

## **AAM Board Report 2025**

**AAM Summit, Sunday 2 November 2025**

***Assalamu Alaikom Wa Rahmatu Allahe Wa Barakatuh,***

This past year has been one of immense challenge and determined effort for the Australian Muslim community. Amid the ongoing genocide in Gaza, rising Islamophobia, and growing challenges to the Islamic identity of our youth, the **Alliance of Australian Muslims (AAM)** has continued to serve as the national platform uniting leadership, strengthening institutions, advocating for justice, and representing Australian Muslims with integrity and professionalism.

Our mission remains to **serve Islam, preserve the Islamic identity and integrity of Muslims, and advocate for the interests of the community**, seeking the pleasure of Allah and following the path of His Messenger (PBUH).

### **1) Board Activity**

The AAM Board held regular meetings throughout 2024–2025, combining online and in-person sessions with **strong participation and discussions**. Board discussions focused on improving efficiency, strengthening national representation, and enhancing operational delivery. A part-time General Manager was appointed to oversee operations and implementation.

-**The** board endorsed a new board structure and direction to be adopted at this year's Summit. This includes reducing the board size to be more efficient and agile and supporting an Operations Committee that can execute the board's goals and vision.

### **2) Membership and Community Engagement**

AAM continues to grow as a national representative body, with more than **260 grassroots, mainstream Muslim organisations** from every state and territory.

Through consultations and national leadership forums, AAM strengthened collaboration, built unity of purpose, and fostered shared advocacy on issues affecting the Muslim community. The emphasis remains on inclusivity, professionalism, and working collectively for the common good.

### **3) Political Engagement and Advocacy**

This was a federal election year, and the AAM continued to engage constructively with all political parties, government departments, and decision-makers to advance the rights, safety, and well-being of Australian Muslims. The organisation continued its efforts to protect **religious freedom, combat vilification laws**, combat **Islamophobia**, and advocate for greater fairness in media and policy representation.

On **Palestine** and the **war on Gaza**, AAM advocated for and welcomed the Australian Government's recognition of the **State of Palestine** as an essential and overdue step toward justice. However, we continue to call for stronger action — including **condemnation and sanctions** against Israel, and accountability under international law for ongoing war crimes and occupation.

AAM's advocacy has extended to law-reform submissions supporting the inclusion of **religion as a protected attribute** under anti-discrimination legislation, and opposing provisions that leave faith communities vulnerable. Community education on civic participation and political literacy was expanded through **training and awareness workshops** delivered nationally.

The AAM commends the continued activity in raising awareness of the genocide in Gaza and the plight of the Palestinian people, including the momentous protest across the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

#### **4) Media Engagement and Public Representation**

AAM continued to build a **unified, professional voice** in media and public discourse. Through joint statements, coordinated responses, and partnerships with like-minded organisations, AAM formally raised issues of bias, misinformation, and misrepresentation of Islam and Muslims.

Media monitoring processes were expanded, and a dedicated communications function was established to track coverage, file complaints, and engage with journalists constructively. AAM aims to train and support a new generation of **Muslim spokespeople**, equipping them with the skills to represent the community confidently and professionally.

The AAM has also engaged and built rapport with organisations such as the **Australian Press Council** to communicate our concerns about how Islam and Muslims are portrayed and channels/avenues available for engagement.

#### **5) National Programs and Community Tools**

AAM continues to deliver initiatives that empower the community and strengthen collaboration across Australia, including:

- **National Muslim Community Iftar (with ANIC):** This landmark annual event unites Imams and community leaders, fosters national solidarity, and stands together for Palestine during Ramadan. More than 300 Muslim community leaders and representatives attended the Iftar, which was held at the Waterview in Sydney.
- **Campaigns Tool:** A digital mechanism enabling community members to contact decision-makers through pre-formatted advocacy messages on key issues.
- **New Muslims Network:** A national framework connecting organisations that support new Muslims, sharing resources and referral systems to enhance service delivery.
- **The Muslim Central Directory:** An online directory showcasing Muslim organisations, classes, services, and events across Australia.

## **6) Partnership with ANIC and Complementary Mandates**

**AAM** and the **Australian National Imams Council (ANIC)** continue to work closely, each within its defined mandate and expertise.

- **ANIC** serves as the national religious authority, providing religious leadership, rulings, and guidance, and uniting Imams and religious leaders nationwide.
- **AAM** serves as the national platform for political advocacy, media engagement, capacity building, and training and development activities.

This cooperation ensures unity of voice and purpose. Together, AAM and ANIC have coordinated advocacy on Palestine, Islamophobia, community safety, and public representation.

## **7) Muslim Community Fund**

The **Muslim Community Fund** — a joint initiative of ANIC and AAM — has progressed significantly, providing a sustainable funding model for national priorities such as:

- Preserving Islamic identity and faith education
- Media engagement and advocacy
- Community outreach, mentorship, and political participation
- Legal and institutional support for Muslims across Australia

The Muslim Community Fund is designed to professionalise key national functions, ensuring continuity and sustainability while reducing reliance on voluntary work. The Muslim Community Fund Board has been appointed, comprising three representatives from AAM, three from ANIC, and two independent members, with the two board meetings being held. Governance frameworks and future funding streams are now being finalised, including a marketing strategy to promote and raise funds.

## **8) Combating Islamophobia and anti- Muslim hate, and Strengthening Safety**

AAM remains committed to standing against Islamophobia, anti-Muslim hate, and anti-Palestinian sentiment through awareness, education, and coordinated action.

We have supported victims of hate, challenged false narratives, and worked with government agencies and like-minded partners to promote mutual respect.

AAM also advocated for and supported national safety and security programs for mosques, schools, and community institutions, ensuring Muslims can live, worship, and serve safely and confidently.

## **9) Preserving Islamic Identity**

Preserving Islamic identity remains a key issue within the community for current and future generations closely. Working closely with ANIC, our long-term vision is to safeguard faith,

values, and culture for generations to come by strengthening family, youth, and community foundations.

This includes nurturing confident, informed, and proud young Muslims through mentorship, education, and leadership programs, and promoting the mainstream, authentic understanding of Islam as taught by the Qur'an and Sunnah.

## **10) The Road Ahead**

In the year ahead, AAM will prioritise:

- A new board, new direction and goals, and the establishment of the Operations committee to deliver the AAM's goals and vision.
- Strengthening national coordination and unity among member organisations.
- Scaling advocacy and media presence through trained spokespeople and digital tools.
- Expanding the reach of the Muslim Community Fund.
- Community leadership development, including programs to give more opportunities for involvement by youth and women in leadership.
- Enhancing cooperation between religious, social, and organisational leadership.
- Support Muslim organisations in capacity building.

AAM remains steadfast in representing Islam and Australian Muslims with integrity, professionalism, and faith.

## **11) Gratitude and Closing**

We extend our sincere gratitude to all the outgoing **AAM Board members, member organisations, Imams and scholars, community leaders, youth and women's representatives**, and **volunteers** across Australia for your dedication and service. Your collaboration has strengthened our unity and amplified our collective voice for justice, equality, and the preservation of Islam in this country.

**The Alliance of Australian Muslims remains committed to unity, justice, and preserving the Islamic identity of all Australian Muslims, today and for generations to come.**

Thank you, and Jazakom Allahu Khairan.

**Khalid Mousa**  
AAM Secretary-General Manager  
**On behalf of the AAM Board**  
2 November 2025