

Statute of Amnesty International Nepal Section 2001*

Preamble

Realizing the relevance of a non-profit making, non-governmental and non-political organization for human rights promotion and protection in the context of the human rights violation and abuses taking place or likely to take place worldwide, and whereas, preparing draft of this statute matching with the internationally recognized human rights movement Amnesty International, now, therefore, this statute is hereby prepared in accordance with Associations Registration Act, 1977 for the purpose of establishing the Nepal section of Amnesty International.

Part-1 Preliminary

1. Establishment of Amnesty International Nepal :

- (1) The name of this Statute shall be the 8th Amendment 2023 of the Statute of Amnesty International Nepal Section, 2001. Upon approval of this Statute, an organisation called Amnesty International Nepal Section shall be deemed to have been established. Nepal Section shall denote an autonomous organisation that works in accordance with the prevalent laws of Nepal. In short, it shall be known as Amnesty Nepal.
- (2) This organization shall be a non-profit making, non-governmental and non-political organisation.
- (3) Amnesty Nepal shall have an independent legal existence. It shall have a status of a legal person.

2. Address and scope

- (1) The office of this organisation shall be based in Kathmandu and its address shall be as below:
Amnesty International Nepal
Amnesty Marga, Basantanagar, Balaju
P.O. Box No. 135, Kathmandu, Nepal
- (2) The working area of this organisation shall be Kathmandu and across Nepal state with the approval of the local authority.

3. Commencement

This Statute shall come into force after approval by the designated authority of the Government of Nepal and the International Board of Amnesty International following endorsement by the Annual General Meeting of Amnesty Nepal.

* As amended by the 32nd Annual General Meeting in December 2023 and approved by the District Administration Office, Kathmandu.

4. Definition

Unless the subject or context otherwise requires, in this Statute:

- (1) 'Statute' shall denote the Statute of Amnesty International Nepal Section, 2001, eighth amendment, 2023.
- (2) 'Amnesty International' shall denote the international non-government organisation Amnesty International with its headquarters in London, Britain.
- (3) 'Organisation' or 'Amnesty Nepal' shall denote Amnesty International Nepal section.
- (4) 'IS' shall denote Amnesty International's International Secretariat.
- (5) 'National Board' shall denote the National Board of Amnesty Nepal constituted as per Section 11 (१) of this Statute.
- (6) 'Member' shall denote the individual who accepts the principles, values and the Statute of Amnesty International Nepal, and who has attained membership upon fulfilling the conditions as set in 'Types of membership and its acquirement' in section 7 of this Statute, and they could be individual member, group members, youth network members or honorary members.
- (7) 'Local authority' shall denote the Chief District Officer of the concerned district.
- (8) 'Local body' shall denote the concerned Village Council, Municipal Council, Metropolis and district coordination committee.
- (9) 'Group' shall denote the groups recognized by Amnesty International to work locally.
- (10) "Youth Network" shall denote a local network of persons who have received youth membership, formed for the purpose of carrying out various activities based on the objectives of campaigns that are carried out by Amnesty Nepal.
- (11) 'Group-in-formation' shall denote the group that has not yet been recognized as a Group but is under consideration.
- (12) "Youth Network-in-formation" shall denote the youth network that has not yet been recognized as a Youth Network but is under consideration.
- (13) 'As prescribed' shall denote as prescribed by this Statute and regulations and by-laws formulated under it or authorized National Board, committee, sub-committee formed under the Statute.
- (14) 'Appeal committee' shall denote the appeal committee elected as per section 13 (1) of this Statute by Amnesty Nepal's General Meeting.
- (15) 'Nomination Committee' shall denote the committee as per Section 12 of this Statute.
- (16) 'Preparatory Committee' shall denote the committee as per Section 14 of this Statute. In short, it will also be known as 'PrepCom'.
- (17) 'National Secretariat' shall denote Amnesty Nepal's national secretariat.
- (18) 'Chairperson' shall denote the Chairperson of Amnesty Nepal.
- (19) 'Director' shall denote the Director of Amnesty Nepal.
- (20) 'National Board office-bearers' shall denote the National Board Chair, Vice-chair, General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary, Treasurer and members.
- (21) 'Appeal Committee office-bearers' shall denote Amnesty Nepal Section's Appeal Committee Coordinator and members.
- (22) 'General Meeting' shall denote the assembly held as provided in the general meeting section of this Statute.

- (23) 'Members' Province/Regional Forum' shall denote the assembly as provided for in Section 10 of this Statute. In short, it will also be known as Regional Forum.
- (24) "Nepal Section" shall mean the Amnesty International's Nepal Section.

5. Amnesty International Nepal's logo and stamp

- (1) A burning candle ensnared within a barbed wire in a rectangular yellow background with AMNESTY written on the first line and INTERNATIONAL written on the second line at the left with both the lines being of equal length, and AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEPAL written just below the yellow background (as shown in Annex 1) shall be the logo of Amnesty Nepal.
- (2) This organisation shall have a stamp with the depiction of the logo.

Part-2

Vision, Mission, Core Values, Working Procedure and Mandate

6. The vision, mission, core values, working procedure and mandate of this organization shall be as follows:

6.1 Vision :

Amnesty International Nepal's vision is of a world in which every person is able to freely enjoy and exercise all the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments.

