

Muslim Council of Britain Weekly E-Newsletter

25 SHawwal 1422

Thursday 10 January 2002

Weekly Updates on Reports, Committees and Events:

Reports and Committee Updates

- Faith Communities Meeting
- Media Committee
- International Affairs Committee
- Social Policy, Welfare and Regeneration Committee
- Hajj Advisory Group

Events

- Target 2015 Booklet Launch
- Reception at No. 10
- US Embassy

Reports and Committee Updates Faith Communities Meeting

Yousuf Bhailok, Secretary General of the MCB attended the Inter-Faith Network meeting for representatives of faith community organisations in membership of the Inter-Faith Network on Wednesday January 9th 2002.

The meeting had been arranged to provide an opportunity for faith communities to share their views on the impact of recent events. It was also to discuss the role which representative faith community bodies can play in the development of interfaith relations.

Media Committee

MCB Writes To Trevor Phillips, Deputy-Leader of GLA

Inayat Bunglawala, Secretary of the Media Committee wrote on Jan 3rd 2002 a letter of appreciation to Trevor Phillips, the Deputy-Leader of the Greater London Authority, for his thoughtful open letter to the Home Secretary, David Blunkett, which appeared in The Guardian on Dec 19th 2001. To see Trevor Phillips' open letter.

MCB Issues Complaint to Radio 4's Today programme

The Media Committee wrote a letter to the Editor of the BBC Radio 4 Today programme in response to their broadcasting on January 7th 2002 the irresponsible and inflammatory remarks of Hassan Butt. These remarks had received very wide coverage in the British media which the MCB said would only succeed in harming community relations in this country.

Media Committee questions 'Terrorist Capitals' phrase used by ITN

The Media Committee wrote to Richard Tait, Head of News at ITN to complain of a news bulletin by ITN reporter Terry Lloyd on December 28th. In the bulletin Mr Lloyd alleged

that the shoe-bomber Richard Reid had visited various 'terrorist capitals' prior to his attempted attack on the American Airlines flight.

The Media Committee asked for further clarification regarding the phrase 'terrorist capitals', especially in view of the fact that all the capitals Mr Lloyd mentioned in the same sentence including Islamabad, Cairo and Istanbul, were Muslim cities.

International Affairs Committee

Meeting with the Pakistan's Ambassador to London

An MCB delegation headed by Tanzeem Wasti, Chair of the International Affairs Committee, met with His Excellency Abdul Kader Jaffer, Pakistani High Commissioner on Friday January 4th.

The delegation met to discuss the current situation in Pakistan and the rising tensions between Pakistan and India.

Letter to Bosnian Ambassador to London

Tanzeem Wasti, on behalf of the MCB, wrote a letter to the Bosnian Ambassador to London, Her Excellency Mrs Elvira Begovic. Mr Wasti wrote requesting a meeting with the Bosnian Foreign minister who will be coming to London week beginning January 7th.

International Affairs Committee meeting

The International Affairs Committee held a committee meeting on Friday January 4th. Members of the committee gathered to discuss events in Palestine, Kosova and Pakistan.

Social Policy, Welfare and Regeneration Committee

Summit of World Muslim Leaders

Imam Abduljalil Sajid, Chair of the Social Policy, Welfare and Regeneration Committee attended the Summit of World Muslim Leaders in Jakarta, Indonesia on December 21-23rd, 2001.

Imam Sajid delivered a speech entitled 'Islam and a Future World Peace'. [Click here to read the text of the speech.](#)

Hajj Advisory Group

The next meeting of the Hajj Advisory Group will take place on Wednesday January 9th.

Events

Target 2015 Booklet Launch

The launch of the Target 2015 booklet, a collaboration between the MCB, the Department for International Development (DFID), Islamic Relief and Muslim Aid as been scheduled for Wednesday January 16th.

The Chief Guest at the launch will be Rt. Hon. Clare Short MP, Secretary of State for International Development.

Reception at No. 10

The MCB Secretary General has been invited by the Prime Minister to a Reception for Faith Community Representatives at 10 Downing Street.

The reception will take place on Thursday January 17th.

US Embassy

The Deputy Secretary General of the MCB, Mahmud Al-Rashid will attend a buffet reception hosted by the Minister Counselor for Public Affairs at the US Embassy in London on Thursday January 17th.

The reception is being held in honour of the United States Public Affairs Officers visiting from the Near East and North Africa.