

DOCUMENT

17A

**Consolidated
Proposals for
Amendments to the
Constitution of WOSM**



**38th WORLD SCOUT
CONFERENCE**

**38e CONFERENCE
MONDIALE
DU SCOUTISME**

**14-18 JULY/JUILLET
2008 JEJU/KOREA**



SCOUTS[®]
Creating a Better World

CONSOLIDATED PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF WOSM

INTRODUCTION

The World Scout Conference is required to consider all proposals for amendments to the WOSM Constitution which were received in time to meet the constitutional deadline for circulation prior to the Conference (which was 14 March 2008). All proposals received by the deadline for circulation have been consolidated into this single document. Proposals received from National Scout Organizations (NSOs) have also been provided in full in Conference Document No. 17, and those put forward by the World Scout Committee (WSC) were first published in a letter sent to all NSOs on 11 March 2008.

Proposals, to be implemented, must be accepted by the World Scout Conference by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast (WOSM Constitution, Article XXIII).

In this document, the text of the current WOSM Constitution is quoted in its entirety. Proposed new text appears *shaded*, while text proposed for deletion appears ~~struck through~~. The name of the body (WSC or an NSO) proposing each amendment is shown beside each proposal.

This Conference Document will be used as the main working paper in the Select Committee scheduled for Tuesday 15 July, where each proposal as stated in this document (17A) will be considered in turn. The proposals which have been submitted may be modified by the Select Committee but no *new* proposals to amend the Constitution can be introduced for immediate consideration. Any new proposals will be considered and voted on by the World Scout Conference in 2011.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

The WSC invites Conference delegates to examine the consolidated proposals for constitutional change which follow particularly in the light of the work and priorities of the Governance Review Task Force (GRTF), and commends the following observations.

The Constitution of WOSM was drafted to be 'minimalist'. It is designed to contain the minimum principles and structure necessary to define and operate the World Organization. It allows the organs of WOSM maximum flexibility to use their judgement in their interpretation of the Constitution to accommodate the many cultural and organisational variations of NSOs. The Constitution has served WOSM well and the Conference would be ill-advised to introduce radical change except where it is clearly established as being necessary and retains the inherent character of the Movement.

The WSC also recommends that it would be unhelpful to introduce prescriptive detail into the Constitution itself. Detailed procedures can be introduced by protocols which can be changed without the need for amendment to the Constitution to be passed at a World Scout Conference.

The following questions have been suggested by the GRTF as essential "tests" of any proposals to improve the governance of WOSM, and the WSC invites delegates to apply these to each of the proposals for change which follow:

- Will it contribute to the *unity* of World Scouting? If so, how?
- Will it increase the *legitimacy* of World Scouting? If so, how?
- Will *accountability and transparency* be increased? If so, how?
- Will *integrity and democracy* be increased? If so, how?
- Will WOSM and its stakeholders (especially NSOs) *benefit*? If so, how?

The proposals which have been received in time for consideration at this World Scout Conference fall broadly into four categories:

- **Proposals made by the WSC following the report of the GRTF**

The WSC considered carefully the report of the GRTF and decided to make several proposals to the World Scout Conference. These proposals are intended to be a first stage in governance reform following the governance review that has been carried out over the past triennium. Other stages will follow based on views expressed at the Conference and elsewhere.

- **Proposals made by the WSC taking into consideration the events affecting WOSM that have taken place since October 2007**

The WSC agreed at the NSO gathering held near Paris in February 2008 to respond urgently to the concerns of NSOs by proposing constitutional change where it considers this urgent and practical as steps to improve understanding, participation and decision-making.

Some general comments apply to both of the above categories:

- By introducing the World Scout Emblem into the Constitution the WSC is honouring its commitment to recognise and protect the Scout brand.
- Proposed changes to the composition of the WSC recognise the strong views expressed for an enhanced role for the Regions in reflecting the views of NSOs. However it should be realised that the GRTF has suggested a very different approach to that put forward by the WSC. The original World Constitution established WOSM as a federation of NSOs and made no mention of Regions which were introduced later at the request of NSOs.
- In proposing a number of non-voting members of the Committee the WSC emphasises that these are still essential members of the Committee fulfilling an important function but without the right to participate in making decisions.
- In proposing a specific Youth Representative the WSC is aware of the potential of criticism for tokenism. However while NSOs have been urged for some time to make provision for youth representation in their constitutions the WSC itself has no such provision.

- **Proposals made by NSOs**

Delegates are referred to Conference Document No. 17 for the proposer's justification for each of these propositions.

Inevitably there are incompatibilities between proposals which will need to be resolved by the Select Committee but the main thrust is to give more influence in the decision-making process to the Regions. In doing this the size and balance of the WSC would be changed radically. Historically WOSM has been structured as a federation of equal NSOs with (more recently) a regional structure as part of a devolved structure of the World Scout Bureau (WSB).

Current proposals for voting representation from the Regions, while simple in concept, constitute a major change in the balance of decision-making for WOSM. Delegates will need to judge whether each proposal satisfies the GRTF "tests" mentioned above, and to keep in mind the GRTF's proposals themselves, which if pursued could only be brought forward for consideration and decision in 2011. Delegates may wish to remember that the GRTF was asked to have 'unity' of the Movement as its overriding concern.

