



Amnesty International members only

33rd International Council Meeting

Circular 19: 2017 International Council Meeting Decisions Report

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To: Sections and structures
From: ICM Preparatory Committee
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Summary

This document sets out the decisions of the 2017 International Council Meeting (ICM) held 11-15 August 2017, in Rome, Italy. It also includes the Chair's Statement that was presented to the final decisions plenary, in addition to summary statements on workshops that took place in the Organisation Working Party and HR workshops on LGBTI rights, Sporting Organisations, Civil Disobedience and Boycotts and Technology and Human Rights.

Distribution

This is an internal circular which is being sent to all sections, structures and AI entities.

Recommended actions

Please circulate this document within your section, structure or AI entity.

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2017 INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING CHAIR'S SUMMARY STATEMENT

The International Council gathered at its 33rd meeting in Rome. Almost 500 passionate human rights defenders from all over the world came together to set-up the movement for future success. Because human rights and human rights defenders are under threat, wherever you look.

We are seeing first-hand the repercussions of this, with our two colleagues from Amnesty International Turkey, Taner and Idil missing from the room. They were charged on absurd grounds by a government intent on repressing freedom of expression. We took action to demonstrate our outrage, and called for their urgent release.

Plenary discussions

The ICM opened with a discussion on demonization and human rights. We heard about how illiberal democracies and populist governments are fast forwarding measures to erode civil liberties and the rule of law. This theme dominated many of the discussions that took place throughout the ICM.

Our other plenary discussions focused on the protection of refugee rights and resettlement, and new ways of working and organising for human rights in today's world. Taken together, the deliberations reinforced our commitment to deliver on our Strategic Goals, as we scale up activities to tackle the attack on human rights, campaigning on the release of our friends and the Brave campaign.

It became crystal clear when we heard a dynamic panel on International Youth Day that we will not be relevant without a serious commitment and a rigorous plan on Economic Social and Cultural Rights. Gender and diversity were reinforced as crucial goals of our movement. We need concrete action. And so, it was heartening to see overwhelming support for the resolution on gender and diversity.

Governance Reform

After four years of discussion, differences of opinion and collaboration, we made a landmark decision to approve a fit-for-purpose global governance model. The ICM adopted a new statute, supported by governance regulations, which include the establishment of a Global Assembly, Regional Forums and a wide range of innovative steps to strengthen our movement. The introduction of a one-entity-one-vote system is a significant change that reinforces our combined commitment to One Amnesty.

Human Rights policy

We applaud the resourcefulness of the Sections that proposed the significant human rights policies we discussed at this ICM. We saw the fruits of our close collaboration towards a high quality policy conversation across the movement, and a more transparent policy development process.

Global Transition Programme and Fuerza

We reflected on the progress made and the major achievements already secured in the Global Transition. We also acknowledged the huge potential to maximise human rights impact in the years to come, which will be concentrated in the new Fuerza programme.

In the workshop on the role of sections we all recognised that the strength of most of our sections lies in advocacy, mobilisation and fundraising, while we depend on the International Secretariat to fully deliver on quality of research and campaigning.

We heard that the country prioritisation process is aligned with the strategic Goals and the impact we want to achieve. The complexity of our movement does not make this an easy process, and we want sections more involved to be able to deliver on expectations.

Human Rights workshops

Our workshop on civil disobedience and boycotts inspired us to take more risks; another on LGBTI rights reminded us that we have to put ourselves in the shoes of The Other; others on tech and human rights and sporting organisations educated us.

This moment is historical - after being our highest decision making body since the birth of our movement, the last ICM ever is coming to an end. But for Amnesty as a truly global human rights movement, we have only just begun.

GOVERNANCE REFORM WORKING PARTY A AND B

1. STATUTE OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

The International Council

DECIDES TO

Approve the updated Statute of Amnesty International (Appendix 1) to give effect to the governance reform including the following core changes:

- (a) the establishment of the Global Assembly as a permanent body meeting annually to replace the International Council and Chairs Forum;
 - (b) a new system of voting;
 - (c) the establishment of the Preparatory Committee as a statutory committee;
 - (d) a reduction in the term for International Board members to three years;
 - (e) the establishment of the Membership Review Committee to replace the Membership Appeals Committee; and
 - (f) the removal of the international networks and affiliated groups as statutory groups.
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Appendix 1

Statute of Amnesty International

As amended by [the 2017 International Council Meeting]

VISION AND MISSION

1. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL's *vision* is of a world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments. In pursuit of this vision, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL's *mission* is to undertake research and action focused on preventing and ending grave abuses of these rights.

CORE VALUES

2. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL forms a global community of human rights defenders with the principles of international solidarity, effective action for the individual victim, global coverage, the universality and indivisibility of human rights, impartiality and independence, and democracy and mutual respect.

METHODS

3. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL addresses governments, intergovernmental organizations, armed political groups, companies and other non-state actors. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL seeks to disclose human rights abuses accurately, quickly and persistently. It systematically and impartially researches the facts of individual cases and patterns of human rights abuses. These findings are publicized, and members, supporters and staff mobilize public pressure on governments and others to stop the abuses.
In addition to its work on specific abuses of human rights, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL urges all governments to observe the rule of law, and to ratify and implement human rights standards; it carries out a wide range of human rights educational activities; and it encourages intergovernmental organizations, individuals, and all organs of society to support and respect human rights.

MOVEMENT STRUCTURE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

4. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL is a people's movement based on global voluntary membership; the global membership is represented by AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL's membership entities (sections and structures) and its international members.
5. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL is accountable to all who benefit from the fulfilment of its Vision and Mission and to its members, activists, and supporters worldwide.

6. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL's global structure is as follows. The Global Assembly, the highest decision-making body, is made up of representatives from the membership entities and from the international members. The Global Assembly elects the International Board; the International Board and the global work of the movement are supported by the International Secretariat. The membership entities, the international members and the International Board are all accountable to the Global Assembly and must comply with this Statute and global strategy, policies and other requirements approved by the Global Assembly in its decisions including the Vision, Mission and Core Values, the Strategic Goals (the agreed priorities which guide the work of the movement) and the Core Standards (the movement's core governance and operational standards).
7. This Statute sets out the global governance framework at the highest level. It is supplemented by the Global Governance Regulations. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Statute and the Global Governance Regulations or other related documents the provisions of this Statute will take precedence.

GLOBAL ASSEMBLY

8. The Global Assembly is the highest decision-making body of the movement. It:
 - a. approves global strategy that enables the delivery of the Vision and Mission including the Strategic Goals;
 - b. elects, oversees and has the power to dismiss the International Board;
 - c. approves changes to this Statute, including to the Vision, Mission and Core Values and to the movement's associated governance procedures including the Global Governance Regulations, the terms of reference for the Global Assembly's Committees and the related voting rights and procedures;
 - d. approves the international financial assessment system;
 - e. approves core global requirements guiding the movement's work such as and including the Core Standards;
 - f. approves the policy framework on contentious human rights issues;
 - g. receives reports and proposals from the International Board and the membership entities and makes decisions in areas within its competence; and
 - h. receives reports on the movement's performance including with regard to compliance with global requirements and holds the movement accountable.
9. The Global Assembly is made up of the following voting representatives: one person from each membership entity and one person from the international members. Those people are the 'standing representatives'.
10. The Global Assembly meets once a year as a regular meeting. Emergency meetings may be called at any time by the International Board, or by a simple majority of the standing representatives.

11. At the regular meetings of the Global Assembly, two people from each membership entity and two people from the international members may join the standing representatives to attend the meeting as non-voting delegates. Additionally one young person from one third of membership entities (on a rotating basis) and one young person from the international members will join regular meetings. At Emergency meetings, membership entities and international members are represented by the standing representatives alone.
12. The Global Assembly elects a chair who serves for a term of two years and may serve for a maximum of three consecutive terms.
13. Global Assembly meetings cannot proceed unless more than half of the standing representatives are present or represented.
14. The following standing committees are elected by the Global Assembly to assist its work: the Preparatory Committee, the International Nominations Committee and the Membership Review Committee. The Finance and Audit Committee is a fourth standing committee which assists the work of both the Global Assembly and the International Board. The Finance and Audit Committee is partly elected by the Global Assembly and partly appointed by the International Board.
15. The Global Assembly may dismiss the International Board by dismissing all International Board members simultaneously. In such a case the Global Assembly may also elect new interim International Board members to fill the vacant positions. Where no interim International Board is elected by the Global Assembly, the Chair of the Global Assembly and the International Nominations Committee acting jointly must appoint new interim International Board members such that there are at least five members in total. Interim International Board members serve until the next Global Assembly meeting.
16. The Global Assembly makes decisions by a simple majority vote of votes cast by those present or represented, except for the following decisions which require a two-thirds majority of votes cast by those present or represented:
 - a. to amend the Statute;
 - b. to amend the Global Governance Regulations;
 - c. to amend the financial assessment model or other aspects of financial distribution between membership entities and other movement entities;
 - d. to dismiss the International Board and the committees of the Global Assembly;
 - e. to dismiss the Chair of the Global Assembly; and
 - f. to confer voting rights at the Global Assembly to any person or entity additional to those in Article 17, pursuant to criteria adopted by the Global Assembly for that purpose.

VOTING

17. At a meeting of the Global Assembly each membership entity has one vote. International members have, collectively, one vote. Votes are exercised through the standing representatives.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD

18. The International Board reports to and is accountable to the Global Assembly.
19. The International Board provides global stewardship for the fulfilment of the movement's Vision and Mission and its compliance with global policies and standards. It:
 - a. provides proposals for the approval of the Global Assembly including on the international financial assessment system, global governance procedures, global standards and the Strategic Goals;
 - b. oversees the movement's finances and risks;
 - c. oversees the protection of the movement's reputation and resources;
 - d. oversees the work and operations of the International Secretariat including by appointing the Secretary General, approving the International Secretariat's annual audited accounts and budget and appointing its auditors;
 - e. monitors compliance of all parts of the movement with the provisions of this Statute, the decisions of the Global Assembly and other global policies and standards;
 - f. approves the establishment of membership entities and other movement entities;
 - g. exercises the functions necessary to implement Article 34 of this Statute; and
 - h. provides reports, at least once a year, to the movement on the budget, the financial position of the movement and of the International Secretariat and on the International Board's work and performance.
20. The International Board has nine members (including the Treasurer) elected by the Global Assembly from the movement's individual members. Up to two additional members can be appointed by the International Board itself as co-opted members; the co-opted members do not have the right to vote in International Board decisions.
21. The Treasurer is elected by the Global Assembly, directly and separately from the rest of the International Board.
22. Where vacancies arise in the International Board's elected membership between Global Assembly meetings, the International Board may appoint up to two interim members to serve until the next Global Assembly meeting.
23. International Board meetings cannot proceed unless at least five elected members are present. The International Board has a chair whom it elects.
24. The elected members of the International Board serve a term of three years, with a maximum of two consecutive terms. The co-opted members serve a term of two years with a maximum of two

terms. The elected members of the International Board may not include more than one member from the same country, state or territory.

SECTIONS

25. Sections carry out the work of the movement in their country, state or territory, including in the areas of campaigning, advocacy, education, public mobilization, media and fundraising.
26. Sections are accountable to local members and work with members, supporters and activists in their country, state or territory.
27. Sections make an annual financial contribution to the work of the movement in accordance with the international financial assessment system approved by the Global Assembly.
28. Sections' plans for research on human rights abuses within their country, state or territory are subject to the oversight and quality control of the International Secretariat.

STRUCTURES

29. Structures carry out the work of the movement in a country, state or territory where there is no section.
30. Structures are accountable to local members and work with members, supporters and activists in their country, state or territory.
31. Structures operate on a temporary basis and with the objective that they will work to become approved as sections.

INDIVIDUAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

32. A person who contributes to and shares the Vision, Mission and Core Values of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL may become an individual member:
 - a. by joining a section or structure where they live and paying a membership fee (if applicable) to that section or structure; or
 - b. if there is no section or structure where they live by paying a membership fee (if applicable) to the International Secretariat, to become an international member.