6.2 Mission:

In pursuit of its vision, Amnesty International Nepal's mission is to undertake research and campaign focused on preventing and ending grave violations and abuses of the all kinds of human rights, and carry out human rights promotional works.

6.3 Core Values :

Amnesty International Nepal forms a global community of human rights defenders with effective action based on principles such as non-discriminations, liberty, impartiality, international solidarity, the universality, indivisibility and indivisibility of human rights, impartiality and independence, and democracy and mutual respect.

6.4 Working Procedure:

- (a) Pressure shall be exerted through Amnesty Nepal affiliated members, its supporters and human rights defenders, by acting within the parameters of the law of Nepal, to stop human rights violations and abuses by the government, companies, inter-government organizations, armed political groups and other non-state actors of any country by publicizing the facts based on the research carried out by Amnesty International in relation to any particular incident of human rights violation or abuses.
- (b) Amnesty International Nepal shall call on governments to abide by the notion of rule of law and ratify and implement international instruments on human rights to prevent human rights violations and abuses. Various programmes on human

rights education shall be carried out and the international organizations, individuals and every section of the society shall be encouraged to respect and promote human rights.

6.5 Mandate

Amnesty Nepal shall remain active to express solidarity, and to participate and conduct programmes to achieve the goals of the campaigns run by Amnesty International globally for the promotion and protection of human rights. Based on the the programmes received from the international secretariat of Amnesty International and the Annual Work Plans approved from the the annual general meeting of the Amnesty Nepal, the National Secretariat will continuously send action circulars to affiliated groups, groups-in-information and networks to be involved in the human rights campaigns activities. While conducting campaigns thus, Amnesty Nepal will put its opinion and expression on incidents concerning the human rights violations and abuses in Nepal only after the investigation and analysis undertaken including in consultation with the International Secretariat of Amnesty International, and this will have to be followed in the letter and spirit by the Amnesty Nepal affiliated groups, groups-in-information, youth networks and individual members, and they cannot, only on their own decisions alone, make opinions or undertake other activities.

Part-3 Membership

7. Types and acquirement of membership

7.1 Types of membership

(a) Individual member:

Any citizen of 16 years and above who wish to support the campaign of the organization by following the statute and objectives of the organization can acquire the supporter membership of Amnesty Nepal section without any discrimination on the basis of faith, religion, race, gender, origin and language. Supporter members can participate in the human rights campaigns of Amnesty Nepal. They shall participate in the leadership contest. Representing supporter members, two members (a female and a male) shall be entitled to voting rights in the decision making processes of Amnesty International Nepal section. The two representatives who will participate in the decision making process will be selected as prescribed. A member who has received membership under a Group or Youth Network will only be eligible to receive individual membership after the end of the tenure of membership received under that Group or Youth Network.

(b) Group member:

Any person of 16 years and above who wishes to support and be part of the campaign of the organization by following the statute and objectives of the organization can acquire the Group membership of Amnesty Nepal section without any discrimination on the basis of his/her faith, religion, race, gender,

origin and language or on any other ground upon the recommendation of the individual as designated by the Executive Committee of the concerned Group or Group-in-Formation. Such members shall be entitled to voting rights in the decision making process in the concerned Group and through the concerned Group in Amnesty International Nepal section.

(c) Youth Network member:

An individual between the age of 16 to 25 years who adhere to the Statute and objectives of the organization and who wish to contribute and be part of the campaigns of Amnesty Nepal can acquire Youth Network membership without any distinction based on religion, faith, race, sex, language, origin or on any other ground as recommended by the executive committee of a Youth Network or directly through the National Secretariat. Such members shall be entitled to voting rights in the decision making process in the concerned Youth Network and through the concerned Youth Network in Amnesty International Nepal section.

(d) Honorary member:

Amnesty International Nepal can confer, under prescribed conditions, honorary membership to renowned individuals who have contributed in the various aspects of social activism or those who have contributed to the protection and promotion of human rights.

7.2 Acquiring membership

Membership shall be distributed from the National Secretariat after fulfilling the procedures as outlined in Section 7 sub-section 1. The membership duration of the members shall be of two years, and the membership can be retained by through renewal.

7.3 Eligibility for membership:

The necessary provisions to acquire Amnesty Nepal's membership is as follows:

- (a) Commitment to adhering to Amnesty Nepal's statute and objectives.
- (b) Payment of the fee as determined by Amnesty Nepal.
- (c) Not mentally unstable.
- (d) Not convicted of corruption.
- (e) Not involved in sexual violence, violence against women, violence against children, forgery or fraudulent activities.
- (f) Not involved in any acts of violation and abuses of human rights.

7.4 Renewal of membership :

- (a) Every member must renew his/her membership within three months of expiry of the membership. Renewal will not take place after the designated deadline is over, but this shall not prevent him/her from acquiring new membership.
- (b) National Board can decide not to renew somebody's membership by giving appropriate reasons thereto.
- (c) Individuals whose membership the National Board decides not to renew shall have the right of appeal.

8. Termination of membership

- (1) The membership of any member of Amnesty Nepal shall be terminated in any of the following conditions:
 - (a) Upon approval of resignation in writing,
 - (b) Acting against the statute, policy and objectives of Amnesty International and Amnesty International Nepal
 - (c) Upon expiry of the membership term,
 - (d) For not continuing to hold the eligibility as per Section 7.3 of the Statute
 - (e) Upon death
 - (f) Upon completion of 25 years of age in the case of a Youth Network member.
- (2) In the case of Group member, the National Board will, on the recommendation of the concerned Amnesty Nepal Group or Group-in-information, decide about the termination of membership. If the concerned Amnesty Nepal Group or Group-in-information does not recommend to this effect, then the National Board shall take the decision of membership termination.
- (3) The decision regarding the termination of membership of the supporter member shall be taken by the National Board.

