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TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Elizabeth Blankson-Hemans, Inclusion Caucus Convenor

DATE: 11 December 2009

RE: Proposed Dissolution of Inclusion Caucus

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Directors dissolve the Inclusion Caucus which has been in existence since 2005, for reasons of non-viability and inactivity.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT: Negligible. Non-viable. Inactive.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Inclusion Caucus has been in existence since 2005. It was set up provide ordinary members an opportunity to be involved in Diversity and other Inclusion issues in association with the DLDP Committee. As the DLDP Committee is made up of members appointed by the SLA Board of Directors, ordinary members wishing to assist or play an active role in promoting inclusive issues can only do so collectively as a part of a caucus membership.

Since its inception, the aims of the caucus have never been completely clear – there is a misperception by some that it “competes” with the DLDP itself or with the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues Caucus for instance. For these reasons, it has been difficult to find volunteers to hold office in this Caucus, and I have been Co-Convenor, and for the last three years, Convenor, without being able to find volunteers to take over. This is despite appeals at the DLDP Annual Breakfast over the last two years.

Several times, I have brought the situation for discussion with our Board Liaison and other members of the DLDP, and have tried various ways to stimulate activity. The sad realisation though is that this Caucus has no traction.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT: Membership of the Caucus has remained static at an average of 12 members over the last 3 years. As at 11 December 2009, 18 members are registered. This is the highest number it has ever achieved so we can expect an allotment just under \$200 this year. However, the support of the Caucus web site, discussion list, officer insurance, dues invoicing and collection must exceed its income.

Prepared by: Elizabeth Blankson-Hemans, Convenor, Inclusion Caucus