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International Association of Schools of Social Work
Association Internationale des Ecoles de Travail Social
Asociacion Internacional de Escuelas de Trabajo Social

4 March 2026

Our ref: Prof A Lombard

antoinette@iassw-aiets.org

President of ASASWEI

Prof M Ncube

secretary@asaswei.org.za

Dear Prof Ncube,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 19 February 2026, submitted on behalf of the Association of South African Social Work Education Institutions (ASASWEI).

The Board appreciates the professional spirit in which ASASWEI communicated its decision to withdraw its representative status on the IASSW Board and values your stated openness to re-engagement and reconsideration of representation as you observe the evidence you wish to see regarding IASSW's direction and actions on the matters raised.

In light of your decision to withdraw representation of South African member schools on the IASSW Board, this communication is not intended to continue a point-by-point exchange on the matters previously raised. Rather, it serves to restate IASSW's position and to confirm the commitments already adopted by the Board.

The procedural process undertaken to establish the Committee on Human Rights, Social Justice and Global Solidarity through regional representation, the development of its Terms of Reference, and their ratification by the Board has provided the necessary institutional foundation for consistent and principled responses by IASSW to humanitarian crises and atrocities. In view of the suggested changes and consequent ratification of the Terms of Reference, I wish to emphasise that engagement at Board level allows all members and representatives to speak openly and to hold one another, and the Board as a collective, accountable for its

discussions and decisions. Each Board and its leadership are accountable within their respective terms of office for the decisions adopted during that period.

Duly constituted, the Committee will commence its work on 5 March 2026, with priority action plans aligned to defined timelines. The mandate and purpose of the Committee are clearly articulated in the adopted Terms of Reference. Matters raised in your correspondence will be shared with the Committee for consideration in alignment with its mandate.

In the spirit of IASSW's longstanding collaboration with ASASWEI, we will continue to extend the bulk payment discount of 25% on membership fees to South African member schools, therefore maintaining the fee at USD 86.50 per school rather than USD115. Schools of Social Work will be directly invoiced for membership fees.

ASASWEI is welcome to re-engage with IASSW regarding future representation at any time it may reconsider its position. I extend my sincere appreciation to the current ASASWEI representative for her committed engagement in IASSW activities during my term of office.

Individual member schools are warmly invited to continue engaging with IASSW and to avail themselves of opportunities to participate in its structures. A call for participation in committee structures will be circulated shortly through IASSW's communication platforms.

May I kindly request that this letter likewise be circulated to the broader membership through the ASASWEI network.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Antoinette Lombard', written in a cursive style.

Antoinette Lombard

President, International Association of Schools of Social Work