



Australian National Imams Council (ANIC)

16th Annual General Meeting (AGM)

2022-2023

Uniting the Imams in Australia

Meeting Minutes

Sunday, 8th October 2023

At the BOIV Office In Melbourne

Hosted by:
Board of Imams VIC

ANIC 16th AGM 2022-2023 Opening Ceremony

1. SESSION ONE – OPENING CEREMONY:

Official Opening by MC – Imam Saeed Warsame

The 16th ANIC AGM 2022-2023 started with an official opening ceremony at 09.20am with a special welcome by the MC to all the Imams, and participants.

Followed by a recitation from the Holy Quran by Imam Hatim from Canberra.

President of ANIC – Imam Shadi Alsuleiman – Welcoming Speech:

This was followed by the official ANIC 16th AGM welcoming speech by ANIC President Imam Shadi Alsuleiman on behalf of the Executive Committee and all members, who he warmly thanked and welcomed every participant to the **16th ANIC AGM 2022-2023**.



Finally, Imam Shadi thanked the ANIC Executive Committee for their efforts, unity and confidence in the organisation's leadership, and hoped for a productive, constructive and fruitful discussion at the AGM for Islam and the Muslim Community.

Grand Mufti of Australia - Dr. Ibrahim Abu Mohamad – Welcoming Speech:

Dr Ibrahim commenced by sending praises to Allah and His Messenger and sought blessings for the AGM and thanked all the participants for their attendance. Dr Ibrahim emphasised the importance of striving for the truth and working in a unified manner. He also mentioned that the member Imams have a great responsibility as well as rewards for being true guardians of the faith and the future of the Ummah locally and worldwide and the work that they do. He also stressed on the importance of everyone coming together and being united on all matters of concern to the Muslim community. He also prayed for the success of the gathering and the AGM.

Chairman of the Council of Imams VIC – Imam Isse Abdo – Welcoming Speech:

Imam Isse welcomed all Imams on this blessed day and participants for their attendance and mentioned the blessings of having the Imams together in person and online. Importantly, Imam Ahmed noted that the physical gathering is not only the purpose, but the purpose is also to gather together for goodness, which is the sunnah. Finally, Imam Isse welcomed all the Imams and participants on behalf of the Board of Imams VIC to the 16th ANIC AGM 2022-2023. He hoped for an open discussion, a productive day and a united outcome.

Vote of Thanks and Conclusion- Imam Saeed Warsame

Meeting Agenda and Resolutions:

2. SESSION TWO - REPORTS:

- 2.1. At 09.55am, SESSION TWO commenced after a quick reminder of the etiquettes of the Meeting and an overview of the AGM's program and agenda by the Chairman of the AGM, Imam Shadi Alsuleiman.
- 2.2. Confirmation and approval of the [Meeting Minutes](#) of the last **15th ANIC Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2021-2022**, which was held on the **2nd of October 2022**,
 - 2.2.1. Motion Moved to accept the meeting minutes by Imam Saeed Warsame and seconded by Imam Hatim.
 - 2.2.2. Unanimously voted to approve the 15th ANIC AGM Meeting Minutes 2021-2022.

[VIEW Meeting Minutes](#)



2.3. Reports

2.4. Executive Committee Reports:

2.4.1. President's Report: By Imam Shadi Alsuleiman: [VIEW REPORT](#)

2.4.2. Secretary's Report: By Imam Majidih Essa: [VIEW REPORT](#)

2.4.3. Treasury's Report: By Imam Jalal Chami: [VIEW REPORT](#)

2.4.4. ANIC 2022-2023 Financial reports were accepted and approved.

2.4.4.1. Motion Moved to accept the financial report and agreed by all the attendees.

2.4.4.2. Votes: unanimous.

2.4.4.3. Collection of the annual membership fee.

2.4.4.4. Comments:

2.4.4.5. It was noted that ANIC aspires to be independent and, self-sufficient, and less reliant on donations.

2.5. State Imams Councils Reports:

2.5.1. Board of Imams VIC by Imam Nawaaz Saleem (Board Member):

2.5.1.1. Imam Nawas spoke about the different activities of the BOIV, including the Youth Programs, Sister Programs, Chaplaincy programs, CFAM (Arbitration), and the opening of the new centre in Thomastown.

2.5.2. Council of Imams QLD by Imam Yusuf Peer (Chairman of the Council):

2.5.2.1. Imam Yusuf mentioned that there are several positive initiatives taking place.

2.5.2.2. The Council's primary focus is to work diligently with the rest of the Imams and ANIC.

2.5.2.3. Have set several discussions that are challenging the community.

2.5.2.4. The activities of CARD and its progress in QLD.

2.5.3. Council of Imams SA by Imam Mohamed Sayed (Council Member):

2.5.3.1. Council's meetings have been productive and emphasised the unity of all.

2.5.3.2. Working together as a collective with Imams and other organisations.



2.5.4. Council of Imams ACT by Imam Adam Konda (Council Member):

- 2.5.4.1. The number of member Imams and members has increased.
- 2.5.4.2. Imams are facing several challenges in the local community and working on resolving them.
- 2.5.4.3. The Council intends to connect more robustly with ANIC as well.
- 2.5.4.4. More efforts are being made to unify the Imams and the community and to have regular meetings.
- 2.5.4.5. Also, in coordination with AIES, the Council had established Scripture programs for local public schools under ANIC.

2.6. ANIC Sub-Committee Reports:

2.6.1. Australian Fatwa Council (AFC) by Dr Ibrahim Abu Mohammed (Chairman):

- 2.6.1.1. The Council met several times in the past year.
- 2.6.1.2. Topics varied from the beginning of Ramadan, Hajj season, HECS and other topics in current discussions.
- 2.6.1.3. The Determination of the Beginning and End of the Month of Ramadan Forum.

