



2021

GLOBAL ASSEMBLY

MEETING DECISIONS REPORT



DECISION 1

Reforming Amnesty International's Global Governance

The Global Assembly instructs the International Board to urgently start a process to evaluate and simplify our global governance model and propose relevant changes to the Statute and Global Governance Regulations. To do this, the scope of the evaluation, based on verifiable data, will include:

- Reviewing the 2017 governance reform and associated governance cycle.
- Reviewing the advantages and disadvantages of different meeting models (virtual, in-person and hybrid).
- Reviewing the frequency and role of the Global Assembly meeting and related bodies
- Analysing the financial and ecological costs of different meeting models.
- Analysing the digital divide and its impact on participation, inclusion and democracy, as well as possibilities to remedy this divide.
- Examining the impact of the governance cycle on well-being of staff and volunteers.



57 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **4** against. The motion was approved.



DECISION 2

Core Standards

The Global Assembly instructs the International Board to review the Core Standards and present a simplified, revised set of Core Standards and assessment process for approval at the 2022 Global Assembly meeting

- To make the standards inclusive, accessible, and meaningful for all;
- Ensuring the Core Standards serve to motivate all Amnesty entities to aspire to organisational excellence;
- Recognising that collective responsibility for full implementation of the Core Standards will improve governance and strengthen mutual accountability across the Movement;
- Identifying opportunities for alignment with existing accountability and reporting mechanisms to support the delivery of Amnesty International's mission and strategy;
- Recognising that a review of the Core Standards is a collaborative and integrated endeavour between the International Secretariat (IS), Amnesty International entities and the International Board
- Giving practical recommendations to build and strengthen the capacity of Amnesty International entities and ensure they receive appropriate support and feedback from the IS

61 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **1** against. The motion was approved.



DECISION 3

Equitable Distribution Of Financial Resources

The Global Assembly instructs the International Board (Board) to form a multidisciplinary working group to discuss the Movement's income and investment and increase the percentage of the RAM in relation to the total income of the international Movement. The increase should consider the following principles:

Increase the RAM percentage as a proportion of the gross income of the Movement from the current level of 4.2%.

Increase the RAM budget in line with Movement Income increases but should not decrease from current levels.

The significant increase in RAM should begin by 2022 and continue progressively, with the aim of guaranteeing our impact on the implementation of the Global Strategy.



58 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **4** against. The motion was approved.



DECISION 4

The Distribution Model

The Global Assembly decides to amend the Distribution Model with effect from 1 January 2023 as follows:

➤ Introduce a cap on the amount of fundraising expenditure that can be deducted in the assessable income calculation used to determine assessment contributions. Deductible fundraising expenditure is capped at 35% of all gross income generated in the current financial year.

➤ Fundraising Investment Fund grants or loans are excluded from the fundraising cost cap.

➤ In exceptional circumstances entities can apply for an exemption to the fundraising cost cap if their entity is leveraging extraordinary fundraising growth opportunities, or to recover from or prevent poor financial health of a national entity.



53 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **9** against. The motion was approved.



DECISION 5

Developing A Policy On Taxation, Inequality And Human Rights

The Global Assembly instructs the International Board to start developing a policy on taxation, inequality and human rights. The policy should address, at the minimum, regressive tax regimes, loopholes, harmful international tax competition and lack of transparency of tax systems, and link to other human rights policies.



56 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **6** against. The motion was approved.



DECISION 6

Policy On Amnesty's Engagement In Civil Disobedience

The Global Assembly instructs the International Board to adopt a final version of the policy on Amnesty's engagement in civil disobedience to accord with the text of this decision by the end of 2021. It also requests the International Board to ensure that the policy defines the circumstances in which it may be appropriate for Amnesty International to organize, facilitate, participate or endorse an act of civil disobedience.

