



Uniting Church in Australia
ASSEMBLY
Assembly Standing Committee

15-17 July 2022

DOCUMENT 5

Title	General Secretary Report
Type of Paper (Information/Decision)	For information and decision
Assembly or ASC Minute	Not applicable
Consultation	As noted in the report
Purpose	To advise the Assembly Standing Committee on Assembly progress against Strategic Plan, operations and issues relevant to its work.
Rationale & Findings Summary	See the report
Attachments	Attachment A: Strategic Plan and Business Plan Reporting Attachment B: Review Attachment B1: FY23 Budget for UnitingWorld for ASC Attachment C: Redress Matters for Croker Island Mission Attachment C1: Responsibility for Croker Island Mission Redress and Civil Matter Attachment C2: Provision for Claims – Croker Island Mission
Proposal/s	That the Assembly Standing Committee: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Receive the General Secretary Report <p>Review</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Request the General Secretary to consider the current Assembly Strategic Plan in the light of work from the 16th Assembly reconvened meeting, and bring any proposed changes re priorities in the Strategic Plan to the November 2022 ASC meeting.3. Request the General Secretary to bring a summary of support offered to Assembly governance committees and task groups, including the adequacy of resourcing this support to the November 2022 ASC meeting.4. Approve the extension of the current Assembly Strategic Plan until the 17th Assembly, and align the next Assembly Strategic Plan with the new triennium, following the 17th Assembly.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Agrees to meet online for its March 2023 and November 2024 meetings. 6. Request the General Secretary to develop a protocol for how Assembly committees and groups meet for the November 2022 ASC meeting. <p>Redress Matters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Note the report provided. 8. Request the General Secretary to report to the November 2022 ASC meeting re ongoing conversations with the Northern Synod re the liability for redress and civil matters relating to child sexual abuse at Croker Island Mission from 1969-1972. 9. Notes the summary of information regarding the history of the Methodist Overseas Mission with responsibility for Croker Island Mission; and agrees that the provision for redress and civil matters relating to child sexual abuse at Croker Island Mission should be apportioned equally between the Assembly Secretariat (ASM) and UnitingWorld. 10. Requests the General Secretary to inform the UnitingWorld Board of the resolutions of the Standing Committee with respect to Croker Island Mission, seeking their response.
Submitted by	<p>Colleen Geyer Assembly General Secretary colleeng@nat.uca.org.au; 0411 333 167</p>

GENERAL SECRETARY REPORT

Introduction: 1 Assembly, 3 Synods, Storms and Flooding Rains

A fair bit has happened since the ASC met in March. Significant work has continued at the Assembly, woven around the reconvened meeting of the 16th Assembly (see **Documents 9, 10**) and three Synod meetings (Qld, SA and Vic.Tas Synods).

The 16th Assembly reconvened meeting finished just as the rains and storms rolled into the Sunshine Coast, with heavy seas with foam that was reminiscent of snow spreading onto the roads and buildings. The Qld Synod cancelled the first day of its meeting and met in a hybrid way with members trickling in over the duration of the meeting as flooded roads opened and it was safer to travel. As the Vic.Tas Synod met, heavy rain moved into greater Sydney and the Central Coast, forcing evacuations and flooding areas and properties and homes for the second and third times in a short period of time.

With some people unable to afford flood insurance and wondering how they will rebuild homes and lives, natural disasters coming often, interest rates rising sooner than expected, the cost of living forcing some into living in tents or cars or having to make choices about what essential expenses will rate higher than others, the tenuous security in different parts of the world, it is easy to feel the fragility of this planet and its people.

The work of the UCA, our commitment to transform lives and communities by sharing the good news of the Gospel, of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the hope of God's saving grace that fiercely remains because of this and holds us close to a God who is faithful and present. The UCA, including the Assembly, is not without its own vulnerabilities. The work of the ASC, the resolutions of the 16th Assembly and our work together as the whole Church, gives us a focus and sets priorities. We do this within the wider global context, finding ways to not get caught up in those things that restrain us from the central mission of God to make and form disciples, and to shine the light and hope for all.

For this triennium, this is the first time this ASC will gather in person. Some of us met for the first time in person at the 16th Assembly reconvened meeting. We will sit together for meals, talk on the sidelines over breaks and lean over to one another to ask questions or share a view during the meeting. There is much to consider and decide.

COVID19

While Assembly staff are back to more 'normal' work patterns in the workplace, these remain of a hybrid nature. Weariness due to staff continuing to contract covid and the flu, continues as does its effect on performance. Executive staff providing leadership in this new normal, are attending to culture and care of staff, while also reflecting on what it means to be a leader in this time.

Staff

Staffing Changes

A number of staffing changes have been made across the Assembly, in all areas.

In the Secretariat, three staff have resigned. Liyan Zhang, from the finance and admin team resigned; Ji Zhang resigned as Assembly Theologian-In-Residence and will finish at the end of July; and Charissa Suli resigned as Assembly National Consultant, effective from 8 July to take up a position with the Sydney Presbytery.

A replacement for Liyan has been recruited due to adequately resourcing the finance support that is provided across the Assembly. Jazz Durrani will commence in the role of Management Accountant from the beginning of August.

Succession Planning

For the information of the ASC, the following strategies are undertaken to support and resource executive staff, and plan for any changes:

Annual Performance Reviews – when the reviews are of Executive staff, they are undertaken with the Chair of the relevant Board, and input from Board members, in order to give the National Directors the best foundation for the coming year.

Professional Development – training and coaching opportunities are provided and encouraged, in particular relating to specific challenges or future goals.

Regular Catch-Ups – with the General Secretary to discuss what is happening, any challenges and opportunities, and necessary actions, as well as what gives them energy and joy. These conversations can also consider the future goals of the person.

Current Position Description – keeping position descriptions under review allow consideration of what is currently required of the position.

