HRC/MIN/2021/07

MINUTES MEETING OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION 10 NOVEMBER 2021 VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Dale Crowley Joni Kirkconnell Nick Quin Deborah Barker Roye Cathy Gomez Chairman Member Member Member Member

COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marilyn ConollyManagerLise HurlstoneResearch AnalystJackelin ConnollyAdministrative OfficerDerricka NeysmithAdministrative Officer

1. Meeting called to order

The meeting was called to order at 11:13 am. The Research Analyst introduced two newly hired temporary staff, Jackelin Connolly and Derricka Neysmith, who are currently in training to provide additional assistance to the Secretariat.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes of 23 September 2021 were approved.

3. Outstanding Business

a. IDC and Prison Tours

The Research Analyst updated the Members that due to the current increase in COVID transmission rates and the continued closure of the prison to visitors, no attempts have been made to reschedule the prison tours as yet. The Chairman requested that the Secretariat follow up in Q2 2022.

b. 2021 General Election Reports

The Commission continued to consider the Domestic Observer's Report and the CPA BIMR Election Expert Mission Final Report. Members agreed to provide comments by the end of the month. The Secretariat will circulate a reminder.

c. Migrants

Members noted that no updates have been provided by the public authority in question since 12 May 2021 despite numerous follow-ups. It was decided that a letter should be drafted to the Director of CBC to address this matter.

d. CIIMB Annual Report 2020

The Commission continued to consider the CIIMB Annual Report 2020. Members agreed to

provide comments by the end of the month. The Secretariat will circulate a reminder.

e. HRC Presentation to CIIMB

Members Deborah Barker Roye and Cathy Gomez provided an update on their presentation to the Cayman Islands Independent Monitoring Board (the "CIIMB") on 27 September 2021, and noted that it was well received. The CIIMB wishes to maintain a relationship with the HRC going forward.

4. New Business

a. HRC COVID Statement

The Manager provided an overview of the draft HRC COVID Statement. Members agreed to include additional feedback. The Manager will update the statement accordingly and will circulate an updated version before the end of the week.

5. Human Rights Complaints & Enquiries

a. Update on Human Rights Complaint 013/2021

Members were updated on this matter. It was agreed that the matter will be closed given that the complainant appears to have received a satisfactory resolution and other avenues for remedy are available. The complainant and public authority involved will be advised accordingly.

b. Update on Human Rights Complaint 021/2021

Members were updated on this matter and the Chair requested a change be made to the correspondence prepared for the complainant prior to sending. The Secretariat will action accordingly.

c. Update on Human Rights Enquiry 003/2021

Members were updated on this matter and agreed that the Secretariat will follow up with the public authority in question for a response on this issue.

d. Human Rights Complaint026/2021

Members considered this complaint, received on 11 October 2021. It was decided that further research is required as a matter of priority in order to address this matter adequately. The Secretariat was requested to draft correspondence to the complainant advising them of the same.

6. Any Other Business

- **a.** The Chair advised members of his upcoming meeting with His Excellency The Governor in December 2021, and asked members to submit any issues or concerns they wished for him to raise prior to the meeting.
- **b.** Members discussed the need to hire outside assistance from a legal representative in order to tackle some of the weighty matters it is currently considering in a timely fashion. The

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Secretariat was requested to begin seeking appropriate assistance, and members Deborah Barker Roye, Nick Quin and Chair Dale Crowley would assist by preparing instructions.

7. Action Items

Members were asked to:

- a. Finalise their review of the Reports as detailed in item 3.b. above by the end of the month;
- b. Provide any comments on the CIIMB's Annual Report 2020 as detailed in item 3.d. above;
- **c.** Members were asked to submit any concerns they wished to raise as detailed in item 6.a. above;
- d. The Chairman will provide updates regarding his meeting with the Governor; and
- e. Members Nick Quin, Deborah Barker Roye and Chair Dale Crowley will draft instructions pertaining to the legal research as detailed in item 6.b. above.

The Secretariat was asked to:

- a. Circulate reminders to members regarding items 3.b. and 3.d. above;
- **b.** Contact the Director of CBC regarding item 3.c. above;
- **c.** Make amendments to the HRC COVID Statement and circulate to members for approval as detailed in item 4.a. above (Manager);
- d. Circulate a copy of the Immigration (Transition) (Amendment) Act, 2021, Customs and Border
- e. Control (Amendment) Act, 2021, Education Law, 2016, and Public Health Act, (2021 Revision) to members for review;
- f. Liaise with members to secure appropriate assistance for a legal representative; and
- g. Draft correspondence for all complaint matters as detailed above.

8. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. 2021 General Election Reports
- **b.** Migrants
- c. CIIMB Annual Report 2020
- **d.** HRC COVID Statement
- e. HRC Enquiries

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting date will be held on 19 January 2022 at 11:00 am.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Dale Crowley CHAIRMAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION