

**All-Party Parliamentary Human Rights Group (PHRG)**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Tuesday, 30 June, 2015, 4:00 pm, W1

**MINUTES**

***Present***: Ann Clwyd MP, Mark Durkan MP, Jeremy Corbyn MP, Virendra Sharma MP, Harry Harpham MP, Helen Hayes MP, Andrew Mitchell MP, Lord Campbell-Savours, Baroness Uddin, Lord Judd, Nicole Piché (PHRG Co-ordinator); Catherine Baker (PHRG Assistant); Christina Dykes (Office of Dominic Grieve QC MP).

1. **Apologies** – Lord Avebury, Ruth Cadbury MP, Dominic Grieve QC MP, Sue Hayman MP, Lord Hylton, Clive Lewis MP, Justin Madders MP, Dr. Paul Monaghan MP, Liz Saville Roberts MP, Tommy Sheppard MP, Baroness Stern, Philippa Whitford MP, Dr. Sarah Wollaston MP.
2. **Minutes from 2014 AGM approved, and report on further follow-up provided.**
3. **Election of Officers** – All current Officers re-elected, with the exception of Bob Walter, former joint Vice-Chair, who stood down at the last election. Dominic Grieve QC MP elected as a new joint Vice-Chair.
4. **Main Activities and Events reviewed**.

* PHRG Officers thanked PHRG staff for their work over the last year, and agreed that the weekly ‘*Human Rights in the Houses*’ newsletter continues to be a very useful source of information for Parliamentarians.
* PHRG Officers believed that the PHRG should continue organising joint activities with other APPGs.
* PHRG Officers also agreed it was important to welcome new Members so they can work on specific areas of interest or expertise.

1. **Review of Accounts and Sources of Funding**

* Accounts for current financial year (*distributed at meeting*) presented by the PHRG Treasurer and approved by Members.
* PHRG Treasurer explained the bulk of PHRG’s income is provided by the Parliamentary Human Rights Trust, a registered UK charity, which in turn receives funding (restricted) from Barrow Cadbury Trust and received a donation (restricted) in April 2014 from the Campbell-Savours family.
* Members thanked the Barrow Cadbury Trust for its long-standing support and the Campbell-Savours family for its generous donation.
* Members were asked to continue exploring other potential sources of funding.

1. **Staffing**

* PHRG Intern, Catherine Baker, worked from the end of November 2014 on a part-time basis, to focus on communications, including social media outreach.

1. **Future events, Activities and Priorities**

* Upcoming events:

Roundtable meeting with the Georgian Public Defender (08.07.15);

Statelessness in the Middle East (15.07.15);

Hoping to finalise visits from UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders.

* To consider organising event on: North Caucasus region of Russia.