

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 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 Association Registration Act 1977 for the purpose of establishing Amnesty International Nepal Section.

Part-I Preliminary

1. Establishment of Amnesty International Nepal :

- (a) The name of this statute shall be the 5th Amendment 2015 of the Statute of Amnesty International Nepal Section 2001. Upon approval of this Statute, an organisation called the Amnesty International Nepal section shall be deemed to have been established. In short, it shall be known as Amnesty Nepal.
- (b) This shall be a non-profit making, non-governmental and non-political organisation.
- (c) Amnesty Nepal shall have an independent legal existence. It shall have a status of a legal person.

2. Address and scope

- (a) 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
- (b) 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.

4. Definition

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

- (i) 'Statute' shall denote the Statute of Amnesty International Nepal section, 2001, fifth amendment, 2017.
- (ii) 'Amnesty International' shall denote the international non-government organisation Amnesty International with its headquarters in London, Britain.
- (iii) 'Organisation' or 'Amnesty Nepal' shall denote Amnesty International Nepal section.

* With provisions as amended in the first, second, third, fourth and fifth amendments in 2007, 2008, 2012, 2016 and 2017 respectively and approved thereof by the District Administration Office, Kathmandu.

- (iv) 'IS' shall denote Amnesty International's International Secretariat.
- (v) 'National Board' shall denote the National Board of Amnesty Nepal.
- (vi) 'Member' shall denote the individual who accepts the principles, values and the Statute of Amnesty International and who has attained membership upon fulfilling the conditions set in 'membership' section of this Statute.
- (vii) 'Local authority' shall denote the Chief District Officer of the concerned district.
- (viii) 'Local body' shall denote the concerned Village Council, Municipal council, Metropolis and district coordination committee.
- (ix) 'Amnesty group' shall denote the groups recognized by Amnesty International to work locally.
- (x) 'Group-in-information' shall denote the group that has not yet been recognized as a Group but is under consideration.
- (xi) 'As prescribed' shall denote as prescribed by this Statute and regulations and by-laws formulated under it or authorized committee, sub-committee formed under the Statute.
- (xii) 'Appeal committee' shall denote the appeal committee elected as per this Statute by Amnesty Nepal's national council meeting.
- (xiii) 'National Secretariat' shall denote Amnesty Nepal's national secretariat.
- (xiv) 'Chairperson' shall denote the Chairperson of Amnesty Nepal.
- (xv) 'Director' shall denote the Director of Amnesty Nepal.
- (xvi) 'National Board office-bearer' shall denote the National Board Chair, Vice-chair, General Secretary, Deputy-general secretary, treasurer and members.
- (xvii) 'Appeal Committee office-bearers' shall denote Amnesty Nepal Section's Appeal Committee Coordinator and members.
- (xviii) 'General Meeting' shall denote the assembly held as provided in the general meeting section of this Statute.
- (xix) "Nepal Section" shall mean the Amnesty International Nepal Section.
- (xx) "Youth Network" shall denote the local network of youth members who have received youth membership from Amnesty Nepal in order to be part of the campaigns activities at the local level.

5. Amnesty Nepal's logo and stamp

- (i) 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.
- (ii) This organisation shall have a stamp with the depiction of the logo.

Part-2

Vision, Mission, Core Values, Methods and Mandate

6. The vision, mission, core values, methods 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 enjoys 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 rights, and carry out human rights promotional works.

6. 3 Core Values :

Amnesty International Nepal forms a community of human rights defenders with the principles of international solidarity, effective action for the individual victim, global coverage, the universality 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. Amnesty Nepal affiliated groups, groups-in-information, networks and members cannot undertake, only on their own decisions alone, activities related to research on incidents of human rights violations and abuses that have taken place in Nepal.

Part-3 Membership

7. Types and accquirement of membership

7.1 Types of membership

(a) Supporter 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 but do not wish to have voting rights in the decision making process can acquire the supporter membership of Amnesty Nepal section without any discrimination on the basis of faith, religion, race, gender, origin and language.