- **Proposals made by the WSC for clarification and updating of the current WOSM Constitution**

While the Constitution is being updated for other purposes the WSC recommends that the opportunity is taken to:

- introduce gender neutral language
- reflect better the reality of practice in current society
- improve clarity of wording in the light of experience.

Though many of these changes are minor and not contentious they deserve careful examination as opinion may differ on whether they retain the original meaning.

At a World Scout Conference attention naturally focuses on central issues, but the WSC believes that the purpose of the central structures of WOSM is to provide better support to those who seek, locally and on a day-to-day basis, to provide better Scouting for more young people. The WSC therefore invites delegates to consider carefully whether each proposal addresses the root causes of the current concerns over governance.

SELECT COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

See Conference Document No. 2, Rules of Procedure, for information on the Select Committee (extract below).

Each NSO must designate one of its Conference delegates to represent it in the Select Committee. A Select Committee nomination form will be provided in the Conference Voting Kit to designate this representative. The delegate concerned will be required to submit this form, duly completed and signed, to gain entry to the Select Committee. No substitutes will be allowed. Other delegates or observers may be admitted to the Select Committee but will be seated separately and have no right of voice or vote.

Representative delegates should bring to the Select Committee:

- the form designating him/her as the NSO representative delegate
- their NSO Voting Kit
- Conference Documents No. 17 and No. 17A.

In the Select Committee, time limits will be applied to all speakers. The delegate from the NSO proposing an amendment (or a member of the WSC if the proposal comes from that body) will be allowed a maximum of 5 minutes to speak to the proposal. Other speakers will be granted a maximum of 3 minutes each. No delegate may speak more than once. Finally, after the debate and before a vote is taken on a proposal, the delegate moving the proposal may make closing remarks for a maximum of 2 minutes.

The primary purpose of the Select Committee is to strive to reach consensus on the proposals which have been submitted, which may in some cases involve finding "middle ground" through a process of discussion and negotiation, involving amendments to original proposals. A proposal may also be withdrawn by the proposer at any time. In keeping with the Rules of Procedure, voting in the Select Committee will be by simple majority and the number of votes will be recorded for inclusion in the report to the Conference.

A Rapporteur for the Select Committee will be proposed by the WSC and appointed by the Select Committee. The Rapporteur will present the report and formal recommendations of the Select Committee to a plenary session of the World Scout Conference on Friday 18 July. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, questions for clarification may be asked in the plenary session but there will be no debate. The Conference will then formally vote on the proposals. It is at this stage in the process that decisions require a two-thirds majority of votes cast.

* * * *

EXTRACT FROM RULES OF PROCEDURE

SELECT COMMITTEE

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of Select Committees is to study certain specific proposals introduced in Plenary Sessions of the Conference and to consider amendments thereto. They will seek to reconcile opinions and to reach a consensus. The debate and detailed discussions on such subjects will thus take place within the Select Committee sessions. They will then make formal recommendations to a later Plenary Session. No discussion of the merits of the subject will take place in Plenary Sessions, where only questions for clarification will be accepted prior to formal voting.

This procedure is similar to that used in many national assemblies for detailed study of proposed legislation before it is referred to the full body of the assembly for vote. This method has been used successfully at several meetings of the Conference. It enables the Conference to handle more work expeditiously within the limited time available.

2. PARTICIPATION

One delegate per country selected by their delegation for their knowledge of the subject to be considered by the Select Committee concerned.

Countries so desiring may send additional people as observers. They will not have right of voice or vote and shall be seated separately.

The Chairmen of these sessions will be appointed by the Conference Steering Committee. Each Select Committee will appoint a Rapporteur.

3. PROCEDURE

Select Committee matters will be introduced in Plenary Sessions of the Conference, with time for any necessary explanation and questions for clarification.

Voting shall be by simple majority. The results of the votes shall be recorded so that in presenting their recommendations to Plenary Sessions the strength of opinion - for or against - shall be known.

Voting will be by Member Organizations (see Rule 7. a. of the Rules of Procedure of the World Scout Conference).

Votes on amendments to motions will be taken first (see Rule 6. b of the Rules of Procedure of the World Scout Conference).

After debate amendments may be withdrawn at the request of the proposer.

If the amendment is carried, then the original motion as amended, is put. If the amendment is lost then the original motion, as first proposed, is put.

4. RESUMPTION IN PLENARY SESSION

On resumption of the subject in Plenary Session of the Conference, the Rapporteur shall present recommendations, with any necessary explanation, and mention dissenting opinions, if appropriate.

There shall be no debate in Plenary Session but the Chairman may allow questions for clarification, if necessary.

Amendments proposed by Member Organizations to any given motion which have not been recommended by the Select Committee and which have not been withdrawn by the proposing Member, shall be referred back to Plenary Session and shall be voted upon first. Then each amendment recommended by the Select Committee shall be voted upon. Finally, the whole motion, incorporating only those amendments which have passed, shall be voted upon.

PREAMBLE

Accredited representatives of National Scout Associations, which had adopted and practised the Scout Movement founded by Robert Baden-Powell in 1907, assembled in Paris, France, in July 1922 and established the International Scout Conference for the coordination of the Scout Movement throughout the world, together with an Executive Committee and a Secretariat.

