

iii. International Human Rights Day

International Human Rights Day is on 10 December 2017. This year's theme is '#StandUp4HumanRights' and the Commission plans to celebrate this with the launch of the audio and braille versions of the Constitution, in conjunction with the Constitutional Commission, on Thursday, 7 December.

b. Press Release from "Colours Cayman"

The Commission received a press release from the group "Colours Cayman" dated 8 November 2017 which detailed the declaration of admissibility by the Committee on Petitions of the European Parliament of a petition to, in summary, support the rights of LGBTI Caymanians, especially with respect to the equal application of the law in relation to LGBTI non-Caymanians.

The Commission considers that its views on this topic have been made clear in the past and they remain unchanged: it agrees that Cayman must take steps to amend its laws to remove the discrimination that the press release highlights. The Commission therefore acknowledged receipt of the press release and agreed to continue to monitor the progress of the petition. Furthermore the Commission agreed to post the Colours Cayman press release on its website.

5. Human Rights Complaints & Enquiries

a. Update on Human Rights Complaint 005/2017

The Commission discussed the response received to its enquiries from the second public authority in this complaint. Following discussions, it was agreed correspondence would again be prepared to the first public authority asking them to review the response of the second public authority and provide its comments to the Commission.

b. Update on Human Rights Complaint 012/2017

Following a response to its enquiries, members agreed that they are satisfied that the allegations made by the complainant have been thoroughly investigated by the public authority. Furthermore, the Commission determined that any further investigations into the allegations are beyond its own remit and power. As such the file will be closed.

c. Update on Human Rights Complaint 016/2017

The Commission reviewed the response received from the public authority providing its comments on the complaint. Whilst Members were satisfied with the explanations provided, they agreed that the complainant should file a new request for the information he has requested. As such the file will be closed.

d. Human Rights Complaint 019/2017

The Commission reviewed this complaint and the additional information gathered on the matter by the Secretariat. Members agreed that a remedy may now exist given the recent passage of relevant legislation. As such the file will be closed.

6. **Any Other Business**

a. **Human Rights Complaint 021/2017**

The Commission reviewed this complaint and the first steps taken by the Secretariat. Members agreed that it may be helpful to enquire from the complainant's legal representative for further information. During the initial enquiries, it was brought to the Commission's attention that the basis of this complaint is indicative of a larger issue.

7. **Action Items**

The Secretariat was asked to:

- a. Draft correspondence or conduct research in all matters and human rights complaints and enquiries as detailed above; and
- b. Post the press release from "Colours Cayman" to the HRC website.

8. **Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting**

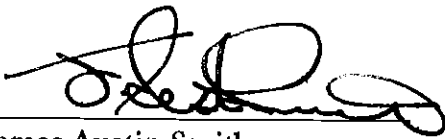
- a. New and outstanding human rights complaints; and
- b. Draft Annual Report for 2017.

9. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the HRC has been scheduled for 12 January 2017 at 3:00pm at the offices of the Commissions Secretariat.

10. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm.



James Austin-Smith
CHAIRMAN
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



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