

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (“HRC”)
1st MEETING OF 2026
MINUTES
23 February 2026
CONFERENCE ROOM
HRC SECRETARIAT OFFICES**

PRESENT:

Benjamin Tonner KC	Chairperson
Alecia Johns	Member
Mike Gibbs	Member
Nicholas Dixey	Member

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Evette Burnell	Administrator/Analyst
----------------	-----------------------

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Call to Order

The meeting commenced at 3:00 p.m.

1.a. In advance of the regular HRC meeting, Members met via Zoom with representatives from CBC and the Ministry of District Administration and Home Affairs to discuss issues surrounding migration and planning and other outstanding issues. A separate file note will be drafted for this call and saved on record.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2025 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

a. Education Initiatives

- i. Social Media Campaign* – The Administrator/Analyst reported that social media engagement had significantly increased with the boosted Human Rights Day post on 10 December, however, other upboosted post engagement remained steady. The March draft post was approved and it was agreed that April posts should be drafted for World Autism Day and International Mother earth day, to be approved in the next meeting.
- ii. Bill of Rights Training* – The Secretariat reported that the course and assessment questions are complete and going through final verification. There had been some queries over certain content and a call will be arranged with Vaughan and Ian to discuss further.
- iii. School Visits* – The Secretariat has been in touch with the Head of the Theoline McCoy Primary School in regard to setting a date for the HRC to present to year 6. A date is yet to be confirmed.

b. Migrants

The Secretariat will follow-up with CILAC following CILAC's proposal outlining its service offerings to support migrants. A joint meeting was scheduled to take place between CILAC and CILPA to discuss next steps in January to discuss minimum standards and a possible MOU with CBC.

c. Prison Updates

Members who visited HMP Northward on 30 January discussed their visit and expressed thanks to Mr. Greaves for the tour of the facilities. The Members discussed areas that they were impressed by ie. the education wing and vocational training, and areas that were a cause for concern ie. The accommodations for prisoners and overcrowding. The Secretariat will draft a letter to the Ministry outlining these points for Members to review.

d. Mental Health

Members discussed their next visit to the Poinciana mental health facility and agreed the Secretariat should reach out to organize a visit for mid-year.

e. Beneficial Ownership Register

No action at this time. Members will monitor the situation and any developments.

f. Immigration (Transition) Amendment and Validation Bill 2025

The Act was passed in December 2025 and will now be removed from the agenda going forward.

g. Annual Report

The Secretariat has drafted the 2025 annual report, which will be finalized and included in the packet for Members review next month.

Human Rights Complaints and Enquiries

OLD:

- **HRC-COMP-002/2025:** Appeal ongoing; Secretariat monitoring. A supplementary complaint regarding judgment delays has been filed.
- **HRC-COMP-006/2025:** Supplementary complaint linked to COMP-002/2024. The Secretariat will reach out to the Governor's Office in regard to the delay on this judgement, which the GO had stated in writing would be delivered by end of Q4 sitting 2025 and is still outstanding.
- **HRC-ENQ-001/2025:** The Secretariat is to followed up with the enquirer, and request permission to reach out to Mr. Trec at WORC in regard to his situation.
- **HRC-COMP-007/2025:** Complainant seeks assistance regarding denial of a dependent on her RERC. She has applied for a Cabinet fee waiver to appeal the decision and still awaits a decision. The Secretariat is to reach out to find out when the visitor extension expires and to chase Cabinet Office the week prior for an update.
- **HRC-COMP-014/2025:** Complaint from asylum grantee about his right to free movement and family life, due to his inability to travel as he has no travel documents. The Secretariat will follow up with the complainant to find out more details of his travel requirements.

NEW:

- **HRC-COMP-001-2026:** Complaint from asylum grantee unable to return to Cayman due to expired travel documents. Case referred to Ministry and awaiting CBC response. Follow up with DCO Whittaker.
- **HRC-COMP-002-2026:** Complaint regarding financial assistance being revoked after reassessment. Reach out to complainant for copy of letter from FAD.
- **HRC-COMP-003-2026:** This is a HR complaint and will be closed as it is outside the remit of HRC. Secretariat to draft closure letter.
- **HRC-COMP-004-2026:** This is a complaint regarding a default judgement and will be closed as the complainant has a legal process to pursue should they wish. Secretariat to draft closure letter.

- **HRC-COMP-005-2026:** The complaint is regarding a scholarship (provided under MoE). The Secretariat will contact the school to find out the process of revoking a scholarship and details of the case.

New Business

None.

Any Other Business

None

7. Action Items

It was resolved the Secretariat would:

- a. Publish approved social media post for March (3.a.i).
- b. Progress the BOR training and provide updates at the next meeting (3.a.ii).
- c. Reach out to Theoline McCoy school for potential presentation dates (3.a.iii).
- d. Follow up with CILPA and CILAC regarding migrant support initiatives (3.b).
- e. Draft letter to the Ministry following the Northward prison visit (3.c).
- f. Reach out to Poinciana to schedule a visit for mid-year (3.d).
- g. Finalise 2025 AR to be included in next meeting packet (3.g).
- h. Draft correspondence for all complaints and enquiries discussed (4).

8. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

- a. PR & Education Initiatives
 - i. Social Media Campaign
 - ii. Bill of Rights Training
 - iii. School Visits
- b. Migrants
- c. Prisons Updates
- d. Mental Health
- e. Beneficial Ownership Register
- f. Annual Report

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 26 March 2026.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 pm.



**Benjamin Tonner KC
CHAIRPERSON**