

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



17 October 2011
AI Index: FIN 61/005/2011

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

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Dear Friends,

CALL FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

It is now approximately one year since our last call for additional voluntary contributions (AVCs) in FIN 61/003/2010, which was predominantly for the second year of the current ISP period, now drawing to a close. It was (and is) our intention to phase out AVCs going forward, especially as we now have a new assessment model approved at this year's ICM as part of the One Financial Amnesty Decision. However, while we can look to a significant reduction in AVCs in the medium to long term, due to the gradual phasing in of the new assessment system, now over a ten year period, we will continue to make calls for additional voluntary contributions to support Amnesty's ambitious human rights agenda. As part of the transitional arrangements, ICM 2011 Decision 18 defines a target of €6,5 million for the combined years 2012 and 2013. We are therefore now making a call for voluntary contributions for the ISOP 2 period. While we are now budgeting on an annual basis, the ISOP period remains at two years, so indications of what AVCs may be made available over the two year period is useful for providing a basis for establishing the scale of work being planned internationally. We appreciate that indications of AVC levels for 2013 will be more problematic than for 2012, and will accept any limitations you may choose to provide against 2013 AVCs, in preference to no information on possible levels of 2013 AVCs. The amount of €6,5 million being approximately 6% of the forecasted assessment income for the next two years, Sections can use this percentage as an indicator of what level of AVCs are expected (though averages are obviously the outcome of lower than and of higher than average performances!).

Our calls for AVCs in OP1 were very successful in that the total of funds already received and the pledges for funds to be transferred at a later stage compares well to the €10 million target for OP1 as per Decision 15 of the 2009 ICM. Thank you again to all of those who contributed.

While in OP1 we did not aim for earmarking AVCs against specific areas of work, in part because it was being used to cover un-forecast shortfalls in assessment payments from some Sections, future calls will be more specific.

With this call for AVCs, while not specifying exact amounts or specific projects for the time being, we do highlight the specific areas of work on which AVCs will be expended. These work areas are in alignment with the movement's priorities as stated in the Global Priority Statement (GPS). The GPS is closely aligned with the strategic directions of the ISP and specifically references the movement's commitment to increasing the resources expended in the Global South and East in order to be closer

to human rights violations where they are more extreme as well as to be better able to act to prevent them in future.

The IS is currently in the process of developing its 2012 budget and therefore not in a position to indicate the specific budgets for the various areas of work described. However, if Sections wish to provide indications of preferences for allocation of AVCs, we can take these into consideration. Such an allocation process does need to be carefully managed, however, to ensure that AVCs pledges do not distort the resource allocation process. We will be in a position to indicate the scale of areas of work for funding later in the year once the budget process is further developed.

While the SG cannot give great detail yet, he has outlined specific areas as described here.

MENA

As extensively discussed at the last ICM and as described in the GPS2, Growth in MENA countries is key if we are to deliver our ambitious human rights change goals and become a truly global movement.

As outlined in the GPS, Amnesty will work on critical countries in transition, specifically Egypt and Tunisia, where Amnesty can use its expertise and credibility to influence decision makers specifically in the areas of freedom of expression, criminal justice reform, women's participation, as well as forced evictions (Egypt). We will also continue to work on the crises in Libya (moving to transition), Syria and Yemen, primarily by reacting to the violent abuses being perpetrated. In order to achieve that we will:

- Deploy additional resources for research and action
- Develop and resource an Arabic website and greater translation capacity
- Develop a programme of youth work in the region in countries where AI does not have a presence through focusing on networking and supporting youth leaders as agents of change.
- Develop a 'transition response fund' which will enable AI to respond quickly to need and opportunity for growth of a form of AI presence in countries as they are going through transition."
- Explore the development of an AI presence in Egypt, which could act as a focal point for our human rights work in the country.

In order to enable this we are already expanding the staffing in the MENA team substantially to support this increased work level.

Forced evictions

We are expanding our work to end forced evictions as part of the Demand Dignity campaign by targeting specific governments where we can win significant changes to prevent forced evictions and to ensure the enactment of laws and development of guidelines that prohibit forced evictions. Additional resources are required to scale up our programmes linked to the GPS priority work on forced evictions and the BRICS priorities:

Brazil: reactive and scoping work in 2012 will expand into a campaign against forced evictions linked to the World Cup and Olympics construction projects.

India: work on forced evictions in India will be developed as a key project for AI India dependent on the availability of additional resources.

Kenya: funding is required to continue the existing programme work on forced evictions in Kenya as funding linked to an external grant comes to end in 2012.

Growth

Implementation of the Growth Strategy will continue during GPS2 as a global priority. We aim to increase the membership from 3 million to 3,8 million by the end of 2013, with 400,000 new members to be recruited in the Global South during this period. To achieve this target additional investment is required which will be managed by the new resource allocation mechanism.

Brazil and India: Establishing the agreed AI presences in India and Brazil requires additional investment to cover the set up costs, recruitment of staff, and initial development costs. While both of these projects now underway, with the office in Brazil due to open in weeks rather than months from now, we are confident that we will be in a position to invest effectively in the development of our Human Rights agenda in Brazil in 2012-13.

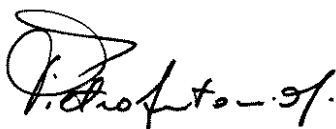
As in recent years, we reiterate that we are very aware of the ongoing challenging economic environment in which Amnesty Sections are operating, however, we do trust that a good number of Sections continue to achieve good income growth and believe we have an excellent opportunity to make effective investments in these strategic projects.

The IS continues to develop improved systems to account for the funds invested in specific areas and projects and to produce feedback to the contributors of these funds about how funds were spent and about the human rights impact.

It is also worth restating that AVCs, as in previous years and as described in the new assessment model, are exempt from assessment and therefore will be deducted from the gross income when calculating assessment liabilities.

We look forward to receiving indications of amounts which your Section is able to provide as AVCs for 2012 and 2013. We would appreciate if you could do so before the IEC meets on 2 December to agree the 2012 budget, as the projects mentioned above will be key items on our agenda. Please send this information to the SG and copy the International Treasurer. In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact George Macfarlane (George.Macfarlane@amnesty.org) with any questions on the process or clarification of the funding areas.

We thank you for your continuous support,



Pietro Antonioli
IEC Chair



Bernard Sintobin
International Treasurer