



**ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL
CIVIL SERVANTS – THAILAND**



2023 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (AGA)

TUESDAY, 18 JULY 2023
(09.00 – 12.00 hours)

CONFERENCE ROOM 1, UNCC

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Address of the Executive Secretary of ESCAP
2. Statement by the AFICS-T President
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Consideration of AFICS-T activities undertaken during the period July 2022 to June 2023
(as contained in the attached Annual Report of the Executive Board)
5. Questions and answers
6. Consideration of two proposed amendments to the Bylaws
7. Election of the Executive Board of AFICS-T 2023-2025
8. Recommendations of activities to be undertaken by AFICS-T
9. Other matters



**ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL
CIVIL SERVANTS - THAILAND**



**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
EXECUTIVE BOARD
(July 2022 – June 2023)**

12 June 2023

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

1. The current Executive Board (2019-2021) of AFICS-T was elected at the Nineteenth Annual General Assembly (AGA) on 26 July 2019. Subsequently as decided at the 2022 AGA, its term of office has been extended until the convening of 2023 AGA since organization of physical sessions of the AGA in both 2020 and 2021 was not possible due to the Covid-19 pandemic and thus disrupting the calendar of the conduct for normal election exercise of a new Executive Board in 2021. During 2023 AGA, the election of a new Executive Board would then be conducted. The current Executive Board (2019-2021/2023) comprises the following officers:

Bureau

1. President	Mr. Suraphon Songweera
2. First Vice-President	Mr. Ti Le-Huu
3. Second Vice-President	Mr. Suraphong Chuachamsai
4. Treasurer	Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing
5. Deputy Treasurer	Ms. Uraiwan Sriwatananukul
6. Secretary	Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda
7. Deputy Secretary	Ms. Chitraporn Boonyasit
8. Registrar	Ms. Onanong Panyajaray
9. Communication Officer	Ms. Vena Visaruitawngse
10. Web Master	Mr. Somkhon Antanai
11. Deputy Web Master	Mr. Vijju Kasayapanandha

Members

12. Mr. Somchai Congtavinsuti
13. Ms. Junpen Jirasavetakl
14. Mr. Peter Hegenbarth
15. Ms. Duangthip Pattraplachai
16. Ms. Metinee Hunkosol
17. Ms. Sumetee Jongmu
18. Ms. Papapunt Aneknidhi
19. Ms. Siraprapha Khomson

Advisers

20. Mr. Vudhithep Tanghongse
21. Mr. Yossuwan Anandhwalert
22. Mr. Jan Orsini

Medical Adviser

23. Dr. Surachai Vichankaiyakij

2. On 27 December 2022, Mr. Suraphong Chuachamsai informed the Executive Board that effective 1 January 2023 he resigned from the Executive Board thus relinquishing his position of Second Vice-President of the Board as well as other positions he held in Committees, sub-Committees and Working Groups.

3. Since April 2022, the Covid-19 pandemic situation started to show encouraging improvement which allowed gradual lifting of sanitary restrictions. Consequently, UNCC facilities became available again. This enabled AFICS-T to resume its activities in particular the convening of its monthly Board meetings using the UNCC facilities which allowed the conduct of hybrid meetings simultaneously in-person and online.

4. The Executive Board would like to express its thanks and appreciation to members of the Association who had assisted the Executive Board in carrying out the functions of Duty Officer, during the reporting period, who resumed their presence at the AFICS-T office from Tuesday to Thursday.

5. The names of the Duty Officers, including those of the Executive Board members who acted as Duty Officers, during the reporting period are: Ms. Apinporn Isrankul Na Ayudhya, Ms. Chiraphorn Sawalaksana, Ms. Chitraporn Boonyasit, Ms. Duanglutai Khomson, Ms. Duangthip Pattraplachai, Ms. Metinee Hunkosol, Ms. Onanong Panyajaray, Mr. Patanapong Siriwatananukul, Ms. Punnee Visessmith, Mr. Somkhon Antanai, Ms. Soythip Thongthua, Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing, Ms. Suthasinee Mruttamarn, Ms. Uraivan Siriwatananukul and Ms. Yupa Wongsuchat.

