

Amnesty International members only

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2022 GLOBAL ASSEMBLY MEETING PAPER

Collated motions document

AI Index: ORG 50/5606/2022

Author: Global Assembly Preparatory Committee

Aim:

This document contains the six motions that will be discussed as part the 2022 Global Assembly Meeting (GA meeting) as well as a cover note from the GA Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) explaining how the motion chat rooms will run and updated information on the revision group members and process. This document also contains tips on how to prepare your delegation to discuss motions at the meeting.

How to use this paper:

- Arrange a meeting of your GA meeting delegation, board members and relevant section staff to discuss this paper ahead of the motion chat rooms (10-19 June).
- Please ensure that your entity's youth delegates are fully involved in all of your entity's preparations.

Please access the [2022 GA meeting website](#) for all GA meeting papers and the complete timeline for this year's meeting process.

COVER NOTE FROM GA MEETING PREPCOM

Dear friends,

This document contains all six motions that will be discussed as part of this year's GA meeting.

Motion chat rooms (10-19 June)

The chat rooms are a new feature for this year's Global Assembly Meeting in response to feedback that the motions webinars in 2021 added significant burden to the standing representatives. Motion discussions will take place in the chat rooms via a written process.

From **10-16 June** standing representatives will be able to post substantive comments, propose amendments or ask questions on any of the motions. Proponents of the relevant motion should respond in this time period. From **17-19 June** standing representatives will cast upvotes on the amendments.

The process is not mandatory, but we encourage all standing representatives to take part.

Motion revision groups (20-24 June)

We have divided the six motions into two motion revision groups as follows:

Motion revision group 1 (Governance):

1. Core Standards
2. International Board Reform
3. Voting Model for internationally elected positions

Motion revision group 2 (Policy & Finance)

4. Taxation, inequality & human rights
5. Guiding principles for feminist leadership at Amnesty International
6. Global fundraising policy: changing access to multilateral funding

Please note the following information about the motion revision groups:

- These are small technical drafting groups.
- They will be chaired by a PrepCom member and will include section representatives who will assist with the revision process.
- Due to the need for a common drafting language, the revision group will work in English.
- IS thematic experts will participate in the revision groups to support the group's work.
- The revision group will be collating information from the motion chat rooms in order to amend motion texts. The PrepCom representative will be responsible for reviewing and signing off all revisions to motions.

- All changes to motion texts will be shown in track changes and will be circulated on 5 July 2022.
- Motion revision groups and the motion revision process will be supported by our facilitator, Mélanie Lapointe.

If you have any questions or queries about any of the information in this paper, please get in touch with us via GlobalAssemblyCoordinator@amnesty.org.

Best wishes,

Global Assembly PrepCom



PrepCom members left to right: Ruth Breddal – Chair, Lana Verran -Vice Chair, Rosslyn Noonan, Christel Vacelet, Malachi Dorwu, Anjhula Singh from the International Board and Rajat Khosla from the Office of the Secretary General at the International Secretariat

HOW TO PREPARE FOR MOTIONS DISCUSSIONS

What is a motion?

A motion is an issue that membership entities, the international members, National Offices or the International Board submit for discussion and decision at the GA meeting.

How can you prepare for motion discussions?

- Read each of the motions in this document with your delegation, board members, and relevant staff members so that everyone understands that content of the motions.
- Engage with your members so that they can share their opinions on the motions.
- Agree the key areas of the motion that your entity supports and which areas you would like to see amended. Consider the arguments in the motion in relation to your national context, but also bear in mind how each motion can help Amnesty International increase its global human rights impact.
- Participate in the **motions chat rooms from 10-19 June** to share your entity's position, but also be ready to listen to your peers' opinions.
- Finalised motion texts will be shared on 5 July and no further amendments will take place.
Standing representatives must be ready to vote on motions on 16 July.