(b) Group member:

A member who acquires membership by being affiliated to an Amnesty Nepal affiliated Group or Group-in-formation as per the decision of the executive committee of the concerned Group or Group-in-formation and on the recommendation of the office-bearer of the designated Group or Group-in-formation shall be called a Group general member. The eligibility of Group general member shall be similar to that of a supporter member. Such members shall be entitled to voting rights in the decision making process in the concerned Group and through the concerned Group in Amnesty Nepal section.

(c) Youth Network member:

Youths between 14 to 25 years of age who adhere to the Statute and objectives of the organization and who wish to contribute and be part of the the campaigns of Amnesty Nepal can without any distinction based on religion, faith, race, sex, language or origin can acquire Youth Network membership as recommended by they executive committee of a Youth Network or directly through the National Secretariat. The Youth members who acquire membership can take part in the decision making processes of the concerned Youth Network. Likewise, they shall have the voting rights as prescribed in the decision making process of Amnesty International Nepal.

(d) Honorary member:

Amnesty 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 determined by the National Board.

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 any acts of violation and abuses of human rights.

7.4 Renewal of membership :

- a) Every member must renew his/her membership within six months of expiry of 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 decided not to renew somebody's membership by giving proper reasons.
- 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 and objectives of Amnesty International and
Amnesty International Nepal
- (c) Upon expiry of the limitation of membership,

(d) For not continuing to hold the eligibility as per Section 3, Clause 7.3 of the Statute

(e) Upon death

(f) Upon completion of 25 years of age in case of Youth Network member.

(2) In case of Group member, the National Board will, on the recommendation of the concerned Amnesty Group or Group-in-formation, decide about the termination of membership. If the concerned Amnesty Group or Group-in-formation does not recommend, then the National Board will take the decision of termination. In case of supporter member, the NEC will decide termination of the membership.

(3) The decision regarding the termination of membership of the supporter member will 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. It shall comprise two structures: the National Council Meeting and the National Meeting of Groups. The National Meeting of Groups shall have all rights in par with the National Council Meeting except holding regular elections of the National Board and Appeals Committee, making recommendation for the dissolution of the organization or other tasks that are exclusively mentioned in this Statute to be undertaken only by the National Council Meeting.

9.2 The General Meeting shall meet every year. The National Council shall meeting shall take place in every two years. The National Meeting of the Groups will be held in between the National Council meetings.

9.3 National Council

(1) Formation of National Council:

The National Council Meeting that takes place every two year shall be participated by the following:

- (a) Office-bearers of National Board,
- (b) Office-bearers of the Appeals Committee,
- (c) Two representatives each from the recognized groups,
- (d) One observer each from the Groups-in-formation,
- (e) Observers nominated by the National Board,
- (f) Staff of the National Secretariat.

(2) Voting Rights

Representatives of the affiliated recognized Groups will have the right to vote in the National Council. Youth members elected as members of the National Board from the Youth Networks shall have the right to vote in subjects listed in the agheda of the National Council meeting.

9.4 Formation of the National Meeting of the Groups

1) The National Meeting of the Groups shall comprise

- (a) Office-bearers of the National Board,
- (b) Office-bearers of Appeals Committee,
- (c) One representative each from the affiliated Groups,
- (d) One observer each from the Group-in-formation,
- (e) National Secretariat staff and observers nominated by the NEC.

2) Only representatives of the affiliated Groups will have the right to vote in the National Meeting of the Groups. Members of the National Board elected from the Youth Networks will have the right to vote in the matters of the agenda of the AGM.

9.5 Extraordinary General Meeting

- (a) If a request is received from 25 percent of the Amnesty Nepal Groups with a demand for an extra-ordinary General Meeting citing special reasons along with the decision of the Executive Committee of the Groups, 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 assembly 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 9.4.
- (e) If the regular Annual General Meeting is scheduled within 90 days of the demand for a 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 AGM should be sent out to the Groups before 30 days.

9.6 General Meeting

- (a) The General Meeting shall meet every year in the date, time and location as determined by the National Board, and all Groups and Groups-in-information of Amnesty Nepal shall be informed about such a meeting 45 days prior to it.
- (b) The General Meeting shall be chaired by an individual designated by the National Board.
- (c) The quorum of the General Meeting shall be 60 per cent. 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.

