



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY MEDICINE ASSOCIATION

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

PREAMBLE

You are hereby advised of the following proposed amendment to be made to insert Preamble in the Statement of Purpose and Rules:

“That the following Preamble be inserted in the Statement of Purpose and Rules of the Australian Military Medicine Association:

Whereas at a meeting held in Melbourne in 1991 it was resolved to form an association of health professionals called the Australian Military Medicine Association. Now, therefore, the following preamble to the Association’s Constitution was adopted at the Annual General Meeting held in Hobart on 18 October 2008.

The Australian Military Medicine Association exists to support the professional and scientific progress of all matters associated with the health of individuals who serve or have served in the military. The Association adopts the World Health Organisation (WHO) definition of health as being the keystone of its interests – Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

Recognising this, the Association will promote the expansion and development of knowledge in all fields and professions of endeavour that impact on the health of military personnel during and after their military careers and in both preventative and treatment modalities; including, but not limited to the fields of dentistry, medicine, nursing, nutrition, occupational health, preventive medicine, public health, psychology and safety management.”

Members are advised that voting on this amendment will be taken at the 2008 AGM to be held on Saturday 18 October at 4.15pm at the Wrest Point Convention Centre, Sandy Bay Road, Hobart, Tasmania and by proxy vote to be submitted to the AMMA Secretariat no later than 26 September 2008.

Amendment to Statement of Purpose and Rules — Statement of Reasons

The Australian Military Medicine Association has over many years grappled with the issues around the meaning and use of the term “Medicine” in its name.

The Association has also struggled to attract the full range of health professionals that are involved in matters relating to the health of military personnel. This has inhibited its ability to achieve the broad engagement of like-minded people to develop a holistic approach to research and knowledge development.

Recognising this, in 2004 a motion was put to amend the Constitution so as to change the name of the Association. This motion was lost, although this was in part due to debate over the use of the proposed term “Australasian” in the new name.

To progress this issue and to assist in developing a broader membership across all the health professions, as well as to more clearly define the strategic purpose of the Association, it is proposed that a Preamble be included in the Constitution.

This Preamble will include the adoption of the World Health Organisation holistic definition of health as well as explicitly recognising the involvement of all health disciplines in the Association.