

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL
AOTEAROA
NEW ZEALAND
ANNUAL REPORT
2011**



**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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COVER PHOTO Aung San Suu Kyi addresses supporters outside the National League for Democracy party headquarters in Rangoon, 14 November 2010.
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FEEDBACK

We appreciate your feedback and ideas.
Please email info@amnesty.org.nz



MISSION & VALUES

Amnesty International is a movement of ordinary people from across the world standing up for humanity and human rights. Our purpose is to protect individuals wherever justice, fairness, freedom and truth are denied.

OUR VISION

To achieve all human rights for all people by being a country that provides a courageous and creative human rights leadership.

OUR MISSION

To make the best contribution New Zealanders can to ending some of the worst violations of human rights worldwide.

OUR VALUES

Our cornerstone values are respect, responsibility, fairness, integrity, professionalism, open-mindedness, initiative and objectivity. We celebrate leadership, creativity, innovation, excellence, teamwork and making a positive contribution. We encourage personal growth and display mutual and professional respect for each other and individuals with whom we work, and show high regard for our volunteers and supporters. We behave with integrity, transparency and accountability.

This report covers the year January – December 2010

WHO ARE WE



WE ARE a diverse and democratic movement of people who share fundamental global values – dignity, freedom, justice, equality and a fair go for all.

WE ARE outraged by human rights abuses and create change by inspiring people around the world to take action.

WE DEMAND, and hold to account, governments and other decision-makers to protect and respect human rights.

WE ARE an international movement that speaks out with one voice without compromise or fear to help protect human rights.

WE ARE a grass-roots organisation founded in 1961 – truly independent of government, business, religion or political groups.

WE WORK for and with individuals – to give voice, to stand alongside and to secure fundamental human rights for all.

WE WORK collaboratively and in partnership with others to achieve our shared human rights outcomes.

WE RELY on individuals like you, who want to create a better, more just world. We accept no funding from governments for our campaigns.



DIANA PICKARD
CHAIR
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AOTEAROA NZ

Birthday greetings to us – the human rights defenders of Amnesty International. We stand in solidarity as Amnesty turns 50 on 28 May 2011, celebrating half a century of holding states, companies and armed groups accountable on human rights. Amnesty in New Zealand (AIANZ) is proud to be the first Section across the globe that will celebrate Amnesty's birthday, in Wellington during our Annual Meeting.

It is inspiring that Amnesty members – from Peter Benenson onwards – have been dedicated human rights defenders since 1961. AIANZ has been working to protect human rights for nearly as long, since 1965. In 1977, while still in its teens, Amnesty showed the impact of our efforts, and our future promise, through being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

For many of us Amnesty has always been there – credible, resilient and providing a voice for those who have none. As Amnesty members in 2011 we now speak in concert with more than 3 million people around the world when we raise a glass to freedom, light a candle to banish the darkness, and take action. In the 2010 Report on the State of the World's Human Rights, Amnesty recommitted us all to a vision of human rights where each individual is an agent of change, with rights to demand respect, protection and fulfilment from state and society, but also responsibilities to respect the rights of others and act in solidarity with each other to fulfil the promise of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. As Pierre Sané once

noted, we share a humanistic solidarity and together we illuminate the story of the individual victim and how to 'right' their wrong. In many ways, Amnesty provides a spirit level for the practical responsibilities entailed by human rights.

It is not an activity for the faint of heart – the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders observed in March this year that defenders are too often branded as terrorists, extremists, and separatists. Women defenders, and those working on women's rights and gender issues, are particularly stigmatised, their rights abused, with women in the legal profession and the media disproportionately the target of intimidation, harassment and arrest. Over the past year AIANZ has supported a woman lawyer in Fiji in just such circumstances.

Michael Ignatieff observed that 50 years of human rights has changed international moral instincts, such as weakening the presumption of state sovereignty and strengthening the presumption in favour of intervention when massacre and deportation become state policy. Yet, despite such developments, it is sobering to see that Amnesty's work to prevent and address such grave abuses of human rights is as necessary today as it was in 1961. The need for human rights defenders to speak out about political prisoners, disappearances, torture and an absence of fair trials does not fade. The cautious but misplaced optimism we held at this time last year over an imminent closure of Guantanamo Bay illustrates this reality.

During the past 12 months Amnesty has spoken out on endemic gender violence in the Pacific region; drawn attention to the many thousands of women whose lives end unnecessarily during childbirth, and to the increasing numbers of people moving across borders as a result of conflict, economic need, or environmental disruption. This work and much more resonates within the Demand Dignity Campaign. As a flagship element of



THIS IMAGE The peaceful monk-led demonstrations of 2007, known as the Saffron Revolution, were brutally suppressed by Myanmar's military government. In 2010, we stepped up our pressure on Myanmar to allow freedom for its people, before, during and after their November elections. © racoles, via Wikimedia Commons.

this Campaign, in September 2010 Amnesty urged the UN to incorporate a human rights approach in the Millennium Development Goals, stressing the importance of the participation of those living in poverty. And then in November 2010 we rejoiced, as a candle reignited in Myanmar with the release from house arrest of Aung San Suu Kyi.

Importantly 50 years of Amnesty have allowed the movement to develop and to mature. We have had our share of mid-life crises, particularly the policy debate over sexual reproductive rights, and the pivotal decision to uphold an Amnesty mandate across all human rights. These internal debates – painful though they are for us all when challenging firmly held views and beliefs of members – are essential for the democratic health of Amnesty. To borrow from many, the price of democracy is eternal vigilance, and so it is with Amnesty as further changes take place to ensure an effective democratic organisation.