Understanding Risk – this can be considered by a Board or management regarding the risk of key staff moving on, and what mitigation strategies need to be undertaken.

Note that within the Secretariat, the staff team is not large, and the structure quite flat. This allows collaboration and strategy to happen across all parts of the team. However, it also makes succession planning a challenge.

Senior Leaders Meeting

The senior leaders (Executive team and next level of management down) of the Assembly will meet together in Sydney on 27 July. This team has not met in person since 2019. One of the issues we will be discussing is building an effective culture in the current context, not only in the individual teams but also as a whole Assembly team.

ASSEMBLY UNITS AND AGENCIES

(Frontier Services and UnitingWorld are reporting to the ASC. See Document

Assembly Resourcing Unit (ARU)

(Highlights since March 2022 meeting)

Staff

- Some staff have had challenges with COVID-19 personally or amongst their family. We continue to work in a hybrid fashion. In June we were able to enjoy our first full-team face to face meeting for over 12 months.
- Recent weeks has seen the farewelling of Rev Charissa Suli to her new placement in the Sydney Presbytery.
- Plans are in place for the farewell of Rev Dr Ji Zhang at the end of July.

National Conferences (NC)

- Facilitated several gatherings of NC leaders with the President and ARU. Continued to provide ongoing pastoral support to NC leaders.
- Involvement with UnitingWorld in managing an issue among Fijian Methodist Community.

Advocacy

- The UCA election resource received good feedback
- Ongoing involvement in the Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce.
- Broadly we share with all advocacy groups in a time of re-calibration following the federal election and planning for reaching out to the new government on key areas of interest.

Climate Change

- An additional educational and theological resource was released with one further to be developed.
- Carbon footprint calculations from the Assembly Secretariat and Agencies continue to be collated quarterly and will be reported at the November meeting.

Intercultural / Intergenerational

- Staff have run several workshops prior to the Reconvened Assembly. Resources are being collated for placing on the website.
- An intergenerational workshop has been planned to establish a framework. Children and Family, Youth and Young Adult leaders and workers, along with DNG Circle Panel are among the invited participants.

Circles

- Staff have facilitated meetings of Advocates and all the Panels. These continue the focus on key calendar events through 2022, the Assembly Strategic Plan, Act2 and the communications strategies of Circles.
- Panels and Circles are aware of Resolution 36.6 from the Reconvened Assembly and, subsequent to any further decisions of ASC, are considering how to carry forward the focus on climate change.

Ecumenical and Interfaith

- The Iftar Dinner with Muslim leaders and the Muslim community was held in May at St Stephens UC. It was a very successful event bringing together the UCA President, Moderator of NSW ACT Synod, the Executive Director of Uniting NSW ACT and the Grand Mufti of Australia among others. The theme of the night was interfaith chaplaincy. Two of the three panellists were UCA chaplains in interfaith contexts.
- The Executive Council of Australian Jewry – UCA Dialogue met with a focus on the shared festivals of Pentecost and Shavuot. This was reported in National Update.

UnitingCare Australia

UnitingCare Australia has continued to focus on its strategic priorities during the reporting period as detailed below with a focus on the 2022 Federal Election.

Federal Election Campaign

On 25 March UnitingCare Australia successfully launched its 2022 Election Campaign – Uniting A Caring Australia. The national Campaign was developed in conjunction with the UnitingCare network and Assembly. The overarching themes of cost of living and aged care were very relevant and successfully influenced election priorities, increased the public profile of UnitingCare Australia and the UnitingCare network, and improved engagement across the network and Church.

Justice for First Peoples

The First Peoples Working Group have continued to meet regularly to progress advocacy activities and plan a third First Peoples Gathering scheduled to be held face to face on 29 and 30 August in Brisbane. First Peoples from across the Uniting Church, the Uniting Aboriginal Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) and the UnitingCare Network will be attending the Gathering. The event is an opportunity to come together, learn from each other, build relationships, and strengthen the First Peoples voice. We have invited key politicians and First Peoples leaders to attend. A key discussion at the Gathering will be around the new Government's commitment to fully implement the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

Addressing Economic Inequality

Two key policy priorities in UnitingCare Australia's Election Campaign focused on Addressing Economic Inequality: A National Stagnant Income Inquiry and Superannuation on the Government's Paid Parental Leave Scheme. A significant number of meetings were held with key MPs and Senators in the lead up to the Election to socialise and advocate for these initiatives. The Labor Party adopted our ask of an incomes inquiry into their election policy platform by expanding their employment white paper to include wages and stagnant incomes. UnitingCare Australia continues to influence through membership of a number of Government advisory groups including chairing the Minister's Emergency Relief National Coordination Group and sitting on both the Department of Social Services and Services Australia Community Services Advisory Groups.

Ageing to our Full Potential

Aged care featured strongly in UnitingCare Australia's Election Campaign which called for a commitment to support any aged care pay rise approved by the Fair Work Commission in the current wage increase case. Leading up to the Election, both parties committed to honoring the Fair Work wage case. As chair of the Australian Aged Care Collaboration Ltd (AACC) UnitingCare Australia also supported the AACC Election Campaign - Care About Aged Care. Additionally, a key project led by the AACC was the formation one aged care peak for the sector – the Aged and Community Care Providers Association (ACCPA). Internally Uniting Friends of Aging has continued to engage with Church's and Church members to support aged care advocacy. Additionally, the recent Triennial Assembly endorsed Uniting Friends of Ageing and Older Persons Sunday.

Disability Royal Commission

A separate report has been provided to ASC on the activities being undertaken in relation to the Disability Royal Commission and the National Task Group.

Updated as at July 2022 (all updates in RED)

Reporting the Business Plan

The Intention will be that the Business Plan will outline the areas of work for the Assembly, the expected outcomes of that work and the key activities involved in achieving the work.

