



Settlement Council of Australia
Annual Report
2009-2010

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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

It is with a sense of achievement and pleasure in my final report as Chair to inform and outline a second successful year for the Settlement Council of Australia (SCOA). It has been a productive year and a year of change for us with the departure of our first and quite brilliant Executive Officer, Andrew Cummings who has taken his skills and tool kit to build another national peak organisation by taking on the role of Executive Director of the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition.



Ricci Bartels
Chairperson

November, 2010

Our new Executive Officer is Conrad Gershevitch who brings with him expansive experience in the field of human rights, government policy and cultural diversity. We welcome Conrad to the SCOA team and look forward to working with him.

SCOA has continued to work towards ensuring that the settlement needs of our members' constituencies, as well as our members (settlement agencies) are articulated and recognised in this significant period of change and renewal.

DIAC/SCOA Meetings

SCOA continues to have regular and very productive and constructive meetings with the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) and the Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs and Settlement Services, Laurie Ferguson. These meetings provide opportunities to exchange information, receive updates on departmental activities and programs, direct input to DIAC programs including evaluations and reviews, identifying emerging settlement needs and raising emerging settlement issues as these relate to DIAC programs and other relevant federal departments.

We were very pleased to receive additional funding of \$40,000, increasing our funding from DIAC to \$120,000 per annum. The additional

funding will provide opportunities to increase the resourcing of SCOA and thereby heightening our representation.

On behalf of SCOA I would like to take this opportunity to thank DIAC and Laurie Ferguson for their consistent support of SCOA.

Parliamentary Secretary

The recently formed Gillard government saw the appointment of Senator Kate Lundy as Parliamentary Secretary for Immigration and Citizenship. The Senator has been in contact with SCOA and we look forward to working with her in the near future.

We would like to pay tribute to Laurie Ferguson's role as Parliamentary Secretary and his immense contribution through unstinting dedication, tireless energy to meet and consult with new refugee communities and settlement agencies. Laurie's commitment and vision for an improved, transparent and stable settlement services sector is a legacy which will be difficult to follow. We thank you Laurie and wish you well as the newly elected federal member for Werriwa, a very fortunate electorate.

Partnerships

As SCOA further develops and moves towards a more strategic advocacy

framework, the importance of our partnerships and the expansion of partnerships are crucial to furthering our influence and responsiveness to government policies and programs.

We have continued to strengthen our partnerships with the Refugee Council of Australia (RCoA), Federation of Ethnic Communities Council of Australia (FECCA) and the Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS). We have embarked on new and constructive relationships with other peak bodies including Multicultural Mental Health Australia (MMHA), National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA), National Multicultural Youth Advisory Network and the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition.

SCOA will continue to nurture existing partnerships and seek to work closely with new partners to strengthen our capacity to advocate and influence government policy on important issues faced by the Settlement sector.

Advocacy and Policy Development

We continued to have direct input to government policy development and reviews through various conferences, government forums, consultations, regular networks and through policy submissions, including the following:

- Submission to the Senate Community Affairs Committee regarding the extension of compulsory income management for income support recipients across Australia. SCOA argued against the extension as stigmatising and regressive Social Security Policy.
- Joint submission to the National Advisory Council on Mental Health (in partnership with Multicultural Mental Health Australia and other relevant peak bodies).
- The New Settlement Framework – SCOA participated on a national working group and we look forward to our next meeting.
- SCOA is currently developing a detailed response to the New Settlement Framework Discussion Paper.

- DIAC/Non-Government Organisations (NGO) Dialogue Forum
- Centrelink National Multicultural Reference Group (NMRG) raised issues around Jobs Australia and the lack of specialist services targeting refugees and humanitarian entrants and the inadequacy of the Job Search Classifications Instrument (JSCI) instrument to appropriately stream refugees into Jobs Australia services.
- Signing up to the National Compact in Canberra.
- Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority, “Forum for Not-for Profit Organisations providing Pro-Bono Migration Advice Services”.
- National Symposium on Racism, Murdoch University.
- Meeting with Tanya Plibersek, Minister for Housing and Women, to raise issues of concern such as the lack of appropriate and affordable housing, discrimination against refugees by landlords and real estate agents, the rental increases and the possibility of some form of regulatory controls of rental increases.
- Meeting with Phil O’Donoghue, Senior Adviser to Mark Arbib, Minister for Workforce Participation. SCOA raised concerns regarding the Job Search Classification Instrument (JSCI) not streaming refugees and humanitarian entrants appropriately into intensive management and support streams, the need for improved data collection on refugee qualifications and experience, the need for more traineeships and apprenticeships targeting refugee young people by providing a quota for this target group, recommended regular meetings between SCOA and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR).
- Annual United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) consultation with NGOs, academics and legal practitioners.
- UNHCR Geneva Convention (see report provided by our Vice Chair Gail Ker).

Research

SCOA was privileged in supporting the research conducted by Professor Graeme Hugo, University of Adelaide titled “The economic, social and civic contributions of first and second generation humanitarian entrants.” This important research is funded through DIAC and examines how refugees and humanitarian migrants have contributed to Australia’s economy and society over the past twenty years (arrival between 1975 and 2007).

More than 15 SCOA member organisations agreed to be involved in the project by helping to identify people to be interviewed as part of the research, and to carry out the interviews. Some organisations have also been involved in other aspects of the research project.

The report once launched will be added to our website.

SCOA Website

Since our website went live in June last year, we have received almost 8,000 visits with an average of 200 visits per week with highs of 400 visits. SCOA has continually sought to improve the website for its membership and non-members. It currently provides a vast and diverse range of information and resources including research, lead practice, case studies, reports and submissions. The web site has the capacity for members to upload information themselves. SCOA is continually expanding and improving our website. We are currently developing a more direct and interactive members section which allows for immediate exchange between members on issues of concern, sharing of information, settlement needs and responses.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT *(cont.)*

Final comments

Our emphasis and challenge this year has been to build on the momentum achieved last year, by strengthening existing government and non-government networks and partnerships, and forging new partnerships, including participating in important research, attending and representing SCOA at various national consultations and conferences, providing input to a number of policy initiatives and successfully increasing and diversifying our membership to 55 members.

