

# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL UNITED KINGDOM SECTION

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025 REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGM DECISIONS

The Amnesty International UK Section Board tries to implement every decision adopted by the Section's AGM. For a variety of reasons, full implementation is not always possible and, sometimes, implementation takes longer than expected. When this happens, and the Board believes that further progress is possible, we undertake to present a further update to the next AGM. This report therefore describes progress in implementing resolutions from 2024, as well as those where implementation was still in progress at least year's AGM.

The AIUK Section Board receives a report at each meeting, setting out the progress in implementing AGM resolutions. Between Board meetings a monthly update is compiled. These reports are posted on the website by the end of each month to enable members to keep up to date with developments.

### **S1 (2024): Special Resolution to Amend the AIUK Section Articles of Association**

**Implementation of this resolution is complete.**

The Articles of Association have been amended. Companies House and the AIUK website have both been updated.

### **01 (2024): Resolution to amend the AIUK Section Rules**

**Implementation of this resolution is complete.**

The Rules have been amended and the updated version has been posted on the AIUK website.

### **02 (2024): Research into Indigenous Peoples Rights in Guyana**

**Implementation of this resolution is in progress and a further report will be given to the AGM in 2026.**

The Chair of the Section Board has written to the Chair of the International Board. The Interim International Board Chair has replied with a suggestion to write to a senior staff member of the International Secretariat whose portfolio this is in. A response is now awaited.

### **03 (2024): Commitment to Individuals and Communities at Risk work by Amnesty International UK**

**Implementation of this resolution is in progress and a further report will be given to the AGM in 2026.**

Individuals at Risk is one of AIUK's 6 priority human rights issues.

We are actively discussing both with staff and the relevant activists how to introduce measures to improve the visibility of, and show the level of participation and engagement in, Individuals at Risk work undertaken by the section including that led by country coordinators.

The Urgent Action website pages are updated twice a week by a staff member whose role is focussed on keeping the UA website and AIUK case management system up to date. We email members of the UA network on a monthly basis.

In 2024 there were almost 130,000 actions taken in support of Individuals and Communities at Risk, accounting for 29% of all actions taken for AIUK in 2024.

### **04 (2024): Increasing the scale of regional/country-focussed campaigning by Amnesty UK activists**

**Implementation of this resolution is in progress and a further report will be given to the AGM in 2026.**

An e-mail was sent to all AIUK national members on 28 January 2025 inviting them to become involved in long term support for Individuals and Communities at Risk work led by the Country Coordinators by joining their regional or country specific mailing lists.

This process will be completed manually every January until it becomes automated as part of the digital transformation project.

**05 (2024): Increasing the scale and effectiveness of campaigning by improving communications between local groups and Amnesty UK members**

**Implementation of this resolution is in progress and a further report will be given to the AGM in 2026.**

Proposals were submitted to senior staff in November 2024 for a process whereby new members could be given information about how to contact their local groups and networks. Initially, this would be undertaken through an administrative process but will be developed as part of the Digital Transformation project. Discussions are still underway with the proposers of the resolution about how this can be implemented.

Work has yet to begin on how to gain the permission of new members for their contact details to be passed on to local groups to enable them to contact them and thus achieve the direct, unencumbered digital communications between local groups and local national members whilst adhering to the requirements of GDPR that was agreed by the AGM.

A future edition of the magazine will be utilised to promote recruitment to groups and networks.

**06 (2024): Put in place a full-time Local Groups Officer, together with a system of effective monitoring of local groups**

**Implementation of this resolution is in progress and a further report will be given to the AGM in 2026.**

A dedicated Local Groups Administrator has been recruited and is in post. A Groups Health Audit was completed in 2024 and the results published in the Groups Newsletter in December. This will be undertaken annually. The output will be used to inform actions by colleagues in the Activism and Education Directorate to support local groups.

A working party to review strategies to stop the decline in local groups/local entities is currently on hold, pending development of the forthcoming Activism Strategy.

**07 (2024): Introduction of AIUK Digital Campaigning Workshops for Beginners**

**Implementation of this resolution is in progress and a further report will be given to the AGM in 2026.**

A survey of local groups to better understand their digital training requirements was undertaken in January 2025.

An introductory guide to social media and other key pieces of technology is now published on the 'Essential Training for Activists' AIUK website page. The guide includes links to other more in-depth guides and a glossary of tech terms. Three online training sessions are planned in 2025 for digital campaigning; the February and September sessions are focused on digital campaign strategy and the June session is focused on social media. These are being led by specialist staff from our digital team.