We look forward to supporting the movement with the new initiative of a motions chat room. After the motion chat rooms are closed, the 2 revision groups will be set up to revise the 6 motions based on any amendments supported by the chat rooms. Each revision group contains a representative from Sections, PrepCom and the International Secretariat. Each member of the revision group must be impartial in their approach to motion revisions. Motion proponents (i.e.. for 2022, an International Board representative) will also be invited to observe the revision group's debriefing session. However, they will not be expected to approve the amendments that the revision group will be making to the motion.

- See the "[Motions process](#)" page on the GA meeting website for more information.

2022 GLOBAL ASSEMBLY MEETING MOTIONS

1. International Board: Motion on a simplified set of core standards integrated within a global Amnesty accountability framework

The Global Assembly

Decides to adopt a simplified set of core standards updated from Decision 6 ICM 2013 and presented within a global accountability framework as a result of GA Decision 2021/2 on the Core standards Review, as referred in the text below

The Global assembly further notes that this framework:

- Applies to the International Secretariat, Amnesty sections, structures, national offices and any entity within Amnesty;
- Clarifies a definition statement on what accountability means within Amnesty and rests on principles of accountability, transparency and adaptability to the entity capacity;
- Integrates the national level accountabilities entities have to their membership and national level legislation requirements as well as the global level accountability and that these are not mutually exclusive but build on each other to strengthen Amnesty as a global organisation;
- Is based on four clusters with 20 core standards expressed in principles: organises the core standards within three accountability clusters of Governance and Leadership; Finance and Growth; Organisational Health and includes a fourth cluster on Enabling Human Rights Impact aligned with the Global Strategy;
- Commits the movement to a process for progress for compliance on core standards, through learning and open feedback;
- Proposes an online self-assessment process for 2023 coordinated by the IS which will happen every two years and include a process of feedback on assessments, support in designing and monitoring corrective plans, and in providing capacity building and templates, and link creation of peer learning groups based on learning needs identified through the assessments;
- Asks national entities to strengthen their commitment to upholding core standards implementation and monitoring through formal adoption by their board members every year, to ensure continuity and engagement;
- Advises the IB/IS to provide support and coordinate learning resources to help national entities to meet standards;
- Stresses the importance of both compliance and learning by setting out a progressive protocol of consequences and corrective measures in keeping with Amnesty's Statutes and Regulations to protect Amnesty people, resources and reputation;
- Recommends the creation of a working group comprised of national entity and IS colleagues to help finalise the detailed indicators for each of the core standards, and the measurement for progress and to help test the assessment process online.

Rationale for this motion

This motion will contribute to the achievement of Amnesty International's mission and strategy by ensuring that Amnesty International would have a strong global accountability framework with a set of global standards that we commit to uphold so that strong national entities will deliver the strategy ensuring effective respect of standards in enabling human rights impact, governance, finance and growth, and organisational health. This will allow the movement to apply the standards in core areas and ensure our commitment to pressing global concerns such as environmental sustainability; anti-racism, security, wellbeing, good governance, financial integrity, human resources good practices, and organisational health while we defend human rights. The overarching nature of the framework allows the movement focus on both the bigger picture of how all these standards relate to our performance and strength as a global organisation but also will allow us to build on specific areas where we have more detailed work to do.

Moreover, collective accountability to our standards is as important as accountability to human rights if all of us are to embody what it means to work at Amnesty as a board member, a volunteer, a member or staff. For this, it takes all of us to agree to commit to the standards. There is a deep recognition that the rising threats by the external contexts in which Amnesty operates and the weaknesses in our accountability can lead to protracted crises. Collective commitment to accountability; openly discussing failures and learning is essential. It will demonstrate our commitment to be a learning organisation which continues to evolve and adapt to changes. With a new strategy to implement, revised core standards within an overarching accountability framework will strengthen process for progress, transparency, compliance and decision-making at all levels and requires formal adoption. It will need to be followed up by investments in support and capacity building, an active peer network and assessment & compliance process so that it becomes a lived experience and strengthens our organisational resilience into the future.

IB/IS key contact: In case of any queries and questions on this motion, please contact Beatrice Vaugrante, Programme Director Movement Building, International Secretariat, Beatrice.Vaugrante@amnesty.org.