The present Constitution governs the operation of the World Organization of the Scout Movement in a kindred spirit of world cooperation and friendship and brotherhood.

WSC

CHAPTER I THE SCOUT MOVEMENT

ARTICLE I

Definition

1. The Scout Movement is a voluntary non-political educational movement for young people open to all without distinction of gender, origin, race or creed, in accordance with the purpose, principles and method conceived by the Founder and stated below.

WSC

Purpose

2. The purpose of the Scout Movement is to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

WSC

ARTICLE II

Principles

1. The Scout Movement is based on the following principles:

- **Duty to God**

Adherence to spiritual principles, loyalty to the religion that expresses them and acceptance of the duties resulting therefrom.

- **Duty to others**

- Loyalty to one's country in harmony with the promotion of local, national and international peace, understanding and cooperation.
- Participation in the development of society with recognition and respect for the dignity of one's fellow-man humanity and for the integrity of the natural world.

WSC

- **Duty to self**

Responsibility for the development of oneself.

Adherence to a Promise and Law

2. All members of the Scout Movement are required to adhere to a Scout Promise and Law reflecting, in language appropriate to the culture and civilization of each National Scout Organization and approved by the World Organization, the principles of Duty to God, Duty to others and Duty to self, and inspired by the Promise and Law originally conceived by the Founder of the Scout Movement in the following terms:

WSC

The Scout Promise

On my honour I promise that I will do my best —

- To do my duty to God and the King (or to God and my Country);
- To help other people at all times;
- To obey the Scout Law.

The Scout Law

1. A Scout's honour is to be trusted.
2. A Scout is loyal.
3. A Scout's duty is to be useful and to help others.
4. A Scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout.
5. A Scout is courteous.
6. A Scout is a friend to animals.
7. A Scout obeys orders of his parents, Patrol Leader or Scoutmaster without question.
8. A Scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties.
9. A Scout is thrifty.
10. A Scout is clean in thought, word and deed.

World Scout Emblem

3. The World Scout Emblem is a symbol of belonging to the Scout Movement. It consists of a field of royal purple bearing the white arrowhead surrounded by a white rope in a circle and a central reef knot at the bottom.

WSC

ARTICLE III

Method

The Scout Method is a system of progressive self-education through:

- A promise and law.
- Learning by doing.
- Membership of small groups (for example the patrol), involving, under adult guidance, progressive discovery and acceptance of responsibility and training towards self-government directed towards the development of character, and the acquisition of competence, self-reliance, dependability and capacities both to cooperate and to lead.
- Progressive and stimulating programmes of varied activities based on the interests of the participants, including games, useful skills, and services to the community, taking place largely in an outdoor setting in contact with nature.

CHAPTER II

TITLE, PURPOSE AND ORGANS OF THE WORLD ORGANIZATION

ARTICLE IV

Title of World Organization

1. The organization of the Scout Movement at world level is governed by this Constitution under the title of "The World Organization of the Scout Movement", hereinafter called the World Organization, as an independent, non-political, non-governmental organization.

Purpose of World Organization

2. The purpose of the World Organization is to foster the Scout Movement throughout the world by:
 - (a) promoting unity and understanding of its purpose and principles,
 - (b) facilitating its expansion and development,
 - (c) maintaining its specific character.

Organs of World Organization

3. The organs of the World Organization are:
 - (a) The World Scout Conference, ~~hereinafter called the World Conference.~~
 - (b) The World Scout Committee, ~~hereinafter called the World Committee.~~
 - (c) The World Scout Bureau, ~~hereinafter called the World Bureau.~~

WSC

CHAPTER III

MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE V

Requirements

1. Membership in the World Organization is open to all National Scout Organizations which fulfil the requirements for membership. Authority to confer such membership is vested in the World Scout Conference.
2. Only one National Scout Organization from any one country can be recognized for membership in the World Organization. A National Scout Organization may consist of more than one Scout Association participating in a Federation based on the common Scout purpose. It is the responsibility of each Federation to ensure that all its constituent Associations meet the requirements of this Constitution.
3. Membership of a National Scout Organization in the World Organization requires:
 - (a) Establishment of its legal entity and evidence of its national operation.
 - (b) Adoption of and sustained adherence to the purpose, principles and method as laid down by Chapter I of this Constitution.
 - (c) Enrolment to be open to all who agree to conform with the purpose, principles and method of the Movement.
 - (d) Maintenance of the Organization as an independent, non-political, voluntary movement of probity and effectiveness.
 - (e) Registration with the World Scout Bureau.
 - (f) Regular payment of its registration fees.
 - (g) ~~Notification to the World Scout Bureau~~ Approval by the World Scout Committee prior to implementation of any intended changes to its National Scout Constitution relating to matters covered by Chapters I, II and III of this Constitution, ~~before these are finally ratified.~~
 - (h) Submission of an annual report to the World Scout Bureau.

