

CEO ROADSHOW

The questions below were raised by members during the CEO roadshow for members residing in the ASPAC region, which took place on 24 August 2022. The relevant SAICA executives provided the answers.

MEMBER VALUE

1. When can members in Australia physically meet with Freeman and other senior management members?

SAICA's Executive: Standards, will be visiting Australia in December 2022, while the CEO and the Executive: Member Engagement plan on visiting Australia in 2023. The visit in 2023 has not been confirmed, but SAICA will communicate more information in this regard in due course.

2. How is SAICA managing the relationship with the Australia and New Zealand institutes (CAANZ)?

SAICA engages with CAANZ regularly through monthly meetings, as well as meetings to discuss the renewal of our reciprocity agreements.

The Global Accounting Alliance (GAA) education directors also have a series of working groups where we share information with CAANZ, for example, groups on digital acumen, practical work experience, exams, and electronic assessments. Through this avenue, we share information and tried and tested ways of working with all professional bodies that form part of the GAA.

In addition, through Chartered Accountants Worldwide (CAW), we work closely with CAANZ's marketing team, and share information and ideas regarding the global reputation of chartered accountants, especially through our Difference Makers organising concept.

We also work with CAANZ through the CAW Member Engagements group, which includes, for example, discussions on mental wellness topics.

RELEVANCE AND REPUTATION

3. How is SAICA progressing with the Steinhoff matter?

Following Markus Jooste's suspension from SAICA membership in 2019 and the [issuing of his charge sheet](#) in 2021, the investigation and disciplinary process are still ongoing.

The challenge SAICA faces, is that unlike IRBA and other government agencies, SAICA does not have the power of search, seizure or subpoena, and we, therefore, need to rely on the information we receive from other prosecutorial authorities and institutes. This means that our disciplinary processes take a long time.

We reiterate that all members who are alleged to have contravened the SAICA Code of Professional Conduct will be held to account, without fear or favour, regardless of how long the process takes.

TRANSFORMATION AND GROWTH

4. What is SAICA doing to prevent the debacle of the APC exam where candidates were faced with major technical difficulties?

SAICA offered all candidates who wrote the exam on 1 December 2021 an opportunity to rewrite on 31 March 2022. The rewrite went successfully, and no technical challenges were experienced on the day.

SAICA has had detailed discussions around what happened during the 1 December sitting, and worked out a plan and strategy to ensure that similar challenges will not take place during future exams.

In addition, candidates who are registered for the 14 December 2022 sitting have the opportunity to attend three accredited professional programme providers' assessments to ensure they are well prepared.

We are confident that we have gone through all our processes, improved on the challenges we have experienced, and have instilled a proper plan to ensure that the same challenges don't happen again.

A forensic investigation is currently still underway.