As my two year term as SCOA Chair concludes it is appropriate that I acknowledge and provide my sincere thanks to the very experienced, multi-skilled and committed SCOA executive. Each member of the committee has worked extremely hard in making SCOA a recognisable, reputable, responsive and a truly representative voice for the settlement services sector.

My heartfelt appreciation goes to our membership who have helped us with surveys, research and consultations, spreading the membership word and making enormous contributions to the quality of settlement services for newly arrived refugees, humanitarian entrants and migrants through innovative and lead practice initiatives recognised internationally as the best.

I leave you with a SCOA mantra I formulated when we changed our name to SCOA which the Executive Committee instructed me to never use publicly; largely because it is corny and somewhat unsophisticated for a National peak organisation.

“SCOA is a Goer” there it is, never to be repeated publicly.

My thanks to you all, partner organisations, members, government representatives, committee and staff for your support; you all share in the achievements over the last two years and have made my role as Chair an experience that I will cherish.



Ricci Bartels, Chair
November 2010.

UNHCR CONVENTION – GENEVA 2010

Prefacing Note: This report contains a snapshot of the key points of interest for SCOA resulting from SCOA's participation through our Vice Chair, Gail Ker at the 2010 Non-Government Organisation (NGO) and Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement (ATCR) consultations held between 29 June and 8 July in Geneva.

Annual Consultations with Non-Government Organisations 29-30 June 2010, Geneva

This year's theme "National Partners: Providers of First Resort" highlighted the need for concrete outcomes on the ground and to strengthen the role of National Partners and how they might partner with International organisations more effectively.

Three changes from UNHCR will pose new protection and relationship challenges, including the need for an increased focus on solutions, in relation to an: Increased role with displaced persons, Urban Refugees, Protracted refugee situations.

One of the key goals for the UNHCR is the emphasis placed on its 60th Anniversary, which will occur in 2011. Ministerial meetings will be used to encourage new pledges of commitment through support and activity and to reaffirm existing pledges.

A key goal that perhaps relates specifically to SCOA is the need for strategies at the resettlement point to build the public image, awareness and engagement of refugees and the issues impacting on them. Our shared responsibilities to promote the plight of refugees to the general population

and to break down barriers of local populations who are making refugees feel unwelcome.

Another area where SCOA has a potential role to play is in increasing the awareness of complaint mechanisms. There is a chronic under-reporting of sexual abuse and exploitation prior to resettlement, however there is a complaint mechanism post arrival that exists and people should be encouraged to access this process (refer to Australian Cultural Orientation Program (AUSCO)).

The work being done in Uganda with Filmaide has produced a new tool and supplementary Handbook which acts as a support mechanism in providing four key rights to Women and Girls, that being: Gender, Work/Economic Participation, Education, Sexual and Gender Based Violence.

Building the capacity and support for local solutions to be implemented rather than imposed was highlighted in four questions posed to consider:

1. Diverse legal strategy beyond status determination (access to services),
2. How to align social/economic rights to local communities,
3. How to evaluate success – how to make sense of the impact, and
4. Recognition of solutions from refugees themselves – also to use faith-based networks and structures.

The High Commissioner for Refugees highlighted three key areas for his second term, that being:

1. Reaffirm principles of protection,
2. Emergency capacity to respond, and
3. Advocacy work together to keep asylum space open. Further it

was noted that more was required to protect beneficiaries from sexual abuse by workers to encourage Joint European Response into the process and the freezing of the process for asylum seekers by Australia.

16th Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement 6-8 July 2010, Geneva

Whilst there had been an increase in resettlement since the High Commissioner started in his role from 12 countries to now 24 countries, it was noted that there was a need for increased global commitment and capacity for resettlement, more resettlement places and more durable solutions. In the words of the High Commissioner "if we cannot bring protection to refugees, we must bring refugees to protection."

It was mentioned that it made sense for countries to work together more strategically to pool resources, technical assistance and tools. South Africa had the same number of asylum seeker requests as all of Europe last year (220,000). It is encouraging to see progress with the Joint European Union Resettlement Parliament (JEURSP) due to start in 2011.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF SCOA ARE:

- To market the projects, events and best practices of settlement agencies
- To progress settlement issues at the national level and ensure that these are integrated into mainstream decision making, policy development and service planning
- To facilitate and support collective dialogue and input by settlement services in the formulation of national policy and response to broader government initiatives
- To provide a clearinghouse role of SCOA through the collection and dissemination of information to members
- To promote Access and Equity in the planning and delivery of settlement services
- To support and drive action research for the settlement services sector
- To collaborate with FECCA, RCoA and other national peak bodies in progressing settlement policy, service planning and community engagement
- To progress settlement issues at the national level through communication and negotiation with the Commonwealth Government
- To promote and ensure settlement service representation on National Executives that are directly related to settlement services
- To develop a positive media profile for SCOA that will highlight settlement issues and concerns and contribute to community awareness raising

THE PEOPLE OF SCOA



Chair (NSW)

Ricci Bartels - Manager, Fairfield Migrant Resource Centre

Ricci has an Associate Diploma in Social Welfare. She has a particular interest in improving access for refugees and immigrants to settlement and mainstream services. Over the past 30 years Ricci has worked with refugee and migrant communities in Fairfield, Liverpool and Blacktown. Over this period she has worked as a case worker, a community development practitioner, TAFE teacher (Community Welfare), and service manager.

Currently the Chair of the Settlement Council of Australia, Ricci serves on a number of Boards and professional bodies including: Sydney Grow Employment Council, Families NSW Project Management Group, Department of Community Services Ethnic Advisory Group, Settlement Services International and Refugee Australia Foundation.

Ricci has written numerous seminar/conference papers on Housing, Employment, and Access and Equity. Most recently she published a paper called "A Reflection of Thirty Years in the Field" in the publication, *Voices from the Coalface: Practitioner Perspectives on the Challenges of Community-Based Work*. John R. Owen and Freidoon Khavarpour (eds).



Vice Chair (QLD)

Gail Ker - CEO, ACCES Services Inc

Ms Gail Ker has over 20 years experience working in the community sector with a devoted passion to strengthen and improve the viability for all community based organisations regardless of their size or their targeted market. Gail promotes needs based planning, strategic direction, commitment and support, helps to determine partnerships, funding opportunities and innovative projects to meet the needs of the community for which we work.