LEAVING THE MOVEMENT

33. Membership entities and international members may voluntarily terminate their membership of the movement at any time and thereby cease all AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL work (including using the Amnesty name and logo) by providing written notice to the International Board; other

individual members may terminate their membership at any time by giving notice to the relevant section or structure.

34. The International Board may take measures affecting the membership status of a membership entity or an international member including without limitation termination or suspension of membership, if the International Board considers such action necessary to protect the reputation, integrity or operation of the movement, or because local circumstances make such action necessary. Any such action may be reviewed in accordance with the review procedures of the Membership Review Committee.

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

35. The International Secretariat, overseen by the International Board, supports, enables and implements the work and functioning of the movement by:
- a. representing the movement externally through the Secretary General;
 - b. co-ordinating and conducting the movement's global human rights work in research, campaigning, communications, advocacy, policy, legal, fundraising, education and other functions as necessary;
 - c. developing global strategy, policies and standards and ensuring their co-ordination, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting; and
 - d. supporting movement governance, growth and development and its financial health.
36. The Secretary General is the chief executive of the International Secretariat, and is appointed by and accountable to the International Board.
37. The International Secretariat manages the global protection and use of the AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL name and logo on behalf of the International Board by registering trademarks and issuing a trademark licence to the membership entities and other movement entities.

Arising from resolution 1.01

2. GLOBAL GOVERNANCE REGULATIONS

The International Council

DECIDES TO

Approve the Global Governance Regulations (Appendix 1) to supplement the updated Statute (Resolution 1.01) and to replace the ICM Standing Orders (ORG 50/2431/2016). This will give effect to the governance reform including the following core components of the new governance model:

- a) Global Assembly (including composition, chair, meetings, quorum);
 - b) Voting;
 - c) Process for review of International Board decisions affecting membership status;
 - d) Description of the statutory committees;
 - e) Decision-making process (including motions, agenda development, elections, Regional Forum meetings, procedures for discussion); and
 - f) Process to dismiss the International Board, the Chair of the Global Assembly and the elected members of the committees of the Global Assembly.
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APPENDIX 1 – GLOBAL GOVERNANCE REGULATIONS

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INTRODUCTION

These Global Governance Regulations (Regulations) complement the Statute of Amnesty International to provide the basic working procedures for the running of Amnesty International's global governance, covering the Global Assembly, the International Board (Board) and the Committees.

1. GLOBAL ASSEMBLY

1.1. REMIT

1.1.1 The Global Assembly is the highest decision-making body of the Amnesty International movement. Its remit is defined in Article 8 of the Statute.

1.2 COMPOSITION

1.2.1 The Global Assembly is made up of the following voting representatives: one person from each membership entity (sections and structures) and one person from the international members. Those people are the "standing representatives" and the International Secretariat is notified of them for that purpose.

1.2.2 In the case of a membership entity, the standing representative is usually the chair and must not be a member of the paid staff. A membership entity may remove or replace its standing representative at any time by notice in writing to the International Secretariat. Standing representatives are accountable to their own membership entity.

1.2.3 In the case of international members, the standing representative is appointed from the three international members nominated to attend the Global Assembly meeting (see Regulation 1.4.4).

1.3 CHAIR

1.3.1 The Chair of the Global Assembly is elected by the Global Assembly for a term of two years and may serve for a maximum of three consecutive terms. To avoid potential conflicts of interest the Chair must not be a standing representative, or hold a concurrent governance or staff role in the movement.

1.3.2 The Chair or, in the Chair's absence, the Vice-Chair (see Regulation 2.1.4), presides over the work of the Global Assembly.

1.3.3 In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Chair of the Board opens the Global Assembly meeting and the Global Assembly then elects a Chair for that Global Assembly meeting.

1.3.4 The Chair of the Global Assembly is also automatically the Chair of the Preparatory Committee (see Regulation 2.1.2).

1.3.5 The Global Assembly may remove the Chair before the expiry of the Chair's term by a two-thirds majority vote.

1.4 GLOBAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

1.4.1 The Global Assembly meets once a year as a regular meeting. This meeting

takes place primarily as a physical meeting; however, participants may attend by electronic means.

1.4.2 The Global Assembly regular meeting is convened by the Preparatory Committee by notice in writing or by electronic means to all standing representatives not later than 210 days before the meeting date.

1.4.3 Participants in the regular meeting consist of the following:

(a) the standing representatives from membership entities and international members (see 1.2) or their proxies (see Regulations 1.4.5 and 1.4.7)

(b) two additional people from each membership entity, one of whom is usually the director

(c) one young person (under 25) from one third of membership entities on a rotating basis and one young person from the international members; these people will be additional to the participants in (a) and (b).¹

(d) two additional international members appointed under Regulation 1.4.4

(e) up to three people in total from each Amnesty International National Office²

(f) Members of the:

(i) Board, and

(ii) Preparatory Committee

(g) the Chair of the International Nominations Committee

(h) the Secretary General, and other members of the International Secretariat as determined necessary by the Board

(i) Global Assembly officials:

(i) facilitators appointed by the Preparatory Committee, and

(ii) the Election Officer appointed by the Chair of the Global Assembly (see Regulation 6.1.7) from the participants listed under point (a), (b), (c) and (d) of this Regulation

(j) guests invited by the Preparatory Committee or the Board to enrich the discussions and inform decision-making

(k) candidates for election as ordinary members of the Board and Treasurer by the Global Assembly at that meeting.

1.4.4 The International Nominations Committee appoints three representatives from the international members every three years. One of the representatives is appointed by the three representatives as the standing representative (see Regulation 1.2.3), the other two attend the Global Assembly meeting as non-voting participants (see Regulation 1.4.3(d)); in the case where the appointment of the standing representative cannot be agreed by the three representatives, the International Nominations Committee appoints the standing representative.

1.4.5 In the case where a standing representative of a membership entity is unable to participate in a meeting the membership entity may appoint a proxy to attend that meeting and vote on its behalf. Only participants who are representatives of

¹ In respect of the participants on behalf of the membership entities, the Preparatory Committee will ensure (i) equal rotation between all membership entities and (ii) a geographical balance

² A National Office is an Amnesty International entity whose establishment is approved by the Board to carry out the work of the movement in a country where there is no section or structure; its operations are managed by the International Secretariat with local legal autonomy and an element of local Amnesty governance. Amnesty International National Offices operate on a temporary basis and with the objective to be recognised as structures or sections.

membership entities already entitled to attend the Global Assembly meeting may act as proxies. Each membership entity may hold only one proxy at any such meeting.

1.4.6 The appointment of proxies must be in the form prescribed by the Preparatory Committee for that purpose.

1.4.7 In the case where a standing representative of the international members is unable to participate in a meeting, that representative must notify the International Nominations Committee which may appoint an alternative representative for that meeting from the other two representatives appointed under Regulation 1.4.4.

1.4.8 Membership entities are expected to strive to send delegations whose compositions reflect the diversity of their membership, including with respect to gender and youth representation.

1.4.9 Membership entities must send a final list of participants including any proxies to the International Secretariat not later than 60 days before the opening of the meeting. This deadline can be waived by the Preparatory Committee.

1.5 EMERGENCY MEETINGS

1.5.1 The Chair of the Global Assembly – at the request of the Board or a simple majority of the standing representatives – may call an emergency meeting by not less than 21 days' notice in writing or by electronic means to all standing representatives.

1.5.2 Emergency meetings may be called for decisions which by virtue of their significance and/or their urgency cannot wait for the regular Global Assembly meeting.

1.5.3 The Chair of the Global Assembly and the Preparatory Committee may convene an emergency meeting of the Global Assembly if required under Regulation 9.

1.5.4 Emergency meetings are usually held by electronic means, however, the Preparatory Committee might decide otherwise in a particular case and has the final decision on the format of the meeting.

1.5.5 At emergency meetings, membership entities and international members are represented by the standing representatives only. Additional participants in an emergency meeting are as determined by the Preparatory Committee and are notified to the standing representatives by no less than 14 days' notice.

1.5.6 The Preparatory Committee determines the agenda and relevant information to be circulated in advance of the emergency meeting, in order to reflect the business proposed by those requesting the meeting.

1.6 QUORUM

1.6.1 Global Assembly meetings cannot proceed unless more than half of the standing representatives are present or represented in person or by electronic means.

1.6.2 If a quorum is not present within one hour from the time appointed for the start of meeting, the meeting is adjourned to a date and time determined by the Chair of the Global Assembly. Adjourned meetings are usually held by electronic means with the final decision on who participates and in what format made by the Chair of the Global Assembly.

1.7 VOTING

1.7.1 The Global Assembly makes decisions by a simple majority of votes cast by those present or represented, except for the decisions listed at Article 16 of the Statute which require a two-thirds majority of votes cast by those present or represented.

1.7.2 The voting mechanism is set out at Article 17 of the Statute.

1.7.3 Membership entities and international members have an automatic entitlement to vote through their standing representatives.

1.7.4 Only membership entities that have paid in full the annual financial contribution as assessed by the Global Assembly for the two previous financial years, and have provided the agreed annual financial reports and their audited accounts to the International Secretariat within 60 days of the final date for submission have the right to vote through their standing representatives.

1.7.5 The requirements in Regulation 1.7.4 may be waived in whole or in part by the Global Assembly.

1.7.6 Once the requirements set out in Regulation 1.7.4 are checked, the entitlement to vote is valid until the commencement of the next Global Assembly regular meeting.

1.7.7 In accordance with Article 16 of the Statute, the Global Assembly may confer voting rights on additional persons or entities by a two-thirds majority decision. The voting entitlement for such a person or entity is approved by the Global Assembly at the beginning of each Global Assembly regular meeting and is valid until the commencement of the next regular meeting.

1.8 PROCESS FOR REVIEW OF BOARD DECISIONS ON MEMBERSHIP STATUS

1.8.1 Membership entities and international members may request the review of a Board decision to take measures under Article 34 of the Statute affecting their membership status (see also Regulation 3.3.6). The request for review must be made by the membership entity or international member and notified to the Membership Review Committee within 30 days of receiving notification of the relevant Board decision. The request must include a summary of the grounds for challenge.

1.8.2 The process relating to requests for review by a membership entity is at Regulations 1.8.3 to 1.8.10. The process relating to requests for review by an international member is at Regulation 1.8.11.

1.8.3 On receipt of a request for review the Membership Review Committee appoints two additional individuals for the purpose of supplementing the competencies and skills needed on the review panel (Panel). These individuals, together with the elected members of the Membership Review Committee, form the Panel to conduct the review. The additional individuals are appointed for the duration of the review.

1.8.4 All members of the Panel must declare any relevant conflict of interest or duty and must not participate in a review where they have such a conflict as defined under the applicable Amnesty International policy unless the member of the Panel does not consider the conflict to be material in the circumstances and the Chair of the Global Assembly agrees.

1.8.5 The Panel elects a chair from its members at its first meeting for the duration of the specific review. If the Panel cannot agree on a chair, the Chair of the Global Assembly appoints the chair of the Panel.

1.8.6 The Panel addresses the following issues in a review:

(a) whether the Board adhered to the applicable procedures in taking the action it did, and

(b) whether the Board had reasonable grounds to take the action it did.

1.8.7 The Panel may take the following decisions as a result of a review:

- (a) to reject the grounds for challenge, or
- (b) to uphold the grounds for challenge and remit the matter to the Board for a new decision.

1.8.8 The Panel's decision must be in writing and provided to the Global Assembly.

1.8.9 If the matter is remitted to the Board, the Board re-assesses its decision in light of the Panel's analysis and recommendation, and communicates its decision to the Global Assembly.

1.8.10 The Board is accountable to the Global Assembly in respect of the findings and decision of a Panel and must report to the Global Assembly on all decisions relating to closure, suspension and international administration.

1.8.11 Where the Board takes measures under Article 34 of the Statute in respect of an international member, the review is conducted by one member of the Membership Review Committee designated by the Committee for that purpose. The designated Committee member addresses the issues set out in Regulation 1.8.6 and may take the decisions set out at Regulation 1.8.7.

