

Cross-Party Group on Cuba MG 03

13th June 2024

Minute

Present

MSPs

Carol mochan MSP Convener
Maggie Chapman MSP Vice Convener
Katy Clark MSP
Mercedes Villalba MSP

Invited guests.

Rigoberto Zaza Ross, Director de Europa, ICAP

Non-MSP Group Members

Katherine Campbell, Scottish Cuba Solidarity Campaign (CPG Secretary)

Kate Arnott, Scottish Cuba Solidarity Campaign

Pauline Boyle, Scottish Cuba Solidarity Campaign

Andrew Bustard, Staff member MSP office

Apologies

Arthur West

Welcome and Introductions

Carol Mochan MSP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Presentation on health care in Cuba – Rigoberto Zaza Ross

An excellent presentation from our invited guest Rigoberto Zaza Ross, Rigoberto updated members on the US blockade and what this means for the people of Cuba. In particular the harsh reality of health care in Cuba was discussed. Following the presentation from Rigoberto a video was played, highlighting the difficulty in managing healthcare services due to the lack of basic supplies and medicines this is directly related to the blockade.

Scottish Cuba Solidarity Update – Kath Campbell

Scottish Cuba Solidarity Campaign update. Kath Campbell provided updates of economic and humanitarian crisis following the continuation of Cuba to State Sponsor of Terrorism list. The Scottish Solidarity Campaign continue to campaign against the blockade and have monthly Caravans against the blockade, Kath updated the meeting on the success of these campaigns and that ordinary members of the public do take great interest in this and are often shocked to hear about the situation.

AOCB

Rigoberto presented a book to the group. Denunciation of a Crime, International Tribunal Against the Blockade of Cuba. Members thanked him for this and agreed it was a useful resource to consider ideas for future meetings around understanding the history of the blockade of Cuba by the United States.

Date of Next meeting

This will be agreed by the secretariate and Carol Mochan office.

Agenda

Cross Party Group on Cuba

7th November 2024 Q 1.04 (Hybrid)

Agenda Item 1

Welcome and Introductions

Agenda Item 2

Approval and actions from last minutes

Agenda Item 3

Update from Scottish Cuba Solidarity

Agenda Item 4

Update from comrades working with Justice for Columbia

Agenda Item 5

AOCB