REPORT AND DECISIONS

OF THE

10TH INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Bad Honnef, Federal Republic of Germany
16-18 September 1977

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PART ONE
REPORT ON PLENARY SESSION PROCEEDINGS

1. WELCOME BY THE SECTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Wolfgang Heinz, Chairman of the Section of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), welcomed the participants to the 10th International Council Meeting at 09.00 on 16 September 1977.

2. OPENING OF THE COUNCIL

Thomas Hammarberg, Chairman of the International Executive Committee (IEC), opened the 10th International Council working session with a short introduction to the major issues facing the movement at the present time.

Two new national sections were welcomed to the International Council meeting for the first time, that of Spain and Venezuela. Apologies were received from Alfred Heijder (IEC) and Joseph Helg (Financial Control Committee).

At the second plenary session, the meeting was addressed by Georg Kahn-Ackermann, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and by Dr Gilbert Jaeger, the Deputy High Commissioner of the UN High Commission for Refugees, who read out a message from Sadruddin Aga Khan, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Messages of greeting were received from Willy Brandt, Chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, Peter Helms, Secretary General of the Union of German Youth, Sri Jayaprakash Narayan, Ghandian social worker in India, and Rishikesh Shaha, founding chairman of the Nepal Section of Amnesty International.

3. APPOINTMENT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Nic Klecker (Luxembourg Section), Marie-José Protais (IEC) and Koo van der Wal (Dutch Section) were appointed as the Credentials Committee. The committee was asked to consider the application of the Australian Section for a voting entitlement based on individual membership and it was subsequently decided that the Australian Section be entitled to 2 votes. The committee also decided on the eligibility of emergency

resolutions submitted to the International Council.

4. ROLL-CALL OF PARTICIPANTS

The voting cards were distributed. It was noted that two new national sections had been recognized, Spain and Venezuela.

Following amendment to article 12 of the Statute (see Part Two, page 12), the IEC member elected by the International Secretariat staff was given the right to vote.

5. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Dirk Börner, member of the International Executive Committee, was elected as Chairman of the 10th International Council Meeting.

6. ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

Standing Orders as agreed by the 9th International Council Meeting were adopted and amendments proposed by the International Executive Committee (ICM 14/05/77) were referred to Working Party C. (For decisions later taken, see Report of Working Party C, page 89.)

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

The proposed agenda and timetable were agreed. It was further agreed that the recommendation of Working Party C on Statute amendments S3 and S4 should be considered at the opening of the second plenary session. (For decisions taken, see Report of Working Party C, pages 88 and 91.)

8. APPOINTMENT OF FINANCE ADVISORY GROUP

Kevin White (IEC), Arnout Ruitenberg (Financial Control Committee) and Vincent McGee (US Section) were appointed as the Finance Advisory Group.

9. APPOINTMENT OF DRAFTING COMMITTEE

David Weissbrodt (US Section) and Suriya Wickremasinghe (Sri Lankan Section) were appointed as the Drafting Committee.

10. APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER AND TELLERS FOR ELECTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Alan Benson (Irish Section) was appointed returning officer, and Peter Bauer (FRG Section) and A.G. Noorani (Indian Section) were appointed tellers.

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 9TH INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN STRASBOURG, FRANCE 1976

A printing error was pointed out on page 25 of the Report and Decisions of the 9th International Council Meeting (ICM 02/01/77) and the second paragraph of resolution 11 referred to the International Executive Committee was amended to read:

> "noting the need to make an inventory of the work for refugees..."

With this amendment, the minutes of the 9th International Council Meeting were approved.

12.a) REPORT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE 9TH INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

The following written reports had been submitted by the Secretary General: Interim Report and Supplementary Report on the Implementation of the Decisions of the 9th International Council Meeting (ICM 15/01/77 and ICM 15/02/77 respectively); Interim Report on the Implementation of ICM (Strasbourg) 1976 Decision 17 concerning Human Rights Awareness (ICM 15/03/77) and Interim Report on Implementation of Resolution 5 referred to the IEC by the Strasbourg ICM (ICM 15/04/77).

Some criticism was expressed at the fact that only one of these documents had been circulated in advance, thus giving national sections insufficient time to study them.

12.b) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

On Resolution 11, referred to the IEC (see ICM 15/01/77, page 7), it was pointed out that the Dutch and FRG Sections had formulated the questionnaire concerning the work for refugees and the International Secretariat was urged to distribute this questionnaire among national sections as soon as possible.

On Resolution 8, referred to the IEC (see ICM 15/01/77, page 7), concerning impartiality, the Chairman of the International Executive Committee reported that it had been agreed

within the IEC not to investigate this question because of the difficulties in assessing the balance of AI's work and in comparing different countries and different violations of human rights. However, the IEC was always concerned about the impartiality of AI's work and this principle was always borne in mind in discussing AI's overall policy and programs.

On Resolution 3, (see ICM 15/01/77, page 3), the Chairman of the IEC pointed out that there were a number of enabling resolutions arising out of the Cambridge Crash Committee which would form the basis for an evaluation of techniques.

On Judicial Cases, the 9th International Council had asked the International Secretariat to report back to the 10th International Council (see ICM 02/01/77, page 43-44). While it was pointed out that a short report was included in the Supplementary Report on the Implementation of the Decisions of the 9th International Council Meeting (ICM 15/02/77), this was felt by some delegates to be insufficient.

13.a) PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1976-77

The Chairman of the International Executive Committee presented the Report to the 10th International Council 1977 from the International Executive Committee (PUB 70/00/77).

13.b) INTRODUCTION TO THE REPORT OF THE CAMBRIDGE CRASH COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the International Executive Committee introduced the Report of the Cambridge Crash Committee. This committee, established by the IEC at a special meeting in May, had met for two days in June in Cambridge, United Kingdom, to discuss the growth and development of Amnesty International.

13.c) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mistakes in the figures for political prisoners on pages 10 and 18 in the report were pointed out.

The Swedish Section asked the IEC to consider the possibility of allowing national sections to report more fully on their activities. The IEC was also asked to consider a way of including the accounts, the auditors report and the Report of the Financial Control Committee in this report.

14.a) PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT BY THE INTERNATIONAL TREASURER

The International Treasurer pointed out that the first paragraph to the report was misleading, as the report did in fact contain the full accounts of both the International Secretariat and the Promotion Department (Luxembourg).

14.b) REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

The Report of the Financial Control Committee for the year 1976/77 was presented.

14.c) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORTS

It was agreed that both reports should be referred to Working Party D: Finance for discussion and that any matters arising would be considered with the report of the Working Party.

On the recommendation of the Working Party D (see pages 98 and 100) the accounts to 30 April 1977 were adopted by the International Council and the Report of the Financial Control Committee, as amended by the Working Party, was accepted by the International Council.

15. PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE YEAR 1977

The Director of the Promotion Department, Guy Binsfeld, presented his report. The Chairman drew attention to the urgent need to raise more funds and urged national sections to make every effort in the final phase of the campaign. He also expressed the appreciation of the International Executive Committee for the work done by the Promotion Department.

16. ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING PARTIES

The International Council agreed to have four working parties;

A. Amnesty International Strategy
B. Amnesty International Action
C. Amnesty International Organization
D. Amnesty International Finance

It was agreed that each working party should discuss the Report of the Cambridge Crash Committee as a whole and the

specific enabling resolutions referred to that working party. It was further agreed that Working Party C should appoint a rapporteur to present a comprehensive report to the plenary on the discussions of all four working parties on the report and enabling resolutions.

It was agreed that the paper National Sections' Activities Concerning their Own Countries (ACT 01/07/77) be referred to Working Party A.

It was agreed that resolutions A9, A12, C1 and C13 be eliminated in favour of B5, and that resolution A10 be eliminated in favour of B6.

17. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS NOT REFERRED TO WORKING PARTIES

All resolutions, including emergency resolutions, were referred to the working parties for discussion.

18. PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE WEEK 1978 - DATE AND THEME

On the recommendation of Working Party B, the International Council agreed to confirm the retention of Prisoner of Conscience Week as an essential part of AI's annual program. It was further agreed that Prisoner of Conscience Week should take place during the third week of October (15-22 October 1978) and that the theme for Prisoner of Conscience Week 1978 should be "Forgotten Prisoners" (cf. ICM 15/04/77).

19. REPORTS FROM THE WORKING PARTIES

The reports from all four working parties were received and adopted with amendments. For the final approved texts, see pages 47 - 110.

Anne Marie Rodeyns (Belgian Section) presented the report on the Cambridge Crash Committee Report and Enabling Resolutions. The report was adopted as amended (see page 107).

With the comments as expressed in the various reports of the working parties, the International Council endorsed the Cambridge Crash Committee Report as a whole.

20. ELECTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The International Council elected to the International Executive Committee for a two-year term:

Dirk Börner - FRG

Thomas Hammarberg - Sweden
Irmgard Hutter - Austria
Kevin White - Ireland (Treasurer)

Dick Oosting had been elected as the International Secretariat staff representative on the IEC to serve a second year term.

21. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Arthur Andersen and Company were appointed to audit the accounts for the year 1978/79.

22.a) PLACE OF INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL 1978

The British Section extended a warm invitation to all participants to attend the 11th International Council Meeting in Cambridge, United Kingdom, which place was already agreed at the 9th International Council Meeting.

22.b) PLACE OF INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL 1979

The Belgian Section invited the 12th International Council in 1979 to be held in Bruges, Belgium, which invitation was accepted by the International Council.

23. REPORT FROM MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Leah Levin (Anti-Slavery Society and WFUNA) presented her report as rapporteur of the meeting of representatives of international organizations (see pages 111-115). On behalf of all those inter- and non-governmental organizations which were represented at the meeting, she expressed the appreciation to Amnesty International for providing this opportunity for an exchange of ideas and cooperation.

24. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The delegates from the two new national sections, in Spain and Venezuela, addressed the International Council.

25. CLOSE OF THE 10TH INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

The meeting extended its thanks to the translators and interpreters for their valuable work during the Council Meeting. Warm appreciation was expressed to the FRG Section organizers,

and to members of the International Secretariat.

The 10th International Council was formally closed by its chairman at 13.45 on Sunday 18 September.

PART TWO

DECISIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

Priority ratings: (I) - Immediate
(M) - Medium

I. STATUTE AMENDMENTS

A. Aims and Objects: Methods

1. The International Council amends article 1(a) of the Statute to read as follows:

"a) irrespective of political considerations working towards the release of and providing assistance to persons who in violation of the aforesaid provisions are imprisoned, detained, restricted or otherwise subjected to physical coercion or restriction by reason of their political, religious or other conscientiously held beliefs or by reason of their ethnic origin, sex, colour or language, provided that they have not used or advocated violence (hereinafter referred to as "Prisoners of Conscience")."

(formerly Statute Amendment S1)

2. The International Council amends article 2(f) of the Statute to read as follows:

"f) provide financial and other relief to Prisoners of Conscience and their dependants and to persons who have lately been Prisoners of Conscience or who might reasonably be expected to be Prisoners of Conscience or to become Prisoners of Conscience if convicted or if they were to return to their own countries, and to the dependants of such persons."

(formerly Statute Amendment S2)

3. The International Council amends article 2(h) of the Statute to read as follows:

"h) provide legal aid, where necessary and possible, to Prisoners of Conscience and to persons who might reasonably be expected to be Prisoners of Conscience or to become Prisoners of Conscience if convicted or if they were to return to their own countries, and where desirable, send observers to attend the trials of such persons."

(formerly addendum to Statute Amendment S2)

B. Organizational

4. The International Council amends article 12 of the Statute to read as follows:

"The International Council shall consist of the members of the International Executive Committee and of representatives of national sections and shall meet at intervals of approximately one year but in any event of not more than two years on a date fixed by the International Executive Committee. Only representatives of national sections and elected members of the International Executive Committee shall have the right to vote on the International Council."

(formerly Statute Amendment S3)

5. The International Council amends article 29 of the Statute to read as follows:

"In the event of a vacancy occurring on the committee, other than in respect of the representative of the staff, it may co-opt a further member to fill the vacancy until the next meeting of the International Council, which shall elect such members as are necessary to replace retiring members and to fill the vacancy. In the event of a vacancy occurring on the Committee in respect of the representative of the staff, the staff shall have the right to elect a successor representative to fill the unexpired term of office."

(formerly Statute Amendment S6)

II. STRATEGY: AIMS AND OBJECTS

A. General

6. The International Council,

recognizing that an Amnesty International local group cannot easily maintain credibility and impartiality except by working simultaneously for prisoners from different ideologies, either by adoption, investigation or participation in special campaigns,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to ensure that Amnesty International's impartiality is emphasized at every appropriate opportunity.

(formerly Resolution A11) (I)

7. The International Council,

considering that the program for the abolition of the death penalty should not only deal with the use of the death penalty as a legal instrument but also with the problem of political murder and disappearances,

RECOMMENDS that the aspect of political murder and disappearances be given appropriate emphasis at the Stockholm Conference.

(formerly Resolution B17) (I)

8. The International Council Meeting of Amnesty International is deeply concerned by the recent increased number of executions--intended to solve problems of criminality or resorted to as a political weapon.

This organization maintains that the reintroduction of the practice of death penalty, which is now debated, planned or already decided in many countries, is a most serious and deplorable step backwards in any society.

The International Council

WISHES TO REAFFIRM Amnesty International's position in favour of a total and global abolition of the death penalty which we strongly oppose as a cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment.

(Emergency Resolution submitted by the Swedish Section)

9. The International Council

RESOLVES that Amnesty International should regard as a Prisoner of Conscience any person who is deprived of his/her freedom in contradiction to the principles and procedures mentioned in the draft universal charter on conscientious objection of the International Peace Bureau, the Sodepax Report of the Baden Consultation (1970) and the World Conference on Religion and Peace, Kyoto, Japan (1970), except the following cases:

- the man or woman who is not willing to state the reason for his/her refusal unless it can be inferred on all circumstances of the case that it is based on conscientious objection;

- the man or woman who is offered--and refuses--alternative service completely outside the "war machine", for instance working in the office of an humanitarian organization of his/her own choice and where the length of the alternative service cannot be considered as punishment for his/her conscientious objection.

(formerly Resolution A7) (I)

10. The International Council

AGREES TO RETAIN the guideline 5 relating to Conscientious Objection endorsed by the 1972 International Council to the following extent:

A. Delete guideline 5(d) and substitute a new guideline to read:

"Non-recognition of his conscientious objection status despite the existence on grounds of conscience on his part developed after conscription into the armed forces"

B. Add a new guideline to read:

"His imprisonment as a consequence of his leaving the armed forces without authorization for reasons of conscience developed after conscription into the armed forces, if he has taken such reasonable steps to secure his release by lawful means as might grant him release from the military obligations on the grounds of conscience or if he did not use those means because of their absence or because he has been deprived of reasonable access to the knowledge of them."

(formerly Resolution A8) (I)

11. The International Council,

considering that the problems relating to conscientious objection are particularly acute in several countries,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to undertake campaign activities for the release of conscientious objectors in those countries and to assemble and make available the information upon which such campaigns could be based.

(formerly Resolution A6) (I)

12. See Part Three, page 46.

B. Specific

13. The International Council,

noting recent exchanges involving political prisoners in various countries (Bukovsky-Corvalan, Montes-11 GDR prisoners, and other planned exchanges),

recalling every government's duty to release all prisoners of conscience without conditions,

CONFIRMS the fundamental right of every person to move freely within his/her own country and the right not to be forced into exile,

EXPRESSES its deep concern that the release of prisoners by exchange may become dependent on political expediency, that considerations of supply and demand may regulate the number of persons released, and that people might be arrested in order to be used in future exchanges,

AFFIRMS that no part of Amnesty International should be involved in arranging such trade in human beings,

REQUESTS all governments to release all prisoners of conscience without conditions.

(Emergency Resolution submitted by the FRG Section)

14. The International Council

places on record its grave concern at the death in police custody in Johannesburg on 12 September of Steve Biko, Honorary President of the Black People's Convention,

conscious that this is the 21st known death of South African political detainees in police custody since March 1976,

the International Council of Amnesty International

DIRECTS the International Executive Committee to take appropriate action forthwith:

1. to invite the appropriate organs of the United Nations to carry out a full, public investigation of the circumstances under which political detainees in police custody have died in the course of the last five years;

2. that unless such an investigation is undertaken by the United Nations within a reasonable time, Amnesty International should undertake, either on its own, or in collaboration with other international organizations, a full, public investigation of the matters set out in the preceding paragraph.

(Emergency resolution submitted by the Irish and French Sections)

15. The International Council,

noting that of the 1,000,000 Koreans now residing in Japan ("resident-in-Japan Koreans"), though some originally came as a result of a forced emigration campaign imposed on them by their Japanese colonial masters from 1905 to 1945, the vast majority were born in Japan yet have little hope of attaining the rights of the Japanese citizen;

recognizing that some 60 resident-in-Japan Korean political prisoners have been jailed in the Republic of Korea since 1970 on alleged "spy" charges based on confessions allegedly forced or tortured out of them, with rare reference to material evidence by the courts;

INSTRUCTS the International Executive Committee to have the Asia Research Department launch at an appropriate time an urgent action campaign for those resident-in-Japan Koreans sentenced to death (Choi Chul Gyo, Chin Do Hyon, Paek Ok Kwang, Kwan Jon Hong, Lee Chul and Kwan U Gyu).

