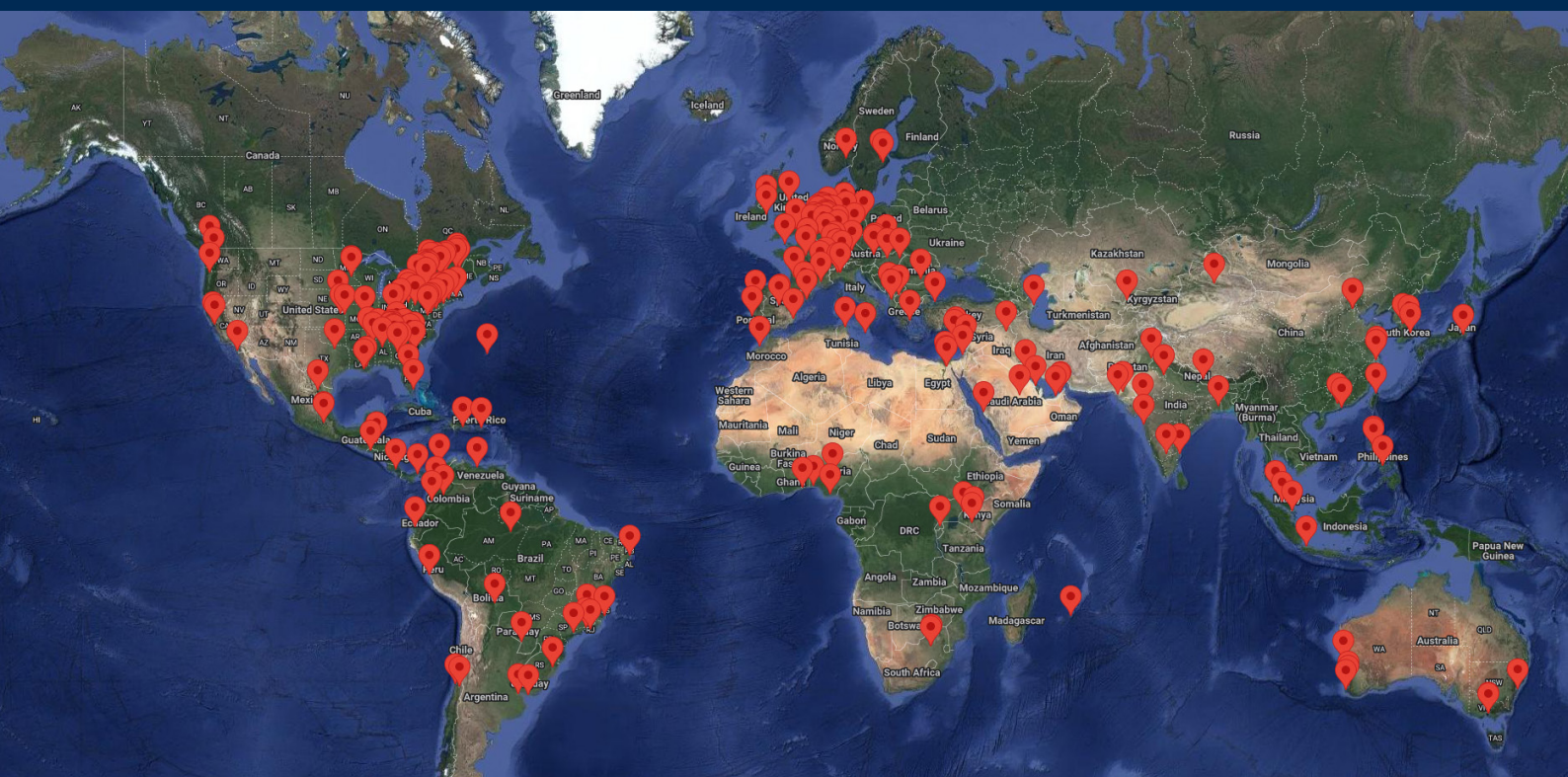


# BKR International Annual Report 2023

## CONTENTS [\(click to view\)](#)

Message from the CEO and Regional Executive Directors	2
Message from the Worldwide Chair	2
Message from the Americas Regional Chair	3
Message from the Asia-Pacific Regional Chair	3
Message from the EMEA Regional Chair	4
2022 IAB World Survey Results	4
2023 Meeting Schedule	5
Member Firm Locations	5



