

A new chapter in the transition to net-zero

Annual Report 2024–25



**Australian
Industry
Greenhouse
Network**

Contents

Chair and Chief Executives’ report	3	Engage in international negotiations	10
AIGN: Our role and leadership	4	Navigate the Australian policy landscape	12
Climate change policy principles	6	Governance and operations	14
Our advocacy approach	8	AIGN members	15

This Annual Report 2025 is a summary of our operations, activities, and financial position for the financial year ending 30 June 2025. An electronic version of this report is available on AIGN’s website.

In the spirit of reconciliation, AIGN acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea, and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Australian Industry Greenhouse Network Ltd
ABN 93 108 941 117
PO Box 4622, Kingston ACT 2604
T +61 2 6295 2166
W www.aign.net.au
E admin@aign.net.au

Chair and Chief Executive’s report



Peter Gniel
Chair

As momentum builds towards net zero, the need for informed, balanced, and collaborative approaches to climate and energy policy has never been greater.

AIGN’s role as a trusted forum for dialogue has remained central to our work. Over the past year, we have brought together members, policymakers, and international partners to navigate an increasingly complex policy environment. Together, we have helped inform policy and industry action on emissions reporting, abatement strategies, carbon leakage and adaptation planning, while continuing to represent industry perspectives in global forums, including the UN climate negotiations.

Our focus throughout has been clear: to support the development and implementation of effective policies that drive progress on emissions reduction, while sustaining investment, innovation and prosperity across the Australian economy.

We continue to advocate for a coherent national climate policy framework that gives industry the confidence needed to plan and invest for the future.

AIGN’s principles remain at the heart of our advocacy. They reflect our commitment to helping meet Australia’s international obligations, the importance of providing long-term and stable policy signals, and the need for equitable solutions that recognise the uniqueness of Australia’s economy, industrial base and our differing communities and their goals and aspirations. These principles guide the conversations we lead, the submissions we make, and the way we support our members.

This year, our network has again proven its strength. Through regular meetings, workshops and discussions, members have been able to share expertise, challenge ideas and collaborate on solutions. Financially, we remain in a strong position, enabling us to continue providing value to members while keeping our operations lean and effective.

Looking ahead, the journey to net zero will demand sustained effort, collaboration and dialogue. AIGN is committed to continuing our role as a bridge between industry and policymakers, ensuring that Australian industries can contribute meaningfully to climate goals while maintaining competitiveness and resilience.

We extend our sincere thanks to our members for their engagement and insight over the past year. It is through your contributions that AIGN is able to play such a constructive role in Australia’s climate policy landscape. We look forward to continuing this work together in the year ahead

Thank you.

Peter Gniel
Chair

Susie Smith
Chief Executive



Susie Smith
Chief Executive

AIGN: Our role and leadership

The Australian Industry Greenhouse Network (AIGN) is a collaborative, invitation only network of leading industry associations and businesses committed to contributing to Australia’s climate and energy policy development.

We provide a trusted forum for members to engage in informed dialogue on climate change and the transition to a net zero emissions economy.

AIGN plays a unique role by bringing together the collective expertise of industries across the economy to promote practical, credible climate policy solutions. Through regular discussions, member engagement, and our Chatham House meetings, AIGN helps shape policy outcomes by offering insight grounded in real-world industry experience.

We support our members by providing timely policy analysis, convening strategic discussions, and fostering early engagement in policy processes. Our work ensures that members are informed, connected, and well prepared to respond to evolving national and international climate and energy frameworks.

Our members are invited to key climate change policy consultation processes.

AIGN is committed to supporting a sustainable and competitive Australian economy. Through our member-led approach, we help industries contribute constructively to Australia’s climate goals, including the ambition to reach net zero emissions by 2050, in line with the Paris Agreement.

AIGN’s Board of Directors is responsible for the company’s business planning and operational oversight. In managing the Company, the Board approves an annual business plan and makes decisions on the management of the Company pursuant to and consistent with the policy framework and strategic agenda as determined by the general meeting(s).

