



ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS – THAILAND

12 June 2019

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD (JULY 2018 to JUNE 2019)

Prepared for the **NINETEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (AGA)**

Friday, 26 July 2019

United Nations Conference Centre, Conference Room 4, Bangkok

(Agenda item 4)

1. Executive Board of AFICS-THAILAND (AFICS-T)

The Executive Board of AFICS-T, elected at the Seventeenth Annual General Assembly on 18 July 2017, comprised the following officers:

1. President	Mr. Yossuwan Anandhwanlert
2. First Vice-President	Mr. Chingchai Likitnukul
3. Second Vice-President	Ms. Pagapunt Aneknidhi
4. Secretary	Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda
5. Deputy Secretary	Ms. Chitraporn Boonyasit
6. Treasurer	Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing
7. Deputy Treasurer	Ms. Metinee Hunkosol
8. Registrar	Ms. Onanong Panyajaray
9. Communications Officer	Ms. Vena Visaruitawongse
10. Web Master	Mr. Somkhon Antanai
11. Deputy Web Master	Mr. Somchai Congtavinsutti

Members:

12. Mr. Peter Hengenbarth
13. Ms. Junpen Jirasavetakul
14. Ms. Duangthip Pattraplachai
15. Mr. Jan Orsini
16. Ms. Sumetee Jongmu
17. Ms. Amara Lohvithee
18. Mr. Suraphong Chuachamsai

Advisers:

19. Mr. Vudhithep Tanghongse
20. Mr. Suthat Ungsuthornrungsi
21. Mr. Ti Le-Huu

Medical Adviser

22. Dr. Surachai Vichankaiyakij

Subsequently in January 2018, Ms. Amara Lohvithee (member) tendered her resignation and the Board accordingly co-opted Ms. Siraprapha Khomson as a replacement.

Following to an unfortunate misunderstanding which subsequently built up into an unmanageable conflict with one adviser to the Board, 20 members and advisers of the Executive Board (2017-2019) tendered their resignation on 16 November 2018. In view of this unprecedented and unexpected situation which, if not addressed properly, could become an impediment to the effective functioning of AFICS-T as a whole, 59 AFICS-T members expressed their concerns and in their letter dated 27 November 2018 requested the immediate convening of an Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) of the Association to deal with the issue.

In response to this request, the Executive Board (2017-2019) in its capacity of care-taker for this interim period convened the EGA on Friday, 11 January 2019. In order to ensure stability and continued smooth operation of AFICS-T, the ESCAP Division of Administration had generously offered to support and facilitate the convening of the EGA, as well as to preside over it. The main objectives of the EGA were first to either accept or reject the en masse resignation of the Executive Board and then to recommend a course of action for the remaining period 2017-2019 (i.e. from 11 January to 30 June 2019).

After extensive exchanges, the EGA unanimously decided to reinstate until 30 June 2019 the 11 office bearers of the Executive Board who had earlier offered their resignation. In accordance with the Bylaws, Article V, paragraph 1, the EGA authorized the caretaker Executive Board to co-opt additional members and advisers to ensure smooth operation of their activities to be undertaken by the Board on behalf of AFICS-T.

Given the recent unfortunate incidents in AFICS-T, the EGA also recognized the need to review and possibly amend the Bylaws to ensure that AFICS-T operations would not be disrupted and thereby decided that a working group be set up for that purpose, which would submit its proposed amendments for consideration to the next Annual General Assembly in July 2019.