Part-4 Organizational structure

9. General Meeting

9.1 Structure of General Meeting:

The General Meeting shall be the supreme decision-making body of Amnesty Nepal. The General Meeting shall periodically elect office bearers and members of National Board, Preparatory Committee, Nomination Committee and Appeal Committee. Likewise, the General Meeting also makes decisions such as on the amendment of the Statute, policy formulation, adoption of resolutions, endorsement of annual work plans and recommendation for the dissolution of the organization.

9.2 The General Meeting shall take place every year.

9.3 Formation of the General Meeting

- (1) The participants of the General Meeting shall be as follows:
 - (a) Office-bearers of the National Board,
 - (b) Office-bearers of the Appeals Committee,
 - (c) A total of 100 representatives selected by the Amnesty International Nepal's Regional Forum pursuant to Section 10 (4) such that each Regional Forum selects its delegates as per Section 10 (1) proportionate to the region's total membership considering the total valid Amnesty Nepal members as 100.
 - (d) Observers nominated by the National Board
 - (e) National Secretariat staff
 - (f) Guest observers from IS/International Board
 - (g) Guest observers from other Amnesty Sections

(2) Voting Rights:

Representatives participating in the General Meeting as selected by the Members' Province/Regional Forum shall have voting rights on the basis of one person one vote.

9.4 Extraordinary General Meeting

- (a) If a request is received from 25 percent of the Amnesty Nepal Groups and Youth Networks with a demand for an extra-ordinary General Meeting citing special reasons along with the decision of the Executive Committee of the Groups and Youth Networks, then the National Board shall call for an extraordinary General Meeting within 45 days of receiving such request.
- (b) If a situation whereby some decision is required to be obtained through the extraordinary general meeting, national board may call for a special General Meeting as required.
- (c) Discussions will be held and decisions taken only on the issue the extraordinary General Meeting has been summoned for.
- (d) The formation of the extra-ordinary General Meeting shall be made as per Clause 9.3.
- (e) If the regular Annual General Meeting is taking place within the next 90 days of the date of the demand for an extraordinary General Meeting then the National Board shall not be compelled to call for such an extraordinary General Meeting. Provided that the proposal to be presented at the extraordinary General Meeting will be tabled at the regular General Meeting.
- (f) The notice of the extraordinary General Meeting should be sent out to the Groups and Youth Networks before 30 days.

9.5 General Meeting

- (a) The General Meeting shall meet every year in the date, time and location as determined by the National Board on the recommendation of PrepCom. When a General Meeting with physical presence is impossible or difficult, necessary decisions can be taken through preparatory online meetings. All Groups, Youth Networks and individual Members of Amnesty Nepal must be informed about the date and location of the General Meeting in advance of 75 days.
- (b) The General Meeting shall be chaired by the Chairperson of the National Board. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and in the absence of the Vice-Chairperson, a member of the National Board designated by the National Board shall chair the General Meeting.
- (c) For the quorum of the General Meeting, a simple majority of the representatives determined as per Section 10 sub-section (4) of each Members' Province/Regional Forum held in accordance with Section 10 sub-section (1) is required to be present. If the quorum is not fulfilled, the General Meeting shall be postponed assigning the reason thereof and shall be reconvened by fulfilling the prescribed procedure.
- (d) If any issue has to be decided following a dispute over it in the General Meeting, then it shall be done on the basis of majority through one person one vote system.

- (e) In case of a draw of votes in favour and against any disputed issue at the General Meeting, the Chairperson shall cast the deciding vote.

9.6 Function, duties and powers of General Meeting

- (a) To formulate Amnesty Nepal's National Strategic Goals based on the integrated strategic Goals of Amnesty International.
- (b) To formulate Amnesty Nepal's financial policy based on the financial policy of Amnesty International.
- (c) To elect the National Board and the Appeals Committee.
- (d) To discuss and endorse progress report, financial report, budget, action plan and the reports prepared by the National Secretariat.
- (e) To appoint auditor and determine the remuneration.
- (f) To endorse other necessary proposals.