2. Committees and Sub-Committees of AFICS-T

6. 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 members, the following Committees and Sub-Committees were established at the second meeting of the current Executive Board and their compositions are as follows:

1. Committee on Pension and Group Life Insurance Benefits:

Chairperson:	Mr. Yossuwan Anandhwanlert
Members	Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing
	Mr. Suraphon Songweera

Sub-Committee on CEs:

Co-Chairpersons:	Mr. Suraphong Chuachamsai Ms. Junpen Jirasavetakul
Members:	Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing Ms. Metinee Hunkosol Ms. Onanong Panyajaray

2. Committee on Medical Benefits:

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

(1) Sub-Committee on Worldwide Plan (WWP)

Chairperson:	Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda
Members:	Ms. Pagapunt Aneknidhi Ms. Junpen Jirasavetakul Mr. Ti Le-Huu

(2) Sub-Committee on MIP:

Chairperson:	Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing
Member:	Ms. Metinee Hunkosol

3. Committee on Information and Records:

Chairperson:	Mr. Somkhoo Antanai
Member:	Mr. Vijju Kasayapanandha

4. Committee on Publicity and Newsletters:

Co-Chairpersons:	Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda (English) Mr. Somchai Congtavinsutti (Thai)
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5. Committee on Benevolent Fund and Funerals:

Chairperson:	Ms. Metinee Hunkosol
Members:	Ms. Suntaree Suwannasong Ms. Uraiwan Siriwatananukul

6. Committee on Recreation and Tours:

Chairperson:	Ms. Vena Visaruitawongse
Members:	Ms. Sumetee Jongmu Ms. YupaWongsuchat Ms. Siraprapha Khomson Ms. Suntaree Suwannasing Mr. Vudhithep Tanghongse

7. Committee on Charity Activities:

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

Ms. Duangthip Pattraplachai

8. Committee on Foreigners Living in Thailand (FLiT)

Co-Chairpersons:	Mr. Peter Hegenbarth
	Mr. Ti Le-Huu
Member:	Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda
Adviser:	Mr. Jan Orsini

3. Membership in AFICS-T

7. The AFICS-T membership has steadily grown since the Founding Meeting, held on 26 February 2001, when there were only 87 registered participants. A recollection of the numbers of registered membership per year (including non-paid-up members) are 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
Nineteenth Session	26 July 2019	820
Twentieth Session	<i>Cancelled</i>	832
Twenty-First Session	<i>Cancelled</i>	851
2022 Session	19 July 2022	853

8. As of 30 April 2023, the paid-up memberships stand at 193. However, the total number of members, including those with their membership fees in arrears, was 864. Since the introduction of life membership in 2008, the Association now counts 671 life members, including 144 members who have reached 80 years old and over, and are exempted from paying any annual membership fees.

4. Summary of Activities

9. 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. In this connection, the Executive Board is also pleased to report that since the convening of the 2022 AGA, the Covid-19 pandemic had shown some improvement and thus related sanitary restrictions have been gradually lifted such as the resumption of physical meetings within the UNCC facilities and the availability of the ESCAP secretariat services to a certain extent. While AFICS-T could then resume its activities, however some of these could not be implemented yet. Indeed, since the process a full recovery from three years of severe Covid-19 pandemic will take its time, the Executive Board had however endeavored to ensure the delivery of assistance to AFICS-T members and carrying out activities which were felt as priority matters to members. The details of these activities are reported by the respective Committees as follows.

4.1 Summary of Financial Report

10. Ms, Panvipa Thammakoramonta, Auditor, has audited all account of AFICS-T. The audited financial statement of accounts for the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 will be distributed at the 2023 Annual Assembly.