Status	Colour Code
Planned activity	Planned
Completed Activity	Completed
On Track	On Track
Some delay / concern	Some Delay
Major delay/concern	Major Delay

An example:

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021- June 2022	July 2022- June 2023
ABCD Task Group			
<i>Expected outcomes</i> This Task Group will ...			
- Activity 1 – This activity is progressing well	On Track	Completed	
- Activity 2 – This activity is delayed slightly because....		Some Delay	
- Activity 3 – This activity has experienced a major obstacle because	Major Delay	Major Delay	Planned

Strategic Direction 1: Respond to the Church

Respond to the ongoing needs of the whole Church and other Councils

SD1.S1: Respond to the specific issues within areas of mandated responsibility

Respond to issues arising in determining doctrine and worship, ecumenical and international relationships, government and discipline including guiding decisions on the tasks and authority to be exercised by other Councils, and the general oversight and promotion of the life and mission of the Church

Activities:

Generally, this is undertaken on an ad-hoc basis, responding to inquiries and requests from across the Church. These will be added to this section or another more relevant section and reported accordingly.

SD1 Strategy 2: Enact Decisions of the Assembly

Support Task Groups arising from Assembly/ASC: Sovereignty, Continuing Witness, Disability Access; Enact decisions on Domestic and Family Violence, Climate Change.

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD1.S2 Assembly Decisions					
SD1.S2.1 Continuing Witness Task Group					
Expected Outcomes To scope the task of exploring the reception and endorsement by the Assembly of specific statements of “Continuing Witness”; to oversee research concerning which documents might be included for such reception and endorsement; and to undertake appropriate consultation with the wider Church, prior to bringing proposals to the ASC for the 16th Assembly. - The Task Group reported to the Reconvened Assembly and are moving to Consultation Phase	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	Planned
SD1.S2.2 Apology to LGBTIQ Australians Task Group					
Expected Outcomes To develop the wording of an official apology from the Uniting Church in Australia to LGBTIQ Australians for the Church’s role in the silence, rejection, discrimination and stereotyping of LGBTIQ people, couples and families. - The Task Group will report to July 2022 leading to a process of consultation across the UCA	Some Delay	On Track	On Track	On Track	Planned

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD1.S2.3 Climate Action Plan					
<p>Expected Outcomes Taking into account Resolution 18.12.01.01 of the 15th Assembly, request the Assembly Resourcing Unit, liaising with UAICC, and Synod and Agency personnel to prepare a National Climate Action Plan and Reporting Framework, and supporting educational and theological materials, to resource the wider church to take action on climate change, and report back to the July 2019 meeting of the ASC;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Climate Action Plan is in place and being implemented. Management will report against the Plan annually. 	Completed (Action Plan in place)	On Track	On Track	On Track	

	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD1.S2 ASC Decisions					
SD1.S2.4 Act 2					
<p>Expected outcomes Resource the Assembly to address the significant challenges and opportunities facing the Uniting Church into the future including identity, sustainability and structure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reported to Reconvened Assembly. July 2022 will develop next steps 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
SD1.S2.5 Church in the Digital Age					
<p>Expected outcomes To consider the theological implications of the Church in the digital age.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Task Group will report to Nov 2022 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
SD1.S2.6 Chaplaincy					
<p>Expected outcomes To review the exercise of pastoral and spiritual care positions, including those named as “chaplaincy ministries” across the life of the Church, exclusive of congregational life. To provide recommendations as to how such positions can fit within specified ministries of the Church, including changes to the regulations around those specified ministries. To consider the need for and provide frameworks for national guidelines and standards applicable to such positions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final report to July 2022 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	

SD1 Strategy 3: Standards for Ministries (Education for all specified ministries and admission of ordained)

Committee conducts consultations with MEBs and Colleges, revise Ministry of Pastor competencies and related Lay Preacher competencies, revise Admission processes, revise Phase 3 and Phase 4 standards including guidelines for supervision

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD1.S3 Standards for Ministries					
Expected Outcomes To advise the Assembly and the Assembly Standing Committee on the standards required for Specified Ministries within the Uniting Church and to ensure that the Assembly's responsibilities in relation to training for Specified Ministries and admission of ministers from other denominations are met					
Conduct Consultations in accordance with schedule - Western Australia Report coming to July 2022. Plans for NSWACT underway	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
Other areas of focus - As per Mandate, reporting to ASC as required. Phase 4 Update provided to July 2022	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	

SD1 Strategy 4: Maintain and extend the work of Circles of Interest

Support the work of Advocates, publicise Circles in the wider Church, further develop the mechanisms by which the Circles and Panels can support and extend the work of ASC and Assembly Staff

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD1.S4 Circles of Interest					
Expected outcomes Involve people in the national life of the church, providing a mechanism for sharing and learning, seeking broad input, disseminating information widely, encouraging growth and deepening discipleship and discerning together God's will. - Resolution from Reconvened Assembly re Climate Change and likely engagement in First Nations Voice will be key areas of work	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	

Strategic Direction 2: Identity

Communicate a clear and concise message — who are we as the UCA and what is our distinct role in working toward the coming of the Kingdom of God in Australia

SD2 Strategy 1: Find ways of telling the UCA Story

Remind the Church of our foundational values and commitments; sharpen ways of describing the vision and purpose of the Uniting Church in our context

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD2.S1 Telling the UCA Story					
Expected outcomes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Assembly communications contributing to a wider awareness of the identity, values, context and make-up of the UCA. UCA communities are encouraged to understand our foundational values and commitments. UCA communities know the UAICC UCA journey and the significant markers in this journey All members are able to participate in the Act 2 Conversation from a position of understanding 					
Basis of Union is more widely known and understood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Translated into key languages completed Translated into Plain English has been considered Act2 Study series available, have been offered and undertaken 	Completed				
UCA Commitments are widely available <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible translation awaiting meetings of National Conferences An online course introducing the UCA 	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Planned
UAICC and Covenant Journey developed into online course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delayed 	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Planned
Regular communications regarding Ecumenical and Other Faith relationships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeking Common Ground Circle and Assembly Comms have a calendar in place Communications and Assembly Resourcing Unit are highlighting key relationships 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	

SD2 Strategy 2: Continue working on the practical implications of the Covenant

Remind the Church of the Covenant, encourage exploration of the practical consequences of the Covenant, stimulate further thinking regarding the practical and theological implications of the Preamble to the Constitution.