10. Members' Province/Regional Forum

- (1) Members' Province/Regional Forum shall be conducted at least one month before the Annual General Meeting of Amnesty International Nepal Section. Normally, Members' Province/Regional Forum shall be conducted physically. In extreme circumstances, Members' Province/Regional Forum can be conducted via online means as per the decision of the PrepCom. The Members' Province/Regional Forum will comprise of representatives, as determined by sub-section (2) of Groups, Youth Networks and Individual Members of each of the following eight regions comprising the following districts:
- (a) Koshi Members' Province/Regional Forum: Taplejung, Panchthar, Ilam, Jhapa, Tehrathum, Bhojpur, Morang, Sunsari, Dhankuta, Solukhumbu, Khotang, Sankhuwasabha, Udaypur, Okhaldhunga
- (b) Madhesh Members' Province/Regional Forum: Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Bara, Parsa, Rautahat
- (c) Bagmati Members' Province/Regional Forum 1: Ramechhap, Dolakha, Sindhuli, Sindhupalchowk, Kavre, Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading, Makawanpur, Chitwan
- (d) Bagmati Members' Province/Regional Forum (Kathmandu Valley): Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Lalitpur
- (e) Gandaki Members' Province/Regional Forum: Nawalparasi East, Gorkha, Lamjung, Syangja, Kaski, Tanahun, Parbat, Baglung, Myagdi, Manang, Mustang
- (f) Lumbini Members' Province/Regional Forum: Nawalparasi West, Rupandehi, Kapilbastu, Palpa, Gulmi, Argakhachi, Dang, Pyuthan, Rukum East, Rolpa, Banke, Bardiya
- (g) Karnali Members' Province/Regional Forum: Rukum West, Salyan, Dolpa, Humla, Jumla, Kalikot, Mugu, Surkhet, Dailekh, Jajarkot
- (h) Far Western Members' Province/Regional Forum: Kailali, Kanchanpur, Dadeldhura, Doti, Achcham, Bajura, Baitadi, Bajhang, Darchula

(2) Participation of Members in Members' Province/Regional Forum

The participation of members in the Members' Province/Regional Forum shall be as follows:

1. Following representatives of Groups, Youth Networks and Individual Members from the region that are eligible to participate in the Members' Province/Regional Forum:
 - (a) From each Groups and Youth Networks, as per the number of members in those Groups and Youth Networks, representatives determined by the relevant Groups and Youth Networks' General Meeting, of which atleast 50 percent being women:
 - 2 persons from Groups and Youth Networks with atleast 35 members
 - 3 persons from Groups and Youth Networks with atleast 100 members
 - 4 persons from Groups and Youth Networks with atleast 200 members
 - 5 persons from Groups and Youth Networks with atleast or more than 350 members

Note: Groups and Youth Networks that are eligible to participate in the Members' Province/Regional Forum refer to those Groups and Youth Networks that have maintained at least the minimum number of members required as per this Statute, that have conducted at least four human rights campaign activities, that have conducted their General Meeting at least one month before the date of Members' Province/Regional Forum, and have sent its written report to the National Secretariat within the time determined.

- (b) From among the individual members in the region, the following number of individual members as recommended by the PrepCom after fulfilling the prescribed procedures ensuring atleast 50 percent women and atleast 40 percent youths:
 - 2 persons in case the number of individual members is less than or equal to 100
 - 4 persons in case the number of individual members is at least 350
 - 5 persons in case the number of individual members is at least 450 or above

Note: "Youth" in this Section means individual youth member who is at least 16 years of age and has not completed 25 years of age.

2. Coordinator of PrepCom and/or member (s) of PrepCom as assigned by the Coordinator of PrepCom.
3. Guest Observers designated by the Coordinator of PrepCom.
4. Member(s) of National Board as assigned to duty by the National Board..
5. Staff of National Secretariat as designated by the Director.

(3) Operation of the Members' Province/Regional Forum

Members' Province/Regional Forum shall be chaired r by the coordinator of the PrepCom or the person designated by the coordinator of PrepCom. The Members' Province/Regional Forum shall, in addition to selecting the representatives for the organization's central General Meeting, discuss and deliberate on the human rights campaigns of the Section and discuss on the planning and preparation of programmes. The Chair of the Regional Forum shall undertake the process of

democratically selecting the representatives for the central General Meeting in accordance with sub-section (4).

(4) Method of Selecting Representatives for the Annual General Meeting of Amnesty International Nepal Section from the Members' Province/Regional Forum

1. The representatives for the central General Meeting of Amnesty International Nepal Section must be selected by the Members' Regional/Provincial Forum in accordance with sub-Section (2) 1. (a) and (b). Such selection of representatives for the central General Meeting shall be done from each of the regions as determined in sub-section (1) proportionate to the region's total membership considering the total valid Amnesty Nepal members as 100. For instance, if total valid membership of Amnesty Nepal Section is 5,000 and if Koshi province/region has a total of 700 valid members, the Koshi region will be able to send $(100 \times 700) / 5000 = 14$ representatives in AI Nepal's central General Meeting.
2. While nominating representatives as per (1) above, at least 50 percent woman, 40 percent youth, and at least one individual member must be selected.
Note: "Youth" in this Section means member part of Amnesty Nepal affiliated Youth Networks who is at least 16 years of age and has not completed 25 years of age.

(5) Functions, Duties and Powers of Members' Province/Regional Forum

The functions, duties and powers of Members' Province/Regional Forum are as follows:

1. Select representatives for the Annual General Meeting of Amnesty International Nepal Section,
2. Discuss and deliberate on the human rights issues and subjects/contents that ought to be discussed in Amnesty International Nepal Section's Annual General Meeting,
3. Conduct the required preparatory discussions on the setting of strategic goals of Amnesty International Nepal Section and plan of action as per the strategic goals,
4. Discuss the contemporary issues and subjects/contents for the strengthening of organisational development and campaigns of Amnesty Nepal Section.

11. National Board

(1) Formation of National Board

A National Board, as follows, shall be constituted to carry out necessary policy decision essential in between the Annual General Meetings of Amnesty Nepal and for the enforcement, monitoring and evaluation of Amnesty Nepal's National Strategic Goals.

