

Charity No 1037236  
Company No: 2922108

Chantrey Vellacott DFKLLP

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT  
Limited By Guarantee**

**Management Committee's  
Report and Accounts  
For the year ended 31 December 2009**

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2009

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Chantrey Vellacott DEKLLP

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT  
Management Committee's Report  
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**Management Committee's Report**

The Management Committee members, who act as Trustees of the Charity for the purposes of the Charities Acts and directors of the company for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements of Kurdish Human Rights Project ("KHRP or the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2009. The Management Committee confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISORS**

Registered Name: Kurdish Human Rights Project

Charity Number: 1037236

Company Number: 2922108

Registered Office: 11 Guilford Street  
London  
WC1N 1DH

Management Committee (Trustees/  
Directors): Mark Muller Q.C. (Chair), Barrister (until 30th September 2009 –now Honorary Secretary General)  
Michael Ivers (Secretary), Barrister (Chair from 30th September 2009)  
Rajesh Kumar Rai (Treasurer), Ecologist  
Ed Grieves, Barrister  
Julian Ozanne, Journalist  
Tertia Bailey, Development Consultant  
Gareth Peirce, Solicitor  
Louis Charalambous, Solicitor  
Arild Humlen, Lawyer  
Nicholas Stewart Q.C.  
Remziye Tanrikulu, Lawyer

Chief Executive: Kerim Yıldız

Auditor: Chantrey Vellacott DFK LLP  
Russell Square House  
10/12 Russell Square  
London  
WC1B 5LF

Bankers: Barclays Bank PLC  
27 Regent Street  
London  
W1 4UB

Solicitors: Russell Cooke  
9 Thorpe Close  
Portobello Road  
London  
W10 5XL

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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Governance and Management

The Charity is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association.

The Charity has an Honorary President (Lord Avebury), a Management Committee, a legal consultant, an International Board of Patrons and an Advisory Board, details of which are given below.

The management of the Charity is the responsibility of the Management Committee members who are elected and opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. The Management Committee are the Trustees and Directors of the Charity.

All members of the Management Committee retire at each Annual General Meeting, but are eligible for re-election.

Organisational Structure

Honorary President: Lord Avebury

Board of Directors: Mark Muller Q.C. (Chair), Barrister (until 30th September 2009 –now Honorary Secretary General)  
Michael Ivers (Secretary), Barrister (Chair of Board from 30th September 2009)  
Rajesh Kumar Rai (Treasurer), Ecologist  
Ed Grieves, Barrister  
Julian Ozanne, Journalist  
Tertia Bailey, Development Consultant  
Gareth Peirce, Solicitor  
Louis Charalambous, Solicitor (from September 2009)  
Arild Humlen, Lawyer (from September 2009)  
Nicholas Stewart Q.C.(from September 2009)  
Remziye Tanrikulu, Lawyer (from December 2009)

Board of Patrons: Prof. Haci Akman  
Prof.Kader Asmal  
Sir Geoffrey Bindman  
George Black  
Hans Branscheidt  
Noam Chomsky  
Julie Christie  
Judge Andrew Collender QC  
Nazmi Gür  
Paul Hoffman  
Bridget Hughes  
Bianca Jagger  
Baroness Helena Kennedy QC  
Bruce Kent  
Lord Kirkhill  
Michael Mansfield QC  
Ian Macdonald QC  
Harold Pinter  
Lord Nicholas Rea  
Jon Rud  
Per Stadig  
Prof. Willem Van Genugten  
Şanar Yurdatapan  
Leo Zwaak

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Advisory Board: William Archer (Writer)  
Meral Daniş Beştaş (Lawyer)  
Mesut Beştaş (Lawyer)  
Ayhan Bilgen (HR Defender)  
Bill Bowring (Professor)  
Peter Carter QC  
Louise Christian (Solicitor)  
Jane Connors (Lecturer) –Until October 2009  
Julie Flint (Journalist)  
Michael Gunter (Professor)  
Malcolm Harper (formerly UNA)  
Gillian Higgins (Barrister)  
Stuart Kerr (Barrister)  
Laurence Lustgarten (Professor)  
David McDowall (Writer)  
Chris Milroy MD (Forensic Pathologist)  
Jacqueline Muirhead (Human Resources)  
Caroline Nolan (Solicitor)  
Tim Otty Q.C.  
Colin Wells (Barrister)

Advisor on Environmental Rights: Jean Lambert MEP

Staff: Administrator – Bea Yates (until March 2009) and Jori Knight-Jones (from April 2009)  
Assistant to the Chief Executive – Janna Mancini  
Chief Executive – Kerim Yıldız  
Managing Director – Rachel Bernu  
Turkey and Iraq Desk Officer – Mustafa Gündoğdu  
Development Officer until October, and thereafter, Resources & Communications Manager – Pranjali Acharya  
Development & Outreach Officer - Anna Irvin  
Finance Officer – Kenneth Appiah-Kyeremeh (Until July 2009)  
Legal Director - Catriona Vine  
Acting Legal Officer – Saadiya Chaudary (Maternity Cover until November 2009)  
Legal Associate – Saniye Karakaş  
Resources & Communications Co-ordinator –Michael Farquhar (Until September 2009)

Interns in 2009:

Lina Amir (UK)	Alex MacCaskgill (UK)
Kadir Aziz (Turkey)	Annie MacDonald (UK)
Sema Bolek (UK)	Matthew Malone (UK)
Orsane Broisin (France)	Mary-Ann Mangano (US)
Ruby Chorbajian (US)	Adam Minns (UK)
Jenny Congrave (UK)	Julian Molina (UK)
Narin Demircioglu (Sweden)	Ramya Nagesh (UK)
Joanna Dwek (Swiss)	Kristin Nolan (US)
Rob Fischer (UK)	Andrea R. Shinbach (US)
Giuditta Fontana (Italy)	Ibrahim Sadiq (Netherlands)
Randi Frisby (US)	Tara Sadooghi (US)
Ahava Grey-Read (UK)	Akiko Saikawa (Japan)
Louise Hau (Canada)	Duygu Şendağ (Turkey)
Bijan Hoshi (UK)	Gaetano Serra (Italy)
Lara Innessi (Italy)	Saja Shaheen (UK)
Sukran Kavak (Sweden)	Kawa Shana (Netherlands)
Jori Knight-Jones (Norway)	Carolyn Slauson (Canada)
Noga Kogman (Israel)	Melissa Stock (UK)

Ozkan Koyuncu (UK)  
Chris Loxton (UK)  
Di Lu (China)  
Cerid Lugar (US)

Aditi Surie Von Czechowski (US)  
Jonathan Tossell (UK)  
David Trueman (UK)  
Nsangou Yenkong (Cameroon)

Volunteers in 2009:  
Natalie Bikoro  
Cigdem Sarisaltik  
Schirin Foroutan  
Xanna Ward-Dixon  
Kate McComskey

Contractors:  
Maia Phutkaradze – Finance Officer (from October 2009)  
Ruby Chorbaijan - Fundraising Contractor (from November 2009)

Legal Team  
Members:

David Anderson QC  
Declan O'Callaghan  
Miriam Benitez-Carrion  
Sir Geoffrey Bindman  
Michael Birnbaum QC  
Professor Bill Bowring  
Dr Susan Breau  
Brenda Campbell  
Parosha Chandran  
Louis Charalambous  
Louise Christian  
Lucy Claridge  
Sandra Conway  
Jo Cooper  
Jan Doerfel  
Fiona Darroch  
Tim Eicke  
Diana Ellis QC  
Ben Emmerson QC  
Joanna Evans  
Alice Faure-Walker  
Edward Grieves

Matthew Happold  
Robert Harvey  
Gillian Higgins  
Mark Himsworth  
Andrea Hopkins  
Mary Hughes  
Tim Otty Q.C  
Arild Humlen  
Michael Ivers  
Chris Jacobs  
Nina Jorgensen  
Ajanta Kaza  
Sydney Kentridge QC  
Stuart Kerr  
Philip Leach  
Peter Lowrie  
Ola Maeland  
Bill McGivern  
Fiona McKay  
Eric Metcalfe  
Mark Muller Q.C.  
Sajjad Nabi