Activities	July 2020-June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022-June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD2.S2 Covenant					
Expected outcomes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and deepen Covenant relationships The Covenant is central to the life of UCA, and the journey involves the whole Church. Covenant conversations in the Church involve First Peoples. All UCA communities are included and feel included as part of the UCA journey of Reconciliation First Nations theological writing is being championed 					
Elevate First Nations voices in conversations and submissions – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Election Resources was circulated - Conversations with Congress about First Nations Voice to Parliament have begun 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
Assembly has a Covenant Action Plan in place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed – Report on the Covenant and the Assembly to March 2022 	Completed				
Key Covenant resources are available and being used across the UCA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning for Preamble to be translated into key languages for National Conferences - Planning for leaders including National Conference leaders participate in Walking on Country delayed 					Planned

SD2 Strategy 3: Address National issues in the public space for the Gospel

Respond to calls for submissions; facilitate regular review of “Our Vision for a Just Australia” and evaluate how Australia and the Uniting Church are performing against the benchmarks set

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD2.S3 Justice and Advocacy					
Expected outcomes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembly has regularly reviewed and updated its “Vision for a Just Australia” • Assembly has advocated to in the public space on key themes within the Vision. • Assembly has identified, communicated and worked towards the Uniting Church’s commitments within these areas. 					
Our Vision for a Just Australia Document created, updated and used <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual review of Vision document and reporting progress - Resources for members are provided and promoted – Continuing development of Climate resources - Election resources developed and made available widely 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
Assembly advocacy in the public space in line with Vision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COP26, Religious Discrimination, Refugees in detention and Afghan Refugee intake recently - Engagement with new Federal Government is being planned. - Conversations preparing for COP27 have begun 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	

SD2 Strategy 4: With Synods, implement the Safe Church Framework

Work collaboratively with Synods to implement the National Safe Church Framework, contribute to a National Curriculum using the UnitingLearning platform

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD2.S4 Safe Church					
Expected outcomes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembly actively engaged in implementing the Safe Church Framework • Assembly participating in the development, distribution and participation in appropriate training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Three-year review of NSCU has been conducted and is being used to inform conversations about direction and focus for the future 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	

Strategic Direction 3: Innovation

Take risks, experiment and shape our church to respond to the needs of today and those of the future.

SD3 Strategy 1: Support networks and councils of the church exploring emerging expressions of the church

Support and communicate the work of networks exploring emerging expressions of the Church, and encourage sharing of models, resources and approaches between Synods and Presbyteries

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD3.S1 Emerging expressions of church					
<i>Expected outcomes</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembly communications channels including Circles are actively sharing ideas and resources and stories about innovative mission and new ways to be the church. Circles are seen as an important place for people to participate. • Intentional connections with international groups offering leadership in this, including from non-European • Innovation is seen as part of our DNA / core-business in our thinking • We have a culture of scanning the horizon and permission-giving 					
Support and communicate examples of emerging expressions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good engagement with and encouragement of Mission shaped ministry and Pioneering networks - Ongoing communication of good news stories – Innovation theme in National Update 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
Church in the Digital Age Task Group work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final report to ASC Nov 2022 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	

SD3 Strategy 2: Enable collaboration on Uniting Learning platform

Work with Synod Lay Educators, Safe Church stakeholders and other Synod and Agency groups to enable generous sharing of educational resources and develop creative online learning material.

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD3.S2 Uniting Learning					
Expected outcomes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uniting Learning platform is being used by the majority of ministers and lay leaders for their core safe church awareness training. The platform is providing reminders and activity reports to relevant internal and external stakeholders regarding safe church The platform is being used for onboarding of staff and upskilling of staff The platform has a wide and growing range of discipleship modules 					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of modules and communications (NSCU – modules available, plans for Covenant and Intercultural) - Assembly staff focus has been on web site recently 	On Track	On Track	On Track	Some Delay	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intentional engagement with diverse stakeholders in development of modules and use of platform. This has been slow as different stakeholders continue to discuss how best to use a shared platform. Uptake by several Synods remains – several Synods choosing to use different approaches 	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drawing on expertise across the Church including Circles, Panels and Advocates as developers, deliverers and participants - Assembly staff focus has been on web site recently 	On Track	On Track	On Track	Some Delay	

SD3 Strategy 3: Address the structures and regulatory framework of the whole church

Address the issue of whether the current structures and regulations of the Church are ‘fit for purpose’ in our context; specifically review how regulations have encouraged or have caused barriers to exploring and forming new forms of Church.

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD3.S3 Regulatory Framework					
Expected outcomes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16th Assembly sets clear pathway for Act 2 UCA members are engaged in Act 2 Project is meeting its schedule and deliverables <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regulation Review project has been included into Act2 for the remainder of this triennium 					

SD3 Strategy 4: Develop ways for future sustainability of Assembly

Identify alternative funding models and sources to enable the work of the Assembly to be supported in a sustainable manner

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD3.S4 Future Assembly Sustainability					
Expected outcomes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assembly has a consistent, sustainable income stream Reserves are accumulating to enable financial resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AFARC Future Sustainability Project Technology is being used well to engage with people and invite participation 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	

Strategic Direction 4: Intergenerational

Welcome, equip and hold together the different generations, in the life, ministry, decision making and leadership of the church.

