

# **Cross-Party Group on Tibet**

Wednesday 28 May 2025, 6:00pm  
Minute

## Present

### MSPs

Ross Greer MSP (RG), Collette Stevenson MSP (CS)

### Non-MSP Group Members & Guests

Eleanor Byrne-Rosengren (EBR), Cameron Garrett (CG), Linda Hendry (LH), Martin Mills (MM), Tenzin Kunga (TK), Jill Sudbury (JS), Tsering Yangkey (TY), Tenzin Choekyi (TC), Namgyal Tsondue (NT), Mathias Rosengren (MR), John Murray (JM), Namgyal Namgyal (NN)

## Apologies

Apologies received from Mercedes Villalba MSP, Rhoda Grant MSP, Linda Fabiani, Collette Stevenson and Roger Eames

### 1. Welcome

RG welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies. He also noted that he and some other CPGT members had accompanied Representative Tsering Yangkey on a visit to the National Museum earlier that day to review their collection of Tibetan artifacts.

### 2. Approval of Minutes – 25 February 2025

Minutes of the February 2025 meeting were approved.

### 3. Matters Arising

- The letters to the US Ambassador and Foreign Minister regarding funding for the International Tibet Network have been drafted and await sign off from CS.
- Liaison between the SGP Aberdeen/shire branch and TSG Grampian is outstanding, as is liaison with the East Kilbride SNP branch.
- The motion noting the death of the Dalai Lama's brother has been lodged and a copy was presented to the Dalai Lama in person when RG visited Dharamsala in April.
- It was agreed that we would take no action regarding the academic article in *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology* but JS will let us know if the situation changes.
- Several events are being held in London in early July to celebrate the Dalai Lama's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. EBR, CG and LF will be attending the formal event hosted by the Office of Tibet.
- It was agreed that we would draft a motion thanking the Scottish Government for their statement of support regarding the Dalai Lama's reincarnation.

## 4. Tibet News

TC provided a summary of recent news from Tibet. This included the situation in Dingri following the earthquake; Chinese propaganda using the term 'Xizang' instead of Tibet and incidences of other countries/institutions using the Chinese terminology; transnational repression; the death of Hungkar Dorje. MM noted the link between dams and earthquakes as well as the plateau generally becoming more fragile because of decreasing permafrost.

## 5. Campaign Update

EBR provided a summary of recent campaign activity. This included updates on the campaigns regarding colonial boarding schools, the anniversary of the Panchen Lama's disappearance, the Dalai Lama's reincarnation, the death of Hungkar Dorje, and recent meetings of the G7 and the UN Human Rights Council. She noted that the 10<sup>th</sup> March prayer ceremony had gone well and that Tibet Solidarity intended to stick with the same format for the next couple of years, although looking to host it in different cities.

Re the Panchen Lama campaign – it was suggested that the Chinese government is asked to provide a recent photograph.

## 6. Address from Representative Tsering Yangkey la

Representative Tsering Yangkey thanked RG personally for his recent parliamentary questions about the Dalai Lama's 90th birthday and reincarnation, especially as these had secured an official response from the government minister. She spoke about her upcoming visit to Tokyo to attend the World Parliamentarians' Convention on Tibet as well as the programmes confirmed for the 90th birthday celebrations in London in early July and some of the other activities to mark The Year of Compassion.

## 7. Update on visit to Dharamsala

RG provided a summary of the visit to Dharamsala. This included notable meetings and his own takeaways from the trip. He also noted that there were some opportunities for follow-up and arranging collaboration – these potentially included school twinning, data archiving and sourcing medical equipment.

## 8. AOB

It was noted that Sir Tom Farmer had recently died and the CPG should send a letter of condolence.

## 9. Action Point Summary

- Letters to the US Ambassador and David Lammy to be finalised.
- Follow up with SGP Aberdeen/shire branch and SNP EK branch.
- EBR to contact parliamentary events team re Dalai Lama birthday event.

Meeting Ends