[VIEW PROPOSAL](#)

2.6.2. ANIC Halal Authority by Dr Anas Nadwi (General Manager):

- 2.6.2.1. Significant improvement and growth in the past 12 months.
- 2.6.2.2. ANIC Halal Authority currently has Singapore and Malaysian recognition renewed.
- 2.6.2.3. ANIC halal report on the GAS stunning and poultry.

2.6.3. Australian Islamic Education Service by Imam Shadi Alsuleiman:

- 2.6.3.1. Imam Shadi gave a brief report on the current scripture program NSW with 54 volunteers, 34 schools, 101 weekly classes and 2859 students.
- 2.6.3.2. Special Religious Education (SRE), is a NSW-based program for scripture learning in NSW public schools.
- 2.6.3.3. Roughly, there are 50,000 Muslim students in the public system in NSW.
- 2.6.3.4. ANIC is playing a vital role with other faith communities and the importance of teaching religious education in the public system.
- 2.6.3.5. The challenge with the scripture program is the lack of Muslim volunteer teachers and resources.
- 2.6.3.6. The intention to expand in other states.



2.6.4. ANIC Islamic Finance Advisory (AIFA) by Imam Shadi Alsuleiman:

- 2.6.4.1. ANIC established ANIC Islamic Finance Advisory (AIFA).
- 2.6.4.2. AIFA aims to support the Islamic financial services industry in Australia. It offers services on Shariah compliance certificate, accreditation, industry standardisation and advice.
- 2.6.4.3. It also provides advocacy and research to promote Islamic finance for fulfilling Australian Muslims' financial and banking needs.
- 2.6.4.4. AIFA will certify financial products issued by entities duly licensed by the relevant Australian regulatory authorities for the products offered or duly delegated by a licensed operator.
- 2.6.4.5. AIFA is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Australian National Imams Council (ANIC), Australia's peak body of Imams and Muslim scholars.
- 2.6.4.6. Aim to launch AIFA in early 2024.

2.6.5. ANIC Advisory Committee by Imam Shadi Alsuleiman:

- 2.6.5.1. Imam Shadi acknowledged the outstanding work of the advisory committee, the time and effort they put towards ANIC and serving the Muslim community, and the value that they had added to ANIC and changed the image of the Muslim community.
- 2.6.5.2. There is a gap in coordination and unity in dealing with issues facing the entire Muslim community, and the ANIC advisory committee focuses on overcoming these gaps and challenges.
- 2.6.5.3. The advisory committee is composed of a professional, multi-tasked team of brothers and sisters with a dynamic nature and diverse expertise.
- 2.6.5.4. Imam Shadi offered special thanks to the Advisory Committee for their outstanding work and tireless effort.

2.6.6. ANIC Women's Advisory Council (AWAC) by Imam Shadi Alsuleiman:

- 2.6.6.1. ANIC Women's Advisory Council strives to maintain a stronger connection with the peak body, the Australian National Imams Council (ANIC), its member Imams and Australian Muslim Women leaders and prominent Muslim community members.
- 2.6.6.2. The objective of the advisory Council is to proactively hear the concerns, feedback, and suggestions from the council members for what is in the best interest of the wider Australian Muslim community. This includes (not limited to) surrounding issues and affairs that concern Muslim women in the Australian community.



2.6.6.3. It is encouraged to nominate more prominent Muslim women from other states who meet the criteria.

2.6.7. Global Imams and Scholars Council (GISC) by Imam Shadi Alsuleiman:

2.6.7.1. The Global Imams and Scholars Council (GISC) is a platform that unites Muslim Scholars and Imams Councils from around the world, primarily from countries where Muslims are minorities.

2.6.7.2. ANIC played a significant role in establishing the Global Imams and Scholars Council (GISC).

2.6.7.3. Monthly meetings are held to discuss the affairs of the Muslim world and community.

[GISC PORTFOLIO](#)

3. OPEN DISCUSSION

3.1. Moving Motions on the Following:

3.1.1. Imams to promote and advocate ANIC

3.1.2. Recognition of the State of Palestine

3.1.3. Endorse and Support [Muslim Community Fund](#)

3.1.4. Support the establishment of a research team/centre to explore and preserve Muslim Identity

3.1.5. Launch the Determination of the beginning and end of the Month of Ramadan Forum

3.1.6. Reinforcement of the ANIC Imams [Code of Honor](#)

3.2. National Zakat Foundation (NZF) and ANIC Partnership – Munir Abdella

3.2.1. Munir spoke about NZF's contribution and projects in the community.

3.2.2. The partnership between NZF and ANIC.

3.2.3. Importance of funding local projects and initiatives.

3.3. Resolution on the next 17th ANIC Annual General Meeting (AGM) for 2023-2024.

3.3.1. Sunday, 13th of October 2024,

3.3.2. At the ANIC Office in Sydney.

4. Conclusion of the 16th ANIC AGM 2022-2023.

4.1. The 16th ANIC AGM concluded with a vote of thanks to all ANIC members and attendees for their participation and, constructive and open discussion, and confidence in ANIC and its leadership.



- 4.2. The Imams were commended for their service to Islam and the Muslim community and for their ongoing support and solidarity with one another.
- 4.3. The 16th ANIC AGM ended with a Dua'a.

END OF THE 16th ANIC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022-2023

"سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ، نَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ نَسْتَغْفِرُكَ وَنَتُوبُ إِلَيْكَ"

We thank all the member Imams for attending, for their sacrifice and cooperation.