In line with the recommendations of the EGA, the 11 reinstated office bearers met on Friday, 1 February 2019 and co-opted additional members and advisers to form a full and operational new Executive Board. Consequently, the new Executive Board (2017-2019) comprises the following officers:

1. Mr. Yossuwan Anandhwanlert	President
2. Mr. Chingchai Likitnukul	First-Vice President
3. Ms. Pagapunt Aneknidhi	Second-Vice President
4. Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda	Secretary
5. Ms. Chitraporn Boonyasit	Deputy Secretary
6. Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing	Treasurer
7. Ms. Metinee Hunkosol	Deputy Treasurer
8. Ms. Onanong Panyajaray	Registrar
9. Ms. Vena Visaruitawongse	Communications Officer
10. Mr. Somkoon Antanai	Webmaster
11. Mr. Somchai Congtavinsutti	Deputy Webmaster
12. Ms. Junpen Jirasavetakul	Member
13. Mr. Peter Hegenbarth	Member
14. Ms. Duangthip Pattraplachai	Member
15. Ms. Sumetee Jongmu	Member
16. Ms. Siraprapha Khomson	Member
17. Mr. Suraphong Chuachamsai	Member

18. Mr. Ti Le-Huu	Adviser
19. Mr. Jan Orsini	Honorary Adviser
20. Mr. Vudhithep Tanghongse	Honorary Adviser
21. Dr. Surachai Vichankaiyakij	Honorary Adviser

At its February 2019 meeting, the Executive Board established, as mandated by the EGA, a Working Group on the Revision of the Bylaws of AFICS-T. The composition of the Working Group is as follows:

Chairperson:	Mr. Suraphon Songweera
Members:	Mr. Chingchai Likitnukul
	Mr. Vudhithep Tanghongse
	Mr. Peter Hegenbarth
	Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda
	Mr. Ti Le-Huu
	Mr. Suraphong Chuachamsai
	Ms. Yupa Wongsuchat
	Ms. Boonrudee Varapukde
	Ms. Kitiya Phornsadja

The Working Group held meetings and had extensive discussions in the revision of the Bylaws. It came out with a revised Bylaws which would be considered and approved by the 19th AGA under agenda item 6.

The Executive Board would like to express its thanks and appreciation to the members of the Association who had assisted the Executive Board in carrying out the functions of Duty Officer, during the reporting period, whose presence at AFICS-T office was required during AFICS-T office hours.

2. Committee and Sub-committees of AFICS-T

To facilitate AFICS-T Executive Board in ensuring the smooth and efficient functioning of AFICS-T toward the provision of effective and timely services to our members, the following Committees and Sub-committees were adjusted following the restructuring of the Executive Board 2017-2019 at its meeting in March 2019 and their compositions are as follows:

1. Committee on Pension and Group Life Insurance Benefits:

Chairperson:	Mr. Chingchai Likitnukul
Members:	Mr. Yossuwan Anandhwanlert
	Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing

2. Committee on Medical Benefits:

Chairperson:	Mr. Yossuwan Anandhwanlert
Medical Adviser:	Dr. Surachai Vichankaiyakij

(i) Sub-Committee on Worldwide Plan (WWP):

Chairperson:	Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda
Member:	Ms. Pagapunt Aneknidhi

(ii) Sub-Committee on Medical Insurance Plan (MIP):

Chairperson:	Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing
Members:	Ms. Junpen Jirasavetakul
	Ms. Metinee Hunkosol
	Mr. Suraphong Chuachamsai

3. Committee on Information and Records:

Co-Chairpersons: Mr. Somkhoo Antanai
Mr. Suraphong Chuachamsai
Members: Mr. Somchai Congtavinsutti
Ms. Onanong Panyajaray
Ms. Duangthip Pattraplachai

4. Committee on Publicity and Newsletters:

Co-Chairpersons: Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda (English)
Mr. Somchai Congtavinsutti (Thai)

5. Committee on Benevolent Fund and Funerals:

Chairperson: Ms. Metinee Hunkosol
Members: Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing
Ms. Junpen Jirasavetakul

6. Committee on Recreation and Tours:

Chairperson: Ms. Vena Visaruitawongse
Members: Ms. Sumetee Jongmu
Mr. Vudhithep Tanghongse
Ms. Yupa Wongsuchat
Ms. Siraprapha Khomson