SD4 Strategy 1: Growing emerging generation faith/leadership

Contribute to the development of models and opportunities for growing the faith and leadership of members of emerging generations, with focus on the unique experiences of different generations

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD4.S1 Growing faith and leadership					
Expected outcomes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are strong examples of, and sharing of experiences and learnings regarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Different generations are supporting each other rather than separate silos ➤ Key Church conversations and discussion/decision happen intergenerationally ➤ Children and younger people are involved in Church processes, for example calling a minister. ➤ All generations learn together - Church is a reflection of the community • All Circle Panels contain a proportion of members who are from younger generations • Discipling the Next Generations Circle operating effectively • Intentional mentoring programs in place for mutual learning between younger and older generations for leadership in the Church and wider community • Assembly activities would be in different spaces, not just inside offices 					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gathering and sharing stories of success - Engagement through DNG Circle and National Youth Children and family Coalition 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internship model in place – COVID and it impacts continue to delay 	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resources to facilitate the outcomes are in place and being used (several workshops undertaken, supporting President’s Roundtables / NYALC Online, Let’s Talanoa webinars) Connection with young adults and Church leaders in this area continues Strong connections with the UCA Children and Families Ministry group and Facebook page 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	

SD4 Strategy 2: Develop an Intergenerational ministry framework

Develop a framework for intergenerational ministry, including a rationale for how and why different aspects of this work should be carried by particular Councils of the Church

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD4.S2 Intergenerational Ministry Framework					
Expected outcomes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intergenerational relationships are intentionally modelled across the life of the Church (Assembly leading with examples) Clear and clearly understood definition(s) of intergenerational church and intergenerational ministry Intergenerational church focus has a missional edge Intentional connections with Schools have begun to develop 					
- Collaboratively develop a framework with Circles and other Synod and Presbytery stakeholders <i>A workshop with key stakeholders is planned for August</i>	Some Delay	Some Delay	On Track	On Track	
- Framework is launched at the 16th Assembly (Reconvened) <i>This has been deferred to later time to allow for broader discussion and potential alignment with Act2 – likely 17th Assembly</i>			Some Delay	Some Delay	Planned
- Different generations are consulted about “Our Vision for a Just Australia”, about our justice commitments This happened to some extent through the drawing together of people across the Church	Completed				
- Mentoring (and reverse mentoring) is developed – <i>delayed through COVID, available Assembly resourcing may also restrict</i>		Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	

SD4 Strategy 3: Support and take part in national youth events as negotiated with synods

Together with the President and emerging generation workers in Synods, plan, organise and deliver a National Young Adult Leaders Conference for 2021 and take part in any other Youth Events as Negotiated with Synods

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD4.S3 National Youth Events					
Expected outcomes	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembly runs one bi-annual youth event • Assembly facilitates interactions between Synods to encourage other youth events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Events planned and implemented - NYALC in planning for 2023 - Support and participate in gatherings of Synod and Presbytery staff, including Panel members of DNG Circle 					

SD4 Strategy 4: Partner with Congress in enabling work with emerging generations

Goals and outcomes for this area of work will be developed in consultation with Congress.

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD4 S4 Partner with Congress in emerging generations work					
Expected outcomes	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in National Youth Events • Assembly facilitates interactions between Synods to encourage other youth events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engagement in events (as in SD4.S3) 					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Connect Congress National Youth Committee into gatherings of Synod and Presbytery staff and DNG Circle - DNG and WTFSP Circles have new Advocates who have begun meeting together and with staff to further this 					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Congress included in Internship Program – The Internship Program has been delayed 					

Strategic Direction 5: Intercultural

Learn from and enable diverse cultural groups within the church to flourish together

SD5 Strategy 1: Engage National Conferences

Attend and support National Conferences representing the wider UCA; enable two-way communication between the National Conferences and the Assembly.

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD5.S1 Engage National Conferences					
Expected outcomes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Conferences working closely together and with the Assembly NCs are a resource for the wider Church Assembly has a database of intercultural congregation and key leaders Being a Multicultural Church Circle operating effectively 					
- Creating links between National Conferences, encouraging other sharing experiences and exchanges <i>Ongoing work including through BMC Circle. Additional online events in planning.</i>	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
- Raise awareness of National Conferences as a resource for issues like Admission of Ministers or Conflict within Congregations – Has been incorporated into Guidance Document	Completed				
- Invite National Conferences to consider the particular part they play in enabling the future of the UCA as an intercultural church (Webinars) – <i>Webinars continue, NCs have participated into Act2 conversations and ongoing ACT2</i>	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
- Support minority ethnic groups in their understanding and participation in the UCA <i>Basis of Union conversations, BMC planned webinars on key issues, general support for NCs Intercultural Neighbouring Sunday Resolution and outworking</i>	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
- Encourage National Conference members participation in Circles and the life of the Assembly <i>Intentional connection into BMC, WTFSP, DNG and SCG Circles has, and continues to happen</i>	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	

SD5 Strategy 2: Develop a vision for intercultural ministry

Develop, test and deliver training and resources across the Church, establish training of trainers, share best practice, enable online components to be delivered by UnitingLearning

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD5.S2 Intercultural ministry					
<i>Expected outcomes</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear understanding of what we mean by intercultural and being an intercultural Church. • Move from a multicultural to an intercultural Church • Church has theological resources that includes culturally diverse voices and perspectives • Resources and training in place to support all UCA groups to move to a more intercultural understanding and practice (meeting practice, worship, fellowship, community engagement) 					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop, test and deliver training and resources across the Church, establish training of trainers, share best practice, enable online components to be delivered by UnitingLearning - COVID has shifted focus to online materials which are being developed and implemented in this FY 	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage and support diverse theological thinking and writing - Through Circles this is happening to some extent - A focus on Continuing Witness leading up to the 17th Assembly 		On Track	On Track	On Track	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage theological education that truly reflects the contextual diversity of our people in the UCA - Standards for Ministries are pursuing this in all MEB and College interactions – an ongoing conversation 		On Track	On Track	On Track	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitate Basis of Union language conversations 	Completed	Completed			