1.8.12 Except in the case of a severe risk to the reputation or continued operation of the Amnesty International movement, the effect of a review of a Board decision under this Regulation 1.8 is to suspend the effect of such decision for the duration of such review and pending the outcome of the review.

2. COMMITTEES

2.1 PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

2.1.1 The purpose of the Preparatory Committee is to ensure a democratic, participatory and efficient decision-making process for Global Assembly meetings, including the development of a strategic agenda. The Preparatory Committee decides on the meeting format including the appointment of facilitators. The Preparatory Committee also ensures that adequate capacity building for chairs is available at Global Assembly meetings and liaises with the Regional Forums accordingly (see Regulation 12.1.6)

2.1.2 The Preparatory Committee is composed of three members directly elected by the Global Assembly from the movement for a two-year term with a maximum of three consecutive terms, as well as the Chair of the Global Assembly (who is also automatically the Chair of the Preparatory Committee) and a representative of the Board. The Preparatory Committee may co-opt one additional member in a specialist capacity who may be external to Amnesty International for a two-year term with a maximum of two terms. A representative of the Secretary General participates in the Preparatory Committee in an advisory role.

2.1.3 To avoid a potential conflict of interest, the members of Preparatory Committee, including the Chair of the Global Assembly (see Regulation 1.3.1), must not be a standing representative or hold a concurrent governance or staff role in the movement.

2.1.4 The Preparatory Committee elects a Vice-Chair from among its directly elected members (the Vice-Chair is also automatically the Vice-Chair of the Global Assembly).

2.1.5 The Preparatory Committee is accountable to and its elected members can be dismissed by the Global Assembly (see Regulation 9.3).

2.1.6 The Terms of Reference for the Preparatory Committee are approved by the Global Assembly.

2.2 INTERNATIONAL NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

2.2.1 The purpose of the International Nominations Committee is to find and assess candidates for internationally elected positions in Amnesty International global governance bodies, striving for the appropriate composition of skills, competencies, and regional, gender and age balance.

2.2.2 The International Nominations Committee is composed of five members elected by the Global Assembly from the movement for a two-year term with a maximum of three consecutive terms. The International Nominations Committee may co-opt up to two additional members in a specialist capacity who may be external to Amnesty International. The co-opted members serve for a two-year term with a maximum of two consecutive terms.

2.2.3 To avoid a potential conflict of interest, the members of the International Nominations Committee must not be standing representatives, or hold a concurrent governance or staff role in the movement.

2.2.4 The International Nominations Committee is accountable to and its elected members can be dismissed by the Global Assembly (see Regulation 9.4).

2.2.5 The Terms of Reference for the International Nominations Committee are approved by the Global Assembly.

2.3 FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

2.3.1 The purpose of the Finance and Audit Committee is to provide financial oversight of (i) the legal entities which make up the International Secretariat and (ii) the membership entities.

2.3.2 The Finance and Audit Committee is composed of five members: two members who are directly elected by the Global Assembly from the movement for a three-year term with a maximum of two consecutive terms; the Treasurer (who is also automatically the Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee); two other members who are either elected or co-opted members of the Board and/or one of whom may be an independent expert appointed by the Board.

2.3.3 The Finance and Audit Committee is an advisory committee of the Board, and of the two legal entities of the International Secretariat: Amnesty International Limited and Amnesty International Charity Limited (see Regulation 3.3.3).

2.3.4 The Treasurer reports on the Finance and Audit Committee's work and the key finance issues to the Global Assembly.

2.3.5 The Terms of Reference for the Finance and Audit Committee are approved by the Board after they have been presented to the Global Assembly.

2.4 MEMBERSHIP REVIEW COMMITTEE

2.4.1 The purpose of the Membership Review Committee is to conduct the process for the review of Board decisions on membership status under Article 34 of the Statute (see Regulation 1.8).

2.4.2 The Membership Review Committee is composed of three members who are directly elected by the Global Assembly from the movement for a two-year term with a maximum of three consecutive terms. For each review, the Membership Review Committee appoints two additional individuals to form a panel to conduct the review.

2.4.3 To avoid a potential conflict of interest, the members of the Membership Review Committee must not be standing representatives, or hold a concurrent governance or staff role in the movement.

2.4.4 The Membership Review Committee is accountable to and its elected members can be dismissed by the Global Assembly (see Regulation 9.5).

2.4.5 The Terms of Reference for the Membership Review Committee and the procedures for the process of review are approved by the Global Assembly.

3. BOARD

3.1 REMIT

3.1.1 The Board provides global stewardship for the fulfilment of the movement's mission and vision and its compliance with global policies and standards. Its remit is defined in Article 19 of the Statute.

3.2 COMPOSITION

3.2.1 The Board is made up of nine people elected by the Global Assembly from the movement's individual members. Eight positions are ordinary Board member positions. The Treasurer is elected separately and is also a member of the Board. Each member serves a term of three years with a maximum of two consecutive terms. The elected members of the Board (including any interim Board members appointed under Article 15 of the Statute) may not include more than one member from the same country, state or territory.

3.2.2 Up to two additional members can be appointed by the Board itself as co-opted members; the co-opted members should be or become members of Amnesty International; they do not have the right to vote in Board decisions. The co-opted members serve a term of up to two years commencing from the date of the preceding Global Assembly meeting with a maximum of two terms. The Board may terminate the appointment of a co-opted member by majority vote at any time.

3.2.3 Where vacancies in the Board's elected membership arise between Global Assembly meetings, the Board may appoint up to two interim members to serve until the next Global Assembly meeting.

3.2.4 The Board elects a Chair and Vice-Chair from among the eight ordinary members to co-ordinate its work. The terms for each appointment are as set out in the International Board Working Rules.

3.2.5 The Board Chair acts as the primary link between the Board and the Secretary General, providing line management functions and support to the Secretary General.

3.2.6 The Treasurer is also automatically the Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee (see 2.3.2) and has the following main responsibilities in relation to the movement's global finances: overview of Amnesty International's movement, advice to the Board, and liaison with the movement.

3.3 WAYS OF WORKING

3.3.1 The Board meets at least four times a year and meetings cannot proceed unless at least five voting members are present.

3.3.2 The Board may appoint committees to carry out its own work. The Board Committees are determined in accordance with the Board's priorities and work plan and their Terms of Reference are established by the Board. The Board communicates the composition and function of each of its committees to the Global Assembly.

3.3.3 The Board oversees the work and operations of the International Secretariat on behalf of the movement. In addition to their role on behalf of Amnesty International, the elected members of the Board (including the Treasurer) hold corporate appointments on the legal entities which make up the International Secretariat

(Amnesty International Limited and Amnesty International Charity Limited).

3.3.4 The Board can dismiss individual Board members for breach of duty or gross misconduct in accordance with the procedures set out in the International Board Working Rules. The following are examples of conduct which may constitute breach of duty or misconduct:

- (a) persistent failure (without good reason) to participate in the activities of the Board
- (b) persistent failure (without good reason) to carry out assigned or delegated responsibilities as a Board member
- (c) action that may create a serious risk to the security of Amnesty International, its information or the individuals whom it seeks to protect
- (d) a significant or persistent breach of the financial procedures and/or misappropriation of funds
- (e) actions that constitute civil or criminal offences, including fraud, bribery or corruption and/or relevant convictions before a court of law provided that any such offences do not relate to carrying out activities which are consistent with the exercise of internationally recognised human rights and Amnesty International's mission and policies
- (f) conduct which gives rise to a significant reputational risk to Amnesty International, or
- (g) failure to manage a conflict of interest appropriately.

3.3.5 The work of the Board is regulated by the International Board Working Rules amended and approved by the Board.

3.3.6 The Board may take necessary measures under Article 34 of the Statute including without limitation the termination or suspension of the membership status of a membership entity or international member.

3.3.7 The processes for the Board applying the measures under Article 34 of the Statute are set out in the applicable procedures and the review procedures are set out at Regulation 1.8.

GLOBAL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURES

4. PRINCIPLES

Amnesty International's decision-making process is focused on achieving impact by a central focus on the delivery of the mission and Strategic Goals at the national, regional and global level. All those who participate should ensure that the decision-making process:

- (a) creates inclusive discussions that empower all participants to participate
- (b) is efficient and effective
- (c) reflects the movement's commitment to diversity
- (d) wherever possible, uses innovative technologies (e-governance) to enhance participation and inclusion
- (e) achieves accountability across the movement
- (f) reflects the interests of the global movement, and
- (g) is transparent and reinforces a commitment to mutual trust.

5. DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

5.1 PROPOSALS AND MOTIONS AT REGULAR MEETING

5.1.1 Motions are issues that membership entities, the international members, National Offices and the Board submit for discussion and decision at the Global Assembly.

5.1.2 Before submitting a motion, a proposal for a motion (including amendments to the Statute) is submitted to the Preparatory Committee 180 days before the opening of the Global Assembly meeting.

5.1.3 Proposals should clarify: i) how it contributes to the achievement of Amnesty International's mission and Strategic Goals; ii) how it is of global relevance; and iii) why it should be discussed at the next Global Assembly meeting.

5.1.4 The Preparatory Committee prioritizes proposals according to a set of agreed criteria outlined in its Terms of Reference, to ensure that they are within the remit of the Global Assembly and support the achievement of the Strategic Goals.

5.1.5 Based on the proposals received, the Preparatory Committee develops a draft agenda for the Global Assembly meeting and prepares a list of the proposals received. The Preparatory Committee discusses any proposal that does not meet the criteria or that might be merged with another proposal with the proponents.

5.1.6 150 days before the date of the opening of the Global Assembly, the Preparatory Committee shares with the movement a draft agenda for the Global Assembly meeting and the list of proposals received. This list informs the discussions of the Regional Forum meetings (see Regulations 5.1.12 and 12).

5.1.7 Proposals for motions that have not been included in the Global Assembly draft agenda are shared with the movement as part of this list. The Preparatory Committee provides a rationale for its decision. In case the proponent of a proposal does not agree with the Preparatory Committee's decision, standing representatives vote electronically – soon after the list is shared with the movement – to decide, via a simple majority of votes cast, whether to include the proposal on the draft agenda.

5.1.8 The proposal is an initial opportunity for the movement, through the Preparatory Committee and the Regional Forum meetings, to consider the relevant issues and to provide feedback to the proponent on how it can be strengthened or improved. Based on this feedback, the proponent prepares their motion and submits it

to the Preparatory Committee by the motions deadline.

5.1.9 Motions can only be submitted if a proposal was previously submitted by the proponent. The deadline for motions is 90 days before the date of the opening of the Global Assembly meeting. Motions should follow the same guidelines as proposals (see Regulation 5.1.3). A motion received after the deadline and/or submitted without a previous proposal is not considered by the Preparatory Committee unless it is an emergency motion.

5.1.10 An emergency motion is only considered as such when the Preparatory Committee is satisfied that the motion could not have been formulated and submitted before the regular motions deadline (see Regulation 5.1.9).

5.1.11 The deadline for emergency motions is two days before the date of the opening of the Global Assembly meeting.

5.1.12 Regional Forum meetings are held five to four months before the Global Assembly meeting. They provide an opportunity to discuss proposals raised by membership entities, the international members and the Board. Regional Forum meetings share a summary of their discussions with the movement for information 14 days after the close of the meeting.

5.1.13 The Preparatory Committee revises the draft agenda for the Global Assembly meeting once the Regional Forum meetings as scheduled have taken place and shares this with the movement no less than 30 days before the Global Assembly meeting.

5.2 DRAFT AGENDA

5.2.1 The Preparatory Committee decides how to organize the agenda topics and discussions so that they encourage the active participation of all participants in the Global Assembly meeting. The Preparatory Committee may establish discussion groups and/or appoint external facilitators to ensure that sessions are inclusive, focused and effective.

5.2.2 A revised draft agenda, papers and/or other materials for the meeting are shared at least 30 days before the date of the meeting. To promote inclusivity, the Preparatory Committee ensures that papers and/or other materials are concise and presented in plain language (English, Spanish and French) that is accessible to people working in a second language and those with disabilities. The Preparatory Committee encourages the use of innovative technologies to make information more easily understandable.