Caroline Nolan  
Hugo Norton-Taylor  
Øvind Østberg  
Gita Parihar  
Gareth Peirce  
Rajesh Kumar Rai  
Paul Richmond  
William Robinson  
Knut Rognlien  
Jon Rud  
Jessica Simor  
Keir Starmer QC  
Nicholas Stewart QC  
Paul Troop  
Karlijn van der Voort  
Colin Wells  
Chris Williams  
Joanna Wood  
Nigel Wray

# KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT

## Management Committee's Report

### For the year ended 31 December 2009

#### Related Parties and Wider Networks

KHRP continues to combine strategic networking and alliance-building, in order to be able to respond to regional and local concerns through regular consultation and sharing its extensive expertise in human rights monitoring and international mechanisms, collaborative work, non-regional trainings and networking with partner organisations and relevant human rights defenders (HRDs), civil society officers (CSOs), and governmental and intergovernmental bodies at the local, regional and international level. KHRP continues to receive requests for trainings and seminars from groups and individuals regionally, nationally and internationally.

Partners and Affiliates:

In 2009, KHRP worked in partnership with:

**Armenia**—Armenian Bar Association; Forum Law Centre

**Azerbaijan**—Azerbaijan National Committee of the Helsinki Citizen's Association (HCA); Center for Civic Initiatives

**Iran & Syria** – KHRP continues to work with individuals and institutions in Iran and Syria but cannot disclose their names due to security concerns.

**Iraq**—Civil Development Organization (CDO); Harikar; Kurdish Youth Empowerment Organisation, Union of Kurdistan Writers, Dohuk; University of Kurdistan, Hewler

**Turkey**—Ankara, Batman, Diyarbakir, Şirnak and Van Bar Associations; Çağdaş Gazeteciler Derneği (Contemporary Journalists Association); Batman, Bingöl, Diyarbakır, Hakkari, İstanbul, Kadın Danışmanlık Merkezi (Women's Consultation Association, SELIS) Contemporary Journalists Association; Kadın Danışmanlık Merkezi (Women's Consultation Association, SEYLIS); Goç-Der (Association for Internally Displaced People); Mardin, Şirnak, and Van branches and the Tunceli representative office of İnsan Hakları Derneği (Human Rights Association, IHD); Toplum ve Hukuk Araştırmaları Vakfı (The Foundation for Society and Legal Studies, TOHAV); Van Women's Association (VAKAD)

**Non-Regional Partners**—Advocates for International Development (A4ID); Bar Human Rights Committee of England and Wales (BHRC); Centre for Civic Initiatives (CCI); The Corner House; EU-Turkey Civic Commission (EUTCC); Platform; Rafto Foundation and York University Centre for Applied Human Rights.

The KHRP also continued work in an unofficial capacity with the:

- Human Rights Centre in Azerbaijan
- Initiative for Freedom of Expression, Turkey
- Human Rights Watch
- Kurdish Women's Project
- Kurdish Pen
- Liberation
- Mazlum-Der (The Association of Human Rights & Solidarity for the Oppressed People in Turkey)
- Women's Rights Organisation Against Discrimination (AKDER), Turkey

Collaborative Projects:

KHRP continued to work with a coalition of international organisations including some of the organisations above, as well as ECA Watch, Forests and European Union Resource Network (FERN), Berne Declaration (Switzerland), World Economy, Ecology and Development (WEED) (Germany) and the Initiative to Keep Hasankeyf Alive (Turkey) both on public awareness and strategy against the Ilisu Dam and the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline, holding regular meetings to monitor the situation in the region and in the EU and internationally to develop the campaign strategy and disseminate information on the environmental and humanitarian impacts of these projects. To this end, KHRP delivered a talk addressing 'The Impact of Large-Scale Dam Construction on Regional Security in the Kurdish Regions of Turkey' during the session titled 'Hegemony, War and Water Policy' at the third Alternative Water Forum, which took place at Bilgi University in İstanbul on 20 to 22 March. The Forum was organised by civil society groups and NGOs in response to the nearby meeting of the Fifth World Water Forum under the aegis of the World Water Council. The Ilisu Dam Campaign saw some success in July 2009 when after a long campaign, German, Swiss and Austrian export credit insurers announced the withdrawal of their key financial support for the construction of the Ilisu Dam in south-east Turkey over Turkey's failure to meet international standards. However, the campaign continues as Turkey remains adamant that it will complete the project and has announced that it is approaching China's export credit agency, Sinosur, for funding, although as at the beginning of December 2009, the Chinese Embassy in Ankara denied any Chinese company is involved in the project.

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KHRP, in conjunction with other NGOs including The Corner House and Platform, attended a mediation meeting with British Petroleum (BP) at BERR, the UK National Contact Point. The mediation succeeded in reaching an agreement that the report's contents would be made available to partner IHD.

In 2009, KHRP also joined the steering committee for the organisation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Meeting of Dam Affected Peoples, representing Europe and the Middle East. The meeting, co-ordinated by the International Rivers Network, is due to take place in Mexico in 2010. Other members of the steering committee include Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens, Brazil; Otros Mundos, Mexico; Culture and Environment Preservation Association, Cambodia; River Research Centre, India; Initiative to Save Hasankeyf, Turkey; Africa Rivers Network and the Young Volunteers for the Environment, Togo.

As part of KHRP's role in the EU Turkey Civic Commission (EUTCC), it co-hosted the 5th Annual International Conference on EU Turkey and the Kurds, entitled 'Time for Change' which was held at the European Parliament on the 28th and 29th January 2009. The Conference included comments from the then Vice President of the European Parliament Luisa Morgantini and EUTCC patron and 1995 Sakharov Prize winner Leyla Zana among others. KHRP Chief Executive Kerim Yildiz opened the first session on 'EU/Turkish accession: International Perspectives' by reviewing the progress of Turkey's accession bid.

KHRP together with UK supporter Spring Projects and the Delfina Foundation has given support to the Halabja Community Play Project, which is designed to give children a strong feeling of ownership over the project. Steps planned for the project in the coming months include sinking a well on the land, raising further funds, planting trees, landscaping the site, and building adaptable, bespoke play equipment. These actions are all aimed to improve the day-to-day lives of women and children and communicate KHRP's broad interest in the quality of life for women and children in the region.

#### Risk management

The Trustees continue to assess the major risks to which KHRP is exposed, in accordance with the organisation's aims and objectives. As in previous years these identified risks are continually reviewed through TO/ FFM findings; bi-annual strategy meetings; ongoing consultations with KHRP's staff, Board, local partners/ other stakeholders and additional desk research. Based on KHRP's past experience/ lessons learned, none are anticipated to be so serious as to jeopardise the project's ultimate objectives.

Throughout the course of the year, the organisation continued to effect the decisions agreed based upon the recommendations of an independent feasibility study carried out in 2004 and presented in 2005. The Trustees considered the following areas susceptible to risk:

- **Efficient and effective governance and operational structures, including the recruitment and induction of Trustees and strengthening links with all boards to utilise their knowledge and experience:**
  - Regular meetings were held throughout the year with all Boards and strategy was discussed.
  - The Trustees were updated with the progress of the organisation in the 5 years since the recommendations of feasibility study were made.
  - KHRP maintained its strong recruiting practices including interview panels with external evaluators.
  - Each post has a clear and full job description and induction, and the Board, staff and volunteers are supplied with an organisational chart and clear understanding of roles.
  - The organisation continued to develop in line with recommendations with the expansion and diversification of its board of Trustees from 7 members (2 female and 5 male) to 10 (3 female and 7 male) and is continuing to actively seek more female members.
- **Operational factors including keeping updated with health and safety, contracts and employment issues:**
  - All health and safety procedures continue to be reviewed annually and procedures are included in induction for all new staff and volunteers.
  - KHRP receives regular updates from Clarks Legal which are then integrated into the staff manual and has regular contact and advice from the NCVO, ACAS and our pro-bono legal team on policies and employment issues.
  - KHRP also attend seminars on a range of issues relating to governance, risk and compliance.
- **Finance including the organisation's reserve and cash flow and diversity of income:**
  - KHRP has been successful in gaining more multiple-year funding and continues to pursue this type of grant to give increased stability and ensure that its reserves are always well within the limit set by its agreed policy.



