

BOARD REPORT

In January 2017, the 2017 ICF Global Board of Directors met for its first strategic planning meeting in Bangkok, Thailand. During the two-day meeting the Board discussed a variety of issues and focused on the review of the 2015–2017 Strategic Plan. 2017 marks the third and the last year of the current Strategic Plan.

Specifically, the Board:

- Revisited the Board Promises and Agreements
- Familiarized itself with a horizon scan related to coaching and ICF as well as general trends and conditions
- Determined focus areas for ICF activities in 2017. The specific goals are:
 - ICF researches, develops, and implements robust standards, governance and operational procedures/structures, and applicant requirements for all aspects of the Credentialing Program. A special emphasis was placed on renewal requirements for ICF Credential-holders and researching possibilities for the best possible professional credentialing system that ensures ongoing professional development. Such a system needs to be reliable, fair, objective and legally defensible; utilize multiple factors and criteria; and differentiate the levels of coaching performance. The research will utilize new and cutting-edge thinking and invite insights from subject-matter experts.
 - ICF will deliver and maintain presence at high-quality global events. The emphasis was placed on ICF Converge 2017, to be held in August 2017.

These two goals were already a part of the Strategic Plan, and the first of them has been a focus area for the last two years. Recognizing that the coaching field is developing and evolving rapidly, the Board added another top-level goal to the Strategic Plan. It states: ICF will further develop and progress the plans to expand the scope and influence of the organization. It is a continuation of previously approved strategies of establishing thought leadership through the Thought Leadership Institute; expanding the activities of the ICF Foundation; creating offerings for organizations and corporations building coaching cultures; and further exploring separation of the Credentialing and Program Accreditation functions.

- The Board also continued its conversations around development of an advanced designation to recognize the contributions of individual coach-members towards the advancement of the coaching profession. An update will be presented to the Board in June, at its next face-to-face meeting.
- The Board discussed a need to continue resourcing ICF Chapters with different financial tools and requested specifically offering a training to ICF Chapter Leaders on cultivating a commercial/business mindset.
- The Board reviewed the [Strategic Plan Quarterly Update Report](#) and expressed appreciation to staff for the good work and progress in all areas.
- In preparation for the fiscal year 2018 Budget proposal, to be presented in March, the Board also reviewed and approved major budget assumptions around member retention, acquisition, special projects and membership dues. After considering factors including the CPI, global economic situation, financial health of the Association and scope of the 2017 Strategic Plan, the Board chose not to increase dues in 2017. This means annual dues will remain at \$245 USD for the upcoming fiscal year.

During its visit to Bangkok, the Board also hosted an evening event for the local Chapter and members. The event was attended by about 50 coaches, who had a chance to discuss with the Board and staff the priorities of the organization, local market conditions, and questions regarding accreditation and credentialing. During the meeting, Immediate Past Chair Leda Turai Petrauskiene presented the 2016 ICF Global Chair's Award to the members of ICF Bangkok's leadership team for their significant accomplishments in building the awareness of coaching in Thailand and establishing a strong and vibrant community of professional coaches.