As of June 30, 2025, the AIGN Board comprises:



Peter Gniel
Chair



Mark Bonner
Vice Chair



Damian Dwyer
Board Member



Pauline Kennedy
Board Member



Anshul Jain
Board Member



Marghanita Johnson
Board Member



Edwina Pribyl
Board Member



Margie Thomson
Board Member

The Board is supported by AIGN’s executive team, including:



Susie Smith
Chief Executive



Marion Niederkofler
Senior Policy Advisor



Angela Gray
Business Manager

AIGN: Our role and leadership

Name	Title and organisation	Appointment	Date	Board meeting attendance						
				18 Jul	30 Aug	16 Oct	18 Feb	7 Apr	14 May	29 May
 AIGN Chair (2024) Peter Gniel BA	<i>Deputy Chief Executive</i> Australian Institute of Petroleum Ltd	Elected: <i>Previous terms:</i> <i>Previous resignation:</i>	Oct 2023 Oct 2010 May 2013	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Vice Chair (2024) Mark Bonner MEcon, BEcon, Grad Dip Resource Economics	<i>Director Climate & Energy Policy</i> Australian Energy Producers	Elected <i>Previous terms:</i> <i>Previous resignation:</i>	Oct 2023 Oct 2019 Jun 2021	✓	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	–
 Damian Dwyer BEc, Grad Dip Pub Ec Pol	<i>Director External Affairs</i> Low Emission Technology Australia	Appointed: Elected: <i>Previous terms:</i> <i>Previous resignation:</i>	May 2023 Oct 2023 Oct 2011, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22 Jan 2023	✓	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Anshul Jain BEng, MBA	<i>Manager Carbon Compliance</i> Santos Limited	Elected: Re-elected:	Oct 2021 Oct 2023	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Marghanita (Margi) Johnson BEng (EnvEng)(Hons), BSc, GAICD	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i> Australian Aluminium Council	Appointed: Elected: Re-elected	Dec 2019 Oct 2020 Oct 2022 Oct 2024	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Pauline Kennedy MEcon, BAg&ResEcon (Hons), GAICD	<i>Low Carbon Policy and Advocacy Manager</i> BP Australia	Elected:	Oct 2023	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Edwina Pribyl BEc	<i>Head of External Communications</i> Viva Energy Australia Pty Ltd	Elected	Oct 2024	n/a	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
 Margaret Thomson BAgEcon, MEcon	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i> Cement Industry Federation Ltd	Appointed: Elected Re-elected: <i>Previous terms:</i> <i>Previous resignation:</i>	Mar 2017 Oct 2017 Oct 2019, 21, 23 Oct 2010, 12 Jul 2014	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	–

Directors are elected for a two-year term and are eligible to re-nominate for election.

Climate change policy principles

AIGN’s climate change policy principles are based on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the scientific consensus that underpins this international treaty.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change provides the foundation for international cooperation. Since the formation of the convention in 1992, Australia has been a significant contributor and AIGN acknowledges the importance of the convention in providing a forum for the international community to formulate common actions to address climate change.

In this context, AIGN welcomes the commitments of the parties, individual corporations, and associations to the global goal of net zero by 2050 or sooner. AIGN’s climate change policy principles establish a preferred framework for Australian policy development within this global context. Adopting policies that meet these principles should deliver the least-cost, environmentally effective, and equitable outcomes for Australia – and ultimately globally.

AIGN’s climate change principles drive our engagement in policy development.

- 

Recognise and respond to the scientific consensus of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change net zero goals.
- 

Establish a long-term price signal across the whole economy.
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Address trade competitiveness of export and import competing industries.
- 

Promote public and private investment in low emission technologies.
- 

Encourage investment in adaptation and resilience strategies.
- 

Be based on sound science and climate risk management.



Climate change policy principles

Australia should make an equitable contribution, in accordance with its differentiated responsibilities and respective capability, to global action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change.