And further calls on the International Board to ensure the policy is grounded on the following key principles:

- 1) Commitment to non-violence and in line with Amnesty's core values.
- 2) Strategic, necessary and calculated risk.
- 3) Based on Amnesty's assessment of the human rights situation.
- 4) Responsibility to the participants.
- 5) Due diligence towards partners and rights holders.
- 6) Prior and informed consent.
- 7) Adequate and appropriate training.
- 8) Responsibility for acts of civil disobedience.





The Global Assembly

Further calls on the International Board to ensure the policy includes clear guidance as to Amnesty's possible engagement in international civil disobedience and mass civil disobedience



Decides that if an entity is considering the participation of people below the age of 18 in an act of civil disobedience, they must first have in place a child safeguarding policy that specifically addresses civil disobedience by children and includes a process to obtain children's informed consent

53 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **8** against. The motion was approved.



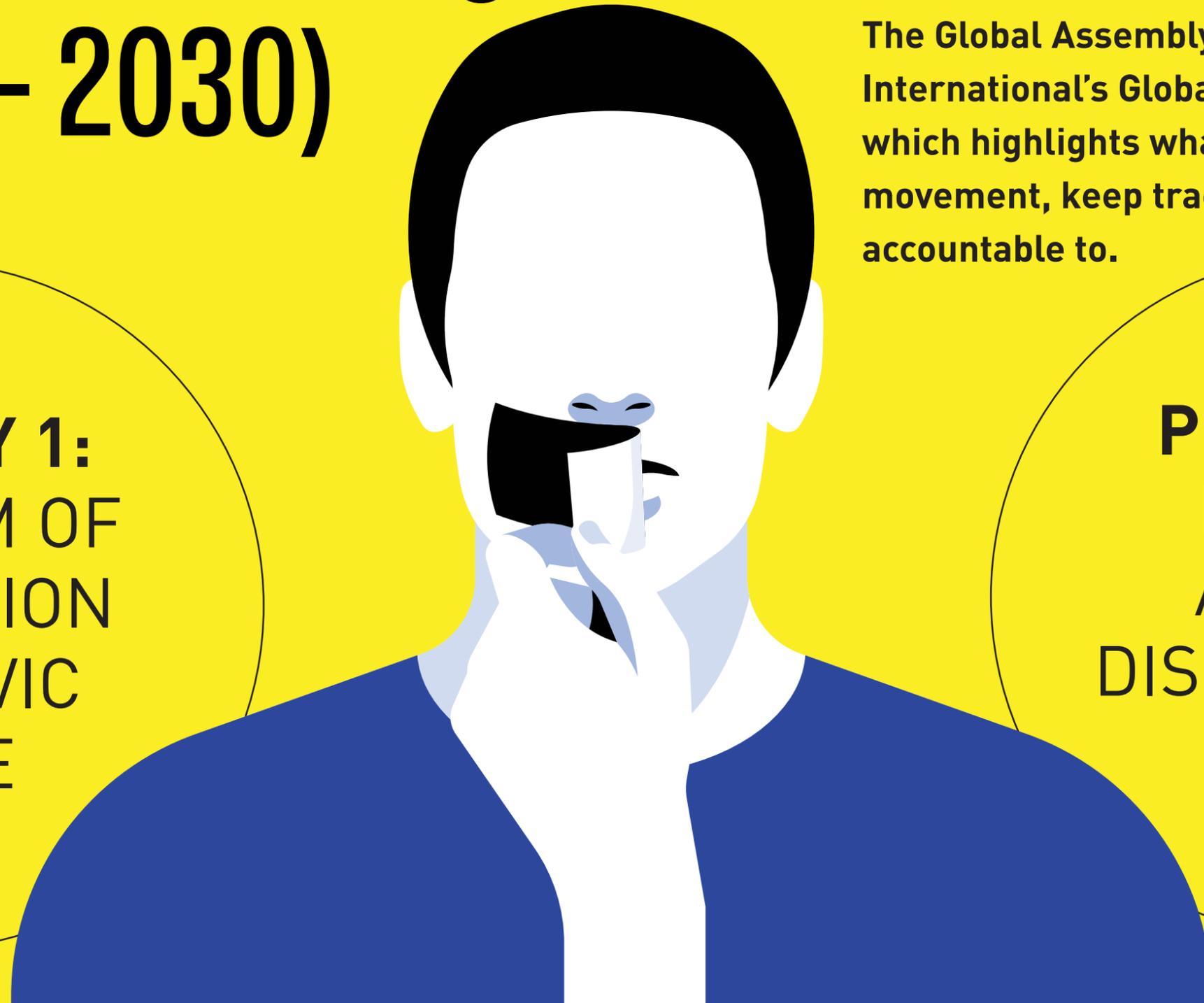
DECISION 7

AI's Global Strategic Framework (2022 – 2030)

The Global Assembly approves Amnesty International's Global Strategic Framework, which highlights what we will prioritise as a movement, keep track of and hold ourselves accountable to.

PRIORITY 1:
FREEDOM OF
EXPRESSION
AND CIVIC
SPACE

PRIORITY 2:
EQUALITY
AND NON-
DISCRIMINATION





Flexible areas of work

In addition to work on Global Priorities 1 and 2, Amnesty International entities may work on long standing human rights issues and/or in response to other pressing local human rights concerns, and always in compliance with Amnesty International's policies.

Common lenses

Individuals and communities at risk, intersectionality and gender-mainstreaming, corporate accountability, including for the technology sectors

Investment of Resources

The entire Amnesty movement will commit to work on both priorities. 80% of each entity's resources for human rights work will be invested in the two priorities on work relevant to their context and globally, including by sustaining and developing capabilities in such areas as campaigning, advocacy, communications and human rights education (HRE).

In addition, each entity will devote up to 20% of its resources for human rights work to the flexible areas of work and pressing issues most relevant to their context – always in compliance with Amnesty's policies.



Monitoring progress, measuring impact and being accountable

