



Aktionsbündnis gegen AIDS

Leben ist ein Menschenrecht!
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Aktionsbündnis gegen AIDS e.V.

Rungestr. 19
10179 Berlin

Her Excellency
Ms. Mukta Dutta Tomar
Ambassador of India to the Federal Republic of Germany
Tiergartenstr. 17
10785 Berlin

Berlin, July 29 2019

Subject: Support to the Lawyers Collective

Dear Ambassador,

Over the last decades, the undersigned and countless others have had the privilege to collaborate closely with Anand Grover and the Lawyers Collective in advocating for and working towards achieving affordable access to needed medicines, particularly with regard to HIV and AIDS, hepatitis, cancer and other infectious and non-infectious diseases.

The Lawyers Collective, like no other organisation, has been instrumental in improving global access to medicines by supporting the Indian Government in implementing all TRIPS flexibilities into the Indian patent laws when India as a Middle Income Country had to comply with TRIPS in 2005. Since then, the organisation has safe-guarded section 3d of the Indian patent laws and tirelessly challenged patents that were unlawful under Indian legislation. In doing so, the Lawyers Collective has helped improve access to medicines not only in India, but in many parts of the world, particularly in countries and regions which relied heavily on Indian generics to improve national health and access to affordable medicines.

Anand Grover is a globally highly recognised respected person and a tireless and outspoken advocate for health, rights and human dignity. He has not shied away from criticizing policies which violate human rights and in particular the right to health. As a lawyer who has spent decades in advancing human rights through litigation and as the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to health (2008-2014), Anand is one of very few global actors who has defended the rule of law in different parts of India and the world for the betterment of society and people's health by upholding the principles of an independent judiciary, the implementation of the right to health and by working towards non-discriminatory laws.

You will appreciate that we were dismayed to hear on July 11th that the police had conducted a raid at the home of the Lawyers Collective's founders, M. Anand Grover and Ms Indira

Vorstand: Klaus Koch, Joachim Rüppel, Sylvia Urban

Registergericht: AG Charlottenburg, VR 32498 B – Steuernummer 27/678/56131 FA Körperschaften I, Berlin

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Jaising, two outstanding human rights lawyers. We are very concerned about the targeting of the Lawyers' Collective and their founders.

We therefore urge you and your Government, to do everything in your power to ensure that M. Anand Grover and Ms Indira Jaising are able to resume their work as lawyers and the Lawyers Collective is able to continue their much needed work for social justice and global access to affordable medicines.

Sincerely,

Aktionsbündnis gegen AIDS
Buko Pharma-Kampagne
Deutsches Medikamenten-Hilfswerk action medeor e.V.
medico international
MEZIS
Astrid Berner-Rodoreda, Stuttgart
Dieter Wenderlein, Würzburg
Florian Neuhann, Heidelberg
Huzeifa Bodal

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