



LISTENING, CONNECTING AND RESPECT

As a valued member, I'd like to invite you to our 2023 Annual General Meeting.

Formal notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Amnesty International Australia will be held from:

11 AM–3.30 PM AEST/10.30 AM–3.00 PM ACST/9 AM–1.30 PM AWST
on Saturday 3 June 2023, held via Zoom (a link will be sent to registered participants)

Please RSVP by 26 May 2023 to: company.secretary@amnesty.org.au

Join us to connect with your fellow Amnesty members and hear about our work, all from the comfort of your home.

Formal business will include:

Election of two National Board members Consideration of special resolutions to amend the Amnesty International Australia constitution

Election of Global Assembly delegate for 2024 and beyond

Election of one position on the Appeal Committee

Consideration and approval of the 2022 Annual Financial Report found here: <https://www.amnesty.org.au/legal/#financial-reports>

Consideration and approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2022

Consideration and approval of the minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting 2022

Receiving the Amnesty International Australia 2022 Report

Questions to the National Board

Consideration of resolutions.

Resolutions to go to the Annual General meeting must be submitted to the company secretary on or before 13 May 2023: company.secretary@amnesty.org.au

Only General Meeting Voters may vote at the Annual General Meeting either in person or by proxy. A proxy must be a current member of Amnesty International Australia. A proxy need not be in any particular form provided it is in writing, legally valid and signed by the appointer. The proxy must be submitted to the Company Secretary by email to company.secretary@amnesty.org.au, by 9AM AEST on 3 June 2023.

For further details and to register to attend please email: company.secretary@amnesty.org.au

All members are most welcome.

Catherine (Katie) Wood

Company Secretary, company.secretary@amnesty.org.au
Amnesty International Australia

1 May 2023

PS: to see who the elected General Meeting Voters are for this year, please go to <https://www.amnesty.org.au/activism-leadership-committees-general-meeting-voters-elections/>

Amnesty International Australia's Annual General Meeting

> 11.00 AM Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST)

> 10.30 AM Australian Central Standard Time (ACST)

> 9.00 AM Australian Western Standard Time (AWST)

Saturday 3 June 2023,
held via Zoom

Important: we need your email address

To reduce costs and environmental impacts, by 2026 we would like to be communicating only by email. Please send us your email address (and mobile number, if you wish) to ensure we can keep in contact with you.

When we have your email address, you'll also be able to log into our exclusive members-only online platform.

When engaging with Amnesty International Australia please abide by our *Values and Behaviours Charter*, available on our website. Not doing so will have consequences, from being asked to leave the meeting, to revocation of membership. We want to ensure that we have safe spaces for everyone to engage in and enjoy.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS Proposed amendments to the Constitution of Amnesty International Australia

Special resolutions to be moved by Suzan Gencay, seconded by Clive Weston.

Background

At this year's Annual General Meeting Suzan Gencay (Victorian Activism and Leadership Committee President) and Clive Weston (Victorian Activism and Leadership Committee Secretary) are proposing amendments to our Constitution to codify our objectives and values; as well as create a qualification for members who wish to hold leadership positions.

a. Special resolutions relating to persons currently actively involved politically and holders of senior offices in government

Clause 3.3 of AIA's Constitution states that "Amnesty International – including AIA – is a non-denominational, non-partisan movement, independent of all governments, political parties and religious institutions." These proposed amendments seek to codify this independence and would preclude current, actively involved holders of political and senior offices in Government from being General Meeting Voters, Activism and Leadership Committee Members, National Board Members or propose resolutions.

b. Special resolutions relating to a membership qualification period for election to certain offices established by the constitution

AIA is a member lead; democratic movement where all members have a vote. People who become a member 12 months prior to proposing resolutions or standing for election for General Meeting Voter, Activism and Leadership Committee and National Board positions have demonstrated a commitment and contribution to the movement which will assist them in these roles. These amendments propose that only people who became an AIA member at least 12 months prior to relevant AGM dates be allowed to stand for election for leadership positions or propose resolutions.

a. Special resolutions relating to persons currently actively involved politically and holders of senior offices in government

Special Resolution 1

1. In clause 1.1(a) insert:

"holder of a senior office in government" means a person who holds an office or position as—

- (i) the head or deputy head of a government or parliamentary department in the Commonwealth, a state or a territory;
- (ii) a member of the staff of a Minister of the Crown or a member of a parliament of the Commonwealth, a state or a territory; or
- (iii) the head or deputy head of an entity created by an Act of the Commonwealth, a state or a territory."

2. After clause 1.1(a) insert:

- “(ba) In this Constitution, a reference to **a person who is currently actively involved politically** is a reference to a person who—
- (i) is or has been in the preceding five years a leader or founder of a registered political party within the meaning of the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918;
 - (ii) is a currently nominated candidate for election to a position in the government of the Commonwealth, a state, a territory, or a local government municipality; or
 - (iii) the holder of an elected office in any state, territory, federal or local government.
- “(bb) For the purposes of subclause (ba) and this subclause, —
- (i) **currently nominated candidate** means a person who lodged the forms necessary to be included in a ballot for election to the position;
 - (ii) **leader of a political party** means a person who is the leader of a registered political party under its constitution;
 - (iii) **founder of a political party** means a person who was a member of a registered political party at the time when it first applied for registration under the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918;
 - (iv) **registered political party** has the same meaning as in the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918.”

Special Resolution 2

In clause 12.7 (a)(iv), for “a Member” substitute “a Member who is not a person who is currently actively involved politically”.

Special Resolution 3

In clause 12.7 (a)(iv), for “a Member” substitute “a Member who is not a person who is currently actively involved politically”.

Special Resolution 4

1. In clause 12.10(b), for “a member” substitute “a Member who is not a person who is currently actively involved politically”.
2. Following clause 12.13 insert:

“(ca) A person who is currently actively involved politically on the closing date for nominations is not eligible to be a candidate for election as a General Meeting Voter in a ballot conducted under subclause (e).”

Special Resolution 5

In clause 13.7(a), after paragraph (iv) insert:

“(iva) if they become a person who is currently actively involved politically;”

Special Resolution 6

After clause 14.7(b)(iv) insert:

“(iva) if they are or becomes a person who is currently actively involved politically;”.

Special Resolution 7

After clause 12.10(a) insert:

- “(ab) Despite any other provision of this Constitution, a person who is the holder of a senior office in government may not—
- (i) propose a resolution under clause 12.7; or
 - (ii) vote at a general meeting.”

Special Resolution 8

In clause 13.7(a), after paragraph (v) insert:

“(va) if they are or become a person who is the holder of a senior office in government.”

Special Resolution 9

In clause 14.7(b), after paragraph (v) insert:

“(va) if they are or become a person who is the holder of a senior office in government.”

b. Special resolutions relating to a membership qualification period for election to certain offices established by the constitution

Special Resolution 10

After clause 12.7(a) insert:

“(aa) Despite subclause (a), a resolution may not be proposed by a Member who first became a member less than 12 months before the date on which the general meeting commences.”

Special Resolution 11

In clause 12.13(b), after the words in the clause insert:

“Only a Member who first became a Member at least 12 months before the closing date for nominations may be nominated as a General Meeting Voter.”

Special Resolution 12

After clause 13.3(d) insert:

“(e) A person who is not a director and who first became a Member less than 12 months before the commencement of the annual general meeting at which an election of directors is to be conducted is not eligible to be a candidate for election as a director at that meeting.”

Special Resolution 13

After clause 14.3(a) insert:

“A Member who is not an ALC member and who first became a Member less than 12 months before the closing date for nominations is not eligible to be nominated for election as an ALC member.”