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- KHRP continues to diversify its unrestricted income base by developing activities that create revenue for the organisation, by increasing its regular donor base, creating fundraising initiatives throughout the year that both attract new supporters and raise awareness, using philanthropy giving websites to promote specific areas of work, increasing the number of short applications submitted for smaller grants which are generally unrestricted and require little or no reporting back and continuing to expand on third party revenue schemes such as Gift Aid and Payroll Giving.
- **Impact of current economic climate on funding:**
  - The Trustees decided to keep the reserve funds to between 6-9 months after the decision was taken in 2008.
  - KHRP regularly reviews service partners for best value and continues to research areas for joint work where costs can be shared.
  - If necessary, KHRP would scale back less critical expenditure, such as on the design and print costs of public awareness materials, by disseminating information through the website or publishing interim briefing papers.
- **Compliance with law and regulation:** Receive regular updates from the Charities Commission for England and Wales and regular reviews
- **Potential external risks including adverse publicity and the perception of the work of the organisation, and regional stability:**
  - KHRP is continuing to develop its communications strategy including the training of key members of staff.
  - KHRP has developed public awareness through increased media interviews and public speaking and through the development of KHRP's website and regular press releases.
  - KHRP will keep abreast of the latest security/ administrative situation to ensure that project implementation can continue, without compromising the safety/ independence of its delegates.
- **Future risks include assessing the continuing need for our work and the impact of the situation in region on the work of our organisation:**
  - KHRP continues to mitigate this risk by being consistent in its presence in the region and adaptable to the situation there
  - KHRP continually liaises with its partners and appropriate government channels to ascertain which work is felt to be the most essential/ viable, and that work is developed through close consultation with partners on the ground ensuring continuing relevance and that the work of the KHRP complements that of other NGO's.
  - KHRP remains committed to engaging with prospective partners to update them on its developing work and strengthen capacity through inter-NGO co-operation.

The identified risks have been individually addressed and the Trustees are satisfied that the systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. The Trustees are committed to regular monitoring and evaluation of the risk assessment.

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**OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES**

The Kurdish Human Rights Project is an independent, non-political, non-governmental human rights organisation, established in December 1992 in response to the abysmal human rights situation in the Kurdish regions of the world and in particular to the treatment of the Kurdish populations in Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Syria, and elsewhere. The ethos behind the establishment of KHRP was that as these states have ratified many international agreements relating to human rights therefore giving their consent to be bound by them, they may be called to account at an international level for the treatment of their populations.

KHRP is a registered charity and is committed to the promotion and protection of the human rights of all persons living within the Kurdish regions, irrespective of race, religion, sex, political persuasion or other belief or opinion. Its supporters include both Kurdish and non-Kurdish people.

Public benefit

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities.

Objectives

- Raise awareness of the human rights situation in the Kurdish regions of Iran, Iraq, Syria, Turkey and the Caucasus;
- Bring an end to the violation of the rights of everybody who lives in the Kurdish regions.
- Promote the protection of the rights of Kurdish people wherever they may live and expose human rights violations of Kurdish people wherever they occur
- Eradicate torture both in the Kurdish regions and across the globe.

KHRP achieves these objectives in the following ways:

- Consistently highlighting through its reports and public awareness activities that the reason the violations of human rights are of such a high level and occur so frequently in the Kurdish regions is because of systematic discrimination against a particular group;
- Bringing greater benefit to the region through the development and monitoring of the rule of law through its casework, legal trainings, fact-finding missions and trial observations, including the implementation of emergency legislation;
- Monitoring developments on the ground in the Kurdish regions through regular fact-finding missions and trial observations, which is central to KHRP's ability to target human rights abuses and their causes through our use of litigation, advocacy, training and public awareness;
- Continuing to assist individuals and their applications before the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) and use strategic international litigation and advocacy at the ECtHR and UN in order to remedy, expose and prevent human rights abuses across the Kurdish regions;
- Strengthening local capacity by offering assistance to indigenous human rights groups and lawyers in the form of advice and training seminars on international human rights mechanisms. The legal trainings and seminars set down a marker for future human rights standards and have a demonstrable ripple effect in local communities, as evidenced by KHRP receiving repeated requests for trainings in the project countries;
- Promoting cultural understanding between advocates within the regions and internationally through our cross-border trainings and fellowship programme;
- Ensuring dialogue, information exchange and transfer of skills among a wide cross-section of individuals including victims and survivors of human rights violations, community and religious bodies, government officials, trade unions, various partners, political parties and representatives, intermediate and regional human rights bodies, government officials, judiciary, civil society organisations, IGOs and INGOs through meetings and regular consultation with partners as well as ongoing correspondence with stakeholders;
- Establishing a framework to further encourage strategic networking and issue-based alliance with beneficiaries and other permanent presences in marginalised communities by developing strong links between local and international human rights organisations, intermediate and UN-level human rights bodies;
- Producing a varied and dynamic selection of research, ranging from concise briefing papers to larger-scale reports based on desk research and/ or missions to the region;

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- Using such reports to promote awareness of the plight of the Kurds on the part of committees established under human rights treaties to monitor compliance of states such as at the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the national parliamentary bodies and inter governmental organisations including the United Nations and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe as well as liaising with media, and other public awareness initiatives;
- Providing advice on a daily basis to academics, journalists, researchers and other individuals with an interest in Kurdish issues to keep international human rights dialogue informed and abreast of developments in the Kurdish regions;
- Working collaboratively on activities and networking with partner organisations and relevant human rights defenders (HRDs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs), civil society organisations (CSOs), and governmental and intergovernmental bodies at the local, regional and international level.

#### Activities

KHRP successfully completed all of its planned activities in 2009, exceeding expectations with regard to the number of trainings carried out. KHRP continued to implement its multi-faceted approach to support the most disadvantaged people in Kurdish communities to realise their human rights and has positively impacted the lives of those living in the Kurdish regions as well as the human rights community overall. All of KHRP's activities are dedicated to ensuring that the concept of universal human rights translates into a concrete reality for everyone living in the Kurdish regions, but also sets precedents and strengthening international human rights laws and practices globally.

#### Fact-Finding Missions and Trial Observations:

KHRP conducted 4 fact-finding (FFMs) and 2 trial observation (TOs) missions in consultation with the local community, organisations and institutions on a range of issues encompassing the legality of cross-border incursions, children's rights, women's rights, human rights impact of Ilisu dam, torture in custody and issues of violence against women including honour-killing and suicide.

Regular FFMs and TOs provide KHRP with an up-to-date picture of the situation in the Kurdish regions which informs not only our own work, but through the publication of our findings, the work of other similar organisations and parties concerned. These missions also act as an important source developing and maintaining contacts and partnerships in the regions, as well as upholding links with victims and survivors of human rights violations and provide them with a sense of international solidarity. Furthermore, the presence of KHRP missions, especially at trial observations, sends out a visible message that violations of international human rights norms do not go unchecked.

#### 4 Fact-finding Missions:

KHRP representatives travelled to the Kurdish regions of Turkey to monitor and investigate the general human rights situations there, with a particular focus on women's access to justice, impunity for state agents, barriers facing human rights defenders and the human rights impact of 'high security zones'. Mission members visited Diyarbakır, Mardin, Siirt and Şırnak, interviewing local mayors, human rights activists lawyers and journalists, through which to have found that women have little or no access to justice; harassment and repression of those expressing dissenting opinions remains common yet state officials rarely prosecute where abuse is alleged, and only receive very light or suspended sentences in the event of a prosecution. In addition to highlighting these problems, missions also developed recommendations for how to address ongoing concerns.

