funds, as well as to accommodate for the fact that investment in start-ups on a CPS basis counts under non-recurring funds. The HGB agreed.
10. The Chairman thanked all the members and concluded the meeting.



Prof. Debabrata Das  
Chairman, Hub Governing Body  
Project Director, IIITB COMET Foundation

Project Director  
**IIITB COMET Foundation**  
A Section 8 Company