4.2 Report on memberships in FAFICS-T

11. As members may recall, the Association had been accepted as a member in the Federation of the Association of Former International Civil Servants (FAFICS) since July 2001. Since then, AFICS-T has been paying membership fees to FAFICS, based on the number of subscribing and paying-up members as of 1 January of each year. Starting from 2020, FAFICS had fixed the contribution rate at US\$2.00 per member per year. According to our official record as of 1 January 2023, AFICS-T had 195 paid-members. Therefore AFICS-T contribution amounted to US\$390.00 (195 members x US\$2.00) and payment duly effected accordingly. The reduced amount of AFICS-T contribution from the previous year was attributed to the impact of Covid-19 situation and to the increase in the number of senior retirees who have reached the age of 80 years old and thus became exempted from paying any annual fees.

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

12. In accordance with the UNJSPF Pension adjustment system and based on the consumer price index (CPI) data from the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics (MBS) published by the UN Statistics Division, there was an increase of 6.4 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to the US dollar track of periodic benefits effective 1 April 2023. Similarly, for those on the local Thai Baht track, effective 1 April 2023 there was also an increase of 8.0 percent cost-of-living adjustment.

13. The applicable COLA adjustment to all countries of residence will be applied effective 1 April 2023. Cost-of-Living (COLA) detailed letters were being issued by the end of April 2023. All beneficiaries who registered for access to their UNJSPF Member Self-service (MSS) account would be able to access their COLA letter in MSS under the “Document” tab. The initial benefit is adjusted over

time for movements of the consumer price index in the United States for beneficiaries on the dollar track. For those who have opted for the two-track system, the pension amount will be adjusted also considering the movements of the CPI of the country of residence.

14. On 6 April 2023, the UNJSPF held a global town hall in New York. More than 3000 participants from UNJSPF member organizations, retirees and beneficiaries joined the virtual event to listen to Ms. Rosemarie McClean, Chief Executive of Pension Administration, and Pedro Guazo, Representative of the Secretary General for investment of UNJSPF assets. Ms. McClean highlighted the Fund's modernizing efforts of the past years, including timely pension processing, improving access to information, and a new application for retirees and beneficiaries. Confronted by an unstable economic and high-inflation environment, the Fund remained well-funded, and the purchasing power of pensioners is protected with appropriate cost-of-living adjustments. Mr. Guazo indicated that the market value of the assets was at US\$81.7 billion as of 31 March 2023, showing a 5 percent higher than the amount reported at the close of the previous year. It was therefore satisfying to note that the Fund not only met its long-term real rate of return target, but also was efficient and a leader in sustainable investment.

15. The Executive Board continued in assisting pensioners and spouses in drafting e-mail messages or letters to UNJSPF, regarding such matters as periodic benefits, disabled child benefit, spouse benefit, two-track pension adjustment system, change of mailing address and bank accounts for pension benefit deposit, etc. Upon request, the Executive Board also assisted spouses of the deceased members in approaching HRMS for the drafting and the submission of necessary documents to UNJSPF for the processing and conversion from "pension benefit" to "spouse benefit", as well as group life insurance reimbursement.

4.3.1 Report of the Sub-Committee on Certificates of Entitlement (CE)

16. The Sub-Committee on Certificates of Entitlement continued to assist members of AFICS-T on issues relevant to their CEs as follows:

(a) 2022 CE exercise

17. In response to the "first mailing", the Sub-Committee issued Newsletter No. 15/2019-2021 to alert and guide the AFICS-T members who wish to return their (paper-based) 2022 CE to the UNJSPF through AFICS-T. Collection of paper-based 2022 CEs were then collected from AFICS-T members during the whole month of August. Altogether 341 CEs were accordingly submitted to AFICS-T office and then forwarded to the UNJSPF beginning September. Their receipt was duly acknowledged on 6 September 2022.

18. Regarding the "second mailing", Newsletter No. 17/2019-2021 was issued providing similar information as that for the "first mailing" on the procedure for members to return their (paper-based) 2022 CEs to the UNJSPF. Consequently, AFICS-T received 15 CEs and 4 letters of non-receipt of CEs which were dispatched to UNJSPF on 2 December 2022.

