



Agenda item 3(a) Governance Committee

Proposed Recommendation

The Governance Committee is invited to consider recommendations proposed under each of the agenda sub-items discussed below.

Purpose

This paper seeks to provide the Governance Committee with an update regarding the following key governance documents:

- (i) Amendments to the PIDC Official name in official PIDC Documents
- (ii) PIDC Scholarship Bond Policy
- (iii) PIDC Partnership Engagement Policy
- (iv) Social Media Platform Demonstration
- (v) PIDC Logo Registration Update.

(i) Amendments to the PIDC Official name in official PIDC Documents

2. This item seeks to discuss the progress on the consequential amendments of the PIDC Official Name in its Official Documents including the PIDC Constitution; Host Country Agreement, Employees' Regulations and Financial Regulations.

Update

3. The Secretariat had been tasked to review and make the necessary changes to the PIDC name on all related foundation documents dating back to 2019.

4. The Secretariat has completed amendments to the PIDC Financial Regulation, Employee Regulation and Rules of Procedure while noting that file records show that name changes to the PIDC Constitution had been completed in 2019.

Proposed Recommendations

Members are invited to **note** the update on the amendment of the PIDC legal name on all its foundation documents including the:

- (i) PIDC Constitution;
- (ii) PIDC Financial Regulation;
- (iii) PID Employees' Regulation; and
- (iv) PIDC Rules of Procedure.

ii. PIDC Scholarship Bond

5. This paper seeks the Committees review and consideration of next steps for the endorsement of the PIDC Scholarship Bond Policy.

Update

6. The Board at its first meeting of November 2024 considered the first zero draft of the PIDC Scholarship Policy and determined the following specific decision:

- (i) **Noted** and **welcomed** the draft PIDC Scholarship Policy, 2024; and
- (ii) **encouraged** members to provide comments to PIDC before the next Board meeting in 2025.

7. Since the first Board meeting the Secretariat hasn't received any further comments to the scholarship policy. As a way forward to approving the draft scholarship policy document, the Committee is required to consider the following options for the Board to determine its approval:

- (i) Option One: recommending that the Board is to endorse the PIDC Scholarship policy in its current form; or
- (ii) Option Two: Provide Board an extended period to comment on final draft of scholarship policy with a view of presenting the final revised policy document at the final Board meeting in June 2025.

8. The draft PIDC Scholarship Policy is attached as Annex One.

Proposed Recommendations

Members are invited to decide a way forward based on the following two options:

- (i) Option One: recommending that the Board is to endorse the PIDC Scholarship policy in its current form; or
- (ii) Option Two: Provide Board an extended period to comment on final draft of scholarship policy with a view of presenting the final revised policy document at the final Board meeting in June 2025.

iii. PIDC Partnership Engagement Policy

9. This item seeks the Board's endorsement of the PIDC Partnership Engagement Policy.

Update

10. In recognition of the need to protect the interests of our members and strengthen collaboration with new partners, the PIDC Board at the Honiara Board meeting in June 2024 tasked the Secretariat to develop a donor funding policy that provide guidelines and policy directions on engaging interested partners and stakeholders for the Board's consideration. The policy would also serve to define new partners' status of involvement and participation in PIDC meetings and conferences.

11. The Board at its virtual meeting in November 2024 had reviewed a draft PIDC Partnership Engagement Policy consequently encouraging Board members to submit comments by 05 December, 2024 for inter-sessional policy approval to guide immediate PIDC engagement with potential partner organisations. However, due to competing priorities at the end of the year, the Secretariat had to provide an extension to the provision of comments with the attached draft version incorporating the comments provided.

Partnership Engagement Policy

12. In this regard, the Partnership Engagement Policy has been developed with comments from Board members and is attached as Annex 2 for the Board's consideration. The draft policy aims to build on the existing partnerships, creating a structured and transparent framework for engaging with all stakeholders in the migration and border security space. It also seeks to ensure that our collective

efforts are harmonized, resources are shared and mobilised effectively, and actions are aligned with regional and national priorities, ultimately strengthening the PIDC membership and Pacific region's capacity to address current, new and any consequent pressing challenges in the future.

13. The Partnership Engagement Policy subsequently establishes a regional framework for collaborating with partners on migration and border security in the Pacific. By fostering transparent, inclusive, and sustainable partnerships, the policy should assist the PIDC membership and in particular the Secretariat in addressing migration challenges while protecting and safeguarding members' respective sovereignty and the region's security and development.

Proposed Recommendations

Members are invited to **endorse** the PIDC Partnership Engagement Policy, 2024.

iv. Social Media Platform Demonstration

14. This item seeks the Board's endorsement of the Social Media Platforms as per demonstration provided by the Secretariat.

Update

15. The Secretariat was tasked at the PIDC Board's first meeting in November 2024 to provide a demonstration of the use of the three selected social media platforms. The three platforms approved for PIDC media and information sharing include YouTube, LinkedIn and Facebook.

16. Consequently, the Secretariat will be presenting a live demonstration of its new facebook page to the Committee and Board. PIDC has created its new Facebook page as it aligns itself with current media trends being adopted by governments, regional and international organisations on the establishment of an active account social media account updating members and the public on the work PIDC continues to lead and actively support across the PIDC membership. This draft Facebook social media page will be presented through a live demonstration for Board members to review.

Proposed Recommendations

Members are invited:

- (i) **note** and **endorse** the context provided for the PIDC social media platforms;
- (ii) utilization of the PIDC Social Media Platforms approved by the Board to be used for PIDC media and information sharing.

v. PIDC Logo Registration Update

17. This item seeks to provide an update on the progress of registering the PIDC Logo.

Update

18. The Board may recall in the last June meeting, the Secretariat reported on minor adjustments to the PIDC logo. These included updates to the formatting, style, and alignment of the organization's name within the logo to enhance its overall appearance. The Board endorsed the new design and subsequently tasked the Secretariat to register the PIDC logo with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labor (MCIL) in Samoa to secure its copyright

Update

19. MCIL is the responsible authority for administering and protecting intellectual property rights, including trademarks and copyright under the Intellectual Property Act 2011 in Samoa.

20. On September 18, 2024, the Secretariat met with MCIL representatives to obtain information on the process for registering the PIDC logo. The information gathered and advised received, highlighted the need for the Secretariat to register the logo as a trademark and to identify all types of services/Classes per the Nice Classification for Trademarks, it intends to have covered under the trademark/logo.

21. Registration requires an application fee of \$300WST plus \$100WST advertisement fee. The registration process takes approximately six (6) months, inclusive of a three-month advertisement period for objections. If unopposed, a Certificate of Registration is then issued. Once a trade mark is registered, it is protected for a period of 10 years. Registered trademarks are to be renewed within 12 months before expiry date.

22. Consequently, on February 11, 2025, the Secretariat met with MCIL representatives to submit PIDC's application for registering the PIDC logo and to activate the registration process which is expected to take approximately six (6) months. At the time of this report, the Secretariat had submitted the application to MCIL.

Proposed Recommendations

Members are invited to **note** progress on registering the PIDC Logo