Current proposals – which will culminate in decisions at the International Council Meeting in August 2011 – seek to make One Amnesty and One Financial Amnesty a reality. Global governance is being recast, with all governing bodies held accountable to seven principles of democratic and effective leadership. This has the potential to enhance the human rights impacts of the movement's work. Further, a new model for calculating Sections' contributions is being debated.

For AIANZ a significant development comes from Salil Shetty's plans to 'move closer to the ground'. Devolving Amnesty people out of London into the regions can only strengthen the movement's mutual understanding of the human rights issues we face and our impacts. Consequently in 2011 AIANZ is seizing the opportunity to propose a strategic approach to the Pacific, to further realise the focus and vision that members

identified for our Section in 2008.

As you may know, AIANZ itself has not been immune from mid life crises, and the name of Change Works has proved prophetic for the process of renewal that has eventuated. That essential process has taken longer and been more painful – not least financially – than predicted, but we now engage with our global colleagues from the standpoint of a professional and accountable Section. AIANZ is shaped to meet the demands of the movement, under the operational stewardship of a resilient and resourceful CEO. In September the Governance Team will draft our Strategic Plan for 2012 and 2013 and I welcome your suggestions on its contents, within the parameters set by Amnesty's Integrated Strategic Plan 2010 to 2015.

Turning 50 allows us another opportunity – to celebrate what is great about our Section and to draw a line under the past. More than ever the collective engagement of members is vital and valued, no matter whether we serve on the Governance Team, pen letters, staff the Office, stand on the street to collect donations, gather outside Parliament in support of Pacific women's human rights. There is much to do, and no better people to do it. Many happy returns.

With respect,
Diana Pickard



PATRICK HOLMES
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AOTEAROA NZ



THIS IMAGE A young girl who lives at the Seaside informal (slum) settlement in Port Vila, Vanuatu. © Josephine Latu/AI

As I look back over 2010, I am reminded of a number of highlights. World Human Rights Day, 10 December, was a day to celebrate our freedom but also a timely reminder that not everyone shares the same freedoms as we do in New Zealand.

On the same day, it was my great pleasure to present the second annual Amnesty International Human Rights Defender Award to Naing KoKo. From the age of just 16 Naing KoKo has been an active participant in the political affairs of his home country. He was arrested by the Military Intelligence Service in Dec 1992 and was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment with hard labour in the Special Court of Northern Insein province. Naing was tortured and interrogated by the intelligence officers of Myanmar's military regime. He was released after seven years and was, for some of that time, an Amnesty prisoner of conscience before seeking asylum in New Zealand.

It was also my great privilege to present a Lifetime Achievement Award to Maire Leadbeater, who has been involved in the defence of human rights for

more than 40 years. During that time, Maire has been a supporter of Amnesty International as well as working tirelessly for the human rights of the indigenous people of East Timor.

I am also reminded that 2010 was the year in which the global financial crisis was forecast to end. However, Amnesty's financial position has deteriorated over the last year and we ended the year unable to pay our full contribution to the international movement. Plans are in place to address our falling income levels and increase membership but there is no "quick fix". We have the full support of our international colleagues but the climate remains pretty tough and 2011 promises to be another demanding year for AIANZ and for New Zealand following the devastating earthquake in Christchurch. In saying this, we now have the strategies and funding in place to improve our ability to recruit and retain more members, initiatives which are already realising increased levels of income for AIANZ.

In 2010 we inspired tens of thousands of actions in New Zealand in defence of human rights. We are constantly motivating more people to join our 3

million supporters worldwide to call for real, lasting human rights change.

My thanks go out to all of our dedicated supporters, staff and volunteers for their commitment and inspiring work. But there is more to do and we will continue to involve more people in defending human rights. We will continue to tell global leaders to fulfil their human rights obligations while not forgetting to remind our own decision makers about their human rights obligations.

We know that by working together we will achieve positive change and as Amnesty International enters its 50th year in 2011 we intend to remind people both here in NZ and around the world of the important work which Amnesty has undertaken and continues to do.

Patrick Holmes

Patrick Holmes
CEO

OUR GOVERNANCE



CHAIR Diana Pickard

Diana is a lawyer who has worked for human rights during the past 20 years through membership of Amnesty and - since 2007 - of AIANZ's Governance Team, and her roles in the Human Rights Commission, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner, the Ministry of Justice's Bill of Rights Team, and the Office of the Ombudsmen. She recently graduated with a Masters in International Human Rights Law from Oxford University (completed mostly via Distance Ed), with particular focus on economic, social and cultural rights, and United Nations protections for human rights defenders.



VICE-CHAIR Helen Shorthouse

Helen has been a member of Amnesty International since 2000 – her 'enlightenment' followed an OE where she became more aware of the inequalities around the world. While she knew about the world's poverty she was angry about the lack of human rights some people had. She has always been fortunate enough to live in a free nation where she can voice her opinions and opposition and not be imprisoned, intimidated, disappeared or fearful and feels it is her responsibility to use this freedom to help others. She does this through her involvement at a grass-roots level with the Christchurch Regional Team as well as bringing her business experience to the Governance Team.



TREASURER Iain Worsley

Iain is an accountant who has held senior financial management positions for the last 20 years, often in challenging and constrained environments, and most recently in the not-for-profit sector. He first joined Amnesty International while at university and global travel cemented his conviction that the freedom we enjoy brings with it the responsibility to promote and defend the human rights of people everywhere.



