

Policies & Procedures for the International Solidarity Commission (ISC)

The following document is meant to serve as a supplement to the guidelines directing ISC activity already contained in the union's constitution and is intended to be included in the union's Manual of Policies of Procedures. These Policies and Procedures are to be provided to all members serving on the ISC upon their election.

GENERAL ACTIVITY OF THE ISC:

The purpose of the ISC is to build and strengthen the IWW's relationships with unions and workers' organizations around the world. The ISC is responsible for issuing messages in solidarity with struggling groups, soliciting external support for IWW campaigns and establishing more meaningful links with like minded organizations towards our vision of global labour solidarity.

To advance these objectives, the ISC seeks to regularly communicate with other organizations. These communications primarily take two forms: written correspondence (primarily by email) and direct person to person contact. Normally the ISC relies on the former, however we seek to take advantage of all opportunities for direct human contact, recognizing that this is the best way to build stronger inter-organization relationships.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

1. Decision-making within the ISC will be accomplished through informal consensus of ISC members or majority vote on formal motions.
 - 1.1 Determining which method will be used is at the discretion of ISC members, however generally solidarity statements, endorsements of representatives, sponsored events, other issues requesting official ISC support or action and amendments or additions to official ISC policy, require formal motions.
 - 1.2 Wherever possible, the ISC endeavors to maintain comradely relations amongst its members and seek consensus, whether this is expressed in informal written or verbal decisions or formal votes.
2. The ISC seeks to respond to as many requests for solidarity as possible, however recognizing our limitations of time; we prioritize responding to requests directly made to the ISC/IWW by other organizations or members and branches within the IWW, and organizations the IWW is actively working to build connections with.
3. The ISC will issue external calls for support of IWW campaigns at the request of the body involved within the IWW, and following their instructions.
4. IWW members currently serving on the ISC are automatically empowered to contact groups of interest to the ISC to express our greetings on behalf of the ISC and the larger IWW, and seek a mutual exchange of general information, in person or telephone, email, mail, etc. Formal statements of support or greetings are required to be shared and approved by other ISC members by majority vote.

5. IWW members not serving on the ISC, who have contact with other groups are encouraged to contact the ISC and request status as an official representative of the ISC in correspondence with these groups.
 - 5.1 After reviewing information provided by the interested individual on their intended activities and related experience and knowledge, the ISC will vote on whether to appoint this person as an official representative.
 - 5.2 ISC representatives are empowered to deliver the greetings of the ISC on behalf of the IWW to other organizations and seek an exchange of general organizational information, with the intent of encouraging future communication between the IWW and this organization.
 - 5.3 The ISC will endeavor to provide its representatives with materials relevant to said groups, such as suitable translations of official IWW documents. Representatives will also be provided with general speaking points on the IWW useful for communicating with other groups.
 - 5.4 Translations of non-official I.W.W literature will be approved by the ISC by informal or formal motions.
 - 5.5 Translations of official I.W.W literature must be sent to the GEB for approval until such time a body is created to translate official literature of the I.W.W.
 - 5.5 The ISC will inform the General Executive Board whenever it has approved a representative, and communicate the perimeters of their mandate.
 - 5.6 ISC representatives are expected to be familiar with the political, social and cultural context of the groups they'll be engaging with.
 - 5.7 ISC representatives are also required to submit a written report to the ISC documenting their activities while serving in this capacity. Where appropriate, ISC representatives are encouraged to release reports to the wider membership of the IWW suitable for publishing in the union's media (i.e. the Industrial Worker).
6. As per ISC resolution TG-02 of 2006, the ISC will issue a monthly report on its activities to the general membership of the union. This will be posted on the ISC, GEB and general union email listservs, and published within the General Organizational Bulletin by the union's General Administration. Included in the report will be the text of all ISC resolutions and official statements for that month.
7. The ISC listserv acts as the primary means of communication for the ISC, all principle communication between ISC members via email (especially including motions and voting on motions) is expected to be included on this list. All members of the IWW are encouraged to subscribe to the ISC listserv. The ISC is also encouraged to hold phone conferences when feasible, with a report of the discussion and decisions made, promptly submitted to the ISC listserv.

8. Within the first few months of their annual term, the ISC will collectively compile an agenda of tasks and work to be accomplished, and use this document to provide an overall direction to their activity above and beyond work done by the ISC that arises during the year.
9. At its discretion, the ISC may submit a budget request for funding to the GEB in time for deliberations on the general union's annual budget in January. Items can include (but are neither required nor limited to) translations, phone, fax, postage and travel subsidies.
10. In addition to its regular monthly reports, the outgoing ISC is required to provide the incoming ISC with a detailed report on the current status of its projects, as well as the recent history of communications and relations with other unions and organizations.
 - 10.1 The outgoing ISC will provide the incoming ISC with a list of its organizational contacts, briefly describing the status of relations with each one.
11. The ISC will endeavor through its year long term of work to progressively improve the quality and quantity of its contact with like minded labor organizations towards the goal greater international solidarity links.
 - 11.1 The ISC may seek to produce an information bulletin of relevant information on IWW activity, which has been made public, to be shared and reciprocated with organizations the ISC considers to be of interested for further coordination and cooperation. Information regarding I.W.W activity that has not been made public may not be communicated to any outside body without official discussion from official bodies of the I.W.W such as Delegates and or Official Committees appointed to said activities, (i.e. organizing campaigns, organizing strategy.).
12. Where appropriate, and in compliance with the constitution of the IWW, the ISC will participate in discussions with international unions towards the formation and growth of international industrial unions.
 - 12.1 The ISC will report by forwarding all information gathered on these meetings to the GEB and the union's general membership. When involvement of the larger IWW is being proposed in any activity or organization the GEB or the General Assembly of the union will be responsible for providing an official decision. The ISC will provide an official recommendation when submitted to said bodies.
13. The serving ISC may amend or add to these guidelines with a majority vote by formal motion.
 - 13.1. Changes that are accepted by the ISC must be submitted to the GEB for approval.