5.2.3 The Preparatory Committee submits the final draft agenda to the Global Assembly for adoption in the opening plenary session. Once adopted, the draft agenda becomes the agenda for the Global Assembly meeting. Proposals to add or remove sessions from the agenda need to have the approval of the Global Assembly.

5.2.4 Participants are responsible for their own preparation so that they are able to actively participate in Global Assembly discussions and contribute towards a successful meeting.

6. CONDUCT AND PROCEDURES OF THE GLOBAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

6.1 CHAIR'S ROLE

6.1.1 The Chair is elected by the Global Assembly as determined by these Regulations (see Regulation 1.3.1).

6.1.2 In the absence of the Chair or the Vice-Chair, a Chair is elected by the procedure at Regulation 1.3.3 as the first business of the Global Assembly meeting.

6.1.3 The Chair is responsible for the order and conduct of the meeting and ensuring the principles stated in these Regulations (see Regulation 4) are respected.

6.1.4 To achieve these principles, the Chair may:

- (a) seek varied participation and opinions
- (b) keep (and declare closed) a speakers' list, ensuring this has a diverse and regional representation of speakers
- (c) at any time, propose the impositions of a time limit for speeches or discussion on a particular item provided that this time limit does not infringe the right of reply of the person presenting in that session
- (d) stop any person speaking
- (e) rule on the interpretation of these Regulations and on all other disputed questions of procedure relating to the conduct of the meeting, and
- (f) propose to the meeting the adjournment of the session with the effect that the session stands adjourned, unless the Global Assembly decides otherwise.

6.1.5 In the event of a dispute with regard to a ruling by the Chair, the ruling is submitted to the Global Assembly for an immediate decision to be voted on by a simple majority of votes cast by those present or represented.

6.1.6 The provisions of Regulations 6.1.3 and 6.1.4 relating to the conduct of the Chair apply to the proceedings of group discussions, if the Preparatory Committee chooses to include these in the agenda.

6.1.7 The Chair appoints an Election Officer in advance of the meeting by way of an open call to the movement for applicants. This appointment is to be confirmed by the Global Assembly in its plenary opening session.

6.1.8 The Chair must be neutral and impartial in the discussions of the meeting.

6.2 PROCEDURES FOR DISCUSSION

6.2.1 The Global Assembly's discussions are focused at the strategic level. Facilitation is used to enhance active participation and inclusiveness in discussions. The working languages are English, Spanish and French.

6.2.2 In the case of motions in plenary or in discussion groups, the discussion is as follows.

- (a) The motion is briefly introduced by a participant from the proponent membership entity, or international member, or National Office or a Board member if it is the proponent. It is the proponent's role to ensure all participants understand the substance of the motion.
- (b) It is the role of the facilitator to use a variety of methodologies to draw out the Global Assembly's view on the motion.
- (c) An amendment to a motion may be proposed by any participant, provided that it does not constitute a direct negative to the original motion. If the proponent accepts the amendment, then the amended motion becomes the substantive motion and the proponent remains as for the original motion. If the amendment is accepted by the proponent, the facilitator has the discretion to put the amendment to the Global Assembly without debate for confirmation. If the amendment is not accepted by the proponent, the facilitator puts the amendment to the Global Assembly. If the Global Assembly is in favour of the amendment, the amended motion becomes the substantive motion.

6.2.3 Once a motion has been discussed, the Global Assembly decides whether it should be carried as a Global Assembly decision. The Chair of the Global Assembly calls a vote on the motion, in accordance with Regulation 1.7, and a motion that is passed becomes a Global Assembly decision. All parts of the movement are required to implement Global Assembly decisions.

6.2.4 Votes are taken by electronic means or by a show of voting cards in a physical meeting if electronic means are not possible. Abstentions are not counted.

6.2.5 If voting cards are being used, a count of votes is taken at the decision of the Chair of the Global Assembly, following a request from a standing representative. The Election Officer appointed under Regulation 6.1.7 assists the Chair of the Global Assembly for this purpose.

6.3 POINTS OF ORDER AND INFORMATION

6.3.1 Points of order are requests for clarification on the conduct of the meeting or the debate.

6.3.2 Points of order may be raised by participants and have precedence over all other business, except during voting unless they relate specifically to the procedure of that vote.

6.3.3 The following matters may be raised as a point of order including a clarification or additional information on the process:

- (a) a request for the Chair's ruling
- (b) a challenge to the Chair's ruling, which must be seconded by a participant from a separate membership entity or the Board
- (c) a requirement that a vote be taken immediately. This proposal must be approved by the Chair, and
- (d) that the motion not go to a vote and instead be referred to the Board or another body of the Global Assembly.

6.3.4 Points of information are requests to provide clarification on a matter of substance relating to the discussion. These may be raised by participants and must consist only of information offered to or asked of the chair, facilitator or speaker. They must not contain any argument.

7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

7.1.1 Whenever a participant has a conflict of interest or duty in a matter to be discussed at a Global Assembly meeting as defined under the applicable movement policy, the participant must declare such an interest to the Chair of the Global Assembly before discussion begins on the matter.

7.1.2 Whenever a participant has a conflict of interest or duty in a matter to be voted on at a Global Assembly meeting, this participant must:

- (a) not participate in any related discussion
- (b) not be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting (in the case of a voting representative), and
- (c) not vote on the matter (in the case of a voting representative)

unless and to the extent that the Chair of the Global Assembly determines otherwise, having discussed the matter with the relevant participant and considered the materiality of the conflict in the circumstances, following the declaration at Regulation 7.1.1.

8. ELECTIONS

8.1.1 The Global Assembly elects by secret ballot the Chair of the Global Assembly, the Treasurer, the ordinary members of the Board, the members of the Preparatory Committee, the International Nominations Committee, the Membership Review Committee and the elected members of the Finance and Audit Committee.

8.1.2 The International Nominations Committee notifies the movement of upcoming elections for specific vacancies not later than 180 days before the meeting date.

8.1.3 Membership entities, National Offices and the International Nominations Committee can nominate candidates for the positions listed in Regulation 8.1.1.

8.1.4 The deadline for submission of nominations is fixed at 60 days before the election is held.

8.1.5 The International Nominations Committee may extend this deadline up until 14 days prior to the election if required to ensure a field of nominees with the necessary balance of competencies, experience and diversity.

8.1.6 Candidate submissions for all posts must include relevant information as required by the International Nominations Committee.

8.1.7 All nominations submitted by membership entities must be accompanied by a statement from the board of the relevant membership entity.

8.1.8 Names and details of candidates and the relevant information stated above must be received by the International Nominations Committee by the above deadlines to enable relevant information to be circulated to the movement enabling the electorate to take an informed decision.

8.1.9 The Election Officer as appointed in Regulation 6.1.7 is responsible for the organization of the elections.

8.1.10 The Election Officer decides on the time of the elections in consultation with the Chair of the Global Assembly.

8.1.11 Votes are taken by electronic means or ballots if electronic voting is not possible. In such a case, separate ballots are distributed for each election. The ballots are distributed to standing representatives or their proxies upon the production of their voting cards.

8.1.12 The elections are conducted as follows:

(a) there is one ballot with the names of candidates. This ballot can be electronic or paper

(b) standing representatives vote, marking an x beside the name of the candidate they select, or selecting the candidate(s) through electronic device/system.

Standing representatives are free to vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies, or less than the total number of vacancies

(c) candidates with the highest number of votes are elected until all vacancies are filled

(d) in the event of a tie for the last vacant place there is a re-election between the candidates with an equal number of votes.

8.1.13 The Election Officer announces who is elected and the number of votes obtained by all candidates.

9. DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

9.1 PROCESS TO DISMISS THE ENTIRE BOARD

9.1.1 Standing representatives can request the dismissal of the entire Board where they consider that the Board has, collectively:

(a) repeatedly failed to implement one of more Global Assembly decision(s)

without good reason,

(b) acted or failed to act in a way that unduly exposes the movement to reputational or other significant risk, or

(c) refused to take necessary steps in relation to an individual Board member who threatens to unduly expose the movement to reputational or other significant risk.

9.1.2 A request for dismissal is notified to the Chair of the Global Assembly and must be supported by at least 25% of the standing representatives. The request must include a summary of the grounds for requesting dismissal.

9.1.3 In the case where the request for dismissal of the Board arises at a Global Assembly meeting, the Chair of the Global Assembly immediately refers the case to the Global Assembly for decision under Regulation 9.1.6.

9.1.4 In other cases, on receipt of the request for dismissal, the Chair of the Global Assembly establishes an investigation team (Team) to consider the request and to invite and consider the views of the Board. The Team consists of four individuals selected from the standing representatives.

9.1.5 Unless a regular meeting of the Global Assembly has already been called and will take place within 60 days, the Chair of the Global Assembly convenes an emergency meeting of the Global Assembly to vote on the dismissal of the entire Board. The Team then presents its conclusions in the form of a recommendation.

9.1.6 A decision for dismissal requires a two-thirds majority of vote cast of those present or represented. Before voting, there will be an opportunity for the Board to make its views heard.

9.1.7 In the case where the entire Board is dismissed, the Global Assembly may elect new interim Board members. Where no interim Board is elected by the Global Assembly, the Chair of the Global Assembly and the International Nominations Committee acting jointly, must appoint new interim Board members such that there are at least five members in total. Interim Board members serve until the next Global Assembly meeting. Dismissed Board members cannot be appointed as interim Board members.

9.2 PROCESS TO DISMISS THE CHAIR OF THE GLOBAL ASSEMBLY

9.2.1 Standing representatives can request the dismissal of the Chair of the Global Assembly (see Regulation 1.3.5) where they consider that the Chair has:

(a) repeatedly failed to fulfil the Chair of the Global Assembly's role(s) without good reason, or

(b) acted or failed to act in a way that unduly exposes the movement to reputational or other significant risk.

9.2.2 A request for dismissal is notified to the Chair of the Board. The request must be supported by at least 25% of the standing representatives. The request must include a summary of the grounds for requesting dismissal.

9.2.3 In the case where the request for dismissal arises at a Global Assembly meeting, the Chair of the Board immediately refers the case to the Global Assembly for decision under Regulation 9.2.6.

9.2.4 In other cases, on receipt of the request for dismissal, the Chair of the Board establishes an investigation team (Team) to consider the request and to invite and consider the views of the Chair of the Global Assembly. The Team consists of four individuals selected from the standing representatives.

9.2.5 Unless a regular meeting of the Global Assembly has already been called and will take place within 60 days, the Preparatory Committee may convene an emergency meeting of the Global Assembly to vote on the dismissal. The Team then presents its conclusions in the form of a recommendation.

9.2.6 A decision for dismissal requires a two-thirds majority of votes cast of those present or represented. Before voting, there will be an opportunity for the views of the Chair of the Global Assembly to be heard.

9.2.7 In the case where the Chair of the Global Assembly is dismissed, the Global Assembly elects a new interim Chair of the Global Assembly. The interim Chair of the Global Assembly serves until the next Global Assembly meeting.

9.3 PROCESS TO DISMISS THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

9.3.1 Standing representatives can request the dismissal of the elected members of the Preparatory Committee (see Regulation 2.1.5) where they consider that the elected members have, collectively:

- (a) repeatedly failed to fulfil their role(s) without good reason, and/or
- (b) acted or failed to act in a way that unduly exposes the movement to reputational or other significant risk.

9.3.2 The request must be supported by at least 25% of the standing representatives. The request must include a summary of the grounds for requesting dismissal.

9.3.3 In such a case the process described at Regulation 9.2 (to dismiss the Chair of the Global Assembly) applies, from Regulation 9.2.3 onwards.

9.4 PROCESS TO DISMISS THE INTERNATIONAL NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

9.4.1 Standing representatives can request the dismissal of the International Nominations Committee (see Regulation 2.2.3) where they consider that the members of the International Nominations Committee have, collectively:

- (a) repeatedly failed to fulfil their role(s) without good reason, and/or
- (b) acted or failed to act in a way that unduly exposes the movement to reputational or other significant risk.

