A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences concluded the second quarter of the 2020/21 financial year on 30 September 2020, having achieved the following:

The NIHSS’ Scholarships Directorate received Mid-Year Progress Reports (MPRs) from three hundred and nineteen (319) SAHUDA-funded students (South African students) and a further forty-one (41) MPRs from CODESRIA-funded students (non-South African students), currently busy with their doctoral studies. The Institute through the Scholarship directorate is continuing to ensure that the throughput rate grows. A total of twelve (12) SAHUDA and three (3) CODESRIA doctoral fellow reported completion of their qualification awaiting virtual graduation ceremonies were reported during this quarter. This brings the cumulative total of South African graduates to two-hundred and twenty-one (221), and the cumulative total of non-South African to sixty-two (62). Students who have completed their doctorate continue to deposit their thesis in the online Thesis Repository, making their research accessible to everyone.

The Research directorate reported eight (8) research outputs during the second quarter, consisting of five (5) journal articles, two (2) books and one (1) creative output. Generally, the NIHSS’ publications output continues to grow.

Generally, the Institute registered significant progress in the second quarter. The concerns noted are of unmet targets due to the delay in transfer of NSF funding of R 123 044 482 for the 2020/21 financial year. This continues to pose a serious challenge in terms of fulfilling the NIHSS mandate and strategic objectives. However, the Institute has put processes in place such as issuing of calls for the Academic: Scholarship and Research & BRICS Directorates respectively.