WSC

ARTICLE VI

Procedure

1. The World Scout Committee shall investigate an application for membership by a National Scout Organization. If it considers that the requirements laid down by Article V are fulfilled, it shall make the necessary recommendations to the World Scout Conference by post.
2. If within three months the recommendation is unopposed or opposed by less than five per cent of the Member Organizations, the World Scout Committee shall declare the National Scout Organization a Member of the World Organization. If five per cent or more of the Members oppose admission, the application shall be referred to the next meeting of the World Scout Conference, ~~which shall decide the question by~~ where admission shall require a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

WSC

ARTICLE VII

Suspension and Expulsion

1. The World Scout Committee may provisionally suspend the membership of any National Scout Organization which, in its opinion, no longer fulfils the requirements for membership. If the World Scout Committee maintains its suspension, the World Scout Conference at its next meeting shall hear the report of the World Scout Committee and invite the suspended Organization to make its written or oral comments. The World Scout Conference has the broadest power to then decide on an appropriate course of action; if its decision is to expel the Organization, such decision shall require a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

WSC

Withdrawal

2. Any Member Organization may withdraw from the World Organization by written notice addressed to the Secretary-General. Withdrawal shall take effect on September 30 of the second year following that during which the notice was given, subject to the Member Organization having at that date fulfilled all obligations arising out of its membership, including financial obligations.

Effect of Termination of Membership

3. A National Scout Organization which, for any reason, ceases to be a Member shall no longer be entitled to the privileges and services of the World Organization, to recognition by its Members, and to the use of the emblems and other material associated with World Scouting.

CHAPTER IV

THE WORLD SCOUT CONFERENCE

ARTICLE VIII

Composition

1. The World Scout Conference is the governing organ of the World Organization and is composed of all the Members of that Organization.
2. Member Organizations are represented at any meeting of the World Scout Conference by a delegate or delegates not exceeding six from any one Member Organization.

ARTICLE IX

Functions

The functions of the World Scout Conference are:

1. To consider the policy and standards of the Scout Movement throughout the world and to take such action as shall further the purpose of the World Organization.
2. To formulate the general policy of the World Organization.
3. To consider applications for membership and decide as to the expulsion of Members.
4. To hold elections as provided in the By-Laws.
5. To consider reports and recommendations presented by the World Scout Committee.
6. To consider recommendations brought forward by Member Organizations.
7. To consider proposed amendments to this Constitution and its By-Laws.
8. To exercise other functions resulting from this Constitution and its By-Laws.

ARTICLE X

Voting

1. Each Member Organization shall have six votes provided that
 - (a) Member Organization which pays more than 10,000 Swiss franc but less than 50,000 Swiss franc annual registration fee which may be revised from time to time by Conference Resolution shall have 12 votes.
 - (b) Member Organization which pays more than 50,000 Swiss franc but less than 100,000 Swiss franc annual registration fee which may be revised from time to time by Conference Resolution shall have 18 votes.
 - (c) Member Organization which pays more than 100,000 Swiss franc annual registration fee which may be revised from time to time by Conference Resolution shall have 24 votes.

Philippines

and, except as provided for under paragraph 2 of this Article, resolutions shall be taken by a simple majority of the Members present or represented and voting. In the event of a tie, the motion is defeated.

2. Decisions concerning the admission of new Members (Article VI, paragraph 2), the expulsion of Members (Article VII, paragraph 1), the determination of the annual registration fee (Article XXII, paragraph 1) and the amendment of this Constitution (Article XXIII), shall be taken passed by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.
3. A Member Organization which is unable to be present at a meeting of the World Scout Conference may vote by proxy given to another Member Organization, but no Member Organization may accept more than one proxy.
4. In appropriate circumstances determined by the World Scout Committee there may be a postal referendum to Member Organizations between meetings of the World Scout Conference when the same rules as to voting, majority and in the event of a tie shall apply.
5. Any Member Organization which shall have failed to pay its annual registration fee up to and including the end of the fiscal year preceding the Conference shall forfeit its right to vote at that meeting of the Conference, unless remission or postponement of dues has received prior authorization from the World Scout Committee.

WSC

ARTICLE XI

Meetings

1. There shall be a triennial meeting of the World Scout Conference at such time and place as the Conference may decide.
2. An extraordinary meeting may be called on the decision of the World Scout Committee, or at the request of not less than one third of the Member Organizations.
3. The presence of one half of the Member Organizations shall constitute a quorum.
4. The World Scout Conference shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

CHAPTER V

THE WORLD SCOUT COMMITTEE

ARTICLE XII

Composition

1. The World Scout Committee is the executive organ of the World Organization. Its members shall consider the interests of the Movement as a whole and except those elected under Article XIX 2 (b) shall neither consider themselves, nor be considered, as representing any particular Member Organization or Region.

Hong Kong

Composition

1. The World Scout Committee is the executive organ of the World Organization. Its members shall consider the interests of the Movement as a whole ~~and shall neither consider themselves, nor be considered, as representing any particular Member Organization or Region.~~

France

2. The World Scout Committee shall be composed of the following members: *Finland*
- (a) Twelve elected members, who shall be members of recognized National Scout Organizations. They shall be elected by the World Scout Conference, by secret ballot, from a list of nominees submitted by Member Organizations. In no case shall more than one elected member from any one National Scout Organization serve on the Committee in any one period. At least two of these members shall be below the age of 30 at the time of appointment.