Natalie Baird

Natalie was elected to the Governance Team in May 2008. She is currently a senior lecturer at the University of Canterbury's School of Law. Her research interests lie in the areas of international human rights law, Pacific legal studies and constitutional law. Before becoming an academic, Natalie spent around 10 years working in the New Zealand public service. This included four years at the Crown Law Office where she worked primarily on Treaty of Waitangi and international law issues, and three years in the Cabinet Office as a legal adviser on constitutional issues. Natalie also worked at the New Zealand Law Commission on the Commission's project on custom and human rights in the Pacific. As well as being a member of Amnesty's Governance Team, Natalie is also currently a trustee of the Christchurch Trade Aid shop trusts.



Jo Cowie

Jo is a qualified marketing professional who moved into the not-for-profit sector over 10 years ago. Since then Jo has been involved in the development and implementation of capital campaigns, bequest, donor retention, acquisition and major donor programmes. Of her career in fundraising, Jo says success in this sector is down to passion, commitment and a steely determination to do your best, for your donors, organisation and team. Whilst she hasn't escaped the deadlines and stress from her earlier career, it has offered her some unique opportunities to meet and work with some extraordinary people. Jo is currently the Development Manager of the Neurological Foundation of New Zealand.



Sacha McMeeking

Sacha McMeeking is the General Manager of Strategy and Influence, at Runanga o Ngai Tahu. In a former role, Sacha co-ordinated Iwi advocacy with the United Nations over the Foreshore and Seabed Act and has been involved in international processes related to indigenous rights. Graduating from the University of Canterbury with a Master of Laws (First Class Honours), Sacha has also lectured in the Faculty of Law in the areas of constitutional law, Maori legal issues, comparative indigenous rights and international law. Recently, Sacha was the recipient of the Fullbright-Harkness New Zealand Fellowship, which saw her travel to the United States to research corporate social responsibility with a focus on indigenous rights.



Terry O'Neil

Terry has worked at the Human Rights Commission for nine years in the area of human rights and strategic policy development and, currently, is the Commission's Senior Adviser International Programme. Although his work includes many elements of the international human rights framework, it has a particular focus on the Pacific and the pressing human rights issues across that region. He has very strong Pacific regional human rights networks with governments, agencies, NGOs and broader civil society. These relationships include collaborative regional project work with both the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.

2010 IN NUMBERS

(Numbers in brackets indicate 2009 figures)

5307

(6817) people contributed their time, money and expertise as members of Amnesty International Aotearoa New Zealand (AIANZ).

3901

(3683) people contributed to Amnesty on a regular basis. This group of people is responsible for more than half of Amnesty's income in 2010.

3679

(5040) financial donations were made to campaign appeal letters and the average donation was **\$56.17** (\$50.54).

635

(308) members were part of the following networks – **255** (135) Children's Rights; **184** (124) Legal; **196** (49) Environmental Defenders. The Media Network **182** (186) and existing Government Network **148** (162) have been developed as influence networks not necessarily requiring AIANZ membership.

545

(637) members belonged to **26** (28) local groups and regional teams working on international campaigns, specific long-term assignments including Individual at Risk and Regional Action Network files.

4725

(4550) members and supporters were involved in the E-Action Network while **620** (651) members were signed up to the Urgent Action Network.

98

(90) schools and **5** (3) youth groups contributed to the work of AIANZ. Please note that 6 university groups also contribute to our Youth Network work, but they have already been accounted for in the Local Groups calculation above.

Defending individuals at risk of human rights violations is core Amnesty work. Our life-saving activism, including through our Urgent Action Network, E-Action Network and long-term case work by local groups, demonstrates the sheer power of ordinary people coming together to protect individuals at risk all over the world:

Mexico

Raúl Hernández, a Mexican indigenous human rights activist was released on 27 August after being imprisoned for two years on a fabricated murder charge. Amnesty International adopted Raúl Hernández as a prisoner of conscience after he was arrested in 2008, and we believe his case had been brought by authorities because of his work promoting indigenous rights and for exposing abuses committed by local political bosses.

Ukraine

Belarusian opposition activist and musician Igor Koktysh was released from Ukrainian detention in February after a ruling by the European Court of Human Rights. He was detained in June 2007 when Belarus requested his extradition for an offence for which he had already been acquitted. Amnesty International believed that he was charged by the Belarusian authorities because of his social and political activism.

Sri Lanka

Journalist J. S. Tissaainayagam (aka Tissa) was sentenced to 20 years in prison in 2009 for writing and publishing articles that criticised the Government's treatment of Sri Lankan Tamil civilians affected by the war. Tissa was released on bail on 11 January and then granted a presidential pardon by the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister. He arrived safely in the United States in June.

Gambia

Opposition leader Femi Peters was released on 10 December, almost four months before his expected release. He had been serving a one-year prison sentence for charges relating to a peaceful demonstration organised by his party in October 2009. Femi Peters' freedom came just days after we featured him in our Write for Rights letter writing marathon – where Amnesty members from New Zealand and over 50 other countries wrote to Gambian authorities calling for his release.

Ethiopia

Birtukan Mideksa, leader of Ethiopia's Unity for Democracy and Justice Party, was freed on 7 October after serving 21 months of a life sentence. She had been arrested in December 2008 and charged with violating the terms of a previous pardon. Birtukan Mideksa's case was featured in our 2009 Write for Rights letter-writing marathon, as well as in our international magazine, Wire. People from both inside and outside Ethiopia thanked Amnesty International for our tremendous support in calling for Birtukan Mideksa's release.