(Emergency resolution submitted by the Japanese Section)

16. The International Council,

recognizing the important role played by regional human rights commissions for the protection of human rights in countries falling within the jurisdiction of such commissions,

noting the recommendation of the Pacific Regional Conference of Amnesty International which called for the development in Asia of "a regional appeals machinery for defendants who believe that their legal rights have not been protected by the existing legal structures in their own countries",

affirming that the evolution of regional human rights machinery appropriate to the Asian region (or its sub-regions) would represent a significant step towards the enhancement and protection of the human rights which Amnesty International seeks to promote, and

recalling that article 2(b) of the international Statute enables Amnesty International to work for the adoption of appropriate conventions, treaties and other measures which guarantee the provisions referred to in article 1 of the Statute; therefore

RESOLVES

a) to support concrete initiatives from within the Asian region for the discussion, promotion and creation of human rights machinery appropriate to the region;

b) to endorse and encourage the role of Amnesty International national sections working towards this objective; and

c) to request the Meeting of Asian Participants to invite suggestions and examine the possibilities of action in the region in pursuit of this goal.

(formerly Resolution A19)

III. PROGRAM: ACTION AND TECHNIQUES

A. Work of National Sections and Groups

17. The International Council,

facing the exciting growth and development of the Amnesty International movement in many national sections,

realizing the increasing burden put on the international organization and particularly the International Secretariat and the International Executive Committee,

convinced that Amnesty International must maintain an open movement based on membership,

considering the necessity that Amnesty International must develop new and more forceful techniques to cope with the deteriorating human rights situation in many countries,

understanding that effective work for prisoners requires training and accountability,

RESOLVES that

a) The development of the sections should be encouraged, as should the training of each section's membership. The growth of smaller sections should be given a high priority.

b) For the work of the group the following basic aims are valid:

i) every adoption group will work for at least two prisoners;

ii) the groups will assume responsibility for further methods according to their preferences and possibilities, in particular urgent actions and participation in national and international campaigns;

c) In carrying out public actions every group should demonstrate the impartiality of Amnesty International;

d) Consideration must be given to an expansion of the International Secretariat to enable it to cope with the further growth of the movement in the spirit of the aforementioned basic principles.

(formerly Resolution B5) (M)

18. The International Council,

considering that the impartiality of Amnesty International can be demonstrated on the national section and group level through other activities,

DECIDES that the adoption system of "threes" be abandoned as a binding practice.

(arising from Working Party B
formerly Enabling Resolution 10)

19. The International Council,

having studied the problems caused to the International Secretariat by the rapid growth of Amnesty International around the world, and with reference to the fundamental principles of Amnesty International which have constituted its effectiveness in the past, that is to say,

- the impartial adoption of prisoners,
- the personal commitment of the members to the release of prisoners of conscience,

considering that the adoption of three prisoners has proved effective as well as useful,

REQUESTS the International Secretariat to have as a priority the allocation of three cases to all adoption groups in the small sections. Large sections will have to adapt themselves to the annual quota for new cases assigned to them.

(formerly Resolution B6)(M)

20. The International Council,

recognizing the enormous difficulties for the International Secretariat to produce sufficient case sheets,

understanding the fear of smaller sections to be hampered in their growth by the restriction of the number of adoption groups,

RECOMMENDS the International Executive Committee and the International

Secretariat to distribute the available case sheets among national sections with adequate resources according to standards favouring the smaller sections. National sections will distribute these case sheets to adoption groups keeping guard over the necessary impartiality.

(formerly Resolution B8) (M)

21. The International Council,

in order to bring more effective pressure to bear on an international scale for the release of individual prisoners,

while recognizing the problems of coordination,

at the same time, firmly believing that these can be overcome and that the resulting benefits to Amnesty International and to the prisoners themselves far outweigh the disadvantages,

RESOLVES that the International Executive Committee should develop the practice of double or multiple adoption by adoption groups of different national sections in all cases where such multiple adoption would be in the interest of the individual prisoner.

(formerly Resolution B11) (I)

22. The International Council,

URGES again that when certain prisoners are being treated as a group by the authorities, an adoption group should be able to adopt or to investigate more than one of this group of prisoners, where this is in the best interests of those prisoners.

(formerly Resolution B12) (I)

23. The International Council,

having considered the adoption technique in the context of Amnesty International's resources and potential for effective action,

DECIDES to accept that projections of case sheet production be set annually by the International Executive Committee;

CONFIRMS that double and multiple adoption of prisoners can be a valuable technique for group work;

RECOMMENDS that further attempts be made to develop country adoption and other techniques for group involvement in prisoner work;

RECOMMENDS also that campaigns and other country-related actions should as much as possible be related to individual casework by the groups working on various countries, and that all adoption groups should be prepared to participate in campaigns or other actions on countries where Amnesty International has little or no individual casework,

STRESSES the need to improve the flow of communication from the International Executive Committee and the International Secretariat through the national sections to groups and individual members regarding Amnesty International action on all levels.

(Arising from Working Party B formerly Enabling Resolution 11) (M except for first operative paragraph, which is I)

24. The International Council,

recognizing the importance for Amnesty International groups to work as effectively as possible on behalf of political prisoners,

RESOLVES to interpret article 2(e) of the Amnesty International Statute as meaning that, in addition to work on behalf of prisoners of conscience and investigation cases, Amnesty International groups may have amongst others the following tasks:

a) to support Amnesty International campaigns against violations of human rights in particular countries;

b) to work for the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture and for the abolition of the death penalty;

c) to inform the general public about the work and the aims of Amnesty International on a local level;

d) to support Amnesty International's work financially;

e) to recruit new members.

(formerly Resolution C14)

25. The International Council,

considering that coordination groups perform a useful function within Amnesty International both with regard to implementing and coordinating Amnesty International strategy on a national level and with regard to collecting information for research purposes,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee and the national sections:

a) to give priority to the establishment and development of coordination groups; in sections where this is not yet possible to appoint some Amnesty International members with the specific responsibility for "country work";

b) to stimulate the cooperation between the International Secretariat and coordination groups in order to ensure

- a regular exchange of information

- an active participation of the coordination groups in the preparation for the decision-making process of the Amnesty International strategy on the countries concerned, if possible through international meetings on countries.

(formerly Resolution C12) (I)

26. The International Council,

stressing that Amnesty International should be maintained as an organization composed of an active membership of committed persons working for prisoners within the terms of reference provided by the Statute,

RECOMMENDS to the national sections, to the International Executive Committee and to the International Secretariat that large-scale individual, non-participating membership should only be sought in countries where there exists a national structure, recognized by the International Executive Committee, and able to sustain a substantial number of individual subscribing members who do not actively participate in Amnesty International's work.

(arising from Working Party C
formerly enabling Resolution 2)

B. Decentralization and Strengthening of National Sections

27. The International Council,

noting that the purpose of Prisoner of Conscience Year was to increase awareness of Amnesty International and to strengthen its national sections around the world,

and noting that the campaign has resulted in strengthening support in countries where Amnesty International is already well established but regretting that it has not made a substantial impact outside these areas,

recognizing that many of the basic problems faced in the newer sections are similar regardless of region,

RESOLVES that a special meeting be held among members of the younger sections giving them a forum in which to exchange ideas regarding the specific national and regional difficulties facing them. This meeting would be a workshop on such matters as growth and development, participation of members in sections facing political difficulties, use of educational materials, action, finances, etc.

This meeting should be held prior to the 1978 International Council to advise the International Council Meeting as to the necessary steps to be taken to improve the situation.

(arising from Working Party B) (I-M)

28. The International Council,

recognizing that the growth of Amnesty International requires that national sections more effectively fulfill their role in organizing and developing group work in their own countries,

reaffirming that the unity of expression and the effectiveness of the organization requires a fully coordinated research, action and policy program under the responsibility of the International Executive Committee,

AGREES that decentralization, as proposed by the International Executive Committee at its May 1977 meeting should be given a high priority, starting with the allocation of case sheets to national sections and a consequent decentralization of correspondence to groups whenever feasible, preceded in each case by the necessary study and experimentation,

URGES the national sections and the International Executive Committee to exercise utmost care to ensure the efficiency of the work at all stages of the process of decentralization from the International Secretariat to the national sections,

URGES the national sections as a matter of priority to establish adequate secretariat (or equivalent) facilities in order to be able to handle efficiently and to use effectively all relevant action and information material from the International Secretariat,

STRESSES the need for careful planning and training at all levels of the movement as part of the preparation for decentralization.

(arising from Working Party C
formerly Enabling Resolution 12)

29. The International Council,

stressing the urgent need for proper training of members and staff of Amnesty International on all levels throughout the movement,

REQUESTS the national sections, the International Executive Committee and the International Secretariat to prepare and introduce training programs both nationally and internationally in accordance with the guidelines offered by the Cambridge Crash Committee, and to consider such programs as of high priority,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee and national sections to arrange a program of visits of International Secretariat staff to national sections and, reciprocally, by members of national sections to the International Secretariat, to participate in the training program at national and international levels,

DECIDES that provision should be made in the international budget for the current and subsequent years for training programs within the International Secretariat and to assist national sections to arrange such programs on an inter-section basis,

RESOLVES national sections and the International Executive

Committee to report to the International Council in 1978 on the steps taken to establish and implement comprehensive Amnesty International training programs.

(arising from Working Party C
formerly Enabling Resolution 8)

30. The International Council,

recognizing the importance of the membership's participation in the policy-making and control of the movement as a whole,

recognizing also the importance of improving the exchange of experience, ideas and information materials between national sections,

URGES the International Executive Committee and the national sections to seek efficient channels of communication in order to guarantee all parts of the organization adequate participation in the policy and decision-making processes on the national and international levels,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee, in consultation with the appropriate membership, to seek new ways of involving membership on a transnational, regional or other basis in areas where insufficient or no Amnesty International structures exist at present,

further REQUESTS the International Executive Committee, without additional staff, to study the proposal from the Cambridge Crash Committee to amend the Statute to enable the International Executive Committee every year to invite as observers at the International Council not more than four Amnesty International members from different countries or areas where Amnesty International has no national sections but is otherwise represented, also taking into consideration the possibility of their being elected at regional meetings, with a view to presenting an amendment to the Statute to that effect to the 1978 International Council.

(arising from Working Party C
formerly Enabling Resolution 14)

31. The International Council,

stressing the need to devote a considerably larger proportion of the resources of the movement to the strengthening of national sections' structures and capacities,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to examine ways and means of providing appropriate financial assistance to national sections in the context of a comprehensive program to develop and strengthen national sections and report progress to the 1978 International Council.

(arising from Working Party D
formerly Enabling Resolution 13)

C. Development and Multilingualism

32. The International Council,

recognizing the need for further exploration of programs and techniques for Amnesty International's development,

recalling the detailed and concrete resolutions on development adopted by the Askov, St. Gallen and Strasbourg Council Meetings,

regretting that so far these resolutions have not been implemented effectively due to lack of financial resources in such a way as to really achieve a universalization of the movement;

RESOLVES

a) to instruct the International Executive Committee to implement immediately these resolutions;

b) to give high priority to this implementation program and

c) to include specific provisions for implementation of these resolutions in the regular budget to enable the International Executive Committee to fulfill this mandate. These provisions should be incorporated into the budget on a progressive basis in the first instance amounting to not less than 7.5% of the total budget.

(arising from Working Party C
formerly Enabling Resolution 4)

33. The International Council,

considering:

a) the significance of documents, briefings and mission reports for an efficient Amnesty International action,

b) the necessity that all such documents be available to the movement in French and Spanish as soon as possible,

c) the fact that efficacy must remain limited until the translations into French and Spanish are made available,

REQUESTS that between the International Secretariat, the French-speaking and the Spanish-speaking sections, new ways be found and the necessary funds provided, to have those documents considered as essential for the information and political activities of Amnesty International translated into French and Spanish at the time the English original is being prepared, in order to issue the French and Spanish editions as shortly as possible after their publication in English.

(formerly Resolution B22) (I)

34. The International Council,

recognizing the importance of multilingualism within Amnesty International,

noting the limited resources of the International Secretariat,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee and national sections to further stimulate the process of decentralized production of Amnesty International information materials in languages other than English;

DECIDES that the International Secretariat Multilingualism Department should develop a program for languages of countries or areas with little developed Amnesty International presence and review what presently has been done in consultation with the various national sections.

(formerly Resolution C16) (I)

D. Action Calendar

35. The International Council,

welcoming the implementation of the International Council decision of Strasbourg regarding the publication of the action calendar,

realizing the difficulties in the International Secretariat of long range planning,

RESOLVES that

a) the action calendar shall appear whenever necessary for

the following five months, including all changes of the previously published calendar;

b) the International Executive Committee should indicate priorities for the sections;

c) changes should be reported at once to one contact person responsible for actions in each section;

d) publications should, wherever possible, be published on the same date in several languages, if the sections have agreed to translate and publish the report in their own language, which means that the manuscript ought to be sent to sections in time for translation according to its length;

e) the International Secretariat be asked to do the utmost to coordinate the planned campaigns more effectively within the International Secretariat;

f) the International Secretariat be requested to have more regard for the capacity of the sections and groups and to schedule more realistically the dates of the issue of the campaign materials.

(formerly Resolution B2) (I)

E. Publications

36. The International Council,

recognizing that the Annual Report as a comprehensive document has become an invaluable source of information about Amnesty International's work throughout the world,

noting the different way in which each country is presented in the report,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to decide upon a structure for the Annual Report for 1977/78 not later than at the April meeting,

having in mind that this structure would also facilitate the task of the editor and the researchers who face the problems of how comprehensive the report should be.

The structure should contain criteria for dealing with each country and area in the report, such as forms of repression, number of prisoners, legal situation, etc.

(formerly Resolution B20) (M)

37. The International Council,

reaffirming the importance of exchange of opinions and experiences among Amnesty International members in the Asia-Pacific Region as was strongly emphasized at the Pacific Regional Conference,

recognizing the significance of the joint publication of the AI In Asia Newsletter to promote such horizontal communication among people in the region,

noting that such horizontal communication will mutually benefit the people in the region and contribute greatly to the development of the Amnesty International movement in the area,

reaffirming that the editing and funding for the publication of the Newsletter will continue to be the responsibilities of the national sections within the region,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to render financial assistance to ensure adequate international distribution of the Newsletter.

(formerly Resolution C15) (I)

38. In view of the growing impact of Amnesty International publications, and bearing in mind the established practice of international organizations, it is urgent that close cooperation be established between the authors or originators of Amnesty International texts and the editors in the language of writing, and that those editors should be entrusted with the responsibility for the proper shape and presentation of the end product.

Though the originators must check the final text for accuracy of facts and political content, this should be done in agreement with the editors.

(arising from Working Party B)

F. Campaign for the Abolition of Torture

39. The International Council,

having noted the resolution of the Section of the Federal Republic of Germany concerning, in the context of the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture, the use of medical experiments

with human volunteers and animals in order to determine the biological effects of electrical torture,

understanding the concern which is attached to the involvement of Amnesty International in these experiments,

recognizing however the complexity of the whole issue and the insufficiency of time for thorough deliberation,

INSTRUCTS the International Executive Committee to establish a forum for fuller discussions among the membership of the question and to report to the next meeting of the International Council.

(formerly Resolution B16) (I)

G. International Council Meeting and International Executive Committee

40. The International Council,

RESOLVES

a) i) that all resolutions brought before an International Council Meeting be required to be submitted to the International Executive Committee three months in advance of the date of the Council meeting, accompanied by a brief statement of intent and of the reasons for the resolution;

ii) that the International Executive Commtitee appoint a Resolutions Committee to consider all submitted resolutions and:

- to draft or re-draft the resolution where it seems necessary to fulfill the statement of intent,
- where it seems desirable for simpler debate and voting to propose combination of resolutions which overlap in intent and to break any resolution which is unwieldy or which raises separable issues to a series of simpler resolutions. Both the original resolutions and the proposed combinations will be circulated to the sections.
- where the intent seems to reflect a mistake, to return the resolution to the proposer with a brief explanation;

iii) that the International Executive Committee direct the Administrative Manager to cost International Council resolutions and to attach the cost estimate

and indication of budget line (area in budget to place expenditure) to the text of draft resolutions in International Council documents;

b) i) provided that in case of rejection or modification the proposer shall have the right to bring the resolution before the Council in its original form, informing the International Executive Committee of their intention at least three clear weeks before the Council meeting (or within two weeks of receiving notice of amendment or rejection by the Resolutions Committee whichever is the later);

ii) provided also that any resolution on any matter which could not reasonably have been seen to be important in good time to meet the deadline for submission to the Resolutions Committee shall count as an emergency resolution and may be accepted at the meeting subject to standard procedure for emergency resolutions;

iii) concerned with the overall policy and program of the movement, decided that in the future a national section wishing to submit a resolution on the work of Amnesty International on a specific country, should submit their intent to do so to the International Executive Committee four months before the International Council Meeting in order to obtain its views and opinions. If the section does not consider the response from the International Executive Committee to be satisfactory, they may still submit the resolution in time to the Council.

(formerly Resolutions C7 and C8)

41. The International Council,

noting the increasing participation in Amnesty International work by members in the regions other than Europe and North America,

recognizing that, to ensure global involvement, their participation in the decision-making process of the International Executive Committee is important,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to conduct, in collaboration with members of different regions, a study of possible ways in which this may be achieved and to report back to the 1978 International Council.

