Standing Committee of Tamil Speaking People
S.C.O.T

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 30th November 2025

1. Registration:

Dr Bala Canagasabey	Mr Sydney Xavier	Mr V Indran	Dr L Vasanthakumar
Dr R G Sankaralingam	Mr J Paramanathan	Mr M Sirikanda	Dr E Velauthapillai
Mr Prabha Swampillai	Mr R A J Amirthanayagam	Mr Chelva Sabapathy	Dr Kamal Muthiah
Dr K Nagendran	Dr (Mrs) G Nagendran	Ms G Maheswaran	Ms R Maheswaran
Mr S Shanmugadasan			

Mr S T Sivakumaran *President*	Mr Jude Swampillai *Vice President*
Mrs Jeya Selvarajah *Secretary*	Mr A B Alphonsus *Treasurer*

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am with *The President,* Mr S T Sivakumaran, in the chair and One-minute silence was observed.

Due to lack of quorum, the standing order was suspended and the meeting continued with the agreement with those present.

The President, Mr S T Sivakumaran thanked the members for their presence.

Apologies were received from the following.

GC Members: Dr T Sooriyamoorthy; Mr D Nirmalan; Dr S Navaratnam; Dr R Thambirajah; Dr M Pathmarajah; Mr Sriharan; Mrs Sriharan; Mrs Yogi Nagendra

Members: Vasuki Sankaralingam; Arunthathi Sankaralingam; Dr S Ratneswaren; Dr S Mahendran; Mr M Radhakrishnan; Dr Kamala Arunasalam; Mr S Kanagasundaram

2. Adoption of Minutes of AGM held on 24th November 2024

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) was accepted as correct and formally adopted.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

No matter was raised from the minutes.

4. Adoption of Accounts

The Treasurer, Mr Alphonsus stated there is no issues to report. The accounts have been signed by the Independent Examiner (Auditor), Mrs N Thiruvasagam.

The investment of SCOT funds was discussed. It was agreed that investment in the stock market or similar investment vehicles would not be suitable for the charity due to the associated risks. Investment accounts were also considered; however, it was concluded that they were not appropriate as there is no guarantee of income and the value of investments may fluctuate, with the potential for both gains and losses.

Regarding the possibility of opening an interest-bearing account, Mr Alphonsus stated that SCOT's banking arrangements are currently with NatWest and that, at present, NatWest does not offer a more favourable account option to which SCOT's funds could be transferred. Consequently, no changes to the existing banking arrangements were recommended at this stage.

The auditing of the accounts was discussed. It was noted that, as a small charity, SCOT is not required to undergo a full audit. Instead, the accounts only require an **Independent Examiner's Report**, which satisfies the applicable regulatory requirements for charities of our size. The meeting agreed that an independent examination would be sufficient.

The accounts were formally adopted and approved.

5. President's Address

SCOT founded in 1977, have completed 48 years serving the underprivileged Tamil Speaking people in Sri Lanka as non-political organisation. This is our 49th Annual General Meeting.

Since the last AGM we have held 6 General Council meetings. In addition, we staged the fund-raising events, the Tamil New Year Lunch/ lecture in April 2025 and the annual Charity Dinner/Dance in November 2025.

We continue to fund projects delivering our vision of Education, Employment and Empowerment.

During the past year we supported the following Projects.

The President stated that, with the continued support of members and donors, SCOT successfully funded and delivered projects valued at approximately **£30,000 during 2025**, providing tangible benefits to communities across Sri Lanka.

The following key initiatives were completed during the year:

1. **Poultry Farming Project - Mannar (£2,500)**
    - Small-scale poultry farming projects were established, creating flexible employment opportunities and supporting more than 20 families.
2. **Children's Homes Support - Batticaloa (£6,800)**
    - Educational assistance and facility improvements were provided to three children's homes.
3. **Preschool Teacher Training Programme (£4,000)**
    - Funding was provided to Eastern University to train 50 preschool teachers.
4. **Handloom Development Projects - Batticaloa (£8,000)**
    - Sustainable livelihood opportunities were created for women-headed households through handloom initiatives.
5. **Support for Vanni Hope (£2,800)**
    - Educational assistance was provided to 30 visually impaired children.
6. **Academic Support Programme - Eachilampattu and Mutur (£2,500)**
    - Continued assistance was provided to underprivileged students to support their education.
7. **Drama Nights - Jaffna (£3,300)**
    - Opportunities were created for young people and local artists to participate in creative and cultural activities.
8. **Cataract Surgery Programme (£4,000)**
    - Funding enabled 110 cataract surgeries to be carried out in Kilinochchi and Batticaloa.

