

UK ESF Co-ordinating Committee Meeting

27th May 2004

Organisation

GLA
GLA
Globalise Resistance
Kurdish Federation
BABELS UK
CPGB/Weekly Worker
PSC
NUS
SAAR
Amicus London Computer Staffs
Socialist Resistance
Workers' Power
Workers' Power
NUJ
Media, Culture & Communications Network
FM Arts/CWG
Artist Against the War
CWG & European Creative Forum
WILPF
Globalise Resistance
LVSTC
GLA (Culture)
NUS
Centre for the Study of Global Ethics/ATTAC
Oxford Globalise Resistance
Red Pepper
London UNISON
Tobin Tax Network
NAAR
T&G

Name

Sean O'Curneen
Dominic Hurley
Simon Underwood
Arzu Pesmen
John Street
Tina Becker
Sarah Colborne
Louise Hutchins
Lee Brown
Alan Rae
Karen O'Toole
Simon Hannah
Jeremy Dewar
Tim Lezard
Dave Jones
Doug Holton
Richy Garratt
Gareth Strangemore-Jones
Sheila Triggs
Katya Nasim
Clayton Elliott
Justine Simons
Tom Whittaker
Emma Dowling
Jonathan Neale
Oscar Reyes
Rahul Patel
Dave Hillman
Milena Buyum
Adrian Weir

Apologies

Dick Barry
Julie Stoll
Javier Ruiz
Kate Hudson
Mike Elman

Unison
Babels
Indymedia
CND
Liberty

Facilitator

Chris Nineham

Minutes of 20/05/04

Note correction circulated re delegation to Paris Programme Meeting.

Matters Arising

- Support for delegates from East Europe for the European programme meeting in Paris is being organised by Kate Hudson.
- The Trade Union reps for Paris will be Mick Connolly (SERTUC) and Alex Gordon (RMT).
- Agreed that emails sent to culture WG would be received by Gareth Strangemore-Jones, Doug Holton, Nancy Lindisfarne and Noel Douglas.

BABELS report

- Met with office group last week and discussed their requirements re office accommodation.
- Aim to produce paper on the relative merits of different systems for interpretation for next weeks meeting.

Media

- The email address on the website should not be their – the address was set up in preparation for a group yet to be convened.
- Media will be taken as an agenda item at the Coordinating Committee in two/three weeks.

Accommodation

- UNISON and NUJ are putting out requests for assistance with accom in their newsletters/journals.
- Requests to faith groups have received a good response which are now being followed up.
- It was agreed to book Lee Valley campsite who will be able to offer 1500 spaces for 2 person tents, at a cost of £5pppn.
- It was agreed to pay Studio 92 who have approximately 500 beds available and want a £1900 deposit (total cost £19000).
- The YHA are being pursued to provide spaces.
- It was noted that at outreach meetings with black and anti-racist, Asian and student organisation requests for assistance providing accommodation had been made.

- It was suggested that Local Government Emergency Planning Officers may be able to offer advice on where accommodation may be available.

Affiliations

- It was noted that presently 67 organisations had affiliated, representing a wide range of the movement.
- It was hoped that the NGOs would shortly affiliate following clarification of issues around liability raised at an outreach meeting. A letter explaining the legal situation was being sourced from solicitors.
- It was noted that a number of national trade unions were affiliated and they were happy that they were not liable beyond their agreed contributions.
- It was agreed that the list of affiliates would be placed on the website when a wider range of organisations had affiliated – in order to show the breadth of support.
- It was noted that requests for a reduced rate for affiliation should go to the Outreach group.
- It was agreed that the affiliation form should have a ‘donations’ section added to allow organisations to make financial donations to the ESF.
- It was noted that the NUS had organised a meeting with students which had been very positive and a number of London colleges would be affiliating to the ESF.
- It was noted that the ‘structure’ of the whole ESF process was unclear to many people coming to it for the first time and a diagram outlining the structure would be useful.
- It was noted that this ESF is self financed and so every organisation possible should be encouraged to affiliate and make a financial contribution. This would also enhance the democratic processes of the event.
- It was noted that the Kurdish people wanted to be recognised in their own right by the ESF and at the European Programme meeting. It was agreed that Arzu Pesmen would organise a Kurdish delegation from across Europe to Attend the meeting and that the UK delegation would support the call for Kurds to be recognised.
- A Visa Working Group was agreed of:
PCS union reps; Elane Hefferman; Kate Hudson; Doug Holton and Arzu Pesmen.
- It was agreed that as Treasurer Maureen O’Mara would be asked to produce a paper on finances of the ESF to date for next weeks meeting if possible.

Office Group

- There was no consensus for Rodrigo Nunes joining the working group due to a specific posting on the web.

- It was noted that some roles and responsibilities in the process would need to be filled by individuals from affiliated groups with specialist skills with the confidence of the co-ordinating group.

Web

- It was agreed to take this as a major agenda item next week.
- It was agreed that other websites should offer a link to the ESF website to disseminate information.
- It was agreed to start putting up seminar proposals onto the site from now onwards.
- Agreed to post cultural event form on the website.
- It was agreed that guidelines for minutes would be discussed at next weeks meeting.
- It was noted that it was taking a relatively long time to get papers translated from Transtrad, and this needed to be improved wherever possible.

Next meeting

Thursday 3 June 2004, 10am – 12.30pm, Cttee Rm 4, City Hall.