**AI UK SECTION BOARD UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGM DECISIONS – NOVEMBER 2024**

**The AIUK Section Board receives a report at each meeting, setting out the progress in implementing AGM resolutions. Between Board meetings a monthly update is compiled. These reports will be posted on the website by the end of each month to enable members to keep up to date with developments. Please contact the relevant Board member if you require any further information.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Resolution Number** | **Title** | **Update** | **Board member** |
| S1 (2024) | Special Resolution to Amend the AIUK Section Articles of Association. | **Implementation of this resolution is complete**The Articles of Association have been amended. Companies House and the AIUK website have both been updated. | Helen HortonHelen.horton@amnesty.org.uk |
| O1 (2024) | Resolution to amend the AIUK Section Rules | **Implementation of this resolution is complete**.The Rules have been amended and the updated version has been posted on the AIUK website.  | Helen HortonHelen.Horton@amnesty.org.uk |
| O2 (2024) | Research into Indigenous Peoples Rights in Guyana | The Chair of the Section Board will write to the Chair of the International Board.  | Richard KotterRichard.Kotter@amnesty.org.uk |
| O3 (2024) | Commitment to Individuals and Communities at Risk work by Amnesty International UK. | Individuals at Risk is one of AIUK’s six priority human rights issues. Through our 2025 business plan we plan to increase the number of long-term cases that we work on through the IAR programme from 2 to 5. We plan to continue our work on Alaa and Mehran’s cases until they are released, but also aim to add 3 more cases where we judge AIUK will be able to make an impact (this may include UK cases arising from sentencing under protest laws). To date it has not been possible for the relevant Board member and appropriate Amnesty UK staff to meet with the proposer of the resolution to discuss practical steps in relation to implementation of the resolution. A meeting has been arranged for the first week of December. | Helen Hortonhelen.horton@amnesty.org.uk |
| O4 (2024) | Increasing the scale of regional/country-focussed campaigning by improving communications between local groups and Amnesty UK members | A communication has been drafted to go to all AIUK members inviting them to become more involved in long term support for Individuals and Communities at Risk work led by the Country Coordinators by joining regional or country specific mailing lists. It is intended this will be sent in the New Year and on an annual recurring basis. In future, it is planned that such a communication will be more automated following the Digital Transformation. | Stuart PennyStuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk |
| O5 (2024) | Increasing the scale and effectiveness of campaigning by improving communications between local groups and Amnesty UK members | Draft proposals are being prepared for a process whereby new members will be given information on their local groups. Initially, this will be undertaken through an administrative process but will be developed as part of the Digital Transformation. Work has yet to begin on how to gain the permission of new members for their contact details to be passed on to local groups to enable them to contact them and thus achieve the direct, unencumbered digital communications between local groups and local national members whilst adhering to the requirements of GDPR  that was agreed by the AGM.The Director of Activism & Education has agreed to also use a future edition of the magazine to promote recruitment to groups and networks.  | Stuart PennyStuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk |
| O6 (2024) | Put in place a full-time Local Groups Officer, together with a system of effective monitoring of local groups | A dedicated Local Groups Administrator has been recruited and is in post. The Groups Health Audit will be completed by the end of November and feedback will be provided in the New Year. This survey will be conducted annually.A working party to review strategies to stop the decline in local groups is being discussed. | Stuart PennyStuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk |
| O7 (2024) | Introduction of AIUK Digital Campaigning Workshops for Beginners | Implementation of this decision has not started yet. Budget is in place to be able to deliver training, but first the Activism and Education department will conduct a survey of groups, starting in December and completing in January 2025, to understand which groups are using social media and/or their allocated AIUK webpage, and their training needs. This will lead to a start-up course to be delivered in Q1 or Q2 of 2025. Other areas of the implementation of this decision are still under discussion with the Activism and Education Director. | Stuart PennyStuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk |
| O8 (2024) | Put in place an AIUK Training Programme | Implementation of this decision has not started yet and the implementation is under discussion with the Activism and Education Director. A Needs Analysis of all AIUK training requirements will be conducted in early 2025 and consultation on this will be undertaken with the Building a Powerful Movement committee. | Stuart PennyStuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk |
| O9 (2024) | Support, empower and revitalise local groups to meet the human rights challenges of the present and future | The proposed role of the 5 Regional Organisers is currently being defined. A pilot to understand the role better is being discussed for 2025.  | Stuart PennyStuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk |
| O10 (2024) | Delay the sale of the Human Rights Action Centre until a full consultation with the AIUK membership has been undertaken | In October 2023, the Amnesty International UK Charitable Trust, the owner of the Human Rights Action Centre decided to prepare the building for sale. The Charitable Trust is a distinct legal entity, separate from the UK Section, governed by its own Board and subject to UK charity law and regulation. Following the 2024 AIUK Section AGM, the Chair of the AIUK Section Board shared AGM decision O10 with the Trustees for their consideration. The resolution correctly noted that the HRAC is owned by the AIUK Charitable Trust, and thus any decision on the sale is one that must be made by the Trustees, and not by the AIUK Section Board. The Trustees noted with respect and interest the debate and decisions of the Section’s AGM. However, the decisions of the Section AGM do not instruct or bind the Trustees and the Trust.  The Trustees**must** make decisions solely in the interests of achieving the charitable objectives of the Trust and fulfilling their legal and fiduciary obligations as Trustees. In September 2024, the Charitable Trust Board decided to invite offers for the purchase of the HRAC and so instructed estate agents to put the building on the market in October 2024. In making that decision, the Charitable Trust has considered the views of stakeholders, including the Section Board. The building has served AIUK’s needs well for over 19 years, but with changes in working patterns and usage over the last few years, the building is no longer well used.  Two of the three staff floors are not used at all, the building requires significant running costs, and would require significant investment to bring it up to the standard required to lease out sections of the building. The Trustees decided that it would be more effective to sell this asset and invest in different ways that better support delivery against the Trust and Section’s shared human rights mission. These include investment in improved core systems and technology, and could also include a range of other potential carefully managed ethical investments that can in the future deliver better value for human rights. Whilst understanding that this is not a decision of the AIUK Section Board, the AIUK Section Board expressed its understanding and support for this decision of the Trustees. | Andy TownendAndy.townend@amnesty.org.uk |
| E1 (2024) | Reinstating two-day AGM / National Conferences from 2025 onwards | Planning is underway to deliver a two-day combined Annual General Meeting and National Conference on 5-6 July 2025. This is planned to be in Birmingham.An Activist Events Committee is being established as a sub-committee of the Building a Powerful Movement committee and will be Chaired by a member of BPM. This group will consult on planning for the 2025 event along with other events throughout the year and its Terms of Reference will include the implementation of this resolution.Issues identified regarding activists having difficulties with online voting the 2024 AGM are being reviewed by the AIUK Governance function. |  |
| O5 (2023) | Section support for local groups | The Community Organising Team launched a groups health audit in August 2024, working alongside Activism Reps. This will determine the state of the groups and identify support needs. This will be completed by the end of November. There is also a plan to restart the Groups Planning Pack from Jan 2025.  | Stuart PennyStuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk |
| O4 (2021) | Increasing youth participation in governance | In early 2024, the recruitment process for a Youth Delegate to the 2024 Global Assembly yielded 35 applications. The reserved seat for an under-18 year-old Board member was filled in the 2024 Board elections for the first time since its creation. The reserved seat for a 18-23 year-old was not filled in the election. Following an open recruitment process, an individual has been appointed to fill the “casual vacancy” and the role will be subject to election in 2024. Work to review the constitutional barriers to youth participation will commence in December 2024.  | Helen Hortonhelen.horton@amnesty.org.uk |