We will assess our human rights impact under the 2022-2030 Strategic Framework by monitoring our progress against concrete targets on an annual basis in line with 2021 GA Decision 11.

Growing our resources and income

Major shifts in Amnesty's culture, such as opening the access to multilateral sources for other areas of work than HRE, must be approved by the GA.

62 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **0** against. The motion was approved.



DECISION 8

Feminist Leadership

The Global Assembly instructs the International Board to initiate a time-bound process to identify key principles of feminist leadership that Amnesty will adopt in line with the commitment to “invest in feminist leadership and build trust and power sharing between and across generations” as stated in the Global Strategic Framework. The process will also address operationalisation including resource allocation. The International Board will present the proposed key principles on feminist leadership for Amnesty International to the Global Assembly in 2022.

61 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **1** against. The motion was approved.



DECISION 9

Anti-Racism



The Global Assembly instructs the International Board to establish a more explicit commitment to racial justice and anti-racism in the AI Global Strategic Framework.

This should include, but not be limited to these changes:

1. Page 6. Priority 2: Outcome 2.1. Add “racial” after “gender” in the heading, so that reads

“Outcome 2.1. Promoting gender, racial, and intersectional justice.

2. Add the following footnote to heading Outcome 2.1 so that it reads

“Outcome 2.1. Promoting gender, racial², and intersectional justice.

3. Make the following changes (deletions in strike through and additions in italics) to the substance of Outcome 2.1 so that it reads

“States have laws, policies and practices in place that advance equality of opportunity substantive equality and public participation for those otherwise subjected to multiple, intersecting forms of discrimination, and dismantle systems of oppression and promote justice for those who have been historically affected; non-discriminatory enjoyment of sexual and reproductive health and rights is increased ...

4. Page 6. Priority 2: Outcome 2.1 Add “racism” after “protections from” in the text so that it reads **...prevention of and protections from racism, gender-based violence and other hate crimes...**



5. Page 8. Part VII: Common lenses: Add “and anti-racism” at the end of the second “Common Lens”, so that it reads

“Intersectionality, gender-mainstreaming, and anti-racism”.

