



Draft Conference Agenda

Date: Friday 18th July 9.20am – 5.00pm

Venue: University of Glasgow, Sir Charles Wilson Building

Agenda

8.45 Start of Registration

9.20 **Welcome from Conference Partners and Steering Group**

Scott Cuthbertson, Community Development Coordinator,
Equality Network

9.30 **LGBTI Human Rights and International Solidarity**

Keynote Addresses (lecture theatre):

Fiona Hyslop MSP, Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary
for Culture and External Affairs.

Frank Mugisha, Executive Director, Sexual Minorities
Uganda (SMUG).

Purna Sen, former Head of Human Rights at the
Commonwealth Secretariat; Chair of Kaleidoscope Trust.

Chair: **Dr. Matthew Waites**, Senior Lecturer in
Sociology/Glasgow Human Rights Network, University of
Glasgow.

10.45 Tea and Coffee (entrance hall)

11.00 Panel Session (lecture theatre):

Voices from around the Commonwealth

Chair: **Becky Kent**, Scottish Transgender Alliance

Speakers: **Bisi Alimi**, LGBT/HIV advocate and lecturer, Free
University of Berlin (Nigeria).

Monica Tabengwa, LGBT Rights Programme, Human Rights Watch (Botswana).

Mayur Suresh, legal representative, Voices Against 377 (India)

Morgan Carpenter, President, Organisation Intersex International Australia (Australia).

Silvan Agius, Policy Coordinator (Human Rights), Ministry for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties (Malta)

Jermaine Grant, Human Rights advocate in Guyana, the Caribbean and within the Inter-American system of human rights of the Organisations of American States (OAS) (Guyana)

12.15 Panel Session (Main Room **Religion and Cultural Politics: Understanding Contexts**)

This panel will focus on the importance of religion and culture in understanding the politics of sexuality, especially in a non-western context. In particular, the panel will focus on the role religion and culture play in politics and policymaking around the world and how religious and cultural discourses consequently shape understandings on citizenship and minority rights.

Chair: **Sam Rankin**, Intersectional Coordinator, Equality Network.

Speakers: **Dr. Barbara Bompani**, Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh.

Shanon Shah, PhD student, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, Kings College London.

Pallav Patankar, Director of Humsafar Trust, Mumbai, India.

Workshop 1 (Breakout One): **Intersex Human Rights**, led by **Morgan Carpenter**, President, Organisation Intersex

International Australia
(Australia).

What are the key issues facing intersex people in the Commonwealth and around the world and how do we better include intersex people and concerns in international advocacy.

Workshop 2 (Breakout Two): **Economic development and LGBTI rights**, led by Bisi Alimi

This workshop will explore the close connections between economic development and LGBTI human rights improvements including themes of the cost of discrimination to global, national and local economies; and how we make the case for LGBTI human rights to financial institutions including the World Bank.

13.15 Lunch

14.00 Panel Session (Main Room): **Scotland, the Commonwealth and LGBTI Rights.**

This session will look the role Scotland and its people can play in the Commonwealth and on international LGBTI human rights issues; as well as looking to good practice in other countries.

Chair: **Tim Hopkins**, Director, Equality Network

Speakers: **Silvan Agius**, Policy Coordinator (Human Rights) at Ministry for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties (Malta)

Patrick Harvie MSP, Co-Convener Scottish Green Party

Pauline Kelly, Media and Campaigns Officer, Amnesty International - Scotland

Workshop 3 (Breakout One): **Changing Laws / Litigation**, led by **Jonathan Cooper**, Chief

Executive of the Human Dignity
Trust

The role of litigation and international human rights law in bringing about decriminalisation for LGBTI people around the world.

Workshop 4 (Breakout Two): **Discussion on Conference Statement**, led by **Alistair Stewart**, Assistant Director, Kaleidoscope Trust & **Dr. Matthew Waites**, Senior Lecturer in Sociology/Glasgow Human Rights Network, University of Glasgow.

This session will look at the draft conference statement calling for the removal of all laws that criminalise people or limit their human rights due to sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status.

15.00 **Panel Session (Main Room): Transnational Activism**

This session will look at some of the challenges of transnational and cross-border activism. Drawing on the knowledge of panellists with a wealth of campaigning experience this session will examine how activism and solidarity can be conducted across borders. In an era of social media it will examine some of the tensions between accessible and effective activism looking at the role of 'clicktivism' and boycotts.

Chair: **Alistair Stewart**, Assistant Director, Kaleidoscope Trust.

Speakers: **Morgan Carpenter**, President, Organisation Intersex International Australia.

Monica Tabengwa, LGBT Rights Programme, Human Rights Watch (Botswana)

Peter Tatchell - Campaigner for human rights, democracy, LGBT freedom and global justice.

Frank Mugisha - Executive Director, Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG).

Workshop 5 (Breakout One): **Asylum**, led by Sam Rankin, Intersectional Coordinator, Equality Network and Unity.

People from various Commonwealth countries apply for asylum in the UK. In this workshop we will discuss the issues LGBTI asylum seekers and refugees face in the UK; their needs and how to make services more inclusive.

Workshop 6 (Breakout Two): **Aid Conditionality and Diplomatic Tools**, led by **Fionnuala Murphy**, Campaigns Manager at the International HIV/AIDS Alliance

Should donors withdraw aid from countries that violate LGBT people's rights, or make respect for LGBT equality a condition of aid? What about travel bans, or diplomatic boycotts? This workshop will look at aid and beyond it, exploring the other tools, political and diplomatic, that governments can use to help advance LGBTI human rights in the Commonwealth and around the world.

16.00 Break, Refreshments

16.15 Plenary Session (Main Room): **Presentation on Conference Statement**

Alistair Stewart, Assistant Director, Kaleidoscope Trust.

Dr. Matthew Waites, Senior Lecturer in Sociology/Glasgow Human Rights Network, University of Glasgow.

16.45 Closing Remarks

Joshua McCormick MSYP, LGBT Youth Scotland
International Youth Representative, member of the Scottish
Youth Parliament

17.00 End of Conference