The eighth face-to-face meeting of the Global Forum on Maintenance and Asset Management was held in Melbourne, Australia from 2nd – 6th June 2013 in conjunction with the Asset Management Council’s (AMC) Annual Conference. Global Forum members were active in presenting at the conference, contributing several presentations and sessions.

At this meeting the application from new member association, IFRAMI (France) was considered and accepted. GFMAM is pleased to welcome IFRAMI to the Global Forum and look forward to learning from them and benefitting from their contributions. In addition, a representative from the JIPM (Japan) attended to observe the proceedings for the purpose of investigating whether that association might be interested in joining.

Besides this good news for developing membership, it was a busy week with the annual review of GFMAM projects and priorities, advancements in the Landscape, the Survey project, the Marketing project, and the Certification project, signing off of the final version of the Articles of Association and agreement to initiate a new project to develop recommendations for knowledge assessment of Asset Management assessors and auditors.

Project Updates:

The Asset Management Landscape

Significant work on the second version of the Asset Management Landscape has been done since our last meeting where it was determined that the 39 subjects need to be developed to a more detailed granularity. Led by the AMC and IAM, this work is engaging a number of individual members from AMC, the IAM and PEMAC to assist. The goals of the project and the rigorous process that has been developed to code the results were presented as a keynote session at the conference and additional participation was invited. This work is seen as vital to the hopes of all Global Forum members for a common knowledge core that will enable development and alignment of Asset Management products and services in future. This project is expected to be completed before the meeting in Calgary in November 2013.

The Accord

The Accord will offer a standardised, reliable and transparent process for making comparisons between different types and levels of asset management qualifications, which employers and others can understand and trust.

The first trial of the Accord indicated that further development of the Asset Management Landscape 39 subjects is required to facilitate the comparison process. That work, dubbed, “Landscape Mark II” is currently underway. The accord was progressed with a business case and project plan being produced.
Certification
The Certification project team progressed its work developing a high-level comparison of certification products of the various associations and prepared a report. This work will assist Global Forum members in their long-term view to align knowledge development and recognition of products and services. It will also assist professionals to understand some of the offerings available and will help companies who are attempting to compare certification offerings understand the distinctions between them. To complete this work a draft document has been produced for comment.

Recommendations for Assessor and Auditor Domain Knowledge
There was a clear request from the attendees of the conference for the GFMAM to identify the domain knowledge required for assessors and auditors. The GFMAM agreed that domain knowledge for Assessors and Auditors of Asset Management practice and systems needs to be defined. A new project to create a publically available reference for this purpose was adopted. Two proposed projects have been prepared. These will need to be completed before November this year.

Increasing Membership
An excellent Power Point presentation giving an overview of the Global Forum and its work had been prepared since our last meeting and was used in several presentations at this conference. IFRAMI (France) was welcomed to the Global Forum and a delegate from JIPM (Japan) attended this session. There was also an inquiry from a Malaysian association during the conference.

During the conference, each representative was interviewed for a brief film to be put on the GFMAM website. This will help promote the GFMAM.

In addition the marketing team prepared a detailed plan for the next six months.

Surveys
Two surveys, one on society’s profile, products and services as well as one on educational products have been sent out with responses from 15 national maintenance societies. The results of the surveys were reviewed and next steps for refinement were discussed.

Relationship Between Maintenance and Asset Management
The report on this project was not available.

Conclusion
It was again a very productive, challenging and unifying session. Ambitious targets were set for the next face to face meeting at the PEMAC conference in Calgary, Canada November 18 - 21, 2013. In the meantime, regular conference call monthly meetings will continue.

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