

## Nishara Fallon - Nomination for election as AGM-elected Nomination and Assessment Committee member

I wish to nominate for the AGM-elected position on the Nomination and Assessment Committee (NAC) of Amnesty International Australia (AIA).

I will bring the following experience and capabilities to this role on the NAC:

- As Branch President of the ACT/SNSW Branch Committee and as a part of the Tuggeranong Local Action Group, I developed activism knowledge and experience by organising and liaising with local groups.
- While Branch President I was responsible for organising our local AGM and participating in National Board discussions and meetings, which required an understanding of governance policies and processes.
- Experience in recruiting and developing candidates for the right roles. In my professional life I have chaired recruitment panels, assessed applications and interviewed candidates. As Branch President I was responsible for recruiting and training candidates for the Branch Committee.
- I have cultivated productive working relationships and demonstrated strong leadership through my management of projects and teams in my role as a public servant, as well as during my time in Amnesty. I have led my team through changes in government priorities and departmental restructures, and managed the development of new staff.
- I value working in diverse teams and strive to be an inclusive and collaborative colleague. When colleagues are based interstate I make a point of checking in on them daily and ensuring the team is connected by organising virtual social catch ups.
- I am experienced in critically evaluating and analysing information and articulating this information in an accessible format.
- In addition to my time with Amnesty, I have also lived and worked overseas as a volunteer in the Kunming Institute of Zoology in China. I have also contributed to projects for the United Nations Environment Programme's Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species and the Global Environment Fund.

I hope to contribute to the important work of the NAC to identify and assess potential leaders for AIA's National Board.

### **Background**

I have had a lifelong interest in social justice causes. As an Australian with Sri Lankan Tamil heritage, I deeply appreciate that Amnesty International was one of the few organisations that tried to document and accurately report on the war crimes in the last days of the Sri Lankan civil war. Its advocacy for justice for the Sri Lankan Tamil citizens, still caught up in the aftermath of the war, drew me to the organisation.

I have been part of AIA for over 10 years. I joined the ACT/SNSW Branch Committee in 2012 and was the Branch President from 2014 – 2017. With a dedicated group of volunteers we did our best to connect and inspire our regional groups and members.

I returned to Amnesty as an AGM delegate in 2018 when some of the organisation's major reforms were voted on, including the subsequent establishment of the NAC. I was a General Meeting Voter in 2025 as part of the ACT/SNSW delegation.

By day I am a public servant doing my best to build up Australia's national science and research capabilities. I have worked closely with our national science institutes on a range of initiatives, including a major international science infrastructure project - the Square Kilometre Array (SKA). I have managed Australia's international science agreements and led science diplomacy efforts, especially advocating in international forums for recognising indigenous knowledge systems and gender diversity in science.