9.7 Function, duties and powers of General Meeting

- (a) To formulate Amnesty Nepal's National Strategic Goal based on the integrated strategic Goal 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. National Board

(1) Formation of National Board:

(a) The National Council shall elect in every two years a National Board to carry out necessary policy decision essential in between the Annual General Meeting of Amnesty Nepal and for the enforcement, monitoring and evaluation of Amnesty Nepal's National Strategic Goals. The Board shall consist of the following office-bearers:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Chairperson- | 1 person |
| Vice-chairperson- | 1 person |
| General Secretary- | 1 person |
| Deputy General Secretary- | 1 person |
| Treasurer- | 1 person |
| Members - | 6 persons (including two youth members of which at least one is female) |

(b) Election of the National Board:

The National Council shall elect the following officials:

(i) Chairperson – 1 person

(ii) Treasurer – 1 person

(iii) members – 7 persons

(Note: Only the representatives form the affiliated and recognized Amnesty Nepal Groups shall have the right to cast vote.)

(2) In addition to the nine officials as elected above, two youth officials will be separately elected from among the youth networks affiliated to Amnesty Nepal. The election of the youth board officials shall be as prescribed and at least one of the elected shall be female.

(3) The vice-chair, general secretary and deputy-general secretary of Amnesty Nepal shall be appointed by the National Board meeting from among the members as elected in 10 (1) (b) (iii).

(4) The National Board's tenure shall be of two years.¹

(5) Chair, Vice Chair, General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary and Treasurer cannot contest for the third term if they have already been elected for two regular terms, whereas a person cannot file candidacy for more than regular six years.

(6) National Board will form an election committee during the time of the election as prescribed.

(7) Unless otherwise prescribed, the election procedure shall be as prescribed by the coordinator or the election committee.

(6) Nomination Committee

(a) National Board shall form a nomination committee to assess the capacity and competence of the candidates wishing to participate in the National Board and Appeal Committee election. It shall constitute of a Coordinator and two members.

(b) This committee can encourage and call upon people identifying those who have understood the vision, mission and core values of Amnesty Nepal and those who have gained experiences already being part of the board.

(c) Members of the Amnesty Nepal Groups wishing to file candidacy for the election to the posts in National Board or the Appeal Committee should send in their expression of interest by detailing the competence, skills and qualification they possess in a form as prescribed.

¹ these two provisions remain and have never been struck down in any of the AGM amendment documents. They are not carried, due to some technical errors, in the print, and hence cannot be interpreted to mean that there is no clarity as regards the maximum threshold period.

(d) On the basis of the expressions of interest received, the Nomination Committee shall evaluate the competence and qualifications of the applicants and make a recommendation thereof. Candidates thus applying should have been the member of Amnesty Nepal before they apply.

(e) The Committee's formation, duties, and responsibilities shall be as prescribed.

10.2 Eligibility and Ineligibility of candidates

(a) Only Amnesty Nepal affiliated Group members who possess the necessary qualification, **and invited general members** 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, is entitled to payment of cash or goods to Amnesty International, and who is a regional, district or central level committee member of any political party 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 for clarification.

10.3 Function, duties and powers of National Board

(a) Implement and cause to be implemented the decisions of the Global Assembly and International Board of Amnesty International and International Secretariat (IS).

(b) Formulate and implement programmes as per the policy determined by the General Meeting.

(c) Monitor the administrative, financial, resource management and campaigns of Amnesty Nepal.

(d) Constitute an advisory committee of a maximum of three members to give necessary advice to the National Board.

(e) Form various sub-committees and special committee(s) as per the special needs of the organization, and designate its function, duties and powers.

(f) Formulate and implement necessary rule, regulations, by-laws and guidelines for the functioning of Amnesty Nepal.

(g) 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.

(h) 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.

(i) Carrying out other tasks as prescribed.

10.4 The function, duties and powers of the Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary, Treasurer and Members

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 the need to other office-bearers and members, and
- (e) Carry out other designated task.

(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 task.

(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 take active part 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.

10.5 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 NEC.
- (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.

10.6 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.

10.7 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 nominate one from among the elected National Board members to the post 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 if Amnesty Nepal.
- (c) While appointing for the vacant posts, it shall be ensured that only one officials can be appointed from a Group.

