

Protecting Impartiality

FIN 21/004/2001

Procedures and Criteria for approval of HRE Fundraising from Government organisations

1. Introduction

These criteria and procedures will assist AI sections / structures to submit funding applications that are consistent with AI and HRE policy and fundraising requirements while helping to ensure that the end result is a sustainable HRE program. Specific reference is made to the following ICM Decision:

1999 ICM Decision 47 : Fundraising Guidelines

‘The International Council decides to endorse the principles enunciated in the Fundraising Guidelines, striking a balance between obtaining additional resources for the movement’s Human Rights work **and ensuring that acceptance of funds does not compromise the organisations independence, impartiality and credibility.....**’

Central coordination and approval of HRE funding applications to government organisations is essential for the following reasons:

- \$ Maintenance of impartiality, independence and ability to manage the risks involved to AI’s credibility in accepting government funding.
- \$ A fair and proportional distribution of HRE funds across the movement.
- \$ Proper integration of the project with country strategies
- \$ To sustain a consistent standard for HRE projects
- \$ To coordinate the role larger sections play in assisting smaller sections / structures with development of projects and access of funding from government organisations.

2. Aim

To assist AI sections / structures to develop and implement long term Human Rights Education programs that can impact positively on the human rights environment.

3. Objectives

- \$ To enable the IEC to take effective and informed decisions on HRE government funding applications.
- \$ To ensure that approved funding proposals will meet the established criteria and Fundraising Guidelines and are consistent with HRE policy, country strategies, development objectives, and not inconsistent with other AI policies and strategies.

- \$ To establish clear processes for consultation and coordination, prior to the IEC making a decision on a proposed application.
- \$ To develop a central register of approved government funding projects to enable regular reports to be sent to IEC and ICM for monitoring purposes.

3. Step by Step procedures for project development and approvals

The success of a project depends on thorough, participatory preparation between all parties that will be involved in the project. These procedures aim to ensure that there is sufficient and effective consultation at all levels.

1. The Section / structure develops a brief project outline that identifies (a) what the project aims to achieve, (b) who will benefit from the project, (c) the process of consultation that has been undertaken and will be undertaken with partners and / or target groups, (d) an estimate of the total funds required for the project and the proposed donor/s (if known)
2. The Section / structure send the outline to the HRE Team at the IS.
3. The HRE Team consults all relevant programs at the IS and discusses feedback and queries with the Section / structure making the proposal.
4. The Section / structure makes the decision whether or not to develop a funding application to present to the IEC. The IS provides clear advice, through the HRE Team, on the type of recommendation they will make to the IEC.
5. The section / structure, with the support of the HRE Team as required, prepares a draft proposal and submits to the HRE Team for further discussion prior to finalising the application.
6. The final application document is sent for approval to the IEC with recommendations from the HRE Team.

4. Criteria for approvals

For final IEC approval, applications for projects will need to address the following areas:

- \$ If an application is made to a government organisation for funds to be used in a different country, there must be an indication that consideration has been given to the political role played by the donor government in the recipient country.
- \$ Proposals for approaches to own government for funding of HRE work must demonstrate how the motivation of the government might be perceived and a confidence that this will not impact on the independence and impartiality of AI.
- \$ The application must demonstrate that the AI Structure in that country has the capacity to implement, monitor and evaluate the project and that, were appropriate, funds for HRE capacity building activities are included in the project application.
- \$ All applications must take into account the AI Revised Guidelines for the Acceptance of Funds and Fundraising by Amnesty International (FIN21/03/00)
- \$ An application that represents more than 25% of a structure's annual budget will be taken into account by the IEC in relation to independence and capacity.

- \$ The application must specify clear aims and objectives that are consistent with the HRE International Policy and country strategies and demonstrate appropriate indicators for evaluation.

- \$ The application will indicate how salaries (if appropriate) and administration costs that are required for implementing the project will be met. If these costs are included in the application they must be consistent with the requirements of the donor organisation and demonstrate that they will not be used for any AI costs or activities not associated with the project.