(formerly Resolution C9) (I)

IV. FINANCE AND BUDGET

42. The International Council,

recognizing that the figure of £750,000 agreed as a budget figure for the year 1977/78 is inadequate to finance the work of the International Secretariat for the current financial year,

DECIDES to rescind the decision taken up by the 1976 International Council Meeting to place a ceiling on the expenditure level of the International Secretariat at £750,000 for 1977/78

(formerly Resolution D1)

43. The International Council,

noting the decision of the International Council Meeting 1976 to apply the new system of assessing national section contributions as from 1978,

noting further that some problems, such as:

- on which budget the "group fee" will be determined
- how the "income related fee" will be established
- what will be the consequences in this system for the national and international budgets

have not yet been solved to the satisfaction of all sections,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to study the working of the new system in detail as soon as possible and to send the results of this study to the national sections in January 1978, asking the national sections to comment on this proposal before April 1978.

(formerly Resolution D4)

44. The International Council,

noting that the International Executive Commtitee at its meeting held on 1,2 and 3 April 1977 approved the following indemnity covering signatories to the lease on the building located at 10 Southampton Street, London, WC2E 7HF:

"The International Executive Committee, having decided to enter into a lease on the premises located at Tower House, 8-14 Southampton Street, London, WC2E 7HF, for the purposes of housing the International Secretariat, noting that Amnesty International has no legal status within the United Kingdom and consequently is unable to sign the lease in its own right, and further noting that the owners of the said property require two of the

signatories to have UK residential status, nominate Martin Ennals, Thomas Hammarberg, and Tom Blumenau to sign the aforementioned lease on behalf of the International Executive Committee of Amnesty International. In doing so the International Executive Committee hereby undertake to indemnify all signatories of the lease nominated by Amnesty International for any personal liability they may incur or have incurred as a result of the said signatories."

hereby ENDORSES and itself AUTHORIZES the above indemnity.

(formerly Resolution D6)

45. The International Council,

noting that at present the Press and Communications Department of the International Secretariat does not have an operations budget; that some of its main operations, such as the printing of the Newsletter and Spanish Bulletin are in fact being covered by the Publications Unit budget and that others, such as the issuing of news releases, are incorporated into general office costs;

realizing that this situation contributes to the increasing budgetary deficit of the Publications Unit;

recognizing that in order to enable the International Secretariat to work out a rational program, it is essential that the International Executive Committee request the International Secretariat to draw up an accurate, itemized costing of the Press and Communications Department in terms of services, materials and labour used;

DECIDES that the International Executive Committee shall request the International Secretariat to draw up the required costing as soon as practicable.

(arising from Working Party B)

46. The International Council,

recognizing the need for the international budget to be based on a realistic assessment of the planned programs and of the anticipated availability of financial resources,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to implement as soon as possible a system of budgeting based on defined and planned programs in terms of research, documentation, action and other activities, taking account of organizational, administrative, salary and other program related cost factors;

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to report progress to the International Council 1978;

REQUESTS the national sections to assist in the planning of such program budgets by aiming at providing the International Executive Committee with annually updated three-year projections of their possible income and expenditure, and also of their resources in terms of national section capacity, not later than one year in advance of the start of the budget year.

(arising from Working Party D
formerly Enabling Resolution 7)

47. The International Council,

REQUESTS that in presenting budgets, the International Executive Committee should continue its practice of including a contingency sum of about 5 per cent for, among other things, the implementation of resolutions passed by the Council, according to the priorities attached to those resolutions by the Council.

(arising from Working Party D)

48. The International Council

APPROVES the revised budget for the year 1977/78.

(arising from Working Party D)

49. The International Council

APPROVES the budget for the year 1978/79.

(arising from Working Party D)

50. The International Council

DECIDES that the annual fee for the financial year 1978/79 shall be:

a) group related fee of £240 based on the actual number of groups as of 30 April 1978.

b) income related fee of 41.2% based on income figures available at the time of this Council.

(arising from Working Party D)

51. The International Council,

REQUESTS the International Treasurer to convene a meeting of national section representatives to discuss financial matters in the spring of 1978.

(arising from Working Party D)

52. The International Council

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to establish the proposed Consolidated Special Project Fund and to draft categories in such a way in order to ensure that no ongoing activity of Amnesty International be financed from the Consolidated Special Project Fund.

The International Council further ENDORSES the principles suggested in the proposal for the establishment of the Consolidated Special Project Fund (see AI Index: ICM 14/10/77) as initial guidelines for the operation of the fund, subject to the following amendments:

para. 9.viii)

to add: "Monies raised and given for one of the categories should not be spent for other purposes without the consent of the donor."

para 9.x)

to read:"Each project should normally not exceed six months and £5,000. A longer term and/or more expensive project should always be decided by the International Executive Committee clearly stating the reasons for such an exception. Every project shall immediately be fully financed from the Consolidated Special Project Fund--if that is not possible, the project will have to wait."

(arising from Working Party D)

PART THREE
RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO
THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

II. STRATEGY : AIMS AND OBJECTS

A. General

1. The International Council,

confirms that, in fulfilling the mandate laid down in its Statute, Amnesty International is to be, and to present itself as, an organization working in the field of human rights for prisoners. Reference should be made to the prisoner focus of Amnesty International's work in publications; all national sections, groups and members are urged to keep this orientation in mind in their public declarations.

(formerly Resolution A2)

2. The International Council,

noting the need for a long term strategy discussion based on analysis of repression within the wider economic and political environment in the different countries,

recognizing that encouraging steps have been taken, e.g. in the paragraph introducing Latin America in the 1975/76 Annual Report by correlating trends of repression within countries in that area with socio-economic indicators thereby providing more insight into the causes of repression,

noting that a discussion in the Amnesty International membership on priorities, strategy and the causes of repression would be facilitated and therefore could result in new ideas presented to the International Executive Committee and International Secretariat,

requests the International Executive Committee to hasten the above-mentioned steps and to ensure that future Annual Reports include socio-economic indicators and an analysis of repression within the wider economic and political environment in the different countries.

(formerly Resolution 20(b))

considérant que les zones d'influence, et par conséquent l'organisation de campagnes de pression sur les gouvernements de ces pays sont souvent les mêmes,

décide de confier à un chercheur les seuls pays d'Afrique Noire Francophone,

demande au Département de la Recherche de confier les pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest anglophone et lusitophone à un autre chercheur.

(formerly Resolution A16)

Translation:

The International Council,

considering that the Research Department has not been given the necessary means for carrying out even basic work on the 20 or so countries in French-speaking black Africa,

considering that these countries represent a single unit because of the language employed for international use, and to some degree because of their legal system,

considering that the zones of influence, and consequently the organization of campaigns of pressure on these governments are often the same,

decides to request the International Executive Committee to appoint one researcher with responsibility solely for the countries of French-speaking black Africa,

and decides furthermore to request the IEc to allocate responsibility for the English-speaking and Portuguese-speaking countries of West Africa to another researcher.

7. Le Conseil International,

considérant que le travail d'adoption, d'intervention et de pression en Afrique ne deviendra efficace que lorsque l'image conforme d'Amnesty International sera connue des gouvernements et du public africains,

considérant comme essential que les Africains participent activement avec l'autorité morale importante qu'ils représentent, au combat que mène Amnesty International,

décide de mettre immédiatement en oeuvre la création souhaitée par les Conseils Internationaux précédents d'un poste de responsable régional du développement en Afrique. Ce dernier s'efforcera particulièrement de faire revivre une structure au Ghana, d'aider les sections existantes et de créer sans retard des structures de travail dans des pays comme le Sénégal, la Côte d'Ivoire, la Tunisie et les pays du sud où ne sévit pas l'Apartheid.

(formerly Resolution A17)

Translation:

The International Council,

considering that the adoption work, appeals and general pressure on African countries will only be effective when Amnesty International's image is known to the governments and peoples of Africa,

considering that in certain African countries Amnesty International structures could function quite freely,

considering that it is essential that Africans with the important moral authority that they represent, participate actively in Amnesty International's work,

decides to immediately implement former Council recommendations that a post of liaison officer for Africa (field secretary) be created. This person will particularly try to re-activate a structure in Ghana, help existing sections and create without delay structures for Amnesty International work in countries such as Senegal, Ivory Coast, Tunisia and those countries of the south which are not scourged by apartheid.

8. The International Council,

gravely concerned about the extent of cooperation between some national secret services and the Iranian secret service SAVAK, which has the effect that some Iranians might become Prisoners of Conscience or be executed when returning to their home country,

realizing that foreigners living in these countries are endangered by the operation of foreign secret services such as SAVAK,

clarifying that through such cooperation the participating governments may share the responsibility for this political persecution,

urges the governments of these countries to stop such cooperation with and to prevent such activities of secret services in their country,

and asks the International Executive Committee to take appropriate action.

(formerly Resolutions A20 and A21) (M)

9. The International Council,

asks the International Executive Committee:

a) to urge national sections to request their own governments to direct their representatives to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to have the Amnesty International document entitled The Human Rights Situation in Uganda, presently tabled indefinitely, brought up for discussion at its next meeting;

b) to request the Organization of African Unity to consider the matter of human rights in Uganda and specifically to revoke the principle that this is an internal matter.

(formerly Resolution A22)

10. The International Council,

pending the appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights or a United Nations Tribunal,

resolves that appropriate action should be taken to encourage:

a) governments to ratify the two United Nations International Covenants on Human Rights and to adhere to the human rights protocols,

b) the present United Nations Commission on Human Rights to meet more frequently - if possible in permanent session,

c) Amnesty International and other human rights organizations to explore how the United Nations Commission on Human Rights might be enabled to overcome its widely recognized defects,

d) governments to study new methods of work which would make the commitment of the United Nations to the maintenance of human rights more effective.

(formerly Resolution A18)

II. PROGRAM, ACTION AND TECHNIQUES

A. Campaign for the Abolition of Torture

11. The International Council

asks the International Secretariat to develop the possibilities of broadcasting to those countries where torture and other infringements of human rights within the Amnesty International mandate occur details of those infringements.

(formerly Resolution B14)

12. The International Council

requests the International Secretariat to collect available information about the use of torture by non-governmental organizations (entities not exercising state authority) and where possible to take appropriate action when specific allegations of torture or other infringements of human rights within Amnesty International's mandate come to its attention.

(formerly Resolution B15)

B. Death Penalty

13. The International Council,

recognizing the importance of the program for the abolition of capital punishment for Amnesty International's work,

and noting the preparations made so far for the Stockholm Conference,

decides that:

a) a long term planning for the program be developed comprising activities at national section level to combat the use of the death penalty, political murder and disappearances;

b) the Stockholm Conference and seminars be an integral part of this planning.

(formerly Resolution B18)

C. Human Rights Awareness

14. The International Council,

considering the recommendations contained in the Cambridge Crash Committee Report concerning the function and role of human rights awareness and education within the program of Amnesty International,

confirming that these matters are within the terms of reference of the organization as laid down in the Statute,

realizing that this is a complex and specialized field, in which Amnesty International has to limit itself to a selection of well-defined programs,

decides that:

a) national sections should report to the International Secretariat on existing or developing programs in their countries in the field of school- or community-oriented education, in order that they can be analyzed and made available to other national sections and to other organizations, as appropriate;

b) the International Executive Committee should commission a short-term study to establish ways and means for Amnesty International to stimulate and encourage other bodies, governmental and non-governmental, to systematically spread information about internationally recognized human rights and instruments for their protection;

c) "seed money" should be made available over a period of several years to assist other organizations in undertaking projects of this kind;

d) the International Executive Committee should approach other bodies urging them to develop and implement programs of human rights education and awareness, particularly during the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for which the United Nations General Assembly has selected human rights education as the special theme;

e) the International Executive Committee should report to the next meeting of the International Council concerning the priority to be accorded to programs of human rights education and awareness in the short, medium and long term.

(arising from Working Party A
formerly Enabling Resolution 3)

D. Greetings Card Campaign

15. The International Council,

recognizing that when Amnesty International in its beginning was a small organization with a limited membership, the positive effect of the Greetings Card Campaign was probably predominant, but in an organization with over 100,000 members where you can count on ten thousands of letters directed to an individual in a difficult situation, the effects of the campaign can easily be counter-productive or even harm the prisoner,

therefore resolves to instruct the International Secretariat to end this campaign or to reconstruct it in a restrictive way.

(formerly Resolution B13)

E. Symbol

16. The International Council,

considering the fact that several sections do not use the candle as Amnesty International's symbol anymore,

noting however that some other sections attach high value to this symbol and would therefore prevent other organizations with interests contrary to Amnesty International's aims and methods to use it,

decides to recognize the candle as the original symbol of Amnesty International thereby making it possible for sections to have it legally protected if they consider it necessary.

(formerly Resolution B23)

III. FINANCE AND BUDGET

17. The International Council,

assuming that it will be agreed that a new scheme for collecting fees will be introduced for 1978/79 budget based on gross income rather than nett income,

considering further that the various sections would be entitled to certain deductions and also an escape clause would be applicable,

considering that the fact of extracting the relevant information should produce uniform and consistent results from all sections,

resolves that an internationally adopted uniform administration should be set up specifying in detail the book-keeping principles to be followed.

(formerly Resolution D2)

18. The International Council urges the International Executive Committee to make a study about the functions, structure and size of the International Secretariat for the coming 5-year period and to report to the International Council Meeting in 1978.

(arising from Working Party D formerly enabling resolution 6)

19. The International Council,

considering that certain governments imprison because of sexual orientation or sexual behaviour between consenting adults,

AFFIRMS that Amnesty International considers to be Prisoners of Conscience persons detained or imprisoned because of such orientation or behaviour provided that those persons have not infringed the human rights of any other person,

REQUESTS the International Executive Committee to report to the 1978 International Council on the various ways of helping this category of Prisoners of Conscience.

(formerly Resolution A3)

Note: In the Decisions of the 10th International Council circulated in November 1977 (AI Index: ICM 02/03/77) this resolution was recorded as having been adopted by the International Council and the reference to the International Executive Committee was treated as an amendment. The Chairman of the International Council has ruled that the decision by the Council was to refer the resolution to the International Executive Committee.

PART FOUR
REPORTS OF WORKING PARTIES

REPORT OF WORKING PARTY A: STRATEGY

Chairman: Michael Klein (FRG Section)

Rapporteur: John Coombs (Australian Section)

Working Party A adopted at the outset the principles recommended in Dirk Börner's paper (see ICM 14/06/77) that there should be no submission of the rapporteur's report back to the Working Party before its presentation to the plenary session.

The agenda with amendments and additions was adopted.

General Discussion of Cambridge Crash Committee Report

As a preliminary matter the view was expressed that a great deal of this report was not appropriate for discussion in this Working Party. Nonetheless, discussion on particular aspects was felt to be helpful.

C. Relations with Governments

The view was expressed that AI has from time to time been involved in diplomatic scheming instead of direct open work for prisoners, and that this might reflect an attitude that we had let our image or status become too important.

There was consensus that we did not and should not tailor our attitude to a particular country to fit in with inter-governmental organizations (IGO) work.

Nonetheless UN and other IGO work was seen as an important part of AI's work and effective in its expressed concern for the fate and life of prisoners.

It was felt that this work should not interfere with the basic prisoner orientation of AI and the production of case sheets which it was said are the "life-blood" of AI.

Whilst recognizing the natural or built-in conflict between the hard-line criticism and soft-line diplomacy, AI must never compromise for the purpose of preserving an image or status.

There was also felt to be a need to maintain flexibility in dealing direct with governments and the guiding principle should be what is best and most effective for prisoners.

The view was also expressed that general human rights work within the organization should be confined generally to the two Covenants and the Protocol, as a framework, and especially to ratification.

D. Human Rights Education

In general it was felt that the movement's activities should at least for the moment be confined rather than widened. The best human rights education was ordinary AI work with reports of violations and action in respect of them having a priority, educative in itself.

It was said that AI's special role is working for prisoners of conscience and that we should concentrate on that and not be an educative body.

In educative programs it was felt that AI should take an initiating or catalyst role, encouraging educative programs rather than conducting them. Some felt that resources should be devoted to education. Others strongly opposed this.

Enabling Resolution 1

There was a clear majority support for the spirit underlying enabling resolution 1.

As appears from the above, it was felt that Item 6 and Item 8 were discussed in the general discussion.

Views critical of the whole resolution were expressed:

a) that there was a risk that it would create a "Statute within a Statute";

b) that it was too restrictive;

c) that there were too many and very complicated points dealt with;

d) that it was inconsistent and a hotch-potch of views.

Some people felt that prisoner orientation needed stressing and that human rights education needed much greater consideration.

The resolution was moved to the bottom of the agenda

for consideration after discussion with other working parties dealing with it.

Resolution A2

The view was expressed that this resolution was too restrictive because it leaves out many aspects of AI work. Also it was thought that the language could be taken as referring to prison conditions. It was also felt that the resolution as a whole was unclear.

There was discussion as to the definition of "prisoner" and that perhaps "prisoner" could include people in hiding and also people in insane asylums.

It was explained that the object of the resolution was to emphasize the prisoner orientation. It was decided by consensus to recommend that the ICM refer the resolution to the IEC as a guideline.

Resolution A1

The Dutch Section supported this resolution by reference to its paper and explained that it felt that there were inconsistencies within article 1 of the Statute, and that also difficulties of interpretation of the article between the IS, national sections and the IEC, had arisen.

It was hoped that this committee could produce a final form which would enable a clear and uniform image to be presented.

On the contrary, it was said that the resolution was both dangerous and unnecessary. The proposed committee would be a very important committee and although it was not said to be the intention to widen or alter the scope of AI, this might occur. Why, it was argued, should we over-refine or debate an article which has worked and is still working? It was necessary to have faith in the IS and IEC and it was felt that no definition could be perfect and always right. It was also stated that difficulties of interpretation permitted a flexibility which was useful on a case by case basis. The resolution was defeated by a majority but the minority was strong.