KHRP's delegations travelled to Kurdistan, Iraq, and accompanied by KHRP's regional representative, investigated the living conditions of civilians affected by cross-border bombardments by the Turkish and Iranian militaries. The research focused both on those still living in camps for internally displaced persons (IDPS) and on those who have risked their lives to return to their villages. The mission collected valuable evidence for new applications to the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) to continue KHRP's work representing victims of cross-border military operations.

KHRP sent a delegation to Diyarbakır, Turkey for a follow-up investigation into the children's rights, where interviews were conducted with state officials, lawyers, individuals from bar associations, the media and civil society. The mission heard a comprehensive account of the hardship faced by Kurdish children in Turkey, including the lack of mother tongue education, discrimination in the justice system, forced displacement and isolation of Kurds in Turkey. The FFM highlighted Turkey's continued failure to protect children in the Kurdish regions.

KHRP sent a mission to Diyarbakır, Turkey, where mission members met with the villagers affected by the Ilisu Dam project and their lawyers, which enabled KHRP to gather first hand information on the

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current situation regarding the Ilisu Dam project following the withdrawal of German, Swiss and Austrian export credit insurance on 7 July 2009. The mission was concerned to learn that Turkey may be liaising with China to create a new collaboration and that construction and land evictions continued in the region.

#### 2 Trial Observations:

KHRP observed the trial in Istanbul of 60 state officials (including prison guards, police officers and gendarmes), charged in connection with torture and death in custody of political activist Engin Çeber in March. The judge overseeing case withdrew from the trial following accusations from prosecuting lawyers that he had displayed a bias in favour of the defence. The trial was widely seen as a test of Turkey's willingness to adhere to human rights standards as part of its EU accession bid and to bring its security forces to account when abuse is alleged.

KHRP observed another trial proceeding in August in Van, Turkey against Kerem Çakan, accused of murdering his pregnant wife after suspecting that she was involved in a sexual relationship with his brother. The trial is the first KHRP has observed focusing specifically on domestic violence and highlights how much more needs to be done to tackle widespread problem of violence against women in the Kurdish regions and related issues of concern such as forced marriage.

KHRP also observed a hearing before Diyarbakır 6<sup>th</sup> Heavy Penal Court in a trial against seven suspected JİTEM members, including Kayseri Provincial Gendarmerie Battalion Commander Col. Cemal Temizöz and former Cizre Mayor Kamil Atak. They are accused of establishing an organisation with criminal intent that was responsible for the murder of 20 individuals in unsolved cases committed between 1993 and 1997 in Cizre, Şırnak. Their trial continues.

#### Litigation and Advocacy:

KHRP carried out the following activities in relation to litigation and advocacy in 2009:

- Submitted a large number of new cases at the ECtHR in 2009 on behalf of 74 applicants, which covered a range of violations from the right to life, the right to fair trial and freedom of expression to torture and ill-treatment. These included cases such as a submission on behalf of 45 applicants relating to the Turkish cross-border operations, for loss of property and livelihood. In the submission, Turkey was alleged to have violated Article 2, 6 and 13. These test cases seek to enforce the principle of extraterritorial responsibility and argue that all Council of Europe, many who are also NATO, member states are obliged to comply with the ECHR, whether they operate inside or outside their own country. They also have the potential to influence the implementation of international law and to uphold the rights of those not only in the Kurdish regions, but across the Council of Europe and far beyond.

Another involved political activists during the 2008 Armenian presidential elections was submitted by KHRP which challenged the political conspiracy of Armenia in contravention of Article 10 (freedom of expression), 11 (freedom of assembly and association) and Article 3 of Protocol I of the Convention (the right to regular, free and fair elections).

- Received 6 judgments in 2009, with violations being found of Article 3 (torture and ill-treatment), 6 (right to a fair trial) and 11(right of association) and Article 2 of Protocol 7 (right of appeal).
- Throughout 2009, KHRP has provided advice to local lawyers and applicants in relation to European Convention cases including Article 10, Article 11 and Article 14 and to individuals both within the Kurdish Regions and elsewhere.
- KHRP has made submissions to other international human rights bodies including:
  - A Shadow Report for the Review of the Turkish Government Under CERD (February);
  - A Draft Shadow Report and List of Issues prepared for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) pre-session meeting ahead of Turkey's 6th periodic report due to be considered in July 2010;
  - A Communication to the Commission on the Status of Women on the Status of Women on the Status of Kurdish Women in Turkey (August);
  - A joint submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review of the Republic of Armenia (November) and to the UN Universal Periodic Review of the Republic of Turkey (November).
  - Regular submissions to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) directed to Special Rapporteurs on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions and Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance among others.

# KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT

## Management Committee's Report

### For the year ended 31 December 2009

#### Training and Capacity Building:

As the only non-partisan NGO dedicated to working cross-regionally in the Kurdish regions, KHRP is able to use its trusted position to bring together groups committed to the advancement of human rights that would not otherwise have the opportunity to meet. KHRP helped to create space and provide participants with the means to discuss common issues to help to encourage and support efforts to build broad-based coalitions that can work collectively across Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Syria and the Caucasus. In 2009 KHRP carried out 11 trainings in 2009, in the Kurdish regions and the Diaspora. This included two cross-border workshops in Diyarbakir, Turkey which brought local lawyers and human rights defenders from Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Syria together with members of KHRP's partner organisations to discuss strategies to promote the protection of human rights.

- KHRP's first cross-border training focused on a series of issues including the human rights impact of investment agreements, the international mechanisms available to report torture and ill-treatment, and strategies for capacity-building between civil society organisations. The training was well received and provided a much-needed opportunity for delegates from across the regions to share their knowledge, information and resources in tackling common barriers to human rights protection and develop strategies to work together in the future.
- The cross-border roundtable on women's rights served as a forum in which organisations from across the Kurdish regions could discuss the most pertinent women's rights issues faced among their constituents. By providing feedback on the respective cases that they have been involved in, the strategies that they have used, and the difficulties that they have each encountered, the roundtable was able to evaluate how the participants can work together to better ensure equal legal rights for women and create joint strategies for addressing the prevalence of women-specific violations.
- Four seminars held in Istanbul and Cizre, Turkey, in Yerevan, Armenia, and in Erbil, Iraq, were dedicated to protecting against torture and ill-treatment. These trainings sought to equip trainees, which mainly consisted of lawyers and human rights defenders, with improved understanding of international legal definitions of torture, mechanisms for dealing with breaches of international human rights standards in this respect and methods of reporting torture to international bodies. In particular, the session in Armenia focused on how to engage with Council of Europe mechanisms to ensure the implementation of ECtHR judgments in such cases.
- Dedicated to promoting women's rights, and in response to the upcoming review of Turkey's sixth periodic report on its compliance with the UN Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), KHRP held a session in Van, Turkey focused on the protection of women's rights under CEDAW. The seminar succeeded in improving the capacity of local women's rights activists to contribute to the review by improving their knowledge of the procedures available for NGOs to prepare and submit shadow reports for consideration by the CEDAW Committee.
- At the request of local partners and human rights defenders, KHRP held a seminar in Diyarbakir in Turkey on Protecting the Rights of the Child. This workshop introduced participants to the relevant international human rights standards regarding children and highlighted how best to use corresponding international mechanisms in addition to the ECHR.
- To build on KHRP's first such seminar in 2008 and its earlier cross-border session in October 2009, KHRP held a seminar on the impacts of foreign investment on human rights and the environment in Erbil, Iraq. The training helped to diffuse increased understanding of the impact of investment agreements on human rights to better ensure that civil society representatives and NGOs are equipped with practical approaches to help ensure that public interest concerns are central to the formulation of investment agreements that underpin existing and future development projects.
- In addition, KHRP led a workshop in London as part of a one-day seminar organised with international human rights organisation, Liberation. Giving examples of its own cases, KHRP provided participants with in-depth insight on the conventions available for the protection of women rights to help raise awareness and strengthen women's knowledge of and access to their fundamental rights.
- Elsewhere, KHRP shared its expertise of international mechanisms and the human rights situation in the Kurdish regions, with Masters' students during a workshop organised at the Centre for Applied Human Rights at the University of York.
- KHRP continued to disseminate advance training packs for trainees/ trainers. Feedback from participants confirmed that this has enabled the training objectives to be clearly understood. This was further supported through the circulation of its easy-to-use training and advocacy tools, with translations in the relevant languages increasing local accessibility.

