International   Solidarity Committee- Skype call: 10/30/13

For discussion:

1) Summary of decisions and discussions of the ISF preparatory committee after the forum.

2) Evaluation of international participants.

3) Financial report of the ISF

4) How to communicate results and success of the ISF.

5) Next appointments of the World Social Forum process for the Iraqis

**Martina** **Pignatti**: the ICSSI team drafted a press release; we've sent it to the ISF committee for review on their meeting yesterday

**Ali Sahib:** the 1st t meeting was directly after the forum for evaluation, we decided that a booklet will be issued including summery of activities and details about the 3-days event.

Regarding the Morocco event (the International council of the world social forum) we need to send more than two if possible expenses paid by the person himself.

**Martina** **Pignatti:** yes sure

**Ali Sahib:** can we apply to be members of the WSF?

**Martina** **Pignatti :** yes, formally the committee organizing a national forum can become member of the international council of the WSF

**Martina P.M.:** Feroz, how can they formally do it?

**feroz.mehdi:** with the absence of the secretariat, it is a bit confusing but we can talk about it during the IC

**gershom.kabaso1:** Formally but I also understand that participation to IC meetings is self-selecting and **voluntary**

**feroz.mehdi:** But they for sure can attend as observers.

**Martina** **Pignatti :** OK, in any case when they come to Morocco they should apply for formal membership, as a national committee, like the Italian committee for the world social forum

**Ali Sahib**: we did a primary evaluation regarded the ISF was a successful event in general but we are going to start an electronic evaluation form to be shared with all those who participated and attended the forms are ready.

We met our volunteers and we held a very nice acknowledgment ceremony at least 70 certificates were distributed.

**Baghdad Marathon:**

**Ali Sahib**: this was discussed yesterday in a meeting; we are so ready to hold it next Feb(the primary decision was Feb)

The SAV committee should be reconsidered in order to grant more harmony in its work. especially the coordinator of the SAV committee.

The PC are choosing Yahya to be SAV coordinator.

**Martina P.M.:** Felipe was commenting in an article (in Spanish) that Baghdad has more walls then the entire West Bank in Palestine. We now understand that it's very complicated to organize a marathon running through the city. But it would be definitely an amazing thing… the problem is that not many international runners would come with the current security conditions, so you should really concentrate on the Iraqi mobilizations.

In my view, if you want to associate the marathon with the Iraqi Social Forum, the marathon committee should be nominated by the ISF Preparatory Committee

We can decide that next international chat is centered on the marathon, so we can in depth into this issue… February is very close!

So please write Nicola and Elena about your proposal and let's see how we can support it, and guarantee continuation with the work that has been done till now to organize a Baghdad Marathon.

Martina P.M.: so, going back to the international statement, do you think it's worthwhile to amend the draft sent by ICSSI, and have it signed by the ISF committee too or shall we just spread an ICSSI press release, based on the draft I just shared with you?

**Ali Sahib**: yes, that's ok with us. We just need to have a bit of time to share it and wait till Friday for feed back

Martina P.M.: We should also value all solidarity messages that were sent during the forum, for example from the US Social Forum, where shall we attach those? Shall we add them to the Extended Report, or mention them in the ISF booklet?

**Ali Sahib**: yes, in the ISF booklet.

**Martina P.M**.: for the Iraqis again, ICSSI can support one more person, the others should cover their expenses, is this fine? How many people were planning to go?

**Taif Sabah**: can you support another person? We have decided that 4 people can go and may be they will be 5

**Martina P.M**.: ok, what ICSSI can do depends on the expenses; I will write Hamouda of the Moroccan group and ask about the prices of the hotel and food, can you please check how much is the flight from Iraq to Casablanca?

**Taif Sabah**: ok in 2 days ali will send you the prices

**Martina P.M.:** thanks. Meanwhile, anyway, register all people that want to go, and choose which one should ask for the solidarity fund, probably it should be Ali, given his formal position, who will go to the Youth Social Forum in Egypt, instead?

**Taif Sabah** :we have 8 youth activists that will go by their own but if it will be high expenses may be it would be a problem for them, Ali will also go

Martina P.M.: ok. ICSSI has a small budget to allow Iraqi activists to go to WSF in the next months; we should decide together how to manage it, we can discuss this in a separate chat with the ISF Secretariat only

Ali, when can we have a chat about administrative issues, related to the ICSSI project for the ISF? With Tammuz also

**Ali Sahib:** Actually some of the colleagues in Tammuz are out of Iraq maybe when they arrive to Baghdad next week we can have the chat

**Martina P.M.:** please propose a day and time when you are ready, so we can share all info about admin issues and we can check how to support Iraqis who want to participate in WSF events abroad

**Ali Sahib:** Ok let’s say next week, after Monday?

**Martina P.M.:** Tuesday or Wednesday.