

Explanatory Memorandum

Proposed Constitution Change – AIIAQ

2024 AGM

Required to be passed by a Special Resolution in accordance with Rule 43(1). The Associations Incorporation Act Section 3(4) defines a Special Resolution as passed by 3/4 of the financial members who are present and entitled to vote on the resolution.

MOTION:

That existing rule 3 Objects be amended by inserting as follows:

- Insert 3 (1) *“(aa) To represent and promote the professional interests of those involved, or seeking to pursue careers, in the professions of international affairs, trade or international development – but not to be an industrial organisation under any legislation, State or Federal, nor to act as an employee advocacy body and to conduct such events referred to in object (a) above to maintain or increase the knowledge, capabilities or skills needed to earn members’ income or current employment”*

[Changes are highlighted]

Explanatory Note:

- There is a significant number of people employed in the field of international affairs trade and development. In many respects the AIIA is the body which best fits the professional interests of their field.
- Similarly, we offer career development information, internships and the like to those wishing to enter the profession and maximise employment opportunities for themselves
- Many of our seminars are directly related to issues directly within the remit of the employment of members or members of the public. For example, seminars on particular countries or issues may assist an attendee to deepen their knowledge and capacity as a practitioner much the same way as a seminar would to a lawyer or accountant.
- Matters of tax deductibility of memberships or seminars is a matter for the individual and ATO. See <https://www.ato.gov.au/individuals-and-families/income-deductions-offsets-and-records/deductions-you-can-claim/education-training-and-seminars/seminars-conferences-and-training-courses> *“You can claim a deduction for the cost of attending seminars, conferences, or training courses to maintain or increase the knowledge, capabilities or skills you need to earn your income in your current employment.”*

Proposed Amendment

Highlighted in yellow

3 Objects

- (1) The objects of the institute are—
 - (a) To perform a public educational function by promoting – whether physically or on-line - through research, journals, study, discussion, lectures, seminars, public addresses, conferences, the maintenance of a library an information service, and by such as other means as are approved by the Institute, an understanding of international questions and problems;
 - (aa) To represent and promote the professional interests of those involved, or seeking to pursue careers, in the professions of international affairs, trade or international development – but not to be an industrial organisation under any legislation, State or Federal, nor to act as an employee advocacy body and to conduct such events referred to in object (a) above to maintain or increase the knowledge, capabilities or skills needed to earn members’ income or current employment.
 - (b) To generally facilitate the study of international questions and to promote the exchange of information, knowledge and thought in international affairs and the understanding of the circumstances, conditions and views of nations and peoples;
 - (c) To advance the study of all questions being directly or indirectly on the studies referred to in paragraph (a) of this rule;
 - (d) To establish and maintain the flow of information on the subjects referred to in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this clause;
 - (e) To affiliate with the body known as the Australian Institute of International Affairs (“the National Body”) and to work with the National Body and its other State and Territory branches to further the objects of the institute;
 - (f) To encourage and promote the studies referred to in these rules by means of conferences, seminars, study groups, seminars and lectures – both physically present or virtual;
 - (g) To prepare, edit, publish, print, or circulate (physically or on-line) literary works (including books, journals, periodicals, video and audio recordings and reports) which may be deemed to further any of the objects referred to in these rules;
 - (h) Subject to these Rules to accept grants, subscriptions, donations and gifts (whether of real or personal estate), bequests or devises to further any of the objects in these rules;
 - (i) To reasonably carry out all tasks to further any of the objects referred to in these rules.