9.4.2 The request needs to be supported by at least 25% of the standing representatives. The request must include a summary of the grounds for requesting dismissal.

9.4.3 In such a case the process described at Regulation 9.1 (to dismiss the Board) applies, from 9.1.3 onwards.

9.5 PROCESS TO DISMISS THE MEMBERSHIP REVIEW COMMITTEE

9.5.1 Standing representatives can request the dismissal of the Membership Review Committee (see Regulation 2.2.4) where they consider that the members of the Membership Review Committee have, collectively:

- (a) repeatedly failed to fulfil their role(s) without good reason, and/or
- (b) acted or failed to act in a way that unduly exposes the movement to reputational or other significant risk.

9.5.2 The request needs to be supported by at least 25% of the standing representatives. The request must include a summary of the grounds for requesting dismissal.

9.5.3 In such a case the process described at Regulation 9.1 (to dismiss the Board) applies, from 9.1.3 onwards.

10. ACCOUNTABILITY

10.1.1 In line with the principles at Regulation 4, and in accordance with Article 6 of the Statute, all membership entities, international members, the Board and International Secretariat commit to the principle of mutual accountability in all Global Assembly discussions.

10.1.2 To enable this, the following reports are presented at the Global Assembly regular meeting:

(a) Presentation in plenary of a report on the composition of the meeting itself in terms of diversity (including, at a minimum, gender and youth representation) in the opening session.

(b) Presentation in plenary for approval of a report from the Board on its activities in all areas included within its remit and including the overall results of the work of the movement, as well as the overall impact the same has had on improving the human rights situation across the world since the previous meeting, and also including the main challenges that remain with regard to targets that it has not been possible to meet.

(c) Presentation in plenary for approval of a report from the Treasurer including results from global management accounts from the movement for the previous year and a comparison of the progress made since the last Global Assembly.

(d) Presentation in plenary of a report by the Secretary General summarizing the work done by the International Secretariat on human rights and organizational and resource matters, and its main achievements and pending challenges, as well as the most significant successes achieved by the different membership entities since the previous meeting, and including information on the activities of the Secretary General with regard to the fulfilment of the Secretary General's internal and external responsibilities.

(e) Presentation in plenary of a report on the performance of the movement based on the movement accountability tools (such as the Core Standards).

(f) Presentation in plenary for approval of a report on the implementation of the Global Assembly decisions.

(g) Other reports as agreed by the Global Assembly.

10.1.3 Following the end of the Global Assembly meeting, membership entities are responsible for sharing with their local board and membership the outcomes of the Global Assembly's discussions, its decisions and the meeting report.

11. REPORT AND AMENDMENTS

11.1.1 The report of each Global Assembly meeting providing a summary of the discussions and a full list of decisions made is approved by the Chair of the Global Assembly for that meeting and shared with the movement within 60 days from the end of the meeting.

11.1.2 Objections or corrections to the report need to be lodged by the relevant standing representative of that meeting or Board member or Board chair with the Chair of the Global Assembly for that meeting, within one month of the report being distributed. The Chair of the Global Assembly for that meeting decides whether to allow the objections or corrections in the report or not.

12. REGIONAL FORUM MEETINGS

12.1.1 Regional Forum meetings will be held physically or by electronic means, as decided by the regions in order to best meet their needs.

12.1.2 Each membership entity and National Office in the region is able to send up to

three participants to the Regional Forum meeting; the number of participants is decided by the region according to the issues to be discussed. It is expected that one of these participants is the standing representative.

12.1.3 Membership entities and National Offices in each region are expected to send delegations whose compositions reflect the diversity of their membership, including with respect to gender and youth representation.

12.1.4 With respect to youth representation each Regional Forum meeting will additionally invite the youth participants selected by the relevant membership entities at Regulation 1.4.3(c).

12.1.5 The Regional Forum meetings have a set of common core functions as well as a set of other functions decided by the Regional Forum itself.

12.1.6 The required core functions of the Regional Forum meetings are as follows:

- (a) To discuss items proposed by the Preparatory Committee (see Regulation 5.1.6) and to prepare leaders for decision-making at the Global Assembly,
- (b) To discuss issues relevant to the region ensuring coherence and learning across national, regional and global levels,
- (c) To ensure that adequate capacity building is available, liaising with the Preparatory Committee accordingly (see Regulation 2.1.1).

12.1.7 Each Regional Forum meeting develops and agrees its own Terms of Reference document that is filed with the International Secretariat.

13. AMENDMENTS TO THE GLOBAL ASSEMBLY REGULATIONS

13.1.1 A proposal for an amendment to these Regulations may be submitted by a membership entity or by the Board and is treated as a motion (see Regulation 5.1).

13.1.2 Amendments to these Regulations are approved by the Global Assembly by a two-thirds majority of votes cast by those present or represented. Amendments adopted by the Global Assembly are effective from the end of the relevant Global Assembly meeting.

14. INTERPRETATION

14.1.1 References in this document to the provision of notice in writing includes the provision of information by electronic means.

Arising from resolution 1.02

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

The International Council

DECIDES TO approve the Terms of Reference of the Preparatory Committee (Appendix 1).

Appendix 1

Terms of Reference of the Preparatory Committee

Purpose³

The Preparatory Committee's main responsibility is to enable the Global Assembly to fulfil its role as the highest governing body of Amnesty International by developing a strategic and future-focused Global Assembly agenda and to ensure that adequate capacity building for chairs is available at Global Assembly meetings and liaises with the Regional Forums accordingly.

Composition and terms

a. Composition

The members of the Preparatory Committee are:

- Chair of the Global Assembly: elected by the Global Assembly and who is also automatically the Chair of the Preparatory Committee;
- Three additional members elected by the Global Assembly. The Preparatory Committee elects a Vice-Chair of the Preparatory Committee from among its directly elected members, who is also automatically the Vice-Chair of the Global Assembly;
- External member (optional); co-opted by the Preparatory Committee to complement its set of competencies;
- A representative of the Board;
- A representative of the Secretary General participates in the Preparatory Committee in an advisory role only.

The committee membership should reflect the international movement, allowing the Preparatory Committee to have a regional and global perspective as it develops the agenda of the Global Assembly. The committee's working language is English.

To avoid a potential conflict of interest, the members of Preparatory Committee, including the Chair of the Global Assembly must not be a standing representative, or hold a concurrent governance or staff role in the movement.

b. Terms of membership

- Members of the Preparatory Committee hold office for a period of two years. Their terms of office begin and end at the close of the Global Assembly meeting.
- Elected members, including the Chair of the Global Assembly, can serve for a maximum of three consecutive terms; the external member can serve for a maximum of two terms.

Members of the Preparatory Committee will run staggered terms to ensure a continuation of knowledge and competencies. The Preparatory Committee can dismiss individual Committee members for breach of duty or gross misconduct by majority vote.

Competencies

³ The Terms of Reference of the Preparatory Committee must be read in conjunction with the Global Governance Regulations, which clarify the principles, scope and purpose of the Global Assembly.

In order to fulfil its purpose, the members of the Preparatory Committee, including the Chair of the Global Assembly, should demonstrate the following competencies:

- Strategic thinking: Ability to prioritize discussions according to the needs of a global, strategy-led international human rights movement.
- Analytical thinking: Sound understanding of the distinction between governance and operational issues.
- Prioritization: Ability to balance competing needs and interests.
- Facilitation: Experience facilitating conversations across cultures so that they are inclusive and participatory.
- Communication: Excellent communication and diplomatic skills, ability to listen and concisely summarize conversations.
- Leading and collaboration: Strong leadership skills including the ability to make a decision when needed, but also able to work as part of a team.
- Organizational knowledge: An understanding of the complex dynamics of decision-making in an international organization. Knowledge of the current debates within the movement, while being able to maintain neutrality and impartiality.
- Professionalism and integrity: Ability to follow procedures as outlined in the Global Governance Regulations and maintain neutrality on discussion topics.
- Capacity building: experience of providing support and/or training on governance and/or operational issues to the board members of membership entities.

Ways of working

a. Meetings

The Preparatory Committee will hold meetings virtually. However, the committee may also hold physical meetings as it deems appropriate.

The Preparatory Committee meets on the following occasions:

- As soon as possible after its election to agree plans and processes for the next Global Assembly meeting, including the potential co-opting of an external member.
- As soon as possible after the deadline for receipt of proposals for motions in order to assess proposals received against an agreed set of criteria and develop a draft Global Assembly agenda.
- As soon as possible after the deadline for receipt of motions, to assess motions received against an agreed set of criteria; review the outcomes of the Regional Forum meetings; and develop a revised version of the draft agenda.
- Just before the Global Assembly meeting, to prepare for the meeting.
- Following the collation of the Global Assembly delegate evaluation, to review the meeting, the committee's ways of working and propose suggestions for the next Global Assembly meeting.

The committee holds any other ad hoc meetings as necessary to achieve its purpose.

b. Processes

To achieve its purpose of developing a strategic agenda for the Global Assembly, the Preparatory Committee uses the Matrix for assessing proposals and motions (including emergency motions) as set out in Appendix A. Once it has assessed the proposals and motions received, the committee develops a draft agenda for the Global Assembly as stated in the Global Governance Regulations 5.2.

To achieve its purpose of making capacity building available for chairs; such capacity building will be provided at regular Global Assembly meetings. The Preparatory Committee will liaise with the bodies responsible for developing the Regional Forum meeting agendas accordingly.

c. Preparatory Committee and Regional Forum meetings

The relevant draft Global Assembly agenda topics are discussed in Regional Forum meetings before the Global Assembly. A member of the Preparatory Committee will usually participate in their respective Regional Forum meeting. The body responsible for developing the Regional Forum meeting agendas can consult the Preparatory Committee on high-level governance and capacity building issues, however the Preparatory Committee is not directly involved in the development of Regional Forum meeting agendas. Each Regional Forum will define its own Terms of Reference. The Preparatory Committee drafts the final iteration of the Global Assembly draft agenda once the Regional Forum meetings as scheduled have taken place.

d. During the Global Assembly Meeting

During the Global Assembly meeting, the Chair, with the assistance of the other members of Preparatory Committee, is responsible for ensuring the meeting adheres to the Principles of the Global Assembly (Global Governance Regulations 4).

The Chair is responsible for the opening and closing of the meeting. The additional members of the Preparatory Committee facilitate sessions as necessary, including group discussions if these are added to the agenda.

Discussions on motions follow the process as stated in Global Governance Regulations 6.2.

Preparatory Committee's key outputs

- 210 days before the Global Assembly meeting: Preparatory Committee convenes the Global Assembly, announcing the meeting's date.
- 180 days before the Global Assembly meeting: Deadline for Preparatory Committee to receive proposals.
- 150 days before the Global Assembly meeting: Preparatory Committee shares a draft agenda for the Global Assembly meeting and the list of proposals received. This list includes those proposals that have not been included on the Global Assembly agenda, along with the committee's rationale for its decision. The draft agenda informs the discussions of the Regional Forum meetings.
- 90 days before the Global Assembly meeting: Deadline for Preparatory Committee to receive motions.
- 30 days before the Global Assembly meeting: Preparatory Committee shares the draft agenda for the Global Assembly meeting, including the list of motions to be discussed, all meeting papers and a report on composition of the meeting itself.
- Immediately after the Global Assembly meeting: Preparatory Committee shares the Global Assembly decisions.

- 60 days after the Global Assembly meeting: Preparatory Committee shares the full meeting report and a summary of the delegate evaluation.
- In respect to the additional youth participants (see Regulation 1.4.3 c) the Preparatory Committee ensures (i) equal rotation between all membership entities; and (ii) a geographical balance.

Accountability

The Preparatory Committee is accountable to the Global Assembly in the following ways:

- Preparatory Committee's decisions to deprioritize proposals can be overturned by the Global Assembly (Global Governance Regulations 5.1.7).
- The agenda of the Global Assembly is only officially adopted once approved by the Global Assembly in the first session (Global Governance Regulations 5.2.3).
- At the end of the Global Assembly, participants complete an evaluation of the meeting. An analysis of the high-level outcomes of the evaluation will be shared with participants.