Ms Ker has worked extensively in National, State and Local multicultural affairs positions and is presently a board member of the Ethnic Communities Council in Queensland. She has been actively involved in labour market programs such as Skill Share, and played a key role in developing and leading a community-based non-government organisation in Logan, Queensland. Gail is also a member of the recently formed National Multicultural Advisory Council. The Council meets 3-4 times a year and provides advice to the Government on social cohesion, cultural diversity and issues relating to social and civic participation in Australian society. Gail is a co-founding member of the Council and has held the Chair position previously.



Treasurer (Tas)

Cedric Manen - General Manager, Migrant Resource Centre (Southern Tasmania) Inc

Since April 2007, Cedric has been the General Manager of the Migrant Resource Centre (Southern Tasmania) Inc. working with refugees and migrants in the areas of settlement, aged care, employment, youth and community development. Cedric has 25 years of corporate development experience and has lived travelled and worked in over 43 countries spanning five continents. Cedric has completed post graduate studies at London Business School, undergraduate studies at Newcastle University, NSW and Sydney University of Technology, NSW.

Cedric has been the Treasurer of SCOA for the past two years. Since 2008, Cedric has also held the position of Chairperson of the Mental Health Council of Tasmania, the state peak body representing the mental health sector. Through this relationship Cedric participates on National Boards and advisory committees concerning mental health and wellbeing.

Cedric was awarded the 2010 Tasmanian Public and Community Sector Manager of the Year Award at the Tasmanian Business Leader Awards in recognition of his significant community sector management achievements.

THE PEOPLE OF SCOA (cont.)



Secretary (WA)

Michael O'Hara – CEO, Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre

Michael is the Director of the Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre Inc. Western Australia and has held this position since 2006. Michael is a member of Multicultural Advisory Group to the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests.

Michael has previously worked with Anglicare WA, Marriage Guidance NSW, Family Court and Adventure West and the Author of fiction titles, *The Blue Feather*, 1997; *The Island*, 1996; *The Millstone*, 1999. Michael's qualifications include a Bachelor of Social Work and Graduate Certificate in Professional Writing.



Vice Secretary (VIC)

Jenny Semple – CEO, South Eastern Region Migrant Resource Centre

Jenny Semple is the CEO of the South East Region Migrant Resource Centre, Dandenong and Melbourne and has held this position for over 12 years, working with refugees and migrants in the areas of settlement, aged care, and employment, youth and community development. Jenny has previously worked for the Victorian government in various departments.

Jenny is the Assistant Secretary for the Settlement Council of Australia (SCOA) and was a co-founding member of this Council, and is a member of the Refugee Resettlement Advisory Council (RRAC). Jenny has also been a member of the Board of Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) for 5 years. Jenny sits on various local and regional committees in the community and with government departments. As a past Chair of the Settlement Council of Australia, Jenny has also attended, in 2008, the UNHCR NGO consultation meetings in Geneva.

Jenny's qualifications include a BA in Sociology and Graduate Diploma in Management.



Executive Member (NSW)

Amanda Field – Manager, Illawarra Multicultural Services

Amanda has been Manager of Illawarra Multicultural Services Inc. since 2003. She manages an organisation which provides a variety of community services to CaLD individuals, families and communities in the Illawarra region. Amanda was appointed by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship to the NSW Client Reference Group in 2007 and served on that committee for 2 years. In 2009 she was nominated and approved as a member of the TAFE Advisory Board for the South East region, NSW.

Amanda has been a member of the Settlement Service International (SSI) Board of Directors since 2004, serving as both Deputy Chair and Chairperson during that time. Amanda is also a member of the Board of Trustees for the Connect Australia Foundation, a foundation established by SSI in 2008.



Executive Member (SA)

Eugenia Tsoulis OAM – CEO, Migrant Resource Centre of South Australia

Eugenia’s work spans a number of decades in multicultural policy development, education, mental health, the arts and industrial relations. She is currently the Executive Director of the Migrant Resource Centre of South Australia (MRCSA) which is responsible for the delivery of state wide on-arrival and general humanitarian settlement and community engagement services.

Her previous work history includes mental health practitioner, senior student counsellor, multicultural curriculum development consultant for the three South Australian universities and co-writer of the SA University Nursing Award, National Director for the Arts for a Multicultural Australia Bicentennial Project, Director of the Migrant Workers Centre and Research Consultant for the former Office of Multicultural Affairs, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Eugenia’s published research includes: Migrant Workers and the Vehicle Building Industry, Migrant Women, Training and Employment, Managing Cultural Diversity in the Workplace and Migrant Women and Participation in South Australia and I don’t Dream in English- Migrant artists and Community Arts.

Eugenia is a co-founder and Executive member of the Settlement Council of Australia (SCOA). She has a Bachelor of Education and Master of Arts from the University of South Australia and Flinders University. She was awarded the Order of Australia in 1994 for services to multiculturalism and the arts and the ZONTA Woman Achiever of the Year Award in 2007. Eugenia is a published author and printmaker and is represented in various publications and in art galleries in Australia and overseas.



Executive Member (VIC)

Michael Martinez – CEO, Diversitat

Michael Martinez is the CEO of Diversitat. Diversitat represents 42 ethnic communities in the Greater Geelong Region and has over 34 years of history in advocating and delivering services to migrant communities including refugees. Michael’s organisation manages a broad range of programs: refugee settlement including IHSS, SGP and AMEP, with an extensive range of additional programs such as employment services, education and training, community enterprises, Radio and TV, Pako festa and events, Aged care, Youth programs and more. Diversitat is a regional provider with full and part time staff of over 150, 140 sessional trainers and 600 volunteers operating across seven sites. Michael has worked in the community sector since 1985 and has been with Diversitat since 1994.



Executive Member (ACT)

Dewani Bakkum – Manager, Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services of the ACT Inc

Dewani migrated to Sydney, Australia from Fiji in 1982, and moved to Canberra in 1995. Dewani joined the Fiji Australia Association (FAA) in 1998, where she served as Secretary, Vice-President, and President.