- (a) Chairperson: 1 person
- (b) Vice-chairperson: 1 person
- (c) General Secretary: 1 person
- (d) Deputy General Secretary: 1 person
- (e) Treasurer: 1 person
- (f) Members: 6 persons (including two youth members of which at least one is female)

(2) Election of the National Board:

1. The General Meeting shall elect the following officials:
 - (a) Chairperson: 1 person
 - (b) Treasurer: 1 person
 - (c) Members: 9 persons (including at least three female and two youth members including a female youth)

Note: For the purpose of this Sub-section, the voting right resides on representatives that have attended in Amnesty Nepal's General Meeting in accordance with Section 9.3.(1)(c).

2. The office bearers (vice-chair, general secretary and deputy-general secretary) of Amnesty Nepal as under Section 11 (1) shall be appointed by the first meeting of the members as elected under Part 4, Section 11 (2) (1) of this Statute.
3. National Board will form an election committee during the time of the election as prescribed. The election committee shall be as prescribed.
4. Unless otherwise prescribed, the election procedure shall be as prescribed by the coordinator or the election committee.
5. The National Board's tenure shall be of three years from the date of the election.
6. Once elected for regular two terms in the role of Chair, Vice Chair, General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary and Treasurer, one cannot file candidacy for the third term in the same roles. Likewise, a person cannot file candidacy in the same position for more than three terms.

(3) Eligibility and Ineligibility of candidates

- (a) Only Amnesty Nepal affiliated Group and Youth Network members, and Supporter members and the members invited by the nomination committee can register candidacy in the election to be held for the National Board and Appeal Committee in the Amnesty Nepal National Council Meeting.
- (b) Any individual convicted of criminal offense leading to moral degradation, involved in anti-human rights activities in the past, unfaithful towards the policy and programmes of Amnesty International, who is entitled to payment of cash or goods to Amnesty International, who is involved in any activities such as violence against women and children, abuse, forgery and who is a local, provincial, district or central level committee and task force member of any political party or member in the executive committee of their sister organizations cannot become a candidate for any post in the National Board or Appeal Committee. In case it is revealed that any individual has been a candidate and elected by not divulging such details or has joined any such committees as a member after being elected, then the individual shall be regarded as automatically relieved of the post. While declaring that such a person has been relieved of his/her post, the National Board shall not deprive him/her of an opportunity of response and defense.

(4) Function, duties and powers of National Board

- (a) Determine strategic goals and direction of Amnesty International Nepal;
- (b) Ensure effective international representation and participation from Amnesty International Nepal in the global governance processes of Amnesty International such as global assembly, regional forum, virtual assembly or forums, and implement and cause to be implemented the decisions of these meeting;

- (c) Implement and cause to be implemented strategies and decisions received from International Board and the International Secretariat;
- (d) Monitor the implementation of the annual work plan as approved by the General Meeting of Amnesty International Nepal;
- (e) Formulate standards and frameworks concerning the generation and management of administrative and financial resource, and devise, implement and cause to be implemented required strategies for the organization's financial viability and feasibility;
- (f) Form various sub-committees and special committee(s) as per the special needs of the organization, and designate its function, duties and powers.
- (g) Formulate and implement necessary rule, regulations, by-laws and guidelines for the functioning of Amnesty Nepal.
- (h) Suspend or repeal the membership of any member, Group-in-formation or affiliated Group, Youth Network or National Board office-bearer and members as per the Statute and regulations.
- (i) Develop and implement necessary guidelines and working procedures to make the members, Groups and Youth Networks active in activities according to the policy and statute of AI and Amnesty Nepal.
- (j) Carrying out other tasks as prescribed.

(5) The function, duties and powers of the National Board Office Bearers

The functions, duties and powers of the Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary, Treasurer and Members of the National Board shall be as follows:

1. Function, duties and powers of the Chairperson
 - (a) Chair and conduct the National Board meeting,
 - (b) Appoint Director of Amnesty Nepal, monitor and evaluate his/her work performance,
 - (c) Represent Amnesty Nepal or designate a representative,
 - (d) Delegate portfolio as per need to other office-bearers and members, and
 - (e) Carry out other designated tasks.
2. Function, duties and powers of the Vice-Chairperson
 - (a) Carry out responsibilities as designated by the Chairperson,
 - (b) Carry out all necessary tasks in the absence of the Chairperson, and
 - (c) Carry out other designated tasks.
3. Function, duties and powers of the General Secretary
 - (a) Call the meeting of the National Board and other meetings as per the suggestion of the Chairperson,
 - (b) Maintain records and ensure its safety,
 - (c) Present an annual report of the activities of the National Board in the Annual General Meeting, and
 - (d) Carry out other designated tasks.
4. Functions, duties and powers of Deputy General Secretary
 - (a) Carry out all tasks in the absence of the General Secretary, and
 - (b) Carry out other designated tasks.
5. Function, duties and powers of the Treasurer

- (a) Ensure that the operation of funds of Amnesty Nepal is being carried out as per the rule,
 - (b) Submit Amnesty Nepal's income and expenditure details in the Annual General Meeting,
 - (c) Ensure that the accounts of Amnesty Nepal are well maintained, and
 - (d) Carry out other designated task.
6. Function, duties and powers of the Members
- (a) To attend the National Board meeting regularly and take active part in the discussions,
 - (b) To actively participate in the programmes organized by Amnesty Nepal,
 - (c) To provide constructive support to make Amnesty Nepal's activities and programmes effective, and
 - (d) Carry out other designated tasks.