Australia should engage the international community in pursuing identified and beneficial environmental outcomes through greenhouse gas emissions reduction action that:

- Allows for differentiated national approaches
- Promotes international cooperation
- Minimises the costs and distributes the burden equitably across the international community
- Is comprehensive in its coverage of countries, greenhouse gases, sources, and sinks
- Recognises the economic and social circumstances and aspirations of all societies
- Is underpinned by streamlined, efficient, and effective administrative, reporting, and compliance arrangements



In this global context, Australia should develop a strategic national approach to responding to climate change that:

- Is consistent with the principles of sustainable development and other national policies, including economic growth, population growth, international trade, energy supply and demand, and environmental and social responsibility
- Takes a long-term perspective
- Maintains the competitiveness of Australian export and import-competing industries
- Distributes the cost-burden equitably across the community
- Adopts a consultative approach to the development of new policies
- Is consistent and effectively coordinated across all jurisdictions throughout Australia



Australia’s future greenhouse policy measures should:

- Be consistent with the strategic national approach
- Be trade and investment-neutral, in a way that does not expose Australian industry to costs its competitors do not face
- Not discriminate against new entrants to Australian industry, nor disadvantage ‘early movers’ in Australian industry who have previously implemented greenhouse gas abatement measures
- Take account of the differing sectoral circumstances
- Be based as far as is practicable on market measures
- Address all greenhouse gases, emission sources, and sinks
- Balance, in a cost-effective way, abatement and adaptation strategies, both of which should be based on sound science and risk management



Our advocacy approach

For over two decades, AIGN has established itself as an Australian thought leader in climate change policy.

In its ongoing advocacy, AIGN remains committed to a climate change policy landscape that supports sustainable economic growth while delivering on Australia’s international climate commitments.

We recognise that successful transition to net zero requires policy frameworks that provide certainty for long-term investment while maintaining industrial competitiveness and energy security.

AIGN meets regularly with its members and guests to discuss and review climate change policy, collectively informing the Australian Government of industry perspectives across all aspects of climate change

policy reform and development. This includes engagement on emerging challenges such as reporting, mitigation, critical supply chains, low and net zero technology, carbon capture and storage deployment, and the integration of renewable energy technologies.

We are committed to navigating a path to net zero that is economically sustainable, technologically feasible, and supports the continued prosperity of Australian industry and communities.

Through continued collaboration with government, industry, and international partners, AIGN will maintain its position as a trusted voice in Australia’s climate policy development, helping to shape practical solutions that deliver environmental outcomes while supporting economic growth and competitiveness.

AIGN’s role extends beyond national borders as an active participant in international policy discussions. As a business delegate at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations, AIGN has provided industry perspectives that help to inform global climate agreements. For businesses, participation in the international process provides an opportunity to engage and understand global climate policy development, align strategies with emerging regulations, and stay ahead in the transition to a low-carbon economy.

While national and international policies remain at the forefront of AIGN’s focus, sub-national policies are addressed. We advocate for the alignment of these policies within a strategic national framework, emphasising the importance of complementarity over redundancy.

We support the sustainable development of Australian industries in recognition of:

-  the global, cross-sectoral, and community-wide impact of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions.
-  the need for comprehensiveness in any abatement and adaptation measures.
-  the potential benefits to be gained from information sharing and collective and cooperative action.
-  the imperative of international business competitiveness.

Our advocacy approach

Emissions reporting  Climate-related financial risk disclosures [TSY] Corporate emissions reduction transparency reporting [CER] National greenhouse and energy reporting review [CCA] Sustainable reporting standard [AASB] Sustainable finance taxonomy [ASFI]	Strategy and emissions caps  Climate Change Authority's issues paper [CCA] Net zero sector pathways [DCCEEW, DISR, DITRDCA] Safeguard mechanism international best practice benchmarks [DCCEEW] Safeguard mechanism reforms [DCCEEW, CER] Climate Change Act and Greenwashing Inquiry [Senate Committee]	International policy  Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism [EU, DCCEEW] Carbon leakage review [DCCEEW, ANU] Leadership group for industry transition [DFAT, DCCEEW] United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change: meetings [DCCEEW, DFAT, BINGO]
Emissions abatement  Australian carbon credit scheme review [CCA] Climate Change Act 2022 [DCCEEW] Emissions reduction fund [CCA] Renewables for industry [ARENA] Future clean fuels strategy [Tas]	Net zero transition  Future made in Australia [TSY] National Reconstruction Fund [DISR] Net zero economy agency [PMC] Powering the region fund [CEFC] Net zero strategy [NSW]	Approvals, adaptation, and resilience  National adaptation plan [DCCEEW] National climate risk assessment [DCCEEW] WA EPA updated guidelines for new projects implementation [WA EPA] Climate risk assessment inquiry [Senate Committee] Climate change assessment guidelines [NSW]



Engage in international negotiations

The Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings at the end of each calendar year represent key decision points in the development of international policy.

