



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## ANIC Secretary's Report 2022-2023:

*Imam Majidih Essa*

*All praise is due to Allah and peace be upon the Messenger of Allah.*

*Assalamu Alaikom Wa Rahmatu Allahe Barakatuh,,*

I take my responsibility as the Secretary of the Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) with full responsibility and commitment to serving my fellow Imams and the Muslim community.

As the ANIC Secretary, and I want to sincerely thank the ANIC Executive Committee for their confidence, trust, effort and cooperation in their support of me during my first term as the Secretary of ANIC. I want to continue serving the Imams with honor and integrity and look forward to growing and advancing Islam and ANIC.

### **In Summary 2022-2023 Report:**

- Regular meetings and communications between executive committee members in person, online, via telephone, email and social media groups. The ANIC Executive Committee has been extremely busy and vibrant, with many programs and initiatives to organise and follow up on.
- ANIC Executive Committee met 5 times from the last ANIC AGM in October 2022, with good attendance from all the ANIC Executive Committee members, most of which were held online.
- Issued over 30 public statements in 2022-2023 and distributed them to Imams, community organisations and leaders, government departments, NGO's and others. In addition to this, we've increased our database by at least 20% in the last year and strengthened our exposure to the Muslim and non-Muslim communities.
- Continued to network closely with all member Imams of ANIC and keep them posted on all relevant matters.
- Kept up to date with all correspondence received and sent by ANIC and ensured that all relevant correspondence, feedback and complaints were always taken seriously, followed up and responded to.
- Signed up new Imams as members with ANIC, where ANIC currently exceeds 260 member Imams from different states, territories and cities.



- Registered over 35 new Imams as marriage celebrants in the past year and empowered the Imams with this recognition from all states and territories, including updating the ANIC marriage celebrants policies and guidelines.
- ANIC conducted a national survey distributed to the ANIC members, to get their honest and open feedback on ANIC, its objectives, progress and suggestions on the future of ANIC and the Muslim community.
- Continue to work on and develop ANIC policies and procedures and engage with professional consultants in different areas and expertise.
- Held numerous meetings between ANIC members and Islamic organisations to network with prominent stakeholders in the Muslim community and connect them to ANIC and the Imams.
- Held numerous workshops for the Imams and Muslim community leaders and organisations to raise awareness on several topics, including the Voice to Parliament, applying for grants, Halal certification and others.
- Engaged with several Australian state and federal government departments, law enforcement agencies, building bridges with them and discussing matters of concern regarding Muslims in Australia and the broader Australian community and have focused on changing the narrative towards Islam and the Muslim community.
- Held two ANIC and State Council of Imams Executive committees to collaborate and coordinate the efforts amongst the states.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone and all Imams for their ongoing support as ANIC Secretary, and I look forward to continuing serving ANIC and the Imams in different ways.

Regards,

**Majidih Essa**

*Secretary*

**Australian National Imams Council**

*Date: 8 October 2023*