

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales Clarence House St James's LONDON SW1 1BA

31 August 2018

Sir

l write to offer my congratulations on the occasion of Your Royal Highness's 70th birthday and to commemorate the 10 year anniversary of the establishment of the A4S Accounting Bodies Network (ABN).

ICAS has been a member of the ABN since its inception in 2008. Our involvement with A4S initially, and subsequently the ABN, came about as a result of our membership of the Global Accounting Alliance (GAA), an alliance of 10 of the world's leading accounting institutes, that came together to promote quality services, share information and collaborate on important international issues. The issue of sustainability was identified by the GAA as an area that the accounting profession must address to preserve the future resilience of the global economy.

Having joined the ABN, ICAS believes that our greatest impact can be achieved by informing and educating our 21,000+ members, worldwide, on the need to embed sustainability across all decision-making areas within an organisation and the benefits of doing so. As a professional body we fully support the network's five key principles by which the accounting profession can have the greatest impact on the 2030 sustainable development agenda.

Shortly after joining the ABN, ICAS established a Sustainability Advisory Group to determine and shape ICAS policy in matters related to sustainability issues. One of the first things this group did was to launch a Sustainability Essay Competition in 2012 to encourage the accounting and business community to embrace sustainability as a relevant business issue. This first competition was a great success and we received almost 100 entries. Additionally, it encouraged several ICAS members to become more actively engaged with ICAS on this topic by contributing topical and thought-provoking articles, or by serving on what has now evolved into the ICAS Sustainability Expert Panel.

Our sustainability-related content continues to be well received and particularly resonates with our younger members. When we launched our One Young CA initiative in 2016 targeting the top 35 CAs aged 35 and under, we included a specific Sustainability and CSR category to showcase and celebrate the commitment and dedication these members demonstrate to the creation of a sustainable society in their daily and working lives.

ICAS also acknowledges that it was A4S that established the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC) which is an initiative that we, as a professional body, continue to support and promote as a means of better, more holistic corporate reporting.

None of this would have been possible without the collaborative support and actions of the ABN and, of course, Your Royal Highness's boundless energy and passion driving the need for the accounting profession to tackle sustainability as an issue.

Therefore, in this special, commemorative year, I would like to express our thanks and appreciation for Your Royal Highness's leadership and celebrate all that we have collectively achieved so far.

Yours sincerely

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