Dewani has been a member of the ACT Chief Minister’s Advisory Committee to the Office of Fair Trading for five years. She is also a past board member of the Migrant Resource Centre of Canberra and Queanbeyan, where she served in the roles of Secretary, Deputy Chair, and Chair of the board.

Dewani was awarded the FECCA Multicultural Award and the ACT International Women’s Award for Multiculturalism in 2008.

Currently, Dewani is employed as the Manager for the Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services of the ACT (formerly the Migrant Resource Centre), and serves on the board of the Settlement Council of Australia.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The following is some highlights of our achievements for the year as more detailed in a report to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Objective 1.1 - Expand and review membership arrangements

Constitution

In order to reflect the broad membership of SCOA that encompasses all settlement service providers, the Constitution was reviewed prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in November 2009 and amendments sent to members informing them of the proposal to make these changes. This was accepted by the AGM. All references have now been changed, and the revised Constitution has been registered with Consumer Affairs in Victoria. It has also been placed on the SCOA website.

Membership

Considerable efforts have been made to promote the benefits of membership of SCOA to potential members. This has included:

- Sending newsletters and details of the conferring report, survey and mapping reports to all Settlement Grants Programs (SGP) funded services. The newsletter email list now exceeds 400 contacts.
- Sending details of membership to organisations identified by the state representatives
- Visiting WA, Tas, SA and NT to promote SCOA's work and encourage applications for membership from a diverse range of settlement stakeholders. Some of these organisations have since become members of SCOA.

Objective 1.4 - Establish ongoing evaluation processes for reviewing the operation of SCOA

A feedback form was developed and added to the website. Although it is available to members to provide feedback on the website, it has primarily been used by people seeking further information about SCOA.

A survey was sent to all SCOA members and also all SGP funded services, reviewing the role and objectives of SCOA. A total of 95 responses were received, representing a broad range of service providers from both large and small settlement organisations, in every state and territory in Australia. The questionnaire surveyed respondents on 11 key areas/roles that SCOA might engage in as a national peak body. The responses were compiled into a report which was distributed widely and placed on SCOA's website. The report and the priorities raised were discussed by the SCOA Executive and have continued to inform our priorities throughout the year.

ENHANCE COMMUNICATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Objective 2.2 - Make information about SCOA accessible to the public and member agencies

The website has a considerable range of resources including research and other reports, submissions, case studies and is regularly updated. Since going live in late June, the website has received nearly 8,000 visits. The average number of hits per week is approximately 200, and some weeks we have had over 400 visitors to the website.

We welcome further feedback from our membership and stakeholders on the quality and content of information on our website.

Objective 2.3 - Enhance communication to members

Newsletters have been sent to members, potential members and other partner organisations in July, October, January and April. Positive feedback has been received from a significant number of recipients, and some membership inquiries have been received as a direct result of sending the newsletter. Increasingly, the newsletters are showcasing the work of our member organisations, and this opportunity will continue to be promoted to our members. The mailing list for the newsletters now numbers over 400 people.

Members have been regularly sent emails informing them of developments, reports added to the website, conferences, events, tender details, opportunities for networking, consultation processes, and highlighting new information available on the website. Our website will be further developed as part of next years work program.

Strategy 2.5 - Highlight settlement and migrant issues to the public

Plans for a Media Strategy were discussed at a meeting of the SCOA Executive. The Executive Officer researched and then compiled relevant information to develop SCOA's Media Strategy and policies.

A press release was issued on 17 November regarding the Opposition's plan to reintroduce Temporary Protection Visas (TPVs). This was sent to nearly 300 press contacts, and to all SCOA members. More recently we have seen a considerable increase in media interest in SCOA.

We were approached by SBS Radio to do an interview regarding our submission on the Humanitarian Program, and a 7 minute interview with the Executive Officer went to air in mid February 2010. SBS have also approached SCOA for two further interviews. One was deemed not to be within SCOA's remit. The other, for a piece SBS were putting together on multiculturalism, was recorded on 22 February and SBS aired the piece the following week.

Other media contacts have also been initiated with print and electronic media and these will hopefully prove fruitful in the future.

CONDUCT NATIONAL RESEARCH AND CONSULT ON KEY ISSUES

Objective 3.2 - Identify needs and gaps in research on settlement issues

A number of needs requiring research were identified in SCOA's Multicultural Policy. Letters were sent to the relevant Ministers and/or Departments including Senator Evans, highlighting these issues and requesting appropriate action. Letters have been received from several Ministers and Government Departments thanking SCOA for sending them the Multicultural Policy and responding to the issues raised and recommendations made in the paper.

SCOA and RCoA agreed to co-convene a Settlement Policy Network, involving quarterly teleconferences on key settlement issues. Two teleconferences have been held so far, the first on Young People and Education in November 2009 and the second on Refugee Health in March 2010. Each of these teleconferences involved brief presentations by external experts, followed by questions and discussion by members. Approximately 30 people took part in each teleconference. In addition to these meetings, SCOA held its own teleconference for our members on Rural and Regional Issues in Settlement in February 2010. Eleven member organisations took part in the teleconference, which produced several recommendations aimed at improving regional settlement.

Current research projects in the settlement area have been discussed with our funding body and we have begun exploring ways for SCOA to inform and/or be involved in these

matters, including sharing feedback from SCOA's network discussions on themes including rural and regional settlement and refugee health.

Contact has been made with several universities including the University of Adelaide, the Centre for Refugee Research at UNSW and the University of Tasmania, in order to begin exploring possible partnerships for research.

As a result, SCOA is partnering with the University of Adelaide in their research into the social, cultural and economic benefits of Australia's refugee program. SCOA Members in states involved in the project were contacted about the project and invited to submit expressions of interest for their involvement.

More than 15 SCOA member organisations agreed to be involved in the project by helping to identify people to be interviewed as part of the research, and to carry out the interviews. Some organisations have also been involved in other aspects of the research project.

