

Terms of Reference for the Women's Action Network

1. Name

- 1.1 The name of the Network recognised by and under the control and supervision of Amnesty International UK Section (hereinafter "The Section") shall be the Women's Action Network (herein called the "Network").

2. Aims

2.1 The Network shall advance the objectives of The Section and conform to the practices and policies of The Section or global movement where applicable.

2.2 The Network shall promote the engagement of interested individuals in activities relating to the promotion of human rights in the specific area of Women's Human Rights.

2.3 The Network shall further publicise human rights issues relating to Women's Human Rights to members of the public

2.4 The Network shall work collaboratively with the Director of Women's Rights Programme and any relevant campaign leads working on campaigns relating to women's rights

3. Membership

3.1 Membership of the Women's Action Network shall comprise of people who have elected to join the network

4. Committee

4.1 The Network shall be supported by the Women's Action Network Committee (the "Committee")

4.1a The function of the Committee is: to coordinate the work of the Network, to represent the Network in communication with The Section and to outwardly represent the Network at external events.

4.2 The Committee: -

- a) Shall comprise of no more than 8 members, elected at the annual Networks meeting for a two year term
- b) The Officers of the Committee shall comprise of a chair, vice-chair and secretary
- c) Shall have the authority to co-opt, by simple majority, up to two members in the event of vacancies arising during the term of office, or in order to address under-represented constituencies. Co-options that take the committee to over 8 members to address under-representation will require approval from the board to confirm that they are from under-represented constituencies.

4.3 Election to the Women's Action Network committee

4.3a In order to stand for election a candidate must be an individual member of The Section and The Network

4.3b Committee members are expected to come to all network meetings and send two representatives to the Section Annual General Meeting wherever possible. In the event the committee member moves outside the UK they are expected to maintain this commitment and fund their own travel costs to and from the UK on network business, where these travel costs exceed what would be reasonably expected from their last UK based address.

4.4 Costs of participation as a Network member in committee business are borne by the Section, as agreed by the Community Organising Unit.

4.5 Members of the Network Committee are subject to the AIUK Activist Code of Conduct and will be removed from their position if they are found to be in breach of the Code.

5. Meetings of the Committee

5.1 The Committee shall meet at least three times a year. There will be additional meetings as deemed appropriate by the Committee and the Community Organiser.

5.2 The decisions of the Committee shall be by consensus, or if a consensus cannot be reached, the decisions of the Committee shall be by simple majority of those present and voting.

5.3 The Network committee shall work with the Community Organiser to produce agendas for meetings

5.4 The Secretary shall produce minutes in a timely manner.

5.5 Minutes shall be available to the Network via request to womensnetwork@amnesty.org.uk. If certain information is deemed confidential by the Committee and/or the Community Organising Unit, it will be omitted.

6. Accountability and Governance

6.1 The Network committee shall comply with the AIUK codes of practice wherever possible unless otherwise stated.