

Terms of Reference for the Student Action Network

1) Name

1.1 The name of the network recognised by and under the control and supervision of Amnesty International UK Section (hereinafter the "Section") shall be the Student Action Network (herein called the "STAN").

2) Aims

2.1 The STAN shall advance the objectives of the Section and conform to the practices and policies of the Section.

2.2 The Student Groups that make up STAN shall support and promote engagement of students in the work of Amnesty International through: training and human rights education of its members and promoting student activism whilst considering the interests and priorities of the Section. The STAN Committee shall encourage group co-operation and collaboration acting alongside the education and student team.

3) Membership

3.1 Membership of the STAN shall comprise affiliated student groups and their members (hereafter called 'Amnesty Student Activists').

3.2 The term 'Amnesty Student Activist' is herein limited to those over the age of 18 who are currently studying on a full time or part time course at a Further or Higher Education institution in the UK. The exceptions to this rule are under-eighteen students studying at universities and sixteen or seventeen-year-old members of Amnesty Groups at FE Colleges that have been classified as 'Student Groups' rather than 'Youth Groups' by the Education and Student Team.

3.3b The term 'Amnesty Student Activist' also extends to STAN Committee members and Student Union Sabbatical Officers (as recognised by the 1994 Education Act) who are members of an affiliated Student Group.

4) Committee

4.1 The STAN shall be supported by the Student Action Network Committee (the "Committee") which is a governance body within AIUK.

4.1a The function of the Committee is: to support the work of the STAN, to represent STAN in communication with the Section and to outwardly represent STAN at external events.

4.1b The STAN committee shall promote continuity and sharing of best practice between student groups. It must request assistance from student groups in pursuit of this aim. It shall focus on sharing of information on the effectiveness of specific practices and actions.

4.2 The Committee: -

4.2a The committee shall comprise Six open places for a term of one year ("Term") elected at Student Conference.

4.2b From among those six committee members, One Chair shall be selected at the first Committee meeting. The Committee shall decide the selection process and role of the Chair. The Committee shall also select a secretary for each meeting. The Committee may also assign other roles to members as deemed necessary.

4.3 Election to the STAN Committee

4.3a In order to stand for election a candidate must be an 'Amnesty Student Activist' as set out in Membership.

4.3b An 'Amnesty Student Activist' may not serve for more than one term in any four year period.

4.3c Committee members are expected to come to all meetings and attend Student Conference, Action for Change and the AGM wherever possible. In the event the student moves outside the UK they are expected to maintain this commitment and fund their own travel costs to and from the UK on STAN business.

4.4 Costs of participation as a Student Member in Committee business are borne by the Section, as agreed by the Education and Student Team..

4.5 Members of the STAN Committee are subject to the AIUK Activist Code of Conduct and will be removed from their position if they are found to be in breach of the Code.

4.6 All members of the STAN committee shall ensure all actions are considered for their environmental impact.

5) Meetings of the STAN Committee

5.1 The Committee shall meet at least three times a year. There will be additional meetings as deemed appropriate by the Committee and the Student Manager.

5.2 The decisions of the Committee shall be by consensus, or if a consensus cannot be reached, the decisions of the Committee shall be by simple majority of those present and voting.

5.3 The STAN Committee shall work with the Student Manager to produce agendas for meetings.

5.4 The Secretary shall produce minutes in a timely manner.

5.5 Minutes shall be available to the STAN online. If certain information is deemed confidential by the Committee and/or EST, it will be omitted.

5.6 Amnesty UK staff and members of AIUK governance structures may by invitation or permission observe and speak at meetings of the STAN committee.

6) Accountability and governance.

6.1 The committee shall report to Student Conference on the actions taken for motions passed at the previous Conference.

6.1a A written report must be available online no later than one week before Student Conference.

6.2 Procedure for the submission, amendments and passing of motions for the Student AGM is outlined in the flow-charts attached.

6.2b Motions can only be submitted by affiliated Student Groups.

6.2c Motions can only be debated at Student Conference if they fulfil the relevant criteria. Student Conference motions can *mandate* the STAN Committee to take a particular course of action. However, in the case of constituent Student Groups, other governance structures and staff members, the motion can only *request that they consider taking a course of action*.

6.2d The Committee and the Education & Student Team shall be responsible for compositing the motions for Conference (i.e. checking if motions are valid).