7. Committee on Charity Activities:

Chairperson: Ms. Sumetee Jongmu
Members: Ms. Vena Visaruitawongse
Ms. Pagapunt Aneknidhi
Ms. Yupa Wongsuchat
Ms. Siraprapha Khomson

8. Committee on Foreigners Living in Thailand (FLIT):

Chairperson: Mr. Peter Hegenbarth
Member: Mr. Ti Le-Huu
Honorary Adviser: Mr. Jan Orsini

9. Ad Hoc Committee on AFICS-T Scholarships:

Chairperson: Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing
Members: Ms. Pagapunt Aneknidhi
Ms. Duangthip Pattraplachai
Honorary Adviser: Mr. Vudhithep Tanghongse

3. Membership in AFICS-T

The AFICS-T membership has grown steadily since the Founding Meeting, held on 26 February 2001, when there were only 87 participants. Number of membership by year (including non paid-up members) is shown below:

<u>AGA</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Membership</u>
First Session	29 May 2001	110
Second Session	18 June 2002	153
Third Session	25 June 2003	225
Fourth Session	17 June 2004	300
Fifth Session	14 July 2005	356
Sixth Session	18 July 2006	420

Seventh Session	17 July 2007	453
Eighth Session	22 July 2008	574
Ninth Session	28 July 2009	607
Tenth Session	29 July 2010	626
Eleventh Session	09 August 2011	646
Twelfth Session	07 August 2012	701
Thirteenth Session	09 July 2013	725
Fourteenth Session	15 July 2014	742
Fifteenth Session	21 July 2015	787
Sixteenth Session	12 July 2016	762
Seventeenth Session	18 July 2017	820
Eighteenth Session	17 July 2018	826

As of 30 April 2019, the paid-up membership stands at 221. However, the total number of members, including those with membership fees in arrears, was 820. Since the introduction of the life membership in 2008, the Association now has 599 life members including 124 members who are 80 years old or over, and are exempted from annual membership fees.

4. Summary of Activities

The Executive Board is pleased to provide the following summary of activities and assistance to members, which were carried out on behalf of the Association during the period. The details are reflected in the report of the respective Committees below:

4.1 Summary of Financial Report

Ms. Panvipa Thammakoranonta, Auditor as appointed at the 18th AGA, will audit all accounts of AFICS-T. The audited financial statement of accounts for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 will be distributed at the Nineteenth Annual General Assembly.

4.2 Report on Memberships in FAFICS

As members may be aware, the Association sought membership in the Federation of the Association of Former Internationals Civil Servants (FAFICS) in 2001, and was accepted in July of that year. Since then, AFICS-Thailand has been paying membership dues to FAFICS, on the basis of number of subscribing members as of 1 January of each year. Since the beginning of 2014, FAFICS has fixed the contribution rate at US\$1.50 per member per year. The 2019 dues for 219 members (@US\$ 1.50) were duly paid to FAFICS on 8 February 2019 amounting to US\$ 328.50.

4.3 Visit of the Vice-President of FAFICS to AFICS-T office

During their personal visit to Bangkok, Mr. A.K. Masood Ahmed, Vice President, Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants (FAFICS) and President, Association of the Former UN Staff of Bangladesh (UNSOB) together with his spouse, Ms. Mah Jabeen, Executive Board Member, UNSOB, made a courtesy call to the AFICS-T Office on 27 November 2018 at 10.00 a.m. They had a meeting with the President of the AFICS-T and some Executive Board members to exchange and share the interests and activities among the two Associations for what they had been doing to and for its members.

After sharing the friendly and fruitful discussions, Mr. Masood Ahmed commented that during the past year UNSOB had been claiming with FAFICS to be best Association for having done so much for its members, he admittedly accepted that AFICS-T had been doing a lot of good work for the Retirees in Thailand and should be recognized that the AFICS-T is the best organized Association in the world. In this respect, Mr. Masood Ahmed sent an email to Mr.

Marco Breschi, President, FAFICS conveying his brief report and appraisal complimenting AFICS-T as the best organized Association in the world.

