

**Summary of the Minutes of the
EAY Executive Committee Meeting
11 - 13 March 2005**

Place: YMCA Palace, Prague, Czech Republic

Attendance:

Peter Posner, President	Alexandre Burnier, Assessor
Beate Breithaupt, Vice President	Tom Cusens, Assessor
Ed Eggink, Treasurer	Villő Denke, Assessor
Kåre Dag Mangersnes, Recording Secretary	Lisa Gregoriadou, Assessor
	Sabine Ponater, Assessor

Johan Vilhelm Eltvik, Secretary General	Eva Tschornová, Office Manager
Michal Szymanczak, Deputy Secretary General	

- The staff team continue to work very effectively despite the decentralised nature of their roles.
- Many National Movements have been visited since our last meeting. A highlight was the Catch the Vision seminar in Kosovo. A truly inspiring event.
- New Movement Development work is particularly active in the Balkan region. A Balkan Festival is being planned in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The theme will be "Balkan mosaics".
- HorYzon (Switzerland) is bringing crucial support to the EAY, and Werner Stahl is a very valuable partner for the EAY.
- Y-Care is becoming a separate legal entity in England. It remains an important contributor to the EAY. The EAY will send a letter of thanks and appreciation and hope for future cooperation.
- The Christian Orientation Group, under the leadership of Tom Cusens, has recruited four new members. It has a new leader, Helen Jary, from

England.

- Alexandre Burnier attended a meeting on behalf of the EAY concerning the future of gender issues at the Conference of European Churches, held in Geneva 9-10 March 05. The purpose of the meeting was to work with the placement of gender issues within the new CEC-structure.
- Each of the Programme Groups had submitted reports to the Executive Committee giving details of their activities. These are too numerous to report in detail but the high level of activity is impressive. It is very pleasing to see the good level of inter-group communication and networking.
- A new development is the re-establishment of the EOTN (European Outdoor Training Network) and new members are invited to join.
- Several Programme Groups have asked for a higher level of support from the EAY. This is a high priority for the Executive Committee, especially as pan-European Programme work has grown following the Prague 2003 Festival. However, there is not enough funding available to support a new position yet.
- The Social Inclusion Group has developed a Social Inclusion Position Statement, which will be presented to the 2005 General.
- The President will represent the EAY at the Paris meeting of the Executive Committee of the World Alliance in April.
- The EAY finances are under good control but secure lines of income are reducing. National Movements are often under financial pressure and we need to look for new partners and sources of financing to enable our work to continue and even grow.
- The Treasurer noted that the World Alliance is considering new approaches to its Fair Share contribution system and he will lead a workshop at the General Assembly to explore whether we should also consider a new approach.
- A new role and strategy for 2006 - 2011 needs to be developed and this will be the theme of the 2005 General Assembly. During the summer a new document will be drafted and it will be sent to national movements for their comments. The final result will be presented for the General Assembly in 2006.

- Income for the Training Centre is still uncertain. Fundraising for the next stage of renovation of the buildings is well under way. Building has started, funded by a Euro 1m grant obtained from the European Union through the Czech Local and National Governments. Complete renovation to include on-site accommodation is expected to be finished by the end of 2005.
- The World Alliance's Global Operating Plan (GOP) is a challenge to the World Movement. Within Europe, there are very encouraging results from our GOP work in Russia, Belarus and Ukraine. New volunteers are being recruited and trained. Seminars and trainings are taking place in all three countries. It is creating a clearer understanding of the mission, growth in capacity of the organisation, and relevant programs.
- In Albania and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia GOP they are starting to implement the programme. Funds have been received from Y Care that will secure further work.
- Georgia is working on a project of democracy training, but it is suffering from a lack of funds for the programme.
- At its last meeting, the Executive Committee agreed in principle to support a further EAY Event in 2008, in Prague. Many of the programme groups are already engaging in the planning. National Movements have been asked to consider how they can support the festival, by providing financial guarantees and by other means. Both small and big Movements have already indicated support.

Next meetings

- Movement Development meeting: 4 -5 November 2005, Sofia, Bulgaria.
- Executive Committee meeting: 6 -7 November 2005, Sofia, Bulgaria.
- Executive Committee meeting: 3 -5 March 2006 in Czech Republic.