

YMCA Europe Executive Committee Meeting
YE Training Centre, Litomyšl, Czech Republic
7-8 November 2009.

Participants:

Peter Posner,	President
Kare Dag Mangersnes,	Vice President
Ed Eggink,	Treasurer
Olga Lukina,	Assessor
Beate Turk,	Assessor
Stepan Cerny,	Assessor
Merita Goldi,	Assessor
Marina Michailidou,	Recording Secretary
Johan Vilhelm Eltvik,	YE Secretary General
Michal Szymanczak,	YE Deputy Secretary General
Eva Tschornova,	YE Office Manager
Radek Hlavsa	YE Staff
Vardan Hambardzumyan	YE Field Staff

1. Devotion

Marina Michailidou led the devotion.

2. Opening remarks and apologies

Peter Posner welcomed the Executive Committee. We are happy to be in Litomyšl again, and to see the progress. Karin Hammar has sent apologies for not attending the meeting.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The proposed agenda was adopted.

4. Minutes from Ex.Com meeting (21-22 February 2009 , Reykjavik, Iceland)

The minutes were approved.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

No matters arising.

6. Reports

6.1. European Secretariat and Staffing

Johan Vilhelm Eltvik reported on his travel schedule.

There was a Staff meeting prior to the MD meeting. The Staff has taken over some new tasks: Michal Szymanczak will be busy also with Research and Impact Assessment, Radek Hlavsa with Communications and Presentation, Vardan Hambardzumyan more actively in Fundraising and Sarka Cihakova is the new Book Keeper.

6.2. Movement Development

Michal Szymanczak reported.

FG Leadership in Georgia: Ian Luck is unanimously appointed as the Field Group Leader by the Ex.com.

FG Kosovo: The Field Group for Kosovo is created and Marius Pop has been appointed the F.G. Leader.

Michal will formulate an information paper about the membership needs of all FGs.

Romania application for full membership: Jan Nissén as YE legal advisor found the papers in order.

A good agreement in the form of a contract has been signed for the creation of the common umbrella organization

Decision: YMCA Romania application for full membership has been accepted

Balkan project: Adam reported. A new strategy has been developed. Now Program Development is the priority. (Institutional development was the previous). Marius Pop is part time working in this domain.

Marina stressed the importance of communication on the strategy issues.

6.3. Christian Community

Olga Lukina reported. Report received. The challenge for this group is the need for new members.

6.4. European Programmes

Marina reported. In order to plan ahead for the common meeting for Programme Group and Field Group Leaders certain organizational steps need to be done. Defining the prior goals of this meeting the Executive Committee and YE Staff have agreed in the following:

The basic goals will be:

1. To start preparations for the new festival in 2013
2. To involve PG and FG Leaders in the new YE Strategy
3. To revise the Terms of Reference
4. Collect information from all program events in order to create a common calendar.

The Executive Committee will also prepare a small impact presentation for all Programme Groups to present in the coming General Assembly.

- **ESY** Merita reported. Report received. There is a request for the Executive committee to participate in their meeting.
- **ESG** Merita reported Report received. It is important to find out which countries have Scouting activities.
- **ETS** Stepan reported. Report received. They are already working on the next festival. The dates for the next big ETS festival are 31 July-6 august 2011
- **YES** Stepan reported. Report received. The facilitation of GA by YES people was great and made a big difference.
- **JV** reported on Representation, the next festival and the preparation for the next GA.
- **VfE** Beate reported. Report received. The challenge is how to improve communication with YE Staff.
- **EOTN** Marina reported. Report received. The Ex.Com decided to officially close the Group until there is a need for revitalizing. The decision will be presented in the GA.
- **SI** The Ex.Com and YE Staff are taking steps in order to recreate the group that has been inactive since some years. During the General Assembly in Germany, there was a meeting for people and movements who might be interested in joining the Social Inclusion Network and revitalize the group. (In the same meeting there was no interest in the EOTN Network). We had capable people from experienced movements and they will be the base to revitalize the group. It is important that SI evolves and effects all the new Movements.

6.5. WAY and Global Cooperation

In the World Alliance World Council there will be Elections for the New Executive Committee, including candidates from Europe.

6.6 European Representation

Kie Cummings has participated in some European meetings. There is a need for recruiting new people. No report received.

6.7. Finances

Ed Eggink reported. Report received.

There is a low deficit, for now. Not all National Contributions have been paid and debts should be collected if we want to keep and expand our work. The core costs (office, salaries) have to be covered by contributions. Friends of Europe campaign has to expand and it will definitely bring good results.

7. Recourse Mobilization - Training Centre

Johan Vilhelm gave the overall view. The experience of the training in Recourse Mobilization during the GA in Germany was very important and the creativity raised in fundraising.

a) Research and Impact Assessment (Michal reported) :

We have a Report on Impact Assessment on HIV prevention in Belarus, Ukraine and Russia prepared by Olga Lukina and Misha Guskov.

Another one is being prepared for Training Programs. The Goal is to document the results in a professional way. It is important and possible that we discover our weaknesses also.

b) Information and Marketing (Radek reported):

- Annual Report 2008: The executive committee expressed their appreciation on the quality of the first annual report. For the first time we have a professional tool in our hands to promote our work.

- Website: a new platform is being developed that will be more communicative.

c) Fundraising (Vardan reported) :

A Resource Mobilisation conference is planned (20-22 April 2010, London), to share best practices and plans.

A Recourse Mobilization Training is next in line in the planning

d) Friends of YMCA Europe Campaign (Ed reported)

The Executive committee has committed to help and inform individual friends and Movements to support the campaign, which means a financial commitment for 3 years to support YMCA Europe.

8. YMCA Europe Role and Strategy 2011-2016, Johan Vilhelm reported. A plan of constant consultation has been made that will include a lot of key people for the development of the New Strategy (MD people, PG, WAY, Ex Com, Staff, etc.)

9. YE master class, Ed reported.

The Master class has been postponed and will be organised for the weekends of 7- 9 May and 29 -31 Oct, 2010.

10. YERT (YMCA Resource Team) Johan Vilhelm reported. Already: Ukraine and Germany have been visited by the team of experts. The next interventions will be in Iceland and Belarus.

11. YMCA Europe Training Centre Peter reported. The next plan is to renovate the area around the castle area. A new reception area has been renovated. We need to keep supporting the TC.

13. General Assemblies

It is important to keep the fees but there has to be an effort to support countries that can not support the cost of attending.

The Planning Committee was set to meet in February for organising the GA 2010.

The dates for the next assemblies are:

12-16 May 2010, Litomysl YE Training Centre

May 2011, Ernst Sillem Hoeve, Nederland.

The evaluation of GA 2009 generally has been very positive.

14. Next meetings

Ex.Com meeting: 6-7 March 2010

Venue: London.

Ex.Com- PG-MD-YE Staff common meeting: 5 - 6 November 2010

5 and 7 November Executive Committee meeting

Venue: Prague

15. Any other business

a. Membership applications for YMCA Romania under a common umbrella organization: After the Ex.Com. having discussed and studied the umbrella organization agreement contract, their full membership in YMCA Europe has been unanimously accepted.

b. Festival 2013:

Beate: Discussed an invitation from German YMCA to host the next festival.

The Executive Committee decided after a vote: for the Festival to stay in Prague.

Important is the value of a fixed place in order to build on the success of the previous festival.

Beate informed about the International Leadership Training dates (7-14 August 2010), in Germany.

16. Closing Remarks

Peter Posner thanked the Committee and Staff for the good cooperation and commitment.

Marina Michailidou
YMCA Europe Recoding Secretary