19. In March 2023, UNJSPF sent a list of 24 UN retirees/beneficiaries living in Thailand who had failed to send their 2022 CEs to the Fund within the deadline. As per past practice, AFICS-T conducted its own investigation and was able to locate the whereabouts of all the 24 listed UN retirees/beneficiaries. Out of them, three (ESCAP, FAO and IMO) did not reply to our communication and three others were reported deceased. So altogether 18 have been duly informed of the urgency to contact and submit the proper documentation to the UNJSPF to avoid suspension of their pension benefits at the end of June

2023. A detailed report had been sent to the Fund on 27 April 2023 with copy to Mr. Brian Casatelli, UNJSPF Bangkok Liaison Officer, for information.

(b) 2023 CE exercise

20. According to the UNJSPF news dated January 2023, retirees/beneficiaries were informed that starting from 2 January 2023 they could issue their 2023 CEs with the DCE app. The “first mailing” of (paper-based) 2023 CEs was expected to be sent by the end of June 2023 as per past practice.

4.4 Report of Committee on Medical Benefits

21. Cigna remains the third-party administrator of the United Nations Health Insurance Plan covering both internationally- and locally-recruited staff members including retirees and their eligible dependents, as appropriate, under the World Wide Plan (WWP) and the Medical Insurance Plan (MIP).

22. There were some new benefits under the MIP for locally-recruited staff as follows:

(a) Coverage for Assisted Reproductive Technology and infertility treatments. Following a mandatory prior approval process, infertility treatments are eligible for reimbursements of 80% of the expenses, up to a lifetime ceiling of USD15,000.00 per family.

(b) The ceilings applicable to optical benefits (lenses, frames, and Lasik eye surgery) will be increased by 20%. The new benefits apply for all plan members who are eligible for a new purchase in 2023 after completing their current 12-month period for optical lenses or the 24-month period for optical frames

(c) The detailed information of the above new benefits is available on Cigna’s website.

23. However, there is no change in the reimbursement rules and the entitlements related to the WWP coverage.

24. There had been no visit of the Cigna representatives to Bangkok during the period of more than two years. However, this year, on 28 March 2023 Ms. Sasha Samuel, Cigna Regional Representative for Asia, visited Bangkok and met with the President, the First Vice-President, and the Chairman of the Committee on Medical Benefits. This was a very good opportunity for AFICS-T to discuss and bring to the attention of the Cigna Representative on different issues relating to the recurrent changes of passwords, new benefits, and the encountering of the technical problems of the Cigna Application, the error on the maximum benefits of MIP and more effective communication in providing more clarifications on claim for reimbursement which were not covered under the benefits to enable the claimant to better understand the reason. The Cigna Representative had taken note and ensured to rectify all proposed pertinent issues. Ms. Sasha also stated that she would include AFICS-T in her portfolio of responsibilities and try to organize regular consultation with AFICS-T either in-person or online.

4.5 Report of the Committee on Information and Records

25. The Committee continued to keep updating information on the website such as reports, Newsletters, and other relevant information of concern to AFICS-T members. The committee also coordinated with the website provider to fix the online registration. It also helped in printing various documents, e.g., Annual Report of the Executive Board, Newsletters, etc. and in distributing them through

postal mail to AFICS-T members who opted for hard copies. Assistance was also extended to the Registrar in sending out Member Cards by postal mail.

4.6 Report of the Committee on Publicity and Newsletters

26. AFICS-T issued, on a regular basis, several “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 Issue</u>
15/2019-2021	10 July 2022
16/2019-2021/2023	15 August 2022
17/2019-2021/2023	15 October 2022
18/2019-2021/2023	09 March 2023
19/2019-2021/2023	15 June 2023

27. These circulars/Newsletters are available on the official AFICS-T website. In addition, the Board also kept members informed of urgent matters through their posting via “AFICS-T Official Information ONLY” Line group.