As a signatory to the Paris Agreement, Australia has committed to support efforts to reach net-zero emissions by mid-century or before, to keep global warming below 2°C, and to strive to limit warming to 1.5°C. This is reflected in Australia’s national legislation, the Climate Change Act 2022.

The international business community engages in international climate meetings to promote cooperation between the public and private sectors in achieving the ambitious goals of the Paris Agreement. AIGN represents our members’ interests at COPs and mid-year negotiations in Bonn each year.

COP29 was held in Azerbaijan in November 2024 and saw significant progress on climate finance and carbon markets.

Key outcomes included an agreement on a New Collective Quantified Goal on finance, which committed developed countries to provide at least US\$300 million annually by 2035, with a roadmap to be developed to make efforts to mobilise \$1.3 trillion per year of finance from public and private sources.

COP29 also saw finalisation of rules for bilateral carbon trading and a centralised crediting mechanism.

Parties also discussed the outputs of the first Global Stocktake, a five-yearly process to assess collective progress towards the goals of the Paris Agreement. The first Global Stocktake began in 2021 and was completed in 2023. To address the ambition shortfall, parties agreed at COP28 to a tripling of renewable energy capacity and doubling of energy efficiency by 2030, transitioning away from fossil fuels by 2050, halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030, and transitioning to sustainable production and consumption patterns in line with circular economy principles.

It is clear that global policies are needed to accelerate zero and low emission technologies. The second Global Stocktake is to be held from 2026 to 2028.

The mid-year negotiations in Bonn, reached agreement on multiple elements of the Paris Agreement, including decisions on finance and

carbon markets. Dialogue moved to implementation and capacity-building and knowledge-sharing discussions on how to mobilise finance towards US\$1.3 trillion as part of the New Collective Quantified Goal on finance, and sharing experiences of reporting under the Enhanced Transparency Framework.



Engage in international negotiations

Several negotiations remain ongoing, including discussions on the first Global Stocktake, as well as procedural and logistical elements for the second Global Stocktake. Some Parties are also seeking to introduce additional issues, notably the provision of finance from developed to developing countries as part of their obligations, and the intersection of trade and climate policies.

