



**Amnesty International Australia (AIA) National Board Report
for meeting held on 19 October 2021**

Agenda item	Information / Report
Minutes of past meetings	The minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2021 were confirmed.
Preliminary plans and budget for 2022	<p>Management presented their preliminary Vision implementation plan for 2022 and associated budget. The Board provided their feedback, which will be incorporated into the final plans and budgets going to the Board for approval in November.</p> <p>The 2022 Vision implementation plan is in alignment with the Vision and Global Strategy.</p>
August Management Report	<p>The monthly management update, finance report and fundraising dashboard were tabled. It had been another busy month with several important local, regional and global events being held including the Activism Forum, Global Assembly, Regional Planning Forum and the Global Directors Forum.</p> <p>Key highlights included:</p> <p>Advancing Human Rights</p> <p>Many activities took place around the Raise the Age campaign, with the launch in WA scheduled for 27 October. The ACT Government released its road map towards Raise the Age in that jurisdiction in early October, reflecting many of our key campaign goals. Tasmanian independent Meg Webb has introduced a motion into the Parliament in response to concerted advocacy with AIA and the Southern Group which will be voted on 26 October. We presented to NSW Labor lawyers as part of the effort to establish a broader coalition to propel the Raise the AGE campaign in NSW. A new influencer strategy is being developed to drive public awareness and support around the campaign.</p> <p>A new Youth Justice DRTV (direct response TV) ad is being developed and should be aired on Foxtel and SBS in November.</p> <p>The production of The Body Shop gift tags for Christmas 2021 has commenced. This year, the tags feature a design by Indigenous Artist Bobbi Lockyer, titled 'Healing'. The Body Shop will sell the tags online and at all stores in Australia from</p>



25 October, with all proceeds in 2021 going towards Amnesty's Raise The Age campaign.

The Spring direct mail appeal was lodged in August, themed 'No child belongs in cage'.

Individuals At Risk/International

[Write for Rights](#) (W4R) was launched on 4 October with 31,000 people taking action in the first week, and an additional 41,000 people having taken action for the domestic LGBTQIA+ conversion practices action which we added to the global ten cases, reflecting an AGM resolution. Activist Leadership Committees and organisers are working over the coming month to support activists in planning and rolling out W4R activities, as well as organising some national thematic webinars and creative mobilizations.

An Egyptian judge has dropped an investigation into human rights defender and lawyer Azza Soliman, lifted the travel ban against her, and stopped freezing her assets.

After 2 years of being on trial in Turkey for taking part in a pride march, METU students Melike, Özgür and 17 others have been acquitted. 445,000 people from around the globe demanded their acquittal in our 2020 Write For Rights campaign.

A number of adverts, donation pages and petition pages were developed to support Write for Rights and have generated great reach in terms of people taking action, signing petitions and donating.

Amnesty's joint campaign to shift the Australian Government to support the **Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Waiver** (and allow for the generic production of COVID-19 vaccines and ultimately improve the vaccine distribution to many parts of the developing world) was successful.

Amnesty has long advocated for, and welcomed, the recently announced end of Papua New Guinea (PNG) as a resettlement country for **refugees** from Australia. Concerns remain about makeshift and cruel practices of trapping people in PNG or on Nauru. Meetings with the Minister and Department provided some hope that the AIA long-sought goal of opening the New Zealand resettlement deal is closer than ever.

Anti Racism work continues, with a campaign against the discrimination inherent in the English test for medical workers seeing more than 3,900 people take action encouraging the



Australian Prudential Health Regulation Authority (AHPRA) to adopt a fairer and inclusive process.

The coalition of 32 organisations we have brought together to work on the principles for the Government's anti-racism strategy has developed a draft guide that will be shared for consultation.

New ads have been developed in-house for the Anti-Racism **Ally Guide**. In September 587 allies requested to download the guide and 123 joined the Movement as regular givers.

Over the month of September, there were **2230 pieces of coverage, with AIA holding a 91.79% share of voice**. There were several significant national and global stories on which Amnesty was a key voice such as sportswashing in the Australian Football League on Four Corners, various stories on the ongoing crisis in Afghanistan including Amnesty's report into the unlawful killing of Hazaras, proposed new charity regulations in Federal Parliament and equal access to vaccines (TRIPS waiver).

Key issues and pieces of coverage include:

- **ABC** - [Four Corners - a league of their own](#)
- **ABC** - [Taliban unlawfully killed 13 ethnic Hazaras](#)
- **ABC** - [Australia backs push for generic COVID-19 vaccines](#)
- **The Sydney Morning Herald/The Age** - [Charities fear 150 million hit from cost of new government rules](#)
- **The Sydney Morning Herald/The Age** - [Government asked to set up open process to pick human rights commissioners](#)
- **News.com.au** - [Four Corners exposes secret side of Australian football](#)
- **News.com.au** - [Amnesty demands two billion COVID jabs for poorer world](#)

Building People Power

Consultation is underway with activists to develop a **new Membership product**.

The **Activism Forum** was a huge success with the planned goals of 100 attendees and 70% positive feedback exceeded, and with 115 attendees and 86.4% Satisfied/Very Satisfied with their Forum experience.

The [Activist Census](#) recently went live and will close on 11



	<p>November to help inform leadership and campaigning decisions in the coming year</p> <p>A photography network is being created to collect content through Activists.</p> <p>Growing sustainably Good financial performance to the end of September.</p> <p>The team continues to look into further efficiencies in relation to office space and IT systems.</p> <p>Highlights of some of the work delivered as per the Diversity Inclusion & Wellbeing Action Plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Delivered Anti-Racism Training for staff, Board Members and a first group of activists ○ Launched the Inclusive Language and Events Guide ○ Consulted on the draft Participation Protocol with staff and the Movement ○ Finalised new Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group Terms of Reference ○ Co-presented at Activism Forum on Racism and Bias <p>A new Twitter strategy, new website content strategy and a new influencer strategy are all moving into implementation.</p> <p>Finally, the Board reviewed progress against Annual General Meeting resolutions.</p>
<p>Core Standards Review</p>	<p>The International Secretariat Core Standards were adopted at the 2013 Global Assembly (known as the International Council Meeting at that time). The Core Standards introduced 29 governance standards that each Amnesty International entity should meet, or work towards meeting.</p> <p>AI entities were required to report against implementation of the Core Standards via a self-assessment every two years. In 2020 the IS suspended the submission of the self-assessments pending a review of the Core Standards to ensure that they are 'more accessible and inclusive and help all entities to leverage further learning and capacities so that we are stronger for the future'.</p> <p>A resolution to this effect was adopted at the Global Assembly 2021. The requirement for consultation with the movement was included in the resolution. The Board decided to appoint the Company Secretary to represent AIA in the focus group discussion on the Core Standards.</p>



<p>2022 Governance Dates</p>	<p>The Board approved their 2022 meeting dates, the Census Date and the Annual General Meeting date. It also decided that the 2022 Annual General Meeting will be virtual.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1 February 2022: Census Date, at which the number of General Meeting Voters for each Region will be calculated. ● 4 June 2022: Annual General Meeting.
<p>Board committee minutes and reports</p>	<p>The Board approved the updated Terms of Reference for the Governance Committee.</p> <p>The Board will discuss youth representation on all Board Committees at their November meeting.</p> <p>The minutes of the latest Governance Committee meetings and Audit and Risk Committee meeting were noted, as well as the report and recommendations from the IT Roadmap Steering Committee.</p>
<p>Next meeting</p>	<p>The next Board meeting will be held on Saturday 20 November 2021.</p>