

Note of Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Palestine meeting

22nd January 2014 at 6pm in CR3

MSPs present – Claudia Beamish, Jim Hume, Sandra White, Jean Urquhart

MSP Apologies – Jackie Baillie, Elaine Smith, Hugh Henry

35 members of public present

Film – Children in Chains. After the showing of the film there was a Q&A by Jonathon Pullman. Copies to be made available to MSPs and to anyone who can arrange showing to a group. Scheduled showing at Oban Concern for Palestine. Suggest members contact their MSPs, MPs and MEPs to ask them to watch the film. Jon asked for volunteers who could duplicate the film and also publicise it. It is planned to load up to internet sometime but it is best viewed as a group. Members suggested finding contacts in Israel to view it.

Members Debate on Water issues in Gaza – Claudia Beamish and John Finney have secured approval and are awaiting for a date. Anyone who can provide information for it to email Claudia. TG will let all members know the date and how to get tickets when date is known. Important to get large showing in the gallery for it. Members can email their MSP and ask them to attend.

JNF/KKK TG to contact Hugh Humphries and see if he can make a future meeting to discuss this.

Balfour Exhibition – postponed. May be shown in November.

MAP reception – members should mark this in their diaries. 7th May in the evening.

Letter to minister Humza Yousaf re Gaza blockade – Sandra White read out the letter sent and the reply received. Waiting further update following phone conversations with his counterpart in UK government.

Storms and disaster in Gaza – Sandra White will write on behalf of the XPG to the minister can we contribute to helping. FBU are working with minister also and perhaps these efforts can be tied together.

FBU announced the next Palestinian fire service training which is being helped by the Scottish Government. Jim Malone praised the minister Humza Yousaf for his help.

Next meeting – 30th April at 5.30pm