2. The World Scout Committee shall be composed of the following members: *WSC*

Voting members:

- (a) Twelve elected members, who shall be members of recognized National Scout Organizations. They shall be elected by the World Scout Conference, by secret ballot, from a list of nominees submitted by Member Organizations. In no case shall more than one elected member from any one National Scout Organization serve on the Committee in any one period.
- (b) The Chairman of each duly elected Regional Scout Committee.

Ex-officio non-voting members:

- ~~(b) (a) The Secretary General of the World Organization, or his appointed representative, as , who shall also be an ex-officio member of the World Committee and of all its all subsidiary committees of the World Scout Committee.~~
- (c) (b) A Treasurer, appointed by the World Scout Committee.
- (c) A member of the Board of the World Scout Foundation.
- ~~(d) Honorary members first appointed by the World Scout Committee prior to July 1, 1971.~~
- (d) A Youth Representative under the age of 30 at the time of appointment.

2. The World Scout Committee shall be composed of the following members: *Hong Kong*

- (a) Twelve elected members, who shall be members of recognized National Scout Organizations. They shall be elected by the World Scout Conference, by secret ballot, from a list of nominees submitted by Member Organizations. In no case shall more than one elected member from any one National Scout Organization serve on the Committee in any one period.
- (b) The Secretary-General of the World Organization, or his appointed representative, as an ex officio member of the World Scout Committee and of all its subsidiary committees.
- (c) A Treasurer, appointed by the World Scout Committee.
- (d) Honorary members first appointed by the World Scout Committee prior to July 1, 1971.
- (e) The Chairmen of all duly elected Regional Scout Committees.

2. The World Scout Committee shall be composed of the following members: *France*

- (a) Twelve elected members, who shall be members of recognized National Scout Organizations. They shall be elected by the World Scout Conference, by secret ballot, from a list of nominees submitted by Member Organizations. In no case shall more than one elected member from any one National Scout Organization serve on the Committee in any one period.
- ~~(b) The Secretary General of the World Organization, or his appointed representative, as an ex-officio member of the World Scout Committee and of all its subsidiary committees.~~
- (b) The Chairpersons of all duly elected Regional Scout Committees.
- (c) A Treasurer, appointed by the World Scout Committee.
- ~~(d) Honorary members first appointed by the World Scout Committee prior to July 1, 1971.~~

As far as possible, the World Committee should have a gender balanced composition. As far as possible, at least one Member of the World Committee should be under thirty years old.

3. ~~May also attend the meetings of the World Scout Committee, in a consultative capacity:~~ *WSC*
~~(a) The Chairmen of all duly elected Regional Scout Committees.~~
~~(b) Such honorary members as the World Scout Committee may first appoint after July 1, 1971.~~
3. May also attend the meetings of the World Scout Committee, in a consultative capacity: *Hong Kong*
(a) ~~The Chairmen of all duly elected Regional Scout Committees.~~
(b) Such honorary members as the World Scout Committee may first appoint after July 1, 1971.
3. May also attend the meetings of the World Scout Committee, in a consultative capacity: *France*
~~(a) The Chairmen of all duly elected Regional Scout Committees.~~
(a) The Secretary-General of the World Organization, or his appointed representative, as an ex officio consultative member of the World Committee and of all its subsidiary committees.
(b) The Chairperson of the World Scout Foundation.
~~(b) (c) Such honorary members as the World Scout Committee may first appoint after July 1, 1971.~~
4. After the 1 January 2011, each member of the World Scout Committee will be elected with a substitute from the same NSO. The substitute may represent the member with voting right at any meeting that the member could not attend.

Term of Service of Elected Members

4. No elected member shall hold office for more than six years, one half retiring at each triennial Conference and six new members being elected by vote in their places. A retiring member shall only be eligible for re-election after a lapse of three years. This restriction shall not apply to a member who has been appointed or elected to fill a vacancy that may occur between Conferences and he may who shall be eligible for immediate re-election. *WSC*

Term of Service of Elected Members

4. ~~No elected member shall hold office for more than six years, one half retiring at each triennial Conference and six new members being elected by vote in their places. A retiring member shall only be eligible for re-election after a lapse of three years. This restriction shall not apply to a member who has been appointed or elected to fill a vacancy and he may be eligible for immediate re-election. The mandate of each member elected by the World Scout Conference shall last until the next World Scout Conference. An elected member may be re-elected at the next World Scout Conference, with a maximum length of mandate of six years.~~ *Finland*

Term of Service of Elected Members

4. ~~No elected member shall hold office for more than six years, one half retiring at each triennial Conference and six new members being elected by vote in their places. A retiring member shall only be eligible for re-election after a lapse of three years. This restriction shall not apply to a member who has been appointed or elected to fill a vacancy and he may be eligible for immediate re-election. Elected members are elected for a three-year term, from Conference to Conference. Retiring elected members after a first three-year term are eligible for re-election but no member may hold office for more than six years consecutively. Retiring members after six consecutive years in the Committee are only eligible for re-election after the lapse of three years. No member can hold office of voting member for more than nine years in total, in any given combination of elected member and/or Chairman of Regional Scout Committee.~~ *Greece*

Term of Service of Elected Members

4. Each Member elected by the World Scout Conference is elected for a three-year term and can be re-elected once. No elected member shall hold office for more than six years, ~~one half retiring at each triennial Conference and six new members being elected by vote in their places.~~ A retiring member shall only be eligible for re-election after a lapse of three years. This restriction shall not apply to a member who has been appointed or elected to fill a vacancy and he may be eligible for immediate re-election. *France*