Resolution A3

In support of this resolution the French Section explained that a particular case had given rise to it. The specific case was one where homosexuality had been the pretext for political arrest. The French Section had been criticized for the failure of AI to adopt this prisoner.

The freedom of choice in sexual matters was emphasized and

the points contained in the St Gallen paper in support of homosexuals as prisoners of conscience were adopted.

It was further emphasized that AI is often concerned with rights other than political rights, for example religion, race and ethnic origin, and that homosexuals fall in a similar category. They are also ready-made victims for repression; for this is a condition that is as much part of their nature as the colour of their skins.

It was argued against the resolution:

a) that the issue was too unpopular to warrant adoption;

b) that it was often difficult to decide whether a person was imprisoned just for homosexuality because of common confusion in cases of child-assault and the like;

c) that if the arrest was a pretext, adoption was possible anyway;

d) that to adopt the resolution would be a difficult step with the membership;

e) that it would inhibit the development of AI - particularly in Asia;

f) that it was a matter for civil liberties organizations rather than AI;

g) that the third paragraph of the resolution was said to be too broad;

h) that a clear cut vote would expose AI to pressures to support unacceptable sexual behaviour.

In response it was argued that this was a natural development in human rights activity similar to the developments after World War II and that cultural diversity was no excuse for inactivity.

The resolution was amended by two inconsistent amendments which were both adopted:

The first resolution as amended reads:

"The International Council,

Recalling the terms of Article 2, clause 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Considering that certain governments imprison people because

of their homosexuality,

Considering that freedom of choice in sexual matters where this does not infringe upon the rights of others is a fundamental human right,

Resolves to recognize as prisoners of conscience those persons detained or imprisoned for their homosexuality or homosexual acts which did not violate the human rights of any other person."

The second resolution as amended and adopted reads:

"The International Council,

Recalling the terms of Article 2, clause 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Considering that certain governments imprison people because of their homosexuality,

Resolves to recognize as prisoners of conscience those persons detained or imprisoned for their homosexuality or homosexual acts which did not violate the human rights of any other person."

The British Section strongly urged adoption of the motion, but, delaying implementation for one year, to enable an education program for members and others.

After considering the explanatory note which appears below, the Working Party A adopted the following alternative resolution and recommended its passage by the ICM:

"The International Council,

Considering that certain governments imprison because of sexual orientation or sexual behaviour between consenting adults,

Affirms that Amnesty International considers to be prisoners of conscience persons detained or imprisoned because of such orientation or behaviour, provided that those persons have not infringed the human rights of any other person."

Explanatory Note:

Although the French Section's resolution as amended was passed with a substantial majority, the Drafting Committee nonetheless, in view of the complexity and emotive nature of

this problem, proposed the above alternative resolution which it believes more completely reflects the consensus of the whole meeting. It sought the assistance of the proponents of the original motion, the French Section, and also the representatives of the Pakistani, Dutch, Italian, US and Australian Sections. The final formulation was approved by all of these delegates, including the original proponents.

Specifically we sought to reflect:

a) the point made by the Pakistani, Nepalese and Greek delegates about the difficulty occasioned by the use of the word "homosexuality" in their countries and in the so-called Third World in general.

b) the argument of the IS that the motion in its original form would expose AI to pressures to support many different kinds of sexual behaviour.

c) the plea that if we take no decision on this issue, it would indicate either that we had excluded "persecuted" homosexuals in the past or felt that we should do so now.

We believe that the resolution as framed above achieves a result not only consistent with the spirit of the resolution passed by the Working Party, but also is one reflecting the views of those who voted to modify the original resolution.

The resolution was subsequently referred to the IEC. For the final amended text, see Part Three, page 46.

Resolution A4

This resolution was supported by the FRG Section which presented the explanatory note contained in the Council papers and stressed that a policy decision should be taken. In support of the resolution it was also stressed that there was an inconsistency in the AI position campaigning against capital punishment and not campaigning against life imprisonment which is its virtual equivalent.

Against the resolution it was argued that to adopt this resolution would be counter-productive to the death penalty campaign. It was also stressed that it expanded the mandate of AI at a time when that expansion was not warranted. It was repeated that the release of POCs should be our first priority and that we should confine general human rights work to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

There was a consensus that life imprisonment was in general inhumane, but it was said that AI should not ask the impossible,

and sometimes to release a prisoner is either impossible or irresponsible, e.g. psychopathic murderer.

Governments have the right to imprison for life in extreme cases.

An amendment was proposed by the addition of the words:

"AI's IS is requested to initiate an investigation into what limits of imprisonment whether of time or otherwise should be set in this respect."

Resource problems and a feeling that priorities demanded the non-adoption of this resolution, were also put forward.

The resolution as amended was put and clearly lost. Working Party A recommends non-adoption.

Statute Amendment 1

This resolution was stated by the French Section to be intended to bring the Statute into line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to deal with possible repression on the basis of sex.

There was no dissent and the Working Party recommends the adoption of the amendment by the ICM.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 11 .

Resolutions A5 - A9

It was decided at the outset to discuss these conscientious objection related resolutions together.

In support it was said:

a) that the present guidelines needed clarification and have in the past caused confusion.

b) that the amendments of 5b) and 6a) and b) of the guidelines were necessary to remove that confusion.

The view was expressed that more and more detailed guidelines could not possibly cover every situation that arose, and also that the AI mandate should be limited.

The Swedish Section's motion was said to be a limiting of the mandate in a reasonable way.

It was said that a person refusing to state the reason for

his refusal was not worthy of support and that those who refused alternative service completely outside the "war machine" should on balance not be adopted because it would be a bad use of valuable resources.

The IEC resolution was said to be designed to meet IEC concerns as to the drafting of 5d), 5e) and 6a) and b). In particular it was said to clarify the position of people who acquired their conscientious objection after entry into military service and to permit the adoption of persons who absented themselves from service after forming conscientious objection, in services where there was no machinery for ventilating that conscientious objection.

Contrary views in support of unconditionalists and others who cannot or will not give reasons were expressed, it being said that they can be equally seriously conscientious. AI should not be judges of people's consciences, applying our own moral views.

It was also argued that any of the motions would limit and restrict internationally accepted notions of conscientious objection.

It was also argued that in repressive societies it would restrict AI's development because these broad notions of conscientious objection grow only out of a very sophisticated and liberal European society. It broadens the mandate too far.

After a long and inconclusive discussion, motions A5, A7 and A8 were tabled.

An amended A7 and A8 were later adopted by a large majority.

For final amended texts, see Part Two, pages 13 and 14.

Resolution A6

This resolution was then discussed in isolation. It was said that all concerned in the conscientious objection debate would be helped by the production of a report such as that proposed.

The amendment was proposed that the report should not be limited to Europe. We were then informed that a report existed in fact which, both by reason of the lack of precision in the guidelines, and for reasons of lack of information, was not published, since it would not meet the high AI standards if published.

It was said that the production of the report would be a

huge task and that neither money nor staff were readily available for this production.

As far as the campaign was concerned, it was said that to embark upon such a campaign would involve a complete reorganization of AI planning for the next 18 months.

A suggestion was made that outside specialists in this area might be consulted or even commissioned to prepare such a report. The view was expressed that no such report could be better than the inadequate one, already prepared, in respect to Europe.

The debate on the resolution was then adjourned.

Subsequently an amended resolution was passed by a substantial majority and it should be moted that thus the request for a report lapsed.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 14.

Discussion on the paper "National Sections' Activities concerning their own Countries" (ACT 01/07/77)

Irmgard Hutter (IEC) introduced the paper and stressed that it was an attempt to find a solution to a difficult problem, complicated by conflicting and strongly felt needs.

On a straw vote basis the Working Party felt that it did not wish to propose a specific resolution in respect of this paper to the plenary session and accordingly further discussion on the paper was adjourned to item 17 on the agenda.

Upon return to this item the Working Party recommended that a sub-committee of experienced AI members be set up by the IEC to consider the paper in consultation with the national sections and to make concrete proposals re guidelines to the next ICM.

Resolution A10

Eliminated in favour of B6.

Resolution A11

This resolution was introduced by the British Section with an emphasis that it flowed from a grass-roots request from its annual general meeting. It was thought by the British Section that there was a need to repeat and emphasize AI's political neutrality, particularly in the campaign context and where a reduction in the number of prisoners to be adopted by groups was

a possibility.

Contra it was argued that the resolution merely repeated AI policy and was unnecessary. The consensus was that with minor amendment the motion should be passed so as to emphasize that campaigns should be balanced with "one hit to the left and one to the right" - or more elegantly put, conducted in parallel.

Doubts were expressed about the wisdom of repeating a "total effort" campaign of the Uruguay sort. As amended the resolution was carried by a handsome majority.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 12.

Resolutions A13 - A17

Each of these resolutions was seen by the Working Party to be staff-related and/or area or country oriented. Following the policy in respect of country-related motions at the ICM and believing that staff questions should be dealt with in the context of total staffing considerations, the Working Party felt that none of these resolutions should be adopted and accordingly recommended that they be merely referred to the IEC.

See Part Three, pages 38 - 40.

Resolution A18

This resolution was introduced by the British Section in the contemplation of the current problems being experienced in the UN Commission on Human Rights activities. It reflected frustration with the present situation and a desire to ensure that AI took some stand about what was felt to be a most unsatisfactory situation.

We were informed that the IEC is striving to improve the situation but in the context of a compromise between what it might want and what it might, in fact, get.

A view was expressed that the resolution might not present the appropriate next step.

On the other hand, the British initiative was applauded because the British concern was shared by the Working Party.

It was argued however, that it was not logical to ask the body which is functioning inadequately to meet more often and even more illogical, to ask such a body to monitor its own activities.

In order to meet the feeling of frustration and the shared view that criticisms of the Commission are warranted, it was suggested that a motion including an amendment to sub-para a) be made, and the suggestion that some detailed study of the appropriate next step be made was proposed.

An amendment was proposed, as follows:

"The International Council,

pending the appointment of a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights or a United Nations Tribunal,

resolves that appropriate action should be taken to encourage:

a) governments to ratify the two United Nations Covenants on Human Rights and to adhere to the Human Rights protocols,

b) the present United Nations Commission on Human Rights to meet more frequently - if possible in permanent session,

c) AI and other human rights organizations to explore how the United Nations Human Rights Commission might be enabled to overcome its widely recognized defects,

d) governments to study new methods of work which would make the commitment of the United Nations to the maintenance of Human Rights more effective."

No consensus was possible, but the Working Party felt that the motion and the amendment should be referred to the IEC. This was accepted by the British Section.

For final amended text, see Part Three, page 42.

Resolution A19

The very serious human rights situation in many Asian countries was outlined, with reference to states of emergency, imprisonment without trial and conflict between constitutions and actual situations.

Some forum for display of and improvement of this situation after the European models was seen by the proponents to be necessary.

AI support, it was said, would be a valuable step towards

such a forum.

However problems were seen, because of the attitude of governments in the region and a view was expressed that it was too early for IEC involvement as proposed.

Accordingly the resolution was amended by the deletion of paragraph (c) and the substitution of:

"(c) Requests the meeting of Asian participants to invite suggestions and examine the possibilities of action in the region in pursuit of this goal."

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 17.

Resolutions A20 and A21

These were debated together.

The problem of SAVAK and secret service cooperation was debated, and a view expressed that there was need for some policy and comment by AI.

Against it was said that A20 was too vague, that A21 was specific and that the resolutions either widened, or were outside, the AI mandate.

However there was a feeling that the SAVAK problem demanded some stand by AI and international condemnation, although a specific approach was necessary. For AI to take a stand on secret service activity was not a novelty.

The widespread nature of SAVAK activity was also mentioned, with Italy, India as well as FRG being mentioned, although the IS suggested a lack of hard evidence of cooperation. An amendment to resolution A21 was proposed to replace A20 and A21 and carried by majority.

For the final amended text, see Part Three, page 41 .

Resolution A22

Very real concern was expressed about Uganda.

We were reminded that the Organization of African Unity has no machinery for human rights consideration so that (b) might be inappropriate.

In accordance with the suggested practice, this particular motion was referred to the IEC by consensus.

For final amended text, see Part Three, page 42.

Emergency Resolution No 1 re: Southern Africa

In support, we were reminded of the long history of deaths in police custody in this area, of the allegations that prisoners jumped from police station windows. Cases of torture were reiterated.

The death of Biko who was known to some present was deplored.

The resolution seemed to the Working Party to produce a feasible program and its spirit was fully supported. It was felt too, that Amnesty International should get in first before some "whitewash" enquiry was set up.

It was carried without dissent.

For final text, see Part Two, page 16.

Emergency Resolution No 2 re: "Japanese" Koreans accused of spying

The civil rights situation in South Korea was discussed, the impossibility of achieving proper trials for such people and the risk of sudden execution, particularly in the case of two prisoners.

The IS informed us of work being done and an amendment of the original proposal was passed without dissent.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 16.

Emergency Resolution No 3

There was very strong feeling that political prisoner exchange actions were in principle deplorable.

Although some felt that as a matter of pragmatism, there should be no stated policy, so that some exchanges might be approved, this principle was on balance thought to be too important to be sacrificed. It was also strongly felt that in no case should AI be involved in such conditional releases.

The following amended motion was passed by consensus, with a request for particular attention by the Drafting Committee:

"The International Council,

Recalls referring to recently increasing exchange actions with political prisoners of various countries (Bukovsky-Corvalan, Montes - 11 GDR prisoners, other planned exchange-actions) on every government's duty to release all political prisoners without any condition,

confirms the fundamental right of every man to move freely in his own country and the prohibition of exile,

expresses its deep concern that the release of political prisoners by exchange-action becomes dependent on political conditions: the principle of supply and demand will regulate the number of persons released, and people might be arrested in order to serve as future exchange objects,

makes clear that no part of AI shall be included in releases on such conditions.

Requests all governments to release all prisoners of conscience without conditions."

Explanatory note:

1. The information on the exchange between Mr. Montes and the 11 GDR prisoners which took place end of June, could not be collected before 14 July.

2. We were only informed of two recently planned new exchange-actions after 14 July. Because of understandable reasons we do not want to make them public.

3. There is a lack of clear AI policy which became obvious when the last two cases became known.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 15.

REPORT OF WORKING PARTY B: ACTION

Chairman: Peter Høffding (Danish Section)

Rapporteur: Peter Luff (British Section)

1. The meeting was opened by Dirk Börner.

2. A roll call was taken of participants.

3. Peter Høffding was elected Chairman and Peter Luff Rapporteur.

4. Timetable of Meeting

It was DECIDED to:

- postpone item 14 until Saturday morning to allow for the attendance of Herman van Geuns and Inge Kemp Genefke, of the Medical Advisory Board;
- take item 20 with item 8;
- take enabling Resolution 10 with item 9;
- take Emergency Resolution on the death penalty with item 15;
- accord priorities to each resolution passed, within the categories "Immediate, Medium-term, Long-term".

5. The Agenda were formally approved with the above amendments.

6. Discussion of the Cambridge Crash Committee Report

The report of the Cambridge Crash Committee was generally approved by the meeting. The Working Party felt that, in the face of the current problems of rapid growth, the report maintained AI's principles and values and made certain concrete suggestions for controlled planning, decentralization, training schemes and education projects.

The following objections were expressed: that there was a lack of analysis of current problems; that there was

a failure to distinguish between the aims of AI and organizational problems, and between short and long term problems; and that the evaluation of techniques and programs concentrated too exclusively on country-based campaigns.

7. Evaluation of Techniques

Resolution B1, as amended, was accepted by a majority, with a substantial minority, the amended resolution reading as follows:

"The International Council,

reaffirming the ICM 1976 decision, which requests the IEC to evaluate the present AI techniques,

noting however that until now this decision has not been implemented,

confirming the importance of such an evaluation of techniques,

requests national sections to nominate, no later than 15 November 1977, experienced members of AI to the IEC for a sub-committee, and requests the IEC to appoint such a committee no later than its November meeting, with the task of presenting a paper on how AI should investigate the present techniques to the April 1978 IEC meeting at the latest,

and further requests the IEC to decide on the proposals of the committee at the April 1978 IEC meeting at the latest."

Enabling Resolution 9 was noted and referred for consideration together with item 38 of the CCC report and the report of Working Party B to the sub-committee to be created by Resolution B1.

The minority feeling expressed scepticism about the usefulness of any such evaluation.

This resolution was not accepted by the plenary session.

8. Action Calendar

Resolution B2 was accepted as amended.

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 27.

Resolution B4

The Working Party decided by a large majority not to present Resolution B4 to the Council on the grounds that there were both conceptual and organizational contradictions within the resolution.

Item 20: Publications and Multilingualism

The Working Party received the report of the Pre-Council Meeting on Publications (see Appendix I, page 72) after the following corrections had been made:

page 2, line 5: "The question of comprehension" should read "The question of comprehensiveness";

page 2, line 27: after the sentence ending "...to the Multilingualism Unit." should be added "and that the Unit should be closely connected to the sections for preparing publications in different languages so that they can, if possible, be presented to the public on the same date."

page 2, line 31: should read, "The Mexican representative felt that publications on Spanish and Latin American countries should also appear simultaneously."

The resolution contained in the report was accepted by the Working Party, as amended, i.e.

"In view of the growing impact of AI Publications, and bearing in mind the established practice of international organizations, it is urgent that close cooperation be established between the authors or originators of AI texts and the editors in the language of writing, and that these editors should be entrusted with the responsibility for the proper shape and presentation of the end product.