Fundraising Activities

The President stated that a fundraising campaign conducted through the JustGiving platform between December 2024 and January 2025 raised £3,000.

SCOT New Year Lunch, Lecture and Fundraising Event was held on 27 April 2025 at Chiswick Town Hall. The guest speaker, Dr Indrajit Coomaraswamy, former Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. The event was well attended and generated a surplus of £2,762.

SCOT Dinner Dance and Fundraising Event was held on 1 November 2025. The event was successful and generated a surplus of 4,000.

Legacy and Designated Donations

The President recorded with gratitude the receipt of a £59,684 legacy donation from the Estate of the late Mrs Rasamma Ragunathan. It was noted that this sum has been designated exclusively for SCOT projects supporting disadvantaged and underprivileged children.

The President also noted the receipt of a further legacy donation of £8,000 from Taylor Henderson Law, on behalf of the late Mr Digambar Nerurkar. The President placed on record his appreciation to Past President Dr Soma Arunachalam for his assistance in facilitating this donation arrangement.

6. Election of New General Council Members for 2025/2026

The following were elected as Office Bearers. There was no contest.

SCOT General Council Members 2025/2026

Name	Position
Mr S T Sivakumaran	**President**
Dr T Sooriamoorthy	**Vice President**
Mr Jude Swampillai	**Vice President**
Mrs J Selvarajah	**General Secretary**
Mr C Sabapathy	**Assistant General Secretary**
Mr A B Alphonsus	**Treasurer**
Dr E Velauthapillai	**Assistant Treasurer**
Mr D Nirmalan	**Project Officer**
Dr A B Canagasabey	**Assistant Project Officer**
Mr F Swampillai	**Trustee**
Dr S Navaratnam	**Trustee**
Dr R G Sankaralingham	**Trustee**
Dr A B Canagasabey	**Past President (2023/2024)**
Mr M Rudran	**Past President (2021/2022)**
Mr V Indran	**GC Member**
Dr R S Thambyrajah	**GC Member**
Dr A L Vasanthakumar	**GC Member**
Dr M Pathmarajah	**GC Member**

Dr H Rajendram	**GC Member**
Dr Menaca Pothalingam	**GC Member**
Mr A Sriharan	**GC Member**
Mrs R Sriharan	**GC Member**
Mr R A J Amirthanayagam	**GC Member**
Mr J Paramanathan	**GC Member**
Mr Morgan Sirikanda	**GC Member**
Mr Sydney Xavier	**GC Member**
Dr Kamal Muthiah	**GC Member**
Mrs Yogi Nagendran	**GC Member**
Dr Alan Kangatharan	**GC Member**
Mrs Renuka Maheswaran	**GC Member**

Mrs Esther Yoganathan, who retired from the General Council, was warmly thanked for her dedicated service and valuable contributions.

Mr Indran was thanked for his service as a Trustee and his continued commitment to the organisation as a member of the General Council.

The President warmly welcomed the two newly appointed GC members Dr Alan Kangatharan and Mrs Renuka Maheswaran and wished them every success in their roles. Their willingness to serve SCOT was greatly appreciated.

6. Any other Business

It was agreed that the Constitution should be reviewed, as it is long overdue and requires updating to reflect changes in legislation. A subcommittee will be appointed at the next General Committee meeting to undertake the review. Mr Morgan agreed to lead the review and serve as the Convenor/Coordinator of the subcommittee.

It was noted that SCOT's primary purpose is the relief of poverty and social upliftment of Tamil-speaking people. It was agreed that donations towards major international disasters, such as cyclones, were outside SCOT's main charitable focus, as such emergencies are generally supported by governments and larger charities. SCOT should therefore concentrate its resources on its core objectives.

Mrs N Thiruvasagam was proposed and accepted to be appointed as an Independent Examiner (Auditor) for another year.

Meeting concluded at 10.55 hours.

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