Vacancies

5. ~~In the interval between the meetings of the World Scout Conference, the World Scout Committee may accept resignations and fill vacancies in its elected members until the next meeting of the World Scout Conference. Should vacancies occur in the voting members of the World Scout Committee by the resignation or decease of any of its members, these vacancies shall be filled in the following manner:~~
- a) ~~Vacancies occurring amongst the elected members of the World Scout Committee shall be filled for the remainder of the term still to be served by the resigning or deceased holder of the seat by the runner-ups in order of election, at the election in which the resigning or deceased member was elected. If meanwhile an elected member from the same National Scout Organization as the runner-up serves on the World Scout Committee, the next runner-up in order of election will be called to fill the vacancy.~~
 - b) ~~Vacancies occurring amongst the Chairmen of duly elected Regional Scout Committees shall be filled by the Vice-Chairmen of the respective Regional Scout Committees. These shall remain as voting members until the end of the term of their Regional Scout Committee.~~

Greece

ARTICLE XIII

Functions

The functions of the World Scout Committee are:

1. To act on behalf of the World Scout Conference between its meetings; to give effect to its decisions, recommendations and policies; and to represent it at international and national events.
2. To promote the Scout Movement throughout the world by means of visits, correspondence, training courses and other appropriate action.
3. To advise and assist Member Organizations in carrying out the purpose, principles and method of Scouting.
4. To recommend the admission of National Scout Organizations applying for membership, and to suspend provisionally the membership of a National Scout Organization.
5. To prepare the agenda and procedure of the meetings of the World Scout Conference, giving consideration to suggestions from Member Organizations, and appoint the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the World Scout Conference.
6. To appoint the Secretary-General of the World Organization, and to appoint his Deputy or Deputies upon a recommendation of the Secretary-General; ~~and to supervise the management of the World Scout Bureau; and to approve its budget.~~
7. ~~To approve the annual budget and financial statements of the World Bureau, when presented by the Treasurer.~~
- ~~7.~~ 8. To accept the responsibility for the raising of additional funds.
- ~~8.~~ 9. To approve the constitutions or other laws governing Regional Scout Organizations.
10. ~~To appoint the Treasurer.~~
- ~~9.~~ 11. To grant consultative status to such organizations as may be of assistance to the Scout Movement.
- ~~10.~~ 12. To decide upon granting of awards for services to the World Scout Movement.
- ~~11.~~ 13. To exercise other functions resulting from this Constitution and its By-Laws.

Guatemala

ARTICLE XIV

Voting

1. Each ~~elected~~ member of the World Scout Committee ~~including those elected under Article XIX 2 (b)~~ shall have one vote.

Hong Kong

Voting

1. Each ~~voting~~ member of the World Scout Committee shall have one vote.
2. Resolutions shall be taken by a simple majority of the ~~voting~~ members present and voting. In the event of a tie, the motion is defeated.

WSC

ARTICLE XV

Meetings and Committees

1. The World Scout Committee shall meet at least once a year at such time and place as the Committee may decide.
2. The presence of eight members having right to vote shall constitute a quorum.
3. The World Scout Committee shall elect its Chairman and Vice-Chairmen as provided for in the By-Laws.
4. The World Scout Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
5. The World Scout Committee may establish, on a permanent or ad hoc basis, such subsidiary committees or other organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

CHAPTER VI

THE WORLD SCOUT BUREAU

ARTICLE XVI

Composition

1. The World Scout Bureau shall serve as the Secretariat of the World Organization. It shall comprise the Secretary-General of the World Organization and such staff as the Organization may require. The Secretary-General shall be appointed by the World Scout Committee and shall be the chief administrative officer of the World Organization.
2. The World Scout Bureau shall consist of its international headquarters and such Regional Offices as are established under Article XIX of this Constitution.

ARTICLE XVII

Functions of Secretary General

The functions of the Secretary-General are:

1. To direct the work of the World Scout Bureau.
2. To appoint, supervise and remove the staff of the World Scout Bureau, as provided for within the framework of the budget approved by the World Scout Committee. Insofar as is possible, such staff shall be recruited on an international basis.
3. To make contacts as necessary, by correspondence and visits in order to promote and to safeguard the interests of the Movement.
4. To exercise other functions resulting from this Constitution and its By-Laws, and such other functions as the World Scout Committee may delegate to him.

WSC

ARTICLE XVIII

Functions of World Bureau

The functions of the World Scout Bureau are:

1. To assist the World Scout Conference, the World Scout Committee and its subsidiary organs in the fulfilment of their functions; to make preparations for all their meetings; and to provide the necessary services for the implementation of decisions.
2. To provide the services necessary for the promotion of the Scout Movement throughout the world, such as research and documentation, training, programme, public relations and publications.
3. To maintain relations with Member Organizations and to assist them in the development of Scouting.
4. To promote the development of Scouting in countries where it does not exist, and to assist non-member National Organizations to attain the standards necessary for membership in the World Organization.
5. To enquire into applications for membership, requests for aid and other similar matters.
6. To supervise the organization of international and regional Scout events.
7. To maintain relations with international organizations whose activities are concerned, inter alia, with youth.