Indonesia

In July, political activist Yusak Pakage was released after serving half of his 10-year sentence. He had been imprisoned for his role in a peaceful demonstration in December 2004 during which the Morning Star flag, symbolising Papuan independence, was raised. On his release, he thanked Amnesty International for campaigning on his behalf: "For me, Amnesty is everything... From someone who suffered and who now smiles again thanks to Amnesty."

BARS: Some of Myanmar's 2,200 political prisoners who have been imprisoned and silenced by the military government for seeking to defend democracy, human rights and freedom. © AI

Freedom For Myanmar

Since the 1960s the people of Myanmar (Burma) have lived under brutal military rule. Freedom of association, expression and peaceful assembly are routinely repressed by the Government, and more than 2,200 political prisoners continue to languish behind bars. On 7 November, Myanmar held its first election in 20 years. Before, during and after, we demanded freedom for its people.

As Myanmar's most iconic prisoner of conscience Aung San Suu Kyi marked her 65th birthday under house arrest, we began our campaign with a candlelight vigil in June calling for the release of Suu Kyi and all prisoners of conscience.

With our colleagues in the Asia-Pacific region, we launched the '3 Freedoms' online action to ensure Myanmar's influential neighbours spoke out with one united voice against Myanmar. Nearly 100,000 supporters from around the world sent emails to the nine foreign ministers of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) member states, pressing Myanmar's authorities to release all prisoners of conscience, and to protect the three freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association throughout the elections and beyond.

In the weeks ahead of the election, we brought Aung Khaing Min, a Burmese activist and former prisoner of conscience, to New Zealand to tell his story. In October, Aung Khaing Min gave public speeches in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin organised by Amnesty teams, undertook numerous media interviews, and met with Parliamentarians and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. His tour gave New Zealanders a unique opportunity to hear a first-hand account of life in Myanmar.

Aung Khaing Min's tour also secured a concrete improvement in New Zealand's foreign policy towards Myanmar. On 13 October, the New Zealand Parliament unanimously passed a motion supporting the three freedoms and calling for the release of all political prisoners. Both our Prime Minister John Key and Foreign Affairs Minister Murray McCully repeatedly voiced their concerns about Myanmar's human rights record.

When Myanmar's people took to the polls, they did so amidst escalating human rights violations: tens of thousands of people were prevented from voting, many of those who did turn up to vote faced intimidation and harassment, and foreign media and election monitors were banned.

Aung San Suu Kyi released!

Less than a week after Myanmar's compromised elections, pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi walked free after spending 15 of the past 21 years unjustly under house arrest.

While welcoming her release, we continue to campaign for the well-being and release of all of Myanmar's prisoners of conscience.

Former Burmese prisoner of conscience honoured by Amnesty International

On International Human Rights Day (10 December) we named Wellington-based refugee Naing Ko Ko as the recipient of our second annual Human Rights Defender Award.

"Naing Ko Ko has risked his life, lost the right to return to his home country and left behind friends and family in order to restore freedom to a country that has been under brutal military rule for more than four decades," said Patrick Holmes, CEO of Amnesty International Aotearoa New Zealand.

But our calls did make an impact. Some ASEAN member countries spoke out strongly, including Amnesty New Zealand's target country the Philippines which called the election a "farce". Our own Government called Myanmar's election process "neither free nor fair" with the ongoing imprisonment of political prisoners, "casting a major shadow over the election".

Ahead of the United Nations Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review of Myanmar, we provided the Council and our own Government with a detailed report of the country's most pressing human rights concerns.

Demand Dignity

The Demand Dignity campaign continued with the simple but powerful message that human rights are at the heart of the global fight to end poverty. Working alongside our Pacific Researcher at the International Secretariat, Apolosi Bose, and our colleagues at Amnesty International Australia, we've built relationships and raised the Pacific's serious human rights issues.

In February, we launched a report documenting police violence and forced evictions of families living alongside the Porgera gold mine in Papua New Guinea (PNG). The report received significant media coverage, and resulted in the PNG Police Commissioner committing to investigate.

Our Deputy Director Rebecca Emery was part of an Amnesty delegation to the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) meeting held in Vanuatu in August. We hosted a media conference highlighting concerns about Pacific leaders' lack of progress in tackling violence against women (see the Stop Violence Against Women section, right). We also invited journalists to visit a slum in Port Vila which resulted in Maori Television running a story about the rights to adequate housing and sanitation for people living in informal settlements.

As world leaders met to review progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in September, we urged Pacific leaders to ensure their efforts to meet the MDGs had human rights at their core. In the lead up to the summit, we also lobbied the New Zealand Government to deliver on its commitment to development in the Pacific by ensuring its aid programmes addressed the human rights issues that underwrite poverty.

In other areas of the Demand Dignity campaign, our work to hold corporations to account for human rights violations was again led by our Environmental Defenders Network (EDeN). Through EDeN, we maintained pressure on Shell and the Nigerian Government to address the devastating impact the oil industry has had in the Niger Delta. We welcomed Shell's commitment made at their AGM in May to greater transparency and disclosure of information – but continue to press for them to deliver on this promise and for accountability for past abuses.

