



CANDIDATE BRIEF

DATE	August 2019
ROLE TITLE	Non-Executive Director
COMPANY	Amnesty International Australia (AI Australia)
REMUNERATION	As per the AI Australia Constitution individuals receive no remuneration for being a director.
MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT	All directors must be members of AI Australia. If you are not currently a member but wish to complete an expression of interest as a director you will need to apply for membership by Friday 20 September; https://action.amnesty.org.au/membership .

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA

Amnesty International is an independent global movement that campaigns courageously for human rights for everyone.

In Australia, Amnesty International is one of Australia's largest not for profit organisations. It comprises ordinary people from all walks of life, standing together for justice, freedom, human dignity and equality. The organisation uses passion and commitment to bring torturers to justice, change oppressive laws and free people imprisoned just for voicing their opinion.

AI Australia is independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion and this ensures that the organisation can speak out on human rights abuses wherever they occur. Every day, AI Australia helps to move the world closer to a point where human rights are enjoyed by all.

AI Australia stands for equality, justice, freedom, and human dignity and in doing so upholds these values:

- Empowerment – by building people power
- Persistence – by being resolute in pursuit of its goals
- Integrity – by holding itself to the highest standards
- Courage -by being fearless in upholding human rights

THE NATIONAL BOARD

The National Board of AI Australia provides leadership and governance for the organization and its main functions are to:

- ensure effective leadership and stewardship of the organisation;
- promote and ensure the effective performance of the organisation;
- set and assess the objectives and standards by which the organisation is governed;
- monitor the financial, ethical, legal and regulatory performance of the organisation;
- appoint the National Director (CEO) and hold them accountable for the organisation's performance; and
- provide links and leadership within the Amnesty International movement.



The National Board is governed by a Board Charter and its powers are detailed in the organisation's [Constitution](#).

In accordance with the Constitution, the National Board has established a number of committees. The main committees of AI Australia are the:

- Activism and Membership Committee (AMC)
- Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)
- Governance Committee (GC)
- International Issues Committee (IIC)
- Nomination and Assessment Committee (NAC, formed in 2019))

BOARD RENEWAL

AI Australia recently undertook a governance review process and in October last year, at the AGM, a new constitution was voted for by the Voting Delegates. This resulted in reform of the AI Australia National Board.

Previously the National Board was made up of 14 directors, comprising seven members elected by the National Annual General Meeting (AGM) and seven elected by AI Australia's seven branches.

In future, the National Board will be a smaller, skills-based board.

The National Board will comprise:

- 7 elected directors; and
- Up to 2 additional directors appointed by the Board.

At the upcoming AGM, on 13 October 2019, the General Meeting Voters will elect seven directors. There will be two rounds of elections. The first round will elect four directors, and only the existing ten directors can stand for nomination. The second round will be for the remaining three directors, and AI Australia members and existing directors will be eligible to stand.

There will also be elections for staggering of the three classes of elected directors as provided in the following table:

Class:	Number in the class	To be elected at AGM held in:
I	3	2019 and each 3 rd year thereafter
II	2	2020 and each 3 rd year thereafter
III	2	2021 and each 3 rd year thereafter

BOARD RENEWAL PROCESS

To capture the skills needed for the National Board, an Attributes Statement has been developed by the Governance Committee and the Nomination and Assessment Committee with reference to the practices in other Australian not-for-profits as well as Amnesty International globally. It was approved by the National Board in July 2019.

The Attributes Statement has four parts:

- Part A - collective capabilities of the National Board including activism;
- Part B - personal attributes of directors;
- Part C - a statement of diversity and inclusion; and
- Part D - required capabilities to be a director of AI Australia.



Expressions of interest for director roles are now open and will be assessed with regard to capabilities, attributes and diversity as set out in the Attributes Statement.

If you are expressing an interest in a director role you will need to complete a self assessment based on the Attributes Statement (see link on [website](#)) and provide a brief CV (maximum 4 pages) by **5:00 pm AEST on Monday 2 September**.

The Nomination and Assessment Committee between **3 September and 19 September** will assess the expressions of interest and hold brief telephone interviews to determine director nominations presented to those AI Australia members who will vote at the AGM on **13 October 2019**.

If you have any questions regarding this process or about serving on the National Board please contact Simon Rumore, chair of the Nomination and Assessment Committee at simon.rumore@amnesty.org.au or 0450 459 059.

TIME COMMITMENT

The National Board holds six to eight meetings each year. Some of these are face to face, and others are by videoconference.

The National Board's primary form of communication between meetings is via telephone and email.

To participate fully and effectively as a director, candidates needs to be able to read and respond to calls and emails at least once in every 48 hours.

It is also expected that directors engage fully in the work of committees including undertaking the role of chair. Committees typically hold three to five meetings each year.