

AusCham Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting Held on 28th November 2019, at The Australian Embassy, Phnom Penh.

Time: 17:00 – 18:30

Attendees: Paul Adair, Ashley Irving, Ruwan Hulugalle, Anneliese Helmy, Lawrence Chan, Kim Chilcott, Anneliese Helmy, Vichet Heng, Ngun Kheng, Matthew Rendall, Morn Moeun, Vannsan Nou, Chris Robinson, Christoph Steinwehe, Geetha Yoga.

Proxy: David Littlejohn, Sophat Meas

Apologies: David Knight, Todd Smith

Chairperson: Ashley Irving

Minutes: Julie Littlejohn

Approval of minutes from the 2018 AGM – Paul Adair and Geetha Yoga

Approval of update to statutes for office bearers 2018/2019 – Paul Adair and Geetha Yoga

President’s Message – 2019 a Year in Review:

I am pleased to present a summary of the Chamber’s achievements over the past 12 months. Our membership based has been maintained, corporate membership is 33, individual membership 18.

We have strengthened our partnership links with AusChams around the region, our membership to the AusCham ASEAN Chamber has continued to provide benefits; I am acting Vice President of the chamber.

AusCham has continued with its support of Women in Business (WiBKH), a combined initiative with the British and Canadian Chambers.

To maintain and increase our membership, we have continued to create value for members, either on our own account or by hosting more joint events with other Chambers; we held several joint chamber events during the year, and hosted for the first time, two member only events. Through-out the year, we have maintained our strong partnership with the Australian Embassy

Events:

We had a great start to the year, with our flagship event: ‘**Year-Ahead Crystal Ball Seminar**’ which included a lively, interactive discussion, during which business leaders provided their perspective and outlook on the economic, financial landscape, consumer and real estate trends for the year ahead.

Our friends at BritCham co-hosted with us.

In February we hosted the 4th **Family Cricket Fun Day**, together with Britcham, at Northbridge International school.

To mark international Women's Day 2019, our **Women in Business sub-committee** hosted a panel event, showcasing 4 amazing Cambodia female game-changers:

Sopheap Chak, Cambodian Center for Human Rights.

Geraldine Dorothea Cox founder of Sunrise Cambodia,

Kunthea Dorsu, owner of Dorsu an ethical and sustainable clothing company.

Catherine V Harry, described as "as a face for the new generation of feminists in Cambodia."

In March, we held a **Members' Only event, hosted by our Ambassador**, Angela Corcoran. The event offered members the opportunity to hear the priorities for the year ahead; for the embassy and the chamber. Whilst offering an opportunity to networking and meet other members and embassy staff.

In May, we hosted an invitation only, round-table discussion on the **Ease of Doing Business in Cambodia** – fact or fiction. The chamber plans on hosting other similar meeting/discussions on current topics of interest for members in 2020. Should you have suggestions for topics to be discussed – please contact myself or a committee member.

Our **Mid-Year Review** was held on the 15th August in partnership with AmCham, this joint chamber seminar offered guests the opportunity to hear from industry experts on employee and salary trends, and updates on tax and regulatory changes.

This event was followed by a **Women in Business** event with trainers from The Capacity Specialists – on the theme Create Your Own Personal Tagline

Also, in August we hosted our 2nd Siem Reap networking event with the British Chamber. Both the Australian and British Ambassadors joined us for this well attended event. The event provided an excellent opportunity to meeting with Australian businesspeople based in the area

The Interchamber committee, which Auscham is an active member of, presented a networking event in early September showcasing Cambodian sporting heroes – the event featured exhilarating performances from the **Taekwondo and Bokator National Team and Federation**.

These events are proving hugely popular, with attendance numbers in excess of 500.

Our signature event '**An Evening of Penfolds**' was held on Saturday, 12th of October, at the Pavilion Rosewood Hotel, Phnom Penh.

This celebration event included a range of Penfolds wines: with a guided tasting and tutored masterclass of Penfolds luxury and iconic wines led by a Penfolds' Ambassador Sam Stephens and includes the prestigious *Penfolds Grange*. Followed by a 4-course Australian flavours dinner, complimented by Penfolds wines.

Our monthly business networking events Sundowners are proving still popular.

Administration

Business Manager and Executive Directors from Singapore, Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand, Laos and **Cambodia** spent 2 days in May discussing their relevant chambers, working together more closely with AustCham ASEAN and improving opportunities for their respective memberships. Included in the discussions were membership management, member information sharing, capacity building opportunities, resourcing, and interaction with regional body-AustCham ASEAN, plus funding opportunities and events.

A joint Mekong Auscham initiative was agreed, enabling all Auscham members to attend each other's events at member rates.

The committee has recently reviewed and update our Mission Statement and re-defined our Strategic Goals. A copy of which was emailed to you a week prior to this meeting.

