

## Summary of Divestment Task Force Meeting (1/14/25)

**Attendance of Taskforce Members:** Director Jewison, Director Raptis, Michael Yost, Chris Smith, Brian Mason, Emma Fletcher, and Kristine Hernandez. Host: Megan Dayton. MAPE staff: Devin Bruce.

Attendees: Amanda Nyren, Amanda Prince, Ariel Johnson, Azra, Jarah Mitchell, Jim DeLuca, Kay Pedretti, Matthew Boerst, Meridel Phillips, Nikki Engen, Thu Phan, and William Treumann.

### Charter Purpose

The task force discussed the charter's role as a guiding document, focusing on its alignment with the organization's constitution and bylaws.

### Key Decisions and Motions

1. **Removal of Paragraph Under Section 4:** Motion was made by Fletcher to remove the paragraph stating: "The Board of Directors may decide to publish a version of the statement. Any published statement must be approved by a simple majority and signed on behalf of the Board of Directors, the Delegate Assembly, or the whole of MAPE. If approved and signed by the Board of Directors, fourteen (14) Board members must vote in favor. If approved and signed by the Delegate Assembly, seventy-nine (79) Delegates must vote in favor. If approved and signed by the whole of MAPE, 5,500 members in good standing must vote in favor."
  - **Concerns:**
    - Undermining the authority of the Delegate Assembly (DA), the organization's highest policymaking body.
    - Imposing unrealistic participation requirements, potentially disenfranchising members.
    - The paragraph required board and possibly membership approval for any published statements, with high voting thresholds.
    - Members at large stated there is concern about speaking on behalf of them and there is fear that members by feel left out or drop over the statement without a vote to all members.
  - **Outcome:** The paragraph was removed by majority vote (5-2), emphasizing the need for procedural efficiency without alienating members. Vote: Jess – no, Brian – yes, Chris – yes, Kristine – yes, Sheenah – no, Michael – yes, and Emma – yes.
2. **Task Force Dissolution Clause:** Motion was made by Yost to strike the sentence: "In the event of a cease-fire, the Taskforce shall automatically dissolve."
  - **Concerns:**
    - The resolution had broader aims beyond advocating for a ceasefire, such as developing human rights standards for investments.

- If the Taskforce dissolves before divestment it is not adhering to the resolution in following through with both the cease-fire and the divestment.
- **Outcome:** The striking of the sentence was passed by consensus.

### **Broader Themes and Challenges**

- **Transparency vs. Efficiency:** Balancing inclusivity and transparency with the need to act decisively on controversial issues.
- **Authority and Representation:** Concerns about bypassing membership input while also avoiding procedural obstacles that hinder progress.
- **Focus of the Task Force:** Ensuring the scope remains aligned with the resolution while avoiding overreach.

### **Next Steps**

- Weekly meetings will continue to finalize the draft statements.
- Collaborative work will focus on crafting recommendations while leaving final approvals to the board.

E-SIGNED by Amy Mueller  
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