Review of Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference of the Preparatory Committee are approved by the Global Assembly. Any amendment to the Preparatory Committee's Terms of Reference may be submitted by the Preparatory Committee, a membership entity or by the Board.

Appendix A:

Matrix for prioritizing proposals and motions

This matrix clarifies how the Preparatory Committee prioritizes and develops the draft agenda for Global Assembly meeting.

Proposals for motions and motions are classified into three categories as follows:

1. **High priority and high relevance:** items that are of global concern; that fall within or hamper the delivery of the Strategic Goals or emerge from critical changes in the external environment; and where a decision is needed at the next Global Assembly meeting. These items are prioritized for the draft agenda.
2. **Medium priority and high relevance:** items that are of global concern; that fall within or hamper the delivery of the Strategic Goals or emerge from critical changes in the external environment; and where a decision is not needed at the next Global Assembly meeting. These items can be included in the draft agenda, time permitting either for decision or for discussion.
3. **Low priority and medium to low relevance:** items that do not concern more than a few membership entities in one region or do not fall within or are not critical to the delivery of the Strategic Goals; and where a decision or discussion is not needed at the next Global Assembly meeting. These items are not part of the draft agenda.

Rating	Issue	Global relevance	Urgency	Organizational/financial/governance issue
High				
Medium				
Low				

Criteria questions for assessing proposals for motions and motions:

Issue: Does the item fall within the Strategic Goals? If yes, will the item affect the direction of travel or contribute to increased impact? If not within the Strategic Goals, is it an emerging human rights issue that needs to be prioritized for Amnesty International or a new development of a longstanding issue? Is this a crucial governance issue for the movement? Has this been discussed/rejected at global level before?

Global relevance: Is it a decision that falls within the Global Assembly remit? (If not it does not go to Global Assembly.) Does it concern more than one region? Does it concern more than one membership entity in each of those regions?

Urgency: Does the item need a decision or discussion at the next Global Assembly meeting? Is there another body or process that can make a decision in place of the Global Assembly? Will there be any negative effect or impact on Amnesty International as an organization if the decision or discussion is postponed to the next Global Assembly meeting?

Organizational/financial/governance issue: Is the item an organizational / financial / governance issue? Is it likely to affect performance or impact? Does it affect both membership entities and the International Secretariat? Is it an item that corresponds to the top five risks of the global risk register? Does a similar policy or decision already exist?

Arising from resolution 1.03

4. GOVERNANCE REFORM TRANSITIONAL PLANS

The International Council

DECIDES TO approve the Governance Reform Transitional Plans (Appendix 1) including the following core arrangements:

Global Assembly

- (a) to implement the establishment of the Global Assembly as the highest governing body of Amnesty International at the beginning of 2018;
- (b) that the first Global Assembly meeting is held in 2018 and that the Terms of Reference for the Preparatory Committee (Resolution 1.03) guide its preparation and organization;

Elections

- (c) that at the 2017 International Council Meeting, elections for the International Board follow current practice and vacant positions are elected for a four-year term;

(d) that the persons elected as International Council Meeting Chair and Alternate Chair at the 2017 International Council Meeting are appointed as Chair and Vice Chair of the Global Assembly in 2018;

(e) that at the 2017 International Council Meeting, elections for the International Nominations Committee and the Finance and Audit Committee follow current practice and that these committees will continue functioning as normal until the 2019 Global Assembly meeting;

(f) that the Membership Appeals Committee is elected at the 2017 International Council Meeting for a one-year term until being replaced by the Membership Review Committee;

The 2018 Global Assembly meeting

(g) that the 2018 Global Assembly discusses and approves:

- the Terms of Reference of the Membership Review Committee and the procedures for the process for review of International Board decisions on membership status;
- the Terms of Reference for the International Nominations Committee;

(h) that the Terms of Reference for the Finance and Audit Committee are presented to the 2018 Global Assembly.

Regional Forums

(i) that the first Regional Forum meetings are held in 2018;

(j) the purpose and outcomes of Regional Forums are evaluated in the 2020 Global Assembly.

INSTRUCTS the International Board

(k) to take any action necessary to ensure a smooth transition to the new governance model and to keep entity chairs informed about its proposed actions;

(l) to conduct a review of the amendments to the draft Statute and the Global Governance Regulations⁴ that were raised and approved during the 2017 ICM, for the purpose of ensuring that:

- such amendments are consistent with the original drafting approach across the two documents; and
- any significant and unintended practical or legal consequences arising out of such amendments are understood.

The Board will report back to the 2018 Global Assembly with a brief report and recommendations arising out of the review.

INSTRUCTS the International Board to undertake an evaluation of the youth representation mechanism set out in Regulation 1.4.3 after its first three years of operation. This evaluation will be submitted to the Global Assembly at 2021 for consideration.

Appendix 1

Governance Reform Transitional Plans

Elections

International Board: The updated Statute of Amnesty International (AI) proposes that the

⁴ Versions as set out in Resolutions 1.01 and 1.02 at the 33rd International Council Meeting Circular 6: Second version resolutions ORG 10/6316/2017

term length of an International Board (Board) member is reduced to three years. The aim is to arrive at a staggered cycle of elections with three Board positions open for election at each Global Assembly meeting.

There are currently four positions to be elected at the 2017 International Council Meeting (ICM), and five members of the Board whose terms end in 2019.

To achieve this staggered cycle the following temporary arrangements are proposed:

- the 2017 ICM elections follow current practice and the four vacant positions are elected for a four-year term (that is there will be no elections for Board positions at the first Global Assembly meeting in 2018);
- two Board positions (one of which is the International Treasurer's position) are elected at the 2019 Global Assembly meeting to serve for a three-year term. As an exception, these roles will serve an additional one-year term (until 2023);
- the other three positions are elected at the 2019 Global Assembly meeting to serve for a three-year term;
- one of the four positions elected at the 2021 Global Assembly meeting is elected for a two-year term.

As of the 2021 Global Assembly meeting, three Board positions will be open for election every year.

Chair and Vice-Chair of the Global Assembly: It is proposed that the persons elected as ICM Chair and Alternate Chair at the 2017 ICM are appointed as Chair and Vice Chair of the Global Assembly in 2018. In 2018, the Global Assembly will elect its Chair for a term of two years.

Committees: It is proposed that vacant positions for the International Nominations Committee and the Finance Audit Committee will be filled at the 2017 ICM following current practice, and the committees will continue functioning as normal until the 2019 Global Assembly meeting.

The International Nominations Committee will be responsible for receiving and putting forward nominations for internationally elected positions to the 2018 and 2019 Global Assemblies.

The Membership Appeals Committee will be elected at the 2017 ICM for one year or until replaced by the Membership Review Committee. Until the Membership Appeals Committee is replaced and the applicable procedures updated, the provisions of Article 34 of the proposed updated Statute will be applied by reference to the applicable provisions of Articles 50, 51 and 52 of the Amnesty International Statute (as amended at the 2013 ICM), Decision 9 of the 2013 ICM, and Decision 50 of the 1985 ICM.

The 2018 Global Assembly meeting will need to be led and organized by a Preparatory Committee. It is proposed that the elected Chair and Vice Chair and the Chairs Forum Steering Committee, together with a representative of the Board and a representative of the Secretary General, lead on organizing the 2018 Global Assembly meeting. To avoid a potential conflict of interest, the members of the Preparatory Committee, including the Chair of the Global Assembly, must not be a standing representative, or hold a concurrent governance or staff role in the movement.

The 2018 Global Assembly Meeting

It is proposed that the 2018 Global Assembly is presented with two proposals for decision in order to complete the revised governance model. These are:

- the Terms of Reference of the Membership Review Committee and the procedures for the process for review of International Board decisions on membership status; and
- the Terms of Reference for the International Nominations Committee.

The Terms of Reference for the Finance and Audit Committee will be presented to the 2018 Global Assembly.

Regional Forums

It is proposed that the first Regional Forums are held in 2018 and that these serve to review and approve their respective Terms of Reference.

The purpose and outcomes of Regional Forums are evaluated in the 2020 Global Assembly.

Arising from resolution 1.04

5. ACHIEVING IMPACT ON GENDER AND DIVERSITY

The International Council:

1. Affirms the importance of Amnesty International continuing to improve its practices, culture, and outcomes with respect to gender equality and diversity, prioritizing improvements related to the Strategic Goals, governance, and areas of acute or chronic issues.

2. Instructs that the steps undertaken as a result of this decision be guided by the overarching goals and principles of:

- a. promoting social justice and human rights;
- b. recognizing and making visible that different aspects of people's identities and lives interact to structurally affect their experiences of discrimination, marginalization, privilege, and power;
- c. making better decisions and doing better work;
- d. increasing Amnesty International's impact, capacity, legitimacy, and accountability;
- e. making Amnesty International a better organization to work with for staff, volunteers, and partners who experience systemic discrimination;
- f. transformation, not tokenism;
- g. shared responsibility for outcomes;
- h. ongoing participation, learning, and improvement; and
- i. promoting gender mainstreaming across the Movement.

3. Instructs sections, structures, and where appropriate, National Offices, to:

- a. Share with the International Board by 31 January, 2018 a summary of their recent gender and diversity work, and of the gender and diversity-related work they will do in strategic areas in the medium term, including:
 - i. A summary of steps taken by the entity to implement the 2011 Roadmap for Diversity and Gender Action Plan;
 - ii. A practical action plan for achieving the gender and diversity outcomes detailed under Strategic Goals 2 and 5 and their associated Theories of Change in the specific context of the entity's local work, and with particular reference to the challenges of significant concern in that context.
 - iii. A concise description of gender- and diversity-related concerns in the entity's governance, and practical steps the entity will commit to taking by the end of 2019 to make improvements with respect to these concerns (pending membership approval, if necessary).
- b. Share with the International Board by 15 November, 2019 a national gender and diversity action plan to be implemented by the end of 2024, which focuses on medium- to long-term improvements in the main areas of concern to the entity and includes steps related to governance.
- c. Participate in Movement initiatives regarding gender and diversity, and specifically:
 - i. respond to calls for participation in the development of the report, global action plans, and Gender and Diversity Progress Assessment Framework (GDPAF) referred to in paragraph 4(a) and (b);
 - ii. ensure that staff and member-leaders at the national level are aware of and have access to relevant tools circulated under paragraph 4(d);
 - iii. recognize and share examples of outstanding gender- and diversity-related work that have taken place at the national level; and
 - iv. engage in the goal of ensuring that all Movement initiatives incorporate gender analysis.

4. Instructs the International Board to:

- a. Present to the 2018 Chairs Assembly for discussion:
 - i. a report summarizing successes, lessons learned, and outstanding challenges regarding gender and diversity in Amnesty International at the governance and operational levels; and
 - ii. an action plan focused on practical steps to be taken by the end of 2019, informed by the report in paragraph 4(a)(i) and by information received from Sections, structures and National Offices under paragraph 3(a).
- b. Present to the 2019 International Council Meeting, for discussion and approval:
 - i. a 2020-2024 global action plan on gender and diversity;
 - ii. a related Gender and Diversity Progress Assessment Framework (GDPAF) that can be integrated into existing reporting and monitoring processes.
- c. Starting in 2018, give annual written reports to the Movement on Amnesty International's work regarding gender and diversity, including the implementation of this and other relevant decisions. This report should include information about

progress made, gaps in implementation, challenges, and any plans for improvement.

d. Develop, collect, and circulate, on an ongoing basis, tools for enabling learning, capacity building, and greater impact with respect to gender and diversity. These tools should be developed using internal and external expertise, and include things such as:

- i. primers on gender and diversity issues related to current strategic goals, priority countries, and global campaigns;
- ii. practical tools to assist with functions such as research, advocacy, campaign planning, activism, fundraising, governance, conflict management, human resources, and working with partners;
- iii. information tools regarding substantive topics such as gender, sexual orientation, Indigenous status, racial discrimination, or disability; and
- iv. training tools to help us work in ways that are more inclusive of people with various physical and intellectual abilities, with various formal education levels, from diverse cultural backgrounds, and who are not working in their first language (eg. primers on plain and easy to read language, intercultural communication, and interpretation-friendly communication).

e. Annually recognize, honour, and share outstanding work and best practices across the Movement related to gender and diversity.

f. Ensure adequate support and resources are provided by the International Secretariat to the movement towards the achievement of the gender and diversity outcomes under Strategic Goals 2 and 5 and their associated Theories of Change.

g. Be considerate of the different local contexts and resource levels across Amnesty entities when undertaking the above work, and provide guidance and assistance to national entities in carrying out the work set out in paragraph 3.

h. Appoint and set the terms of reference for a taskforce to assist with the delivery of the work set out in paragraphs 4 and 5, and consult and work with other parts of the Movement as appropriate.