Though the originators must check the final text for accuracy of facts and political content, this should be done in agreement with the editors."

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 29.

Resolution B19

Resolution B19 was noted, as amended, i.e.

"The International Council,

congratulates the International Secretariat on its production of the excellent series of "Amnesty International Briefing Papers", and in particular the inclusion in these publications of information relating to the political, historical and economic backgrounds to the repression of human rights in individual countries."

but was not referred to the plenary session.

Resolution B20

Resolution B20 was deemed acceptable to the Working Party only if it was divided into two separate resolutions because of a conflict between principles and practice. It was felt that paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 contained substantial policy commitments that needed a separate resolution. The FRG Section was asked to draft two separate resolutions.

The two resolutions then read as follows:

Resolution B20 (a)

"The International Council,

recognizing that the Annual Report as a comprehensive document has become an invaluable source of information about AI's work throughout the world,

noting the different way in which each country is represented in the report,

requests the IEC to decide upon a structure for the annual report for 1977/1978 and to report on that structure to the April IEC meeting.

Having in mind that this would also facilitate the task of the editor and the new researchers who face the problem of what to include in the report in terms of comprehensiveness.

The structure should contain criteria for dealing with each country and area in the report, such as forms of repression, number of prisoners, legal situation, etc.

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 28.

Resolution B20 (b)

"The International Council,

noting the need for a long term strategy discussion based on analysis of repression within the wider economic and political environment in the different countries,

recognizing that encouraging steps have been taken, e.g. in the paragraph introducing Latin America in the 1975/1976 Annual Report by correlating trends of repression within countries in that area with socio-economic indicators thereby providing more insight into the causes of repression,

noting that a discussion in the AI membership on priorities, strategy and the causes of repression would be facilitated and therefore could result in new ideas presented to the IS and IEC,

requests the IEC to hasten the above-mentioned steps and to ensure that future annual reports include socio-economic indicators and an analysis of repression within the wider economic and political environment in the different countries."

This resolution was not accepted by the plenary.

Resolution B21

The meeting noted Resolution B21 as put forward by the French Section and, in this context, reminded the Council of its previous decisions taken in the context of multilingualism and decentralization. Specific reference was made to the St Gallen resolution on Multilingualism and the provision for language coordinators for French and Spanish in the Revised Budget for 1977/1978.

Resolution B22

There was a majority agreement on forwarding this resolution as amended. The discussion strongly stressed the need for its immediate implementation and reminded the Council of its previous decision to provide adequate finances therefor.

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 26 .

9. Item 12: Prisoner of Conscience Week

The discussion confirmed the retention of Prisoner of

Conscience Week as an essential part of AI's annual program.

The Council decision that Prisoner of Conscience Week should take place during the third week of October (i.e. from 15 to 22 October in 1978) was confirmed.

It was agreed that the subject for 1978 Prisoner of Conscience Week should be "Forgotten Prisoners". (See Council document ICM 15/04/77).

10. Item 9: Allocation of Case Sheets

Resolutions B5 and B6 and enabling resolution 10 were presented together.

The central issue was the maintenance of the principle of the threes as a fundamental ideal. The discussion ranged through a number of related issues, including impartiality, balance, techniques and priorities.

The arguments in favour of regarding the threes as a fundamental principle were:

- it was indispensable for the recognition and development of AI in the small sections;
- it was essential to the recruitment of AI members and thus the developing of sections;
- it constituted the distinguishing tradition of AI.

Against these arguments, it was pointed out that, whereas adoption is an effective technique for the release of prisoners of conscience, rigid insistence on the threes principle hinders the development and use of other equally necessary techniques.

Recognizing the practical problems of the production of case sheets in the context of the rapid growth in the movement, the Working Party recommended the resolutions B5 and B6 as amended, together with enabling resolution 10 as originally proposed.

Resolution B5 was agreed by a small majority. The minority requested that this should be taken together with enabling resolution 11.

For final amended texts, see pages 18 and 19.

Resolution B7

This resolution only received the support of a minority of the members of the Working Party.

Resolution B8

A brief discussion produced an amended resolution which was adopted by the plenary.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 19.

It was noted that this generally confirmed Enabling Resolution 12.

Enabling Resolution 11

Being generally in the sense of Resolution B8, Enabling Resolution 11 was recommended as amended.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 21 .

11. Item 10: Multiple Adoption

Resolution B9 was rejected as not directly related to prisoners of conscience.

Resolution B10

This resolution was withdrawn in favour of amended Resolution B11.

Resolution B11

The resolution was passed, as amended, although minority reservations were expressed on the need for paragraph 1 of this resolution.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 20 .

12. Item 11: Group Adoption

Resolution B12

The resolution was passed as amended.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 20 .

13. Item 14: Campaign for the Abolition of Torture

Resolution B16

Considerable concern was expressed that this issue should not be allowed to divide the movement.

Dr Herman van Geuns, a member of the Danish medical team investigating the effects of torture, defined the nature of these experiments. He emphasized the need for standard procedures for examining torture victims, and the need for techniques of diagnosing the effects of torture. He insisted that so-called experiments on "human beings" were confined to self-testing by doctors according to standard medical tradition and that experiments on "animals" kept strictly within the relevant laws and conventions of the country. In the light of this information, the FRG Section amended Resolution B16 as follows:

"The International Council,

decides that under no circumstances should any part of AI be involved in any type of experiments applicating torture techniques on human beings or animals."

The FRG Section then withdrew this amendment, in favour

of the resolution subsequently adopted by the plenary.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 29 .

Resolution B14

This resolution was accepted by a majority, as amended. It was subsequently referred by the plenary to the IEC.

For the final amended text, see Part Three, page 43 .

Resolution B15

This resolution was accepted by a majority, as amended. It was subsequently referred by the plenary to the IEC.

For the final amended text, see Part Three, page 43 .

14. Item 17: Relief

Statute Amendment S2

The amendments to Statute S2 and to Statute (Addendum) S2 were both accepted.

For final texts, see Part Two, page 11 .

15. Death Penalty

The report of the Pre-Council Meeting (see Appendix II, page 76) on the Death Penalty was referred to the IEC. Any further comments to be forwarded in writing to the IEC.

Resolution B17

This resolution was accepted as amended.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 13 .

Resolution B18

This was referred by the plenary to the IEC.

For final amended text, see Part Three, page 43 .

Emergency Resolution

This resolution was accepted as amended and given

immediate priority grading.

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 13.

16. Prisoner of Conscience Year 1977 and 1978

The report of the Promotion meeting (see Appendix IV, page 82) was received and endorsed by Working Party B.

The following resolutions from the Promotion meeting report were accepted as amended:

"While the Promotion Department's contribution to the POC Year campaign was of great importance to many established sections, and while recognizing the efforts done by the Promotion Department to support developing sections, its resources were too limited to provide developing sections with the individual and specialized materials and expertise that is needed, this meeting recommends therefore that:

A specialized and limited promotion unit continue as part of the International Secretariat to assist promotion projects suggested by the developing sections and that this unit has access to funds raised during POC Year by the established sections."

Priority Listing: IMMEDIATE

This resolution was subsequently defeated in the plenary.

"The International Council,

Noting that the purpose of POC Year was to increase awareness of AI and to strengthen its national sections around the world, and

noting that the campaign has resulted in strengthening support in countries where AI is already well established but regretting that it has not made a substantial impact outside these areas, and

recognizing that many of the basic problems faced in the newer sections are similar regardless of region,

resolves that a special meeting be held among members of the younger sections giving them a forum in which to exchange ideas regarding the specific national and regional difficulties facing them. This meeting would

be a workshop on such matters as growth and development, participation of members in sections facing political difficulties, use of educational materials, action, finances, etc.

This conference should be held prior to the 1978 Council meeting to advise the ICM as to the necessary steps to be taken to improve the situation."

Priority Listing: IMMEDIATE/MEDIUM

17. Item 18: Human Rights Awareness and Education

Enabling Resolution 3

There was no time to discuss this item with appropriate thoroughness - therefore referred to plenary session bearing in mind a report will have been presented on this matter by Working Party A.

The resolution was subsequently referred to the IEC (see Part Three, page 44).

18. Amendment to Resolution to B20 (a) and B20 (b)

Resolution B20 (a) was given a priority listing as medium. Resolution B20 (b) to be referred to the IEC for further discussion on the substance of the resolution, as it seemed to alter policy.

19. Press and Communications

The report from the meeting on Press and Communications (see Appendix III) was received. A resolution arising out of the report was accepted (draft resolution circulated).

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 33.

20. Item 21: Symbol

Resolution B23 was accepted by the Working Party. It was subsequently referred by the plenary to the IEC. (see Part Three, page 45).

21. Item 13: Greetings Card Campaign

Resolution B13 was referred to the IEC for their speedy decision. (see Part Three, page 45).

APPENDIX I
REPORT OF PRE-COUNCIL MEETING ON PUBLICATIONS

The Meeting elected Whitney Ellsworth as chairperson and Silke Spliedt as rapporteur.

Finance

The Publications Meeting conveyed its strong dissent from Article 6 of the Financial Control Committee Report. A special paper was prepared for Working Party D (attached).

It was pointed out that once this year's Action Calendar was completed, it would be possible for the Publications Unit, in consultation with other departments of the IS, to estimate the page number of the various publications planned and therefore to give the national sections the basis for a realistic estimate of the funds necessary to finance publications in the coming year.

Structure

The meeting listened to an explanation of staffing problems of the Publications Unit and especially the Multilingualism Unit.

It was the sense of the meeting that staff for Multilingualism should be allocated when the ceiling is lifted from the budget.

Translations

It was stressed by some speakers that all translations of publications ought to be coordinated by those responsible for multilingualism within the department.

Birth of an AI Publication

The procedure of approval of final texts of publications by the IEC needs to be streamlined and hastened.

Verbal Style

It was felt that the language of AI publications has to be more precise in order to reduce to a minimum the margin for error

and misunderstanding.

The question of responsibility for editing was raised and a resolution is being presented to Working Party B:

> In view of the growing impact of AI Publications, and bearing in mind the established practice of international organizations, it is urgent that close cooperation be established between the authors or originators of AI texts and the editors in the language of writing, and that the editors should be entrusted with the responsibility for the proper shape and presentation of the end product.
>
> Though the authors must check the final text for accuracy of facts and political content, this should be done in agreement with the editors.

(see also Resolution B20)

Annual Report

There then followed discussion of the Annual Report. It was agreed that the format of the Annual Report could be regularized for the country-by-country reports, perhaps by using bold headings for the essential information, supplying an index, and generally making it more useful as a reference work. The question of comprehensiveness - whether the report should attempt to cover most or all countries in the world, and how much of AI's information should be included in each country - was felt to be inappropriate to discuss without members of the Research Department present but was recognized as a major policy decision which would soon need to be confronted. (see also Resolution B20)

Publications as a Political Tool

The meeting agreed that publication is one of the tools of AI. It was explained how through the reprinting and facilitating service of the AI Newsletter in Asia (South Asia Publications Service - SAPS), the movement has been taken into regions where it was previously unknown. It was felt that cultural diversity is important in this respect, and that what is acceptable in one area may not necessarily be most effective in other parts of the world.

It was agreed that if publications were to play their part, in an international campaign, they should, to make the maximum impact, appear in the various languages on the same embargo date. (see Resolution B2).

Action Calendar

It was agreed that careful scheduling of publications allowing more time for translation would facilitate the production of simultaneous translations. The campaign and publications schedule was seen to be very important in this respect. It was reported that a plan for 1978 is to be written up and presented to the national sections in November with a grading provided.

Multilingualism

It was agreed that funds need to be allocated to the Multilingualism Unit and that the Unit should be closely connected to the sections for preparing publications in different languages so that they can, if possible, be presented to the public on the same date.

It was pointed out that many texts had been prepared in French by the Unité francophone but were not yet printed because of lack of funds.

Spanish Language Publications

It was described how arrangements with commercial publishers in Barcelona had been tried on an experimental basis and had presented problems in timing of publication. The revision rights for the texts remained with the IS/IEC.

The Mexican representative felt that publications on Spanish and Latin American countries should also appear simultaneously.

Other Languages

The meeting was reminded that, given the lack of human and financial resources, the production of texts at the IS in languages other than English, French and Spanish could not be a priority for the immediate future. (see Resolution C16 - which should probably be discussed by Working Party B).

Message to Working Party D from the Publications Meeting re Financial Control Committee Report

(See following page.)

MESSAGE TO WORKING PARTY D

The Publications Meeting gathered this morning conveys its strong dissent from and dissatisfaction about article 6 of the FCC Report, headed Publications Department.

A. The Publications Meeting discussed in full the figures accounted for in the deficit and notes that such deficit is made of expenditures related to items which are not strictly speaking publications, but are:

1.	Information leaflets Council Report, Statutes etc.	) which by essence are) distributed free to) membership and outside
2.	CAT brochures	which should come under special projects as decided upon previously
3.	Multilingualism	which, in spite of the decision taken by the last Council to produce publications in Spanish, was not budgeted for properly by the same Council

The Spanish Bulletin, and the Annual Report in Spanish, some mission reports and brochures have been translated and produced this year. They are important political and information tools and cannot be considered in the same way as the English and the French publications for which not only the balance comes to even but shows a PROFIT of £5,000.

B. The statement according to which there is no invoicing system nor stock accounts, made by the FCC is simply nonsense. There has always been an invoicing system which is now kept in order and even provides for free copies distributed by IS to press, governments, information contacts, etc. The stocks are moreover carefully kept; this has been made easier since the IS has moved to the new premises.

APPENDIX II
REPORT OF PRE-COUNCIL MEETING ON DEATH PENALTY

The meeting on the death penalty and its working subcommittee raised the following issues as to long and short term techniques for the death penalty program: [redacted]

1. Should this International Council make guidelines as to the implementation of the death penalty program? If so, what programs should the Council establish? If not, by whom and when should such guidelines be given? (for example, by later International Councils, the IS or the IEC?)

2. What role should the national sections and other parts of AI play in the planning and in the implementation of the death penalty program at every level? Recognizing that the program will need to be implemented in different ways within each national section, should the national sections and the IS exchange ideas about what techniques should be coordinated at the international and national levels?

3. Since it is not possible to take up all individual cases, should AI concentrate on prisoners of conscience facing death penalty?

4. Should "legal key cases" be particularly addressed, for example, in countries where the death penalty is not frequently imposed?

5. Should AI work especially for groups of people sentenced to death?

6. Should AI focus upon specific governments - either countries in which death sentences are frequently passed or nations in which there is a high likelihood of achieving results?

7. How can AI review its structures, in order to ensure swift or follow-up action where necessary, for instance, through the use of urgent actions techniques, coordination groups, adoption groups, or special death penalty groups?

8. Should public awareness be promoted through the distribution of arguments against the death penalty, through publicity material, education in schools and universities, and by the training of AI members?

9. What priority should be given [redacted]arch, for example, as to religious attitudes towards capital punishment, cultural approaches towards the death penalty and regional

practices as to capital punishment?

10. What priority should AI give to work through international organizations such as the UN and the OAU?

11. Should cooperation be sought with sympathetic NGOs, such as professional and religious groups or groups especially established for the abolition of capital punishment?

12. Should AI enlarge the scope of its death penalty work to include asking non governmental entities to refrain from murdering people?

APPENDIX III
REPORT OF PRE-COUNCIL MEETING OF PRESS OFFICERS

The meeting elected Michael Kerbler (Austrian Section) as chairperson and Armand Jacoubovitch (Swiss Section) as rapporteur. The agenda was approved, with a proposal from Anita Bennett (Promotion Department) to add an item on press arrangements for the culmination of Prisoners of Conscience Year. This was agreed.

1. Implementation of Press and Communications Strategy Paper

Fran Taylor (IS) introduced the Press and Communications Strategy Paper (AI Index: ACT 01/05/77) and said that it had been the result of a series of detailed discussions held in the IS, IEC and International Council over the last two years and represented possibilities for implementation of previous International Council decisions affecting information, publications and multilingualism. Efforts to disseminate AI information in areas outside the western and developed world should be intensified, particularly in areas where there is little or no AI representation. Mention was made of differences in population structures between developed countries and Third World countries. In the latter, there is a need for information in indigenous languages. Moreover, audio-visual and other types of information can be of interest in areas where illiteracy is high.

Armand Jacoubovitch felt the paper was most substantial and the outcome of a serious study of AI problems.

It was also noted that the paper was in accordance with certain decisions made by the two regional conferences held by AI in Asia. Both conferences had recommended that if AI were to take root in these particular regions of the world, a special effort would have to be made to reach the grassroots population and to communicate in languages and styles which could be understandable outside the European context. This approach had been approved by the International Council in various resolutions on development and multilingualism.

It was pointed out by the Publications Unit that several International Council decisions had asked the International Secretariat to disseminate printed information in the Third World to begin penetration there. It was stressed that before reports can be translated, the Newsletter should be the primary

information tool to create the initial interest in AI. The South Asia Publications Service (SAPS) was an ideal case in point.

Irmgard Hutter stressed the fact that possibilities offered by the press - one of the most important tools of information - had not yet been exhausted.

The question was raised as to what targets AI should seek to reach with its information. The IEC information strategy proposed that new efforts be made to reach "non-elite" targets.

Mumtaz Soysal argued that there was a certain amount of unreality in some of the discussions in the past about reaching the "masses" and that AI should be careful to ensure that its information did reach influential sectors. It was important, he said, to carefully examine the channels through which AI could communicate and that this analysis was essential in any communications theory.