4.4 UNFCU special presentation for the retirees

Mr. Timothy Challen, Director, Marketing Global Affairs, UNFCU, has assigned Mr. Massimilano Mei, Office Manager, UNFCU to conduct a presentation especially for retirees in Thailand on Monday, 8 October 2018 at the Theatre Room, UNCC building.

The special presentation conducted was very valuable and informative. All the members who participated were very happy to learn that there were many more products and services being offered by the UNFCU which they were not aware of earlier. The retirees were also given opportunity to have an individual consultation with Mr. Mei.

During this visit, UNFCU had generously donated the amount of US\$800.00 to the AFICS-T's activities on excursion, which was well received with great appreciation.

4.5 Report of the Committee on Pension and Group Life Insurance Benefits

According to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) movement, pension benefit of beneficiaries on both the US dollar and local Thai Baht tracks remain the same, since the difference in the CPI movement was not up to the 2 per cent threshold required for the benefit adjustment.

The United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (UNJSPF) has appointed Ms. Janice Dunn Lee, a former staff in the IAEA, as the Acting CEO of UNJSPF and simultaneously as the Secretary of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (UNJSPB), starting on 1 January 2019. However, in accordance with the UN General Assembly Resolution, A/73/274 adopted on 23 December 2018, this dual role will be replaced by two distinct and independent positions as "Pension Benefits Administrator" of UNJSPF and "Secretary of the Board" of UNJSPB no later than January 2020.

The UNJSPF is in a very good financial position, though the actuarial valuation as of 31 December 2017 showed a small deficit of 0.05 per cent of pensionable remuneration, which is well within the corridor of +2 or -2 per cent. The assets of the UNJSPF surged to 63.6 billion as of 31 January 2019, with a total of about 205,000 participants/beneficiaries. To provide good services to clients, the UNJSPF has opened a new Call Center with the provision of toll-free telephone numbers in 28 countries. For Thailand, the toll-free number is +1800012804. Since the implementation and with more experienced application of the IPAS, the UNJSPF is able to make initial benefit payments to about 80 per cent of new retirees/beneficiaries within 15 days upon receipt of complete documents.

The UNJSPF started the exercise of the 2018 Certificates of Entitlement (CEs) by the end of May 2018 in the first mailing, and followed with a second mailing in September 2018. As of the usual practice, the AFICS-T Executive Board collected the signed and dated CEs from members and dispatched them by courier service to the UNJSPF. All were received well and receipt acknowledgement was given by the UNJSPF. However, in a notification from the Client Services and Records Management Section, UNJSPF, the AFICS-T Executive Board learned that some 32 CEs had not been received. Accordingly, the Board helped to trace the CEs and reported to the UNJSPF accordingly. In this regard, the Executive Board would like to emphasize that all AFICS-T members should make sure that their mailing addresses with the UNJSPF are up-to-date and in case of any need, members should not hesitate to contact the Executive Board.

By now, the UNJSPF should start the exercise of the 2019 CEs. As of the usual practice, retirees may avail themselves of the services of AFICS-T in the collection and group dispatch of signed and dated CEs to the Pension Fund.

The Executive Board continued in providing assistance to pensioners and their spouses in drafting e-mail messages or letters to UNJSPF, regarding their periodic benefits, disabled child benefit, spouse benefit, two-track pension adjustment system, change of mailing address and bank accounts for pension benefit deposit, transfer of funds, birth certificates of spouses, etc.

Upon request, the Executive Board assisted spouses of the deceased members in approaching HRMS for the preparing and forwarding of the necessary documents to UNJSPF for the processing and conversion from “pension benefit” to “spouse benefit”, as well as group life insurance reimbursement. In this regard, pensioners are requested to check that their personal files kept by the HRMS contained the updated information. Further, it is important that the retirement number (R/....) and the UID number, which serve as the ID of retiree and is not confidential, should better be made known to their spouses and family members as well as the AFICS-T office, for ease and facilitation in dealing with UNJSPF.