2. International Board: Motion on International Board Reform

The Global Assembly

Decides to accept the International Board's proposal for International Board Reform on how it is composed, mandated, resourced, and performs. The IB has over the years struggled with equitability, wellbeing, untenable workload, perpetual crisis, and performance issues resulting in 20 out of 40 motions from 2017 remaining uncompleted, with further burnout, resignations, and under performance. To synchronise and streamline, the following reforms are accepted:

1. The elected members of the IB must co-opt between two and four external IB members for a period of 3 years, renewable once.
2. The co-opted IB members have equal voting rights to those of elected IB members but cannot hold board officer positions.
3. Both Co-opted and elected IB members will have a probation period of six months.
4. IB members are remunerated. The Board Payments Committee will be disestablished. The existing policy for reimbursement is reviewed and the IB will report to the movement and make public the way forward for remuneration.
5. Creating a cooling period for members of FAC, Prep Com, and the IB. Anyone running for the IB can't be on a committee the year prior, the cumulative total of years served needs to cap out and ensure a permanent exit.
6. GA decisions from 2017 onwards that have been superseded strategically, are no longer relevant or unable to be actioned are closed down with supporting rationale.
7. Following from the above, the IB will create alternative models to the instruction and automatic enrolment of the IB with every GA decision, task force, and committee.
8. Motions are proposed every other year at the GA or as follows from point 7 above, the IB is not tasked to every motion.

Rationale for this motion

- i) Would contribute to the achievement of Amnesty International's mission and strategy by ensuring that Decision 1 of the 2021 GA begins to be implemented and that the IB is fit for purpose in their oversight mandate and their ability to exercise their legal and fiduciary duties. It would ensure the lessening of conflicts of interest, of an equitable voice on the board, a synchronised election schedule and the ability to focus on new strategy oversight without duplication of work, doing less better, and being respectful of the workload that governance entails.
- ii) Is of global relevance because it will enhance the International Board and therefore the Amnesty movement's ability to carry out human rights work and increase our impact.
- iii) Should be discussed and accepted at the next GA meeting because the IB through movement consultation has made a commitment to focusing on the changing of our culture. Based on the Chair survey results and movement feedback, the burden and pressure of section board and IB workloads is untenable. Further, Amnesty has made commitments in raising equitable distribution of financial resources and rehauling voting models, of which the suggestions above coalesce.

IB/IS key contact: In case of any queries and questions on this motion, please contact International Board Coordinator, International Secretariat, BoardCoordinator@amnesty.org.

3. International Board: Motion to reform the voting model for internationally elected positions

The Global Assembly

Decides to change the voting system for internationally elected positions on Amnesty International's global governance bodies from a First Past the Post to a Single Transferable Vote

- recognizing that reforming the current voting model requires amending article 8.1.12 of the Global Governance Regulations and other related governance documents
- noting it will apply to all elected positions on the International Board and statutory committees
- noting further it will take effect in 2023.

Rationale for this motion

In 2018 the Global Assembly (GA) asked the International Board to consider changing the first-past-the-post (FPTP) system to a new method when electing all International Board and Committee positions.

As mandated by 2018 GA Decision 7, the International Board presented preferential and other voting models for consideration in a workshop at the 2019 GA Meeting (see ORG 50/0386/2019 "*Considerations for the complete nomination to election process for internationally elected positions*"). A clear consensus was not reached on how the group wanted to proceed other than to request further information and the involvement of those with specific subject knowledge to help narrow down the options.

Having carried out the necessary research, the International Board recommends changing the existing FPTP voting model to Single Transferable Vote (STV) because it is a fairer and more democratic electoral system and will strengthen the legitimacy of Amnesty International's global governance.

STV is also more closely aligned to Amnesty International's organizational values and its commitment to fairness, openness, equity and inclusion. It is of global relevance because it will change the voting system for all globally elected positions on the International Board and the organization's statutory committees. A summary of the research and relevant issues supporting the motion can be found in the 2022 Global Assembly meeting paper "Reforming the voting model for internationally elected positions" ORG 50/5522/2022.