**08 (2024): Put in place an AIUK Training Programme**

**Implementation of this resolution is in progress and a further report will be given to the AGM in 2026.**

A consultation is ongoing in 2025 to understand the training needs of AIUK activists and local groups. The output will be fed into planning for next year's business plan and will begin in 2026.

Three streams of department-level training delivery have been identified for 2025, with other training and development happening at constituent level. The connect stream focuses on priority campaigns and calendar moments (e.g. Pride) and are scheduled online for the second Tuesday of most months. The skills stream focuses on different activism skills identified from the local group audit and current areas of work and are scheduled online for the fourth Tuesday of most months. The leadership stream focuses on developing campaigning skills and on providing a basis for activists who want to lead and facilitate human rights education in the community. These will be 4 in-person training days on Saturdays in March, May, June and September. We have staff allocated to support or facilitate each session and are in the process of advertising and designing the different sessions. For some sessions, activists may also be facilitators, for example the March connect session was led by a member of the Amnesty Feminist Network.

Plans for training for local groups will be defined following the completion of the needs analysis.

**09 (2024): Support, empower and revitalise local groups to meet the human rights challenges of the present and future**

**Implementation of this resolution is complete.**

A pilot for the proposed new Regional Organiser role will take place in quarter 2 of 2025. This role will be in place for a year and an assessment will then be made of its effectiveness.

There are two other parts of the decision. The element on training will be covered by the training consultation (see 08 (2024)) and the third element will be picked up in the forthcoming Activism Strategy.

**010 (2024): Delay the sale of the Human Rights Action Centre until a full consultation with the AIUK membership has been undertaken**

**This resolution has not been implemented.**

In October 2023, the Amnesty International UK Charitable Trust, the owner of the Human Rights Action Centre decided to prepare the building for sale. The Charitable Trust is a distinct legal entity, separate from the UK Section, governed by its own Board and subject to UK charity law and regulation.

Following the 2024 AIUK Section AGM, the Chair of the AIUK Section Board shared AGM decision 010 with the Trustees for their consideration.

The resolution correctly noted that the HRAC is owned by the AIUK Charitable Trust, and thus any decision on the sale is one that must be made by the Trustees, and not by the AIUK Section Board.

The Trustees noted with respect and interest the debate and decisions of the Section's AGM. However, the decisions of the Section AGM do not instruct or bind the Trustees and the Trust. The Trustees must make decisions solely in the interests of achieving the charitable objectives of the Trust and fulfilling their legal and fiduciary obligations as Trustees.

In September 2024, the Charitable Trust Board decided to invite offers for the purchase of the HRAC and so instructed estate agents to put the building on the market in October 2024.

In making that decision, the Charitable Trust has considered the views of stakeholders, including the Section Board.

The building has served AIUK's needs well for over 19 years, but with changes in working patterns and usage over the last few years, the building is no longer well used. Two of the three staff floors are not used at all, the building requires significant running costs and would require significant investment to bring it up to the standard required to lease out sections of the building.

The Trustees decided that it would be more effective to sell this asset and invest in different ways that better support delivery against the Trust and Section's shared human rights mission. These include investment in improved core systems and technology and could also include a range of other potential carefully managed ethical investments that can in the future deliver better value for human rights.

Whilst understanding that this is not a decision of the AIUK Section Board, the AIUK Section Board expressed its understanding and support for this decision of the Trustees.

### **ER1 (2024): Reinstating two-day AGM / National Conferences from 2025 onwards**

**Implementation of this resolution is complete.**

The two-day Amplify Summit and AGM will take place on 5-6 July 2025 at the University of Warwick.

The new Activist Events Committee has been established as a sub-committee of the Building a Powerful Movement committee, chaired by an AIUK Section Board member. This group consults on planning for the 2025 event along with other events throughout the year and its Terms of Reference include the implementation of this resolution.

Issues identified regarding activists having difficulties with online voting at the 2024 AGM have been discussed with the AIUK Governance function and a number of measures are planned to ensure maximum participation in the voting process at the AGM.

### **O5 (2023) Section support for local groups**

**Implementation of this resolution is in progress and a further report will be given to the AGM in 2026.**

The Groups Health Audit was completed and the results published in the December 2024 edition of the Groups Newsletter. The 2025 planning pack has also been issued in the same edition of the Groups Newsletter.

### **O4 (2021): Increasing youth participation in governance**

**Implementation of this resolution is in progress and a further report will be given to the AGM in 2026.**

Work to identify and consider the constitutional barriers to youth participation is now underway. If any proposals for change arise, these will need to be considered by stakeholders and by the Board. If agreed, they would be proposed as Special Resolutions for constitutional change to the 2026 AGM.