

TO FEZANA Executive
FEZANA Member Associations
Interested Zarathushtis and Constituencies in the Zarathushti World

FROM FEZANA World Body Working Group
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SUBJECT World Body Constitutions - A Starting Point.

DATE August 1, 2003

The FEZANA World Body Working Group has been in existence since May 2001. Throughout its tenure the WG has committed itself to analyzing all models dispassionately and fairly, to working with the sponsors towards improvement and then documenting and circulating its findings; see <http://www.fezana.org>. The WG's strength has been its independence and remaining free of all political pressures. Accordingly, in keeping with the preceding independence the WG offers the following for consideration by the elected leadership of FEZANA, FPZAI, WZO, ZTFE and others for further consideration.

A joint meeting of elected leaders of several Federations, Associations and Organizations was convened in January 2003 in Mumbai to discuss various issues. It was hosted by President Minoo Shroff of BPP. The WG was invited by Minoo Shroff to participate and present its analysis; the official notes of the Mumbai Meeting are included as an appendix of the attached report.

One of the positive outcomes of the Mumbai Meeting was the WZO response to the "Sense of the Meeting" that was conveyed to WZO in February 2003 by Firdosh Methhta, Dorab Mistry and Dinshaw Tamboly . The subsequent response by President Rustam Dubash of WZO on March 18, 2003 was most heartwarming. This was followed by the Joint Communiqué 1 issued by elected principals (Minoo Shroff, Dorab Mistry, Keki Gandhi, Firdosh Mehta) and Rohinton Rivetna (the coordinator) in May 2003. The WG applauds all involved in issuing and responding to this Joint Communiqué 1. The Joint Communiqué 1 and response of Rustom Dubash of WZO to the Sense of the Mumbai Meeting and the Communiqué 1 (May 27, 2003) are foundational to the structure, constitution and by-laws for the One World Body with Two Independent Arms embodied in the attached document.

The WG cautions that the foundation laid in Mumbai is fragile and suggests the next steps taken by the elected leaders be one of strengthening this foundation - even if this entails postponing discussions on constitutional issues. Accordingly, the WG recommends the following:

- ?? that a meeting similar to the Mumbai Meeting is convened - one that is attended by the elected principals who attended the Mumbai Meeting AND the elected leadership of WZO. The outcome of this meeting should provide the foundation and impetus for Joint Communiqué 2; a communiqué that includes the WZO, and
- ?? that the elected leadership of FEZANA, FPZAI and ZTFE take positive steps to ensure that the WZO becomes a full partner in deciding when and where the next "Mumbai Style" meeting takes place, to which other associations may be invited, and that the WZO have a proportionate say in framing the objectives and structuring the agenda for this meeting.

The WG recognizes that progress since the Mumbai Meeting has brought us to a crossroad:

- ~~///~~ one path that leads us to ONE World Body in reality, and
- ~~///~~ the other path that leads us to ONE World Body that remains a front for two competing World Bodies.

It trusts that the elected leadership will work together and take the right path for our world Zarathushti community.

At the FEZANA AGM in Boston in May 2003, the WG did not seek an extension of its mandate. It ceases to exist upon publication of this document. The future of the World Body is being placed in the hands of the elected leadership.

We sincerely thank Framroze Patel (the former President of FEZANA) for providing us this opportunity to serve the Zarathushti community and we gratefully acknowledge the support of Firdosh Mehta (the current President of FEZANA).

Distribution List – August 1, 2003

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