

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
MOTION FOR IFSW GENERAL MEETING 1-2 APRIL 2024

This General Meeting, in the spirit of Buen Vivir, notes with concern:

- The continuing climate emergency including the threat to the existence of island states and coastal communities;
- The escalation of wars, conflicts and tension on all continents;
- The large numbers of people on the move (migrating) because of conflicts, climate change and economic pressures;
- The increased use of hate speech and violent rhetoric in political dialogue amplified through mainstream and social media in many countries and international dialogues;
- The rise of populist politicians who exploit cultural and racial differences for political gain, resulting in continued discrimination and racially targeted violence;
- Historic situations in the recent past when social workers were complicit in implementing social policies which did not respect human rights and were abusive.

IFSW therefore resolves:

- to continue the campaign to support *The People's Charter for an Eco-Social World* and its principles and recommended actions;
- to continue to value and engage with international organisations, such as the United Nations and its agencies, and regional bodies ;
- to promote the importance of the international conventions which establish the principles of Human Rights for all peoples, including the United Nations Refugee Convention and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change;
- to call on all leaders and politicians to show respect for the human rights of all peoples, to base their arguments on evidence not conjecture, to use careful and respectful language in political dialogue, and to avoid inflaming racial and cultural tensions;
- to encourage member organisations to continue to promote the global ethical principles of social work, to challenge hate speech and to provide mutual support to achieve these objectives;
- to support member organisations in challenging false and simplistic narratives and to counter conspiracy theories lacking evidence on climate change, race and culture;
- to facilitate mutual support for member organisations facing challenging circumstances and to make further statements on these matters as required.

On behalf of BASW, 1 March 2024.