5. Instructs the Chair of the International Council to:

a. collect anonymized and voluntary information about International Council Meeting and Chairs Assembly delegates and/or participants regarding relevant identity and diversity markers, including data relevant to each meeting's agenda as appropriate; and

b. present a summary of this information to each International Council Meeting or Chairs Assembly, with the aim of building real-time understanding of who is "in the room" and who is not, and tracking changes over time.

Arising from resolution 1.05

ORGANISATION WORKING PARTY

6. ALIGNING BUDGETING GLOBALLY

The International Council

RECOGNIZING that:

- Our global movement will benefit from agreeing national entities' budgets in a coordinated manner
- National entities and IS would benefit from sharing budgetary information earlier in the year to achieve a more effective allocation of resources across projects and geographies for greater human rights impact
- Amnesty International entities would benefit from focusing on the actual delivery of plans from the start of the year rather than having to consider potential changes to budgets into the budget year

DECIDES

- (a) With immediate effect, that the Boards of all Amnesty International entities will approve yearly budgets by no later than 15 December of the preceding year
- (b) That all entities currently requiring formal approval of budgets by respective Annual General Meetings
 - i. will strive to make necessary changes for formal approval of their yearly budgets to be provided by no later than 15 December of the preceding year
 - ii. will commit to implement those changes as soon as possible and by no later than 31 August 2018
- (c) That where an entity has demonstrated its willingness to implement point b) but cannot make necessary changes for statutory or regulatory requirements, that entity may seek an exceptional waiver from the Secretary General

Arising from resolution 3.02

7. RESOLUTION ON THE ROLE OF SECTIONS

The International Council

DEEPLY CONCERNED by the growing trend all over the world of rejection of human rights for all and resulting policies;

CONVINCED about the need for Amnesty International to have sections and structures on the ground in as many places as possible, and for existing sections and structures to fulfil their potential in a sustainable manner given the difficulty in predicting where new human rights crises may develop;

CONSIDERING the importance of investing in human rights education on a global basis;

UNDERLINES the importance of sections and structures in responding to human rights developments on the ground, based on strong roots and regular contacts with the public, the media and civil society at the local level;

REAFFIRMS the central role of sections and structures in movement building, including in terms of mobilization, advocacy and human rights education;

RECALLS that sections finance almost all of the global budget, supporting our common solidarity and shared goals for advancing human rights;

CALLS on the International Board to develop, in participation with sections, structures and the International Secretariat, a proposal to be discussed at the 2018 Global Assembly:

- reviewing the percentage of the global international budget allowed to sections and structures support;
- providing sections and structures with the training and support they need;
- transferring the skills required in terms of research;
- making use of expertise and opportunities in sections and structures;
- enabling support and skill sharing between sections/structures;
- ensuring clarity of roles and responsibilities between sections/structures and Regional Offices, including the level of support provided by Regional Offices.

Arising from resolution 3.03

8. SUPPORTING AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

The International Council:

observes

- that given its limited resources, the International Secretariat (IS) is not always able to provide sufficient capacity building support to sections /structures and individual members in need;

agrees

- to the formation of a pool of sections/structures with specific capabilities and expertise and which are prepared, if requested, to provide support to other sections/structures or individual members within the framework of a partnership, and together with them strengthen and develop human rights work in their regions. This support aims to strengthen capacity and excludes section/structure funding which is regulated by the RAM. If these requests for support cannot be provided by the IS it will be proposed to the above pool.
- that this pool will be coordinated by the International Board (IB) and or IS;
- that sections/structures belonging to this pool will be asked to provide support taking into consideration certain selection criteria to be developed by IB/IS;
- that with the mutual agreement of the entities involved, an equal partnership will be established through an MOU in which the costs relating to the project will be determined and which will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Arising from resolution 3.04

9. MEETING OF THE MOVEMENT

The International Council

- Recognises the importance of ensuring a global, wide-ranging dialogue between Amnesty members in order to facilitate and strengthen One Amnesty;
- Realises the need for strong international ties amongst the membership in order to meet the targets that were set out in the Activism Manifesto (ACT10/4005/2016);
- Asks the International Board (IB) to enable activists to meet, in addition to the governance system, at global level, when appropriate in terms of the movement's opportunities and needs.

Arising from resolution 1.11

HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY WORKING PARTY

10. PROTECTION FOR WHISTLE-BLOWERS

The International Council

REQUESTS that the International Board

- Develop a policy for the movement on the protection of whistle-blowers that includes a clear definition and criteria so that Amnesty International is able to take a position on their behalf and which takes recent developments at national, regional and international level into account.
- This policy will enable the development of a strategy that can better engage with whistle-blowers in different sectors and influence legislative debates in this regard.

Arising from resolution 2.09

11. DEVELOPMENT OF A POLICY ON STATE OBLIGATIONS ON ELECTIONS

The International Council

INSTRUCTS the International Board to prepare a policy setting out Amnesty's positions on state obligations on elections, which should be aligned with existing international human rights law, and which should include the following:

1. The right of citizens to vote, including in genuine periodic elections, and the right to stand in elections, including equality of access and opportunity in the exercise of these rights;
2. Affirm commitment to the principle of non-discrimination, including gender equality;

3. The impartiality and independence of electoral management bodies, and whether they systemically fail to ensure transparent and accurate tallying of votes;
4. The right to information, and access to information, in electoral processes and systems;
5. Manipulations of constituency boundaries that limit the ability of marginalized communities to elect representatives of their choice; and –
6. The scope of Amnesty’s human rights commentary, engagement, and positions on the platforms of election candidates, on elected candidates, and on post-electoral nominations and appointments to government offices at the national or local level.

UNDERLINES that this policy shall be formulated in a manner that respects Amnesty International’s commitment to impartiality and non-partisanship and instructs the International Board to consult the Movement on, and clarify further, Amnesty International’s position on explicit or implicit support or opposition to the election, appointment or rise to power at the national or local level of any specific individuals, political groups or parties.

CLARIFIES that Amnesty International will not take a position on the legitimacy, as such, of any particular government, and will hold every government – however constituted – to account for abiding by its State obligations under international human rights law, humanitarian law and refugee law.

FURTHER CLARIFIES that Amnesty International will not engage in monitoring of the casting and counting of votes in elections other than limited monitoring when needed to assess systemic concerns about election management bodies and monitoring of human rights violations occurring in and around voting locations.

FURTHER INSTRUCTS the International Board to ensure that Sections and structures have an opportunity to review and give feedback on the final draft policy before it is adopted.

Arising from resolution 2.04

12. CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

The International Council

REAFFIRMS that Amnesty International considers anyone who refuses, on conscientious grounds, to continue military service as a volunteer or as a professional, or to enlist in compulsory military service required by any country or nation, be it full or selective objection, to be a conscientious objector (CO).

DECIDES that Amnesty International opposes any criminal justice measure (including deprivation of liberty) being imposed on conscientious objectors, regardless of whether or not they have refused to carry out a non-punitive alternative civilian service (where that is available).

DECIDES that Amnesty International may oppose administrative measures, taken outside the criminal justice system, being imposed on conscientious objectors who have refused to carry out non-punitive alternative civilian service (where that is available) if, based on the International Secretariat’s case-by-case assessment, they are assessed as being of a comparably severe nature to criminal justice measures.

DECIDES that alternative civilian service must always be non-punitive in nature and length, under civilian control, in the public interest, and compatible with the individual's conscience, and that those who do alternative service must not face discrimination on that account.

INSTRUCTS the International Board to conduct a stocktaking exercise of the phenomenon of conscientious objection in countries where military service is compulsory, to assess clearly the scope of violations, imprisonment and punitive measures taken against COs and to recommend how the phenomenon should be addressed within our existing and future strategic goals.

Arising from resolution 2.07

13. DEVELOPING A POLICY ON MILITARY OCCUPATION

The International Council

REQUESTS the International Board to develop, in consultation with sections and structures, a policy on military occupation with regards to consequences that lead to violations of human rights and international humanitarian law including objective criteria for when Amnesty International should oppose a military occupation

FURTHER REQUESTS that this policy will review multiple case studies from a variety of regions and political contexts

Arising from resolution 2.01

14. PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The International Council

REQUESTS that the International Board continue its efforts to develop a consistent policy to protect the fundamental rights of people with disabilities in the context of the existing strategic goals and theories of change, including within work on intersectional discrimination,

- by developing a research and campaigns project focused on failure to ensure the rights of people with disabilities in a group of selected countries,
- by cooperating on this issue, out of a strategic aim, with groups specializing in disability rights,
- to identify any further work that would need to be done to better address disability rights within the next strategic goals.

Arising from resolution 2.11

15. REVIEW OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S ABORTION POLICY

The International Council

INSTRUCTS the International Board to conduct a review of AI's policy on 'Select Aspects of Abortion' with an intent to ensure that the policy:

- Aligns with current international human rights law, norms, and standards;
- Aligns with AI's policy on 'Sexual and Reproductive Rights' and other related policies, for the purpose of policy coherence;
- Responds to AI's research and other international evidence on the impact of restrictive abortion laws, policies, and practices on the human rights of women and girls and others who seek access to abortion;
- Provides a mandate for the AI movement to campaign for full realization of sexual and reproductive human rights.

FURTHER INSTRUCTS the International Board to conduct the review and present the findings and key principles for the update of the policy to the Global Assembly no later than in 2018, with the final decision made by the International Board no later than February 2019

Arising from resolution 2.05

16. DRUG CONTROL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The International Council

REQUESTS that the International Board develops a policy on drug control and human rights supplementing those aspects of drug control that are addressed by AI's existing policies.

CALLS ON the International Board, in the development of this policy, to:

1. Base the policy on the results of the study Amnesty International and drug control: A human rights perspective, undertaken in accordance with Decision 3 of the 2015 International Council Meeting.
2. Take into consideration the risk analysis set out in the study.
3. Ensure the policy pays particular attention to, but is not limited to, the issue of the criminalization of drug-related conduct, informed by international law and standards and the recommendations of international human rights mechanisms and UN agencies.
4. In developing this policy, the International Board shall ensure broad consultation with sections and structures, in accordance with the process established for dealing with policies on contentious issues.

REQUESTS that the policy be presented in advance of the next Global Assembly in 2018.

Arising from resolutions 2.02 and 2.03

17. BANKS AND THE ARMS TRADE

The International Council

REQUESTS that the International Board prepare a draft of key points of consideration for the next strategic goals to obtain a ban on financial activities related to (i) prohibited arms and (ii) legal arms used to commit serious human rights violations.

Arising from resolution 2.10

18. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

The International Council

DECIDES that the International Board shall

- Ensure by the 2018 Global Assembly the delivery of a draft strategy to effectively safeguard human rights in the face of climate change and other environmental degradation that includes:
 - Defending the rights of people who are disproportionately affected by climate change and other forms of environmental degradation, especially Indigenous people, communities living in poverty, women and girls; including non-discrimination, equal access to public services, and protection of their rights in measures and initiatives designed to address climate change and other forms of environmental damage;
 - Researching and communicating the impact of climate change and other environmental degradation on human rights;
 - Addressing relevant gaps in international laws and standards;
 - Highlighting the obligations of states, corporations and other organizations by using the human rights framework;
 - Establishing what action is needed from a human rights perspective to hold states, corporations and others effectively to account, and;
 - Supporting initiatives that empower local communities to develop their own solutions for environmentally sustainable lives that respect human rights;
- Consider the protection of human rights in the context of climate change and other forms of environmental degradation when developing global priority campaigns.

