

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AS PROPOSED BY WSCF EXCO AND 2 SCMs FOR VOTATION BY AFFILIATED MOVEMENTS IN ON-LINE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### BACKGROUND

The Executive Committee of WSCF has approved the proposed constitutional amendments set out below for submission to the affiliated movements to vote on, in an on-line General Assembly.

The problems to be addressed by the proposed amendments, namely structural and financial problems, were identified by the Future of the Federation Task Group ( FoF) in the Bogota Assembly of WSCF.

The work of the FoF Task Group was continued by the Transition Team formed after the Bogota Assembly. The Transition Team reported to the Executive Committee meeting of 14 – 15 December 2015 in Sicily. The Executive Committee approved the amendments set out below, seeking that the proposed amendments be voted on by the affiliated movements in an on-line General Assembly , given that constitutional amendments need to be approved in a General Assembly.

The Exco does not believe that the proposed amendments should await the next General Assembly, which is several years away. Nor does WSCF have the funds to convene an in-person extraordinary meeting to consider the proposed amendments.

The amendments are proposed in order to ensure that the mission of WSCF can continue with vigour and vitality and in ways that are financially sustainable.

There are two major underlying principles guiding the WSCF ExCo in proposing these amendments. First, these proposed amendments aims to make sustainable the decision making structure of the Federation by ensuring full democratic participation of all within the structural guidelines of the WSCF Constitution, and without losing the benefits of in person meeting for community building and equal possibility of participation, especially taking into account barriers related to language (multiple language translation) and access to ICT infrastructures and connectivity.

Second, the proposed amendments likewise find ways to make the governance and the administration of the Federation more efficient, accountable and following professional standards of operations while keeping the core leadership structure and its decision-making "for student, led by student".

You will recall that earlier in 2016 every movement was asked whether the movement wished to propose any other constitutional amendments. Movements were encouraged to refrain if at all possible from suggesting ohter amendments if these could await the next Genral Assembly. Most

movements chose not to propose further amendments, but two movements did make such proposals, SCM Hong Kong and SCM Norway. Copies of their introductory rationales are attached to these papers for your consideration or will be send to you directly by them (SCM of Norway). In brief, the SCM of Hong Kong is concerned to maximise gender equity in participation in the life of the federation, institutionalising on-line General Assemblies for all purposes, not just constitutional amendment and to hold a General Assembly every four years,. The SCM Norway would like to have staff nominated, evaluated and appointed by the Executive Committee, all located in a central office, have the Executive Committee responsible for determining regional budgets and any monies available to the Federation as a whole for national movements to be allocated by the Executive Committee (not regional committees) to national movements.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS FROM WSCF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	YES	NO
<p>Article III. B Regions</p> <p>Add new point 4 :</p> <p>4. <u>Regional Assembly should take place before the General Assembly.</u></p>		
<p>Article IV. General Assembly</p> <p>4. Frequency of meetings</p> <p>Existing text :</p> <p>The General Assembly shall as a rule meet every four years or within a period of six years in case of extraordinary circumstances. The Executive Committee shall determine the exact time and place of meetings. Extraordinary meetings may be held with the approval of two-thirds of the Affiliated Movements.</p> <p><u>Proposed text:</u></p> <p>The General Assembly shall as a rule meet every <u>six (6)</u> years. The Executive Committee shall determine the exact time and place of meetings and criteria of the selection of the venue. Extraordinary meetings may be held with the approval of two-thirds of the Affiliated movements including <u>an online extraordinary</u> General Assembly to amend the constitution.</p>		
<p>Article V. 2. <i>Composition, Term, Proxies</i></p> <p>a. Members with the right to speak and vote:</p> <p>Existing text:</p> <p>a. i) Two persons from each region, at least one of whom shall be a student at the time of election, and at least one a woman,</p> <p>ii) Officers elected by the General Assembly</p>		

<p>b. Members with the right to speak but not to vote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) The Co-Secretaries General and/or other Inter-Regional Executive Staff, Regional Executive Staff, and other staff as deemed necessary,</li> <li>ii) Resource persons and guests who may be appointed by the officers in accordance with the Bye-Laws.</li> </ul> <p>b. Executive Committee members from the regions should serve for the period between two General Assemblies. Their proxies should be named by the Regional Committee and approved by the Executive Committee.</p> <p>If both Executive Committee and proxy positions fall vacant, the concerned Regional Committee nominates replacements from amongst Regional Committee members.</p> <p><u>Proposed Text:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a.i) "One person and one proxy from each region, at least one of whom shall be a student at the time of election and at least one of whom shall be a woman"</li> <li>ii) Officers elected by the General Assembly</li> </ul> <p>b. Members with the right to speak but not to vote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) The <u>Secretary General</u> and/or other Inter-Regional Executive Staff, Regional Executive Staff, and other staff as deemed necessary,</li> <li>ii) Resource persons and guests who may be appointed by the officers in accordance with the Bye-Laws.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Executive Committee members from the regions should serve for the period between two General Assemblies. Their proxies should be named by the Regional Committee and approved by the Executive Committee. <u>If the Executive Committee and proxy positions fall vacant, the concerned Regional Committee nominates replacements from amongst Regional Committee members.</u></li> </ul>		
<p>Article VI . Staff Existing text:</p>		