EDeN's other main focus was on protecting indigenous communities in Orissa, India. A landmark victory was achieved in August when the Indian Government rejected plans to expand an alumina refinery which had been threatening the health of local communities.



WRAP EVENT: NZ MPs show their solidarity with Pacific women who suffer domestic violence, December 2010.

Stop Violence Against Women

Our global Stop Violence Against Women campaign has been incorporated into the Demand Dignity campaign, and our work on women's rights continues under a heading of Gender Equality.

We began the year calling on the Government of PNG to address its high levels of violence against women. Forty thousand signatures – including more than 3000 from New Zealand – calling for respect for women's rights were presented to PNG's only female MP Dame Carol Kidu in July.

With the help of donations from Amnesty International supporters, we funded two women from PNG, Sarah Garap and Tapora Isorua, to travel to the UN to speak about the atrocities faced by women in their country.

White Ribbon Day (25 November) launched our campaign to hold Pacific leaders to their promise of ending gender-violence. Despite acknowledging, and pledging to address, this issue at the 2009 PIF meeting, little has been done to make this pledge a reality. By the end of December over 9,500, of a target of 20,000 signatures, had been collected for presentation at the 2011 PIF meeting in Auckland.

Our own leaders were also encouraged to show their solidarity with Pacific women in December at an event at Parliament. MPs were invited to replace black dresses - representing the number of women in the Pacific who experience violence - with colourful dresses, to show their support for ending this widespread abuse (see top photo).

THIS IMAGE Sarah Garap, a women's rights activist from Papua New Guinea, travelled to New York in July 2010 to speak to the UN about gender-based violence in her country. © Tim Bell/Amnesty International Australia.





End the Death Penalty

In Amnesty's annual report on the death penalty released in March, we revealed that the Pacific was the only region that had been execution-free in the last decade. While we commended Pacific nations for paving the way to a death penalty-free world, we lobbied these Governments to remove the death penalty in law as well as practice.

Drawing upon our country's strong anti-death penalty stance, we called on New Zealand to lobby Pacific Island nations to support the UN General Assembly's global moratorium on the death penalty. Both Kiribati and the Solomon Islands positively changed their votes, and contributed to a resolution passing with the support of 107 governments.

As well as campaigning for the abolition of the death penalty, mostly through the Urgent Action Network, we took action on behalf of individuals facing death sentences.

When news of Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani, an Iranian woman sentenced to death for adultery, hit the world headlines, we moved quickly to mobilise the movement— and more than a thousand of you took immediate action. As part of the massive global outcry against Iran's authorities, we prevented Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani from being stoned to death, although she remains at risk.

ABOVE IMAGE A video produced by Amnesty International France shows wax models melting as they depict several methods of execution. Posters with stills from the video were displayed in the Paris metro to mark the World Day Against the Death Penalty in October 2010. © TBWA/Paris.



Counter Terror with Justice

We were heavily engaged with the Minister of Defence Wayne Mapp throughout the year on the topic of New Zealand's Special Air Service (NZSAS)'s handling of prisoners in Afghanistan. In August the Minister confirmed that detainees arrested by the Afghan Crisis Response Unit (which the NZSAS has worked with) had been transferred to the National Directorate of Security, Afghanistan's Intelligence Service, where they were at grave risk of torture and other ill-treatment. Following countless meetings and correspondence, the Minister announced he would launch an inquiry into NZSAS compliance with international human rights and humanitarian law in Afghanistan and agreed to make its findings public.

Control Arms

Through our membership in the Pacific Small Arms Action Group (PSAAG), we lobbied Pacific Island nations, Australia and New Zealand to address the significant problem of small arms in the region. We advocated for effective implementation of the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons, a comprehensive Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and effective implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). As a result of years of grassroots campaigning we celebrated the CCM's entry into force on 1 August. At the request of, and funded by, the International Secretariat, our Advocacy & Government Relations Manager Chris Kerr attended the first meeting of States Parties to the Convention in Laos in November.

ABOVE IMAGE: Weapons © Andréa Farias, via Wikimedia Commons



Human Rights in New Zealand

Indigenous Rights

Years of campaigning paid off when New Zealand finally endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in April. In the wake of this decision, we also welcomed and contributed towards a review of the discriminatory Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004 (FSA). We continue to advocate for an enduring solution to this issue and, to that end, have raised concerns with the replacement to the FSA, the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Bill.

Justice Reform

We raised several concerns with the Government's Sentencing and Parole Reform Bill (better known as the Three Strikes Bill) through a second submission to the Law and Order Select Committee in March. We also lobbied to ensure the establishment of public-private partnership prisons does not jeopardise inmates' human rights.

Rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Following reports that Australia was seeking to establish a Regional Processing Centre for asylum seekers, we advocated for a rights-based approach to achieving an enduring solution and one that is not a return to the deeply flawed Pacific Solution.

We also advocated on behalf of individual asylum seekers at risk of grave human rights abuse.

ABOVE IMAGE Prison © Tanankyo, via Wikimedia Commons



GAZA The Mavi Marmara, a ferry in the 'freedom flotilla' to Gaza, May 2010. © Free Gaza movement, via Wikimedia Commons



U2 Volunteers campaigning at the U2 concerts in Auckland for an end to violence against women in the Pacific, November 2010. ©AIANZ.

Crisis Campaigning

In addition to our ongoing priority campaign work, we also rapidly responded to a number of major human rights crises as they occurred:

Fiji

The human rights situation in Fiji has consistently deteriorated since the country's constitution was revoked in April 2009. We condemned Fiji for its misrepresentation of its human rights record to the UN Human Rights Council in February, took action to oppose a draconian Media Decree which reinforces the Government's control over an already repressed media and called for an end of the Public Emergency Regulations.

