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## Human Rights for All Conference: The Sana'a Committee - April 2004

Following a conference held in Sana'a, Yemen, under the slogan "Human Rights for All" on 10 & 11 April 2004, participants set up The Sana'a Committee to follow up on issues relating to detainees held without any judicial control in Guantanamo Bay and elsewhere.

The functions of the Committee are mainly technical and include in particular:

- acting as a channel of communication between lawyers in the Gulf region and their counterparts elsewhere, particularly in the USA;
- facilitating communication between lawyers and relatives of detainees, especially with regard to obtaining affidavits and power of attorney for lawyers;
- advising relatives of detainees on how to submit cases to lawyers and courts;
- providing families with information on progress of cases of their detained relatives;
- channelling legal advice between lawyers on how to handle cases of detainees held on grounds of security and anti-terrorism legislation.

The Sana'a Committee, which is independent of Amnesty International, is composed of a number of volunteers from the Gulf region, the USA, Australia and the UK who attended the "Human Rights for All" Conference. However, the Committee is also open to volunteers who did not have the opportunity to attend the conference, but who are involved in cases of detainees held on grounds of war on terror measures. Anyone interested in the Committee should contact Clive Stafford Smith at clivess@aol.com.

It should be noted that the establishment of the Sana'a Committee is one of two main outcomes of the "Human Rights for All" Conference. The other outcome is "the Sana'a Appeal" which can be accessed on Amnesty International's website: <a href="https://www.amnesty.org">www.amnesty.org</a>.

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