MEDIA RELEASE

AMC Sets Course For Future



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In an historic shift, the Australian Medical Council has changed its constitution and set a course for the future.

At a special council meeting on 13 June 2008, members of the Council voted unanimously to change the AMC structure from an incorporated association to a company limited by guarantee.

The AMC made the changes after a strategic review conducted in 2007 found constitutional change was necessary to provide the AMC with the foundation for all its current and future possible operations.

The changes in legal structure will support the AMC's national and international operations and provide a more flexible operating platform for the Council, while retaining the independence of the AMC.

AMC President, Dr Joanna Flynn, said the symbolic and practical importance of the change was enormous.

"The Council's strength is the depth, breadth and independence of the collective knowledge and expertise available to it. This change will ensure that the AMC can continue to draw on this strength as the framework for Australia's new health regulation and accreditation system is built," Dr Flynn said.

"We will continue to work with federal and state governments, medical and other health profession registration boards, the profession and the community to help build a robust health regulation and accreditation system," she said.

Dr Flynn said while it was not yet clear what the precise role of the AMC would be after the implementation of the new National Accreditation and Registration Scheme, the organisation now had a flexible structure to support it through a period of change and into the future. She did not rule out the need for further structural change in time, subject to the future role and functions of the Council.

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