6. Page 10. Section VIII.A. (Strengthening our core capabilities). Add “racial justice” in bullet 3 after “thematic areas such as” so that it reads

“methods of research into corporate actors, economic and social rights, and in the newer thematic areas such as racial justice, digital technologies”

7. Page 10. Section VIII.A. (Strengthening our core capabilities).

Add “anti-racism” in bullet point 4 “meeting our commitments to” so that it reads

“meeting our commitments to intersectionality, gender mainstreaming, and anti- racism”

8. Page 13. Section VIII.C. (Enhancing our work with partners).

Under the subheading “Diversity”, add “racial” between “gender” and “social” and “intersectional” between “climate” and “justice” after “working for” so that it reads

Specifically with those working for equality, non-discrimination and for gender, racial social, climate, and intersectional justice.



61 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **1** against. The motion was approved.



DECISION 10

The Distribution Of Resources Over AI's Global Priorities And Its Flexible Areas Of Work

The Global Assembly Decides:

To delete from the Global Strategic Framework 2022 -2030 (POL 50/3639/2021; page 9):

The entire Amnesty movement (national entities and the International Secretariat) will commit to work on both global priorities. 80% of each entity's resources for human rights work will be invested in the two Global Priorities including by sustaining and developing capabilities in such areas as campaigning, advocacy, communications and Human Rights Education.

And replace it by the following text: The entire Amnesty movement (national entities, and the International Secretariat) will commit to work on both global priorities. Each entity will dedicate 80% of its resources for human rights to the two Global Priorities, including by sustaining and developing capabilities in such areas as campaigning, advocacy, communications and Human Rights Education, or explain why it does not comply with this commitment and indicate a clear time frame regarding the non-compliance (the process for that has to be manageable for entities with very limited resources).



To delete from the Global Strategic Framework 2022 – 2030 (POL 50/3639/2021; page 9): Any and all restricted income will need to align with 80/20% two-tier approach. Priority will be given to raising restricted income which corresponds to Global Priorities. In addition, any restricted income raised for flexible areas will need to respect the 20% threshold.



And replace it by the following text: Restricted income will be aimed to align with the 80/20% two-tier approach. Priority will be given to raising restricted income which corresponds to Global Priorities. Entities that do not comply with this commitment will explain their reasons and indicate a clear time frame regarding the non-compliance (the process for that has to be manageable for entities with very limited resources). 44 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, 16 against. The motion was approved.

61 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **1** against. The motion was approved.



DECISION 11

Review Of The Implementation Of The Next Global Strategic Framework

The Global Assembly decides that

It will review the implementation
of the Global Strategic Framework
2022 – 2030 in 2025 and 2028



These reviews will be based
on implementation review
reports timely provided by
the International Board to
the Global Assembly (GA),
respectively covering
the period 2022 – 2024
and 2025 – 2027



The implementation review reports shall, inter alia, include

- > an assessment of progress on the outcomes under the Priority Goals in the GSF
- > an assessment of progress in the flexible areas of work as mentioned in the GSF
- > a progress report on strengthening core capabilities as identified in the GSF
- > major or emerging external and internal trends and developments that result in new opportunities or threats for the further implementation of the GSF
- > recommendations to the GA for adjustments of the GSF, including Priority Goals and flexible areas of work, and their budgetary consequences and operationalization

And further Instructs the International Board to

- > Present, at the latest well before the GA's regular meeting in 2023, draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the 2025 review to the GA for approval
- > Ensure adequate representation of sections and structures in the review process
- > Ensure adequate involvement of external independent expertise in the review process.

