

Agenda of the Extra-ordinary meeting of the European Scout Conference

29 March 2019, 09.00
Grand Hotel Excelsior, Valetta, Malta

1 – Welcome and purpose

Roll call of member organizations of the European Scout Region.
Verification of quorum and necessary majorities required.

2 – Proposals for simple linguistic and common usage of phrasing to bring the Constitution of the European Scout Region in alignment with the World Scout Constitution and for easier understanding.

Proposed changes	Rationale
All of the changes currently highlighted in yellow in the European Constitution new proposals b document – additions, amendments and minor linguistic changes.	This will create a more accurate document, reflecting the common language of the World Scout Constitution. In a small number of cases, a word is replaced but the meaning remains the same. It is hoped that the changes can be accepted as a block.

3 – Proposal for the removal of elements that refer specifically to Rules of Procedure which will be assembled into one document to be agreed in advance of the Regional Conference and which removes some of the causes of confusion between the regional constitution and the Additional Rules of Procedure.

Proposed changes	Rationale
All of the changes highlighted in blue in the European Constitution new proposals b document – removal of elements related to rules of procedure.	This will remove all elements of the rules of procedure to ensure that there is no room for mistakes or misinterpretations as has happened in the past. It is hoped that these can be removed as a block. All the removed elements are included in the new draft rules of procedure.

4 – Proposals for new elements or deletions to the constitution based on updates to the World Scout Constitution.

Proposed change	Rationale
Article II: Insert a new clause c) The European Region accepts and promotes work according to the Scout Method as set out in the constitution of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement.	This brings the Regional Constitution in line with the World Scout Constitution which was amended at the 41 st World Scout Conference. This elaborates and makes clearer the previous clause – The principles of the European Region are those of the Scout Movement.

Proposed change	Rationale
Article III, 1: Insert a new clause f) (clause III 3, e) in the current version) The Conference shall hear the report of the European Committee, approve the report of the Regional Treasurer	This is indeed a function of the European Scout Conference and sits better here under Article II, 1, Functions - of the European Scout Conference. The text has not changed.

and elect members of the European Committee.	
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Proposed change	Rationale
<p>Article III, 4 Insert a new clause b)</p> <p>In appropriate circumstances determined by the European Scout Committee there may be a referendum by post or electronic communication to Member Organizations between meetings of the European Scout Conference when the same rules as to voting, majority and in the event of a tie shall apply.</p>	<p>Currently there is no possibility to conduct consultations except by physical meeting. It is felt appropriate to follow the lead of the World Scout Constitution and have this possibility for postal or electronic consultations.</p>

Proposed change	Rationale
<p>Article IV, 2, b) Clarification of term of mandate</p> <p>At any ordinary meeting of the Conference, the members shall be elected until the next ordinary conference. for a period of three years. A retiring member shall only be eligible for re-election for one further period of three years.</p>	<p>This utilizes the phrase used in the World Scout Constitution as the term of office can be shorter or longer than just 3 years. The replacement phrase more accurately reflects what actually happens.</p>

Proposed change	Rationale
<p>Article IV, 2, c) Addition of a provision in case there is no further candidates</p> <p>In the event of there being no further candidates, the European Scout Committee can choose additional members as required.</p>	<p>This utilizes the phrase used in the World Scout Constitution and provides clarification.</p>

Proposed change	Rationale
<p>Article VII Insertion on new title 4</p> <p>4. Dissolution of the Region</p> <p>The European Scout Region may be dissolved by a resolution adopted at a Regional Conference by a minimum of four-fifths of the votes cast by Member Organizations defined in the Article 3.a.</p> <p>Such a proposal for dissolution shall follow the same procedure established in the previous article for Constitutional amendments.</p> <p>In the event of the dissolution of the European Scout Region, or of any of its bodies established by this Constitution, the totality of their assets shall become the property of the World Organization of the Scout</p>	<p>This follows the good practice advocated for all NGOs, for example the requirements for Member Organizations undertaking GSAT and follows the practice and wording suggested by the Constitutions Committee</p>

<p>Movement.</p> <p>If at the time of the dissolution, the World Organization of the Scout Movement, or the legal entity under which it legally operates, is not operational or is incapable of receiving the assets of the European Scout Region or of any of its bodies, then such assets shall be placed at the disposal of one or more organizations which operate exclusively for charitable, educational or scientific purposes, as deemed appropriate by the Regional Conference which approves the dissolution.</p>	
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5 – Proposals to clarify some elements of the current constitution and ensure they are in the correct area of the constitution

Proposed change	Rationale
<p>Article II: Amendment of clause d)</p> <p>In particular, the European Region values transparency in all its operations, reporting regularly and comprehensively to the member organizations, opening up committee and other meetings to participation on request, while respecting the confidentiality required by a membership organization.</p>	<p>It is suggested to remove the text indicated as it does not assist in the understanding of the clause.</p>

Proposed change	Rationale
<p>Article VII, 2, a) and b) Clarification of text</p> <p>a) This Constitution may be amended by the European 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 European Office to all member organizations at least four months in advance of the time of the meeting.</p> <p>b) Amendments to the Constitution, however, require a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting.</p>	<p>This removes a confusing entry. Reading a) in isolation can lead to misunderstanding. The correct requirement is for a two-thirds majority. The word “however” adds nothing to the understanding of the item and should be removed.</p>

6 – To approve the draft Document 2, Rules of Procedure for the 23rd European Scout Conference in Split, Croatia, 2019 - simple majority required

The European Scout Conference,

- *Recognising the positive outcomes of the 41st World Scout Conference in Baku*
- *Wishing to continue this momentum in Europe*
- *Wanting to provide further transparency in the governance of the Region*

Resolves to:

- *accept the Rules of Procedure, European Conference Document 2*
- *provide support through webinars and other tools in advance of the European Conference*

7 – To approve temporary interim measures to enable there to be a reduced period of service for the next European Scout Committee.

Proposed Transitional Article 1 – aligning the timing of the Regional and World Scout Conference – 2/3 majority

The European Scout Conference,

- *Considering the need to bring the triennial meeting of the Regional Conference in the year after the World Scout Conference to ensure increased alignment of the Region with its decisions and in particular the World Triennial Plan*
- *Desiring to ensure the planning process for the Regional Scout Plan is also better aligned with the outputs of the World Scout Conference*
- *Wishing to contribute effectively to achieving Vision 2023 in as effective a way as possible*
- *Recognising the strength of the approach which encourages full participation in the decisions of the aligned World and Regional conferences*

Resolves to this end

- *to include the following Transitional Articles under a new title 5 "Transitional Articles" in Article VII in its Regional Constitution:*
- *Transitional Article 1:
The Regional triennium starting after the ordinary 2019 Regional Scout Conference will exceptionally last only 2 years, with the next ordinary Regional Conference therefore taking place in 2021*
- *Transitional Article 2:
Candidates elected to serve for a mandate as Member of the Regional Scout Committee at the 2019 Regional Scout Conference will exceptionally only serve until the 2021 Regional Scout Conference. Those eligible for re-election at the 2021 Regional Conference will if elected serve a mandate until the next ordinary meeting of the Regional Conference foreseen in 2024.*

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