

UBU Make Poverty History Update Motion

This Union Notes:

1. The end of the Make Poverty History (MPH) campaign on 31st January, 2006, of which UBU was a member.
2. That the Network of British Overseas NGO's for Development (BOND) are committed to providing twice-annual follow up gatherings for groups involved in the MPH campaign for the foreseeable future.
3. The valuable contribution made by students to the MPH campaign throughout the year, especially with the very wide take up of the White Band as the symbol of anti-poverty campaigning.
4. The move to establish a new national anti-poverty network, focused on grassroots campaigning, which will hold its first conference in mid-2006.
5. The continuing and growing role of the Jubilee Debt Campaign after the G8 1997 campaign against global debt.
6. That the rules of the Trade Justice Movement, UK Aid Network and StopAIDS currently prevent local groups such as student unions from joining them. However, it is possible to remain involved through other organisations and keeping ourselves up to date on each of these networks.

This Union Believes:

1. That while there was some success on Debt and Aid, especially with respect to HIV/Aids treatment, there is a lot more left to do.
2. That the amount done on trade was negligible. That the G8's tactic of putting off decisions on trade to the WTO succeeded for them, with almost no detectable improvement in conditions facing farmers in the Global South.
3. That campaigning on these issues must continue, both nationally and from the grassroots, until poverty is eradicated world-wide, and that getting students involved in long-term campaigning is vital to ensure that this and successive generations keep up the pressure which has already been built.

This Union Resolves:

1. To continue the fight to "make poverty history" and to work with others to raise awareness and apply suitable pressure.
2. To make contact with those working on the new grassroots anti-poverty network, and to play a role in ensuring its development.
3. To ensure representation of the Union at both BOND-organised and grassroots follow up assemblies, forums, conferences etc.
4. To join the Jubilee Debt Campaign as a way of continuing our work in this key area, and to look at ways of participating in their current campaign on

“Debt Conditionality” entitled “Cut the Strings”.

5. To look at the best ways to be involved in the Trade Justice Movement, the UK Aid Network, Stop AIDS and the work of BOND (Network of British Overseas NGO's for Development).
6. To review the situation surrounding national anti-poverty campaigning early in the 06/07 academic year.

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