

**Governance Task Force (GTF)
Relations with the International Movement (RIM) SubGroup**

Report to GTF Meeting 16 November 2013

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SUBGROUP MEMBERS:

Mike Reed, Sarah O'Grady, Liz Mottershaw, Tom Hedley (from 12 Oct), Hannah Perry (to 12 Oct)

REMIT

Remit Item 1

To oversee a membership consultation on the role of AIUK within the context of the international movement and our agreed strategic directions 2011-2016.

Remit Item 2

Consider the need to ensure that the International Secretariat (IS) is fully accountable to AIUK for the proper, judicious and efficient application of funds provided by AIUK for the use of the IS.

Remit Item 3

Consider the relationship between AIUK governance and the international movement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the proposals and programme set out below under AGM Resolutions and Timeline be approved.

AGM RESOLUTIONS

Remit Item 1

None

A member consultation is being prepared by the GTF Consultation subgroup

Remit Item 2

None.

The RIM group recognises that, if AIUK members are not happy with progress on this issue, they may want a resolution to the AIUK AGM and on to the next ICM. A resolution could refer to the MoU between the AIUK Charitable Trust and the IS, and could commit AIUK to the raising of standards. (It could also recommend an MoU or similar for other AI sections.) This would bring the MoU to the attention of members and re-assure them that improvements will be made. However it may also re-open the debate and re-examine past problems, rather than focus on progress which is ongoing.

As the timetable for GTF work is over two years, and as progress is being made, the RIM group feels that resolutions are not necessary at this stage. The RIM Group recommends that a report be made

to the 2014 AIUK AGM setting out progress to date, identifying further improvements planned, and giving a commitment to implement and monitor progress. This will allow AIUK to continue steadily driving up standards, with progress chasing by the GTF and others. If firmer measures or continuing improvements are required, these can be the subject of a resolution to the 2015 AIUK AGM. The GTF should build into its work plan a review of progress and the possibility of a resolution to the 2015 AIUK AGM and on to the next ICM.

Remit Item 3

Proposed resolution - First draft

"This ICM, mindful of the increasing importance of the Chairs Assembly and other international fora to the implementation of AI's programme of work, instructs the International Board to ensure that the relevant information to assist sections and structures to come to any decisions is conveyed to them in time and in suitable form to allow, where necessary, consultation with their membership."

The work of the group on this remit item is in its early stages. It is recognised that, as work proceeds, further resolutions may arise for the 2015 AIUK AGM and the ICM.

TIMELINE

This timeline has been drawn up taking into account the work which the RIM subgroup feels it needs to carry out and its capacity. The group is happy to make reasonable adjustments to ensure this work plan fits with that of other subgroups, with scheduled meetings, and with the overall GTF work.

Remit Item 1

Now with new group on member consultations

Remit Item 2

Activity	Deadline
<u>Information gathering</u> Obtain response from AIUK staff to members concerns and to comments on MOU and IS reports	30 Nov
<u>Evidence gathering</u> Obtain further documentation, including evidence of improvements made in IS accountability to AIUK, and any additional finance reports provided by IS to AIU	30 Nov
<u>Gap analysis</u> Review documentation received Assess current state of IS accountability to AIUK Consider concerns expressed by members in AGM & EGM papers Identify gaps and shortfalls	31 Dec
<u>Planning</u> Review gap analysis with AIUK staff. Agree further improvements and next steps	31 Jan
<u>Communication</u> Prepare recommendations to GTF on ongoing information and progress reports to members in view of their concerns (including eg Chair's monthly update to activists) Prepare a progress report for 2014 AIUK AGM. (This may form part of overall GTF report to AGM)	31 Dec
<u>Communication</u> Present report to AIUK AGM Agree any changes to future work plan	April
<u>Continued progress</u> Implement any further improvements	Oct 2014

Continue to seek progress in raising standards of IS accountability to AIUK as required	
<u>Decision making</u> Consider a resolution to 2015 AIUK AGM (and possibly on to next ICM) if required	Dec 2014

Remit Item 3

Activity	Deadline
<u>Decisions</u> Prepare final draft of any AGM /ICM Resolutions for consideration of AIUK Board	31 Dec
<u>Gain understanding</u> Map out constraints imposed by the international movement on AI sections / AIUK, such as Core Standards etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that Core Standards were developed to bring smaller sections up to a higher standard, but that AIUK already complies with many of the CS requirements. Consider wider impact of ICM resolutions on AIUK Consider further the role and operation of the Chairs Assembly and other fora Consider how AIUK can influence the wider movement Consider timetables for AIUK AGM and ICM	31 Dec
<u>Gap analysis</u> Consider failings and shortfalls of current arrangements and possible improvements	31 Jan
<u>Recommendations</u> Prepare recommendations on the following for consideration of GTF 1. Enabling members to be better informed about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> international decision making in AI eg ICM, IEC etc news, issues and developments at international level 2. Improving member involvement in, and awareness of, ICM matters. To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> obtain comment and input from AIUK members and activists in preparing for the ICM (noted that date for publication of ICM resolutions allows time for consultation and dialogue with members) improve communication to members of relevant news and information from the ICM raise awareness and understanding of the ICM process and how it relates to AIUK / Sections 3. Improving AIUK governance as part of the international movement 4. AIUK influence on the wider movement 5. Timing of AIUK AGM in relation to ICM	31 Mar
<u>Communication</u> Prepare a progress report for 2014 AIUK AGM. (This may form part of overall GTF report to AGM)	31 Dec
<u>Communication</u> Present report to AIUK AGM Agree any changes to future work plan	April

PROGRESS REPORT

NB. For next steps see timeline above.

Remit Item 1

This item is now being progressed by the new group on member consultations. This group includes Hannah Perry, who led on this Remit item for the RIM Group.

Remit Item 2

Obtained copy of MoU between AIUK and IS on Grant Procedures (ie The Assessment)

Obtained copy of some finance reports provided by IS to AIUK
Set out comments on MOU and IS reports, highlighting apparent shortfalls
Set out a summary of relevant concerns expressed by members in EGM & AGM papers
Sent above two papers to Tony Farnfield for review and response
Obtained information on improvements made in IS accountability to AIUK

Remit Item 3

Prepared a paper on the scope of this item
Discussed the scope of remit item 3, noting the comments at the 12 Oct GTF meeting
Prepared outline ideas on enabling members to be better informed about:

- international decision making in AI eg ICM, IEC etc
- news, issues and developments at international level

Considered the role and operation of the Chairs Assembly and prepared an outline AGM Resolution

APPENDIX

Ideas on keeping members informed on the international movement

The RIM group agreed to consider ideas on how can we enable members to be better informed about:

- international decision making in AI eg ICM, IEC etc
- news, issues and developments at international level (such as, from the past, the development of the MCCTG policy & strategy, the problems leading to the Irene Khan issue etc)

Develop a newsletter on international news, developments and decisions. Distribute this in various ways (website, mailings to activists, GNL etc).

Publish an annual report on news, developments and decisions at the international level in Amnesty.

Include a report and/or discussion session at the AIUK AGM on international news, developments and decisions.

Publish a user friendly report after each ICM

Publish Peter Pack's International Issues paper as an insert to the Groups Newsletter and in mailings to activists

Create a workshop for groups and activists on the workings of the international movement, including content on how to keep informed.

Some of the above can be combined