**Student General Meeting**

21 August 2025 at 1pm

Main Common Room

Agenda:

Motion: That Otago University Students Association, in a binding vote, adopt the attached BDS Movement and Procurement Policy

Preamble: Given that the Otago University Students’ Association (OUSA) is committed to justice, equity, and international human rights.

And the ongoing occupation of Palestine and the treatment of Palestinians has been widely condemned by international human rights organisations as a violation of international law.

And the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement is a non-violent, Palestinian-led campaign that seeks to pressure the Israeli state to comply with international law and uphold the fundamental rights of Palestinians; And OUSA acknowledges that organisations and institutions have a responsibility to ensure their operations do not contribute to human rights abuses or systems of oppression.

And OUSA recognises its purchasing power and platform as a student organisation and believes it should reflect the values of its members.

**Moved: Jett Groshinski Seconded: Luca Schulz**

THAT OUSA formally endorses the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement as a legitimate and necessary form of non-violent resistance to the occupation of Palestine and systemic violations of Palestinian rights.

THAT OUSA commits to a BDS-aligned approach to procurement and investment within its own operations, including a commitment to: - avoiding commercial partnerships, sponsorships, or purchases from companies that - have been credibly and publicly identified as complicit in the occupation, settlement expansion, or surveillance of Palestinians; - and been listed as priority targets by the official BDS campaign - prioritising ethical alternatives where reasonably available, including in areas such as event sponsorship, merchandise, catering, and retail;

THAT OUSA acknowledges that in certain areas — such as the purchase of essential operational equipment (e.g. software) — limited supplier options may exist. In these cases, OUSA will:

consult with BDS movement representatives from the Palestinian Solidarity Network Aotearoa for advice.

maintain transparency about suppliers used.

investigate and pursue ethical alternatives over time; - document efforts to align all procurement with BDS principles wherever feasible.

 4. This policy applies solely to OUSA operations and finances, and does not extend to independent student clubs, the University of Otago, or individuals.