

Annual General Meeting **13**

June 2021

Agenda Item **7**

Prepared by: Lisa Walters

Date: May 2021

Topic: Audited Accounts for 2020, Appointment of Auditor for 2021, & Treasurer's Report for 2021 year to date

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Audited Accounts for the year 2020 be adopted;
- 1.2 That Mr Anthony Wilson be re-appointed as Auditor for 2021; and
- 1.3 That the Reports of the Treasurer for the year to date be noted.

2. Audited Accounts for 2020

2.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income

The accounts for 2020 have been audited by Mr Anthony Wilson, Principal of AccountAbility. ICOM Australia recorded an operating deficit of \$14,985 in 2020, compared to an operating surplus of \$12,755 in 2019. Members' equity has decreased from \$92,702 to \$87,717. The deficit can primarily be attributed to the relatively unfavourable Australian dollar/Euro exchange rate, which impacts on the cost of membership fees remitted to ICOM Paris. Subscriptions to Paris increased to \$109,459 in 2020 (\$87,047 in 2019), with membership subscriptions revenue also decreasing from \$131,483 (2019) to \$119,563 (2020).

Due to COVID restriction the expenses for 2020 remained low as a number of budgeted expenses did not eventuate. A notable item in the 2020 Accounts is the \$20,969 contributed towards the costs of the MA/ICOM Joint Secretariat (\$17,550 in 2019). Other (non-subscription) expenses include \$2,418 for video conferencing and voting to facilitate the virtual AGM for ICOM (listed under "Conference Fees"), and \$1100 in audit fees and \$1,000 for Blueshield and \$195 in bank fees (under in "Bank fees/Insurance").

2.2 Statement of Financial Position

The accrued cash and cash equivalents as at 31 December 2020 were \$114,685 down from \$129,769 at the start of the year. The cash deposits held at 31 December 2020 consisted of a term deposit holding \$78,136 as well as \$36,550 in a Cash Management Account with ANZ Bank. Note that as at 31 December the amount of \$16,751 had been collected as subscriptions received for 2020.

2.3 Copies of the Auditor's Report are available for consideration and adoption.

3. Appointment of Auditor for 2021

3.1 Mr Anthony Wilson has been our auditor for several years and also audits Museums Australia's accounts. He continues to provide good service at reasonable cost and is willing to be re-appointed as auditor for 2021.

3.2 I recommend that he be reappointed as Auditor of ICOM Australia for 2021.

4. Treasurer's Report for year 2021 to date

4.1 At the time of writing, ICOM Australia has a budgeted operating deficit for 2021 of approximately \$51,250. The actual result will depend significantly on future fluctuations in the value of the Australian dollar versus the Euro, as well as the cost to deliver on the website upgrade. \$25,000 has been set aside to update the ICOM Australia website, necessary to support online credit card payments through the new membership database. There have also been increases in the Secretariate fees for 2021. The budget acknowledges a reduction in membership.

4.2 As at 3 June 2021 total cash held by ICOM Australia stood at \$116,072.35. Significant expenditure to date includes the transfer to Paris of the balance of subscriptions received \$68,131.07. Future expenditure will include secretariat costs for Museums Australia, costs associated with the ICOM Awards, and the upgrade to the website.

4.3 The Committee has been continually monitoring whether ICOM Australia should cut back on operational expenses (such as bursaries) and/or raise member subscription fees. To date it has elected to maintain expenditure and membership fees at their current levels and draw down cash reserves. With most memberships paid directly to ICOM and the future ability to pay online by credit card, it is anticipated that process costs savings can be achieved in future periods

4.4 I would like to acknowledge the work of Museum Australia's Lee Scott under the Joint Secretariat arrangements.