



ISKCON - DUTCH NATIONAL COUNCIL

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Stichter-acarya: Zijne Goddelijke Genade A.C.  
Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

DNC Meeting August 15, 2021, 10:00

Zoom: Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 859 6641 9375, Passcode: 172031 (room open from 9:50)

Present: HG Madhu Sevita pr, HG Hrdaya Caitanya pr, HG Janakinatha pr, HG Narayani mji, HG Sarasvati mji, HG Sri Krsna Das pr, HG Sandhya mji, HG Toshana Krsna pr, Bh. Vidjay

Absent:

1. Start meeting, prayers
2. Bhagavad Gita
3. Hare Krishna.nl - what is the function/purpose/relation with DNC?

There are three questions that can be asked in this regard:

What is the relation between HareKrishna.nl foundation and the DNC?

What is the place of the website HareKrishna.nl?

Website itself, is it still in balance?

There is a discussion about why this topic is on the agenda, is there mistrust against the initiators of the foundation, or is something going wrong. The proposal is made that the foundation becomes the legal entity for the DNC, and the DNC members become part of the management team of the foundation.

However, this is not the underlying issue. The original idea was that a webshop to sell books from Srila Prabhupada would be developed on the HareKrishna.nl website. For this, there is a necessity of having a bank account, which only can be opened with a foundation or other legal entity. Therefore the foundation has been set up. However, recently more activities seem to have been added to the foundation and the foundation seems to incorporate both communications and the website, which actually are part of the DNC. These kinds of issues need to be discussed in the DNC before they are implemented.

In the end, the conclusion is made that the foundation will become a separate autonomous entity, with its own management, and will periodically report to the DNC. To prevent things mixing up, the webshop will be moved to a separate domain, with HareKrishna.nl serving as entry point. The policy plan will have to be adapted based on these actions. Also, a separate meeting with the foundation team has to be done, to make decisions about the implementation.

4. Communications not functioning

Protest is been made about the wording of this agenda point.

The last couple of months, communications seems to be on a stand still. The proposal now is made to start fresh again. Time will be given to let this proposal sink in and then a decision will be made. If the group will continue together, a baseline meeting will be organised to see where we stand now and how the collaboration can be continued.

5. What went wrong with following the procedure in appointing ISKCON's representative to the Hindu Council? and

6. Why was there no consultation after this suddenly came out? Why was it so encouraged to accept it indiscriminately instead of discussing it first?

The difficulty is that there are no clear written out procedures to follow. The conclusion is as follows:

- We will start writing out these procedures, and make them also public, so everyone knows about it. This to prevent a situation like what happened now, with someone becoming Iskcon's representative in Hindoeraad without the DNC being aware of, from happening again in the future.
- We will contact Hindoeraad, to introduce DNC so that they are aware of DNC's existence and that DNC is the party who sends the representative of Iskcon.
- Rasa Vilasini mji is now chairman of Hindoeraad, and member of Hindoeraad on behalf of Iskcon. We will continue working with her, and invite her also to DNC to report about issues in Hindoeraad.

7. Chairman system + meeting frequency

The rotating chairman system was introduced because GBC wanted to give everyone a chance to be chairman and in the end would be able to choose someone who can take up this role for a longer time. Now there are doubts about whether this system is working in an effective way, since there does not seem to be any progress on any subject in DNC, and DNC has been characterized for the past months as body where mostly fighting and arguing take place. A few options are discussed as alternative (Agile system, external chairman or continue with current system).

The conclusion is as follows:

The chairman is not the head of the DNC, but the facilitator of the meeting. That is the mood in which we should continue. Everyone is equal and should be treated like that. The chairman should also be able to bind everyone together, and step over so-called factions within the group. With these points kept in mind, we can continue with the rotation system, and finish it till everyone who wants to got his or her term.

A list with requirements of good facilitatorship will be shared in the group.

8. Sravanam Kirtanam festival Haastrecht

Sarasvati mataji will be in the lead for organising this program. The program itself is discussed in the group and agreed upon. The Namahatta's again will be contacted if they are willing to cooperate. Disciples of Srila Prabhupada will also be asked if they can come to think about the 125th birthday year, what kind of activities etc we can organise. They will be asked to prepare there ideas and thoughts so the meeting itself can go efficiently.

9. Notes previous meeting

Notes previous meeting are approved.

10. Close at 12:20