



## **Aylesbury Amnesty International Group**

**Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> March 2014 7.30pm**

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

### **Present:**

Carol Tarrant  
Bob Corn  
Frances Booth  
David Barnard

Annelies Varsey  
Katherine Danflous  
Gwyn Jenkins

**Apologies:** Bronwen Lee, Henry Mayer-Gross, Jim Cobley, Jim Edwards

**Carol welcomed everyone to the meeting.**

### **1.0 Previous Minutes – Agreed**

### **2.0 Post-Bag:**

- 2.1 Letter received from Greek Embassy requesting further information – they suggested that an enclosure was not actually enclosed, despite Fran having clipped the enclosure to the letter sent! Fran to send an additional copy.
- 2.2 Letter received from the Ukrainian Embassy, denying any involvement in attacking civilians – despite some televised evidence; Fran to discuss with Oliver Sprague at AIUK.
- 2.3 Letter received from SOCO – denying any Human Rights abuses when SOCO have been seeking Oil Resources in Virunga National Park, which borders Uganda, Rwanda and the DRC; they claim that they are adhering to all recognised Human Rights legislation, and that they are very sensitive to the situation. They feel that their works are 'giving' to the local population, rather than 'taking away'!

### **3.0 Urgent Actions:**

- 3.1 Letters prepared by Katherine and Bob were tabled and signed by all present – Bob to post: AZERBAIJAN – supporting an Opposition Activist; UZBEKISTAN – supporting a Father and Son, who are facing extradition; CRIMEA – supporting Journalists at risk of abduction; RUSSIAN FEDERATION – supporting Russian Kутаev, who is evidently being tortured in detention – also supporting Peace Activists who are receiving death threats; MOZAMBIQUE – speaking against the envisaged law which will allow perpetrators of rape to marry their victims.

### **4.0 Indonesian Embassy Demonstration planned for 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014:**

- 4.1 Bob, Carol and David plan to attend (and Jim Edwards, by email after the meeting) – 17 folk are needed from Amnesty International to become surrogate 'Prisoners of Conscience' – wearing photographs of the now AI recognised 17 West Papuan prisoners of conscience; 15 have so far pledged to attend, and Bob anticipates more from other Groups. TAPOL are supporting 76 Political Prisoners, as against the 17 AIUK supported Prisoners of Conscience! Meet in front of the Indonesian Embassy just before noon on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014 – Carol has prepared the 17 A4 'chest' images for demonstrators to wear, and 4 A2 placards which speak of the need for release for the prisoners. (**NOTE** – around 100 demonstrators supported the action, from AIUK, TAPOL, Survival International and the Free West Papua Campaign).

### **5.0 Review and Vote on AIUK AGM Resolutions:**

The meeting reviewed each resolution, discussing each in turn, and voted as to the democratic Group position on each of the Resolutions – the Group voting wishes are recorded on the attached schedule; Carol was mandated to represent the Group's voting intentions.

**6.0 2014 AIUK Group Planning Pack:**

6.1 Bob to circulate the 2014 AIUK Group Planning Pack to the membership – we will need to make decisions as to which campaigns which we will be supporting, and report back to AIUK, after the next Group meeting at end of April 2014.

**7.0 Any Other Business:**

7.1 Bob reported that £40.50p had been raised in an AIUK Collecting Box which had been placed on the bar of the Rose & Crown Pub in Ivinghoe – Bob had written a note of thanks on behalf of the Group, which had been pinned up in the bar!

**8.0 NEXT MEETING:30<sup>th</sup> April 2014** at 7.30pm, Friends Meeting House, 9 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury HP20 2RT

Bob Corn, Minutes Secretary,  
4<sup>th</sup> April 2014

<b>Amnesty International 2014 AGM</b>			
<b>Aylesbury Group Resolution Debate Outcome: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2014:</b>			
	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Rejected</b>	<b>Comment</b>
	✓	✗	✓
<b>Working Party A:</b>			
A1 Sex Work - Decriminalisation		✗	
A2 Sex Work – Partial Decriminalisation		✗	
A3 Sex Work – No Position		✗	
<b>Working Party B:</b>			
B1 Human Rights Act		✗	
B2 Garment Workers in Asian Countries		✗	
B3 Guantanamo		✗	✓
B4 Guatemala	✓		
B5 Sri Lanka Human Rights	✓		
B6 Sri Lanka and the UN	✓		
<b>Working Party C:</b>			
C1 Special Resolution Nominations Committee co-option International Council Meeting	✓		
C2 Nominations Committee Terms of Reference	✓		
C3 Governance Training Budget	✓		
C4 Governance Task Force Extension	✓		
C5 Location of AIUK Annual General Meetings	✓		
<b>Working Party D:</b>			
D1 Secret Policeman's Ball		✗	✓
D2 Secretary General's Global Council	✓		
D3 Linking Members with Local Groups	✓		
D4 Scottish Independence		✗	
D5 Strategic Goals Consultation	✓		
D6 Global Transition Program	✓		
<b>Comments:</b>			
B3: Suitably modified, this might be acceptable – Carol to judge when voting			
D1: If possible – seek an amendment to scrap the project altogether and start again! We do not feel represented by the event at all.			
<b>Carol was mandated to represent the Group's voting intentions at the AGM</b>			