

Remarks of the Registrar, Mr. Peter Lewis, to the fourth joint meeting of The Hague Working Group and the New York Working Group of the Bureau

7 October 2020

Independent Expert Review

I want to thank the Independent experts for all their hard work particularly in the very difficult conditions of this year.

I also want to thank the experts for the very constructive engagement they had with us and for making themselves available to staff which I know has been appreciated.

If organisations are to thrive and develop, they need to subject themselves to periodic review; only in this way can they build on their strengths for the future.

As the President of the ASP has said, the review is broad and deep in scope and I therefore welcome the indication that the recommendations will now be subject to thorough consideration. Some of the recommendations have already been considered by us and we are aware of the costs and impact. For some other recommendations, I believe that with some adjustment we can obtain even more benefit from them, for example in the area of geographical representation and gender balance. Other recommendations are new to us and we will need to understand the costs, impact as well as the benefits of them.

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