4.7 Report of the Committee on Benevolent Fund and Funerals

4.7.1. Report of the Sub-Committee on Benevolent Fund

28. During the reporting period, 1 July 2022 to 30 April 2023, the following AFICS-T members have made voluntary contributions to the Fund amounting to Baht 1,000.00 as follows:

<u>Names</u>	<u>Amount/Baht</u>
1. Mr. Sunil Thanyachira	500.00
2. Ms. Diana Mills-Arye	500.00
	1,000.00

29. As of 30 April 2023, the Fund had a balance of Baht 208,163.78 of which Baht 259.88 was the interest income from the bank for the period from July 2022 to 30 April 2023.

4.7.2. Report of the Sub-Committee on Funerals

30. During the previous ten months, from July 2022 to April 2023, 12 members of our Association passed away. AFICS-T presented a wreath and provided a token financial contribution of Baht 2,000.00 to the families of those former staff members, as follows:

<u>Name of Deceased Members</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. Ms. Phornphis Boonprasert	28 July 2022
2. Mr. Prateep Duan-ngai-chaem	2 October 2022
3. Ms. Pongsri Phantumvanit	8 November 2022
4. Ms. Malinee Pattabongse	31 December 2022
5. Ms. Supaporn Promsurintara	19 January 2023
6. Ms. Saiyud Niyomviphat	25 January 2023
7. Mr. Suvimol Pounsard	12 February 2023
8. Ms. Mali Suphawan	15 February 2023
9. Mr. Saw Lwin	1 March 2023
10. Ms. Sangwan Havanonda	2 April 2023
11. Mr. Narong Srivoraphak	16 April 2023
12. Mr. Sunthorn Kuratana	23 April 2023

4.8 Report of the Committee on Recreation and Tours

31. Despite the gradual improvement about the Covid-19 pandemic, the Committee on Recreation and Tours decided to continue the temporary suspension of both international and domestic excursions project until the time when safe travels are allowed to take place again.

4.9 Report of the committee on Charity Activities

32. During the period under review, the Committee on Charity Activities decided to continue to suspend temporarily all its charity activities. However, the Committee looked forward to resuming AFICS-T assistance to community projects and other worthy initiatives. Considering that the Covid-19 pandemic situation has shown gradual improvement, AFICS-T would be able to visit safely deserving communities that would be eligible to AFICS-T charity projects.

5.0 Report of the Committee on Foreigners Living in Thailand (FLiT)

33. The Committee continued providing advisory services to active and retired foreign UN staff members in- and outside of Thailand regarding retirement in the country. In this context, issues during the reporting period were as follows:

34. **Health insurance issues of UN retirees on Non-OA visa status.** Beginning of 2022 the Government of Thailand had announced a new set of rules for the renewal of Non-OA retirement visa. The related amendment stipulated that as of 1 October 2022, for those with foreign health insurance, it would no longer be required to buy local health insurance for visa renewal. However, proof of foreign insurance of 100,000 US\$ would be accepted only upon presentation of a Foreign Insurance Certificate, endorsed by an embassy. This turned out to be the major obstacle because embassies, e.g., of Germany, refused to authenticate such documents. Therefore, the expected improvement remained elusive.

35. **From 1 September 2022 the Long-Term Residence (LTR)** visa option was introduced operated by the Board of Investment. The programme targets (a) highly skilled and (b) “work-from-home” professionals, (c) wealthy global citizens and (d) wealthy pensioners. The LTR visa has a duration of 10 years and the residential address (90-days) reporting must be done only once a year. Foreign health insurance cover, e.g., from Cigna or other UN-ASHI providers is accepted. This has changed the visa situation for many of the foreign UN retirees completely and most of our colleagues, especially those beset by Non-OA visa issues, have applied for this new type of visa and were accepted, often within a record time of three weeks. Based on the experience of our members the FLiT Committee has put together a set of guidelines that are available on request.

36. **90-day reporting and pre-booking facilities at the Immigration Bureau (IB).** After a series of problems in 2021 and 2022 these facilities seem to be operating in a satisfactory manner.

