

Amnesty International UK Section
Board Meeting

2 February 2013
3rd Floor Seminar Room
Human Rights Action Centre

Present:

Ciarnan Helferty, Chair
Tom Hedley, Vice Chair
Cris Burson-Thomas
Collette Crill
Brian Gilda
Sharmila Kar
Rona Keen
Harrison Littler
Katie McSherry
Peter J Murray
Sarah O'Grady
Hannah Perry
Hugh Whitby

Attending:

Kate Allen, Director
Tony Farnfield, Corporate Services Director
Kerry Moscogiuri, Marketing Director (from 2pm onwards)
Tom Fyans, Head of Campaigns
Suzie Daniels, Head of Digital
Selma Shirazi, PA to the Director

Apologies;

Brian Landers, Treasurer
Tim Hancock, Campaigns Director

1. INTRODUCTIONS

1.1 Welcome & Introductions

The Chair welcomed Board members to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies

The Board received apologies from Brian Landers, Treasurer and Tim Hancock, Campaigns Director.

2. PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Draft Minutes 01.12.2012 – Accuracy

There were no amendments, the Board APPROVED the minutes of the Board meeting held on 1 December 2012.

2.2 Draft Minutes 01.12.12 – Matters Arising

The Board noted action taken since the last Board meeting.

3. AGM/NATIONAL CONFERENCE

3.1 AGM Decisions Implementation Report 2012

The Board discussed the draft implementation report (Board paper B/2637) and agreed the following;

- Resolution A4 ‘Guantanamo Bay’; to delete the first paragraph.
- Resolution B3 ‘Campaigning for Trade Union Rights’; the implementation has been shared with the TUC who have made no comment on the resolution’s progress.
- Resolution B4 ‘Workers Rights in the Middle East and North Africa’; the proposers UNISON made no comment on the implementation. They will be informed of the reasons why it did not go to the International Council Meeting.
- Resolution C2 ‘AIUK Legal and Taxation Structure’; after considering the legal advice, the Finance Sub Committee has decided to recommend retaining the current legal structures.
- Resolution C3 ‘Implementation of AGM Decisions’; the implementation could include more detail and other previous resolutions.

ACTION: Tom Fyans, Head of Campaigns and Sarah O’Grady, Board Member to work on drafting the implementation of resolution C3.

ACTION: Future implementation reports to have a ‘key’ at the beginning of the document indicating what stage the implementation is at, whether or not the Section commits to continue working on it and/or whether to report on it the following AGM.

Kate Allen, Director informed the Board that a report is being drafted which details the Board position on the implementation of resolutions from the Extraordinary General Meeting. This report will be included in delegates’ pack for the AGM/National Conference.

3.2 AGM Programme

The Board noted paper B/2639, the Draft AGM Programme and proposals from the Training Working Group on working parties and suggested the following;

- To ask the Standing Orders Committee for options should the conference run out of time to discuss all motions. Other non-contentious motions could be remitted to the Board.
- For the Sunday morning, to discuss the motions early on in order to ensure more time is devoted to discussing the motions in plenary.
- To move the workshops to Saturday morning giving members a chance to ask questions and gain more information on the motions due to be discussed in plenary.

ACTION: Kate Allen, Director informed the Board that they will be receiving the Board motions and Board Background Notes for their approval with a tight turnaround period from receipt of motions to AGM print deadlines.

4. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

4.1 2013 AIUK Resolutions

The Board noted the AIUK resolutions to the 2013 ICM.

The Section submitted two resolutions as follows;

On Restricted Giving

The ICM decides to add the following clause to decision 18, point 4, of the 2011 ICM (One Financial Amnesty):

Funds raised by a section which are restricted to the international budget can be treated as being part of that section’s assessment contribution provided:

- a. They are raised to fund work that is planned within the ISP

- b. The SG approves the funding proposal as implementable and without a prior restricted funding commitment.

The ICM instructs the IEC to develop suitable procedures between the Secretariat and NRO's to support and facilitate the implementation of the resolution.

On Sporting Organisations

The International Council DECIDES

- that the International Executive Committee shall develop a policy on international sporting organisations and the prevention of human rights abuses, addressing their constitutions and accountability processes, the planning and organisation of events, participation and discrimination, sponsorship and procurement and any other area likely to have a human rights impact;
- that the IEC shall develop a comprehensive strategy, to include
 - Assessment of the human rights impact (positive and negative) of major sporting events;
 - Lobbying and campaigning to ensure the adoption and compliance of major international sporting organisations with appropriate human rights standards
 - An assessment of whether UN or other IGO standard-setting mechanisms might assist the mainstreaming of human rights considerations into the decisions of international sporting organisations.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

5.1 Treasurer's Report & Budget 2013 Update

The Board noted papers B/2641 and B/2644.

The Board discussed the budget and noted the following;

- The projected year end is a financial break even, rather than the £1.5m deficit budgeted this is due to an unsolicited donation of £680k and legacy receipts resulting in £880k above annual budget.
- The annual income growth assumption remains at 2% from 2014 to 2017, Marketing are in the process of reviewing anticipated 2013 budgets.
- The CAPP2 savings are on hold until after the 2013 AGM, if agreed at the AGM they will not be fully realised until after August 2013 given three month notice periods.
- Digital project spend has been rescheduled, 2013 Budget remains at £402k, the remainder of the budget will however be spread across future years, rather than all being utilised in 2014.
- The assessment in 2013 drops as a result of substantial exchange rate gain, 2014 has a significant rise as a result of the above and of the additional income in 2012 forming part of the assessable income.

5.2 Supporter Insight Digest

The Board noted paper B/2642, an analysis of the Section's membership – the report uses data in MASCO that has been collected through the Feedback Mechanism, the processing of financial transactions and through activities recorded onto the database.

6. INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGNS

The Board noted paper B/2643. Due to the lack of time, the Chair invited Board members to send their comments on the paper to the Senior Management Team.

7. CHAIR'S REPORT

This item was deferred to the next Board meeting, March 2 2013.

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This item was deferred to the March Board meeting.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Board was requested and AGREED to delegate authority to the Finance Sub Committee (FSC) to approve the 2012 Annual Report and Accounts and for Iain McSeveny, Company Secretary and Brian Landers, the Treasurer to sign on their behalf at the first available FSC meeting after the audit clearance meeting on 15th March 2013.

CLOSING REMARKS

The Chair of the Board thanked the Senior Management Team for all their hard work and the Board members for attending the meeting and declared the meeting closed.

2 March 2013

Director's Appraisal
Director's Objectives
2013 AGM/National Conference
- Implementation report
- National conference programme
- AGM Motions and working parties
- Board background notes
2013 Plan

STANDING ITEMS

Chair's Report
Treasurer's Report
Director's Report
Reports from Sub-Committees
Board Development Review