



Campaigns & Impact Sub-Committee

**Monday 19th November
5 – 7pm**

**Room F1
Human Rights Action Centre
17-25 New Inn Yard, London, EC2A 3EA**

Present:

Sharon Lovell (Chair)
Cris Burson-Thomas
Daren Nair
Rebecca Warren
Deepa Shah
Johnny Luk
Bell Ribeiro-Addy

Apologies:

Ruth Breddal (Chair)
Mayur Paul

Staff attending:

Kerry Mosconi
Felix Jakens

Agenda topic: Minutes and Matters arising

Sharon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes Corrections:

Correction to spelling of Daren's name in places and Deepa's and change FOE to Greenpeace.

Minutes approved on that basis.

Matters arising:

ACTION: Kerry will follow up with Jenny on MEL on IOM.

ACTION: Sharon to follow up with Ruth on the action to reach out to other sections to identify good practice in engaging members in campaign identification and selection.

Felix updated the CISC on the conversation at the Global Campaigns Meeting that took place in September.

Agenda Topic: NCVO – the development of campaigning for Human Rights in the UK

NCVO introduced themselves to the CISC. NCVO has 14,000 members in the UK, advocate on behalf of charities to government and provide training and play a role in connecting organisations together. They are working with AIUK to gather insight to inform the development of our Human Rights in the UK strategy, and in particular to identify the specific human rights issues where Amnesty can add value and have impact.

The next phase of work is a large piece of consultation, looking at other organisations from across the spectrum, to gain an understanding of where people think Amnesty can play an important role to support others.

The final phase will be about presenting options, which will be after Christmas.

The work is intended to be finalised in time for the AGM, however this might not be the complete piece.

Cris asked if we would be seeking insight from the general public into attitudes into human rights. Felix replied that yes, but not via this process, but through research undertaken through the Communications Strategy, specific campaigns, Equally Ours. Daren reflected that we had also covered some of this in the Political Strategy.

Action Felix: Share the Equally Ours research with the Committee directly.

Daren asked how will this fit with the other key strategies recently developed eg IOM, Tech, Comms?

Felix replied that this will guide the 'what' and 'why' with the others steering more of the 'how' – identifying the specific human rights issues that we can add value on in the medium term in the UK.

Daren asked who is responsible for bringing the strategies together and what is the impact of the delay in progress?

CISC worked in groups to inform the prioritisation of the role of Amnesty.

Sharon asked to be updated on the progress of the work and asked for this to be brought back to the next CISC meeting.

Action: Felix to bring an update to the next CISC meeting.

Felix will work towards producing a report for the March Board meeting in preparation for the AGM.

Campaign Scoping and Development

Felix introduce the paper explaining the brief for a task and finish group. He outlined some of the challenges with our existing ways of working and said that this is about making sure that when democracy speaks we can have the steps in place to respond effectively and with priority.

During this first stage we would like to understand how other organisations undertake and manage member-initiated campaigning and we would like CISC and ASC to work together on this first stage. This relates very much to the strategy work that NCVO are doing, this is the 'how'.

Rebecca asked which sorts of organisations we would want to talk to. She reported that the Green Party works on a similar model. This is the most similar to Amnesty that she has seen.

Bell asked when we are going to other organisations, how will we get round the issue of how they are funded? FJ clarified that by funding he means how do they allocate spend within the organisation

Felix clarified that AIUK AGM resolutions are not legally binding.

Sharon said that where there are specific organisations, we have to be sensitive that they are the leading organisation working on that issue - we can support through our clout in partnership work. This is relevant in terms of issues like homelessness. Housing is a human rights issue and we would seek to add to the campaigning being undertaken by specialised organisations.

Sharon said that we also need to think about the resources that will be made available for activist-initiated campaigns and indicate where we can focus resources and what will be needed and over what time period.

Kerry and Cris said that the AGM needs to be in scope for this work so we look at the whole picture.

Bell introduced a good example of how another organisation approaches this. Resources are put aside each year to enable work on member-led resolutions. It was agreed that this was a good example.

The following CISC members agreed to be part of the task and finish group alongside ASC colleagues:

Daren
Bell
Jenny

Kerry informed the CISC who would be on the group from the ASC: Piper Booth (Student rep), Dave Beynon (digital campaigning expert) and Daren (also on the CISC)

Action: Felix will put terms of reference together for the group.

Daren advised that we help activists understand the issues with the current system.

Action: Kerry to liaise with Felix to look at first date to bring everyone together.

Safeguarding – focus on beneficiaries and rights holders

Kerry introduced the broader context for safeguarding that we are now working within. There is a new strand of work requiring development on the risk mitigation and processes that we have in place on safeguarding beneficiaries and rights holders. This is being led by Felix, Kerry and Ruth Dawson.

CISC agree to keep a watching brief on this work.

AOB , Wrap up and close

Rebecca fed back about a group who are concerned about the way AIUK is delivering the refugee campaign - they don't know if the campaign is going on and what kind of messages are going out – no specific or practical actions and she asked how should issues with a particular campaign be raised with Amnesty.

Kerry replied that the normal process for a group would be to go through Farshid as the relevant Community Organiser or SCT.

Kerry suggested that she would speak directly to the team and arrange for a staff member to be in contact with the group

Action: Kerry

Daren fed back that the Blackheath and Greenwich group had contacted him because they had not felt they had an adequate response to a query from staff.

Sharon informed CISC members that they need to have GDPR training.

This will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Action: Kerry

GDPR Training: we all have to have GDPR training,

Future dates: It was agreed that Mondays are still preferable and agreed that we need 2 hours.

It was requested that we get the material pre-reading for 2 weeks in advance.

Kerry briefed CISC members on the release of the report into the death of Gaëtan Mootoo.

We agreed to identify a date in late February for the next meeting and confirm.

Action: Sharon/Kerry