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- Finally, KHRP welcomed a Kurdish woman from Germany to its International Fellowship Programme. The programme gives selected advocates from the Kurdish regions or candidates of Kurdish origin who have a demonstrated commitment to working on human rights issues within the regions, an opportunity to work with KHRP's Legal Team, allowing for an exchange of legal and professional expertise and skills.

**Research and Publications:**

- In 2009, KHRP published and disseminated a variety of publications including three fact-finding mission reports, two trial observation reports, four briefing papers, and five intergovernmental submissions. These publications examined issues including the impact of on-going cross-border military operations of Turkey and Iran in Kurdistan Iraq; parliamentary impunity; restriction on the worker of human rights defenders and women's access to justice in Turkey; Turkey's detention and prison systems; and the human rights situation of Kurds in Iran.
- In keeping with its commitment to raise awareness of regional events by means of publications, KHRP has used its communications and made response to a series of regional events this year including post-election repression in Kurdish regions of Iran, collapse of European funding for the Ilisu Dam project and Turkey's elections and the closure of the *Demokratik Toplum Partisi* (Democratic Society Party, DTP). Of particular significance, in response to ongoing cross-border bombardments by Turkey and Iran in Kurdistan Iraq, KHRP not only issued press releases to urge the two countries to end their military operations, but more importantly reported a fact-finding mission on the civilian toll of cross-border operations in Iraq.
- Furthermore, KHRP published issues 15 and 16 of its ongoing biannual legal journal - the only existing legal journal concerning human rights violations in this region and has published and distributed copies of its quarterly newsletter (Newslines issues 45-48) and its annual Impact Report (2008).
- KHRP also brought attention to the publication of Kurmanji language edition of Chief Executive Kerim Yildiz's book 'Kurds in Syria; the Forgotten People'.
- Feedback questionnaires and conversations with recipients indicate that KHRP's reports and briefing paper were well received and considered to be useful in informing them about the current practices and remedies for rights violations in the regions.

**Public Awareness and Communication Strategy:**

KHRP continued to lead and inform political, media and academic analyses of developments in the Kurdish regions. Its research materials, ranging from concise briefing papers to larger-scale reports based on desk research and/ or field missions to the region were produced and disseminated to policy makers, journalists, academics and other opinion leaders. Events and outreach also remained a critical component with KHRP regularly participating in meetings, conferences and other speaking engagements across Europe, and remaining a first port of call for many organisations seeking information or assistance in the regions and internationally. KHRP provided daily advice on the situation in the Kurdish regions to other NGOs, academics, journalists, researchers and others with an interest in Kurdish issues and human rights, and continued to attract widespread national and international coverage of its work through print and broadcast media in English, Arabic, Turkish, Farsi, Armenian, Azeri and Kurmanji.

KHRP's achievements also received recognition when KHRP Chief Executive, Kerim Yildiz received a nomination for the Human Rights Award by the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights in Washington.

**In 2009 KHRP:**

- Attracted worldwide press, broadcast and online media coverage, including on the BBC Radio 4, Financial Times, Voice of America, Global Post, Today's Zaman, Vakit, the Soma Digest, Humania TV, Radio Netherlands Worldwide, the Pittsburgh School of Law's 'The Jurist', the Netherlands Press Association, and France 24.
- Delivered lectures to share strategies on the promotion and protection of human rights and on diverse aspects of the human rights situation in the Kurdish regions. This included making presentations on KHRP's trial observation model to speaking about Turkish accession, the practice

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- of female genital mutilation, and regional security vis-à-vis the Ilisu Dam project, at institutions including the European Parliament in Brussels, the Harriman Institute for Russian, Eurasian and East European Studies at Colombia University, the Centre for Applied Human Rights, York University, and the Kurdish Studies and Students' Organisation at the School of Oriental and African Studies.
- Provided information and updates to a cross-section of state, non-state and multilateral actors on the findings of our research and the impact of our human rights advocacy. These included representatives of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), Iraqi, Turkish, US, UK, Irish, Swedish, Dutch, Danish, Belgian and Norwegian authorities, as well as members of USAID, UNAMI the UN, European Parliament, European Commission, and OSCE. Alongside, we also met with organisations including the Open Society Institute, Open Society Justice Initiative, Christian Peacemakers Teams, Chatham House, Oak Foundation, Protection International, War and Peace Reporting, School for a Culture of Peace, at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, York University, and the University of Amsterdam? to discuss opportunities for future collaboration. KHRP also met with a number of private sector organisations, engaging, for example, in discussions with British Petroleum (BP) concerning the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline project.
- Continued to develop the website which has over 1,200 registered members and has received over 50,000 unique visitors in 2009, highlighting the site's reputation as the most reliable online source of information on the Kurdish regions.
- Published and distributed online and paper copies of over a dozen fact-finding mission reports, briefing papers, intergovernmental submissions, speeches and conference proceedings, as well as copies of our quarterly newsletter *Newsline*, bi-annual journal, *Legal Review*, and our annual Impact Report (covering activities during the previous year).
- Compiled and released regular public statements covering among other topics, progress in our strategic litigation work, post-election repression in Iran, Turkey and Armenia's OSCE commitments, the treatment of women in detention in Syria, and condemnation of the continued restrictions on freedom of expression and assembly, as reflected in the closure of the pro-Kurdish Demokratik Toplum Partisi (Democratic Society Party, DTP) in December.

The following are some further examples of KHRP's events and outreach work in 2009:

- KHRP attended a public meeting organised with the Chair of the UK Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC). The meeting was organised by the Iranian and Kurdish Woman's Rights Organisation (IKWRO), with KHRP's support, as part of an ongoing campaign seeking justice in relation to the 'honour killing' of Banaz Mahmod in South London 2007.
- KHRP Chair Mark Muller QC addressed a conference hosted by the Norwegian Bar Association in Oslo entitled 'Combating Terrorism and Legal Safeguards'.
- Students from Emory University, Atlanta, were hosted by KHRP whilst on a study-trip and participated in a KHRP-led discussion on human rights in the Kurdish regions.

**KHRP Voluntary Legal Team:**

KHRP would like to acknowledge and congratulate members of its Legal Team who continue to play an invaluable role in the organisation's ongoing efforts to publicise and address abuses of human rights in the Kurdish regions. With over 63 international members, the pro-bono team remains an integral part of KHRP and their contribution enhances KHRP's ability to undertake effective and successful work, beyond the capacity of the core staff. Legal team members represent KHRP by attending court hearings, delivering a wide variety of regional training sessions, preparing legal opinions and advice, drafting cases, speaking at public events, penning articles for KHRP's bi-annual *Legal Review* and participating in strategic working groups.

In June, 1 Pump Court chambers in London hosted KHRP's annual Legal Team meeting which fostered discussion on the alarming ways in which definitions of torture have evolved in the context of the so-called 'War on Terror'. Legal Team member and new KHRP Board member Nicholas Stewart QC gave a presentation on recent developments in relation to torture and the law, beginning with an overview of the definitions of this offence included in key international human rights instruments. He also explored the jurisprudence of the ECtHR, including the landmark ruling in the KHRP-assisted case of *Aydin v. Turkey*. In addition, opening remarks were delivered by KHRP Chief Executive, Kerim Yıldız and Acting Legal Officer Saadiya Chaudary outlined KHRP's activities over the past year.

# KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT

## Management Committee's Report

### For the year ended 31 December 2009

#### Internships & Volunteers:

KHRP recruits interns and volunteers throughout the year to work on a diverse set of projects and activities. Interns and volunteers are a valued and integral part of the organisation, and applications are welcomed from any race, ethnic origin, culture, gender, sexuality, disability, age or religion. Over the years, KHRP has received interns from Turkey, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Europe, the US, the Middle East, and the countries of the former Soviet Union.

At any one time KHRP hosts between 6 and 10 interns in the office and internships are usually for a minimum of 3 months. In 2009 KHRP recruited 49 interns and volunteers.

KHRP would like to reiterate the statement that it would not be possible for it to produce the number of reports that it does without the input from interns and is grateful for the unstinting efforts of its volunteers who are involved in service provision. It would like to take this opportunity to thank all interns and volunteers.

## ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

### Summary of achievements

KHRP affected real change both on a regional level and in the lives of millions of the most disadvantaged people in the Kurdish regions, including internally displaced persons (IDPs). KHRP's activities have helped to create a space and broaden the discussion of human rights in the Kurdish region of Turkey, in Kurdistan, Iraq and in Armenia. KHRP served as a bridge between civil society groups and international institutions to work together to further develop human rights concepts, the regional implications of which, so far, have proven extensive and lasting.

Through its multi-faceted approach to addressing human rights violations KHRP plays a central role in the movement towards a more fully democratic society in the Kurdish regions. It has done this primarily by showing that the mechanisms of a democratic society such as a fair and incorruptible judiciary can ameliorate injustice and work for and on behalf of everyone.

On a practical level, by imparting an awareness of the expectations on governments, KHRP worked to arm women, minorities and other individuals with the day-to-day tools needed to work within their communities to bring about a more just society. The social aspects of KHRP's work are core issues that continue to reveal the highest values of a truly democratic society by placing an emphasis on people's rights to freedom from human rights violations and access to clean and healthy environments.

### Performance achieved against objectives set

KHRP achieved its objectives in 2009 through its activities in the following ways:

- KHRP acted as a resource for civil society in developing the knowledge and skills base necessary to fully engage in public dialogue on human rights. This work was made possible through consistent strategic litigation and human rights advocacy in the region
- Through its litigation and advocacy initiatives in 2009, KHRP sought remedies for nearly 200 victims and survivors of human rights abuse by representing applicants in complaints before the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) and submitting urgent action appeals to various Special Rapporteurs at the UN. Favourable judgments from the ECtHR and continued proceedings in ongoing cases helped to hold the governments in these regions accountable for failing to meet international standards.
- KHRP's ongoing use of international human rights mechanisms has helped to expose the extreme measures deployed by Iran and Syria to further limit the fundamental rights and freedoms of its Kurdish inhabitants. This has included the project's regular urgent action appeals to UN Working Groups and Special Rapporteurs on behalf of Kurdish civilians, political activists and teachers, who at the hands of the authorities have been disappeared, arbitrarily detained, tortured or face(d) execution.
- KHRP welcomed successful judgments handed down by the ECtHR on issues of arbitrary detention, inhuman and degrading treatment and the right to a fair trial, the project looks forward to related action on the parts of the concerned governments.



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- KHRP continued to seek redress for women in the Kurdish regions through cases at the ECtHR, FfMs, TOs and legal trainings and seminars which developed and supported local work and simultaneously provided valuable insights into the legislative process surrounding women's access to justice. The legal trainings remained a vital step in ensuring local lawyers and HRDs take the appropriate steps to exhaust domestic remedies and thus increase the chance of those cases reaching a positive admissibility decision should they continue on to the ECtHR. In conducting its first trial observation on spousal violence and publishing a report on the case, KHRP provided a critical insight into the legislative process surrounding the status of women in Turkish society and through its other activities revealed how widespread the problem of violence against women is in the countries where KHRP works.
- KHRP continued to bring regional partners together through cross-border initiatives and co-train their counterparts in border countries was met with positive reactions to these initiatives and requests for further collaboration with government ministries and regional partners. For example, during a KHRP training mission in Kurdistan, Iraq, the Legal Director General and Foreign Relations Director of the Ministry of Trade and Industry expressed their interest in hosting similar trainings in the future.
- KHRP increased its capacity in Kurdistan, Iraq by becoming a registered charity there in July 2009. This not only facilitates KHRP's work in Iraq, but also creates new avenues for funding from a wider range of institutions and foundations.
- KHRP's work in the Caucasus has provided a space for discussion in relation to the conflict area of Nagorno-Karabakh.
- KHRP raised awareness on the rights of the child, especially in light of it often being overlooked as a consequence of conflict, through a combination of trainings, monitoring through fact-finding missions and disseminating information.
- KHRP increased pressure against the German, Austrian and Swiss governments resulted in their officially abandoning their financing of the Ilisu dam project in Turkey. The construction of the dam would have resulted in widespread economic and environmental devastation reaching as far as south as Iraq and Syria.
- Across the Kurdish regions, KHRP contributed to the evolving debate on possible solutions to the armed conflict in Turkey by creating the space for democratic debate on 'hot-button' issues, and preparing organisations with the tools necessary to effectively engage with government on issues ranging from minority rights to investment and human rights. Through its work, KHRP continued to encourage an integrated approach pushing for all parties to the conflict to be included in any formal initiatives considered and fully addressing the political, civil, social, cultural and economic realms within it. This has helped to widen discussion both regionally and internationally, on the human rights of the Kurdish population.
- KHRP expanded its Board of Trustees to include three more members, including a Kurdish woman human rights lawyer from Turkey.
- KHRP was successful in securing a multi-year grant from Bishop's Sub-commission for Misereor (Germany) for 100,000 euros for the second time. Furthermore, funding from the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture increased significantly in 2009, with a rise of over 65% on the amount funded in 2008 for trainings, and an increase of over 70% for litigation and advocacy. KHRP also increased its individual donations from £1,458 from 25 donors in 2008 to £3,712 from 117 people in 2009. Continued support from other long-standing funders such as the Big Lottery Fund, the governments of Ireland and the Netherlands and from Stichting Cizira Botan has helped to make a lasting difference in the region as a whole.

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT  
Management Committee's Report  
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**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Review of Financial Position

Although KHRP has an apparent deficit of £148,320 as opposed to a surplus of £ 44,514 in 2008, this is due to how multi-year grants were counted. Therefore, grants received in 2008 that were for both 2008 and 2009 are shown as funds brought forward from previous year (total b/f £407,828) and those funds have made up for any apparent deficit. Therefore, the total reserves now stand at £259,508, of which £41,550 are restricted.

Principal Funding Sources

- Big Lottery Fund (UK)
- Irish Aid (Ireland)
- Sigrid Rausing Trust (UK)
- Corner House (UK)
- Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Netherlands)
- UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (Switzerland)
- Bishop's Subcommission for Misereor (Germany)
- Allan and Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust (UK)
- Stichting Cizira Botan (Netherlands)

Reserves policy

Following an Extraordinary meeting of the Management Committee in October 2008, the policy of KHRP that unrestricted funds should be maintained at a level equivalent to between 3 and 6 month's total expenditure was reviewed. The decision that was taken to increase the reserves of unrestricted funds to between 6 and 9 months total expenditure was upheld for 2009. This includes designated funds set aside for new project development and unforeseen commitments as shown in note 12. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue KHRP's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves was maintained throughout 2009.

Restrictions on distribution

KHRP has no issued share capital or debentures, hence there are no directors' interests requiring disclosure except as referred to in note 7 of the accounts. Upon dissolution or winding up of the Charity the assets shall be given or transferred to some similar institution having objects similar to the Charity. Each of its members has undertaken to contribute to the charity a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of it being wound up while they are members or within one year after they cease to be the members.

Tax status

The Charity is entitled to exemption from taxation on income and capital gains to the extent that its funds are applied for charitable purposes.