Arising from resolution 2.06

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKSHOP: SUMMARIES⁵

Workshop 1: Amnesty International's Work on Lesbian Gay Bi-sexual Transgender and Intersex Rights (LGBTI)

This workshop arose as a merger of a workshop discussion on Amnesty's work on LGBTI rights by AI Sweden and a withdraw resolution on the rights of intersex people from AI Puerto Rico. The discussion focused on ways in which Amnesty can strengthen its work on LGBTI rights and intersex people, starting with some of the barriers sections faced when working on these issues:

- Difficulties in understanding the experiences (including cultural and religious) of gay women;
- Not being able to hear the voices of bisexual people and communities;
- Acknowledging the overall social and economic exclusion of transgender people;
- External barriers included: lack of public policies and political will; cultural resistance and lack of education on diversity and sexual identities; discriminatory legal systems; media hostility.
- Internal barriers included: prioritization issues (focusing on more urgent Human Rights issues and limited resources); a lack of cooperation with LGBTI organizations and networks; a lack of research to support advocacy and campaigning; no capacity to create counter narratives in countries where LGTBI rights are especially sensitive.

Participants recognized the positive impact of some of the work already being done by Amnesty International on the issues facing intersex people.

The group then looked at potential solutions to the issues identified above:

- Capacity building and support to local teams at section level;
- Exchange of knowledge, information and campaign materials at section level and sharing positive LGTBI campaign successes/tactics across sections;
- More resources to develop research on LGTBI rights in different contexts (highlighting the value and quality of Amnesty's research outputs);
- More work on Human Rights Education (including LGTBI rights) and advocacy work to include these issues in official educational curricula;
- Recognizing the acceptability of the issue amongst migrant communities;
- More collaboration and work with LGTBI organizations and networks and religious and political leaders at local level.

Workshop 2: Civil Disobedience & Boycotts

This workshop arose as a merger of a workshop discussion on Civil Disobedience proposed by AI USA and a resolution on Boycotts from AI Italy. The aim of this workshop was to discuss whether Amnesty's existing policy on civil disobedience and boycotts is fit for purpose. The workshop participants acknowledged that a policy shift is imperative in the increasingly hostile landscape for human rights and our ambitious Goal 5 targets.

On the topic of Civil Disobedience, participants suggested that Amnesty needed:

- Clarity on the different types of Civil Disobedience and on which type is used and the context;
- Clarity about the impact and consequences of using Civil Disobedience, especially for our members;

⁵ A complete write up of Human Rights workshop discussions will be included in the ICM Report, to be circulated in September.

- A broader strategy of which Civil Disobedience plays a part, especially when Civil Disobedience affects our ability to effectively lobby governments or represents a risk to our reputation.

When asked to do a symbolic vote, the overwhelming majority of the room agreed that Amnesty should do more on Civil Disobedience and Boycotts, with some saying that Amnesty needed to start taking more risks.

Participants suggested that a policy on boycotts should:

- Include States, rather than focusing on an individual;
- Consider the impact of a boycott on a company's workers, especially the potential loss of jobs;
- Clarify why we target a specific *product* over a particular *company*;
- Acknowledge that "shaming" a brand is usually more effective than boycotting it.

The SLT urged participants to think about whether Amnesty is agile enough to respond to the current times and how to avoid being restricted by national legal structures. They also agreed that we should work within the law, so it is important for the Movement to have clear policies on these issues. Tawanda Mutasah, Senior Director, International Law and Policy, International Secretariat, thanked participants for their comments which will feed into future policy reviews.

Workshop 3: Major sports organisations/ events and human rights

The aim of this workshop by AI Norway was to discuss how Amnesty International can work with and/or put pressure on major sports organisations to make sure that major sports events they own can contribute towards protection and promotion of human rights rather than the opposite.

Workshop participants were asked whether there is human rights impact to be gained from Amnesty working more or differently on major sports events. If so, whether Amnesty should do so by focusing on geographic occurrence or by targeting major sports organizations.

Participants suggested that Amnesty should:

- Work on both "human rights in sports", and "sports in human rights", in different ways, both targeting organizations like FIFA and governments with respect to discrimination;
- Develop long-term strategies in advance, like in the case of the Qatar 2022 World Cup;
- Increase its work in targeting major sports organizations for a more strategic approach;
- Identify the goal of who to impact and how to proceed by targeting different stakeholders (organizations, governments, athletes);
- Develop a strong action plan that clearly identifies stakeholders;

Based on these answers, the workshop agreed that:

- Amnesty should increase its work in the field of sports and human rights, understood as both "human rights in sports" (issues such as discrimination in sports) and "sports in human rights" (big sports events unveiling human rights abuses and violations).
- Such work should be conducted by specifically targeting major sports organizations for a more strategic approach; developing long-term strategies in advance; strong action plans that clearly identify stakeholders and allocating proper resources and networking and collaborating with other organizations.

Workshop 4: Technology and human rights

This workshop discussion focussed on how Amnesty should deal with future trends around human rights in the digital age.

Sherif Elsayed Ali, Programme Director, Global Thematic Issues, highlighted that Amnesty uses technology in the following areas:

- Identifying violence against women online;
- Identifying targeted attacks against journalists and Human Rights Defenders;
- Predictive policing and surveillance;
- Monitoring big data and control over personal information;

Tirana Hassan, Programme Director, Research and Crisis Response Unit, highlighted the ways in which Amnesty has used technology positively and identified the following points:

- Amnesty has used technology to prove human rights violations in relation to: demolitions; forced displacements; hate speech; images of war crimes;
- Technology makes complex problems more digestible and enables researchers to access remote and increasingly hostile environments;
- The two most recent Amnesty Decoders projects include “Decode Darfur” and “Decode Oil Spills”. Decode Darfur involved analysing and comparing satellite images, and Decode Oil spills involved documenting incidents in the Niger Delta. Both projects were both completed within the space of 2 weeks.

On the question of which technological trends will have the most impact on human rights, workshop participants identified the following:

- Mass surveillance (freedom of speech, right to privacy);
- The use of national legislation to access and use information to sue civilians online;
- Automation (displacement of labour, impacting social welfare.
- Military and technology;
- Unequal access to technology and to technology education.

Participants suggested the following ways to respond to these issues:

- Working on data protection rules;
- Education and training;
- Research;
- Online security protocol for sections and training;
- Human Rights Education (Encryption training; Privacy rights).

The group also highlighted that this is a new framework in which freedom and civil liberties are challenged in a different way and a timely response is required. Participants agreed that Amnesty should use its brand and capacity to raise awareness on the impact of technology on human rights.

ORGANISATION WORKING PARTY WORKSHOPS: SUMMARIES⁶

Workshop: Global Transition Program (GTP) evaluation⁷

⁶ A full copy of the Organization Working Party’s workshop discussions will be included in the ICM’s report, to be distributed in September.

⁷ Please note that this summary was originally produced in French during the Organisation Working Party. The original French text has been condensed for inclusion in the ICM Decisions Report.

Minar Pimple, Senior Director for Global Operations in the International Secretariat, gave an overview of progress made in the Global Transition Program (GTP) and explained that all regional offices now have their management teams in place. It was recalled that the challenges include improving cooperation between regional offices and sections and the best way of working at national, regional and global levels.

There was a Q&A session that included: the role of regional offices in relation to that of the Global Operations department; the results of the staff survey; Amnesty International's research culture and methodology; the distribution of resources in the regional offices and in London; the future of sections, and the distribution of roles and responsibilities.

The group then considered the following question: *In your opinion, which areas do we need to change, adapt or focus on to grow our effectiveness as a movement?*

- The process should result in a decentralization and encourage more regionalization and localization.
- Need for a deeper culture of trust and autonomy.
- The regional offices should also play a coordinating role at regional level, with flexibility in the planning process.
- Agreements need to be reached between the regional offices and sections and between the sections themselves.
- When a project is planned in a country that has no section, the neighboring country's section should be involved.
- International work, particularly global campaigns, should be of local relevance.
- The leadership and capacities of both staff and volunteers involved in section governance need to be strengthened.
- We need to reinvent what is meant by an activist movement and offer activists the possibility of engaging and proposing creative ideas. Local groups are perhaps no longer the right structure for this.
- The sections are responsible for growth; they need to be equipped and their organizational and leadership capacities strengthened.
- Most sections do not have the capacity to do their own research so there needs to be a sharing of expertise.
- Use new technologies to make Amnesty a movement while taking specific local features into account.

Workshop: The role of sections

Eduard Nazarski, Director of Amnesty International Netherlands, set out the workshop's objective: to discuss ways of helping to implement resolution 3.03, if this is adopted by the International Council.

He said the work would take place in two stages. The first would address the issue of the role and responsibilities of sections from the perspective of the broad areas of intervention traditionally allocated to them. The second would consider half a dozen more crosscutting issues.

Stage 1: The role and responsibilities of sections: general questions/comments.

Mobilization:

- Strategy needs to be jointly developed to ensure we have a solid support basis in
-

strategic areas and an effective sharing of good practices.

- The IS plays an essential role in designing key tools, such as research and analysis of crucial human rights issues in new forms of activism, but the geographical aspect of the sections is important in terms of mobilizing circles of supporters and conducting advocacy with national governments.

Advocacy:

- The IS decides and the section implements.
- An agreement needs to be established between the regional office and sections on the international services offered by the movement. The horizontal model needs to be replaced with a model of cooperation and support.

Research:

- There needs to be better planning of priorities and a better exchange of information on research planned at regional level.
- There is no single solution. We need to envisage a diversified approach to research methods and to the results of these efforts in the IS and in the sections.

Funding:

- The relationship between the sections and the regional offices should be an equal one based on mutual trust.

Stage 2: more crosscutting issues: general issues/comments.

- To gain and maintain their legitimacy, the sections need to focus on increasing the size of their membership.
- To pool staff and volunteer training, the IS could facilitate exchanges between sections. Exchanges currently only go in one direction, from the IS to the sections, although they are facilitated.
- As for the importance of funded sections, the main thing is to have an impact at the local level. How we organize depends on the local context.
- With regard to basic functions, the tasks that are essential depend on the size and context of the country and need to be adapted accordingly.
- All sections should have a number of basic functions: (i) ensure the presence of local activists; (ii) human rights education and mobilization; (iii) campaigns and advocacy; (iv) ensuring a minimum level of fundraising.
- There needs to be flexibility in all areas (as well as in relation to structures/models) in order to optimize our human rights work and obtain the greatest impact possible.

Workshop: the country prioritization strategy

Jacco Smidt, International Treasurer, clarified that, at the end of the workshop, this session would be invited to make a recommendation on the country prioritization strategy, for approval in the plenary decision-making session.

Catherine Power, Strategy and Evaluation Director, explained that priority countries would be aligned with strategic objectives according to certain criteria.

The group heard about the difficulties of working on a global theme at local level, the importance of acknowledging that a supporter's life path is no longer linear, and media influence. The importance of not being put off by the task, and the need to conduct strategic work of reflection on human rights issues in order to achieve a good prioritization, was also impressed on the attendees.

There was a Q&A session focusing on:

- The resources available for monitoring that would ensure AI was ready to intervene in

- non-priority countries;
- The need for a transparent process;
- Concerns with regard to integrating the work in priority countries with the strategic objectives and consultation process;
- The difficulty in continuing to use the adjective 'priority' with a list of 20 countries;
- The suggestion that priority countries should be validated by the global assembly in addition to the IS management team.

The facilitator submitted the priority country strategy – the text of Annex 5 to the International Board's report (circular 14) - to the vote of the working party. Delegates voted unanimously in favor of recommending that the IC validate the country prioritization strategy. There were some abstentions due to a dissatisfaction with the procedure. In the plenary decision-making session, the IC adopted the country prioritization strategy by consensus, with seven abstentions.