

**Minutes**  
**YMCA Europe Executive Committee meeting**  
**Prague, Czech Republic**  
**16. May 2012**

**Participants:**

Peter Posner	President
Evert Eggink	Treasurer
Beate Turck	Assessor
Juan Simoes Iglesias	Secretary General (SG)
Michal Szymanczak	Senior Executive Secretary

Peter Posner opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Agenda**

**1. Opening remarks and apologies**

Peter Posner gave apologies from Stepan Czerny (assessor), Kaare Dag Mangersnes (Vice-President), Marina Michailidou (Recording secretary), Karin Hammar (assessor), Susan Louhema (assessor), Mieke Barenbrug (assessor) who will not attend the meeting. All ExCom members have been contacted before this meeting to receive their votings for important decisions.

As Marina will not be able to attend, Beate agreed to write the minutes.

**2. Adoption of the agenda**

The Agenda was adopted.

**3. Minutes of the Ex Com meeting from 8.-11. March 2012 in Berlin, Germany**

**Decision:** Minutes were approved

**Action points:**

*The "To do list" has been checked. New points from this meeting will be added (see appendix 3).*

**4. Matters arising**

Non

**5. Reports and Decisions**

**5.1 European Secretariat**

Juan gave the report.

**5.2 Movement Strengthening**

Michal reported about

- YMCA Moldova and its application for full membership
- his visit to YMCA Russia with the Moldovans
- the preparation meeting for Istanbul Catch the Vision seminar

**5.3 Christian Community**

Peter reported.

The general development of COG seems to improve.

The main theme of the 2014 GA is supposed to be “Inclusive Christianity” (2013 theme is “Healthy Living”)

#### 5.4 Programmes - overall coordination

No Report received.

#### 5.5 European Representation

Evert gave the report and presented a concept paper “Youth Policy Group”.

The concept paper to establish a new YE platform written by Kie Cummings and Gerard Tossierams has been discussed (see appendix no.1).

#### Proposal:

The ExCom generally supports the concept paper.

Candidates for the composition of the core group shall be nominated by the group itself for the next ExCom meeting in fall 2012. Juan will talk with Kie and Gerard during the GA. The point “4.1 Staff time” needs further consideration.

**Decision:** unanimously agreed

#### 5.6 Finances

Evert reported.

##### Where we are (stand 2012)?

General budget situation of YE is under control.

Special attention needs to be paid to the YE Festival 2013 budget.

##### George Williams Fund - Board of Trustees

In the ExCom meeting in Berlin (March 2012) it has been already decided to establish the YMCA Europe George Williams Fund (GW Fund). Since then the draft of constitution has been checked again, no more changes are needed.

In the constitution the names of the members of the first Board of Trustees were not mentioned yet. After having consulted all nominees and the Secretary General, the following candidates shall be appointed:

Chairman:	Evert Eggink (The Netherlands) (When Evert will be elected as President of YMCA Europe, Peter Posner (England) shall be proposed to be the chairman)
Treasurer:	Andreas Baer (Switzerland; former internal auditor of YE)
Recording Secretary:	Tom Cusens (Malta; former ExCom assessor)
Member:	Per Anders Aglert (Sweden; former internal auditor of YE)
Member:	Peter Posner or vacancy (if Peter will be the Chairman; see above)
Member qualitate qua	President YMCA Europe: Olga Lukina (Belarus) or Evert Eggink (The Netherlands); if one of both being elected by the General Assembly
Member qualitate qua	Treasurer YMCA Europe: Mike Will (Scotland) if being elected by the General Assembly

All have agreed with this candidacy and the proposed division of roles. The members of the Board of Trustees will start their work after being appointed.

#### Proposal:

The ExCom appoints the proposed members of the Board of Trustees.

**Decision:** unanimously decided.

##### George Williams Fund - starting capital

In the constitution of the GW Fund it is said that the starting capital, to be provided by YMCA Europe, will be € 500. This is a minimum.

Evert proposes that the starting capital of the GW Fund will be based on the existing “Albufeira donation” of € 445. Additionally his proposal is to create a substantial starting capital for the Fund

by transferring from the existing "Friends of YMCA Europe Fund" (contained on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011 an amount of € 20.310) into the GW Fund starting capital. Several questions have been answered in the following discussion.

**Proposal:**

The ExCom decides to propose to the GA 2012 to transfer the "Albufeira donation" of € 445 and additionally €4.055 from the "Friends of YMCA Europe Fund" to the "YMCA Europe George Williams Fund" as its starting capital (thus in total € 5.000).