The Executive Board would like to alert members who are eligible participants of the After Service Life Insurance (ASLI) and are interested to have confirmation on their eligibility and if desired to update their formerly designated beneficiaries by filling out a new Designation of Beneficiary Form. In this regard, it should be noted that the procedures of the UN Group Life Insurance require that matters and documentation regarding Group Life Insurance are to be handled by the human resources staff of the respective UN offices from where the retirees had separated their services.

AFICS-T members are kindly reminded that a “help desk” has been established in the AFICS-T office, UNCC. Members are encouraged to make the best use and services of the “help desk”, run by duty officers from 9 am to 2 pm, Monday to Thursday.

4.6 Report on Committee on Medical Benefits

4.6.1. Report of the Sub-Committee on Medical Insurance Plan (MIP)

Cigna still remains the third-party administrator of the United Nations Health Insurance Plan applicable to both internationally and locally recruited staff members as well as retirees and their eligible dependants, as appropriate, under the World Wide Plan (WWP) and the Medical Insurance Plan (MIP).

There were neither changes in the reimbursement rules nor in the entitlements relating to the ceiling reimbursement entitlements of dental treatment, optical lenses and single room accommodation in hospital under both WWP and MIP.

AFICS-T extended an invitation to Cigna to send their representatives to attend and to make a presentation at the 18th AGA Meeting, which was held on 17 July 2018. Ms. Baljit Kaur, the Cigna representative came to attend and make a presentation at the Meeting. The Cigna representative made a very useful presentation on the on-line submission of the claims with the user-friendly programmes which could be done through either the computer or the smart phone. With the launching of the on-line submission, we had received very good responses from our members expressing their appreciation on the speedy acknowledgement of the receipt of the claim and fast processing of the reimbursement of the claim. There have also been tremendous improvements in the Cigna services in prompt processing of the claim as well as the updated information on the balance available and the stop-loss out-of-pocket amount.

The Human Resources Management Section (HRMS) of the UNESCAP made an announcement that the collection of the claim documents for submission to Cigna for both active and retirees would be discontinued effective 5 October 2018. Therefore, all retirees would be required to submit their claims either on-line or through postal service at their own expenses. In order to assist our members who were not conversant with the computer facilities and smart phones applications, the AFICS-T Office had assigned a help desk individual to guide members and their family on how to avail of such facility provided by Cigna in order to speed up the submission of claims. Many members and their family members approached AFICS-T office to seek assistance and guidance on the submission of the claims online which were very fast, effective and convenient.

Two Cigna Representatives, Ms. Baljit Kaur and Ms. Preeyanut Wutthi-In visited Bangkok again for individual consultation during 14 – 15 January 2019. During this visit, there had been quite a number of individual consultation requests from AFICS-T members. As usual, the Executive Board members had discussions with these two Cigna representatives regarding

the reimbursement coverage and the claim processing by Cigna staff with due reference to past records of claimants.

4.6.2. Report of the Sub-Committees on Worldwide Plan (WWP)

As mentioned above, there were neither changes in the reimbursement rules nor in the entitlements relating to the ceiling reimbursement entitlements of dental treatment, optical lenses and single room accommodation in hospital under both WWP and MIP.

The only major change was the launching of the submission of the claims on-line which received excellent feedback from users who found the on-line claims user-friendly, and expeditiously reimbursed. In order to assist these members, the Executive Board established a help desk, as mentioned earlier, to assist and guide them and next of kin on how to submit on-line claims. However, AFICS-T members, who were not conversant with computer facilities and smart phone applications operations could still submit their claims in hard copies through normal postal mail.