# MESSAGE FROM THE WORLDWIDE CEO AND REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

It is important that any organisation looks to its future, and BKR International is no different. Last year, we were still beset with COVID, and, whilst we are not over the virus completely in large parts of the world, we have learnt to live with it. As I mentioned in last year's report, now is the time to go through a strategy process and decide what you, as members, want your association to be. This way, we can bring about a stronger BKR that will be more business-focused and allow its members to make the most of their membership. This process has started, and hopefully you have seen the updates on our strategy work in the Worldwide Bulletins and E-Updates. As 2023 starts, the Worldwide and Regional Boards will be developing this further, and, as well as electronic updates, there will be face-to-face updates at all three regional meetings. The plan is to release our future strategy by our Worldwide Meeting in Washington, DC, in October.

2022 saw us getting together at our Worldwide Meeting in Amsterdam in October. More than 170 of us were able to meet in this cosmopolitan city, where we were hosted so ably by **Flynth** (Arnhem). With a theme of "Your People, Your Future," our speakers provided us with real insight as to the future of the profession. It was also a pleasure to welcome two new member firms: **Wamira & Associates LLP** (Nairobi) and **Acupro Consulting Private Limited** (Gurugram) in person. We welcomed another new member firm, **CYAUSE Audit Services Ltd** (Nicosia), in December. On a personal note, I would also like to thank our outgoing chair, **Graeme Boake** (Johannesburg), for all of his support and advice to the executive team over his very challenging time as Worldwide Chair.

Looking ahead to 2023, the Executive Office faces an exciting year, with a move in October to a new location in a serviced space on Wall Street. After so long on Fulton Street, it will be a challenging time for the team, but the move is right to ensure that we are keeping up with current working practice to allow the best possible support to our members. The executive directors are looking forward to next year, planning regional meetings in Cape Town, Taipei, and Mexico City. They are also developing their program of practice groups, leadership development, technical, and subregional activities to assist members in getting the most out of their membership. The theme for the year is "What Will Your Legacy Be?" and, after the regional conferences, it culminates at our Worldwide Meeting, being held at the Fairmont Georgetown Hotel in Washington, DC, 28th to 31st October 2023.

I will take this opportunity to welcome **Marycris Oplas** (Manila) to her new role

as Worldwide Chair. I, and all of the executive team, look forward to a fruitful two years working with her.

As 2023 approaches, I would like to wish everyone a happy New Year, and send my best wishes to members, staff, and families for the upcoming year.



**Tim Morris**, Worldwide CEO



**Aiysha (AJ) Johnson**, Executive Director of BKR International Americas Region and Executive Office Director



**Salvio Valenzuela**, Asia-Pacific Regional Executive Director



**Alistair Bryant**, EMEA Regional Executive Director

## MESSAGE FROM THE WORLDWIDE CHAIR

The Worldwide Meeting in Amsterdam has been a great way of starting my two years as your worldwide chair. It has been so good to get more than 170 members, companions, and guests together in the marvellous city of Amsterdam. Our hosts at **Flynth** (Arnhem) have really shown us what this great city has to offer, and the business program has been really well balanced and allowed us to appreciate our theme, "Your People, Your Future." James Hickey, our strategy partner from Business Vision Consulting, was able to give members a succinct update on the strategy work we are carrying out, and there is more on that in this bulletin for those who were not able to attend in person. The Gala Dinner in the Scheepvaart Museum was exceptional, with fantastic music and the characters from Rembrandt's famous picture, *The Night Watch*, joining our party too. We were also able to give out a number of 30(+)-year membership certificates, and a big "Well Done!" to all those members receiving them. Finally, I was delighted to be able to welcome our two new members, who were both able to join us for their first Worldwide Meeting, **Balwan Bansal** from **Acupro Consulting Private Limited**, whose firm is from Gurugram, India, and **Francis Wamira** from **Wamira & Associates LLP**, who is based in Nairobi, Kenya.