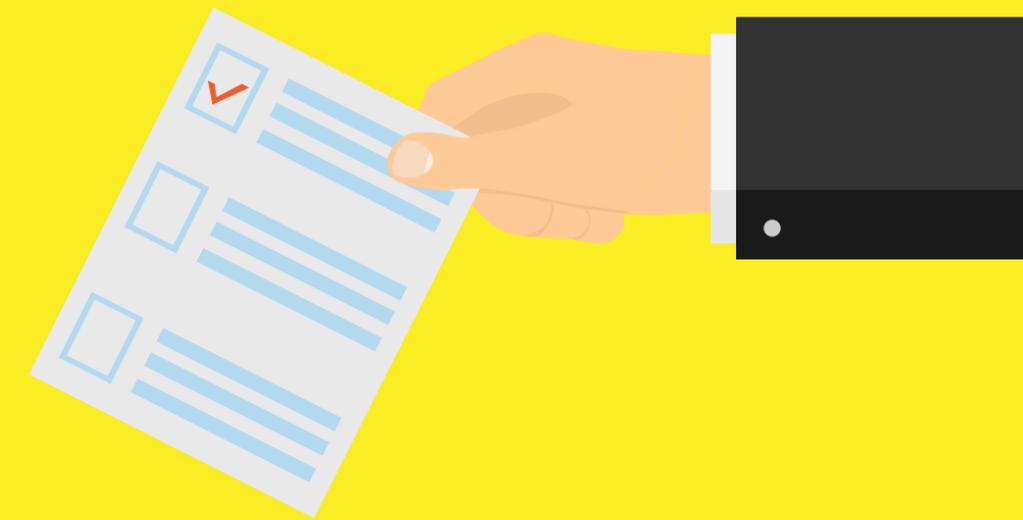


48 standing representatives were in favour of the motion, **14** against. The motion was approved.