4.7 Report of the Committee on Information and Records

During the reporting period, i.e. from 1 July 2018 to 31 June 2019, the Committee carried out the following tasks:

1. Updated regularly the database concerning members of the AFICS-T;
2. Provided upon request, the data and information to support activities of other Committees and Sub-Committees of the AFICS-T Executive Board;
3. Shared via different media, a variety of information relevant to benefits and entitlements for retirees and beneficiaries; and
4. Based on the endorsement by the Executive Board in October 2017, which aimed at improving the website of AFICS-T and, more importantly, to overcome the existing limitations in updating website contents, the new website, i.e. www.aficsthailand.com, was re-designed and constructed since May 2018 and launched in March 2019. In comparison with the former website, i.e. www.aficsthailand.in.th, the new website maintains similar layout and contents, together sufficient space and other new features, such as: on-line membership application; ability to update and modify website contents by AFICS-T itself; ability to create own e-mail accounts; and be able to control access to selected contents by certain website viewers. From March 2019 onward, the former website was no longer active.

4.8 Report of the Committee on Publicity and Newsletters

AFICS-T issued, on a regular basis, a number of “Circulars/Newsletters” with a view to keeping members informed about issues and activities that would be of concern and interest to them. The Board accordingly issued the following circulars during the period under review:

<u>Circulars/Newsletters</u>	<u>Date of Issuance</u>
14/2017-2019	6 August 2018
15/2017-2019	11 October 2018
16/2017-2019	20 December 2018
17/2017-2019	28 January 2019
18/2017-2019	4 February 2019
19/2017-2019	11 March 2019
20/2017-2019	11 April 2019
21/2017-2019	10 June 2019
22/2017-2019	20 June 2019

4.9 Report of the Committee on Benevolent Fund and Funerals

4.9.1 Report of the Sub-committee on Benevolent Fund

During the reporting period, June 2018 to April 2019, the following AFICS-T members have made voluntary financial contributions to the Fund amounting to Baht 10,700, as follows:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Names</u>	<u>Amount/Baht</u>
1.	Mr. Suradej Paripunna	3,000.00
2.	Ms. Punnee Visetsmith	700.00
3.	Ms. Prapensri Disyavanich	2,000.00
4.	Ms. Nonglak Ratagasigorn	2,000.00
5.	Mr. Don Triumdhavong	2,000.00
6.	Mr. Sunil Thanyachira	1,000.00
Total amount		<u>10,700.00</u>

As of 30 April 2019, the Fund had a balance of Baht 197,404.46 of which Baht 491.81 was the interest income from the bank for the period from 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2018.

4.9.2 Report of the Sub-committee on Funerals

During the previous 11 months, from July 2018 to 31 May 2019, 8 members of our Association passed away. AFICS-T presented a wreath and/or provided a token financial contribution Baht 2,000.00 to the families of those former staff members, as follows:

	<u>Name of Deceased Members</u>	<u>Date</u>
1.	Mr. Thep Kowmongkol	13/08/2018
2.	Mr. Suthep Nanthakowat	24/10/2018
3.	Ms. Pongsri Gadavanij	04/12/2018
4.	Ms. Naowalak Watanaphanich	13/12/2018
5.	Mr. Prasert Sanguantongkum	07/02/2019
6.	Mr. Benny Widyono	16/03/2019
7.	Mr. Boonleun Sitthitham	07/04/2019
8.	Mr. Pimol Nivato	23/05/2019

4.10 Report of the Committee on Recreation and Tours

During the reporting period, the Committee on Recreations and Tours organized an overseas excursion to Johannesburg and Cape Town, South Africa from 24 to 31 October 2018. Altogether 37 members and their families participated in the trip, which received positive and appreciative feedback from all the participants.

On the request from members, the Committee was asked to organize a domestic trip to Surat Thani. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, the envisaged trip to Surat Thani could not materialize.

4.11 Report of the Committee on Charity Activities

The Committee on Charity Activities submitted for consideration of the Executive Board at its monthly meeting in August 2018 a proposal to make polo shirts for sale to the AFICS-T members with the profits earned to be deposited in the Charity Account for future charity activities.