Klaas Keuning, of the Dutch Section, said that it was the experience of international development assistance work that centralized programs and technology exported to so-called developing countries had failed and that effective development began with locally-conceived projects. He did not want AI to make the same mistake.

In this connection, Armand Jacoubovitch requested Mumtaz Soysal to clarify whether he was expressing opposition to the paper on the Press and Communications Strategy submitted by the IEC or whether he was expressing the need for caution and careful implementation. Mumtaz replied that it was the careful implementation with which he was concerned.

The Regional Liaison Officer for Asia agreed with Klaas Keuning and cited several examples. He said that there was a contradiction between the need for decentralized local initiatives on the part of national sections and the capacity of the large centralized resources of the IEC/IS. This meant that for the small sections to implement their local appropriate programs they had to seek financial and material support from the center. The problems encountered by the Nigerian Section when they needed such help - a matter which had been brought up at the Promotion Meeting - was also reported.

The thrust of the Press and Communications Strategy was based on responsiveness to local needs which offered hope for the future and an end to the previous frustration.

It was also noted that, at present, the Press and Communications Department of the IS does not have an operations budget. Some of

its main operations, such as printing of the Newsletter and Spanish Bulletin, are in fact being covered by the Publications budget. Other operations, such as the issuing of news releases, are simply incorporated into general office costs. In order to work out a rational program, it would be essential at this stage for the IEC to request the IS to draw up an accurate, itemized costing of the present Press and Communications Department in terms of services, materials and labour used. Unless this is made available, it will be impossible to assess future priorities. Working Party B is therefore invited to formulate a corresponding resolution to be submitted to the Council.

The meeting stressed the need for inter-section cooperation and feedback, with reference in particular to the questionnaire attached to the Proposal for a Press and Communications Strategy, on which there had been only six replies to date.

2. Newsletter

The meeting was invited to discuss whether the international Newsletter should be an internal paper or more magazine-like and, if so, what the cost would be.

Fran Taylor (IS) drew the meeting's attention to the recommendation made to the April IEC in the minutes of the Sub-Committee Meeting on Information, namely that the department submit a paper to the July IEC meeting on a new format, content and marketing for the Newsletter. An analysis of the questionnaire on the Newsletter sent out to national sections and members showed that people seemed to want a Newsletter more like a house magazine, which would interest people outside the organization.

Participants were asked to give their views.

The Swedish Section translates the Newsletter and newspapers are able to use the prisoner cases.

The FRG Section reproduces the whole international Newsletter and incorporates its own news. This month for the first time an outside journalist had written an article for the magazine.

In Austria, journalists did in fact write articles based on the Newsletter.

Michael Kerbler suggested that the Working Party ask the IEC to recommend an investigation into the cost of producing an external magazine.

Fran Taylor (IS) said that the present Newsletter, with a run of 6,000 copies, costs £136 per month. A publisher in London indicated that a 32-page magazine (10,000 copies) would cost around

APPENDIX IV
REPORT OF PRE-COUNCIL MEETING ON PROMOTION AND FUNDRAISING

Agenda (Part I)

0. Roll-call, election of chairman and rapporteur
1. Progress report by Promotion Department
2. Report on integration of work with IS and on financial needs
3. Progress report by national section delegates
4. Plans and proposals for final stage: Petition, POC Week, 10 December Culmination, Fundraising
5. New material
6. Group and membership involvement
7. Promotion and Fundraising after 1977
8. Other business
9. Conclusions for Working Party B, Working Party D and plenary.

Chair: Adri Kemps (Dutch Section)

Rapporteur: Guy Binsfeld (Promotion Department)

I. Evaluation of Campaign (Agenda points 1, 2, 3, 7)

a. not all sections are represented, not all sections returned their questionnaires.

b. participation of the national sections (NSs)

- the NSs have different structures
- not all could cope with the campaign
- the NSs had different actions
- the campaign is in some sections a failure with regard to group involvement
- the petition campaign is far behind its target
- fundraising is not planned until now and can only be done now
- information material is quite largely used
- sales material:
  - some sections with structures used it
  - others did not or did not need it

£2,000 which represents an important increase in costs.

The Dutch Section felt that the future lay in a central production of raw material. The present format is only just manageable for national section translation and distribution on time. National sections would not be able to manage the translation of a 32-page paper.

The US Section stressed that the Newsletter could be more externally-orientated through proper editing - more like "Matchbox" and the FRG Section's magazine. External documents sent from the IS could be used, provided the basic editorial work had been done satisfactorily. They felt it should be written in a lively and more accessible style.

Larry Cox (US Section) summarized the contents of an AIUSA Discussion Paper on the subject (Agenda Item 3) which had been distributed the same day.

Fran Taylor (IS) reminded the meeting of a formal suggestion emanating from the Publications Meeting on the indispensable cooperation between the authors or originators of material and the editors, without which no improvement could be hoped for.

Marie-José Protais (IEC) was in favour of a more external magazine. She felt that people were more interested in facts than in what AI had done or stated or written. She emphasized that the Press and Communications Department's role was to make material to be published more easily readable to the public.

The consensus of the meeting can be summed up in the form of a recommendation that stylistic, as opposed to substantive editorial standards be set and maintained by a professional editorial staff, in view of the poorly written nature of much material coming from the International Secretariat.

4. Press arrangements for the culmination of the POC Year

Anita Bennett (IS) gave a brief comment on the material in the relevant folder, distributed to participants. She urged national sections to send in the signed petition; the target was still far from being reached; she also mentioned the press work, advertisements and various other items.

- sections without structures were unable to cope with it

c. development of AI

- it is difficult for the Promotion and Fundraising Campaign to be useful to some of the sections because:
  - time limits
  - lack of structures
  - failure to understand the different social, political, and cultural environments
  - no sufficient help from the movement
- fee is too high in developing sections.
- in the future more attention to development; it has to be fitted into the whole AI structure and programs.
- proposal by Peter Luff (British Section) to discuss that part of the proceeds to be used for promotion in the developing sections.

d. lack of audio-visual material

- Promotion Department was not equipped.

e. Promotion Department

- the financial aspect (budget) was not discussed and has to be done in Working Party D.
- the integration with the IS is not dealt with in detail.
- the follow-up after 1977 has to be integrated into the whole movement.

II. Culmination of POC Year (Agenda points 4, 5, 6)

a. Petition: the final signature drive must be done within or around POC Week.

b. Petition remittance:

- remittance of petition with explanation of content in international press conference. This around 10 December 1977.
- around 10 December 1977 public action in each section as repercussion.

c. Overall aspect of final phase of the campaign:

- need for concrete projects wherefor the money will be used
- there has to be decisions taken on the splitting of funds

- orders for the material now presented must come very quickly
- fundraising must be done in and by the sections.

Part II: Agenda

10. Presentation of report of morning meeting.
11. Fundraising for developing sections.
12. Synchronization of final phase:
    - petition
    - promotion and fundraising
13. Promotion after 1977:
    - taking over
    - structures: national and international
    - activities: priorities and long-range objectives

Chair: Janet Johnstone (US Section)

Rapporteur: Peter Luff (British Section)

III. Approval of Draft Report (Agenda point 10)

The draft report was presented by Guy Binsfeld. With some slight alterations (already included in this text) the report was approved.

IV. Fundraising Issues and Final Disposition of Campaign (Agenda points 11, 12, 13)

a. A resolution on the future campaign in developing sections was presented. After some different opinions were aired, the resolution was accepted in the following form:

> While the Promotion Department's contribution to the POC Year campaign was of great importance to many established sections, its resources were not adequate to providing developing sections with the individual and specialized materials and expertise that are needed, this meeting recommends therefore that:
>
> A specialized and limited promotion unit continue as part of the International Secretariat to assist promotion projects suggested by the developing sections and that this unit has access to funds raised during POC Year by the established sections.

No further discussion took place as it seemed not useful at this point since reactions of Working Party D should be heard.

b. On the issues of promotion and fundraising, this assembly did not make any suggestions as it was not known what the future decisions for growth and development would be for which funds would be used. Suggestions were made concerning events around 10 December stressing a desirability for further joint international activities. The assembly was not of the opinion that it was their decision as to where the press conference should be held.

c. For lack of sufficient time, it was decided not to go into a substantial discussion concerning the future of the promotion campaign after 1977. This discussion should take place in the relevant working parties (i.e. national and international structure in Working Party C and priorities and long-range objectives in Working Party B).

The Nigerian delegate presented a resolution which was generally accepted by the meeting and should be discussed in the relevant working party.

For the final text, see Report of Working Party B, page , and Part Two, page .

d. Media spots with George Moustaki designed for TV and the series of slides designed for cinemas were presented after which the meeting was adjourned at 11.00 pm.

REPORT OF WORKING PARTY C: ORGANIZATION

Chairman: Jan Postema (Dutch Section)

Rapporteur: Toshiyuki Nishikawa (Japanese Section)

1. Opening of meeting by Irmgard Hutter (IEC).

2. Roll-call of participants. There were about 50 participants present, representing 23 sections.

3. The IEC proposals of Jan Postema (Dutch Section) as chairman and Toshiyuki Nishikawa (Japanese Section) as rapporteur were accepted.

   A second rapporteur, Anne-Marie Rodeyns (Belgian Section), was appointed to prepare an integrated report of the discussions on the Cambridge Crash Committee Report and the enabling resolutions in the four working parties.

4. The timetable was approved.

5. A revised agenda proposed by the chairman was approved.

6. General Discussion of Cambridge Crash Committee Report: guidelines and enabling resolutions.
   See separate report (page 107).

7. International Organization

   a. International Council Meeting

   The meeting felt that it was appropriate to integrate several resolutions on the International Council into one resolution to be discussed by the meeting.

   Resolutions C7 and C8 were integrated and accepted with amendments.
   This resolution was carried with general agreement.

   For final amended text, see Part Two, page 30.

Resolution C5: While the Working Party appreciated the spirit behind this resolution, it was not carried for several reasons.

Resolution C6: The Danish Section delegates pointed out that they had tabled this resolution before they had seen the CCC Report. The meeting felt that because of the organization's rapid growth at the moment, it was essential to have an International Council Meeting each year, but that this should be reconsidered in a few years' time. This resolution was therefore withdrawn.

For Cambridge Crash Committee enabling resolution 5 on the same subject, see separate report (page 108).

Statute amendment S3: There was general agreement on this statute amendment. Only the Swedish Section disagreed on a matter of principle.

For the full amended text, see Part Two, page 12.

Emergency resolution submitted by the Nigerian Section:

"Considering all efforts, time and money being wasted during all International Council Meetings,

The Nigerian Section seriously calls on all candidates present to stop any consideration for amendments to the Statute forthwith. This will obviate lack of continuity and several reprints that have been carried out in the past. Amendments to the Statute at International Council Meetings render the old prints on hand very unsuitable for distribution and alienate the sections and members not present at the meeting.

We therefore suggest that a Statute Review Committee (or Task Force) be set up at the Council Meeting and be charged with the review. The review is to be carried out not more often than every five years. This will ensure continuity in the international operation of our organization."

This was not carried. However, a suggestion was agreed by the meeting that when a Statute is amended, the printed version of the amended Statute should contain an explanatory note about how and why it was amended.

Enabling resolution 5: see separate paper, page 108.

The Working of the International Council (ICM 14/06/77): This paper was generally agreed. Discussion and decisions centred on the following four points:

i) last point of item 1, page 2:

It should be left to each working party to decide if the report which is prepared by the chairman and the rapporteur will be submitted to the plenary session with or without approval of the working party.

ii) item 3, page 3: It was felt necessary to review the problem of being unable to set realistic priorities, keeping in mind the financial implications, when, as is the case at present, there is no overall view of the most pressing needs of the organization.

iii) item 4, page 3: attendance of observers: The original text was agreed with the following amendment to line 8:

"The IEC has now proposed that no section should be allowed more than six nominated observers."

iv) voting rights: This subject was linked to present Standing Order No 28. The following amendment to revise Standing Order no 28 was agreed:

"Working Parties should seek conclusions if possible by consensus but, if a formal vote is requested, then each national section represented should have one vote."

In plenary session, the International Council agreed to adopt this amendment to the Standing Orders.

b. International Executive Committee

A long discussion followed on this subject.

Resolution C9 (high priority): The resolution was unanimously agreed, with the following amendment to the third paragraph:

"requests the IEC to conduct, in collaboration with members of different regions, a study of possible ways in which this may be achieved, and to report back to the 1978 ICM"

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 31.

There was a long discussion about the ways of involving

members outside the western world in Amnesty International's decision-making process. There were discussions on the advantages and the disadvantages of co-option to the IEC. It was suggested that there might be alternatives to a statutory amendment to ensure the participation of third world members in decision making. Suriya Wickremasinghe (Sri Lankan Section) said that the competence of the IEC members was the most important factor to be considered in their election. It would be a mistake for AI to adopt a policy of "racialism in reverse" by allocating seats on the basis of regions. In her view, for example, a European who was sensitive to the needs of the third world could serve the interests of AI in the third world better in some cases than someone picked simply because they came from the third world.

The Working Party suggested the following guidelines to the IEC for the implementation of resolution C9 proposed by the Japanese Section. The Working Party requested the IEC to critically review its functioning, exploring possibilities to involve small and distant sections in the decision-making process. These possibilities may include the following:

- consultation of smaller sections on issues that may have far reaching implications for those sections ; this consultation can be realized e.g. through the field secretary, through an IEC member visiting such sections, or in writing.
- holding IEC meetings in other countries, especially in regions where a number of smaller sections are concentrated.
- inviting members from smaller and distant sections as observers to IEC meetings.
- inviting members of smaller and distant sections to participate in the work of special committees, as was done with the CCC.
- referring to the CCC report, implementation of the training program will greatly help smaller sections in being brought up to date with the ever increasing complexity of AI's work, and will equip them to take a greater part in the decision-making process of the movement.
- inviting members from countries where there are no sections as yet, to participate in the ICM as observers (as suggested in the CCC report).
- co-option of members from smaller and distant sections as IEC members where this may seem appropriate.

The IEC may also consider whether any restructuring of the IEC by statutory amendment is desirable to achieve the aim of the resolution.

Co-option

Statute amendment 5: There was an overwhelming majority against. Only the British and French Sections were in favour as they felt that the Council should elect the IEC (except the staff representative) and not give an opportunity to the IEC to elect additional members.

The Working Party believed that the IEC should continue to have the right of co-option as provided for in article 28 of the Statute.

The Working Party noted further that the IEC should use the right to co-opt for people whom it considers able to make a useful contribution to the work of the IEC on account of their special knowledge or experience.

In particular, the Working Party would like the IEC to consider using this power to co-opt persons from smaller and distant sections, provided always that suitable candidates for co-option exist and considerations of security do not make co-option undesirable. Although unanimity is desirable in the decision to co-opt, it should not be regarded as essential.

Statute amendment 4: A vote was taken on this amendment:

in favour: 6 sections
against: 9 sections
abstentions: 1 section

It was pointed out that a mere increase in the membership of the IEC would not necessarily ensure cultural diversity and geographical scope, nor would it automatically decrease the IEC's workload or increase its efficiency.

Statute amendment 6: This was agreed.

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 12.

c. International Secretariat

Enabling resolution 6: see separate report, page 108.

d. Relations between IEC, IS and national sections

Enabling resolution 14: See separate report, page 109.

Resolution C4: This resolution was not carried, because a majority felt it superfluous. The FRG and Dutch Sections disagreed with the majority.

8. Development and Growth of Amnesty International

a. Strengthening of national sections

Resolution C10: This resolution was rejected as being too vague.

Enabling resolutions 2 and 12: see separate report, page 108.

Balance between the IS and National Sections: Regular Workers (ICM 14/04/77)

The meeting underlined the first general principle in enabling resolution 1 that "there is a need to strengthen the organization of the national sections". The sections were urged seriously to consider implementing this principle as soon as possible.

In considering the implications of adopting a general tendency towards decentralization, it was pointed out that there was some confusion about the actual meaning of decentralization. Under the Statute and Working Rules, the national sections already have wide-ranging responsibilities for the organization of AI work in their countries. However, the resources of the movement have been used to strengthen the central capacities and have left many of the national sections without corresponding organizational strength.

In presenting the paper on Balance between the IS and National Sections, it was pointed out that as many as 19 national sections did not have a single paid regular worker. Not only was this in sharp contrast to the 100-strong IS, but there were imbalances between the sections themselves. These imbalances made effective co-operation extremely difficult and needed to be redressed by a strengthening of the national sections as appropriate.

This, it was argued, was the heart of the decentralization question.

b. Amnesty International groups

Resolution C2: The meeting agreed that the second part of this resolution was based on inaccurate information as, at its April 1977 meeting, the IEC did not decide to set quotas, but rather recommended to the sections that they try to restrict the formation of new groups until this Council Meeting, when the question would be reviewed. So therefore there was no reason

to carry this resolution.

Resolution C3: This resolution was felt to over-simplify the growth problem. Unlimited growth of any one national section would lead to an imbalance both between individual sections and national sections and the IS. The resolution was not carried.

Resolution C14: This resolution was carried with the following two amendments:

"a) working on behalf of adoption and investigation allotted to them"

"c) Campaign for the Abolition of Torture activities and the abolition of the death penalty,"

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 21.