**Decision:** unanimously decided

National contributions

In the ExCom meeting in Berlin it has been decided to write letters (by the Secretary General) to some National Movements with specific, already longer lasting debts. In this letter it should be mentioned that the ExCom considers taking away voting rights unless there is a perspective that the debt situation will be solved. The concrete debts were mentioned in the Treasurers report for the meeting in March 2012 in Berlin. Decisions should now be taken in this ExCom meeting. The Secretary General has sent such letters to the YMCA's of Wales, Bulgaria, Italy and Latvia (by e-mail and regular mail) and has asked these National Movements to react before 4<sup>th</sup> May 2012. These letters were followed up by several phone calls.

At this moment the situation is as follows:

- Bulgaria:** No reaction received, despite several attempts.  
**Italy:** No reaction received, despite several attempts.  
**Latvia:** No reaction received in writing. Yesterday morning finally contact by phone. Reaction promised before the end of the day. No reaction received. Payment of a part of the debt promised for a long time. No concrete action.  
**Wales:** A letter has been received, several contacts by phone. Conclusion at least they show "good will". But the promised payments for March 2012 however not arrived (typing error March instead of May? This should be clarified again).

Based on the above information and on additional contacts with these movements by the Secretary General, the Secretary General and treasurer concluded to advice the ExCom to take the following decisions, according to article §10 of YE Constitution:

Article 10 of our Constitution:

**§ 10 Obligations and sanctions**

Each Member is obliged to pay an annual contribution to the Association. The amount of the annual contribution shall be decided by the General Assembly. Any Member not paying its annual contribution for the last year or earlier years, will – unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise due to special circumstances – lose its voting rights until an agreement with that Committee regarding payment of the outstanding contribution(s) has been reached and confirmed in writing. Membership may at any time be revoked by the Executive Committee if in the opinion of that Committee a Member is not acting in harmony with this Constitution or is acting or is being conducted by its governing body in a manner which may bring itself, or the Young Men's Christian Association Movement generally, into disrepute. Membership may also be revoked by the Executive Committee if an agreement with the Committee regarding payment of any outstanding contribution(s) is not reached within a period of time, the duration of which is at the sole discretion of the Committee. Normally such an agreement should be reached not later than one year after the contribution(s) is due to be paid. The Executive Committee may at any time reinstate voting rights that have been lost or membership that has been revoked.

1. To take away voting rights from YMCA Bulgaria till the debt situation has been solved and to inform YMCA Bulgaria in writing.
2. To take away voting rights from YMCA Italy till the debt situation has been solved and to inform YMCA Italy in writing
3. To take away voting rights from YMCA Latvia till the debt situation has been solved. The National General Secretary of YMCA Latvia will be present for the GA and she will be informed

orally before the GA starts, or as soon as she arrives. This decision will be effective directly. YMCA Latvia will also be informed in writing.

**Proposal:**

The ExCom agrees with the proposed decisions as mentioned above under points 1 - 3 to take away voting rights from YMCA Bulgaria, YMCA Italy, and YMCA Latvia. They will be informed by an official writing.

**Decision:** unanimously decided.

4. To agree with the proposal of YMCA Wales to pay the mentioned amounts (approx. € 14.000 of the total debt of € 23.845). The ExCom however does not agree with forgetting the rest of the debts as YMCA Wales proposes. ExCom proposes that the remaining debts (approx. € 10.000) will stay as debts in our books and that we need to find a solution to solve these remaining debts in the next years.

**Proposal:**

With regard to YMCA Wales the ExCom accepts their offer, expressed in letter from April 20, 2012. The treasurer still needs to clarify the proposed date for the payment (May instead of March?). The remaining debts (appr. € 10.000) shall be kept in the books. A concrete payment schedule needs to be discussed further. The ExCom will reconsider the situation of YMCA Wales in its fall 2012 meeting.

**Decision:** unanimously decided.

Other relevant issues

The financial issues of YMCA Belgium and YMCA Lithuania shall be discussed in the fall 2012 meeting.

**6. Resource Mobilization/Impact Assessment**

Report included in GA working documents.

Juan reported:

- New grant from the "Westfälische Landeskirche" (Protestant church of Westfalia, Germany) to YE
- Grant of WAY has been renewed
- Openness to listen to other opportunities

**7. YMCA Europe Resource Team - YERT**

Report is included in GA working document.

The ExCom recognizes some standing of the group. It will be important not to lose the momentum.

**8. YMCA Europe Training Centre - new TC Board members**

Juan reported.

**Proposal:**

All conditions are fulfilled according to minutes of the March 2012 meeting of ExCom.

As already discussed at the ExCom Meeting in March in Berlin, Germany the ExCom now confirms the proposal from that meeting as follows:

The Executive Committee of the European Alliance of YMCAs acknowledges that to the date of 25.9.2012 expires mandate to these members of the YMCA Europe Training Centre o.p.s. Board: Michal Frankl, Radek Hlavsa, Eva Tschornova, Jana Vohralikova and Peter Posner.