With the approval of the Executive Board, an order of 500 polo shirts was given to the lowest bidding vendor. There are four different colours of polo shirts and made in different sizes for both men and women. The polo shirts were made available for sale to AFICS-T members at large in November 2018. The sales volume already reached the break-even point in term of the production cost in January 2019. The total sales profits of these polo shirts thereafter would be credited to the Charity Fund and would be utilized to finance any future charity activities recommended by the Committee and duly approved by the Executive Board.

During the reporting period and as to 30 April 2019, the donations received from the donors amounted to Baht 4,000.00. The Committee and the Executive Board would like to thank all donors for their kind contributions to the Charity Fund.

Thus, as of 30 April 2019, the Fund had a balance of Baht 270,045.27 in its bank account, of which Baht 692.16 was the interest income from the bank for the period from 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2018.

In term of expenditures, the Committee disbursed from the Charity Fund the following amounts as contributions to approved charity activities:

1. Baht 80,000.00 to 4 Students from Wat Makutkasat School as per the project on AFICS-T Scholarships (vide separated report under section 4.13 below); and
2. Baht 5,000 as merit contribution to the ESCAP Staff Council for 40th Songkran celebration on Thursday, 11 April 2019.

4.12 Report of the Committee on Foreigners Living in Thailand (FLIT)

The Committee assisted active and retired UN staff both inside and outside of Thailand regarding retirement in the country. This included consultations by phone and via email, and news circulars (e.g. 22 November 2018) to all FLIT members covering the following issues:

1. The application procedures and documentation for new retirees to obtain permits to stay in and re-enter the country, such as proof of residence, monthly income, coverage of medical expenses etc. The new option of 5 and 10 year long-term permits for nationals of 14 American, Asian and European countries has so far not been used by AFICS-T members.
2. While the procedures for “extension of stay based on retirement” and re-entry permits were updated in November 2018, including now the requirement of a deposit in a local bank account two months before and three months after visa renewal of the extension of stay or the proof of a regular monthly transfers into a local bank account, their implementation took effect only on 1 March 2019. However, the equally announced procedures for proof of residence and health coverage do not seem to be finalized yet and thus are still not compulsory according to current practice.
3. The online option for the 90-Day Reporting Procedures is operational on an “on-and-off” basis.
4. As reported previously, a meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) was arranged in December 2017 to obtain some more clarifications on the above issues. Unfortunately, the contact established with MFA could not be pursued.

4.13 Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on AFICS-T Scholarships

At the 18th Annual General Assembly on Tuesday, 17 July 2018, Mr. Hongjoo Hahm, the Officer-in-Charge of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP) kindly conferred on behalf of AFICS-T the last and final scholarships of the AFICS-T three-year scholarships project to four awardees, namely:

1. Mr. Anirut Arunsarn (นาย อนิรุฒน์ อรุณสาร)
2. Ms. Kochaporn Anantana (น.ส. กชพร อานันทนะ)
3. Ms. Pranadda Srinath (น.ส. ประนิดดา ศรีนาท)
4. Ms. Yakeeta Sopol (น.ส. ยุกีตะ ไสภณ)

The Ad Hoc Committee is pleased to report that it was fully satisfied with their academic performances and positive participation in the non-curriculum activities of the School. Thus, all four scholarship awardees have satisfactorily fulfilled the scholarship terms and conditions. In this connection, one awardee, Ms. Kochaporn Anantana (น.ส. กชพร อานันทนะ), has already passed the entrance examination into the Faculty of Decorative Arts, Silapakorn University. The other three awardees still needed to sit the last round of the entrance examination. As at the report preparation time, the School representatives advised that they would report to the Ad Hoc Committee once they know the results of the entrance examination.

Out of the Baht 270,000 allocated for the three-year scholarship project, the total amount of expenditure incurred was Baht 217,604.26, thereby resulting in a savings amount of Baht 52,395.74. The unencumbered balance would be surrendered to AFICS-T Charity Account accordingly.