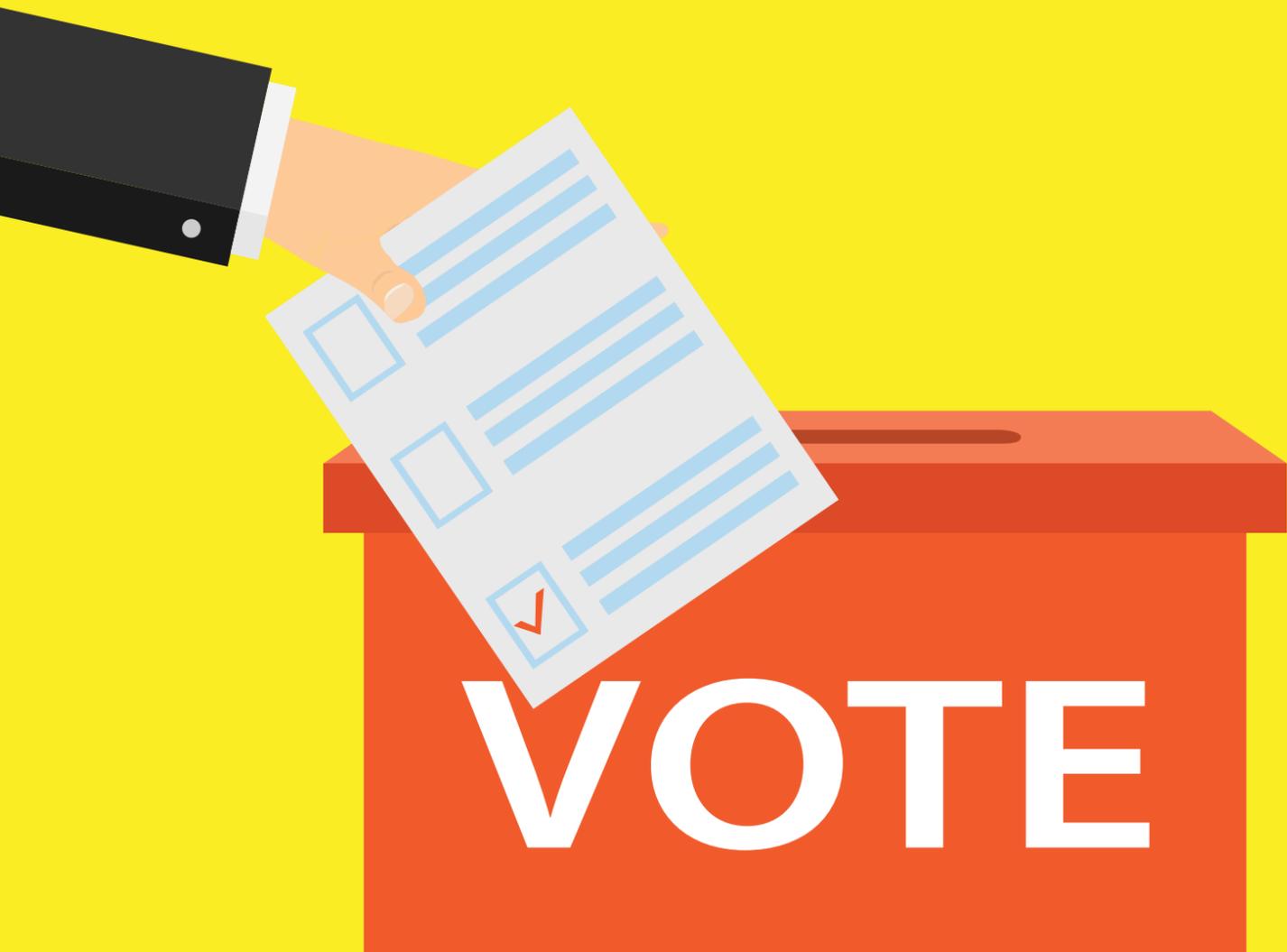


Outcomes of Elections to International Positions

The GA's vote on the elections to internationally elected positions took place on 23 –29 August. 60 standing representatives participated in the vote.



Outcomes of the 2021 GA's vote on elections to international positions.



> **Global Assembly and Preparatory Committee Chair (affirmative vote):**
Ruth Breddal (55 votes).

> **Global Assembly Preparatory Committee members (affirmative votes):**
Lana Verran (51 votes),
Rosslyn Noonan (50 votes),
Christel Vacelet (50 votes).

> **International Board:**
Renee Ngama (48 votes),
Nina Boel (42 votes),
Fabiola Arce (30 votes),
Mandeep Singh (30 votes)