SD5 Strategy 3: Collate and publicise language resources

Ensure that language resources are collected and easily available, develop new language resources, increase the accessibility of the Assembly website to CALD communities

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD5 S3 Language resources					
<i>Expected outcomes</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major documents are available in multiple languages, in written, audio and video formats • A process is in place to identify appropriate documents • We have a pool of professional (paid) as well as volunteer translators • Church meetings take into account diverse languages • Assembly website and social media platforms reflect diverse languages 					
- Key languages are identified	Completed				
- Key documents identified and translated – this has happened to some extent - National Conferences not meeting and general COVID context means this is delayed Translation software is still being trialled	On Track	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	
- A pool of translators in place and being resourced – - Translators available for small and significant pieces of work - Translation software is being trialled	On Track	On Track	On Track	On Track	
- Website and platforms reflect diverse languages – After initial website refresh. - Translation software is hoped to relieve the burden on translators to some extent	On Track	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	

SD5 Strategy 4: Support engagement of Congress with National Conferences

Work with Congress to support the ongoing engagement of National Conferences with First Peoples and the broader intercultural conversation within the UCA

Activities	July 2020- June 2021	July 2021-June 2022			July 2022- June 2023
		Jul-Oct	Nov-Feb	Mar-Jun	
SD5.S4 Engagement with UAICC					
<i>Expected outcomes</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CALD communities within the UCA have a strong understanding of the Covenant and the UAICC 					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resources in place (including Acknowledgement, Day of Mourning, Covenant Banners, Covenant Course) 	Completed				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunities for engagement between UAICC and National Conferences are in place - Several engagements have happened, but COVID has delayed this 	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Walking on Country opportunities for diverse CALD communities - Will be reconsidered in the next FY 	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preamble is translated in different languages with accompanying resources to enable reflection - Awaiting meeting with National Conferences – possible use of translation software. 	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	Some Delay	

REVIEW OF ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT and STRATEGY FOR CURRENT TRIENNium

Introduction

At the March 2022 ASC meeting, a mid-triennium review of the Assembly Secretariat with associated actions was presented for consideration by members. The review was to consider measures which could be undertaken to address issues of delivering on work priorities in an environment of changed work arrangements and a potential precarious financial situation. It was a review of whether the way the Assembly Secretariat currently works with its current resourcing is fit for purpose for its current priorities in this triennium, while also being able to adapt to what is required in the future. A Risk Register was also included.

Following feedback from members and further work, the following table sets out the actions from the review and information and/or proposals for the ASC to consider.

Actions from the Review	Information and Proposals for Consideration
<p>Deliver on priorities of the current Assembly Strategic Plan, Act2 Project and supporting Assembly governance committees and task groups</p>	<p>Proposals That the Assembly Standing Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Request the General Secretary to consider the current Assembly Strategic Plan in the light of work from the 16th Assembly reconvened meeting, and bring any proposed changes re priorities in the Strategic Plan to the November 2022 ASC meeting. 2. Request the General Secretary to bring a summary of support offered to Assembly governance committees and task groups, including the adequacy of resourcing this support to the November 2022 ASC meeting. <p><i>For the Act2 project, see proposals in Document 10</i></p>
<p>Extend the current Assembly Strategic Plan until the 17th Assembly, and align the next Assembly Strategic Plan with the new triennium, following the 17th Assembly</p>	<p>Proposal That the Assembly Standing Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the extension of the current Assembly Strategic Plan until the 17th Assembly, and align the next Assembly Strategic Plan with the new triennium, following the 17th Assembly.
<p>Provide opportunities for staff development to enable staff to work together for innovative outcomes</p> <p>Staff will meet regularly to identify opportunities for collaboration across the Secretariat or with people/groups in the wider UCA</p>	<p>Information See information on Senior Leaders Meeting in General Secretary's report. Recent monthly Assembly staff meetings considered the Assembly values. Opportunities for staff development and engagement are being considered in the different units and by the Executive Team.</p> <p>From August 2022, and in recognition of most staff working in a hybrid way, Secretariat meetings will occur as much as possible in the first week of the month.</p>
<p>For the remainder of the current triennium no additional staff will be recruited, and if a staff person resigns or comes to the end of a contract,</p>	<p>Information This principle will stand, unless workload and expertise gap warrant the position being replace.</p>

consideration will be given as to whether they are replaced	An example of this was the recent recruitment of a Management Accountant to fill a vacancy.
If Assembly staff provide training/resourcing to the wider UCA, expenses will be requested for what is provided.	Information If travel is required to provide training/resourcing to the wider UCA, expenses will be required to be covered by the body receiving the training/resourcing.
Operational efficiencies will continue to be considered in all instances, eg travel and meeting costs. Relevant policies and guidelines will be updated to reflect this, eg Assembly Travel Policy.	Information This action will continue.
The ASC meets online for at least one of its three annual meetings.	Proposal That the Assembly Standing Committee: 1. Agrees to meet online for its March 2023 and November 2024 meetings.
Assembly Committees and groups meet mainly online with a protocol developed for agreed in-person meetings over a triennium.	Proposal That the Assembly Standing Committee: 1. Request the General Secretary to develop a protocol for how Assembly committees and groups meet for the November 2022 ASC meeting.
Request the ASC to reconsider payment of the annual grant of \$200k made to UnitingWorld from the 2022-23 financial year.	Information A report (as requested by the ASC) from UnitingWorld is provided in Attachment B1. The budget for UnitingWorld is provided in the AFARC report for the consideration of the ASC.

