



**AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL IMAMS COUNCIL**



2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2020

## **PUBLIC STATEMENT**

### **ANIC 13<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly**

The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) held its 13th General Assembly and AGM on Sunday 1 March 2020 in Melbourne at the ANIC and Board of Imams Victoria office in Melbourne.

The AGM was honoured by the participation of the Chairmen and members of the respective Councils of Imams from New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, ACT and Member Imams from NT.

The General Assembly of ANIC discussed and considered various topics and affairs that concern Australian Muslims. It also discussed various proposals and strategies relating to, and the future direction of, ANIC and the Australian Muslim community. Among the matters discussed was the importance of the ongoing unity of Imams in Australia and the Australian Muslim Community. The importance of preserving the Islamic Identity of Australian Muslims and the ongoing and positive contributions of Australian Muslims to their country and the land that they live on. In addition to this, the ANIC vision 2020 was presented and resolved in maintaining its religious authority and representation of the Muslim community in Australia and promoting the traditional teachings of Mainstream Islam.

The ANIC General Assembly also announced the official members of the Australian Fatwa Council that was established last year at the 12th ANIC AGM, which will focus on Fatwas (Islamic Verdicts) on contemporary issues and matters pertaining to Australian Muslims and preservation of the Islamic Identity. The Fatwa Council will be chaired by the Mufti of Australia and will convene their first meeting in the upcoming weeks.

Another matter which was canvassed was the importance of encouraging the Australian Muslim community to reach out more to the wider Australian society and important stakeholders from local, state and Federal government.



We also take this pleasure to welcome our first Australian Muslim women scholar and official member of ANIC Hala Amerah from VIC.

The 13th ANIC AGM also launched the establishment of the ANIC National Women Advisory Council to maintain a stronger connection to the Australian Muslim Women and to hear their concerns, feedback and suggestions in what serves the best interest of all Muslims in the community. ANIC will reach out to suitable candidates on a national level to participate in the Council.

A Motion was moved, to emphasise on that Islam is our religion in practice and belief, and ANIC and its member Imams will not compromise on the core fundamental principles of Islam, and Mohammad (PBUH) is the last and final prophet and messenger of Allah and Islam, and no prophet or messenger will come after him. Any other claim is contrary to the Islamic teachings and those who believe otherwise will not be considered within the fold of Islam.

ANIC thanks all the Imams who attended and participated in the 13th AGM. Their attendance, participation and feedback were of immense value and highly appreciated. Such engagement and contributions will be of great benefit to the Australian Muslims and, more generally, the Australian society.

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