

## Amnesty International Ireland - Annual Conference / AGM 2024

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

### Motions

#### ***Motion 1 - Annual Conference 2024***

Appreciating the extraordinary circumstances experienced by the Section during 2023 and 2024, resulting in a gap greater than the constitutionally mandated 16 months between Annual Conferences, the Conference Agenda Committee proposes that all decisions at Annual Conference 2024 will nonetheless be deemed valid.

**Proposed by: David White**

**Seconded by: Mary Quinn**

#### **Explanatory Note:**

Amnesty International Ireland has experienced a period of major transition during 2023 and 2024. This included a gap between the departure of the outgoing Executive Director and the appointment of the new ED, and the transition to the new ED. The Section has also experienced a period of acute cash flow challenges which resulted in a temporary layoff for a number of staff members.

During this period, it was not practical to host an Annual Conference. The Conference Agenda Committee is grateful for the leadership shown by both the Staff members and the National Board during this time.

Despite 17 months having passed, rather than the constitutionally mandated 16 months, the Conference Agenda Committee recommends that all decisions made today be deemed valid (the previous AC was held in July 2023).

#### ***Motion 2 – Headline Operational Budget 2025***

Conference approves the high-level outline budget for 2025 and mandates the National Board to finalise and approve an operational budget for 2025 in line with this overall budgetary framework, noting the certified accounts for the years 2021, 2022 and 2023.

**Proposed by: Seán Mulligan**

**Seconded by: Lorraine Smyth**

## Constitutional Amendments

### ***Constitutional Amendment 1***

#### ***Article 13 The National Board***

This amendment seeks to ensure continuity of leadership for the Section in exceptional circumstances.

Current text:

Article 13 The National Board

(3) The twelve other positions on the National Board shall be filled by election to two panels containing six positions each. Elections to the panels shall take place in alternate years with elected members holding office for a two-year term. Elected members shall be eligible for re-election except that no elected member shall hold office for more than three terms consecutively.

Proposed amended text:

Article 13 The National Board

(3) "The twelve other positions on the National Board shall be filled by election to two panels containing six positions each. Elections to the panels shall take place in alternate years with elected members holding office for a two-year term. Elected members shall be eligible for re-election; however, no member, apart from the Chairperson, shall serve more than three consecutive terms. The Chairperson may serve a fourth term of up to one year, if necessary, to ensure continuity for the National Board.

**Proposed by: Graham Roe**

**Seconded by: Fiona O'Connor**

#### **Explanatory Note:**

Amnesty International Ireland has experienced a period of major transition during 2023 and 2024 which is expected to continue into 2025. To date, this has included a gap between the departure of the outgoing Executive Director (ED) and the appointment of the new ED, and the transition to the new ED, a period of acute cash flow challenges which resulted in temporary lay-off for a number of staff members, and a reduction in headcount via a voluntary redundancy scheme, as well as the sale of Sean McBride House. In addition, the Board is recruiting additional members, and a new Vice Chair has been appointed.

To ensure that the ED can focus on the task of rebuilding the Section and effectively establish the plan to secure the ongoing sustainability of the Section for many years to come, this amendment will support the necessary change management process at the operational, executive and governance levels to empower the Board, ED and staff to achieve these aims.

**# ENDS**