Objective 3.3 - Collect and disseminate research of relevance to the area

A range of research reports have been collected and added to the website, with details sent to members. Since July, the following research reports have been added to the SCOA website and/or disseminated to SCOA members:

- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) Young People and Mentoring: the case of Horn of African young people in Australia
- Lost in Translation
- 'Not Drowning, Waving': Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Young People at Risk in Western Australia
- Perceptions of Multiculturalism and Security in Victoria
- Promoting sexual health amongst resettled youth with refugee backgrounds
- The Impact of Racism upon the Health and Wellbeing of Young Australians
- We Have a Voice - Hear Us
- Immigration Detention and Offshore Processing on Christmas Island
- Sustaining Settlement in Murray Bridge, South Australia
- The Effectiveness of Cross-Cultural Training in the Australian Context

- Young People Actively Engaged
- Mapping Social Cohesion 2007
- Mapping Social Cohesion 2009
- Overcoming Barriers: Human mobility and development
- Investing in Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue
- Congolese Refugee and Humanitarian Crisis: Issues and Durable Solutions
- A Stronger, Fairer Australia
- A Conversation on Trust
- Rebuilding Zimbabwe: Australia's Role in Supporting the Transition
- Integration Strategies of Migrants and Refugees
- Technology's Refuge: The use of technology by asylum seekers and refugees
- National Compact between the Australian Government and Third Sector
- Contribution of the Not-for-Profit Sector - Productivity Commission report
- Housing Options for Newly Arrived Refugees
- Australia's Refugee And Humanitarian Program 2010-11 (RCoA)
- Unsafe Haven: The Security Challenges Facing LGBT Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Turkey
- Best Settlement Practices - Settlement Services for Refugees and Immigrants in Canada Building Pathways: A Framework to Support Transitions for Young People from Refugee Backgrounds Filling the Gap.

Feedback is regularly received from SCOA members and others complimenting us on the range and quality of the research and other reports on the site.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT *(cont.)*

Objective 3.4 – Develop policy position papers on key issues

SCOA has produced a number of position / policy papers on a range of issues. These include:

- SCOA's Response to the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy (IHSS) discussion paper
- SCOA Multicultural Policy Paper
- Submission to the Senate Inquiry into income support management proposed by the Federal Government
- SCOA's submission on the Humanitarian Program for 2010-11
- Joint submission to the National Advisory Council on Mental Health (in partnership with Multicultural Mental Health Australia and other relevant peaks).

These submissions have been distributed widely to members, relevant Government departments, Ministers, advisory bodies and partner organisations and are publicly available on our website.

All government departments specifically named in the Multicultural Policy Paper's recommendations have received a letter outlining the recommendations relevant to their jurisdiction, and asking them to take appropriate actions to implement these. Most of these departments have now written back, and many of the responses were favourable.

DEVELOP NATIONAL STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICE MODELS

Objective 4.1 – Commence the development of a manual of professional principles for settlement service delivery

Following discussion at Executive Committee meetings, a steering group was established, initially consisting of three Executive Committee members, with the purpose of establishing the

scope and parameters of this project. Following discussion amongst the steering group, a brief Discussion Paper was written and sent to all members in February. Members were invited to respond to the paper.

The steering group decided against the establishment of issues-based advisory groups, instead deciding to have an over-arching Steering group, and to feed into this group from SCOA's existing and future policy networks, including the Settlement Policy Network and the Rural and Regional Issues group.

In addition, SCOA is also involved in the steering group for the development of training materials for competencies in settlement work.

The expanded Steering group was established and met in May 2010. As part of the development phase for this project, the Executive Officer and the members of the Steering Group have identified a number of relevant approaches to quality, both from Australia and overseas. These are being used to help guide and inform SCOA's process. SCOA's members were also invited to share examples and experiences of using quality frameworks and approaches, and several member organisations have done so. These shared examples and experiences have been discussed thoroughly.

Objective 4.2 – Promote best practice models

The opportunity for SCOA members to provide case studies highlighting examples of best practice was launched at the SCOA conference in May 2009, and has been promoted to members since then at regular intervals. There are currently 19 case studies on the website, covering 9 themes; Advocacy, Art and Culture, Children and Families, Community, Employment, Governance, Regional and Rural, Women, Youth and Other.

ADVOCATE ON KEY ISSUES, POLICY AND SERVICE DELIVERY INITIATIVES

Strategy 5.1 – Inform government about key issues and needs within the settlement sector

A schedule of meetings was developed, prioritising stakeholders with whom SCOA should consult and meet during 2009-2010. This includes quarterly meetings between SCOA and DIAC, which began in September 2009.

With regard to other departments, a schedule of meetings was developed, prioritising four key Ministers and/or departments during 2009-2010.

SCOA has signed the National Compact between the Federal Government and the Third Sector and is committed to the principles outlined in the Compact. Andrew Cummings represented SCOA at the launch of the Compact in Canberra in March

SCOA's Chairperson, Ricci Bartels, attended a meeting of peak bodies with Minister Chris Evans in January to discuss the future of the Humanitarian Program.

With regard to other Ministers and/or departments, a meeting was held by SCOA's Chairperson and Executive Officer with Tanya Plibersek, Minister for Housing and Women, on 24 March 2010, to highlight concerns about housing shortages for newly arrived communities, and the importance of stable and affordable housing as part of the settlement process.

A meeting was held between SCOA's Chairperson and Executive Officer with Phil O'Donoghue, Senior Advisor to Mark Arbib, Minister for Employment Participation on 23 March 2010 to discuss issues relating to employment and employment services for refugees and humanitarian entrants.

In addition to these meetings, letters were sent to all Ministers and/or department heads named in the recommendations in SCOA's Multicultural Policy Paper, highlighting these issues and requesting appropriate action. These include:

- that the relevant funding bodies for screen, media and communication be requested to consider how challenges posed by culturally distorted casting for Australian productions can be overcome;
- that the Australian Electoral Commission and the Citizenship section of DIAC be invited to research, detail and reflect on the barriers to full political participation that are evident in the low representation of non-Anglo citizens in the nation's parliaments;
- that the Australian Law Reform Commission or similar relevant body be invited to research, detail and reflect on the legal environment that constrains individuals from diverse backgrounds from participating fully in Australian society;
- that the Social Inclusion Board be invited by the Minister to consider how it might need to modify its data collection and policy development to fully include issues of cultural diversity; and
- that an independent research capacity be created for all stakeholders in the settlement process (outside government), to ensure the sustained flow of high-quality and accurate information, and evidence-based policy development.

