

ACFID Code of Conduct Meeting

This is a summary of the CCC meeting held online on 21 August 2020.

The CCC meets four times each year. Communiqués of each meeting are produced so that ACFID's members can read and understand the work of the CCC. The next meeting will be held on 13 November 2020.

CCC Governance

The CCC noted that two long-standing members, Simon Miller and Greg Cadman, will leave the Committee at the end of this year when their second terms end.

Nominations for the two elected positions will open on 1 October and the Committee wishes to encourage ACFID members to consider nominating an individual to join the CCC. The Committee welcomes nominations from individuals with diverse backgrounds and experiences, and from a range of organisations. Individuals with expertise in the CCC focus areas, PSEAH, Environmental Sustainability and Disability-Inclusive Development, are also strongly encouraged to nominate. [Information about the Committee](#) including current Committee members can be found on ACFID's website. Further information about the nomination process will be provided to ACFID members shortly.

The Committee's updated Terms of Reference and Governance Framework were endorsed by the ACFID Board in June 2020. The [Terms of Reference can be found on ACFID's website](#).

PSEAH

The Committee was briefed on ACFID's second annual update on the recommendations from the 2018 independent review to improve the sector's practice and response in the prevention of sexual misconduct. Many of the recommendations have been progressed through changes to the ACFID Code and Quality Assurance Framework. The Committee noted the importance of continuing to strengthen organisational culture and leadership, alongside compliance requirements.

The Committee discussed a draft strategy for the new PSEAH focus area. They noted the challenges posed by COVID-19 on safeguarding issues, especially when working with partners, and noted the importance of monitoring progress as the focus area is implemented.

Impact of COVID-19

Committee members shared their reflections on the impact of COVID-19 on the sector and on their organisations' operations and the wellbeing of staff and partners. The Committee was also briefed on ACFID's recent activities in response to COVID-19, including the #EndCOVIDForAll

campaign. The CCC will continue to review the impact of COVID-19 in future meetings.

New membership applications

The CCC approved five organisations for Code Signatory status and recommended them for full interim membership at the next meeting of ACFID's Board: Global School Partners, Educating the Future, This Life Incorporated, John Fawcett Foundation and MAF International.

The Committee also noted the Membership Admissions Committee's decision to trial using existing communication channels to advise ACFID's members of organisations that are in the process of applying for membership.

Code compliance research

The Committee was joined by Sheryl Liu, an intern with the Australian National Internship Program, who presented the findings from her research project looking at the costs and benefits of compliance with the Code of Conduct.

The Committee discussed the implications of the findings for the current Code reporting process, in particular the relationship between the reporting requirements of ACFID's Code and DFAT Accreditation for members who are part of the ANCP.

The Committee was also briefed on current and future ACFID projects which aim to create efficiencies for members' Code reporting. This includes mapping the ACFID Code of Conduct and DFAT Accreditation Criteria and the development of a planning tool for members.

Information about the Code of Conduct Committee including Committee members and the Terms of reference can be found on the [ACFID Website](#).

For more information about the Code of Conduct Committee, contact ACFID Standards and Code Lead Sophie Seck on (02) 8123 2222 or sseck@acfid.asn.au