IB/IS key contact: In case of any queries and questions on this motion, please contact Andrea Steel, Committees Coordinator, International Secretariat, Committees@amnesty.org.

4. International Board: Motion on taxation, inequality and human rights (high-level principles, work plan and timeline)

The Global Assembly

Instructs the International Board to approve a set of high-level principles, work plan and timeline for a policy on taxation, inequality and human rights.

Rationale for this motion

This motion will contribute to the achievement of Amnesty International's mission and strategy by ensuring that:

- i) Guidance on the links between taxation and human rights is provided. In particular, it will demonstrate the role that such work will play in contributing to the delivery of Priority 2 of the Global Strategy.
- ii) The issue will be discussed and decided at the next Global Assembly meeting in line with the mandate of GA Decision 2021/05 that this should take place this year. Following approval of the high-level principles, the full policy will go to the 2023 GA for discussion and decision.

IB/IS key contact: In case of any queries and questions on this motion, please contact Iain Byrne, Researcher and Advisor, International Secretariat, Iain.Byrne@amnesty.org.

5. International Board: Motion on guiding principles for feminist leadership for Amnesty International

The Global Assembly

Decides to adopt a set of guiding principles for feminist leaderships, as set out in the Annex to this motion, to support and guide Amnesty International.

Recognizes that feminist leadership is a continuing process, not a destination, and that the principles are meant to facilitate discussions around how power is distributed and exercised in the organization, including through transparent, collective, collaborative, and accountable decision-making, so as to secure social justice and transformative change.

Rationale for the motion

This motion:

i) Will contribute to the achievement of Amnesty International's mission and strategy by ensuring that the Movement has a shared understanding and vision of what a commitment to feminist leadership means to us as an organisation.

ii) Is of global relevance because it identifies guiding principles to facilitate a process of consultations and reflections within the Movement regarding feminist leadership in as inclusive a manner as possible, and by engaging entities in all regions of the world.

iii) Should be discussed at the 2022 Global Assembly meeting as mandated by GA Decision 2021/08. If approved, the motion will be followed by guidelines to facilitate consultations on feminist leadership that will be shared with the Movement.

Entity key contact: In case of any queries and questions on this motion, please contact Zaira Drammis, Head of the Office of the Secretary General. International Secretariat, Zaira.Drammis@amnesty.org.

6. International Board: Motion on the Global Fundraising Policy - changing access to multilateral funding

The Global Assembly

Instructs the International Board to:

1. Change the Global Fundraising Policy to enable Amnesty International entities to apply for non-HRE programmes of work from multilateral and pooled funds.
 - This would help improve the equitability of funding as there is significant potential to increase income in RAM-funded entities. Most of the funding is likely to be for entities in the global south.
 - Current thinking is to include UN agencies, pooled funds for specific countries or issues such as disability, EU funding streams as some that might be open to non-HRE applications. These are institutions we already receive HRE funding from.
 - The ethical screening (which is done internally but can also be outsourced) will ensure ethical standards are met and independence is maintained.

Rationale for this motion

This motion will contribute to the achievement of Amnesty International's mission and strategy by ensuring that funds are available for increasing our human rights work, particularly in the global south.

The Global Fundraising Policy and Guidelines are reviewed every two years to ensure they remain up to date. In 2021, following the findings of the Financial Sustainability Taskforce, a more significant change was proposed. Amnesty International entities can accept funding from bilateral donors *only* for work that promotes human rights education (HRE). This is currently the same for multilateral donors and pooled donors. The proposed change to the policy would mean that Amnesty International entities could apply for non-HRE programmes of work from multilateral and pooled funds.

IB/IS key contact: In case of any queries and questions on this motion, please contact Rohan Hewavisenti, Chief Financial Officer, International Secretariat, Rohan.Hewavisenti@amnesty.org

Papers

Global Fundraising Policy February 2021 for approval

Global Fundraising Guidelines October 2018