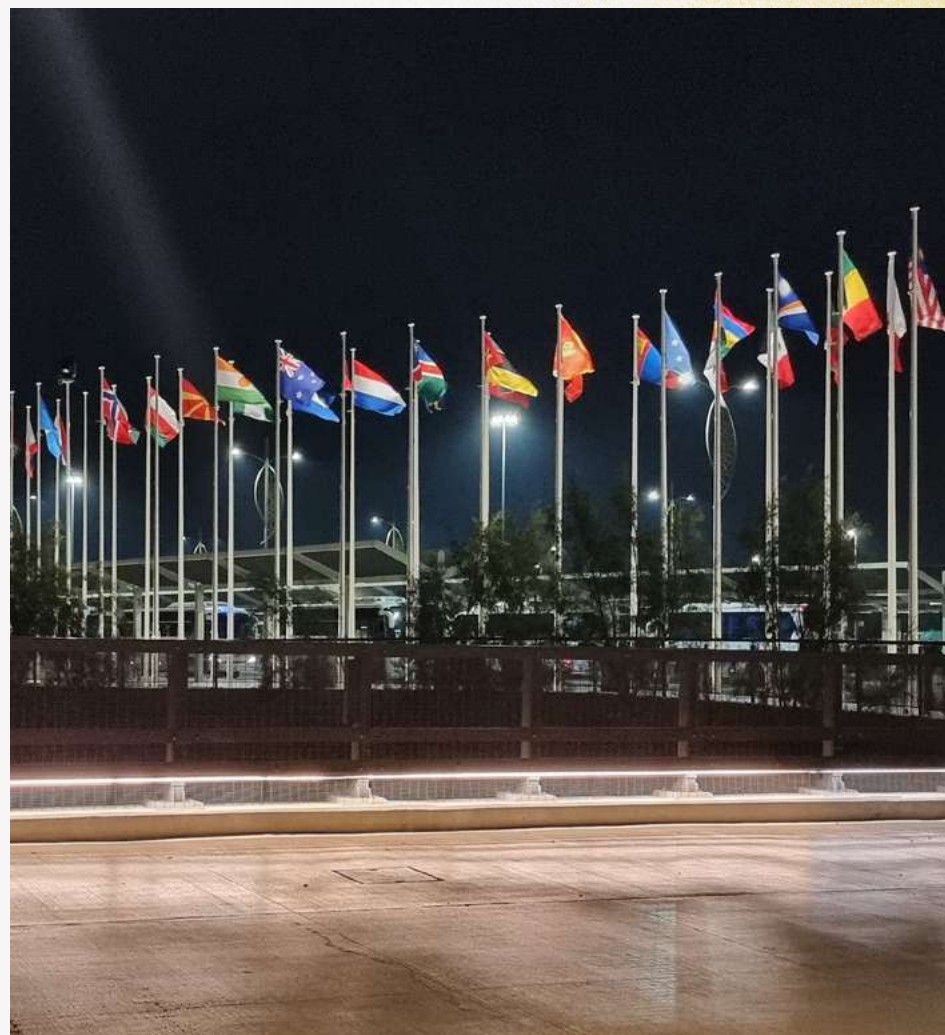
While country delegates worked hard on the Global Stocktake negotiations, discussions were complex and progress slow. There is strong will among parties to reach consensus. A successful outcome may require political intervention at COP30, since deep divisions have yet to be bridged.

Difficult discussions were also had on the Just Transition Work Programme, in which concerns about cross-border trade impacts dominated.

COP30 will be held in Belém, Brazil, in November 2025. Brazil, as the incoming COP30 Presidency, has promised a strong focus on the bioeconomy and the role of forests in climate action, as well as progressing

discussions on mobilising finance. The Presidency has communicated three interconnected priorities: strengthening multilateralism and the UNFCCC climate regime, connecting climate decisions to people's lived realities, and accelerating the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

AIGN will be present at COP30 to engage with negotiators and the international business community to promote the vital role of business in decarbonisation and successfully reaching Paris Agreement goals.



Navigate the Australian policy landscape

Australia's climate change policy suite is shaped by the Climate Change Act 2022. The Labor Government's re-election in May 2025 consolidated Australia's climate policy approach to achieving legislated emissions reduction targets of 43% below 2005 levels by 2030 and net-zero by 2050.

The pace of climate policy development has continued to be swift, with the first year of operation of the reformed Safeguard Mechanism, continued development of key elements of the Sustainable Finance Strategy including a climate-related financial disclosure framework and sustainable finance taxonomy, and further work on other policies such as the Guarantee of Origin Scheme.

AIGN engaged in the annual update process for the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme, emphasising the need to apply

measurement and estimation methodologies consistently across the breadth of the scheme.

We contributed to consultation processes on the Carbon Leakage Review, the Clean Energy Regulator's consultation on developing a unit registry and carbon exchange platform, and facilitated AIGN member engagement with the Regulator on implementing changes to emissions reporting methodologies, the release of the upgraded Energy and Emissions Reporting System, the winding up of the Corporate Emissions Reduction

Transparency reporting framework, and the treatment of market-sensitive Safeguard Mechanism data.

Consultation with both Treasury and the Australian Accounting Standards Board on the climate disclosure framework has been concentrated into a limited timeframe. AIGN has facilitated ongoing engagement on key matters such as the need to develop a sensible reporting framework, the need for key staff to be conversant on sustainability and climate-related issues, the importance of clear and detailed

Navigate the Australian policy landscape

guidance to promote consistency in reporting, and asking the government to balance input to ongoing work from both assurance providers and reporting entities.

AIGN engaged with the Australian Sustainable Finance Institute in its sustainable finance taxonomy consultation and we continue to advocate for a sensible approach to supporting investment in decarbonisation and transition activities.