Letters have been received from several Ministers and Government Departments thanking SCOA for sending them the Multicultural Policy, and responding to the issues raised and recommendations made in the paper.

Objective 5.2 – Enhance links and partnerships with other peak bodies

Considerable effort has been made to engage and maintain positive relationships with other peaks. This includes several meetings with RCoA and FECCA.

RCoA and SCOA have worked closely together on a number of issues, including co-chairing the Settlement Policy Network, with the first teleconference in November 2009 and a second teleconference held in March 2010. In addition to this, meetings were held with RCoA to discuss the IHSS Discussion Paper responses and numerous other matters including attending the RCoA consultations on the Humanitarian Program and AUSCO orientation briefing.

ACOSS - Ricci met with Claire Martin, CEO of ACOSS in October. The Executive Officer attended the ACOSS sector day and AGM on 12 November 2009. Andrew, Ricci and Jenny Semple also attended the ACOSS conference in Canberra in March. A further meeting is planned with Clare Martin of ACOSS later this year.

FECCA - Meetings have also been held with FECCA throughout the year, including a meeting between SCOA's Executive Officer and FECCA's (then) Executive Director in Melbourne in August. Ricci and Andrew also met with Pino Migliorino, the Chair of FECCA, on 22 February, to formally introduce SCOA and discuss our working relationship.

OTHER PEAKS:

National Multicultural Youth Advisory Network (NMYAN) - Two meetings were held between SCOA's Executive Officer and NMYAN. Andrew was invited to be on the Reference Group for the NMYAN and took part in a meeting of that group at the end of November.

Multicultural Mental Health Australia (MMHA) - Ricci has been closely involved with MMHA, and we were invited to join them in their submission on future directions in mental health services. The Executive Officer met with the staff of MMHA on 3 March to further discuss working together.

SCOA MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

ACT

Migrant and Refugee Settlement Services of the ACT

NSW

Anglicare Sydney (*)
 Auburn Diversity Services
 The Hills Holroyd Parramatta Migrant Resource Centre
 Metro Migrant Resource Centre
 Fairfield Migrant Resource Centre
 Horn of Africa Research and Development Agency (*)
 Illawarra Multicultural Services
 Liverpool Migrant Resource Centre
 Macarthur Diversity Services Inc
 Northern Settlement Services
 St George Migrant Resource Centre
 St Vincent de Paul Society (*)
 Sydney Multicultural Community Services
 SydWest Multicultural Services Inc
 Centre for Refugee Research

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Melaleuca Refugee Centre
 Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory (*)
 Multicultural Community Services of Central Australia

QUEENSLAND

Acces Services Inc
 Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland
 Islamic Women's Association of Queensland Inc
 Migrant Settlement Services
 Multicultural Development Association
 Multilink Community Services Inc
 Townsville Multicultural Support Group
 Multicultural Families Organisations Inc

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

African Communities Council of South Australia
 Limestone Coast Migrant Resource Centre
 Middle Eastern Communities Council of SA
 Migrant Resource Centre of Southern Australia
 Muslim Women's Association of SA Inc (*)
 Northern Area Migrant Resource Centre
 YouthJET
 Multicultural Youth South Australia

TASMANIA

Centacare
 Migrant Resource Centre, Southern Tasmania

VICTORIA

AMES
 Diversitat
 Gippsland Multicultural Services
 Migrant Information Centre (East Melbourne)
 Migrant Resource Centre NW Region
 Murray Valley Sanctuary Refugee Group (*)
 New Hope Migrant Refugee Centre
 South Eastern Region Migrant Resource Centre
 Spectrum
 Springvale Community Aid and Advice Bureau

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka (*)
 Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre
 Multicultural Services Centre of WA

* Denotes associate membership

TREASURER'S REPORT



Cedric Manen
SCOA Treasurer

General Manager -
Migrant Resource Centre
(Southern Tasmania) Inc

I AM PLEASED TO PRESENT to you the financial statements of the Settlement Council of Australia (SCOA) for the financial year ended 30 June 2010. The financial statements as presented have been audited by Wise Lord & Ferguson, our appointed auditors; a copy of their report is included in this Annual Report.

Total income for the year was \$100,449, down by \$68,863 over the previous year. This was due to funding received from DIAC of \$40,000 in 2008-2009 to support the SCOA National Settlement Conference, and also the conference income of \$31,730. We remain thankful to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) for their support, and to our membership for their continued support.

It should be noted that there is no collection risk with the large current assets balance represented in Accounts Receivable at 30 June 2010 and much of the collections have since been used to extinguish the trade and other payables debt subsequent to the year end close.

SCOA is currently in the process of moving the financial function from Hobart to Sydney, the location of SCOA's executive office. This transfer will be completed during the second half of 2010. My thanks to the interim finance subcommittee of Ricci Bartel (NSW) and Eugenia Tsoulis (SA) who have assisted me through-out the year in matters of financial importance.

| SOURCE | DESCRIPTION | \$ |
|----------------------|---|----------------|
| DIAC | One off Setup costs and Secretariat Support | 80,000 |
| SCOA | Membership Income | 17,476 |
| SCOA | Other Income | 2,973 |
| Total Revenue | | 100,449 |

We are in the process of evaluating a membership scale for the new financial year to foster community inclusion for smaller and developing organisations. SCOA is seeking to diversify its funding risk in the future by seeking out additional forms of funding to provide additional value and long term sustainable benefits for its growing membership.

SCOA has invested its funding in the following key areas with endorsement by the national Executive Committee:

- The establishment of a new website www.scoa.org.au.
- Establishment of a National Office in Sydney.
- Employment of our Executive Officer.
- Representation in Geneva at the UNHCR Annual Consultation with NGOs.