11. Appeals Committee

- (1) The General Meeting shall elect along with the election of the National Board a three-member Appeals Committee comprising a coordinator and two members including a woman member from among the members of Amnesty Nepal affiliated Group. The committee will listen to appeals on matters of dissolution of Groups and annulment 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 NEC.

12. 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.

13. Groups, Groups-in-formation

13.1 Constitution of Group-in-formation

A minimum of 50 individuals, together, in any location of Nepal can apply for constituting Amnesty Nepal Group-in-formation, which can be approved by the National Board. 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.

13.2 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 50 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 recognition of the Group within a maximum of two years.

13.3 Group Executive Committee

- (a) The Groups and Groups-in-formation must convene their annual general meeting as prescribed every year. They should also elect new executive committee every two years.
- (b) Groups and Groups-in-formation can form 7 to 11 member executive committee as convenient to them.
 - (1) Such executive committee shall be elected from the annual general meeting of the Groups and Groups-in-formation,
 - (2) The annual general meeting will elect coordinator, treasurer and members,
 - (3) From among the elected executive members, the executive committee may appoint vice-coordinator, secretary and deputy secretary as required.
- (c) There should be minimum 33% women in the executive board.
- (d) The term of the executive committee shall be for two years.

13.4 Functions, duties and powers of the Group

- (1) Every Group and Group-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.
- (2) The Executive Committee of the Groups and Groups-in-formation must meet minimum four times in a year.
- (3) The Annual General Meeting of the Group must be held every year.

- (4) The Groups must conduct at least three public events in a year in accordance with the Amnesty Nepal's National Strategic Goal and Amnesty International policy.
- (5) The Group should maintain its accounts regularly.
- (6) The Group 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.
- (7) It must increase its membership.
- (8) For managing the Groups and Groups-in-formation, fund-raising should be done autonomously by adhering to the fund-raising policy of Amnesty International.

13.5 The National Board shall not be responsible for providing any grant or loan to the Group or Group-in-formation, and will not be liable to the payment of grant or loan taken by the Group or Group-in-formation.

13.6 Group dissolution:

- (a) The National Board can take a decision, after fulfilling the necessary procedures, to dissolve the Groups that have not fulfilled the criteria and procedures to continue maintaining the affiliation as an Amnesty Group.
- (b) National Board can approve for a merger request from Groups that have not fulfilled the prescribed criteria.

14. Youth Network

14.1 Formation of Youth Network

If a group of 50 youths residing anywhere in Nepal apply for the membership of Youth Network, National Board can approve of their request. For the recognition of a youth network,

- a) The aspirants should present the grounds to demonstrate they would be able and committed to undertake the human rights campaigns of Amnesty International,
- b) They should have fulfilled other criteria as prescribed.

14.2 Management and dissolution of Youth Networks:

- a) The management and dissolution of youth networks shall be as prescribed.

Part-5

Financial provisions

15. 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.
- 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.

16. 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.

17. 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

18. Statute amendment

- (1) If deemed necessary, the National Board or any Group of Amnesty Nepal following decision of the Group can register an amendment proposal before the National Board, and such statute amendment proposal can be tabled before the General Meeting by the National Board.
- (2) The statute amendment proposal tabled by the Group must be approved by the Executive Committee or General Meeting of the Group 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 21 days before the beginning of the General Meeting.
- (5) In the statute amendment proposal received from the Group, the NEC, 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.

Section-7 Miscellaneous

19. No confidence motion

(1) 25 per cent of the total number of Amnesty Nepal Groups 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 in the following conditions:

(a) If worked against the mandate of the organization.

(b) If acted against the interest of the organization.

The Secretariat must summon an emergency meeting of the National Council within 45 days for discussion on the no-confidence motion after such a resolution has been registered. If the National Council 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 National Council, then the NEC or Appeal Committee shall be dissolved, and a new National Board or Appeal Committee shall be elected from the same assembly.

(4) The no-confidence motion cannot be registered for more than once in a year.

20. 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.

21. Dissolution of the organization

(1) Only two-thirds majority of the members of the Amnesty Nepal National Council 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 consent of the International Board.

22. 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.

23. Annulment and Protection

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

♣ END ♣