(6) National Board meeting

1. The National Board shall meet, barring special circumstances, once in every three months.
2. The quorum of the meeting of the National Board will be 51 per cent.
3. In case of a tie of votes over a disputed issue in the National Board, the chairperson shall give the deciding vote.
4. For necessary tasks to be carried out when the National Board is not meeting, the General Secretary can implement them, as per the advice and consent of the Chairperson, which has to be presented as per the need for approval in the upcoming meeting of the National Board.
5. Amnesty Nepal Director shall attend the National Board meeting but shall not be entitled to voting rights.
6. Other staff of the National Secretariat can also be invited to the National Board meeting but they shall not have voting rights.

(7) Vacancy of posts

The post of any of the office-bearers of the National Board shall be deemed vacant in any one of the following conditions:

1. In case of death,
2. In case the resignation given by the Chairperson to the National Board and other office-bearers to the Chairperson is endorsed by the National Board
3. In case the National Board's proposal before the General Meeting to suspend and expel for working against the organization's mandate or interest is endorsed,
4. In case of absence without any notice to three consecutive meetings of the National Board,

Proviso: Provided that in case of section (3) and (4) of this Clause, the concerned member shall not be denied the opportunity for clarification.

5. In case any Group is dissolved, if a member of the Group is an office-bearer or member of the National Board, then the person shall be relieved of the post automatically.
6. In case of lack of membership or the term of membership has come to an end.

(8) Fulfillment of the vacant post

- (a) In case the post of the Chairperson falls vacant for any reason, the Vice-chair will assume the portfolio of the Chairperson for the remaining period of the term.
- (b) In case of the post of General Secretary falling vacant, the Deputy General Secretary shall assume his/her portfolio for the remaining period.
- (c) In case of vacancy of the post of Vice-chairperson, Deputy General Secretary and Treasurer, the National Board shall fulfil the positions from among the elected National Board members or from among the Amnesty Nepal members for the remaining period.
- (d) In case of the post of the remaining office-bearers falling vacant, the National Board shall appoint from among the members of Amnesty Nepal.
- (e) While appointing for the vacant posts, it shall be ensured that only one official can be appointed from a Group.

12. Nomination Committee

- (1) A five-member Nomination Committee as below shall be formed to prepare and submit to the Election Committee a list of probable candidates that are appropriate, competent, capable and that can fulfil the skills gap in the organisation to be elected for the vacant positions in the National Board, Preparatory Committee, Nomination Committee and Appeal Committee.
 - (a) A coordinator elected by the General Meeting,
 - (b) Two members including at least a woman elected by the General Meeting
 - (c) Director or a staff of the National Secretariat designated by the Director
 - (d) An observer recommended and sent by the National Board
- (2) The Nomination Committee formed under sub-section (1) shall have a term of three years and can be elected for consecutive three terms. No person can be elected as coordinator for more than two continuous/consecutive terms.
- (3) The committee can encourage or invite candidacy in National Board, Preparatory Committee, Nomination Committee, and Appeals Committee of persons who understand the Vision, Mission and Core Values of Amnesty International and those who have gained competency to work in the National Board.
- (4) Individual members or members of Groups and Youth Networks who wish to field their candidacy in positions of the National Board, Preparatory Committee, Nomination Committee and Appeals Committee shall be required to submit a letter of intent in the prescribed form to the Nomination Committee detailing one's eligibility and competence.
- (5) In relation to the letters of intent received in the committee, the committee shall evaluate whether the person is eligible and competent for the relevant position based on the prescribed competency framework and make recommendation regarding the candidacy. The candidate thus applying is required to have acquired membership of Amnesty Nepal before submitting their candidacy.

13. Appeals Committee

- (1) Along with the election of National Board, the General Meeting shall elect a three member Appeals Committee comprising of a Coordinator and two members including one woman member from among members of Groups, Youth Networks or Individual

Members for the purpose of hearing the appeals on matters of decisions taken by the National Board to dissolve Groups, and youth networks and to annul and reject renewal of membership. The term of the Coordinator and Members of the Appeals Committee will be equal to the term of the National Board.

- (2) The working procedures of the Appeal Committee shall be as determined by the Committee.
- (3) The Appeals Committee shall generally give its verdict on the appeals it has received within three months and the decision shall be final.
- (4) The Appeals Committee can, as per the need, investigate the disputed issue, collect evidence and interrogate the concerned persons. It shall be the duty of the person and party concerned to cooperate with the Committee. Non-cooperation with the Committee can be deemed as evidence against such individuals or party.
- (5) The eligibility for filing candidacy to the post of Coordinator and Members of the Committee shall be as applicable to the members of the National Board.

14. Preparatory Committee (PrepCom)

- (1) A five-member Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) as below coordinated by the Chair of the National Board shall be formed for the purpose of planning, coordination, preparation, management, and organization of the Members' Province/Regional Forum and the General Meeting of Amnesty Nepal to be organised every year.
 - (a) Coordinator: Chair of National Board
 - (b) Two members elected by the General Meeting including at least a woman
 - (c) One member appointed by the National Board
 - (d) Director or staff of National Secretariat as designated by the Director
- (2) In order to apply for the candidacy for the position of member of PrepCom, the individual must meet the prescribed criteria.
- (3) PrepCom shall conduct its activities based on the governance calendar determined by the National Board.
- (4) PrepCom shall, by means of meetings online or face to face, as per necessity, make decisions and cause to carry out decisions related to the planning and preparation of organising Members' Province/Regional Forum and General Meeting.