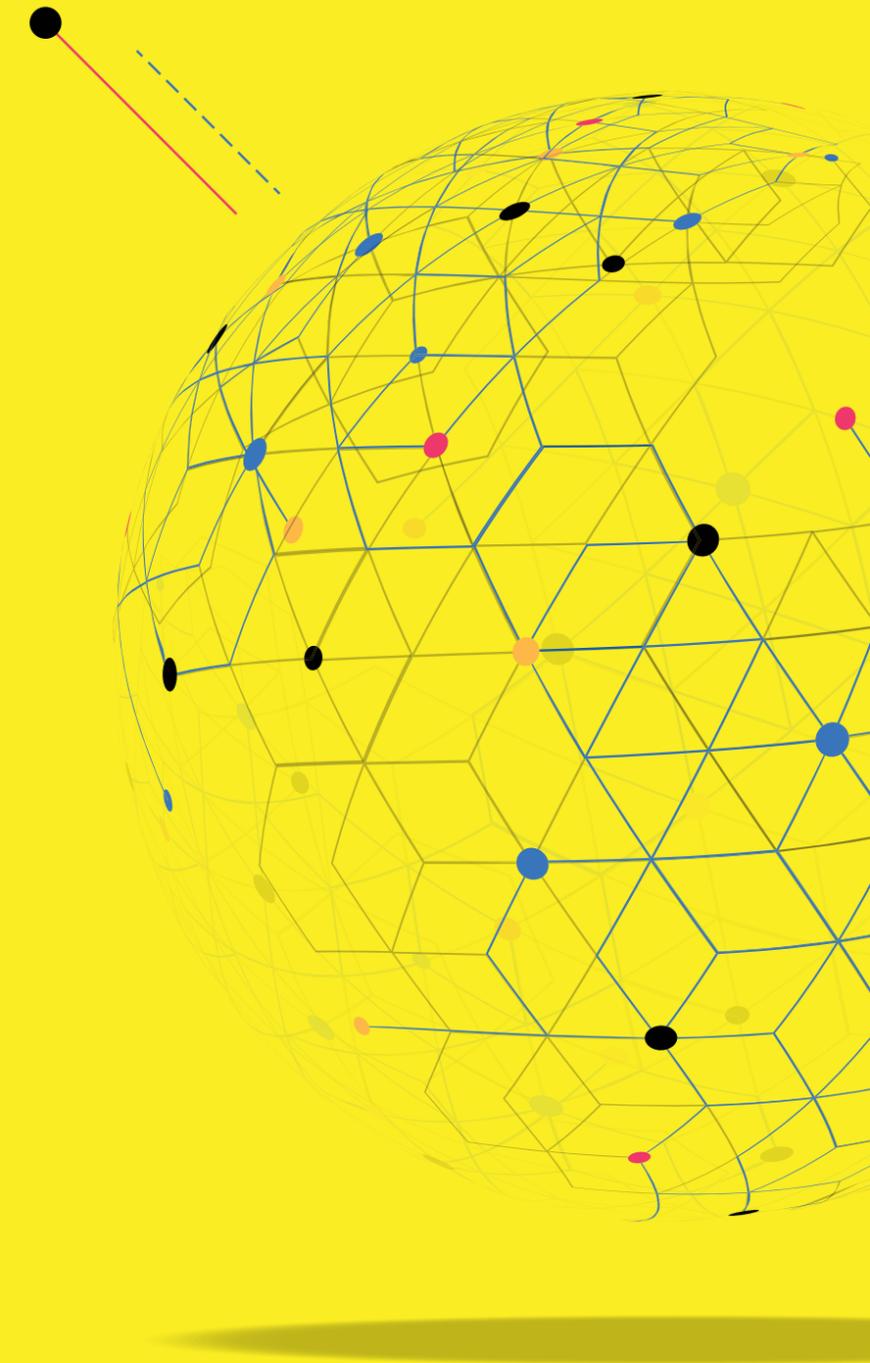
> **International Nominations Committee:**
Manu Gaspar
(45 votes – elected),
Marjorie Vazquez Roldan
(41 votes – elected)



Summary of GA's Participation

The total number of standing representatives per region is as follows:

Region	Total number of standing representatives in this region
Africa	9
Americas	13
Asia Pacific	11
Europe	27
MENA	4
International Membership	1
Total number of standing representatives	65





GA's Vote On Rejected Proposals For A Motion Under Appeal

The total number of standing representatives who participated in the vote was 38 (59% of all standing representatives). The percentage of standing representatives from each region who participated in the vote:

Region	Percentage of all standing representatives from that region who participated
Africa	22%
Americas	50%
Asia Pacific	82%
Europe	77%
MENA	25%
The international membership was not represented in the vote.	





GA's Vote On Formal Business

The total number of standing representatives who participated in the vote was 26 (58% of all eligible standing representatives). The percentage of standing representatives from each region who participated in the vote:

