



Agenda item 09: 2022 Regular Annual Meeting & Election of Vice Chair

Proposed Recommendations

The PIDC Regular Annual Meeting is invited to:

- a) **endorse** the nomination of the incoming Vice Chair for 2021/2022; and
 - b) **welcome** the new Vice Chair and host of the next PIDC Regular Annual Meeting in 2022.
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Purpose

To guide Members in the selection of a Vice Chair and agreed host for the PIDC Regular Annual Meeting (RAM) in 2022 as required under the PIDC Constitution.

Background

2. Article 13 of the PIDC Constitution, outlines the process for electing the incoming Vice Chair. In effect, the Vice-Chair is nominated to represent the country seeking to host the next Regular Annual Meeting (RAM) which in this instance will be the 2022 RAM. The Vice Chair shall be appointed for the period of one year after which He or She automatically assumes the role of Chair at the next RAM. The Vice Chair elected at the 2021 RAM will be responsible for hosting the 2022 PIDC RAM.

3. There are no set criteria to determine which Member is given the annual hosting rights. Hosting the Regular Annual Meeting is voluntary and at every meeting, Members are given the equal opportunity to express their interest to host the next conference. Members' subsequent discussions and agreement on the venue of the next RAM is determined by Member's openness, trust, respect, and commitment to work together to collectively raise the standards of PIDC.

4. Members should note that there is also no definitive decision to confirm if the 2022 RAM will be hosted physically in a host member country with international borders closed since February 2020, and no end in sight when international travel will normalise again. However, based on an assessment of COVID-19's global impact with the second and third wave expecting to spread across the globe, the likelihood of having a face-to-face RAM in 2022 does not look promising. In this regard, there is a high likelihood of the 2022 RAM being hosted virtually again. However, when considering to host next year's RAM, Members should note that hosting this forum is still open to the two hosting platforms (Face to face or virtually) depending on the operational landscape in 2022.

Benefit of Hosting Regular Annual Meetings

5. The RAM brings together the heads of 21 PIDC Member administrations and a number of invited Observers. The RAM provides a unique opportunity for PIDC and the hosting country to raise its profile as an efficient, effective, proactive and innovative

immigration body. It also provides a valuable opportunity for increased national government support and commitment for the implementation of planned immigration reforms.

Past Hosts of PIDC Regular Annual Meetings

6. The following table lists Member countries that have hosted the RAM since 1996 when PIDC was first established.

Year	Member Countries that have Hosted the Regular Annual Meeting
1996	Fiji
1997	Samoa
1998	<i>No Conference records</i>
1999	Norfolk Islands
2000	Norfolk Islands
2001	Cook Islands
2002	Niue
2003	Tonga
2004	Palau
2005	Fiji
2006	New Zealand
2007	Samoa
2008	Australia
2009	Australia
2010	Vanuatu
2011	Federated States of Micronesia
2012	Cook Islands
2013	<i>Conference postponed</i>
2014	Papua New Guinea
2015	Samoa
2016	Republic of the Marshall Islands
2017	New Zealand (hosted in Apia, Samoa)
2018	Fiji
2019	Cook Islands
2020	<i>RAM Postponed with governance activities undertaken through Special General Meeting</i>
2021	Virtually Hosted by Tuvalu

Financial Implications

7. There are no financial implications to hosting the next Regular Annual Meeting as costs have been factored into the 2021/22 Annual Work Plan and Budget. However, should the meeting be hosted in a host member country, then the host country will be responsible for a three-day meeting venue, meeting meals and transfer costs (*Airport-accommodation-meeting venue*) for meeting delegates.