



## Aylesbury Amnesty International Group

Monthly Group Meeting, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017, 7.30pm

Friends Meeting House, 9 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury, HP20 2RT

### Present:

Carol Tarrant

Bob Corn

Fran Booth

Annelies Varsey

David Barnard

Katherine Danflous

Henry Mayer-Gross

**Apologies:** Bronwen Lee, Jim Edwards, Sallyann Thilthorpe

**Carol welcomed everyone to the meeting – noting that she had noticed that the ‘Amnesty Tree’ at the rear of the Catholic Church in the High Street has been removed – it did appear to have died; she will contact the Aylesbury Tree Officer to establish what had happened. Fran will inspect the site to see if the Amnesty Plaque is still in the ground adjacent the tree position.**

**Also, Carol noted that she and Bob had taken lunch recently with Benny Wenda, his wife and family, at the home of Sean O’Leary of the Reading Group. Discussions re-an AGM Proposal in respect of West Papua are proceeding.**

1.0 **Previous Minutes** – Agreed.

### 2.0 **Urgent Actions:**

- 2.1 Letters had been prepared in support of Kiryl Kazachok (Belarus); and the Communities around Penã Azul, Chocõ Department in North Western Colombia.
- 2.2 Everyone present signed the letters – Bob to post.
- 2.3 Katherine reported that we had received a reply from Kazaksthan – she will forward it to AIUK.
- 2.4 Carol had sent a letter on behalf of the Group to Indonesia in support of two activists who had been detained.

3.0 **BBC 2 Programme on West Papua** – Katherine and Fran reported on this recent programme.

4.0 **DRC** – Fran reported on news from the DRC, and the apparent lack of any political movement – and the apparent possibility of a coup.

5.0 **David** reported on his recent visit to Welwyn, where he joined with the ‘Hertfordshire welcomes Syrian Refugees’ Group – it was evidently a very full meeting, and he will prepare a written report.

6.0 **AIUK AGM Resolutions** – These will be debated at the forthcoming AIUK AGM and National Conference to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017, at Nottingham University. Our Group’s position on each of the resolutions is recorded as attached Schedule – arrived at after debate on each resolution.

### 7.0 **Any Other Business:**

- 7.1 Noted that Bob had been in touch with Jim Edwards in connection with our Bank Account, paying Jim’s expenses, our own Group affiliation fees, etc., - a meeting soon has been suggested, in the meanwhile Jim will prepare an annual account report for our own AGM.
- 7.2 Noted that since Carol and Bob will be unable to attend the 26<sup>th</sup> April monthly meeting, which was to have been our Group AGM, the AGM will take place on 31<sup>st</sup> May.

8.0 **NEXT MEETING: 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017** at 7.30pm, Friends Meeting House, 9 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury HP20 2RT – David and Katherine will report on the AIUK AGM.

<b>Aylesbury Amnesty International Group - UK AGM Resolution Debate – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – outcome:</b>			
<b>(AIUK AGM Resolution Debate Outcome will be 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017)</b>			
	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Rejected</b>	<b>Comment</b>
	✓	✓	✓
<b>RESOLUTION:</b>			
1 Financial Statements 2016	✓		
2 Appointment of Auditors	✓		
<b>Working Party A – Rules and Process:</b>			
A1 Body of Rules for AIUK			No View
A2 Issue of Amended Resolutions			No View
A3 Written Statements to replace Background Notes to aid proxy voting		✓	One vote, otherwise No View
A4 Proposed change to standing orders if resolution A3 is passed			No View
<b>Working Party B - Campaigns</b>			
B1 Eviction of Chagossian People from British Indian Ocean Territory *		✓	Work Needed! Board opposes.
B2 The Improvement of Standards for detention of Asylum Seekers in theUK	✓		No Show Reports
B3 The Freedom of the Ahmadlyya ‘to manifest their religion in teaching, practice, worship and observance’	✓		
B4 Make the Combatting of homelessness a Priority Campaign	✓		Workshop may amend! Fran’s Comment**
<b>Working Party C – Policies and Reviews</b>			
C1 (S) <b>Special Resolution</b> to amend the Articles of Association - Nominations for elections held at the AGM	✓		
C2 (S) <b>Special Resolution</b> to amend the Articles of Association - Cessation of Membership on Bankruptcy	✓		
C3 AIUK Events	✓		Key AGM Talks should be issued on DVD and You Tube
C4 AIUK Regional Reps		✓	
C5 Amnesty International Policy on ‘Sex Work’		✓	

**S Special Resolution** (Requires 75% majority to pass).

\* Where the Board feel that implementation of a resolution (in part or full) is outside their power, it will be marked with an asterisk.

\*\* Fran’s Comment: Campaign that the homeless can have a point of address, so that they are able to access help which they are denied, or cannot access, where they do not have a formal address.