



## 21<sup>st</sup> CONGRESS – BUSINESS SESSION

28 & 30 August, 2018

Lost World Conference Centre, O'Reilly's Resort, Canungra, QLD, Australia

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### Agenda item no.: 5

**Title of paper :** Appointment of members of the Governing Board

**Strategic Plan reference :** SP5.

**Purpose:** To consider and appoint SAI to serve its group on the Board for the coming year/period.

### Background

Under our Charter as amended last year, the Congress appoints three members of the Governing Board, one for each of the Melanesian, Micronesian, and Polynesian language and geographical groupings in Oceania. The Congress also appoints at each meeting one other member, to represent the “other” language or geographical groupings. The “other” group comprises the members from New Zealand, Australia, and the French territories. The Charter is also clear that a term of appointment may be “up to three years”, and that it is “desirable” to appoint at least one new member at each Congress.

### Key Issue

The current situation (2018) is that:

- For the Micronesian group, Guam has served three years
- For the Melanesian group, Fiji has one year (renewed)
- For the Polynesian group, Tonga has served two years.
- “Others” group, New Caledonia has served one year (renewed).

The Secretariat had informed the representatives of the Micronesian group to coordinate who will represent their group to the Board. This is up to the group to decide and inform the Congress for appointment.

### Recommendations

The Congress is invited to :

- i. **consider** and **approve** the nominated representatives for the Micronesia group and the term of appointment.

**Submitted by:** Tiofilusi Tiueti

**Date submitted:** 17 August 2018



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## Appointment of Governing Board members

Under our Charter as amended in 2016, the Congress appoints three members of the Governing Board, one for each of the Melanesian, Micronesian, and Polynesian language and geographical groupings in Oceania.

The Congress also appoints at each meeting one other member, to represent the “other” language or geographical groupings. The “other” group comprises the members from New Zealand, Australia, and the French territories.

The Charter says that the Congress appoints those representatives:

*for terms of up to three years, it being desirable that at least one representative’s term will expire at each regular meeting of the Congress. A representative whose term has expired may be reappointed, if that is the wish of the relevant grouping or groupings.*

The reasoning behind the three-year appointment is that it provides continuity on the Board, helping it to function as an effective governance body – instead of having too much turnover of members. The cyclical practice of Congress hosting also means that there will always be a second member of each language or geographical grouping on the Board (as the past, current, or future Chairperson).

Under Congress tradition, it’s for each of the groups to nominate their representative for appointment to the Board. The Charter is also clear that a term of appointment may be “up to three years”, and that it is “desirable” to appoint at least one new member at each Congress.

The current situation (2018) is that:

- For the Micronesian group, Guam has served three years
- For the Melanesian group, Fiji has one year (renewed)
- For the Polynesian group, Tonga has served two years.

The group of the “Others” is represented by New Caledonia, which has served one year of its second term.

Following Congress tradition, this item will be discussed at the Tuesday business session and then adjourned until the Thursday session. This will enable the Micronesian group to consider which SAI it will nominate for appointment by the Congress, to serve its group on the Board for the coming year.

This is up to each group. And on Friday we will then receive the nominations, and Congress will make the appointments.