Dear Members,

According to Section 18 of the Constitution below:

18. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

18.1 Proposed alterations to the Constitution shall first be approved by a two-thirds vote of Council prior to being presented to the General Assembly for adoption as per Section 6.1.1.

18.2 Alterations to the Constitution shall require approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present at an Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.

18.3 Notice of the meeting at which amendments to the constitution will be voted upon, shall include the exact wording of the proposed alteration(s), together with a statement giving reasons for, and the effect of such alteration(s), and any member of the institute shall have reasonable access to the original and amended version of the constitution or can request the secretary to email or fax, or make available copies in the 21 days preceding such a meeting.

The following changes has been proposed for **Motions 1-8**

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Proposed Constitutional changes

A – Number of council members elected

The Constitution prescribe (at 7.1.1) that Council shall consist of the following:

- President
- Two Vice-Presidents
- Immediate Past President
- Honorary Secretary
- Honorary Treasurer

The Constitution refer at 7.2.2, in various sub-clauses, that six council members shall be elected.

This is problematic, as the IPP is ex-officio a member of council, and not elected.

Councill therefore propose that the Constitution is changed to clarify that 5 members are elected, not 6, with the 6th being ex-officio.

Motion 1 – Change 7.2.2.3 and 7.2.2.4 to read as follows:

7.2.2.3 In the event of the number of nominations being 5 or less, those nominated shall automatically be elected.

7.2.2.4 In the event of more than five or more nominations being received, existing council members shall vote by ballot to determine the new elected members.

7.2.2.4 (ii) The five candidates receiving the most votes shall be elected to Council.

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Motion 2 – Add new clause 7.2.2.4 (iv) to clarify that the IPP is ex officio a member of Council

7.2.2.4 (iv) The incumbent outgoing President remains ex officio a member of the incoming council as Immediate Past President for one term.

B – Quorum size

The Constitution prescribe that a quorum at a Council meeting shall consist of 7 members.

This is based on the assumption that Council exercised its discretion to co-opt additional members onto council, which is not always the case.

Council therefore propose that the Constitution is changed to clarify that a quorum consist of a majority of the members serving on Council, not a fixed number.

Motion 3 – change 9.2 to read as follows:

9.2 A majority of the number of members serving on council shall constitute a quorum at all Council Meetings.

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C – President's Term

The Constitution prescribe (at 10.4) that Council shall elect the Office Bearers for the ensuing year, before the next AGM.

The office bearers are therefore to be elected annually, i.e., for a one-year term (although they remain re-electable).

However, 10.4 goes on to prescribe that the existing Office Bearers shall elect the incoming President before every second AGM.

The President appears therefore to be elected for a two-year term, not one year as the rest of the office bearers.

This creates confusion as to which office bearers are to be elected annually, and how long the President's term is compared the rest of the Office Bearers.

Council propose that the President serves the same term as the rest of the Office Bearers.

Motion 4 - Change 10.4 to read as follows:

The existing Office Bearers shall elect the incoming President, by secret ballot, before every Annual General Meeting, and before the incumbent but outgoing President's term automatically expires.

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In the event that the Members do not want to reduce the President's term to one year, the following alternative is proposed:

Motion 5 (alternative to Motion 3) – Change 10.2 to read as follows:

The Office Bearers, other than the President who shall serve a two-year term, shall serve in their respective capacity for one year only, but shall be immediately eligible for re-election to the same or another office, provided that no person shall hold the office of the President for more than two consecutive years.

The Constitution (at 10.3.1) prescribe that no person shall be eligible for election to President unless he has served a term as Vice-President, and has been a member of council for the three preceding years.

The 3-year service prescription is problematic.

Council proposes to change the required time served on council from 3 years to 2 years, but clarify that this must be in an Office Bearer role, not as a co-opted member of Council.

Motion 6 – Change 10.3.1 to read as follows:

No person shall be eligible for election as Institute President unless he has served a term as Vice-President and has been an Office Bearer for the two preceding years.

Similar to the President, the Constitution prescribe that no one is eligible for election to Vice-President role unless he has served the preceding two years on council.

Council proposes to change the required time to serve on Council from 2 to 1 years, but clarify that this must be in an Office Bearer role, not as a co-opted member of Council.

Motion 7 – Change 10.3.2 to read as follows:

No person shall be eligible for election as Institute Vice President who has not been an Office Bearer for the preceding year.

Members, including Council Members and Office Bearers have over the years fallen into the habit of referring to the two Vice-Presidents as VP1 and VP2.

They have also fallen into the habit of ranking the two vice presidents, with VP1 ostensibly being more senior than VP2.

A position also developed in some quarters that a Councill member cannot be elected to VP1 unless he has first served a term as VP2.

These positions are not supported by the Constitution.

The Constitution makes no such distinction, and place no such eligibility requirement. It treats the two Vice Presidents as equals.

Council proposes to clarify this by inserting a new clause 10.3.3

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Motion 8 – Insert a new clause 10.3.3 that reads as follow:

The two Vice-Presidents are of equal rank, and is referred to as VP1 and VP2 merely for convenience. Either one of the two Vice-Presidents are eligible for election to President after serving 2 years as an Office Bearer, of which one year must be as a Vice-President.

Regards,

CorrISA Council

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