I would like to give a large vote of thanks to my predecessor, **Graeme Boake** (Johannesburg). It has been a challenging two years for Graeme as chair. When he started in 2020 at the height of the COVID pandemic, he had no real idea of how his term would develop, and here we are, two years later, with a return to normality of a sort! His drive ensured that we had our first post-pandemic live Worldwide Meeting in Toronto in 2021, which, however small, confirmed the importance we place on the ability to meet face-to-face to do real business. At the same time, he realised the importance of BKR looking to its future and deciding the direction in which we need to go to fulfill members' needs. The

strategy work Graeme initiated will ensure this happens. I think Graeme's two years as chair will set the foundations for BKR's future. Thank you, Graeme.

My aim for the next two years is to build on our strategy work and take it forward to ensure BKR has a stronger, brighter future. The Worldwide Board will be instrumental in helping me do this, and it is good to welcome two new regional chairs to the board. From Asia-Pacific, **Carine Tan** (Penang) and, from EMEA, **Rui Pinho** (Porto), who join **Jeremy Vokt** (Omaha) from the Americas as our three regional chairs. I look forward to meeting as many members as possible over the coming months. There is plenty going on with managing partners, future leaders, and various other technical meetings, all leading up to the first regional meeting in Cape Town in April, followed quickly by regional meetings in Taipei and Mexico City. I am looking forward to my two years as chair and know that, together, we can take BKR forward to greater levels.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or **Tim Morris** (London), our CEO, at any stage. I look forward to hearing from you.



**Marycris Oplas**, Chair, Worldwide Board



## MESSAGE FROM THE AMERICAS REGIONAL CHAIR

This year was filled with many positive changes, and it was great to host the Americas Regional Meeting in Memphis in May, where 150 members, companions, and guests attended. In addition, thanks for answering our request to serve as Member Ambassadors in the region.

Member development continues to be a top priority in the region and worldwide. Member Ambassadors will be called up for visits and to join calls whenever the opportunity exists. It takes ongoing effort as the membership process is based on many factors, including a firm's commitment to peer-to-peer sharing and supporting talent, expertise, focus on growth, geography, quality, and more. We had a presence at the Illinois CPA Summit in Chicago and the AICPA ENGAGE Conference in Las Vegas to support targeted recruiting efforts and increase awareness of the BKR Advantage.

BKR partnered with the AICPA Foundation to support the pipeline of future leaders in the profession. We know that many of you also supported these efforts through the foundation. Several members have passed, but fond memories will continue in our hearts and minds. **Sheldon B. Webster** (Birmingham) was a pioneer in the profession and embodied the spirit of a Member Ambassador. The regional scholarship was renamed in his honor to recognize his numerous contributions to BKR. Two recipients received the award: Caleb Criswell and Hannah Holmes. **Jeff Thomason** (Memphis), **John Wilson** (Birmingham), and **Aiysha (AJ) Johnson**, BKR Americas Executive Director (New York), presented the scholarships at the Gala during the Americas Regional Meeting. We are proud of the continued success of the Leadership Institute, and the latest cohort graduated in November 2022 in New York City. In addition, several Leadership Institute 2020 graduates participated in a reunion with bonus content for CPE and group dinners.

We will kick off the new year with 17 confirmed Leadership Institute participants. The new CAS Practice Group will launch its first meetings this year, where **Kathy**

**Steffan** (Toronto) will serve as Chair. We seek to build upon the CAS Workshops that were held in 2020, 2021, and 2022. Please stay posted for the meeting details on January 31 and join the practice group. We had successful Managing Partner Roundtables in Las Vegas in December, where nearly 50 participants convened with a general session, prior to the roundtable discussions. Thanks to all who participated. This continues to be a highly valuable meeting for Managing Partners and guests to exchange insights and ideas to support your firms. We will convene in Miami in 2023.

Planning is also underway for the 2023 regional meeting in Mexico City, May 20-23. We will conduct two days of business meetings, host tours, a welcome dinner, Gala, and companion tours. Managing Partners and staff members will have educational tracks for CPE credit. Bring your best and brightest to take advantage of the content and to engage with their fellow peers.