I would like to thank my fellow executive members for their significant 'in kind' support of SCOA and the staff of Migrant Resource Centre Southern Tasmania Inc. for preparing timely and accurate reports which have assisted the Executive Committee members in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibilities

Cedric Manen
SCOA Treasurer
General Manager - Migrant Resource
Centre (Southern Tasmania) Inc



STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

In the opinion of the Board, the financial statements:

1. Present fairly the financial position of the Settlements Council of Australia as at 30 June 2010 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with accounting policies and standards.
2. At the date of this statement, there are no reasonable grounds to believe that the Settlements Council of Australia will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

Ricci Bartels
(Chairperson)

.....
(Signature)

Cedric Manen
(Treasurer)

.....
(Signature)

Dated this 12th Day of October 2010



Wise Lord & Ferguson

advice to advantage



Independent auditor's report to the members of the Settlement Council of Australia Inc.

We have audited the accompanying special purpose financial report of the Settlement Council of Australia Inc., which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2010, and the income and expenditure statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Committee Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Association's Committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act (TAS)* and the Association's constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Committee of the Association, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.



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Partners: Peter Birven, Harvey Gibson, Danny McCarthy, Douglas Thomson,
Joanne Doyle, Stuart Clatterbuck, Ian Wheeler, Dean Johnson, Ming Marshall
Managers: Alicia Lois, Melanie Richardson, Nick Carter, Paul Lyons,
Simon Jones, Shann Evans, Trent Quinn

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee's financial reporting requirements under the *Associations Incorporation Act (TAS)* and the Association's constitution. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit we have met the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Settlement Council of Australia Inc. as of 30 June 2010 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

JOANNE DOYLE
PARTNER
WISE LORD & FERGUSON

160 Collins Street
HOBART TAS 7001

Date: 4th October 2010

**Settlement Council of Australia
Income & Expenditure Statement
Year Ended 30th June 2010**

| | Notes | 2,010 \$ | 2009 \$ |
|--------------------------------|-------|-----------------|----------------|
| Income | | | |
| Government Grant Income | | 80,000 | 126,700 |
| Membership Income | | 17,476 | 10,841 |
| SCOA Conference Income | | - | 31,730 |
| Bank Interest | | 686 | - |
| Other Income | | 2,287 | 41 |
| Total Income | | <u>100,449</u> | <u>169,312</u> |
| Expenses | | | |
| Accounting & Audit | | 5,506 | 3,000 |
| Amenities | | 179 | - |
| Bad Debts Written Off | | 3,670 | - |
| Bank Fees | | 372 | - |
| Cleaning | | 257 | - |
| Conference Dinner | | 436 | 16,091 |
| Consultancy | | 893 | 32,762 |
| Depreciation | | 2,166 | - |
| Equipment | | - | 2,250 |
| Insurance | | 4,077 | 3,964 |
| IT Expenses | | 188 | - |
| Marketing & Advertising | | - | 8,265 |
| Materials & Resources | | 138 | 3,790 |
| Meeting Expenses | | 579 | 2,560 |
| Memberships & Registrations | | 573 | - |
| Printing, Postage & Stationery | | 9,353 | 3,061 |
| Rent, Rates & Taxes | | 15,281 | 10,301 |
| Telephone | | 2,642 | - |
| Travel | | 9,923 | 38,012 |
| Wages & Salaries | 3 | 61,055 | 25,608 |
| Other Expenses | | 405 | 9,980 |
| Total Expenses | | <u>117,693</u> | <u>159,644</u> |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit) | | <u>(17,244)</u> | <u>9,668</u> |

**Settlement Council of Australia
Balance Sheet
As At 30th June 2010**

| | Notes | 2010 \$ | 2009 \$ |
|----------------------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|
| Current Assets | | | |
| Bank Account | | 27,696 | (6,558) |
| Reimbursements | | 513 | - |
| Accounts Receivable | | 2,571 | 90,217 |
| Total Current Assets | | <u>30,780</u> | <u>83,659</u> |
| Non-current Assets | | | |
| Office Furniture & Equipment | 2 | 7,512 | 9,678 |
| Total Non-current Assets | | <u>7,512</u> | <u>9,678</u> |
| Total Assets | | <u>38,292</u> | <u>93,337</u> |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Trade Creditors | | 31,013 | 66,862 |
| Memberships Received in Advance | | 500 | 500 |
| Accrued Accounting & Audit Fees | | 1,924 | - |
| PAYG Tax Payable | | 3,703 | 4,379 |
| GST Payable | | 696 | 5,266 |
| Annual Leave Provision | | 1,177 | - |
| Long Service Leave Provision | | 193 | - |
| Total Current Liabilities | | <u>39,206</u> | <u>77,007</u> |
| Total Liabilities | | <u>39,206</u> | <u>77,007</u> |
| Net Assets | | <u>(914)</u> | <u>16,330</u> |
| Equity | | | |
| Retained Earnings | | 9,668 | - |
| Member Contributions | | 6,662 | 6,662 |
| Current Year Earnings | | (17,244) | 9,668 |
| Total Equity | | <u>(914)</u> | <u>16,330</u> |

**Settlement Council of Australia Inc.
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
Year Ended 30th June 2010**

Note 1 Statement of significant accounting policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared in order to satisfy the financial report preparation requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act [TAS]. The Committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The Settlement Council of Australia is an incorporated association, incorporated on the 23rd December 2003, commenced operations on 1st January 2009, and is domiciled in Australia.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act [TAS], and the following applicable Accounting Standards and Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views.

AASB 110 Events after the Balance Sheet Date
AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 1031 Materiality

No other Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Board have been applied.

This financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs. It does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated current valuations of non-current assets.

Events Occurring After Reporting Date

There have been no reportable events since the end of the financial year of the company.

