

**WORLD AIRLINES CLUBS ASSOCIATION**

**2nd WACA COUNCIL MEETING 2023**

**Virtual Call (via Zoom Video Conference)**

**27 June 2023**

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**SUMMARY**

President, Maga Ramasamy (MK retired) who was in Mauritius, welcomed the WACA Council members to the Meeting: Chief Finance Officer, Sharon Slessor (AC retired) in Winnipeg; Chief Marketing/Events Officer: Silva Kandiah (SQ retired) in Orlando and Administration Manager, Keith Miller (XB retired) in Montreal. Maga also welcomed Lucie Forget in Ottawa who will be the recording clerk.

The minutes of the 1st WACA Council Meeting 2023 held on 24 January were approved**.**

***The following items were discussed during the meeting.***

**Appointments**

***President***

No objections had been received to the 53rd AGA minutes in accordance with 2.4.7(b) of the Bylaws so Maga Ramasamy from the Indian Ocean Islands I.C. became the WACA President.

***Chief Finance Officer***

At the 1st WACA Council Meeting 2023, the President announced that Sharon Slessor from the Winnipeg I.C. would continue in the position.

***Chief Marketing/Events Officer***

Following the 1st WACA Council Meeting 2023, the President offered the position to Silva Kandiah formerly a member of the A.C. Singapore and now a Member-at-Large. Silva accepted the position and was present at the meeting.

***Administration Manager***

At the 1st WACA Council Meeting 2023, the President announced that Keith Miller who is a Member-at-Large would continue in the position.

***Auditors***

No objections had been received to the 53rd AGA minutes in accordance with 2.4.7(b) of the Bylaws so Chris Orton from the London I.C. became one of two Auditors.

Following the 1st WACA Council Meeting 2023, the President appointed Judith Guevara a former WACA Chief Finance Officer from the Vancouver I.C. as a second Auditor. Judith will hold the position until a formal vote is taken at the 54th AGA.

***Regional Coordinators***

At the 1st WACA Council Meeting 2023, the President announced that Rosemarie Mamede from the I.C. Portugal would continue in the position of European Regional Coordinator; Yousef Suleiman from the Jordan I.C. would continue in the position of Africa, Indian Ocean Islands and Middle East Regional Coordinator and Linda Lenters from the Calgary I.C. would continue in the position of North American Regional Coordinator.

***Ad Interim Assistants***

Following the 1st WACA Council Meeting 2023, Maga appointed Malcolm McLean from the Sydney Interline Club as the Ad Interim Assistant for the Far East and Australasia Region and Vashti Roberts from the Airlines Club Bahamas as the Ad Interim Assistant for the Latin America and Caribbean Region.

**Financial**

The Chief Finance Officer gave a brief of the financial situation for the period January–May 2023. The current financial situation is very good. A surplus of around USD 2,800.00 can be expected from the 53rd AGA in Bali. The 1st Council Meeting 2023 held in Vancouver was within the budget and a big saving is not having to pay the IATA rent this year.

**Correspondence**

On 18 April 2023 a letter from the Vancouver Interline Club to the WACA Council dated
22 March 2023 was received as an attachment to an e-mail. It was copied to the WACA Auditor and Regional Coordinators. The letter raised several issues of concern regarding amendments that had been made to the Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) following the 53rd AGA where a quorum was not present as well as subsequent appointments that had been made by the Council. Each issue raised in the letter had been carefully reviewed by the Council members and it was agreed that the Council had made the amendments and appointments in accordance with the C&B. The Council will inform the Vancouver Interline Club accordingly.

**Public Relations**

The Chief Marketing/Events Officer will revive the WACA World News and issue an electronic version prior to the 54th AGA. To address the depleting membership he will reach out to airlines and get in touch with their social clubs as well as working with people that are interested to revive Clubs in Australia, Mexico, Thailand and Fiji. A template letter will be prepared and sent to the airlines showing that WACA’s main focus is philanthropic and endorsing sustainability projects in the airline industry. In collaboration with the Association Airline Ambassadors charity projects in the Indian Ocean Islands and Madeira are being explored. Action will be taken to combine the two separate WACA pages in the WACA Facebook site into one page.

**Sports/International Events and Special Projects**

The President had been in Thailand and met with members of the former WACA member club: the Airline Club of Thailand. It is hoped that the Club will rejoin the Association and organise a Silk Road Tour in 2024. Through the International Institute for Peace Through Tourism (IIPT), a contact has been made with a lady in China who has connections to the travel industry who could support and promote WACA in the country. Contact has been made with the organisers of the annual World Airline Road Race and they have no problem allowing WACA to host an event in the same location at the same time as the Race. An informal arrangement has also been made between WACA and the organisers of the Aviation Football Cup which is held three times per year. A WACA cruise could be held in February or May in a different region each year.

