



ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS
NEW YORK

**Darshak Shah's presentation at 54th AFICS /NY Annual Assembly
held on 21 May 2024 in UNHQ NY Conference Room 1**

Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our Treasurer has prepared a detailed presentation on the financial status of AFICS/NY and the Charities Foundation for the year ended 31 December 2023. Before the presentation, I wanted to provide a contextual overview of challenges faced over the last three years. The COVID period was very challenging for managing finances of AFICS/NY, the accounting software could only be used in the office not virtually. The office was closed for quite a long time. This created two major issues – delayed accounting meant reconciliations were not possible and hence it was not possible to actively follow-up on outstanding receivables. Financial monitoring was done based on banking data. As a result, a major and tedious reconciliation effort was led by Mac Chiulli and AFICS/NY staff and has now been completed. Kudos to Mac and our hard-working staff! Following the reconciliation, active follow-up on outstanding dues has commenced! You may have got a call, or you will get a call!

There is the opportunity to convert your membership from Annual status to Life Membership by paying a lump sum. The details are on our website. Do this before 1 October to avoid the increased rates that about to go into effect.

COVID affected AFICS/NY in other ways as well. Retirement seminars could not be conducted – resulting in reduction of new members. This has changed! The retirement seminars are back in full force, led by Dr Narula and the leadership team. Membership numbers are up! There were 44 new members that joined AFICS/NY by 20 May 2024, compared with 22 new members in 2023 for the same period.

After deep reflection the membership dues will be changed based on your endorsement. There has been a majority vote supporting this change. Thank-you!

All the actions outlined above should result in more robust income.

Expenditure was watched very closely, and 2023 expenditure was slightly higher 2022 expenditure but despite the slight increase there was a small net surplus. In 2022 there was small net deficit.

In 2024 AFICS/NY also introduced linking workplans to budgets. This brings AFICS/NY in line with the UN system.

All these actions, with your support, charts a path to continued sustainability for AFICS/NY.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mac Chiulli for her enormous hard work and she will present the detailed financial results for 2023.

Due to a family emergency our Treasurer, Mac Chiulli is not present at the Assembly, so I will present the Treasurer's report on her behalf.

Thank-you for your attention.