15. National Secretariat

There shall be a National Secretariat for the daily functioning of Amnesty Nepal. The National Board shall appoint a Director for the operation of the Secretariat. The Director shall be accountable towards the National Board, and he/she shall appoint staff, and manage and evaluate their performance.

16. Groups, Youth Networks, Groups-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation

(1) Constitution of Group-in-formation

If a minimum of 35 individuals located in any place of Nepal apply for membership as a Group-in-Formation by expressly demonstrating to remain governed under the Statute and Regulations of Amnesty International Nepal Section and , the National Board may, upon investigation and analysis of the background of the applicants, approve them as a Group-in-Formation based on contextual evaluation and objective

analysis of the requirements of Amnesty International Nepal Section, its capacity, resources and means to orient and train the members, and the likelihood of self-existence and self-operationalisation of the proposed Group-in-formation in an autonomous and sustainable manner in the proposed location. For recognition of a Group-in-formation:

- (a) Basis for carrying out the basic activities of Amnesty International must have been presented before the National Board, before the affiliation of the Group-in-formation.
- (b) Must have paid the specified fee.
- (c) Must have completed other procedures as specified.

(2) Formation of Groups

Amnesty Nepal Groups-in-formation can be affiliated as a Group of Amnesty Nepal as per the decision of the National Board and approval of the International Secretariat. Groups affiliated to Amnesty Nepal will be designated by a number. For such Group affiliation:

- (a) Specified fee must have been paid.
- (b) Must have a minimum of 35 members affiliated.
- (c) Must have worked as Group-in-formation for at least 6 months.
- (d) Must have approved the Group's by-laws in the specified structure through a General Meeting of the Group and submitted it to the National Board.
- (e) Must have fulfilled other procedures as specified.
- (f) The National Board must decide about the recongition of the Group within a maximum of two years.

(3) Youth Network-in-Formation

If a minimum of 35 individuals located in any place of Nepal apply for membership as a Youth Network-in-Formation by expressly demonstrating to remain governed under the Statute and Regulations of Amnesty International Nepal Section and expressing interest to remain active in human rights campaign of Amnesty Nepal Section, the National Board may, approve them as a Youth Network-in-Formation based on contextual evaluation and objective analysis of requirement of Amnesty International Nepal Section, its capacity, resorces and means to orient and train the members, and the likelihood of self-existence and self-operationalisation of the proposed Youth Netowork-in-formation in an autonomous and sustainable manner in the proposed location.

For recognition of a Youth Network-in-formation:

- (a) Basis for carrying out the basic activities of Amnesty International must have been presented before the National Board, before the affiliation of the Youth-in-formation.
- (b) Must have paid the specified fee.
- (c) Must have completed other procedures as specified.

(4) Formation of Youth Networks

Amnesty Nepal Youth Networks-in-formation can be affiliated as a Youth Network of Amnesty Nepal as per the decision of the National Board and approval of the International Secretariat. For such Youth Network affiliation:

- (a) Specified fee must have been paid.

- (b) Must have a minimum of 35 members affiliated.
- (c) Must have worked as Youth Network-in-formation for at least six months.
- (d) Must have approved the Youth Network's by-laws in the specified structure through a General Meeting of the Youth Network and submitted it to the National Board.
- (e) Must have fulfilled other procedures as specified.
- (f) The National Board must decide about the recongition of the Youth Network within a maximum of two years.

(5) Group, Youth Network, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation Executive Committee

- (a) Group, Youth Network, Groups-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation must convene their annual general meeting as prescribed every year. They should also elect new executive committee every two years.
- (b) Groups, Youth Networks, Groups-in-formation and Youth Networks-in-formation can form 7 to 9 member executive committee as convenient to them. Such executive committee shall be elected from the general assembly of the Groups, Youth Networks, and Groups-in-formation and Youth Networks-in-formation.
- (c) The executive committee must have a minimum of 33 percent women.
- (d) The term of the executive committee of Groups, Youth Networks, Groups-in-formation and Youth Networks-in-formation shall be for two years.

(6) Functions, duties and powers of the Group, Youth Network, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation

- (a) Every Group, Youth Network, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation shall submit a report to the National Secretariat in every six months including details about its membership, activities, financial situation and other concerned issues as specified.
- (b) The Executive Committee of Group, Youth Network, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation must meet minimum four times in a year.
- (c) The Annual General Meeting of the Group, Youth Network, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation must be held every year.
- (d) The Groups, Youth Networks, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation must conduct at least three public events in a year in accordance with the Amnesty Nepal's National Strategic Goal and Amnesty International policy.
- (e) The Group, Youth Network, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation should maintain its accounts regularly.
- (f) The Group, Youth Network, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation must develop a by-law in the specified format in order to run its regular activities, and the by-law will come into force after approval by the National Board.
- (g) It must increase its membership.
- (h) Groups, Youth Network, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation should do the necessary fund-raising for managing and sustaining the

groups and undertaking campaigns activities by adhering to the fund-raising and financial policy of Amnesty International.