REDRESS MATTERS – CROKER ISLAND MISSION

Introduction

At the March 2022 ASC meeting, the following resolutions were made in relation to redress matters relating to Croker Island:

- 22.09.03 a) *accept the liability for redress and civil matters relating to child sexual abuse at Croker Island Mission from 1941-1968 on behalf of the Assembly Secretariat and other relevant Assembly Agencies; and*
- b) *authorise the reimbursement of payments already made, by the Northern Synod relating to the time period approved by the Assembly Standing Committee, from Assembly funds;*
- 22.09.04 *request the General Secretary to enter into further conversations with the Northern Synod re the liability for redress and civil matters relating to child sexual abuse at Croker Island Mission from 1969-1972;*
- 22.09.05 *request the National Director, Strategic Finance & Admin to undertake modelling regarding total potential liability, and associated provision required to be made;*
- 22.09.06 *note that redress payments for Mogumber Mission, while it was under the oversight and responsibility of Methodist Overseas Mission, are currently shared by the Assembly Secretariat and UnitingWorld;*
- 22.09.07 *request the General Secretary to bring a report to the July 2022 meeting of the Assembly Standing Committee on all matters in these resolutions, including how the liability for redress and civil matters relating to child sexual abuse at Croker Island from 1941-1968 will be apportioned in the Assembly; and*
- 22.09.08 *request the General Secretary to have a conversation with the Chair, UnitingWorld Board and National Director, UnitingWorld regarding decisions made by the Assembly Standing Committee in relation to these matters.*

Since March the following has occurred:

- The General Secretary has a conversation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of UnitingWorld and National Director, UnitingWorld regarding the decisions made by the ASC at its March 2022 meeting. The Chair of UnitingWorld has indicated that the UnitingWorld Board will seek a meeting with the General Secretary after the July 2022 ASC meeting regarding any outcomes that need to be discussed and actioned by the Board.
- An initial conversation has occurred between the General Secretary and the General Secretary of the Northern Synod re the liability for redress and civil matters relating to child sexual abuse at Croker Island Mission from 1969-1972. There has been no conclusion reached to date, and a further report will be brought to the November 2022 ASC meeting.
- An archival search of relevant documents was requested by the General Secretary and carried out by the Assembly Archivist and the Archivist for the Northern Synod. This search was to assist with assessing where the responsibility for activities for Methodist Overseas Mission went in the establishment of the UCA, and to assist the ASC in apportioning the liability for redress and civil matters relating to Croker Island Mission. (see **Attachment C1**) Associated proposal from the findings is included in the General Secretary Report.

- The National Director, Strategic Finance & Admin undertook modelling regarding total potential liability, and associated provision required to be made. (see **Attachment C2**)

Responsibility for Croker Island Mission Redress and Civil Matter

Following the March 2022 ASC meeting, the Assembly Archivist Christine Gordon, was asked to undertake an archival search to determine the place where the activities and assets of the Methodist Overseas Mission (MOM), which also included responsibility for Aboriginal Missions, were included in the Uniting Church, and any subsequent evidence of distribution of assets since union. This search was done to assist the ASC in determining the provisioning for any redress claims for Croker Island within the Assembly.

Subsequent to the search being undertaken, the Archivist met with the General Secretary, the Associate General Secretary, the National Director Strategic Finance and Admin and the Chair, AFARC to discuss their findings.

As a result of this meeting, the group, including the Archivist, agreed the following:

- It is clear that the activities and assets of MOM became part of the Commission for World Mission (CWM) at union
- Subsequent bequests for MOM were also given to, and benefitted the CWM
- The CWM through a number of name changes and iterations became UnitingWorld. Therefore, there is a clear line between CWM and UnitingWorld, for the purposes of considering apportioning provision for redress claims for Croker Island.
- The responsibility for Aboriginal Missions under MOM also transferred to the CWM; and were not subsequently seen to be the responsibility of UAICC when it was established

The Archivist not only searched the archives held at the Mitchell Library, but also spent time in Darwin with the Northern Synod Archivist. All searches agreed with the summary above.

The following summary is provided for the information of the ASC. The documents that support the summary are extensive and therefore are not included.

Summary of Search

- The types of documents searched included MOM Board minutes, MOM Trust Association minutes, Joint Interim Board minutes, documents relating to the financial integration group set up prior to union, CWM budgets, letters relating to CWM budgets and bequests, Northern Synod archives relating to Croker Island Mission.

- Joint Interim Board minutes discussed the bringing together of the three boards into the CWM. The three boards worked together prior to union in anticipation of the UCA being established

The Joint Constitution Commission requested the Joint Interim Board (Overseas Mission) be responsible for 'the integration and the programme and administration thereof having regards particularly to the necessity for effective continuance of their activities as related areas of work within the Uniting Church from the time of Inauguration'. JCC Resolutions on Mission 2. (b) Nov 1976

The JIB was responsible for the relations between the three Mission Boards and

4. (a)(i) Relationships with previous partner Churches.

4. (a)(ii) Relationships with Aboriginal Communities

- A financial integration group was also established, setting out what came into the UCA from the different Churches

Financial Integration Planning Group (FIPG) was a sub-committee of the JIB and consisted of the

- *Congregational Union of Australia – Council for World Mission (CWM)*
- *Methodist Church of Australasia - Methodist Overseas Mission (MOM)*
- *Presbyterian Church of Australia – Board of Ecumenical Missions and Relations (BOEMAR)*

Amongst other things this group brought into line:

- *Policies, nature and size of the Provisional Commission's Reserve Fund*

- *Stipends, Allowances and Superannuation Fund for Commission for World Mission employees*
- *Fully co-ordinated salaries and conditions of appointment of Missionaries and field workers (FG 2.11.76)*
- *Establishment of a Finance Committee for the new Commission for World Mission*
- *Budget*
- *Determined the common procedures between the sending Churches and the receiving Churches eg whether block grants to the United Church of North Australia (UCNA) did or did not cover costs such as furlough fares, Beneficiary funds and Children's education allowances. (FG 77/17 3.ii)*

The FIPG received the budgets of CWM, MOM and BOEMAR for 1974-1977. The income of the three Boards in 1975 was \$1,276,294 (excluding BOEMAR aboriginal work).