## **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

In 2010:

- In all of its work, KHRP will persevere in raising awareness of the human rights situation in the Kurdish regions, as well as promoting and protecting the rights of Kurdish people wherever they may live. We will seek to do so through a range of low and high profile events; partnering with relevant existing campaigns locally and internationally, and most notably through our advocacy before the ECtHR and UN. In the coming years, we will also build our Feeney Centre; have an active online database of our exclusive collection of legal cases; carry out more cross border events in the Kurdish Regions and will continue to build KHRP's reputation in the US, as well as Europe.
- Over the next year, KHRP will pursue its casework and consider new cases in relation to the ongoing cross-border bombardments from Turkey and Iran into Northern Iraq before the ECtHR. This will push the Court to consider its own jurisdiction and bring the cross regional issues and the double standards Kurds face in dealing with actors in Europe and the US, to the fore internationally. KHRP has learned that these types of cases push the governments involved whether directly or indirectly, to take greater care so as to avoid the destruction of property, the environment and avoid civilian injury and death when carrying out these operations. Overall, KHRP's cases will seek to encourage the Court to publicly recognise that the continued discrimination faced by Kurds and other minorities living in the Kurdish regions, underpins the high incidence of poverty, human rights abuse and conflict in south-east Turkey.
- KHRP will build on its strong partnerships across the Kurdish regions and will continue to provide both state and non-state actors with practical knowledge and skills to help cultivate a human rights culture. In particular, through cross-border initiatives, KHRP will help to share the experience of using international legal mechanisms in influencing rule of law and democratisation in the region.
- KHRP remains committed to working with others to collectively widen and accelerate the impact of human rights work, avoid duplication, and share human and financial capital in pursuit of collective goals. This will take on even more importance as KHRP looks to carry on its institutional development and expand the reach and depth of its programmes in the context of a global economic downturn. Therefore, in addition to collaborating with its regional partners, KHRP will also increasingly look to identify common ground and mutually beneficial areas to work together with its friends and allies within the charitable sector in Europe.
- KHRP will continue to develop and implement its development and fundraising strategy which includes expanding and diversifying its donor base and investigating alternative means of generating revenue, including increasing its multi-year grants and seeking out funding for smaller, individual projects.
- Across the regions, we will continue its work on freedom of expression, the media and association as well as the challenges individuals who have been displaced by conflicts face in returning and receiving redress. Ill-treatment and torture, with special attention to children, will remain a core part of our advocacy.
- Through all its activities, KHRP will continue to work to make its model of how to be an effective NGO, available to a wider audience, both in the Kurdish Regions, the UK and internationally.

## **AUDITOR**

Chantrey Vellacott DFK were re-appointed as Auditor of the Charity.

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT  
Management Committee's Report  
For the year ended 31 December 2009**

**STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Management Committee and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

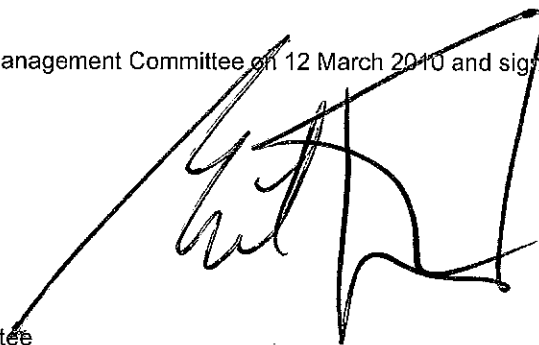
In so far as the Trustees are aware:

There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and

The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the Management Committee on 12 March 2010 and signed on its behalf, by:



Michael Ivers  
Chairman of Management Committee

**Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kurdish Human Rights Project**

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We have audited the financial statements of Kurdish Human Rights Project for the year ended 31 December 2009 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 495 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditor**

The Trustees' (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of charitable company law) responsibilities for preparing the Report of the Management Committee and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view are set out in the Statement of Management Committee' Responsibilities.

We have been appointed auditors under the Companies Act 2006 and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report to you in accordance with those Acts. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 1993. We also report to you whether in our opinion the information given in the Report of the Management Committee is consistent with those financial statements.

In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, the charitable charity has not kept adequate accounting records, if the charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made.

We read the Report of the Management Committee and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

**Basis of audit opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Kurdish Human Rights Project**

In our opinion

- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2009, and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 1993; and
- the information given in the Report of the Management Committee is consistent with the financial statements.

Chantrey Vellacott DFK LLP

Chantrey Vellacott DFK LLP

SALLY JAYNE BONNER (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of CHANTREY VELLACOTT DFK LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor  
LONDON

Date: 12 March 2010

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT**  
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**Statement of financial activities (including an income and expenditure account)**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2009**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2009 £	Total 2008 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
<b>Incoming Resources from Generated Funds</b>					
Donations and Gifts		9,519	-	9,519	8,561
Investment Income	2	222	-	222	9,233
<b>Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities</b>					
Grant income	3	5,388	323,573	328,961	507,315
European Court of Human Rights - recovery of costs		7,828	-	7,828	11,144
<b>Other Income</b>		8,347	-	8,347	10,237
<b>Total Incoming resources</b>		<b>31,304</b>	<b>323,573</b>	<b>354,877</b>	<b>546,490</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>					
<b>Costs of Generating Funds</b>					
Costs of generating voluntary income		1,175	11,930	13,105	19,022
<b>Charitable Activities</b>					
Litigation & Human Rights Advocacy		10,126	102,865	112,991	107,586
International Human Rights Training & Monitoring		14,035	142,579	156,614	155,468
Research, publications & outreach		16,333	165,921	182,254	163,432
Special projects		609	6,191	6,800	19,915
	4	41,103	417,556	458,659	446,401
<b>Governance Costs</b>	5	2,817	28,616	31,433	36,553
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<b>45,095</b>	<b>458,102</b>	<b>503,197</b>	<b>501,976</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources, being net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	6	<b>(13,791)</b>	<b>(134,529)</b>	<b>(148,320)</b>	<b>44,514</b>
Fund balances at 1 January 2009		231,749	176,079	407,828	363,314
<b>Fund balances at 31 December 2009</b>		<b>217,958</b>	<b>41,550</b>	<b>259,508</b>	<b>407,828</b>

Multi year grants have been recognised in the year they were granted therefore restricted funds brought forward represent the amounts attributable to year 2009.

All the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 24 to 29 form part of these accounts.

As all gains and losses are shown above, no Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses has been presented.

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT**  
For the year ended 31 December 2009

**Balance sheet as at 31 December 2009**

	Notes	2009 £	2008 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	8	<u>2,605</u>	<u>4,266</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	23,239	196,861
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>337,536</u>	<u>360,943</u>
		360,775	557,804
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	<u>(103,872)</u>	<u>(154,242)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>256,903</b>	<b>403,562</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b><u>259,508</u></b>	<b><u>407,828</u></b>
<b>Income funds</b>			
Restricted funds	11	41,550	176,079
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated funds	12	93,000	93,000
General funds		<u>124,958</u>	<u>138,749</u>
		<b>259,508</b>	<b>407,828</b>

Approved by the Management Committee and authorised for issue on 12 March 2010 and signed on its behalf by

.....  
Michael Ivers

Company number: 2922108

The notes on pages 24 to 29 form part of these financial statements.



## **Notes to the financial statements**

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### **1. Accounting policies**

#### **a) Basis of accounting**

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985, and applicable UK accounting standards. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005.

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from the requirements to produce a cash flow statement on the grounds of its size.

#### **b) Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. For donations and gifts this means that they are recognized on a receipts basis. Grant income is recognised when the Charity has accepted the grant. Investment income is recognised on an accruals basis. In the light of uncertainty as to the recovery of awards of costs in legal cases these are not reflected until the funds have been remitted to the United Kingdom and the Charity can demonstrate that it is entitled to retain the funds.

#### **c) Resources expended**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis, inclusive of irrecoverable VAT and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for the allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on the basis of staff time.