I ask the members here present, to approve and vote these changes to be adopt and incorporated into the Chamber's statutes.

Voted, approved and passed

Financially, as you will hear from our Treasurer Paul Adair, our position has continued too strengthened

For the year ahead, the Committee's goals are to continue to increase membership and host more business-related events; whilst continuing to expand on networking opportunities for members. In late January the Chamber will start the year with a 2020 Year Ahead seminar, and a fun Australia Day event.

I would like to thank outgoing committee member Anneliese Helmy, for her contribution and time on the committee. I am pleased to advise that Anneliese will remain on our Women in Business Subcommittee.

Do please keep your feedback coming – we are especially keen to hear from members on the type and subjects you would like to see the Chamber cover in our business-seminars.

Financial Report for year ending 30 September 2019

| | 2018/19 | 2017/18 |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| OPENING BALANCE 1 OCT | | |
| BANK | 19,029 | 15,957 |
| CASH FLOAT | - | 500 |
| | 19,029 | 16,457 |
| INCOME | | |
| Membership | 9,634 | 9,700 |
| Sponsorship | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Events | 5,703 | 12,337 |
| Interest | 48 | 41 |
| WIB | - | |
| TOTAL INCOME | 20,384 | 27,078 |
| Business Managers Fee | 12,000 | 9,915 |
| Events | 4,328 | 11,683 |
| Eventbank Software License | 1,200 | - |
| Regional Conferences | 325 | |
| Bank fee | 300 | 47 |
| Website | 176 | 176 |
| VAT on Bad debts | 175 | |
| Withholding Tax | 170 | |
| Event Bank Fees | 149 | |
| Room Hire | 80 | 20 |
| Promotion | 76 | 65 |
| FX Gain/(loss) | 29 | |
| Scholarships | - | 2,000 |
| Chamber registration | - | 110 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 19,007 | 24,016 |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| NET SURPLUS FOR YEAR | 1,377 | 3,062 |
| WIB Funds Repaid/ Received | 138 | |
| CLOSING BALANCE 30 SEPT | 20,544 | 19,519 |
| Represented by: | | |
| JTRUST Royal Bank | 20,544 | 19,029 |
| CASH FLOAT | - | - |
| | 20,544 | 19,029 |

Membership Fees remained a similar level to previous year

Sponsorship income of \$5,000 is Annual Gold Sponsorship by ANZ Royal Bank

The Net surplus of \$1,377 is \$1,685 down on previous year.

Business manager fees are higher as were increased to current level in July 2018.

Eventbank Software License fees for two years were paid in current years due to invoicing delay by Eventbank. Annual fee is \$600 and we have to pay 14% withholding tax.

AUSCHAM received an exemption for Tax on Income and on VAT on revenue other than sponsorships in September 2018. Prior to receiving the exemption AUSCHAM had to declare VAT on Membership revenue when the tax invoices were raised. This resulted in a \$175 expense on VAT of invoices written off. This cannot be recovered from GDT.

AUSCHAM discontinued its Business English Language Scholarships program that was in place for 2017.and 2018.

EVENTS

The surplus on Events increased by \$722 on previous year.

Event Income and expenses are both significantly down on 2017/18 as there was no Penfolds event in this year.

A successful Evening of Penfolds was held at Rosewood hotel on Saturday, 12th of October and no transactions are recorded in the current year's result.

The Financial report was approved any carried by Geetha Yoga and Vichit Heng.

Proposed Use of Fund:

Approval for the surplus balance to rollover to the 2019/2020 year was approved and carried.

Committee Members:

Ashley Irving summarise the committee: one embassy and one alumni representative, President, two Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. New nominations were received for Morn Moeun and Kim Chilcott.

The following members were nominated for the 10 committee officer positions, was carried and approved.

1. **Mr. Ashley Irving, Principal, IDP - President**
2. Mr. Chris Robinson, Partner, DFDL Cambodia
3. Mr. Todd Smith, CEO, Ripple Effects Consulting
4. Mr. John McGinley, Managing Partner, Mekong Strategic Partners
5. **Mr. Paul Adair - Treasurer**
6. Ms. Geetha Yoga, COO, Hagar International
7. Mr. Ruwan Hulugalle, Managing Director, RHC Education
8. Mr. Paul Dodd, Regional Manager, Infinity Finance
9. Mr Morn Moeun, Head of Business Development, Fertility Clinic Cambodia
10. Mr Kim Chilcott, Executive Chef Pacow Beef & BBQ Steak Restaurant

AOB

Matthew Rendall raised the question of Chamber registration, mentioning that this is an issue for other chambers. Auscham completed its registration in early 2018, with the Ministry of Commerce and the Tax Dept.

Meeting closed at 18:30