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Motion Header: **Rescind April 2025 Motion of Trio's International Convention Attendance Limits**

I move that District Council rescind the motion passed at the April 2025 council meeting (which limited District refunding International Convention expenses incurred by the District Director, Programme Quality Director and Club Growth Director when the District did not achieve distinguished status)

Motivation:

1. ALL DISTRICT FUNDS SPENT should directly or indirectly advantage D74 and its members, providing the highest possible ROI.
2. THUS, as FIRSTLY from a financial point of view, TI already invests in D74 by spending an average of R120,000 for the 3 air tickets, to fly the Trio for their Training & Convention.
3. The Trio District Officer Training are the 2 days prior to Convention, strategically so organised by TI in order to lower all district costs around the globe, by making it almost 1 event as the convention literally follows the Trio Training, the next day
4. Thus the amount of funds spent in addition for the Trio to attend conference should not just be calculated as a stand-alone expense, but be considered against the already HUGE investment for the flight tickets by TI
5. Then it is the IMPORTANCE of attendance at International Convention! The following are only some of the items at convention I will expand on.
6. INTERVIEW NOMINATED LEADERS: From past experience, I found that to have a WhatsApp/Zoom call with nominated TI leader, does NOT provide me with actually visiting them at their stall and watching them during the day. Thus, during the CANDIDATE SHOWCASE, there is a venue where you go to interview each nominated candidate that you have scheduled even long before we arrive at convention. The Trio interview each candidate separately and then discuss which candidates they believe would serve US BEST
7. EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS: THAT is the MAIN focus of a convention and this is the key learning for the PQD. That is where I was able to obtain valuable guidelines, information and practical tips from organisers and staff of TI when I was PQD.
8. BOARD OF DIRECTORS BRIEFING: This is where we hear of any major changes coming in during the year. Being AT the convention has allowed me to ask questions during the time of the Q&A session that followed and I even had the CEO come to me afterwards so that we could explore what I presented further.
9. HALL OF FAME: Even if D74 was not Distinguished or received anything, being at the Hall of Fame, provides SUCH INSPIRATION and healthy "peer pressure" to perform

during the coming year. I have had interviews with the top districts, especially those that regularly are in the top 3 in the world and discovered a secret of how their past leaders NEVER RETIRE but immediately become their Agents of INCREASE. I hope to inspire each D74 past and present leader to become Agents of INCREASE for D74!

10. ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING: This is the time where the entire D74 has potentially given their proxy to the DD and some clubs to the other Trio members to vote on behalf of D74, which happens approximately between 1-4am our time. THIS is where the Trio not only impact D74 but TI as a whole with our votes – we MUST BE THERE!
11. ACCREDITED SPEAKER PROGRAM: This was extremely valuable to gain insight and experience as to who in the end actually receive those accreditations and why the others did NOT. That experience was then shared with D74 people that wanted to apply and as a result QUALIFIED, opposed to not.
12. WORLD CHAMPION OF PUBLIC SPEAKING: Not only are we impacted by seeing the variety and gaining the experience of what and how the judges look at, but we get to interact with PAST winners and gain so much that we are able to pass on to OUR D74 people.
13. TI ORDERS: In order to not only provide better service BUT much more COST EFFECTIVE, D74 has learned over the years which products are most ordered by our members TOGETHER WITH the fact that we provide a Club Fitness Reward system that allows clubs and members to redeem these from stock. In order to AVOID very expensive transport and clearing costs, for stocks, the D74 order is placed before the time and can ONLY BE COLLECTED DURING CONFERENCE. The stocks are shared between the Trio to return and even if there is MORE than we had space to bring back, buying an extra suitcase and paying for the extra weight was still way more cost effective.
14. EMPOWERMENT: During the 2 day Trio training, we were able to meet fellow Trio from across the world and often you pick up valuable ideas when sharing but there is no time to actually find out how they implemented those ideas. During mealtimes at convention, we normally connect with those and the TRAINING CONTINUES.
15. EMOTIONAL BONUS: The week that a Trio spends for training and convention is extremely long hours of working, and YES, in Toastmasters we learn to work and make it a FUN experience, however, in closing I would like to say that not only was attending convention BENEFICIAL to my leadership journey of growth, but I am so grateful for the BONUS of an emotional highlight, that for the FIRST TIME IN HISTORY, we not only had a Namibian District Director, BUT I was able to carry my Namibian flag, dressed in traditional Namibian clothing. This fed me emotionally to do my BEST in serving my country and I truly gave it my BEST!
16. Sometime reasons OUTSIDE the leaders' control, affect the district results negatively, should such matters, even further impoverish the next district leader's learning journey?

THERE ARE MORE REASONS, but I will leave it at that for now. D74, let's EMPOWER our Trio to learn, grow and perform better and thus provide us with a great ROI!