



PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS #4

My best wishes to everyone who is celebrating Easter at the moment. I trust that you have an enjoyable time with family and friends.

The subject of this musings is the FAI Finances. We all know that our financial situation has caused concern for some time now and it is apparent that we all need to be very attentive to our financial management and our financial processes.

Since the General Conference in 2018 the Secretary General has been very active on financial management. A tight focus is being kept on expenditure against budget, especially for those small, unplanned expenditures that arise from invitations to attend many and varied events and activities globally. A 'dashboard' reporting system is being developed to provide the EB with an easy process to review how the finances are tracking, and expenditure on major items does not occur until planned revenue is available.

The head office provides services to the Member and Commissions. Everyone is well aware that the demand for services has increased continuously over the past years. The FAI's income stream is fragile, based predominantly on subscriptions and this income stream has remained basically static for a number of years. So improving and stabilising the income stream is a necessary focus for everyone in the FAI. The current subscription model is 20+ years old and is being reviewed and work is also underway to create new, external, income sources, including the development of a FAI corporate affiliation strategy.

The Executive Board is very conscious of its fiduciary responsibilities, including ensuring the FAI is, and remains, solvent, the accuracy of financial reports and processes, and a high standard of compliance with statutory requirements. To assist the EB discharge these responsibilities a half-day planning session on finance management will be conducted during the EB meeting next weekend, led by the Secretary General and Finance Director.

The bottom line is that we, as an organisation, need to pay attention to our current financial situation as well as ensuring that we provide the organisation with the both the time to develop new financial solutions and the resources necessary to meet the internal and external demands being placed on the organisation.

Best regards

Robert Henderson
FAI President

21st April 2019