Minutes FG 77/14 6. Integration of accounting of Uniting Mission Boards – "Resolved to note JIB Minutes 96 (9.3.77) envisaging Integration of accounts for computerization by 31/12/77, and asking Arthur Marshall (Methodist) and Sam G Edenborough (Presbyterian) to work on this".

- *There is no exact minute that says the assets of MOM were transferred into CWM. The documents however, do not have this clarity for the Methodist Church in that that Church entered union as a whole, thus encompassing MOM, rather than for example the Presbyterian Church where each asset and property were considered individually. A final meeting of the Methodist Church concluded all activities in an act of transition to the UCA.*
- *Subsequent documentation however, makes it clear that MOM assets were transferred to CWM, for example minutes indicating transfer of assets, letters referencing sales of MOM property and investments asking CWM what would happen with that money.*

With the Inauguration of the Uniting Church in Australia, the Methodist Overseas Missions Trust Association by Act of Parliament became the Uniting Church Council of Mission Trust Association (CoMTA). As such the benefactor of all Bequests to the MOM was the CoMTA. (The Minutes of the MOM Trust Association from 1/7/1976 until 18/2/1977 give details of transfer of property to the new entity). Early Minutes of CWM give details of property and titles held for CWM and the history of the Methodist Overseas Trust Association.

- *Until the early 1980s, CWM budgets were still divided separately between the different antecedent bodies, eg MOM. However this did not continue.*

According To Uniting Church Trust Association correspondence with Commission for World Mission (CWM) in the early 1980s, both sale proceeds of property (eg Rogers Ave, Haberfield in 1984) and dividends and sales of shares, were managed by UCA (NSW) Trust Association on behalf of Commission for World Mission, with CWM having the final say on where the proceeds would go. As an example, in correspondence between Mr W H Fisher (Secretary of Finance and Administration – CWM) and Mrs Robin Dyer (Manager, Uniting Trust Association)

- *The work of the Aboriginal Missions associated with MOM continued until those missions were closed. There were only two residential missions associated – Mogumber and Croker Island.*
- *The Assembly and Northern Synod Archivists have constructed a database of all Croker Island children (approximately 250), including children that left the mission and those that went to Sommersville.*

The Uniting Church in Australia – National Assembly and its Agencies
 30 June 2022
Provision for Claims – Croker Island Mission
 Review and Assessment
 Working Paper

1. Provision for Claims – Year end June 2022 Considerations

This paper sets out the workings for the calculation of the Provisioning to be taken up by the Assembly and its agencies in regard to the Matters of Redress for Croker Island.

2. Advice from Colin Biggers Paisley (CBP)

Colin Biggers Paisley have now provided their advice and estimates of potential total liabilities as to the former Mogumber and Croker Island Missions.

There are included as attachments to this paper and are noted as;

- Letter of 26th May 2022 (original letter of advice)
- Letter of 2nd June 2022 (in response to our request for additional information arising from the first letter)
- File note of 28 June 2021 (included here as a reference as it is referred in the 2022 letters above)

3. Assessment Arising (including updated advice received from CBP)

The following table updates prior working documents and was presented to, and endorsed by, AFARC on 7 June. Commentary follows:

Provision for Claims Expected for June 2022 (as at 2/6/2022)	Number of Claims			Claim Value			Total Value		
	Gross	Paid	Net	Gross	Paid	Net	Gross	Paid	Net
	#'s	#'s	#'s	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Croker Redress	42.0	(3.0)	39.0	52.0	74.7		2,184.0	(224.0)	1,960.0
Croker Civil	2.0	(1.0)	1.0	142.5	60.0		285.0	(60.0)	225.0
Total Croker	44.0	(4.0)	40.0				2,469.0	(284.0)	2,185.0

Heading Descriptions

Number of Claims	
Gross	Is the total number of expected claims expected to be received by the Assembly over the Redress Scheme
Paid	Is the number of claims that have been paid to date
Net	Is Gross minus Paid (2 rows above) which is the expected no of claims not yet paid but expected from the Scheme
Claim Value	
Gross	Is the average \$ value per claim for the total of all expected claims
Paid	Is the average \$ value per claim for all paid claims to date
Net	Is the average \$ value of the claims to come
Total Value	
Gross	Is the total value of all expected claims to be paid
Paid	is the total value of claims paid to date
Net	is the total value of the claims still expected to be paid (Also calculated as Gross minus Paid - being the 2 lines above)

Summary of outcomes

Based on the table above, the following is noted

- Modelling for Croker is based on the same methodology adopted for Matters of Mogumber
- An allowance for both expected matters of Redress as well as Civil matters has been made

Engagement with KPMG

In preparation for the carrying out of the Annual Financial Audit, the attached report and underlying workpapers have been shared with KPMG, as noted in the timeline above. KPMG has provided positive indicative feedback and noted (please note our further comments in blue below);

- In principle happy with you using the external perspective of CBP to form your view of the provision
- Croker Island redress: I agree from CPB the midpoint of the number of claims is 37.5 future claims and 2 current claims. $39.5 @ \$78k$ less a third = \$2m . *Ok agreed*

We will work further with KPMG as we finalise the provision calculation for the June 2022 financial statements.

Conclusion

In ensuring adequate provisioning, and in agreement with the Auditor's higher reliance on external modelling, a [gross provision of \\$2.469M](#) for matters of Croker Island is to be recorded at 30 June 2022.

Appropriate allocations of this liability are now to be made across the Assembly and its Agencies. Clarity on this aspect is required prior to finalisation of 30 June accounts.

Leo Iosifidis
National Director – Strategic Finance and Admin 7/7/2022