Income Tax

The Association is exempt from paying income tax.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a straight line basis over the asset's useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Useful life of fixed asset classes are:

Computer equipment 3 years
Office furniture 5 years

Note 2 Office Furniture & Equipment

| | 2,010 \$ | 2009 \$ |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Furniture and equipment at cost | 9,678 | 9,678 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (2,166) | - |
| Total Furniture & Equipment | <u>7,512</u> | <u>9,678</u> |

Note 3 Wages & Salaries

| | 2,010 \$ | 2009 \$ |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Wages & Salaries | 51,450 | 21,770 |
| Superannuation | 5,612 | 1,959 |
| Leave Provisions | 3,993 | 1,879 |
| Total | <u>61,055</u> | <u>25,608</u> |

AGM 2009

Settlement Council of Australia
Annual General Meeting 2009

| | |
|--|---|
| Where: | Redfern Town Hall |
| When: | Wednesday, 4 November 2009 at 11.00 am |
| Present: | Please see list attached |
| Apologies: | |
| Nadine Liddy | NMYAN/ CMY |
| Cedric Manen | MRC Southern Tasmania |
| Tamara Domicelj | RCoA |
| Ross Buscemi | New Hope Foundation |
| Anthony Abate | MRC North West |
| Conrad Gershevitch | AHRC |
| Andrew Jakubowicz | UTS |
| Martin Mettmann | Migrant Settlement Services |
| Ramdas Sankaran | Multicultural Services Centre |
| Lulu Tantos | Northern Settlement Services |
| Alex Burns | Northern Settlement Services |
| Lava Kohaupt | Melaleuca Refugee Centre |
| Previous Minutes: | Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 13th November 2008 |
| Motion: | To adopt the previous Minutes |
| Moved: | Eugenia Tsoulis |
| Seconded: | Amanda Field |
| Carried | |
| Business Arising from the Previous Minutes: | None |
| Chairperson's Report: | Ms Ricci Bartels spoke to the key issues of her report. |
| Motion: | That the Chairperson's Report be accepted. |
| Moved: | Amanda Field |
| Seconded: | Kamalle Deboussey |
| Carried | |
| Treasurer's Report: | Ms Eugenia Tsoulis presented the Treasurer's Report on behalf of Cedric Manen. |
| Motion: | That the Treasurer's Report be accepted. |
| Moved: | Rosa Loria |
| Seconded: | Dewani Bakkum |
| Carried | |
| Auditor: | The Treasurer's Report indicated the intention to move the financial functions from Hobart to the central office in Sydney. |
| Motion: | That if the financial functions have remained in Hobart, the auditor will be Wise Lord and Ferguson. |
| Moved: | Karin Vasquez |
| Seconded: | Eugenia Tsoulis |
| Carried | |
| Motion: | That if the financial functions have been transferred to Sydney, an appropriately qualified Accountant will be employed. |

Moved: Rosa Loria
Seconded: Jenny Semple
Carried

Executive Officer's Report: Mr Andrew Cummings' presentation highlighted the direction of the Council for the coming year.

Guest Speaker: Mr Laurie Ferguson MP, the Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs and Settlement Services, spoke of the change in direction for settlement services.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Changes to the Constitution:

Discussion was had, including a question from the floor why the Chairperson was elected by the Executive and not the general membership. It was explained that the reason for this process was to avoid the dominance of a state with the largest membership.

Motion: That the changes to items 2, 3, and 7 of the Constitution, as follows, be adopted.

2. Definitions

DELETE - No. 5 and 6 (pertaining to the definitions of MRCs/MSAs)

3. Statement of Purpose

1. DELETE - MRCs/MSAs - REPLACE WITH - Settlement agencies
3. DELETE - MRCs/MSAs - REPLACE WITH - Settlement agencies
7. DELETE - FECCA and
9. DELETE - MRCs/MSAs - REPLACE WITH - Settlement agencies

7. Membership Fees

1. DELETE - fees structure as an appendix

Moved: Eugenia Tsoulis
Seconded: Karin Vasquez
Carried

Motion: That the word 'eligible' be removed from the proposed changes to item 10 of the Constitution.

Moved: Ramesh Kumar
Seconded: Michael Martinez
Carried

Motion: That the changes to item 10 of the Constitution as follows, be adopted:

10. Management

2 INSERT - election of office bearers

The Executive Committee, with participating representatives from all states and territories, will elect the five (5) office bearer positions, Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Treasurer at a first meeting to be held at an appropriate time during the AGM in the year when elections are held, the results of which are to be formally conveyed to the AGM and recorded in the minutes

4 - 8 INSERT - role of chairperson CHAIRPERSON

- 10.4 The Chairperson must preside at all general meetings and Committee meetings and have a casting vote only.
- 10.5 The Chairperson will represent the decisions made by the Executive, in consultation with the membership
- 10.6 In the event of the Chairperson's absence from a general meeting, the Vice Chairperson, or in their absence, a Committee member elected by the other members present at the general meeting must preside at the general meeting.
- 10.7 The Chairperson shall, consistent with rules 11 to 13, authorise the content and order of business for each Committee, General and Special General Meeting held by the Association through publication of an Agenda.

8 - 16 RENUMBER

Moved: Eugenia Tsoulis
Seconded: Karin Vasquez
Carried
Against: 1, Kerrin Benson.

Motion: That the changes to items 11 and 12 of the Constitution, as follows, be adopted:

AGM 2009

Settlement Council of Australia
Annual General Meeting 2009

11. General Meeting

4. DELETE - 9 weeks - REPLACE WITH - 4 weeks

12. Annual General Meetings

3 DELETE - secretary

Moved: Dewani Bakkum

Seconded: Kamalle Deboussey

Carried

Fee Structure

The issue was discussed. A member questioned whether the Income, referred to in the list, related to the organisation as a whole or just the proportion which provides settlement services. It was clarified that it referred to the organisation.

| Income Level | Full Member Fee | Assoc. Member Fee |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Less than \$100,000 | \$100 | \$50 |
| \$100,001 to \$500,000 | \$200 | \$100 |
| \$500,001 to \$1 million | \$350 | \$175 |
| \$1 million to \$5 million | \$500 | \$250 |
| \$5 million to \$10 million | \$1,000 | \$500 |
| Income of \$10 million plus | \$2,000 | \$1,000 |

Motion: That the proposed changes to the Membership Fees be accepted.

Moved: Eugenia Tsoulis

Seconded: Karin Vasquez

Carried

Abstentions: 1, Kerrin Benson

Membership

Discussion was had. Comments from the floor stated that membership should be a proper reflection of the sector, that the membership should be broadened and the broader the representation the stronger this organisation will be. Also, that the clause requiring members to have a 'participatory framework' should include those who involve community groups in consultations, networks and advisory groups.

Motion: That the membership present at the AGM confirm support for settlement service providers be eligible for full membership.

Moved: Kerrin Benson

Seconded: Ramesh Kumar

Carried

Meeting Closed: 1.40 pm



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