



Aylesbury Amnesty International Group

Meeting 24th April 2013 7.30pm

Friends Meeting House, 9 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury, HP20 2RT

Present:

Carol Tarrant
Bob Corn
Frances Booth
Annelies Varsey

Katherine Danflous
Jim Cobley
David Barnard
Graham Griffiths (Guest)

Apologies: Jim Edwards, Bronwen Lee, Gwyn Jenkins, Henry Mayer-Gross

Carol welcomed everyone to this meeting – principal business being Urgent Actions, to report on the AIUK AGM and National Conference held 13th and 14th April 2013 at Warwick University, and to attend to AGM matters of our own.

1.0 **Previous Minutes** – Agreed.

2.0 **Urgent Actions:**

- 2.1 Katherine tabled letters in support of Mamadali Makhmudov, of Uzbekistan – a 72 year old, held in Jascyk Prison, who is evidently in poor health; the prison is known for cruel, degrading and inhumane conditions. Everyone present signed the letters – Bob will post them.
- 2.2 Katherine tabled letters in support of Salim Shamsiddinov, a Tajikistan lawyer, who had been ‘disappeared’ well before the Tajikistan Presidential Election – again, everyone present signed the letters, and Bob will post them.
- 2.3 Fran read a reply from the DRC Embassy to our letter earlier in the year which had referred to Bosco Ntagand, and she had prepared a letter (in French) asking that President Kabila take steps to improve, and rectify problems with, the Human Rights situation in the DRC.
- 2.4 Fran had prepared a letter to the UN which expressed concern at Canada’s apparent ignoring of poor Human Rights exercised by Canadian Mining Operations in the DRC – everyone signed the letter, Fran will scan and email it.

3.0 **Johan Teterissa:**

- 3.1 Jim Cobley gave an update on matters relating to Prisoner of Conscience Johan Teterissa of Maluku: Jim had written to David Lidington, MP, when the Indonesian President had visited the UK in October/November 2012, and Jim had eventually received a reply (apparently, there was some confusion in email addresses between David Lidington, MP and the Foreign Office Official dealing with Indonesian matters) – Jim read the letter which expressed continued concern at the state of Human Rights in Indonesia, and for Johan Teterissa in particular. Jim had prepared a card to be sent to Johan, and everyone present signed it.

4.0 **AIUK AGM and National Conference:** Video footage was shown of the Opening ceremony, of the Chairman’s Address, and the Director’s Address.

5.0 **Our own AGM:** Since this meeting was now running very late – and not enough time remained to properly report on our last year, and to properly consider election of officers, the meeting agreed to hold AGM matters over until the May meeting, such that a more full discussion could be had and future activism considered.

6.0 **Next Meeting:** **29th May 2013** at 7.30pm – Friends Meeting House,
9 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury, HP20 2RT – Annual General Meeting.