New this year, meeting updates will also be sent in a dedicated newsletter, in addition to our weekly Americas E-Update. If you are not signed up for the E-Update, please make sure to remind your team to create an account and maximize their benefits. Expect to hear more developments around our strategic focus. The new website, logo, and future direction of our efforts will be shared by the Worldwide Meeting from October 28-31 in Washington, DC. I look forward to seeing you there!

Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy New Year!



**Jeremy Vokt**, Chair, Americas Region

## MESSAGE FROM THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL CHAIR

The Asia-Pacific Region has finally seen the borders of its countries opening this year. With that, we have seen life returning to normalcy and businesses gradually returning to their pre-COVID levels. Yet, even now, as the year draws to a close, our Chinese members continue to face disruptions from strict lockdowns and restrictive border controls.

The prolonged COVID pandemic has forced many businesses to be innovative and quick to adapt to changes. It has been a great pleasure to hear from many member firms' delegates whom I have met during conferences that businesses are coming back stronger in their respective countries.

2022 was the year where we focused on our people; especially in rebuilding and regaining trust after the extended lock downs. I believe that we can achieve this through regular engagement amongst us. Thanks to today's technology, we have been able to communicate with our members and hold programmes despite not being able to meet face-to-face.

Our programmes have continued as usual by employing a hybrid model of engagement. We held our Future Leaders Programmes, which were conducted live in Bangkok. We also had a webinar on ESG, conducted by **Wali Aziz of Walker Wayland NSW** (Sydney) and the Asian Institute of Management. Our joint conference with the EMEA Region in Athens helped to connect many of us. Recently, our Chinese members had online subregional meetings, whereas our Indian member firms had theirs face-to-face.

This year, the BKR Worldwide Board partnered with Business Vision Consulting to build a future-ready strategy that would provide relevant resources to our member firms, employees, and clients. I hope that this will enable our members to understand the need to realign and see a new way forward with BKR. I believe that it will enable us to continue our search for new members to join us in the region.

We are looking forward to the Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting, which will be held in Taipei in May. There is an interesting programme planned for all the delegates, and, more importantly, it will be time for all of us to reconnect together.

On behalf of the entire board of directors, I thank you for your continuous support of BKR, and I wish you a safe and prosperous New Year! I look forward to seeing all of you in-person in 2023.



**Carine Tan**, Chair, Asia-Pacific Region

## MESSAGE FROM THE EMEA REGIONAL CHAIR

We have arrived at the end of another year of continued change, some painful, some completely unpredicted, and some, thankfully, positive. No-one predicted the dark events of 24 February and the illegal invasion of Ukraine by Russia, and certainly no-one predicted the pressures those events would bring to us all.

On the brighter side, we do appear to have emerged from the pandemic, some more quickly than others. We are starting to see travel back, and we are beginning to see at least choices about where we work and how.

Challenges remain with recruiting, retention, and where and how to work at the top of most of our agendas. Opportunities are there with AI, cloud-based services, and remote working, but plans are still developing, and experiences are different across the region.

Looking back on the year, it was wonderful to see so many in Athens, where we not only enjoyed some wonderful scenery, but also some inspiring and challenging presentations. These conferences are fundamental to what BKR is all about – collaboration, discovery, and lasting relationships with real business wins for firms and clients. In October, **Flynth** (Arnhem) hosted BKR's Worldwide Meeting with members from across the globe. This was a wonderful event with outstanding hospitality and equally inspiring contributions from our presenters.

The EMEA Regional Board is fixed on contributing to the strategy work, looking at how we develop services for the association moving forward. We will keep you all updated on progress, especially before decisions are made by you, the members, in October at the Worldwide Meeting in Washington, DC.

Looking forward, we have our regional conference early this year in Cape Town. We are finalising our amazing social and business programme. Cape Town is an amazing venue. Travel costs are not insignificant, and so we have the task of keeping all the other costs as low as possible.

We've just held a well-supported Tax and Audit Meeting in Amsterdam and will do that again next year. In Milan, we saw the relaunch of our Future Leaders Programme, hosted by **Ditrag**, and we will look to see how we can develop and strengthen that programme.

The first months of the year will see our subregional meetings in Africa, BIG, the ME & Med, and Eastern Europe. I want to turn these groups or others to be created into real action with greater commercial collaboration and a sharing of knowledge for the benefit for all. Please do contribute.

