

The Commission confirmed its decision to commemorate International Human Rights Day (IHRD) with a press release which will acknowledge the advancement of human rights globally but focus on the local development of human rights in the Cayman Islands.

e. Annual Report

Members agreed to follow the format of previous HRC reports for its December 2014 report. A draft will be circulated accordingly.

4. New Business

National Conference on Women - Supplementary Report

The Commission noticed in the press that the Ministry of Gender Affairs published a supplementary report regarding a meeting with women and girls in Cayman Brac. The meeting discussed issues relevant to particular Articles of Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), local legislation, and a number of general recommendations of CEDAW. Members agreed to send correspondence commending their efforts to tackle a sensitive issue in society.

5. Human Rights Complaints

a. Update on Human Rights Complaint 014/2013

Members were updated on this complaint.

b. Update on Human Rights Complaint 019/2013

Members were updated on this complaint.

c. Update on Human Rights Complaint 013/2014

The Complainant has not supplied the information requested by the HRC. As such, the Commission agreed to give the Complainant 30 days to provide the requested information otherwise the file will be closed. The complainant will be advised that they may submit any further complaints in the future.

d. Human Rights Complaint 014/2014

Members discussed this complaint and agreed to correspond with the relevant public authority regarding the complaint.

e. Human Rights Complaint 015/2014

Members discussed this complaint and agreed to correspond with the relevant public authority regarding the complaint. It is noted that Reverend Donovan Myers recused himself from this complaint and therefore did not participate in the discussion or the decision making aspect of this complaint.

f. Human Rights Complaint 016/2014

Members discussed this complaint and agreed to correspond with the relevant public authority regarding the complaint. It is noted that Reverend Donovan Myers recused himself from this complaint and therefore did not participate in the discussion or the decision making aspect of this complaint.

6. Any Other Business

HRC in the Public Domain

The Commission discussed the means in which the HRC could be more active in the public domain. Members acknowledged that they all had busy schedules but would explore the possibility of a standing media commitment every quarter. Members also discussed submitting short opinion/discussion style pieces to the press on each right contained in the Bill of Rights. Members agreed the current Facebook page needs some attention and updating. A Member of the Commission with social media experience volunteered to review the page to make it more user friendly. The Commission would like to use its Facebook page as tool to encourage awareness and stimulate debate on current human rights issues.

7. Action Items

Members were asked to:

- a. Submit comments on the Draft Deportation and Prohibited Immigrant Report;
- b. Submit comments on the Data Protection Bill;
- c. Review the International Human Rights Day Press Release when circulated; and
- d. Review the Annual Report when circulated.

The Secretariat was asked to:

- a. Amend the draft Deportation and Prohibited Immigrants according to feedback when received;
- b. Finalise the previously drafted letter to be submitted to the Data Protection Working Group incorporating member comments on the Data Protection Bill 2014 when received;
- c. Contact Rooster about quarterly appearances of HRC members on Cross Talk;
- d. Draft a press release for International Human Rights Day;
- e. Draft the 2014 Annual Report;
- f. Draft correspondence to the Ministry of Gender Affairs re the National Conference on Women - Supplementary Report; and
- g. Draft appropriate correspondence for HRC complaints/query as appropriate;

8. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. Deportation and Prohibited Immigrants
- b. 2014 Annual Report
- c. New and Outstanding Human Rights Complaints

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the HRC is scheduled for 18th December, 2014 at 2:30pm at the offices of the Commissions Secretariat.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm; following which the HRC engaged in the final set of a four part series of human rights specific training.



James Austin-Smith
ACTING CHAIRMAN

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION