

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL UK SECTION

Board Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held on

15 July 2017

OPEN SESSION

Board Members

Present:

Ruth Breddal	Chair
Hannah Perry	Vice Chair
Meredith Coombs	Treasurer
Eilidh Douglas	Via Phone
Abigail Grant	
Tom Hedley	
James Lovatt	
Sharon Lovell	
Tracy Newton-Blows	
Tom Sparks	
Rebecca Warren	
Lucy Blake	

Apologies:

Jerry Allen	
Tom Chigbo	
Kate Allen	Director

In Attendance:

Ros Parker	Director of Corporate Services
Kerry Moscogiuri	Director of Supporter Campaigns and Communications
Tim Hancock	Director of the Chief Executive's Office
Rosie Chinchin	Director of Fundraising
Michelle O'Keeffe	Company Secretary and General Counsel

Minutes:

Selma Shirazi	PA to the Director
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1. HOUSEKEEPING

1.1 Welcome & Introductions

The Chair welcomed the Board and introductions were held.

1.2 Apologies

The Board received apologies from Jerry Allen, Tom Chigbo and from Kate Allen, Director (in Arusha, Tanzania for a Senior Leadership Development Programme).

1.3 Announcements

There were no announcements.

1.4 Declarations of Interest

There were declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 DRAFT Minutes of 3.6.17

The Board made the following amendment;

- Point 7.4; The Board did not approve the investment for the consent project at the June Board meeting. The Board heard the business case for the Consent Project and is scheduled to discuss the budget and investment at the July Board meeting.

The Board approved the minutes of 3.6.17 pending the above amendment.

2.2 Matters Arising

The Board noted actions taken since the last Board meeting.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair outlined the objectives for the Board away day to follow the open session. The Chair updated the Board on the situation in Turkey, the Chair and Director of AI Turkey – along with eight other activists have been charged under terrorism charges. The Amnesty movement is working for their release – this is a challenging time for the movement and we need to remain alert to and resist any threats and intimidate of staff members and other human rights defenders.

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Board heard from Kerry Moscogiuri, Director of Supporter Campaigns and Communications on the actions AIUK have taken with regards to the arrests in Turkey and the plans for commemorating Liu Xiabo's death. There are reports that his widow, Liu Xia is under house arrest – Amnesty stands in solidarity with her and their family.

Tim Hancock, Director of the Chief Executive's Office updated the Board on the recent court ruling dismissing a legal challenge from the NGO Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT) which claimed that the UK government is entitled to continue authorising arms supplies to Saudi Arabia for their war in Yemen. This is a disappointing outcome but Amnesty and other NGOs will continue to work on this case and pursue all available alternatives.

Tom Hedley, Board Member reported on an event – an "Amnesty Day" - he attended at the Clyst Vale Secondary School in Devon, the school won the MARSH Awards at the 2017 AGM. The event was fantastic and was very re-invigorating – the young students were very engaged and energetic on all Amnesty campaigns.

The Board noted the Director's Report.

5. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

The Chair informed the Board that the International Board is supportive of both of AIUK's resolutions ('Review of AI's Abortion Policy' and 'Human Rights Impact of Climate Change').

5.1 ICM Weighted Voting Alternative

Tim Hancock, Director of the Chief Executive's Office presented a paper outlining the voting alternatives that will be discussed at the ICM. Option A - from the International Board – all membership entities (including structures) will receive one vote. An additional vote will be awarded to sections who have up to 1% of the total number of members and activists in the movement. Two additional votes are awarded to sections who have over 1% of the total number of members. Under this model AIUK will have 3 votes.

Option B is the 'Swedish/Austrian/German proposal', where every entity which elects a Board would have one vote. Calculations are based on the size of the electorate for an entity Board. Entities holding more than 0.5% of the total electorate would receive an additional vote. Those holding more than 1% of the total electorate would receive two additional votes. Under this model AIUK will also have 3 votes.

The Board discussed the options. The Chair took a non-binding indicative vote – 3 voted for option A, 6 voted for option B – The Chair stated that the ICM delegation will keep the Board's preference in mind when debating and voting on this issue.

The Chair thanked the Board for their deliberations and guidance.

6. CONSENT PROJECT UPDATE

6.1 GDPR Action Plan

Rosie Chichen, Director of Fundraising presented AIUK's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) plan. AIUK has prioritised the organisation's response to changes that the GDPR will bring in terms of how and when we gain supporters' consent as this is the area that poses the greatest risk to the Section. The plan has been developed to extend to address the implications and prepare the organisation for May 2018 – when GDPR comes to effect.

The Board noted the action plan for GDPR.

6.2 Consent Campaign

The consent project was launched in December 2016 and planned to conclude in July 2018. The objective of the project is to plan and implement AUK's response for individual consent management in preparation for the GDPR. The project has five work streams;

1. Defining AIUK's approach to consent and supporter communication preferences
2. Understanding the potential impact of the GDPR on AIUK's ambitious financial engagement targets
3. Preparing AIUK's database, systems, data and business processes.

4. Rigorously testing different ways of asking for consent to maximise response.
5. Planning and delivering a marketing campaign to gain/refresh GDPR compliant consent and ensure AIUK can continue to contact supporters after May 2018.

A detailed and final budget for the project will be presented to the Board in September, the Board were asked to give their feedback on the Consent Project decision framework – an important aspect of the project which will deal with the impacts of the project and mitigating against the emerging risks. The Board was satisfied with the decisions framework, they were assured that the Consent Project will be on every Board agenda until July 2018 and that the Boards will be kept informed and will be the decision makers for any key milestones or direction of the project.

6.3 First Draft of Consent Budget

The Board was informed that £172K has already been included in the Q1 reforecast and absorbed in underspend across the organisation. An additional £515K (£95K for initial preparation and management, £420K to deliver the project) has been requested by the project team. The additional costs can be taken from designated reserves. The Board discussed and agreed the budget for the consent project.

The Board thanked Rosie Chinchon, Director of Fundraising and her department for their work ensuring AIUK is compliant and ahead of the issues putting the Section in the best position possible.

7. HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Kerry Moscogiuri, Director of Supporter Campaign and Communications presented a paper on Human Rights Defenders outlining the draft aims and objectives of the new global priority campaign for the Board's feedback and approval.

The timeline for the campaign starts autumn 2017 to end of 2018. The IS will be delivering this campaign through thematic areas of human rights violations so the detail on all the objectives will change as these areas get finalised.

The global campaign aim is to empower more HRDs in a safe and enabled environment, alongside thousands who are inspired to act against injustice with them.

The AIUK campaign aim is that more HRDs particularly women and young people are able to carry out their work more safely and effectively, alongside thousands who are inspired to act against injustice with them.

The Board approved the direction of the campaign in the UK and requested regular updates as the campaign develops.

8. AGM BOARD RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTATION

Tim Hancock, Director of the Chief Executive's Office updated the Board on the implementation of the AGM decisions. The implementation update is posted on the website for members to access.

Board members were encouraged to contact proposers to update them on their particular resolutions and invite them to come forward with any questions or concerns.

The Board thanked Tim Hancock, Director of the Chief Executive's Office.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Board will next meet on the 23rd September 2017.

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