Sri Lanka

In marking one year since the end of the 26-year conflict between the Sri Lankan Government and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), we joined the international campaign seeking justice for Sri Lanka. We contributed to the more than 14,000 signatures collected globally calling on the United Nations to

establish an independent investigation into war crimes committed, and following our lobbying, the New Zealand Government strongly supported our calls for accountability.

Thailand

When violence erupted in Thailand in April following peaceful protests by The United Front for Democracy against Dictatorship, we spoke out against the Thai military's use of lethal force. While we welcomed the Thai Government's assurances to investigate the violence, we also urged them to ensure accountability for the human rights violations committed.

Gaza

We took urgent action to demand an independent investigation into the deaths of at least 10 civilians following the Israeli military's attack on an aid flotilla outside Gaza on 31 May. The New Zealand Government condemned the attack and joined other countries in demanding a full investigation.



THIS IMAGE Soldiers fired rubber and live rounds in and around protest sites in Bangkok when violence erupted in April 2010. © APGraphicsBank

Visible Campaigning

Throughout the year we organised and took part in a number of high profile events outside of our priority campaigns, which helped to reach out to new audiences beyond our committed supporter base.

We continued our bi-annual Intern Challenge – a team-building exercise undertaken through the two intakes of our Internship Programme – which resulted in two great events that succeeded in raising both funds and awareness for Amnesty. The New Zealand art community got behind the **ARTicle 19 Art Exhibition and Charity Auction** held in July, with works donated by artists including Nigel Brown, Otis Frizzell and Misery. The **'Rights, Camera, Action' Mini Film Festival** in October featured three human rights-themed films including the NZ premiere of *This Prison Where I Live*.

Journalists battled it out with public relations practitioners in August for a **charity debate** run by our Media Network in conjunction with AUT University's Club PR, which questioned whether the news media created more heat than light with regards to human rights in NZ.

In November we were lucky enough to be invited to campaign at the Auckland leg of **U2's 360° Tour**. Thanks to the amazing efforts our volunteers, we collected over 6,000 signatures on our Stop Violence Against Women in the Pacific petition, and they had the amazing opportunity to join U2 on stage with Amnesty lanterns during their song 'Walk On'.

Party-goers at Gisborne's **Rhythm and Vines New Year Festival** had the chance to 'Slide to Freedom'. We collected donations through operating the infamous 'R&V waterslide' and hundreds of our sponsored Amnesty beach balls were seen flying through the crowds.

ACTIVISM



THIS IMAGE Taking our Demand Dignity campaign to the Pacific community at the Pasifika festival, March 2010. ©AIANZ

As we've strengthened our voice in speaking out on Pacific issues our teams have been taking that message to Pacific Island communities.

In February, the Remuera Group hosted a stall at Auckland's largest Waitangi Day celebrations in Manukau, while Youth Intern Yasmin Chilmeran hosted workshops at the Pacific Youth and Sports Conference attended by hundreds of representatives from 26 Pacific Island nations. In March, Auckland Central Group members were Amnesty's face at the world's largest Pacific Island festival Pasifika.

February also saw Remuera Group host a preview screening of the Balibo Five – telling of the murder of five journalists by Indonesia authorities to prevent their reportage of the invasion of East Timor in 1975.

Dunedin North group welcomed in the Chinese New Year of the Tiger with an action on behalf of their two Chinese individuals at risk Yang Chunlin and Chen Guangcheng. They, along with 13 other local groups campaigned for the release of 15 prisoners of conscience (POC). Wellington Central welcomed the release of their POC U Win Htein, Myanmar, in July, while Viet Nam's Fr Nguyen Van Ly's sentence was suspended for 12 months in mid-March to enable him to receive medical treatment. His case is worked on by the Motueka Group.

Sporty and intellectual Amnesty

Auckland Central Group hosted a team at the city's iconic Round the Bays in March, while the North Shore Group's Trivial Pursuits evening in June maintained its reputation for quality entertainment and fun fundraising. More than 100 people engaged their brains and \$1600 was raised.

The Nelson Group, in September, made use of New Zealand's almost unparalleled access to its Members of Parliament by following up the response to its "I ♥ human rights" heart action during Freedom Week. They delivered hearts, calling



CNY CARDS: Dunedin North Group's Chinese New Year action. © AIANZ.

on the Government to respect human rights to their local MP Nick Smith.

Thanks to the Wellington Central Group's sourcing of not-for-profit screening rights to Burma VJ, teams in the four main centres hosted screenings as part of our priority Myanmar Freedom Campaign throughout the last three months of the year.

During the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence our activists engaged in 14 events around the country at street and festival stalls, within libraries and schools circulating white ribbons in return for signatures on our Pacific Island Forum petition calling for leaders to take violence against women in the region seriously.

Wellington Regional Team celebrated Human Rights Day with a breakfast with newly elected mayor Celia Wade-Brown as a keynote speaker, while Kapiti Coast group again presented human rights books to the Coast libraries. Team of the Year award went to Kapiti Coast for record-breaking campaigning, funds and profile raising.

Hamilton Group supported the formation of Waikato University Group. Unfortunately the Queenstown Group and Upper Hutt Group in Formation closed during 2010 due to inability to source new leaders.

