

THE GLOBAL TAILINGS MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

The [Global Tailings Management Institute](#) (GTMI), launched on the 21st of January 2025, has commenced with the task of selecting its future leadership.

Founded by [the United Nations Environment Programme](#) (UNEP), [Principles for Responsible Investment](#) (PRI), and the [International Council on Mining and Metals](#) (ICMM), the GTMI's mandate is to promote widespread adoption and implementation of the [Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management](#) (GISTM), requiring mine operators to take responsibility and prioritise the safety of tailings facilities.

The founding members have worked for six years to ensure the establishment of an industry standard, and the formation of this not-for-profit organisation, with the primary goal of achieving zero harm to people and the environment, with zero tolerance for human fatality.

The organisation which was registered in October 2024, is an independent non-profit organisation and any funds received by this not-for-profit organisation will be used for operating costs or to pursue objectives consistent with the organisation's charter.

Building the Global Tailings Management Institute leadership

On the 30th July 2025, the Global Tailings Management Institute announced the appointment of its [full board](#) consisting of Chair [Mark Cutifani](#), Deputy Chair [Vicente Mello](#), and fellow board members:

[Janis Shandro](#)

[Edson Krenak](#)

[Mutuso Dhliwayo](#)

[John Howchin](#)

[Jacqui Hex](#)

[Jeronimo Covacevich](#)

[Andressa Lanchotti](#)

The GTMI Board is now in the process of hiring key executive positions. Parallel to this, the GTMI Board has announced a [call for applications for the Technical Committee](#).



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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBER

The Technical Committee is constituted as a Committee of the board of Directors of the Global Tailings Management Institute, with all duties assigned to it by the Board. The Committee's primary purpose is to oversee technical issues related to the development and maintenance of conformance audit protocols, the audit and certification process contemplated in the Standard; and to advise the Board on any other technical issues that the Board may delegate to it.

The Technical Committee will be comprised of five – seven members and will include the Chief Technical Officer and two Directors of the Board. Prospective applicants will need to be eligible and qualified to be a director as contemplated in the Companies Act, the Non-Profit Organisations Act, and the [MOI](#).

The members of the Committee must have sufficient qualifications, expertise and experience to fulfil their duties in respect of the range of technical areas covered by the Standard in either: (i) tailings management and/or geotechnical expertise, or (ii) environmental and/or social and community engagement expertise.

Each member of the Committee shall serve for a term of three years, with the possibility of re-election for two further terms of three years each. Retiring Committee members shall be deemed to offer themselves up for re-election and the board may re-elect a retiring Committee member too.

Selection Criteria

Applicants for the Technical Committee positions must:

- Be committed to and possess significant expertise in the essential operations of the GTMI and shall also be committed to the implementation of the Standard by the Operator and support the responsible management of tailings facilities.
- Possess the knowledge and expertise in **mining and tailings facilities**, including responsible tailings management practices and have experience in implementing aspects of the Standard, including: (i) **tailings management and/or geotechnical expertise**, or (ii) **environmental and/or social and community engagement expertise**.



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- Have a minimum of 15 years of relevant experience and qualifications in either (i) tailings management and/or geotechnical expertise, or (ii) environmental and/or social expertise.
- Have a proven history of utilising professional judgement in a manner that is held in high regard by colleagues within their respective industry.
- Undertake to declare any potential conflicts of interest that may arise during their term on the Committee and undertake to comply with the Institute's conflict of interest policy.
- Be willing to serve for a minimum term of three years and shall dedicate sufficient time to fulfil their duties on the Committee.

Application Requirements

As part of the application process, candidates must:

- Indicate their primary area of expertise by selecting from: (i) tailings management, (ii) geotechnical, (iii) environmental, or (iv) social and community engagement aspects.
- If relevant, indicate a secondary area of expertise from the same categories listed above.

Roles and responsibilities

The Technical Committee will:

- Engage closely with the CTO on technical issues within the CTO's areas of responsibility.
- Oversee technical issues related to the audit and certification progress, including accreditation and training programmes, and other relevant matters that may arise.
- Oversee the development of conformance audit protocols which shall be led by the CTO, using the [ICMM Conformance Protocols: Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management \(2021\)](#) as a starting point, recommending such protocols to the Board for approval.
- Guide the interpretation of (or resolving disputed interpretations on) any aspect of the Standard that may be raised by implementing companies, auditors or affected stakeholders, and shall resolve any disputed interpretations with clear reference to the provisions of the Standard in support of such interpretation.



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- Advise the Board on whether the Standard remains fit for purpose or whether some adjustments or revision may be advisable based on criteria to be developed by the Committee e.g. recurring concerns raised by Operators or auditors on aspects of implementation or interpretation, for consideration by the Founding Partners.
- Act in an advisory capacity to the Board on any other technical issues that the Board may delegate or refer to it.

Each member of the Technical Committee will:

- Make sufficient time available to commit to fulfil their duties on the Committee and to advance and progress technical issues considered by the Committee.
- Apply their knowledge and relevant experience and relevant qualifications in either: (i) tailings management and/or geotechnical expertise, or (ii) environmental and/or social expertise, to all Technical Issues considered by the Committee.
- Engage Board members to resolve any concerns that they might have, especially where matters referred to the Committee by the Board are rejected and referred to the Committee for further consideration.
- Respect the views of all persons who provide information to the Committee and share their views and experiences with the Committee.

Participatory Commitments

The Technical Committee will hold sufficient meetings to discharge all its duties, subject to a minimum of four times per year, and any additional meetings may be held at the request of the Chairperson of the Committee or any member of the Board, as required. Technical Committee members must attend all meetings of the Committee, including meetings called on an ad hoc basis for special matters. The Committee will establish an annual work plan for each year to ensure that all relevant matters are covered by the agendas of the meetings planned for the year. The number, timing and length of meetings, and the agendas are to be determined by the annual work plan. Members must comply with the Institutes' conflict of interest policy as developed by the Board, and members must disclose whether they have any conflict of interest in respect of any matter on the agenda.



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Personal Characteristics

- Personal values consistent with the mission of the Global Tailings Management Institute.
- Possessing the utmost professional and personal integrity.
- Excellent coalition-building skills, able to advocate, communicate, and work effectively with internal and external stakeholders.
- Visionary and strategic thinking capabilities, personable demeanour, and executive presence consistent with a highly visible position in the global community.
- Critical thinker who upholds attention to detail, regularly seeks innovative solutions to complex business/technical issues.
- Flexible, with the ability to know when to shift direction and when to be persistent.
- Capable of establishing immediate credibility in the broader community, who is able to build consensus and achieve goals through influence versus direct line authority.
- High-energy, results-oriented leader who must be a self-starter, and able to work with ambiguity.



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Background

On 25 January 2019, a tailings dam disaster in Brazil's Brumadinho claimed 272 lives. This, and other tailings facility failures led to decisive action by ICMM, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the UN-backed Principles for Responsible Investment Corporation (PRI) to make mine tailings facilities safer. Together, they co-convened the Global Tailings Review, and in 2020 developed and published the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (GISTM).

In 2021, a multi-stakeholder, independent advisory panel was created to support and guide the foundation of the Global Tailings Management Institute (GTMI). GTMI was registered as a not-for-profit organisation in October 2024 and was officially launched on the 21st of January 2025.

The core priority of the GTMI is the management of an assurance framework through which tailings facilities will be audited and certified against the GISTM by qualified, independent third-party assessors. The supporting functions of the GTMI are to promote awareness, share knowledge, facilitate updates to Institute disclosures, and disclose summaries of auditing outcomes.



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