CHAPTER VII

REGIONS

ARTICLE XIX

Composition

1. Regional Scout Organizations may be established in conformity with the requirements of this Constitution, comprising Members of the World Organization so desiring within a geographical area to be defined from time to time by the World Scout Committee. There shall be not more than one Regional Organization in each area.
2. Each Regional Scout Organization shall be composed of the following organs:
 - (a) A Regional Scout Conference, comprising all Members of the Regional Organization.
 - (b) A Regional Scout Committee, duly elected by the Regional Scout Conference. The duly elected Chairmen of the Regional Scout Committees ~~may attend the meetings~~ shall become members of the World Scout Committee ~~in a consultative capacity~~.
 - (c) A Regional Scout Office, directed by a Regional Executive. The Regional Scout Office is also a branch of the World Scout Bureau, in conformity with Article XVI, paragraph 2, of this Constitution. The Regional Executive is appointed by the World Scout Bureau in agreement with the Regional Scout Committee, is paid by the World Scout Bureau and reports to the Secretary-General to whom he is responsible, and to the Regional Scout Committee.

Hong Kong

ARTICLE XX

Functions

1. The functions of the Regional Scout Conferences are:
 - (a) To further the Scout Movement within the Region, by promoting the spirit of world ~~brotherhood~~ kinship, cooperation and mutual assistance amongst Scout Organizations within the Region.
 - (b) To exercise such functions as are provided for in the constitutions or other laws governing the Regional Organization.
 - (c) To ensure the proper implementation of the decisions and policies laid down by the World Organization which affect the Region.
2. The functions of the Regional Scout Committees are:
 - (a) To exercise such functions as are provided for in the constitutions or other laws governing the Regional Organization.
 - (b) To act as an advisory body to the World Scout Committee.
 - (c) To act as an advisory body for Member Organizations requiring advice and assistance.
3. The functions of the Regional Scout Offices are:
 - (a) To serve as a Secretariat of the Regional Organization.
 - (b) To serve as a Secretariat of the World Organization in matters relating to the Region.

WSC

ARTICLE XXI

Relationships between Regional Organizations and World Organization

1. The constitutions or other laws governing Regional Organizations, and any amendments thereto, must be approved by the World Scout Committee before entering into force.
2. In the event of a conflict between the obligations resulting from the present Constitution and the obligations resulting from a constitution or other laws governing a Regional Organization, the obligations resulting from the present Constitution shall prevail.

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

ARTICLE XXII

Finances

1. Each Member Organization shall pay an annual registration fee at an agreed per capita rate to be determined from time to time by the World Scout Conference, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.
2. All funds shall be deposited to the credit of the World Scout Bureau and shall be disbursed by the Treasurer in accordance with a budget approved and certified by the World Scout Committee.

3. An audited financial statement shall be submitted annually by the Treasurer to the World Scout Committee and shall be sent to all Member Organizations.
4. The World Scout Committee shall appoint auditors to the World Scout Bureau.

ARTICLE XXIII

Amendments to the Constitution This Constitution may be amended by the World Scout Conference at any of its meetings by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast. Texts of proposed amendments shall be communicated by the World Scout Bureau to all Member Organizations at least four months in advance of the time of the meeting.

II. BY-LAWS

BY-LAW I

THE WORLD SCOUT CONFERENCE

Section 1: Notice of Meetings

The notice of an ordinary meeting of the World Scout Conference shall be mailed by the World Scout Bureau to all Member Organizations at least six months in advance of the ~~time~~ opening day of the meeting and, in the case of an extraordinary meeting, at least three months in advance. The notice, to such extent as may be possible, shall include the agenda of the meeting.

WSC

Section 2: Agenda of Meetings

The World Scout Committee shall invite Member Organizations to suggest or propose subjects for inclusion in the agenda of an ordinary meeting of the World Scout Conference at least nine months in advance of the ~~opening day~~ of the meeting. Any subject proposed by five or more Member Organizations should be included in the agenda in the form proposed.

WSC

Section 3: Credentials

Two members of the World Scout Conference, appointed by the World Scout Committee, shall be in charge of verifying the credentials of delegates to the World Scout Conference. They shall be assisted by the Secretary-General.

Section 4: Appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen

The World Scout Committee shall appoint a Chairman and one or more Vice-Chairmen of the World Scout Conference from amongst the delegates or its own members present at the Conference. The appointment shall be for the period of each meeting of the Conference.

Section 5: Secretary of World Scout Conference

The Secretary-General shall serve as Secretary of the World Scout Conference.

BY-LAW II

THE WORLD SCOUT COMMITTEE

Section 1: Notice of Meetings

Notice of meetings shall be ~~mailed~~ communicated by the World Scout Bureau so as to be received by members of the Committee at least thirty days in advance of the ~~time~~ ~~date~~ set for the meeting. The notice, to such extent as may be possible, shall include the agenda of the meeting.