Governance costs comprise the costs of statutory compliance and include attributable staff costs, auditor's remuneration and Management Committee costs.

#### **d) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

#### **e) Operating leases**

Operating leases are charged to the statements of financial activities over the period of the lease.

#### **f) Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which have been used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the Charity for specific purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT**  
For the year ended 31 December 2009

**Notes to the financial statements**

2.	<b>Investment income</b>			2009 £	2008 £	
	Interest receivable			<u>222</u>	<u>9,233</u>	
3.	<b>Grant income</b>			2009 £	2008 £	
	<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>			2009 £	2008 £	
	Stichting Cizira Botan			4,388	4,641	
	Garden Court Chambers			1,000	-	
				<u>5,388</u>	<u>4,641</u>	
	<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
	The Big Lottery Fund Grant (NLGB)			92,952	111,294	
	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs			63,778	50,543	
	Sigrid Rausing Trust			50,000	75,000	
	UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture			46,071	27,166	
	The Law Society Charity			3,000	-	
	Corner House			64,822	64,822	
	Irish Aid <sup>1</sup>			-	163,849	
	Rafto Foundation			900	-	
	Matrix Causes Fund Committee			2,050	-	
	Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust			-	10,000	
				<u>323,573</u>	<u>502,674</u>	
	<b>Total grant income</b>			<u><b>328,961</b></u>	<u><b>507,315</b></u>	
4.	<b>Charitable activities</b>					
		Direct Costs £	Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	Total 2009 £	Total 2008 £
	Litigation & Human Rights Advocacy	10,923	72,777	29,291	112,991	107,586
	International Human Rights Training & Monitoring	31,950	95,372	29,292	156,614	155,468
	Research, Publications & Outreach	36,467	116,495	29,292	182,254	163,432
	Special Projects	6,800	-	-	6,800	19,915
		<u>86,140</u>	<u>284,644</u>	<u>87,875</u>	<u>458,659</u>	<u>446,401</u>

<sup>1</sup> Irish Aid – grant of £163,849 was to fund year 2008 and 2009 activities

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT**  
For the year ended 31 December 2009

**Notes to the financial statements**

5.	<b>Governance Costs</b>	<b>2009</b> £	<b>2008</b> £
	Auditor's remuneration – statutory audit	4,500	5,175
	Staff costs	24,028	21,518
	Temporary staff costs	1,465	9,192
	Management Committee costs	1,440	668
		<u>31,433</u>	<u>36,553</u>
6.	<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources are stated after charging:</b>	<b>2009</b> £	<b>2008</b> £
	Auditor's remuneration – for audit	4,500	5,175
	Depreciation	2,389	2,007
	Operating lease rental – building	38,000	38,000
	– other	2,921	2,431
		<u>47,810</u>	<u>47,613</u>
7.	<b>Employees</b>		
	<b>Number of employees</b>		
	The average monthly number of employees during the year was:		
		<b>2009</b> Number	<b>2008</b> Number
	Fundraising and publicity	3	2
	Charitable activities	9	8
		<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>
	<b>Employment costs</b>		
		<b>2009</b> £	<b>2008</b> £
	Wages and salaries	285,414	265,997
	Social Security costs	24,981	23,191
		<u>310,395</u>	<u>289,188</u>

The Charity does not make any pension payments on behalf of its staff. A stakeholder pension scheme is available to staff.

There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more in either year.

Reclaimable expenses incurred by Trustee amounted to £242 (2008: nil).

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT**  
For the year ended 31 December 2009

**Notes to the financial statements**

8.	<b>Tangible fixed assets</b>	<b>Office and Computer Equipment £</b>	
	<b>Cost</b>		
	At 1 January 2009		40,284
	Additions		728
	<b>At 31 December 2009</b>		<u>41,012</u>
	<b>Depreciation</b>		
	At 1 January 2009		36,018
	Charge for the year		2,389
	<b>At 31 December 2009</b>		<u>38,407</u>
	<b>Net book value</b>		
	<b>At 31 December 2009</b>		<u>2,605</u>
	At 31 December 2008		<u>4,266</u>
9.	<b>Debtors</b>	<b>2009 £</b>	<b>2008 £</b>
	Other debtors	13,244	11,859
	Prepayment and accrued income	9,995	185,002
		<u>23,239</u>	<u>196,861</u>
10.	<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2009 £</b>	<b>2008 £</b>
	Trade creditors	29,068	12,807
	Other taxes and social security costs	7,855	7,736
	Other creditors	58,441	62,016
	Accruals	8,508	71,683
		<u>103,872</u>	<u>154,242</u>

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT**  
For the year ended 31 December 2009

**Notes to the financial statements**

11. **Restricted Funds**

	Balance at 1 January 2009 £	Movement in funds Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2009 £
Corner House	-	64,822	64,822	-
Sigrid Rausing Trust	37,500	50,000	47,500	40,000
The Big Lottery Fund Grant (NLCB)	-	92,952	92,952	-
Irish Aid	131,079	-	131,079	-
UN Voluntary for Victims of Torture	-	46,071	46,071	-
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	-	63,778	63,778	-
The Law Society Charity	-	3,000	3,000	-
Matrix Causes Fund Committee	-	2,050	500	1,550
Rafto Foundation	-	900	900	-
Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust	7,500	-	7,500	-
	<u>176,079</u>	<u>323,573</u>	<u>458,102</u>	<u>41,550</u>

The Corner House provides core funding for KHRP's principle objectives to promote and protect the human rights of everybody who lives in the Kurdish regions as part of work on ethnic discrimination, rights and democracy.

The Sigrid Rausing Trust, as part of its work on Ethnic and Religious Minorities, provides core support to KHRP to ensure that it is able to meet its primary aim of bringing violations against Kurds and others living in the Kurdish regions to an end.

The Big Lottery Fund provides funding to support KHRP's overall aim to seek redress for, and ultimately reduce the number of, people falling victim to human rights violations in Turkey, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Irish Aid provides funding for KHRP's Human Rights Advocacy, Training, Research and Public Awareness work to help support the development needs of poor communities living across the Kurdish regions of Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Syria.

The UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture grant was given for KHRP's Human Rights Advocacy and Training Projects to assist victims of torture and ill treatment to seek redress.

The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs supports KHRP's cross-regional Litigation and Human Rights Advocacy and International Human Rights Training and Monitoring Projects to promote human rights and uphold international rules of law in the Kurdish regions and elsewhere.

The Law Society Charity provided funding for trainings, fellowship and public awareness and publications.

The Matrix Causes Fund Committee provided funding towards the cost of producing a practice manual which provides guidance on the roles and procedures of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), European Parliament and Council of Europe, in relation to addressing individual human rights violations.

Rafto Foundation provided funding for publication of the EU-Turkey Civic Commission's (EUTCC) 5th International Conference report.

The Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust provides support towards KHRP's Human Rights and Civil Society Building work in Kurdistan, Iraq as part of its Peace and Conflict Prevention programme.

**KURDISH HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT**  
For the year ended 31 December 2009

**Notes to the financial statements**

12. **Designated funds**

The income funds of the Charity include the following designated fund which has been set aside out of unrestricted fund by the trustees as 'a project development and commitments fund'. The purpose of this is to enable the Charity, should this prove necessary, to fund part or all of the costs of a project whilst outside support is being sought. This is considered particularly necessary in light of the developing situation in the Kurdish regions.

	Balance at 1 January 2009 £	Movement in funds Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2009 £
Project development	93,000	-	-	93,000

13. **Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 December 2009 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	2,605	-	-	2,605
Current assets	226,225	93,000	41,550	360,775
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(103,872)	-	-	(103,872)
	<u>124,958</u>	<u>93,000</u>	<u>41,550</u>	<u>259,508</u>

14. **Operating leases**

At 31 December 2009 the annual commitments under operating leases were as follows:

	2009 £
Leases which expire within 5 years -other	2,921
Leases which expire in over 5 years -- land & buildings	<u>38,000</u>