AIGN supports a national approach to decarbonisation policy and has continued to advocate for state policies to complement the national approach. We have engaged with state governments and consultation processes throughout the year, including providing input to the Victorian Government's consultation on setting its 2035 emissions reduction target, submitting feedback to the NSW Environmental Protection Agency's consultation on its new climate change assessment guidelines for projects, and engaging with the Tasmanian Government on its draft future fuels strategy.

Alongside productive and continual engagement in government policy development, implementation and review processes, AIGN has produced a number of resources to promote our constructive engagement across multiple processes. These included a briefing paper to underpin our engagement with the Net Zero Economy Authority, a cross-cutting issues brief to support our members as they participate in the Government's wide-ranging sectoral decarbonisation plans and Net-Zero 2050 Plan, a briefing paper promoting streamlining of project approvals across federal and state government bodies, and we are in the process of developing a Safeguard Mechanism briefing paper in preparation for the legislated 2026–27 review.

Our monthly network meetings are a fundamental ingredient in the success of AIGN's strategic engagement across the climate policy suite. In addition to many useful sessions with government officials, AIGN hosted informative presentations from a range of other organisations. Guests included CSIRO (discussing progress on



their Carbon Dioxide Removal Roadmap), EcoSecurities (presenting an update on international carbon markets and the implementation of the Article 6.4 market mechanism), the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (presenting their latest research findings), and a training session on how to ensure industry association meetings remain compliant with competition law.

Governance and operations

AIGN is committed to actively providing members with a streamlined and cost-effective network service.

AIGN operating model

The AIGN Secretariat maintained its virtual office model throughout the reporting period, utilising technology to support daily communication and operations. This approach continued to optimise operating costs while ensuring the delivery of core services – regular network meetings, information distribution and in-depth policy analysis.

Over the reporting year, AIGN delivered a strong program of events, including five full-day network meetings and half-day workshops in Canberra, along with two additional meetings in Brisbane. These sessions provided valuable opportunities for collaboration and the exchange of insights across the membership,

reinforcing AIGN’s commitment to facilitating meaningful dialogue on key policy and industry developments.

In addition to scheduled videoconference meetings, ad-hoc sessions were convened as required to address major policy announcements and consultations. Members remained well-informed and supported through AIGN’s regular news briefings and supplementary email communications.

Financials

The audited financial statements accompanying this report confirm AIGN’s continued strong financial standing. The working capital ratio reaffirms the organisation’s ability to meet financial obligations as they arise, highlighting a sound and resilient fiscal position.

The Board has continued its prudent management of finances, maintaining a contingency reserve that ensures AIGN holds sufficient funds to meet

all liabilities – including, if necessary, those related to the unlikely event of winding up the organisation.

During the fiscal year, the Board strategically used cashflow surpluses in line with the three-year forward budget, allowing AIGN to manage rising costs while keeping membership fees below CPI increases. This approach assumes a stable membership base and no significant changes to secretariat resourcing or office arrangements.

A range of cost-saving measures resulted in a smaller-than-expected operating deficit, with \$28,000 in savings achieved over the financial year. These savings have been integrated into forward planning processes and will contribute to AIGN’s ongoing financial sustainability.

There were no occupation health and safety incidents or instances of non-compliance with governance requirements during the period.

AIGN Secretariat

Susie Smith
Chief Executive (0.5 FTE)

Marion Niederkofler
Senior Policy Advisor (0.7 FTE)

Angela Gray
Business Manager and Secretariat (0.9 FTE)

Membership fees in 2024–25 were:

Association membership:
\$26,900 (excluding GST)

Corporate membership:
\$15,200 (excluding GST)



AIGN members

The Australian Industry Greenhouse Network is comprised of a broad cross-section of Australian industry associations and businesses.

Association members

						
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Corporate members

Clause 11 of AIGN’s constitution states that: “A member may at any time, by giving notice in writing to the Secretary, resign as a member. The resignation will be effective three (3) months from the date of receipt of the notice by the Secretary. A member so resigning shall be liable for payment of the subscription fee for the financial year in which the resignation becomes effective. When the resignation of a member becomes effective, that member’s name must be removed from the register.”



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