

Meeting opened at 11:05am

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES**

**A. Attendance**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Proxy</u>
President	Sebastian Schultz	
Treasurer:	Sidratul Ahmed	
Secretary:	Natasha Tiong	
Education (Public Affairs):	John Nguyen	
Education (Academic Affairs):	Paris Enten	
Activities:	Andrew McGaw	Absent
CLA:	Che Kudagamage	Absent
Welfare:	Stuart Gibson	
Indigenous:	John Sopar	
Environment & Social Justice:	Louis Walmsley	
Women's:	Vicky Kwong	Megan Kong
Queer:	Oli Shemmell	
Disabilities & Carers:	Isabella RH	Absent
People of Colour:	Desna Ramjee	Absent
Res Community Department:	Katya Spiller	
MUISS:	Bhumija Sakpal	Absent
MAPS:	Vick Arjuna	Masum Bin Khalil
Clubs & Societies:	Arjun Girish	
Radio Monash:	Nick Lazzara	Sarah Stancombe
General Representative:	Isabelle Cummane	
General Representative:	Pranami Gamage	Absent
General Representative:	Sadman Arafat	Absent
General Representative:	Tippi Morgan	Absent
General Representative:	Mahzarin Katrak	
Observers:	Zoe Bartholomeusz	

**B. Acknowledgment of traditional owners of land**

This MSC acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong peoples of the Kulin nations as the original and ongoing owners and custodians of this land. The MSA commits itself to actively fight alongside Indigenous peoples for reconciliation and justice for all Indigenous Australians.

**C. Confirmation of Agenda Order**

Confirmed

**D. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

**Motion #1:**

This MSC confirms [Minutes 6/23](#) to be the true and accurate recording of the proceedings.

**Moved:** Mahzarin Katrak      **Seconded:** Sidratul Ahmed

**For:** 16

**Against:**

**Abstentions:**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**E. Office Bearer and Divisional Reports**

<a href="#">President</a>
<a href="#">Secretary</a>
<a href="#">Treasurer</a>
<a href="#">Activities</a>
<a href="#">CLA</a>

**Motion #2:**

This MSC accepts all submitted Office Bearer and Divisional Reports en bloc.

**Moved:** Natasha Tiong      **Seconded:** Arjun Girish

**For:** 16

**Against:**

**Abstentions:**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

## F. Motion on the Australian Climate Crisis

Preamble: With growing numbers of climate catastrophes around the globe, the need for rapid action has never been more pressing. These disasters, as well as their contributing factors, are disproportionately likely to affect indigenous populations around the globe. Governments across the globe must act and undertake meaningful steps to affect change. In light of these facts, in 2021 Uncle Pabai and Uncle Paul, Elders from the Torres Strait, brought a case against the Federal Government of Australia for failing to ‘protect people from climate harm’, as the islands of the Torres Strait face the effects of climate change, damaging Country and displacing communities, severing 65,000 years of connection. Through this case, the Uncles argue that the Federal Government has a duty of care to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and to take ‘reasonable care’ to protect Torres Strait Islanders, along with all Australians, from the effects of climate change.

In June, the court went to Cairns and the islands of the Torres Strait, in order to see firsthand the effects of climate change in these areas, and to hear firsthand accounts from local communities.

The case is being supported by the Urgenda Foundation, who in 2015-2019 successfully helped the people of the Netherlands take their government to court for also failing to adequately take steps to counter climate change. As a result, the government was ordered by the courts to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions within 5 years.

With the NAIDOC Week theme for this year being For Our Elders, and the Reconciliation Week theme being Be A Voice for Generations, Indigenous and ally solidarity has never been more important, as Indigenous Australians face a pivotal moment in history. MSA support for this case would be a show of support for both the climate crisis and Indigenous peoples.

### **Motion #3:**

This MSC stands in solidarity with Uncle Pabai and Uncle Paul in their case against the Australian Federal government.

This MSC acknowledges the disproportionate impact that climate change and its contributing factors have on Indigenous communities and stands in support of all of Australia’s First Peoples.

The MSA, led by MSA Indigenous, will facilitate a contingent to the court hearings in Naarm, to show support and solidarity for the Uncles in their case for climate action. Details will be released once dates are confirmed, shared via MSA Indigenous social media.

**Moved:** John Sopar                      **Seconded:** Louis Walmsley

**For:** 16

**Against:**

**Abstentions:**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Sebastian called for speakers, to which there was no response. The MSC went straight into a vote and showed unanimous support with Indigenous communities in this monumental case against the Federal Government.*

**G. General Business**

*No general business.*

**Meeting Closed at 11:15am**