Region

Percentage of all standing representatives from that region who participated

Africa

25%

Americas

40%

Asia Pacific

75%

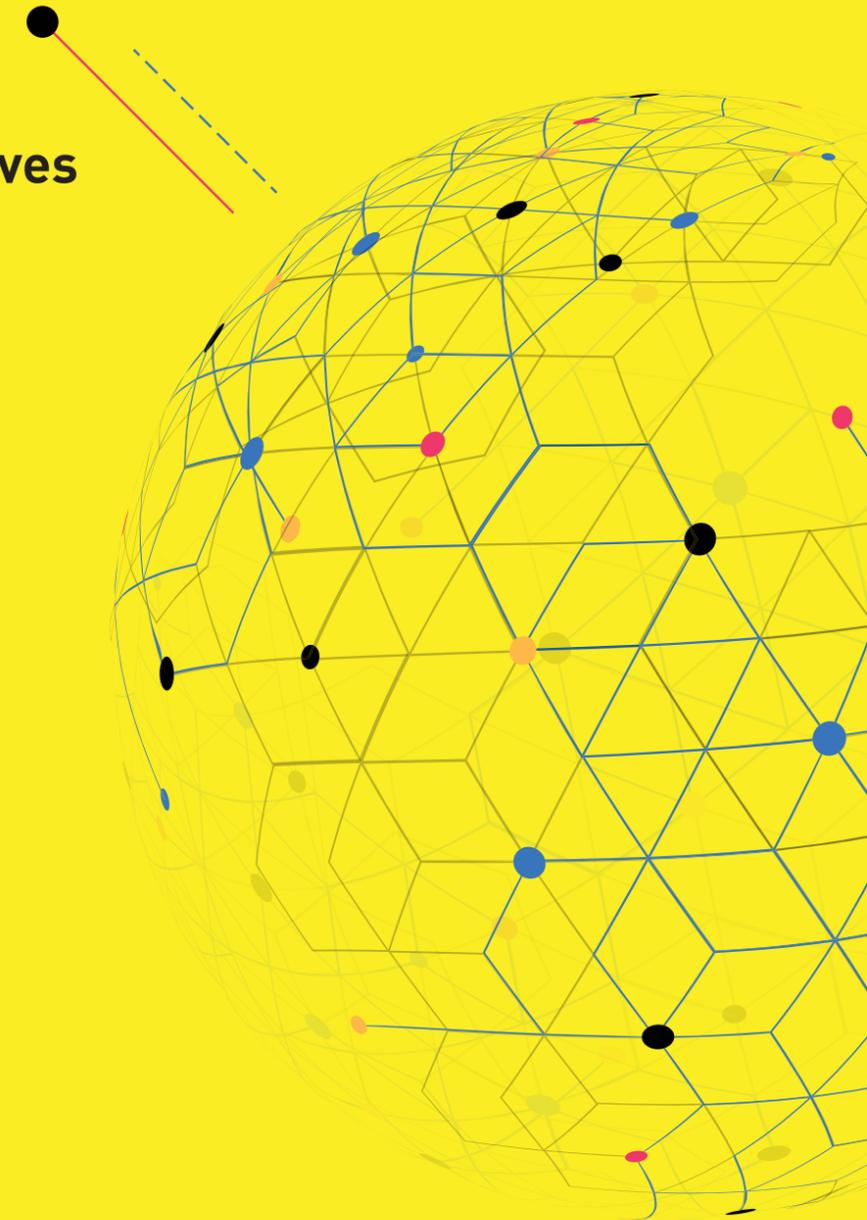
Europe

59%

MENA

100%

The international membership was not represented in the vote.





GA's Vote On Elections To International Positions

The total number of standing representatives who participated in the vote was 60 (92% of all standing representatives). The percentage of standing representatives from each region who participated in the vote:

Region

Percentage of all standing representatives from that region who participated

Africa

89%

Americas

85%

Asia Pacific

100%

Europe

96%

MENA

75%

The international membership was represented in the vote.





Participation In The GA Meeting

The total number of standing representatives (or their proxies) who participated in the meeting was 62 (96% of all standing representatives). The percentage of standing representatives (or their proxies) from each region who participated in the GA Meeting:

Region	Percentage of all standing representatives from that region who participated
Africa	89%
Americas	92%
Asia Pacific	100%
Europe	100%
MENA	75%
The international membership was represented in the vote.	