Of course, this is an association built on the shoulders of our members, and so we are always looking for ways to improve the value of BKR membership. Please do keep ideas coming, please do contribute, and please, please do attend events.

Finally, it falls to me to welcome two new members to the EMEA Region: **Wamira & Associates LLP** in Kenya and **CYAUSE Audit Services Ltd** in Cyprus (our second member in this country). We have an ambitious target list of countries for our region. Due to this strategy, we are finalizing the process of admitting one more member in Belgium.

May I wish you a peaceful holiday period and a wonderful start to the New Year.



Rui Correia de Pinho, Chair, EMEA Region

## 2022 IAB WORLD SURVEY RESULTS

Associations: Fee data										
Rank	Name	Fee income (US\$m)	Last Years fee income (US\$m)	Growth rate (%)	Fee split (%)					Year-end
					Audit & Assurance	Accounting services	Tax services	Advisory	Other	
1	Praxity*	7,941.9	6,956.0	14%	38	15	25	18	4	Dec-21
2	Allinial Global*	4,531.3	4,178.6	8%	30	19	27	20	4	Dec-21
3	PrimeGlobal*	3,508.6	2,926.0	20%	38	22	21	12	6	May-21
4	GGI*	3,286.0	3,160.0	4%	5	20	31	36	8	Dec-21
5	LEA Global/Leading Edge Alliance*	2,227.3	2,144.2	4%	30	13	32	12	13	Dec-21
6	DFK International (1)	1,527.0	1,486.7	3%	30	18	29	13	10	Dec-21
7	BKR International*	1,522.8	1,524.1	0%	35	21	26	10	8	Jun-21
8	AGN International*	1,419.2	1,338.9	6%	21	26	30	15	8	Dec-21
9	IAPA*	1,113.0	1,269.7	-12%	12	33	19	33	3	Dec-21
10	Morison Global* (2)	1,061.9	1,009.2	5%	30	20	32	9	9	Oct-21

## 2023 MEETING SCHEDULE

**April 22-24, 2023**
**EMEA**
**Regional Meeting**

 The Table Bay  
 Cape Town, South Africa

**May 6-9, 2023**
**Asia-Pacific**
**Regional Meeting**

 Shangrila Taipei  
 Taipei, Taiwan

**May 20-23, 2023**
**Americas**
**Regional Meeting**

 Presidente Intercontinental  
 Mexico City, Mexico

**October 28-31, 2023**
**Worldwide**
**Meeting**

 Fairmont Georgetown  
 Washington, DC, USA


## MEMBER FIRM LOCATIONS

### AMERICAS

 Argentina  
 Bermuda  
 Brazil  
 Bolivia  
 Canada

 Chile  
 Colombia  
 Costa Rica  
 Dominican Republic  
 Ecuador

 El Salvador  
 Honduras  
 Mexico  
 Panama  
 Paraguay

 Peru  
 Puerto Rico  
 United States of America  
 Uruguay  
 Venezuela

### ASIA-PACIFIC

 Australia  
 China  
 India  
 Indonesia

 Japan  
 Korea  
 Malaysia  
 Nepal

 New Zealand  
 Pakistan  
 Philippines  
 Singapore

 Taiwan, China  
 Uzbekistan

### EMEA

 Albania  
 Andorra  
 Austria  
 Azerbaijan  
 Belgium  
 Channel Islands  
 Cyprus  
 Egypt  
 France  
 Germany  
 Greece  
 Hungary

 Iraq  
 Ireland  
 Israel  
 Italy  
 Kenya  
 Kuwait  
 Lebanon  
 Liechtenstein  
 Luxembourg  
 Malta  
 Mauritius  
 Montenegro

 Morocco  
 Netherlands  
 Nigeria  
 Norway  
 Palestine  
 Portugal  
 Republic of North  
   Macedonia  
 Romania  
 Rwanda  
 Saudi Arabia  
 Slovakia

 South Africa  
 Spain  
 Sweden  
 Switzerland  
 Togo  
 Tunisia  
 Turkey  
 United Arab Emirates  
 United Kingdom