Online Activism

Building upon the re-launch of our website in 2009, we continued to promote amnesty.org.nz as a premium hub for human rights news, information and action. On average, it attracted 6497 unique visitors each month, and 16,926 actions were taken online (10,099 in 2009) in response to E-Actions sent to our supporters.

We launched a new section in June which provides information and resources for our Human Rights in Schools Programme. And with the November launch of our new web shop, orders flew out the door for our range of t-shirts, Christmas cards and other gifts just in time for the holiday season.

Social media was again a huge growth area in 2010, and we used tools such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to reach a wider audience, publicise our campaigns, and make it easier for supporters to take action. During the year we saw a 175% increase in Facebook followers and an increase of more than 120% in Twitter followers.



THIS IMAGE Nelson Girls High School

Creative campaigning is what our student activists within 98 school groups, five youth groups and six universities excel at.

Whether new to Amnesty like Waikato University or Kaikorai Valley College in Dunedin, or some of our most established teams like Tauranga or Wellington Girls', Amnesty students raised funds and awareness, wrote letters, collected signatures, debated human rights issues – and along the way managed to have a whole heap of fun.

Musical events proved a winner with the Hawkes' Bay Regional Team and Napier Girls' who jointly co-ordinated the Freedom Fest in July. It showcased 10 original songs about human rights issues from schools throughout the region and received blanket media coverage. Winner was Amy Barnard from Taradale High School with her song "Born equal".

Victoria University Group, joined with Radio Active on their "Free the Speech" concert in August. The line up that included DJ Ara (Katchafire), Nudge, Newtown Rocksteady, and Bella Cajon, guaranteed a full house and media coverage.

Making noise for the students of Myanmar

Our annual Freedom Challenge focussed on three imprisoned Burmese students as part of our priority Myanmar Freedom campaign.

From protest screams to shout-outs, gaggings and silence-a-thons, cagings and prison breakouts – our students took action and got media coverage throughout New Zealand and into Myanmar courtesy of the BBC World Service and Voice of America.



THIS IMAGE Winner of Freedom Fest, Taradale High School's Amy Barnard (right) with her viola accompanist Maisie Thursfield from Napier Girls' High School. ©AIANZ

Highlights included:

- Levin's Horowhenua College students in a street drama depicting a prison scene. Some students were jailed and gagged while being guarded by "military". For every 10 signatures a bar on the cell was cut.
- Students at Auckland's Massey High School, Nelson's Girl's and Hamilton Girls' taped their mouths, silencing themselves as a symbol of the loss of freedom of speech in Myanmar. The Nelson Girls' action scored a front page in the Nelson Mail.
- Sacred Heart Girls' College, New Plymouth held a "school scream" protest where over 750 students and staff let out a 30-second scream. Their efforts featured in a great article and photo in the Taranaki Daily News.

FUNDRAISING & MEMBERSHIP

Our volunteers made the 2010 Freedom Week a great success and really showed they ♥ human rights.

Despite torrential rains in many parts of the country over 600 people collected for Amnesty all over New Zealand. From a survey we conducted after Freedom Week we found out that nine out of ten people said they would be willing to collect once more in 2011. An amazing show of support!

Kiwi celebrities including Oscar Kightley, Hollie Smith, and Peter Gordon also showed their love and helped to raise awareness about the appeal by appearing in our “I ♥ human rights” poster campaign.

Our campaigning appeals had a strong focus on Myanmar and the Stop Violence Against Women campaign. Our supporters made just under 4,000 donations to six of our appeals.

The number of regular donors grew from 3,683 in December 2009 to 3,901 in December 2010. This group of people was responsible for more than half of Amnesty’s income in 2010. This development is owing to an increase in recruitment efforts as well as efforts to keep supporters on board. Regular donations are our most stable source of income and enable Amnesty to respond quickly to human rights abuses. It is the only source of income that has not been majorly affected by the recent economic downturn.

You may not notice it by looking at our finances, but Amnesty International Aotearoa New Zealand has made some significant progress towards improving its financial situation in 2010. The force behind these changes which are now starting to take shape is the newly formed fundraising team.

In March Mo Farrell, Lisa Ho and Cyrille Koolhaas joined Amnesty as Events Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator and Development Director and in July Lisa Kitson joined Amnesty as Fundraising Manager. Together they have been working on a new Fundraising Strategy that seeks to take full advantage of the Amnesty’s potential in New Zealand.

That potential is large and untapped. Market research shows that nearly half of all New Zealanders are willing to contribute financially to the work of Amnesty International whereas only 2% have actually donated to Amnesty in the past year. Furthermore, about a third of all Kiwis would consider making regular contributions to Amnesty; currently less than 1% is contributing to Amnesty on a regular basis. These are just some figures that show how supportive New Zealanders are of our organisation.

The fundraising team has been working hard developing new initiatives that enable our current and future supporters to contribute to the work that Amnesty does. Our strategy for growth follows a two-tiered programme that focuses on diversification of recruitment of new supporters on the one hand and improved communications with our current supporters on the other. You will have the opportunity to hear more about our new fundraising strategy during the Annual Meeting in May of this year.

“I had a great time, and despite the wet and cold was pleased with response. The experience more than met my expectations. I enjoyed talking with the children about Amnesty as well as adults who asked. The organisation is greatly respected, and should continue to build on this respect.”
A Freedom Week collector



THIS IMAGE Cyrille Koolhaas and Lisa Ho of the Fundraising & Development Team promote AIANZ.