**WACA Website**

Following the migration from the old website to the new platform, a major review of the content and necessary editing was undertaken. The Administration Manager was given the technical support of an IATA intern and between them a greatly enhanced and professional looking website has been created. Old links have been deleted with new links added, pictures removed and more relevant pictures added, out-of-date text updated and the calendar of events kept completely up-to-date as required.

**WACA Office**

The Administration Manager had met with IATA’s Administration Manager following the 1st Council Meeting 2023. He was told that any return to the office would probably not be until mid-2024 after all the major renovations are completed. Importantly, however, he can still continue with the long standing relationship with IATA by remotely accessing the IATA office from his home for e-mail, folders, the website, etc. and he receives full IT support as required.

**WACA Vision: Footprint in the Travel and Tourism Industry**

***Travel with an Opportunity to Make a Difference: WACA’s Vision Towards the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda***

Based on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) WACA will adhere to any goal that is deemed fit to be promoted and to encourage Member Clubs and individuals to support each initiative. As responsible travellers, it is an opportunity to make a difference in Environmental, Social or Governance (ESG) aspects whenever we travel and when we visit any destination. It goes in line with our first Purpose and Objective in the Constitution, i.e. “To provide social and economic causes to the benefit of the airline industry and the community in general.”

***WACA’s Involvement in the “Survey for Zero Flight Waste” Project***

WACA is collaborating with the University of Kassel, Germany, in its “Survey for Zero Flight Waste” project the aim of which is to one day achieve zero waste in flight. The main objective of this collaboration is to work together towards a common goal of developing a sustainability approach to waste management in-flight. The end result being less food waste and less items thrown away which cannot be recycled. The report of the recent survey carried out by the University of Kassel and the Association Airline Ambassadors/WACA will be summarised and sent to various airlines seeking additional information for discussions or surveys to be conducted on their behalf.

***Child Protection from Exploitation***

WACA’s project to support the three street children in Vietnam by providing them with education through the NGO Blue Dragon Children’s Foundation has come to its end after five years and a two year extension. The “UN Sustainable Development Goal 4 is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all” which the Association will continue to adhere to.

WACA together with the Association Airline Ambassadors in collaboration with the company SKYPRO, a supplier of accessories to airline crews, ([www.wearskypro.com](http://www.wearskypro.com)) are engaging in another project being handled by the Foundation Dona Jacinta de Ornelas Pereira in Madeira. The project sets up an eco-school regrouping for children younger than six selected from needy families of the community of Estreito de Camara de Lobos in the archipelago of Madeira.

 *(continued)*

***Child Protection from Exploitation*** *(continued)*

Our Association’s aim is to support the school in reaching one of its target to build and upgrade the education facilities for children that are disabled or gender sensitive to provide them with a safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all. WACA has collaborated on this project since 2020 starting with the interior painting of the institution to benefit the children with a clean and hygienic place to receive a sound quality of early childhood development.

Elda Oliviera, a member of the Airline Club Portugal, together with the WACA President, visited the institution and they were pleased to report about the good work carried out by the institution and it deserves to receive our continuous support. Support will continue in part from the Association Airline Ambassadors, which is supporting WACA’s Change for Help programme and the WACA Relief Fund, as well as from our well-wisher SKYPRO which is based in Portugal.

**54th AGA (Amman): The 2023 Interline Celebration**

The pre-AGA tour is sold out and the maximum number of hotel rooms reserved for the 54th AGA has been reached. More registrations are being received so the Jordan I.C. is trying to obtain additional rooms.

**55th AGA: The 2024 Interline Celebration**

At the 54th AGA there will be an official proposal on behalf of the Indian Ocean Islands Interline Club to host the 55th AGA in Mauritius in the third week of September 2024. Pre- and post-AGA packages will possibly be arranged in Réunion, Seychelles and Madagascar. If successful, a post-AGA Madagascar package will be based in Nosy Be and will include the airfare to/from Antananarivo.

**56th AGA: The 2025 Interline Celebration**

If there is no bid made at the 54th AGA to host the 56th AGA, the WACA Council will make a proposal to host it on a cruise.

**Amendments to the Constitution and/or Bylaws**

A new version of the WACA Manual Part I **—** Constitution and Bylaws was issued with a February 2023 date. Following the 1st Council Meeting 2023, the President and Administration Manager worked on the wording required to amend 1.3.4 of the Constitution requested by the Vancouver I.C. in regards to changing the 100 km radius people need to live within to join a Member Club. It was important to ensure the amendment did not affect WACA’s Member-at-Large programme. The proposed amendment will be included in the 54th AGA Delegate Credential Form to be submitted by the Council.