<p>2. The Co-Secretaries General, at least one of whom shall be a woman, shall be appointed by the Executive Committee with overall executive responsibility for the Federation. The Executive Committee will then present their choice to the General Assembly for its approval.</p> <p><u>Proposed text</u></p> <p>2. <u>The General Secretary</u> shall be appointed by the Executive Committee with overall executive responsibility for the Federation. The Executive Committee will then present their choice to the General Assembly for its approval.</p>		
<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENTS FROM THE SCM OF HONG KONG</b>		
<p>Article IV. General Assembly 4. Frequency of meetings</p> <p>Existing text : The General Assembly shall as a rule meet every four years or within a period of six years in case of extraordinary circumstances. The Executive Committee shall determine the exact time and place of meetings. Extraordinary meetings may be held with the approval of two-thirds of the Affiliated Movements.</p> <p><u>Proposed text:</u></p> <p>The General Assembly shall as a rule meet every four years. <del>or within a period of six years in case of extraordinary circumstances.</del> The Executive Committee shall determine the exact time and place of meetings and criteria of the selection of the venue. Extraordinary meetings may be held with the approval of two-thirds of the Affiliated movements including <u>an online extraordinary General Assembly to amend the constitution and for other purposes as decided by the Executive Committee from time to time. An on-line General Assembly has the same authority and status as an in-person General Assembly.</u></p>		
<p>ARTICLE V – retain existing text and vote “no” to proposed changes, thus retaining two Ex Co members from each region, to ensure gender equity.</p> <p>ARTICLE VI – retain existing text and vote “no” to proposed changes, retaining two Co-Secretaries to ensure gender equity.</p>		
<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENTS FROM THE SCM OF NORWAY</b>		

<p>ARTICLE III - COMPOSITION OF THE FEDERATION</p> <p>B. REGIONS</p> <p>Repeal the following paragraph:</p> <p>3 d. To nominate and to evaluate Regional Executive Staff to be appointed by the Executive Committee in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Federation;</p>		
<p>Existing text:</p> <p>3 e. To prepare the annual regional budget, to be submitted to the Executive Committee in conformity with the financial procedures set by the Executive Committee;</p> <p>Proposed text:</p> <p>3. e To suggest the annual regional budget, to be submitted to the Executive Committee in conformity with the financial procedures set by the Executive Committee;</p>		
<p>ARTICLE V – THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</p> <p>1. Functions</p> <p>Existing text:</p> <p>e. To coordinate the finances, to prepare and approve the WSCF budget in cooperation with the respective regional bodies, designate the persons who by their signature shall bind the Federation in all financial and property transactions;</p> <p>Proposed text:</p> <p>e. To coordinate the finances of central and regional bodies, to prepare and approve the WSCF budget in cooperation with the respective regional bodies, distribute the WSCF budget for the upcoming year to all Affiliated Movements, designate the persons who by their signature shall bind the Federation in all financial and property transactions;</p>		
<p>ARTICLE VI – THE STAFF</p> <p>Repeal the following paragraph:</p> <p>3. The Executive Committee may elect or provide for the appointment of other Inter- Regional Executive Staff.</p> <p>Repeal the following paragraph:</p> <p>5. The Regional Executive Staff shall be appointed by the Executive Committee in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Federation, upon nomination of the Regional Committee. Unless otherwise stated, the term of office of the Regional Executive Staff shall be for a period of two years from the date of appointment, and may continue up to a period of two more terms upon recommendation of</p>		

<p>the regional committee. Exceptional cases may be granted, in which case, the Regional Executive staff may serve for a fourth term, upon recommendation of the appropriate regional body.</p>		
<p>Amend the following paragraph:</p> <p>6. Other Inter-Regional Executive Staff to carry out the work of the Federation shall be appointed by the Executive Committee in accordance with the rules and procedure of the Federation upon nomination of the Co-Secretaries General in consultation with other Inter-Regional Executive Staff. The term of appointment shall be for a maximum period of two years to be renewed as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.</p> <p><u>Proposed text:</u></p> <p>6. Executive Staff to carry out the work of the Federation shall be appointed by the Executive Committee in accordance with the rules and procedure of the Federation. The term of appointment shall be for a maximum period of two years to be renewed as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.</p>		
<p>ARTICLE IX – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS</p> <p>Existing text:</p> <p>1. The legal headquarters of the Federation shall be at Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee. Regional offices shall be organised in different parts of the world by decision of the Executive Committee.</p> <p><u>Proposed text:</u></p> <p>1. The legal headquarters of the Federation shall be at Grand-Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee. The Staff shall be situated at the Inter-Regional Office, at a location decided by the Executive Committee. Exceptional cases may be granted, in which case, the parts of staff may be situated at a different location for periods of time.</p>		
<p>Existing text:</p> <p>3. The Federation shall be legally bound by the joint signature of two of the following persons: the Chairperson or one of the Vice-Chairpersons or the Treasurer, and either of the two Co-Secretaries General. Any two of the above named persons shall have the power to authorise other persons, chosen by them to act jointly or singly on behalf of the Federation in fields circumscribed in the power of</p>		

attorney. The contracts of the Regional and Inter-Regional Executive Staff shall be signed by two of the Officers.

Proposed text:

The Federation shall be legally bound by the joint signature of two of the following persons: the Chairperson or one of the Vice-Chairpersons or the Treasurer, and either of the two Co-Secretaries General. Any two of the above named persons shall have the power to authorise other persons, chosen by them to act jointly or singly on behalf of the Federation in fields circumscribed in the power of attorney. The contracts of the Staff shall be signed by two of the Officers.