- (7) The National Board shall not be responsible for providing any grant or loan to the Group, Youth Network, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation, and will not be liable to the payment of grant or loan taken by the Group, Youth Network, Group-in-formation and Youth Network-in-formation
- (8) **Group and Youth Network dissolution:**
- (a) The National Board can take a decision, after fulfilling the necessary procedures, to dissolve the Groups and Youth Networks that have not fulfilled the criteria and procedures to continue maintaining the affiliation as an Amnesty Group and Youth Network.
 - (b) National Board can approve for a merger request from Groups and Youth Networks that have not fulfilled the prescribed criteria.

Part-5 Financial provisions

17. Organization's Fund

- (1) All movable and immovable property received to Amnesty International Nepal as follows shall be the property of Amnesty Nepal:
- (a) Entry fee, membership fee, annual fee and other cash and kind support received from members and Groups or Youth Networks.
 - (b) Aid and grants received from local and foreign individuals and organizations.
 - (c) Amount collected from the sale of publications of the organization and amount received from other fund raising activities.
 - (d) Loan taken from banks and financial institutions.
 - (e) Aid, grants and loan received from the International Secretariat and other Amnesty International structure or other Amnesty International sections.
- (2) The records of all the property of Amnesty Nepal shall be well maintained.
- (3) Amnesty Nepal shall not accept financial contributions from local or foreign governments but government support can be received for human rights education programmes after taking prior approval as specified by the International Board or by fulfilling other procedures as specified by the Amnesty International's International Secretariat for receiving specific support.
- (4) All property and resources of Amnesty Nepal shall be mobilized to fulfill the objective as outlined in Part two of this statute.
- (5) The organization shall take the approval of the Social Welfare Council before receiving financial contribution and grants from foreign-based institutions or individuals.

18. Procedure for operating fund of the organization

- (1) All cash contributions received to Amnesty Nepal will be deposited by opening a bank account in the specified bank or banks.
- (2) Amnesty Nepal's bank account shall be operated through the signatures of at least two among the Chairperson, General Secretary, Treasurer and Director. But among the two, the signature of the Treasurer will be mandatory.

19. Auditing

- (1) The details of the income and expenditure and property of the organization shall be audited by a recognized auditor designated by the General Meeting at the end of every year, and shall be endorsed by the General Meeting.
- (2) The audit report approved accordingly shall be presented annually to the local authority, Social Welfare Council and the International Secretariat of Amnesty International.

Part-6 Statute amendment

20. Statute amendment

- (1) If deemed necessary, the National Board or any Group or Youth Network of Amnesty Nepal, following their decision, can register an amendment proposal which can be tabled before the General Meeting by the National Board.
- (2) The statute amendment proposal tabled by the Group or Youth Network must be approved by the Executive Committee or General Meeting of the Group or Youth Network concerned and the proposal by the National Board must be approved by the National Board meeting.
- (3) The statute amendment proposal must be registered at the National Secretariat 30 days before the General Meeting takes place.
- (4) The Secretariat must circulate any such statute amendment proposals registered accordingly to all the Groups and Youth Networks 21 days before the beginning of the General Meeting.
- (5) In the statute amendment proposal received from the Group or Youth Network, the National Board, if deemed appropriate, can register an amendment proposal.
- (6) The aforementioned statute amendment proposal or the proposal to amend the first proposal, both will be brought for discussion in the General Meeting.
- (7) If the amendment proposal tabled before the General Meeting is passed by two-thirds majority of the available delegates with voting rights, then the statute shall be amended accordingly.

Part-7 Miscellaneous

21. No confidence motion

- (1) 25 per cent of the total number of Amnesty Nepal Groups or Youth Networks can register a no-confidence motion against office-bearers of National Board and Appeal Committee along with the decision of the Executive Committee of the Groups or Youth Networks in the following conditions:
 - (a) If the Board worked against the mandate of the organization.
 - (b) If the Board acted against the interest of the organization.

The Secretariat must summon an emergency General Meeting within 45 days for discussion on the no-confidence motion after such a resolution has been registered. If the General Meeting has been called for within 90 days, then such proposal shall be tabled in the same regular meeting. The meeting on the no-confidence motion over the National Board shall be chaired by the person designated by the General Meeting.

- (2) During discussions over the no-confidence motion accordingly, one shall not be denied of the opportunity of clarification.
- (3) If the no-confidence motion is passed by a majority of two-third members with voting rights and present in the emergency meeting of the General Meeting, then the National Board or Appeals Committee shall be dissolved, and a new National Board or Appeals Committee shall be elected from the same assembly.
- (4) The no-confidence motion cannot be registered for more than once in a year.

22. Notwithstanding whatsoever is written in this Statute, if it contradicts with the decision, directives of the International Council, International Board and International Secretariat of Amnesty International, Amnesty International Statute and the prevalent laws of Nepal, then it shall be automatically nullified to the extent of its contradiction.

23. Dissolution of the organization

- (1) Only two-thirds majority of the total members present in the General Meeting of the Amnesty Nepal can recommend the dissolution of Amnesty Nepal.
- (2) The final decision of the dissolution of Amnesty Nepal shall be taken by the International Board.
- (3) The property left after clearing Amnesty Nepal's credit and liabilities following the dissolution will be the property of the Government of Nepal upon the consent of the International Board.

24. Interpretation of the Statute

The right to interpret this Statute shall remain with the National Board. In case of a serious dispute over the interpretation, the right to final interpretation shall reside respectively with the General Meeting and the International Secretariat.

25. Annulment and Protection

The acts carried out before the enforcement of this Statute shall be regarded as carried out as per this Statute.

♣ END ♣