

REPORT BY STAMP FEES COMMITTEE

1. Members:

L V Subramanian (Convener), Rita Dessauvage, Elizabeth Sebestyen, Jerin Malesevic, Kinene John Hopekins, Secretary of Servas Australia, Orisalie Ondon and Simona Dragoi

2. Decision of GA (As per Point 7 of the GA Decisions Report by Pramod):

A group to be set up to recommend revised Stamp Fees by December 31, 2009. Five persons including treasurers and people from small and large Servas member Countries will serve on the committee and US\$ 100 to be provided for communication expenses for the group.

3. Background and Factors considered:

The Exco meeting at Bangalore during 2006 reviewed critically the need to enhance the stamp fees which had not undergone any revision for a long time. This was put to the GA and approved as per above.

A levy CHF 1 for each member from countries having more than 100 host members was decided at the GA at Mar Del Plata to support the cost of the new SOL project to be undertaken by a newly constituted group.

This study has considered the additional financial impact of SOL and had worked out various options which were discussed amongst the members and finally the option considered were circulated to all members and since there has been no further comments from them, the same is being put forward to the Exco for its consideration and approval. Though USD 100 was budgeted for this exercise, we have not spent any money on this hence giving a saving of USD 100 to SI

- a. Presently the tariff rate is in Swiss Francs although the entire Europe now works in Euros. It would be suggestive to move to Euros in view of the fact that all outflows of SI are in Euros and SI have opened Euro Bank Accounts to facilitate receipts and payments without incurring additional bank charges and also losing on exchange conversions. Furthermore another suggestion is that the accounting and budgeting is also switched to Euros from CHF as this would be understood very well by all member countries.
- b. Additional levy of CHF 1 per member from countries having more than 100 host members is required to support the SOL project which was passed at the GA and hence it is imperative to justify this levy.
- c. Increase to the present Stamp Tariff Rate is justified as SI has not increased the Stamp tariff for quite some time over the period of time inflation has occurred and also higher administrative costs have come in.
- d. A well balanced approach has been considered of the above points 2 and 3 in working out our proposal.

4. WORKINGS and Final Recommendation:

A working model suggesting the new Tariff was prepared by the Convener and circulated to the various working committee members and to the treasurers of the big member countries for their comments and opinion. They have been considered and the final working was sent out to the Stamp Appraisal Committee for their final comments. Since there have been no comments on the same, the same has been put forth to the Exco for approval which is

a. Present Tariff Rate

0 to 10 Stamps Free

11 to 50 Stamps CHF 7 per stamp

51 and above CHF 17 per stamp

a. Suggested Tariff Rate

0 to 10 Stamps Free

11 to 50 Stamps CHF 10 per stamp

51 to 300 Stamps CHF 15 per stamp

301 to 550 Stamps CHF 18 per stamp

551 and above CHF 20 per stamp

This revised Tariff would increase the revenue to SI by almost 2.5% considering the stamp sold for the year 2008.