Annual quota for new cases and assignment by national sections (ICM 14/12/77)

(HIGH PRIORITY)

i) The principle of the necessity of a quota system was agreed. Only the French and FRG Sections made some reservations.

ii) Several questions about the implementation were raised such as:

- how to define "large" and "small" sections
- how to predict in a realistic way the increase in number of groups
- when does this quota system come into effect

Finally the great majority of the Working Party agreed on the following conclusion:

i) The national sections will be requested to provide all necessary statistics about the predicted increase in the number of groups as soon as possible but not later than January 1978.

ii) The new quota system should be put into practice for half a year prior to the next ICM on an experimental basis. This system will come into effect anyway for the larger sections mentioned in document ICM 14/12/77; each other section has the possibility to make arrangements with the IS for their own section.

iii) Also it was emphasized that a further study on a system of "weighting" is necessary (see ICM 14/12/77). The November IEC meeting has to decide on the concrete steps which have to be taken.

This conclusion was ADOPTED by the plenary.

c. Coordination Groups

Resolution C11: Two amendments were proposed:

i) to delete the words:
"in particular France, as far as concerns the Maghreb and certain French-speaking African countries".
Without discussion there was agreement.

ii) to delete the words:
"and to prepare case sheets"
A vast majority was in favour of this amendment.

However, it was pointed out that after the agreement on these two amendments, there was no further need for this resolution, because that which is spelled out in the resolution is already common practice.

A majority agreed with this point of view and the resolution was therefore rejected. Some sections expressed their reservations.

Resolution C12 (high priority): There was general agreement on this resolution. A minor amendment, proposed by the Dutch Section, to the 5th line in b) was also accepted:

"in the preparation in the decision-making"

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 22.

d. Training

Enabling resolution 8: see separate report, page 109.

e. Other aspects of development

Enabling resolution 4: see separate report, page 109.

Resolution C15: "AI in Asia" newsletter (high priority):

The Japanese Section proposed an amendment to this resolution on the basis of discussions and recommendations made at the Asian participants meeting held prior to the

ICM and this amendment was accepted unanimously by Working Party C.

The fourth paragraph in the original text should be deleted and replaced by the following two paragraphs:

"reaffirming that the editing and funding for the publication of the Newsletter will continue to be the responsibilities of the national sections within the region,

requests the IEC to render financial assistance to ensure adequate international distribution of the Newsletter."

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 29.

Resolution C16: Multilingualism:

The following amendments were proposed after extensive discussions on how to implement the resolution:

i) a new third paragraph which has to be read as follows:

"requests the IEC and national sections to further stimulate the process of decentralized production of AI information materials in languages other than English"

ii) the original third paragraph was modified as follows into the fourth paragraph:

"decides that the IS Multilingualism Department should develop a program for languages of countries or areas with little developed AI presence and review what presently has been done in consultation with the various national sections."

There was general agreement on the amended resolution C16.

Some sections felt that this resolution has a high priority; some other sections felt this a medium priority.

For the final amended text, see Part Two, page 27 .

REPORT OF WORKING PARTY D: FINANCE

Chairperson: Eddie McGovern (British Section)

Rapporteur: Herbert Ladwig (FRG Section)

1. Status of Meeting

As the IEC had decided that the status of the meeting was now that of a regular ICM working party, it was agreed that the draft standing orders to be considered by the Council on the following day would be used, particularly with regard to voting rights to which delegates only were entitled under these draft standing orders. The Chairman ruled that IEC members also had voting rights.

2. Agenda

The agenda was approved with the following amendments:

Additions

Under 5 (a) the minutes of the meeting at Strasbourg would be considered.

Under 6 (c) there would be a report on the Prisoner of Conscience Fund.

Following the report of the Director of the Promotion Department and therefore numbered 9 (a), there would be a discussion on budgetary procedures.

Order

Council resolutions and proposals referred to the Working Party would be discussed when appropriate before the 1977/1978 revised budget, under 9 (b).

Items 6, 7 and 9 would be discussed as a whole, the accounts being considered on the basis of the Financial Control Committee report.

Any Other Business, Item 15, would include discussion of matters not considered under 9 (a).

3. Timetable of Meeting

It was agreed that, to avoid undue prolongation of discussion, set periods would be allocated for consideration of the various items, thus leaving a period free for further discussions should these be considered desirable.

4. Minutes of Finance Meeting held in Strasbourg, 1976

The minutes of the Finance Meeting held in Strasbourg and which had been circulated were noted.

5. Accounts

(a) Reports of the International Treasurer, Secretary General and Director of the Promotion Department

The International Treasurer referred to his written report (included in the accounts for the year ended 30 April 1977).

The Secretary General referred to his written report included in the internal report of the International Executive Committee.

The Director of the Promotion Department gave an oral report.

(b) Report of the Financial Control Committee

After extensive consideration, Working Party D recommends to the International Council that they accept the report of the Financial Control Committee, subject to the following points:

Item 4 (a) - Relocation Costs The question of relocation costs for IS staff members should be re-examined.

Noted: that the IEC was well aware that discussions and decisions so far had been insufficient and that this question would be more fully considered by the IEC at their next meeting.

Item 4 (b) - Deputy Secretary General In view of the delay which had already occurred, the appointment of a Deputy Secretary General should be dealt with urgently.

Noted: the explanation of what steps had so far been taken by the IEC, without result.

Item 6: Publications: The concern of the Financial Control Committee at the apparent overspending on publications during 1976/77 is shared. It is noted, however, that the present system of accounting included under "Publications" the costs of general information material and specialist material in a variety of languages, usually for free distribution.

The "Message for Working Party D" from the Publications Meeting on this subject, particularly the fact that there was probably an excess of income over pure publications expenditure, is noted. (See page 74.)

The intention of the International Secretariat of making an urgent review of the budgeting and accounting of the items presently included in the publication department's deficit is endorsed.

Item 9 - Postage The recommendation concerning postage expenses was endorsed, due note being made of the Secretary General's comments on the increase in postal expenditure consequent upon the growth of the organization.

Item 10 - Promotion Department

i) Guy Binsfeld must be congratulated on the work done by him and his department in very trying circumstances.

ii) The non-communication to the Director of the Promotion Department of the views of the Financial Control Committee on the lack of integration and coordination had occurred through no fault of his own.

iii) The department's records were insufficient to permit an adequate audit, and consequently no overall view of the financial position was taken.

iv) The Financial Control Committee's comments on the expense of having to use auditors for what could be done by internal accounting are endorsed.

v) The budgets submitted by the Director of the Promotion Department should have been distributed to national sections in accordance with the decision of the 1976 International Council. These budgets should be distributed as soon as possible.

vi) The creation of separate organizations such as the Promotion Department may give rise to particular administrative problems which were not originally foreseen.

In the context of consideration of the report of the Financial Control Committee (FCC), there was discussion on the question of whether or not the members of the FCC should be elected by the Council. The supporters of this idea felt this to be a democratic principle. The opposers held that the present system worked sufficiently well. A pertinent resolution was defeated. The Swedish delegate wished his disagreement with this decision to be recorded.

The feeling was expressed that the Financial Control Committee report should be available earlier to ensure that the Council delegates had adequate time for consideration.

(c) Accounts to 30 April 1977

The Working Party recommends that the accounts to 30 April 1977 should be accepted by the International Council, subject to the comments made while discussing the FCC report as (b) above.

There was some confusion between the form of the auditors accounts and that of the accounts prepared by the International Secretariat.

The feeling was expressed that the accounts should be sent out earlier and included in the internal report of the International Executive Committee to the Council. The auditors and the International Secretariat assured the meeting that this would be possible next year.

(d) Quarterly Accounts to 31 July 1977

It was noted that these accounts did not relate to the Promotion Department, but only to the International Secretariat. The IS was requested to ensure that in future the quarterly accounts are circulated to national sections.

(e) Prisoner of Conscience Fund

The Prisoner of Conscience Fund is legally independ nt, and therefore it was merely noted that the accounts of the fund had been audited and published.

(f) Auditors

The representatives of Arthur Andersen and Company made the following remarks:

i) The relief accounting has improved but is still not totally sufficient.

ii) Although the area of possible problems within the Promotion Department is large, the Promotion Department itself is small in relation to Amnesty International as a whole and therefore they are satisfied with the AI accounts in general.

iii) In spite of considerable improvements in the last year, there is still room for more professionalism in applying commercial techniques.

A complete report on these matters has been sent to the International Treasurer.

It was agreed to recommend that Arthur Andersen and Co. be appointed as auditors for the coming year.

6. Budget

(a) Procedures

As decided at the beginning of the meeting, the Working Party discussed improvements in the procedures by which the budget should be presented to and approved by the International Council. The bases of the discussion were CCC resolution 7 (ICM 14/02/77) and a paper prepared by the Swiss and Swedish delegations in response to a request from the 1976 Finance Meeting. It was generally felt that the introduction of program budgeting proposed in this paper is necessary and desirable in order to enable the International Council to assume its proper policy-making role in the financial field. In spite of doubts expressed by smaller sections as to the feasibility of such an elaborate system, the meeting recommends to the Council the acceptance of CCC enabling resolution 7 as amended.

For final amended text of decision, see Part Two, page 33.

(b) Budget for 1977/78 (revised)

Before considering the proposal of the International Executive Committee for a revised budget for the current year, the Working Party had naturally to consider resolution D1 (lifting of the ceiling). As there was a general feeling that:

i) the ceiling had hindered the proper work of the International Secretariat,

ii) it had however fulfilled its purpose of

accelerating the awareness of all concerned of the need for economic and planned growth of the International Secretariat,

the resolution was approved unanimously.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 32.

The Chairman of the IEC elaborated on the need for a higher budget for the current year. During the discussion the Working Party took due note of the explanation of the Chairman of the IEC that the increase in staff in the International Secretariat envisaged was partly cumulative in that it had not been possible to fill necessary posts earlier for financial reasons, while at the same time the organization was growing rapidly with a corresponding need for a linked increase in staff to service the new groups.

Since the Working Party was assured by the IEC that no further financial burden would be put on national sections if this revised budget was adopted due to unexpected higher income and the use of surplus reserves, the Working Party unanimously recommended its approval.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 34.

(c) Budget for 1978/79

After the presentation of the budget by the Chairman of the International Executive Committee, the discussion centred around the question of which amount of expenses should be in the budget in contrast to the Consolidated Special Project Fund. It was suggested for example that £50,000 envisaged in the Consolidated Special Project Fund be included in the budget on the grounds that all regular AI activities should be in the budget instead of being funded separately. On the other hand it was realized that multilingualism was included in the budget proposal (£20,000). It was also realized that the sum of £50,000 in the CSP Fund was only a target figure for fundraising and not backed by any specific program as yet.

As the Working Party at this stage felt unable to define proper and workable criteria for distinction between the two means of financing AI activities, it recommends to the Council the approval of the budget as presented.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 34.

7. Funding

(a) Annual Fees

There was the general feeling that a serious attempt had to be made to apply the new fee system as decided by the International Council in 1976. The Working Party recalled in detail the pertinent decisions of the last year's Council. For the purpose of application, the national section income figures as provided by the International Secretariat were discussed with the individual delegates. In spite of the opinion of a minority of delegates that not all problems had been clarified thereby, the Working Party decided to set up a sub-group to apply the new system on the basis of the income figures agreed upon. The annual fees for each section arrived at thereby were again discussed with the individual delegates. Only a few sections declared their contribution to be beyond their resources, the various reasons given being based on the peculiar characteristics of each individual section, and stated the maximum amount they felt able to pay. This created the problem of a shortfall of about £100,000: since some delegates expressed their ability and willingness to pay more than their annual fee, and since traditionally there is extra income from donations and interest raised directly by the International Secretariat, the Working Party felt that the problem was solved. The International Treasurer wished his dissent to be recorded.

The Working Party recommends that the Council decide as follows:

i) the group related fee for the financial year 1978/79 shall be £240 -- based on the actual number of groups as at 30 April 1978

ii) the income related fee shall be 41.2% based however on income figures which were available at this International Council 1977.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 34.

The question of voting rights subject to payment of annual fees could be deferred to the next Council meeting in 1978, being relevant only for the voting rights

at the International Council in 1979.

In view of the fact that there still are problems in the new system not being resolved to the satisfaction of all delegates, the need for machinery for studying further the system and its working was expressed. As a result the Working Party recommends the acceptance of resolution D4 as amended.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 32.

(b) Consolidated Special Project Fund

The meeting discussed the proposal of a Consolidated Special Project Fund put forward by the International Executive Committee. Discussion ensued on the basis of a paper on this proposal by the Swedish Section (notes on ICM 14/10/77).

The Working Party did not consider its task to be to comment on the relative importance for the work of AI of the different categories in the fund but rather on pure financial aspect. The figures mentioned in the suggestion were considered "targets" for fundraising only, the establishment of which could be left to the International Executive Committee. For reasons of precision, as well as to stress the need to include regular long term AI work in the budget, the Working Party suggests the rephrasing of some of the categories. It was agreed that funding of regular long term AI activities should be through the budget instead of the Consolidated Special Project Fund. In the light of pertinent Council resolutions on multilingualism, the Working Party accepted, however, that this item could be financed through the CSP Fund next year.

The meeting felt that the principles suggested in the proposal as initial guidelines for the administration of the fund should be endorsed, subject to the following amendments:

add to (viii) - money raised and given for one of the categories should not be spent for other purposes without the consent of the donor

replace (x) by each project financed from the fund should not normally exceed 6 months and £50,000 and should be immediately fully financed, even if exceptionally a project in excess of these categories should be decided upon by the IEC.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 35.

The Working Party felt that for external use the new fund should retain the title "Special Project Fund".

8. Resolutions referred to the Working Party by the Council not dealt with before

Resolution D6 - unanimously approved.

For final text, see Part Two, page 32.

Enabling Resolution 13 - approved as amended. The Working Party felt that this resolution should have been dealt with by the Working Party on Organization.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 25.

Resolution D5 - not recommended. The Working Party felt no need for this resolution in the light of the removal of the budget ceiling.

Resolution D3 - withdrawn by the Canadian Section.

Resolution D2 - the Working Party thought it advisable to have this resolution referred to the IEC with a request that it be considered in connection with enabling resolution 7.

See Part Three, page 45.

9. Any Other Business

(a) In regard to the need to study the working of the new system of assessing the annual fee as well as the necessity for providing national sections with better information throughout the year on financial matters of the international organization, the Working Party felt it would be helpful to hold a meeting of national section representatives on financial matters in the spring of 1978 and therefore asked the International Treasurer to prepare and convene such a meeting.

For final text of decision, see Part Two, page 35.

(b) The Working Party had no time to consider a draft resolution by the Swedish Section on "a study of the functions, structure and size of the International Secretariat for a 5 year period.", and also had no time to discuss the request by the Director of the Promotion Department made in his report that the meeting consider the uses to which money raised by the campaign would be put.

REPORT ON THE CAMBRIDGE CRASH COMMITTEE REPORT AND ENABLING RESOLUTIONS

Rapporteur: Anne-Marie Rodeyns

I. General discussion of the Report: Comments from Working Parties A, B and C

It was felt by most of the national sections represented that they could endorse, at least in general, the guidelines outlined in the report and the spirit behind enabling resolution 1 as originally presented. It was difficult for the Working Party to discuss each part of resolution 1, because the individual matters were referred to other working parties.

The Swedish Section, however, wished to have recorded their reservations towards certain guidelines; detailed descussion on these took place in the other working parties according to the agenda items. Several sections underlined the importance of the decentralization process, some noting however the need for a progressive implementation.

An assessment of the load of work put on national sections in relation to their capacities, as well as possible duplication of work between the IS and the national sections, may be needed.

The need for training of the members and national section staff, as well as education, both internal and external, was also underlined.

Several sections noted that, if priorities had to be set among the guidelines, top priority should be given to the need to stress that AI is a prisoner-oriented organization.

There was a feeling that specification of certain guidelines was needed, such as the "AI presence" in regions where it has not been "present" so far, the universality of the organization, and the human rights education program.

Certain criticisms were expressed such as:

- lack of distinction between short-term and long-term provisions
- failure to analyse sufficiently the causes of the problems

failure to distinguish between AI's aim and organizational approach

II. Enabling resolutions

It must be underlined that the enabling resolutions are all backed up by specific detailed items of the CCC Report, and must be read and understood in the context of these items.

Enabling resolution 5 (Working Party C)

After a long discussion, the Working Party agreed to the spirit behind the resolution but does not recommend the resolution as it stands. The problems behind the resolution were recognized and the IEC should work out appropriate ways to solve them. It was agreed to refer this question to the IEC.

Enabling resolution 6 (Working Party C)

The resolution was amended as follows:

> "The International Council urges the IEC to make a study about the functions, structure and size of the International Secretariat for the coming 5-year period and to report to the ICM in 1978."

and the amendment was agreed upon.

For final amended text, see Part Three, page 46.

Enabling resolution 9 (Working Party B)

The Working Party noted this resolution and, in view of its connection with resolution B1, decided to recommend to the committee to be set up in resolution B1, to examine item 8 of the Crash Committee Report and the report of the working parties of the ICM.

Subsequently, the plenary decided not to adopt resolution B1.

Enabling resolution 10 (Working Party B)

This resolution was agreed upon by the Working Party.

For final text, see Part Two, page 19.

Enabling resolution 2 (Working Party C)

There was a long discussion on the exact meaning of this resolution, as well as to what it aimed at. Representatives from the Crash Committee explained that the purpose was to avoid AI becoming an organization with lots of members completely disconnected from national sections, and that in fact the

resolution mainly concerned countries where either no section existed or the section had no structures whatsoever to maintain at least minimum contact with the membership.

A majority of the national sections represented were consequently in favour of the resolution.

For final text, see Part Two, page 22.

Enabling resolution 12 (Working Party C)

The resolution was amended and consequently agreed upon.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 24 .