37. **End-of-life arrangements in Thailand.** Based on the experience with deceased colleagues with no next-of-kin relations in Thailand the issue of “power-of-attorney” arrangement was raised earlier. However, due to practically a zero response from our membership the issue has not been pursued any further.

38. The Committee acknowledges that not all our members are able to benefit from the new LTR visa option. However, even after the return of a certain amount of normalcy the Committee was unable to attract the attention, e.g., of ESCAP’s Division of Administration, to matters like the Non-OA visa renewal and medical insurance issues, especially the ESCAP-initiated “Letter-of-Affirmation” concerning the health insurance status.

5.1 Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Bylaws Amendments

39. In response to a decision taken by the 2022 Annual General Assembly, the Executive Board, at its 38th meeting on 4 November 2022, established an Ad Hoc Working Group tasked with the drafting of relevant amendments to the Bylaws. These amendments would provide a legal framework to the Executive Board to take any necessary decision in case of disruption of the normal conduct of affairs, such as it was experienced during the recent Covid-19 pandemic period.

40. The composition of the Ad Hoc Working Group is as follows:

Members: Mr. Ti Le-Huu
 Mr. Peter Hegenbarth
 Mr. Yossuwan Anandhwanlert

Adviser: Mr. Vudhithep Tanghongse

Coordinator: Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda

41. As recommended by the Executive Board, the Ad Hoc Working Group met in person on 8 November 2022 and considered the course of actions in responding to the request of the 2022 AGA to draft relevant amendments to the Bylaws. Following an extensive discussion on the issues, the Group identified where the Bylaws needed to be amended and the required content therein. Accordingly, first draft of potential amendments was proposed, reviewed, and revised by members and adviser of the Group.

42. As a result, the Group came up with two amendments with the following features:

(a) the first one was proposing a new paragraph 2 under Article IV (The Assembly) which would define the course of action that needed to be taken if the Assembly could not be convened due to special circumstances that can be referred to as “*Force Majeure*”, for example pandemics such as COVID-19.

(b) the second one would be a new paragraph 14 under article V (The Executive Board) and would provide the Executive Board with the authority to perform in a caretaker capacity as a cross-reference with the above first amendment.

43. The Ad Hoc Working Group, after careful consideration, agreed on the two draft amendments as follows:

(a) First amendment:

Under Article IV The Assembly: new paragraph 2

“2. If the Assembly could not be convened due to special circumstances that can be referred to as “*Force Majeure*”, for example pandemics such as COVID-19, the Executive Board would then be authorized to postpone the convening of the Assembly until circumstances would allow the Assembly to carry out the functions stipulated in paragraph 3 of Article IV, especially the election of the Executive Board. During the interim period, the Executive Board shall also be authorized to continue to perform its functions in a caretaker capacity. All members shall be notified accordingly.”

(b) Second amendment:

Under Article V The Executive Board: new paragraph 14

“14. In such exceptional cases whereby, the Executive Board may not be able to convene the Annual General Assembly as a result of “*Force Majeure*” (as referred in paragraph 2 of Article IV), the Executive Board, as further stipulated in the Bylaws under Article IV “The Assembly”, paragraph 2, shall continue to perform in a caretaker capacity and to carry out the full range of functions as stipulated in paragraph 10 of Article V.”

44. These two proposed draft amendments were then submitted to the Executive Board for its consideration. The Board agreed with the two draft amendments proposed by the Group and requested that they should be submitted to the next 2023 Annual General Assembly for its consideration.

5. Concluding remarks

45. Since the 2022 Annual General Assembly, AFICS-T Executive Board had endeavored to resume its operations and activities thanks to the gradual improvement in the Covid-19 pandemic situation. Unfortunately, even after the welcome return of a certain amount of normalcy some of the activities could not be revived and thus their implementation was postponed until further notice. However, it is the hope of this out-going Executive Board that the new team will be able to ensure the delivery of the full range of assistance to AFICS-T members and gradually carry out its operation and activities as they were before the Covid-19 pandemic.



**ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL
CIVIL SERVANTS – THAILAND**



12 June 2023

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (AGA)

**TUESDAY, 18 JULY 2023
(09.00 – 12.00 hours)**

CONFERENCE ROOM 1, UNCC

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

(Agenda item 6)

In response to a decision taken by the 2022 Annual General Assembly, the Executive Board, at its 38th meeting on 4 November 2022, established an independent Working Group tasked with the drafting of relevant amendments to the Bylaws. These amendments would provide a legal framework to the Executive Board to take any necessary decision in case of disruption of the normal conduct of affairs, such as it was experienced during the recent Covid-19 pandemic period.

The composition of the Working Group is as follows:

Members: Mr. Ti Le-Huu
Mr. Peter Hegenbarth
Mr. YossuwanAnandhwanlert

Adviser: Mr. VudhithepTanghongse

Coordinator: Mr. Jean-Louis Vignuda

As recommended by the Executive Board, the Working Group met in person on 8 November 2022 and considered the course of actions in responding to the request of the 2022 AGA to draft relevant amendments to the Bylaws. Following an extensive discussion on the issues, the Group identified where the Bylaws needed to be amended and the required content therein. Accordingly, first draft of potential amendments was proposed, reviewed, and revised by members and adviser of the Group.

As a result, the Group came up with two amendments with the following features:

(a) the first one was proposing a new paragraph 2 under Article IV (The Assembly) which would define the course of action that needed to be taken if the Assembly could not be convened due to special circumstances that can be referred to as “*Force Majeure*”, for example pandemics such as COVID-19.

(b) the second one would be a new paragraph 14 under article V (The Executive Board) and would provide the Executive Board with the authority to perform in a caretaker capacity as a cross-reference with the above first amendment.

The Working Group, after careful consideration, agreed on the two draft amendments as follows:

(a) First amendment:

Under Article IV The Assembly: new paragraph 2

“2. If the Assembly could not be convened due to special circumstances that can be referred to as “*Force Majeure*”, for example pandemics such as COVID-19, the Executive Board would then be authorized to postpone the convening of the Assembly until circumstances would allow the Assembly to carry out the functions stipulated in paragraph 3 of Article IV, especially the election of the Executive Board. During the interim period, the Executive Board shall also be authorized to continue to perform its functions in a caretaker capacity. All members shall be notified accordingly.”

(b) Second amendment:

Under Article V The Executive Board: new paragraph 14

“14. In such exceptional cases whereby, the Executive Board may not be able to convene the Annual General Assembly as a result of “*Force Majeure*” (as referred in paragraph 2 of Article IV), the Executive Board, as further stipulated in the Bylaws under Article IV “The Assembly”, paragraph 2, shall continue to perform in a caretaker capacity and to carry out the full range of functions as stipulated in paragraph 10 of Article V.”

These two proposed draft amendments were then submitted to the Executive Board for its consideration. The Board agreed with the two draft amendments proposed by the Group and requested that they should be submitted to the next 2023 Annual General Assembly for its consideration.



**ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL
CIVIL SERVANTS – THAILAND**



12 June 2023

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (AGA)

**TUESDAY, 18 JULY 2023
(09.00 – 12.00 hours)**

CONFERENCE ROOM 1, UNCC

**ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
OF AFICS-T 2023-2025**

(Agenda item 7)

In accordance with the AFICS-T regulations and rules as prescribed in the Bylaws, an election of members to serve the Executive Board for the period 2023-2025 will be conducted during the 2023 Annual General Assembly.

Accordingly, AFICS-T members at large were kindly invited to solicit and nominate candidates, with their consent to serve in the Executive Board for the period 2023-2025. The deadline for the submission of any potential list(s) was set for Monday, 15 May 2023, with the caution that no nominations proposed instantly at the 2023 Annual General Assembly would be accepted.

Only one list has been duly submitted by the required deadline, copy of which is attached for consideration of the Assembly.