FINANCE OVERVIEW



IAIN WORSLEY
TREASURER
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AOTEAROA NZ

When I was co-opted onto the Governance Team (GT) in December of last year, I was well aware that Amnesty International Aotearoa New Zealand (AIANZ) had encountered difficult financial times in recent years, and it is scant comfort to acknowledge that we are not alone within the NGO community in this. However, I was also aware that the organisation had been substantially reshaped and restructured to increase its human rights impact while also undergoing essential, stringent and painful cost-cutting, leaving it in the best operational shape to deliver the clarity and focus required to reverse the recent trends.

AIANZ also began 2010 with a minimal net asset base of \$107K, including a brought forward loan of \$270K owing to the International Secretariat (IS) dating back to 2006/2007; hardly a comfortable starting point.

Unfortunately, our income for the year fell by 9% from \$1.39M in 2009 to \$1.27M. While Face to Face income increased by 51%, or \$79K, this was more than offset by a \$208K reduction in fundraising and donation income. Expenses, before charging our International Campaigning Contribution (ICC), decreased by 5% from \$1.22M in 2009 to \$1.16M in 2010, while the ICC itself increased by 10% from \$330K to \$365K.

As you are no doubt aware, each Amnesty section is expected to remit its ICC in cash each year to the IS in London. For AIANZ in 2010 that contribution represented 29% of our total income, and left us with a deficit of \$257K.

However, in consultation with, and with the full support of, our colleagues at the IS, a decision was taken by the GT to temporarily withhold payment of a proportion of our 2010 ICC equal to the deficit for the year - meaning \$108K was paid and \$257K was converted to a long term loan – in order to allow AIANZ time to implement an agreed strategy to address the legacy of falling income and declining membership which has resulted from under-investment in fundraising and member recruitment and retention over the last decade.

MAIN IMAGE : 2,200 candles spelling out 'FREEDOM' for Myanmar, June 2010. ©AIANZ

Following detailed and lengthy discussions with the IS, the following course of action has been agreed and implemented:

- We have successfully applied for a loan from Amnesty International's Fundraising Investment Fund (FIF) of \$250,000 to support the portfolio of new recruitment, retention and fundraising initiatives identified in our new Fundraising Strategy. The feedback from the IS and the FIF Programme on our proposed new initiatives has been both positive and encouraging;
- A repayment schedule for the unpaid proportion of our 2010 contribution has yet to be finalised but, at the time of writing, repayments will not commence for at least two years to allow sufficient time for the new initiatives to succeed;
- The Management Team has prepared a break-even budget for 2011, approved by the GT and which includes a full remittance of AIANZ's 2011 contribution to the IS; and
- The IS are to fund and support further research into potential additional recruitment techniques and markets in New Zealand.

Whilst the current position is disappointing, we have been heartened by the level of support and understanding from within the wider Amnesty movement, particularly our colleagues at the IS. A key push at present for the global movement has been the Growth Strategy developed during 2010, and the IS have confirmed that they see AIANZ's chosen course of action as making ourselves fit for that purpose and able to implement that strategic goal.

The current financial challenges can be overcome and AIANZ will emerge a stronger and more vibrant organisation. I am confident that we now have the right people on board to implement the strategy of growth.

Iain Worsley
Treasurer

OUR FINANCES

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AOTEAROA NZ INC
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
For the year ended 31 December 2010

INCOME	2010	2009
Membership Income	11,472	16,195
Fundraising and Donations	954,461	1,162,492
New Initiative Income	232,544	153,603
Other Income	57,447	41,845
Interest Received	12,663	13,673
TOTAL INCOME:	\$1,268,587	\$1,387,808
less EXPENDITURE		
Operations	378,606	468,800
Campaigns, Research, Advocacy & Communications	318,680	341,281
Fundraising	410,662	360,253
Audit & Accounting fees	7,354	7,080
Finance Charges	16,825	15,484
Depreciation	28,671	25,044
TOTAL EXPENDITURE BEFORE I.C.C.:	\$1,160,798	\$1,217,942
International Campaigning Contribution	364,617	330,105
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$1,525,415	\$1,548,047
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR:	(\$256,828)	(\$160,239)

19/ OUR FINANCES

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AOTEAROA NZ INC
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As at 31 December 2010

NON CURRENT ASSETS	2010	2009
Property, plant & equipment	53,056	79,727
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash At Bank & In Hand	453,732	433,746
Prepayments & Accrued Income	21,068	31,299
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS:	474,800	465,045
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	34,539	47,807
Accruals	80,045	93,056
Holiday Pay	36,342	26,979
IS Loan Current	0	90,000
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES:	150,926	257,842
NET CURRENT ASSETS	323,874	207,203
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		
IS loan - non current	526,828	180,000
NET ASSETS:	-\$149,898	\$106,930
Represented by:		
Current year surplus/(deficit)	(256,828)	(160,239)
Accumulated funds brought forward	106,930	267,169
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS:	-\$149,898	\$106,930

‘WHAT I LIKE MOST ABOUT AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IS THE FACT THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD...THE KEY THING BEING THAT CHANGE CAN COME THROUGH A RELATIVELY SIMPLE ACTION SUCH AS WRITING A LETTER. SIMPLE, BUT OBVIOUSLY EFFECTIVE.’

Duncan Philips, Auckland member of Amnesty International Aotearoa NZ.

To contribute to Amnesty International's work, please join us or make a donation.

www.amnesty.org.nz
0800 AMNESTY (266 378)