Enabling resolution 4 (Working Party C)

The Working Party agreed an amended version.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 26.

Enabling resolution 11 (Working Party B)

The Working Party agreed on an amended version of the resolution.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 21 .

Enabling resolution 8 (Working Party C)

This resolution was adopted, with paragraph 3 amended as follows:

> "requests the IEC and the IS to arrange a program of visits of IS staff to national sections to participate in the training program at national and international levels,"

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 24 .

It was also strongly stressed that fundamental differences exist between the needs of the IS and national sections as far as training programs are concerned, and therefore the mechanisms for implementation should also be different; therefore reservations were expressed with regard to item 36 (d) of the CCC report.

Enabling resolution 14 (Working Party C)

The Working Party endorsed this resolution, stressing however, with regard to paragraph 5 of the resolution, that a thorough study was needed in view of the many practical problems involved, before

considering any concrete implementation.

This resolution was not adopted by the International Council.

Enabling resolution 7 (Working Party D)

The Working Party amended and approved the resolution.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 33 .

Enabling resolution 13 (Working Party D)

The Working Party amended and approved the resolution as amended.

For final amended text, see Part Two, page 25 .

III. The suggestions from the document ICM 14/02/77 as regard implementation mechanisms were referred to the IEC.

Finally, the Working Party recommends to the plenary session to endorse the CCC Report as a whole.

PART FIVE
REPORT OF MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rapporteur: Leah Levin (WFUNA and Anti-Slavery Society)

The meeting was opened by Thomas Hammarberg (Chairman of the IEC), who welcomed all participants, many of whom had attended a similar meeting the previous year. A roll-call was taken and Leah Levin (representing WFUNA and Anti-Slavery Society) was appointed Rapporteur.

The Secretary General expressed AI's appreciation to those NGOs, including professional and trade union groups present for the support they were giving to the Prisoner of Conscience Year Petition, which would be handed to the UN Secretary General in December 1977.

He referred to the 30th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1978 and the mandate given by the UN Resolution (Human Rights Commission 21 February 1977) designating this as the occasion for a special program promoting awareness of human rights through an educational approach. This would be the theme at forthcoming meetings of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in consultative status with UNESCO and the Council of Europe. He suggested that the membership of non-governmental organizations collaborate and work collectively and individually for the ratification of the International Covenants on Human Rights during the coming year. On behalf of the meeting he expressed pleasure at the presence of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Georg Kahn-Ackermann.

A number of participants congratulated AI on their initiative in calling this meeting, which provided the opportunity for an exchange of ideas and cooperation. The major part of the discussion which followed hinged on promotion and implementation of human rights through an educational approach with special reference to projects designated to mark the 30th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

A particular feature of the meeting was the active participation of inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) who presented details of their programs; invited NGOs to cooperate with them on all aspects of these programs, as well as proposing ways in which NGOs could increase their effectiveness. Responding to the Chairman's invitation participants outlined their own programs.

The representative of the UN Division of Human Rights, Emmanuel S.S. Palmer, stressed the important role of NGOs in respect

of human rights education and welcomed the considerable contribution already made by Amnesty International towards stimulating human rights awareness.

The activities of the Division were limited and their mandate confined to the subject of resolutions. NGOs, however, he suggested, had greater freedom of action and could use the occasion to inquire into existing institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, in the same way as the 25th Anniversary provided the occasion which gave rise to Resolution 3059 on torture. A further unique role of NGOs lay in stimulating awareness at grass-roots level.

The Office of Public Information would be producing a number of publications and a special emblem for the 30th Anniversary, which were available to NGOs upon request.

The UN Secretary General was preparing a paper on the topic for the current session of the General Assembly, setting out themes and activities appropriate for marking the occasion.

In respect of the Council of Europe program, education on human rights had represented a long-standing item on the agenda of inter-governmental cooperation and the 30th Anniversary was seen as an opportunity to make a special contribution to human rights through educational means.

The program envisaged would cover both formal education and education of the general public and specialist groups.

The provision for the public in general included leaflets, publications, film and television programs, symposiums and debates. NGOs were asked to help with distributing the leaflets. In the area of formal education, special curricula were being prepared for use in primary and secondary education. At university level human rights studies for inclusion in courses was being promoted as well as courses in human rights for post graduates at special institutes. A program of adult education was being organized for members of the legal profession aimed at promoting implementation of human rights through the normal legal courts.

Special events relating to the 30th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights would include a Colloquy in September 1978 to be held in Athens; fifty conferences for lawyers and barristers as well as conferences for journalists specializing in human rights. A special leaflet was being prepared, as well as two publications, one of which would review the application of 25 years of jurisprudence.

The 30th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human

Rights coincided with the 25th Anniversary of the entry into force of the European Convention on Human Rights and it was suggested that European NGOs link their campaigns, urging the acceptance of the competence of the European Court and the right of the individual petition by those European governments which had not yet done so. NGOs were invited to make use of the Council of Europe facilities through their national governments.

The Council of Europe is also reviewing its relationship with the UN. The Council of Ministers would in future discuss matters of relevant interest on the UN General Assembly agenda, and this will include human rights in all their aspects.

Long-term programs extending to 1980 have been planned by UNESCO, and at the invitation of the UN Human Rights Commission, UNESCO will be submitting proposals on human rights education to the 34th Session of the Commission.

NGOs were invited to have consultations with members of UNESCO directorate and to strengthen cooperation with UNESCO through their respective National Commissions. This, it was proposed by the UNESCO representative, Eric Armerding, could be advanced by the appointment of an NGO representative to the National Commission and by National Commissions appointing NGO delegates on their representation to the specialized agencies.

The relevance of effective NGO cooperation in the field of refugee work was emphasized by the representative of UNHCR, Dr Gilbert Jaeger. Refugee work was of particular importance at grass-roots level and implementation and observance was dependent upon execution at national level. NGOs have access to individuals and their role was to stimulate reaction and awareness in this sphere, and thereby promote public pressure on governments. The UNHCR would assist in educational programs and cooperate on events for the 30th Anniversary.

The problem of NGOs in identifying effective programs to stimulate human rights awareness at grass-roots levels was discussed, as well as individual NGO projects for which cooperation was called for.

Amnesty International invited the cooperation of other NGOs for its programs which included the current Prisoners of Conscience Petition which would be handed to the UN Secretary General at the end of the year's campaign in December 1977.

The same month would herald the launching of the campaign against the death penalty at a conference in Stockholm. A seminar on "Torture and Human Rights" would shortly take place in Strasbourg in collaboration with the Council of Europe; and NGOs,

IGOs and governments would be participating. Measures toward more effective implementation of human rights included proposals from Asian national sections of AI to try to promote an Asian regional structure for the protection of human rights similar to that existing in Europe and Latin America.

The World Council of Churches did not have a specific program of education in human rights, but over the past years there had been a process of awareness-building aimed at identifying the role of the churches in implementing human rights. This has been done through the concrete involvement of churches in actual situations in their countries of operation, supported by the World Council of Churches.

In a practical way there were possibilities of collaboration for national NGOs with the churches arising from the preparation and distribution of material (by the National Ecumenical Division, for use at local level) on human rights issues such as development, refugees, health care, religious instruction in schools. AI national sections could help by supplying expert information.

Throughout the discussion emphasis was laid on the importance of a two-way traffic between NGOs and IGOs and the need for NGOs to reinforce one another's programs. Reference was made to operation in the United Kingdom of a network of human rights organizations which had been set up towards this purpose.

The International Union of Police Trade Unions, represented by Wolfgang Dicke, referring to the 1975 Code of Ethics for Police, drew attention to the dilemma of policemen where there were no trade unions to back an individual's stand on human rights, and asked NGOs to pressure their own governments to allow the formation of police trade unions.

Other current NGO projects raised were: the inclusion of civics in all educational curricula; the investigation of the situations of prisoners' wives (International Alliance of Women); teaching aids for schools on censorship and press restriction (Writers and Scholars International).

The Chairman in closing the meeting thanked all participants and said that the notes of the meeting would be sent to all those attending as well as NGOs with similar interest who were not able to attend.

Follow-Up Proposals

1. Emphasis on implementation at national level.

   (a) The Council of Europe education program for jurists was a recognition of importance of human rights implementation through the courts and should be promoted extensively at national level.

   (b) NGOs were urged to aim at influencing their governments to have more open ideas in order to make implementation of their undertakings more effective. This could be done through parliamentary procedures and lobbying MPs. The latter practice was not developed by many European countries. It was suggested that this could be promoted if there were some structured form of cooperation between NGOs.

2. National branches of organizations should be approached to cooperate with those organizations who offer projects. To this purpose notes of the meeting and the attendance list would be circulated to all those organizations present, as well as others who were interested.

3. NGOs to lobby support for the introduction of human rights education in police schools.

4. NGOs jointly and independently to press for the ratification of the International Covenants and the acceptance of the optional Protocol by all states.

5. Support for the inclusion of human rights teaching at all levels of the educational system.

6. The suggestions made to be followed up with the NGO special Committee on Human Rights, UNESCO and the Council of Europe.

PART SIX

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS RELEASE
ISSUED AT THE CLOSE OF THE 10th INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
BAD HONNEF, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, 18 SEPTEMBER 1977

Bad Honnef, Federal Republic of Germany -

The 10th International Council Meeting of Amnesty International held in Bad Honnef, Federal Republic of Germany, from 16 - 18 September, decided that the organization should refuse to take part in arrangements for the exchange of prisoners of conscience between governments holding such prisoners. Repeating its call to all governments to release all prisoners of conscience, the organization refused to acquiesce in any barter of their fate.

"There should be no bargaining about human rights," AI stated at the close of the three-day meeting. "The 30th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1978 was an opportunity for massive international action from governments, non-governmental organizations and public opinion to raise awareness of human rights of all human beings."

AI had received worldwide support for its 1977 "Prisoners of Conscience Year" campaign and urged people and governments everywhere to sign its international petition calling for the release of all prisoners of conscience throughout the world. The petition will be presented to the United Nations and all governments in December.

"One of the cornerstones in our strategy is the ratification of existing international human rights conventions," AI said. "The deplorable fact is that less than a third of the world's governments have ratified the UN Covenants on Human Rights which have set minimum standards for protection against arbitrary arrest and torture." This was one of the main points at issue in a meeting of representatives from the United Nations Division of Human Rights, UNESCO, Council of Europe and such non-governmental bodies as major Moslem, Jewish, Catholic and protestant organizations.

The International Council reaffirmed AI's position in favour of a total and global abolition of the death penalty which it strongly opposes as a cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment. In view of the increasing practice of governments of using or tolerating murder and abductions as a means of political terror, the International Council Meeting also recommended that political murder and disappearances be emphasized at AI's International Conference on the Death Penalty to be held in Stockholm,

10-11 December.

Several recent AI reports and statements have documented such practices in such countries as Argentina, Chile, Ethiopia and Uganda.

The International Council Meeting expressed its grave concern at the recent death in custody of Steve Biko, Honorary President of the South African Black Peoples' Convention, whose death was reported on 13 September. The meeting invited the United Nations to carry out a full, public investigation of the circumstances under which at least 21 political detainees in the custody of South African police have died in the last one and a half years.

The organization also decided to conduct a special study of cases of Koreans resident in Japan who, having been jailed in the Republic of Korea (South Korea) on espionage charges, were allegedly convicted on the basis of "confessions" extracted under torture.

AI's International Council Meeting also decided to collect available information about the use of torture by various political movements.

The International Council expressed its concern about the cooperation between a number of national secret services and the Iranian secret service, SAVAK, affecting the safety of Iranians abroad, who may fall victim to political persecution when returning to their home country.

The International Council re-elected Dirk Börner of the Federal Republic of Germany, Thomas Hammarberg of Sweden, Irmgard Hutter of Austria and Kevin White of Ireland (treasurer) to serve further two-year terms on AI's International Executive Committee (IEC).

AI's international budget for 1977/78 was increased to £829,000 in response to the rapidly growing demands on the International Secretariat. This figure will increase to £1.2 million in 1978/79. All AI funds are contributed by the organization's membership.

In the context of the rapid growth of the whole movement, the meeting underlined the need for proper training in the aims and methods of AI's membership and staff on all levels and made provisions for training programs to meet this need.

The International Council was attended by 79 voting delegates and numerous observers representing national sections in 33 countries. New sections in Spain and Venezuela were welcomed to the meeting for the first time.

PART SEVEN
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

DELEGATES

Australia:	John Coombs Leonore Ryan
Austria:	Henry Goldman Michael Kerbler Franz Schneider
Belgium:	Miel Cortens Anne-Marie Rodeyns Victor Solé
Canada:	Francois Martin Sue Nichols
Denmark:	Jens Faerkel Peter Høffding Vibeke Viale
Faroe Islands:	Ole Jacobsen
Finland:	Traute Stude
France:	Jean-Pierre Darmon Jeanne Heller Michel Odier Marc Schweyer
Germany, Federal Republic of:	Helmut S. Hegeler Wolfgang Heinz Michael Klein Irmgard Klingst Herbert Ladwig Constantin Thun
Greece:	Grigoris Efstratiadis
Iceland:	Linda Johannesson
India:	A. G. Noorani
Ireland:	Helmut Clissmann Sean MacBride

Israel:	Dr. Edy Kaufman
Italy:	Margherita Boniver Mariano Salemme
Japan:	Kazuo Ito Dr. Kimio Kawakubo
Republic of Korea:	Father Herbert Wottawah
Luxembourg:	Nic Klecker Antoine Seck
Mexico:	Cesar Arias
Nepal:	Veerendra Keshari
Netherlands:	Adri Kemps Klaas Keuning Jan Postema George Siemensma Koo van der Wal
Nigeria:	Samuel Ade Oyewole
Norway:	Sverre Dahl Bjørg Wilhelmsen
Pakistan:	Hashmat Habib
Peru:	Cesar Arias (proxy)
Spain:	Silvia Escobar
Sri Lanka:	Suriya Wickremasinghe
Sweden:	Ivar Asp Karl-Axel Elmquist Brita Grundin Bo Lindblom Lars Ronnas
Switzerland:	Marta Fotsch Claudine Rey Dankwart Scaar
United Kingdom:	Jacques Berthoud Alec Bristow Edmond McGovern Paul Oestreicher

USA:	A. Whitney Ellsworth Dayid Hinkley Vincent McGee Barbara Sproul
Venezuela:	Luis las Heras

OBSERVERS

Australia:	Harris van Beek Matt Forgacs Anille Kaendler
Austria:	Homayoun Alizadeh Hilde Danninger Heinz Decker Ingrid Reusch Riki Schlofer
Belgium:	Paul Calmeyn Hubert Deby Nelly Desmet-Beguin Mme. Gouzée-Rolin Marc Herouet Etienne Trauwaert Jean-Francois Wüstefeld
Canada:	Thelma Baker Lorna Watson
Denmark:	Aase Breinholt Preben Søegaard Hansen Ole Ladefoged Aase Purup
Egypt:	Dr. Nasr Sayed Abdulhamid Soliman
France:	Jean-Claude Albert Teddy Follenfant Claudia Hutchin-Puechavy Jean-Francois Lambert Christian Marechal Frederic Pascal Michel Puechavy Christine Raffin Lise Weill

Germany, Federal Republic of:	Peter Bauer Helmut Frenz Barbara Geier Helmut Huss Reinhard Marx Jan Mühlstein Hans-Georg Schütze Helga Schwind Silke Spliedt Irmgard Viethen
Greece:	Katerina Thymnakis
Ireland:	Alan Benson
Italy:	Giuseppe Forlani Fausto Marziale Giselle Marziale Lydia Mazzotti Emma Pizzoni Angelo Ramella Enrico Riva
Japan:	Toshiyuki Nishikawa Grace Suzuki
Luxembourg:	Laura Klecker Lambert Schlechter
Netherlands:	Peer Baneke Frits Davelaar Jan-Wilhelm den Herder Hei Hummel Roel Nijmeijer Herman Vriesendorf
Norway:	Jan Olav Brynjulfsen Otto Falkenberg Stein Viksveen Bobbie Wettre
Spain:	Fred Bennetts Pat Bennetts Joan Jarque
Sri Lanka:	Fritz Kodagoda
Sweden:	Eva Alander Amelie Bendz Gunnar Berg Pia Ehrenpreis

Sweden: (continued)	Marianne Eyre Bo Gunnar Fängström Ingrid Persson Malcolm Tigerschiöld
Switzerland:	Judith Adler Ruedi Berchtold Laurent Bosshard Don Fillinger Ruth Freiburghaus Henry Jacoby - AI representative at UN, Geneva Armand Jacoubovitch Fritz Schneider (Thursday only)
United Kingdom:	Peter Luff David Simpson Steve Whaley
USA:	Larry Cox William Frelick Hannah Grunwald David Hawk Janet Johnstone Sally Lilienthal Robert Maurer David Weissbrodt
Venezuela:	Jesus Dolara

SPECIAL VISITORS

Kofi Sekyiamah	Ghanaian, member of UN Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities
Alfred Grosser	
Sushil Premchand Ian Plaistowe	Arthur Andersen & Co (auditors for Amnesty International)

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Andrew Blane	USA
Dirk Börner	FRG
Thomas Hammarberg	Sweden
Irmgard Hutter	Austria
Dick Oosting	Staff representative
Marie-Jose Protais	France
George Siemensma (alternate for Alfred Heijder)	Netherlands
Mümtaz Soysal	Turkey
Kevin White	Ireland

FINANCIAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

Arnout Ruitenberg	Netherlands
Margaretta Rosen	Sweden

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

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Fanny Blakiston	Committee Assistant
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