WSC

Section 2: Election of members

Six months in advance of ~~the next meeting~~ of the opening day of any World Scout Conference, the World Scout Bureau shall notify all Member Organizations ~~that certain~~ of the vacancies on the Committee to ~~shall~~ be filled by elections ~~thereat~~, and shall request Member Organizations to ~~send in~~ propose names of candidates ~~at least~~ no later than eight weeks in advance of the ~~meeting~~ opening day of the Conference. ~~No~~ subsequent additions shall be accepted. The nomination of a candidate shall be made or endorsed by ~~his own~~ their National Scout Organization. ~~This~~ The approved list of all nominees shall be ~~sent out~~ communicated to all Member Organizations ~~no later than~~ four weeks in advance of the opening day of the Conference ~~and no additions thereto~~ may be subsequently accepted.

WSC

Section 3: Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen

The World Scout Committee shall elect by ballot a Chairman and one or more Vice-Chairmen from among its ~~twelve~~ elected members. Their term of office shall be from Conference to Conference and shall cease at the end of each meeting of the Conference.

WSC

Section 4: Consultants

The World Scout Committee may invite any competent person, whose presence it deems useful, to participate in one or more of its meetings as a consultant and without vote.

Section 5: Conduct of Affairs

- (a) The Secretary-General shall serve as Secretary of the World Scout Committee.
- (b) Between meetings of the Committee, matters shall be submitted by the Secretary-General to members **for consideration** by correspondence.

WSC

Section 6: Voting by Proxy

Members of the Committee may vote by proxy given to ~~some~~ **an** other member of the Committee, but no member may accept more than one proxy.

WSC

BY-LAW III

THE WORLD SCOUT BUREAU

The World Scout Bureau shall be incorporated in accordance with the law of the country in which its international headquarters are located in order to enjoy the status of a juristic person.

BY-LAW IV

LANGUAGES

The official languages of the World Organization are English and French.

In the event of a conflict arising out of the interpretation of this Constitution, its By-Laws or any other official document of the World Organization, the English text shall prevail.

BY-LAW V

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

These By-Laws may be amended by the World Scout Conference at any of its meetings by a simple majority of the Members present and voting. Texts of the proposed amendments shall be communicated by the World Scout Bureau to all Member Organizations at least four months in advance of the ~~time~~ **date** of the meeting.

WSC

APPENDIX

ACCREDITED NATIONAL SCOUT ORGANIZATIONS

- a) In exercising its responsibility under Article VI of the Constitution of the World Organization, the World Scout Committee shall additionally satisfy itself that the National Scout Organization is in a politically independent country and that, by the quality of its leadership, the organization of its leader training, the size of its membership and its resources, it is self-sufficient and capable of providing adequate services to its members and assuming all duties and responsibilities of a Member Organization. These conditions will ordinarily require a membership of the order of 1,000 or more.
- b) A National Scout Organization in a politically independent country which cannot meet the above requirements, but would otherwise meet the requirements of Article V (3) may, upon application and at the discretion of the World Scout Committee, be included in the Official List of Scout Organizations in the World Organization of the Scout Movement, and so reported to the World Scout Conference.
- c) National Scout Organizations placed on the Official List in accordance with paragraph b) above shall be called Accredited National Scout Organizations. The status of Accredited National Scout Organizations shall be governed by the provisions stated below.

A: RIGHTS

Accredited National Scout Organizations shall have the following rights:

1. To attend a World Scout Conference and the relevant Regional Conference, subject to payment of the Conference fees.
2. To be represented at a World Scout Conference and a Regional Scout Conference by a maximum of two delegates and two observers.
3. To have the right of voice at a World Scout Conference and Regional Scout Conference, but not the right to vote.
4. To receive all the publications of the World Scout Bureau and relevant Regional Office, including circulars.
5. To receive services from the World Scout Bureau and its Regional Office, as practicable, in the form of visits, opportunity of participation in courses and seminars, as well as other types of assistance.
6. To attend world or regional Jamborees, camps and other gatherings.
7. To receive invitations to national Jamborees, camps and other gatherings.

B: OBLIGATIONS

Accredited National Scout Organizations shall have the following obligations:

1. Acceptance of and conformity with the requirements of the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement and its policies, ~~including the Statement on Relationships between the Girl Guide/Girl Scout and Scout Movements.~~
2. Payment of an annual registration fee of Swiss Francs 200, to be reviewed from time to time by the World Scout Committee. Payment of any regional fee is at the discretion of each Region. In all cases, it should be below the minimum fee paid by a Member Organization of the Region.

WSC

C: OTHER PROVISIONS

1. Nothing precludes an Accredited National Scout Organization from being recognized, in due course, as a Member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, if it fulfils the requirements laid down in paragraph a) above and makes an application for membership.
2. A National Scout Organization which is eligible for membership of the World Organization of the Scout Movement in accordance with paragraph a) above cannot have the status of an Accredited National Scout Organization.
3. Nothing in the provisions setting down the status of Accredited National Scout Organizations shall affect the rights and obligations of those recognized as Members of the World Organization prior to Resolution 5 adopted by the 28th World Scout Conference in August 1981.
4. The World Scout Committee shall review, at intervals of not more than four years, the list of countries granted the status of Accredited National Scout Organizations and take appropriate action.
5. The World Scout Committee shall have power to suspend or withdraw its accreditation of National Scout Organizations which, in its opinion, no longer fulfil the conditions of accreditation, and shall report accordingly to the World Scout Conference.

Applications for the status of an Accredited National Scout Organization shall be submitted to the World Scout Bureau for consideration by the World Scout Committee.