To the vacant places of the YMCA Europe Training Centre o.p.s for the next operational stage, for which the European Alliance of YMCAs is entitled to nominate its members, the European Alliance of YMCAs nominates the following persons: The newly elected European Alliance of YMCAs President, Jan Nissén (4.8.1945), Radek Hlavsa (5.4.1978), Eva Tschornova (26.4.1954), Stepan Cerny (12.11.1984) and Juan Simoes Iglesias (24.9.1963).

The Executive Committee of the European Alliance of YMCAs acknowledges that to the date of 25.9.2012 expires mandate to the following member of the YMCA Europe Training Centre o.p.s. Supervisory Board: Jan Nissén.

To the vacant place for the next operational stage, for which the European Alliance of YMCAs is entitled to nominate its member, the European Alliance of YMCAs nominates the following person: Peter Posner (3.4.1953).

Czech Translation:

Výkonný výbor European Alliance of YMCAs bere na vědomí, že dnem 25.9.2012 zaniká mandát členům správní rady Evropského školicího centra o.p.s., jmenovitě: Michalu Franklovi, Radku Hlavsovi, Evě Tschornové, Janě Vohralíkové a Peteru Posnerovi.

Na uvolněná místa členů správní rady Evropského školicího centra o.p.s. pro následující funkční období, na která je EAY oprávněna jmenovat své zástupce, jmenuje výkonný výbor EAY tyto osoby: Nového Presidenta Evropské Alliance, Jana Nissena (4.8.1945), Radka Hlavsu (5.4.1978), Evu Tschornovou (26.4.1954) Stepana Cerneho (12.11.1984) and Juan Simoese Igleziase (24.9.196).

Výkonný výbor European Alliance of YMCAs bere na vědomí, že dnem 25.9.2012 zaniká mandát Janu Nissénovi, členu dozorčí rady Evropského školicího centra o.p.s. Na uvolněné místo člena dozorčí rady Evropského školicího centra o.p.s. pro následující funkční období, na které je EAY oprávněna jmenovat svého zástupce, jmenuje výkonný výbor EAY tuto osobu: Petera Posnera (3.4.1953).

**Decision:** unanimously decided.

#### 9. World Alliance of YMCA (WAY) Matters incl. GOP

Report is included in GA working documents.

Friday evening of GA will be a meeting about European YMCA issues with regard to WAY (with ExCom members of WAY and other interested delegates)

#### 10. YMCA Europe Festival 2013

Juan reported.

Amy Wilson resigned from SG in May 2012. If possible a replacement should be nominated. Beth Čechráková (CZ) is working part time for YE for the YE Festival 2013 since 15. May 2012. Because of a grant of the EU this employment was possible). Generally good responses from worldwide YMCA family to attend festival are received. Also the WAY is supporting the festival strongly.

#### 11. YMCA Europe General Assemblies 2012 and 2013

##### YE GA 2012

There will be 3 key note speeches, each followed by 4 working groups. Each working group session different facilitators (max. 12 people) and recorders need to be appointed. Beate, Michal and Juan will organize the working group sessions. Beate will collect all minutes.

##### Request from GA 2011 - shortening GA for one day

Peter will explain to the GA what has been discussed by the ExCom. The following ideas shall be suggested for the GA 2013:

- Every second GA (preferable the one in taking place in Czech Republic) will last one day less (Friday-Sunday).
- Delegates should arrive on Thursday and depart on Sunday afternoon/evening.
- The GA will start Friday morning at 9 hrs. and will end Sunday with the lunch.
- The Ex Com meeting will take place Thursday afternoon

##### YE GA 2013

*Proposal:*

*The next GA should take place 09-12 May 2013 in the YE TC Litomyšl, Czech Republic, if the reconstruction works have been finished in time.*

**Decision:** unanimously decided.

#### 12. Next Meetings

September/October 2012

A possible date for the first meeting of the new elected ExCom could be 28.-30.09.2012 (or 4.-7.10.2012).

The concrete decision has to be taken with the new elected YE ExCom during this GA.

**13. Any other Business**

Non

**14. Closing Remarks:**

Peter closed the meeting at 16 May 2012, 16:15 hrs.

Peter Posner  
(President)

Beate Turck  
(Assessor / Recording Secretary)

## To do points:

### Reports and Decisions

#### 5.1 European Secretariat

- => *adjust job descriptions of ExCom member (one job description should be linked to PR/communication work of YE) ->> until fall 2012 ExCom meeting*

#### 5.4 Programmes -overall coordination

- => *For next YES seminar the planning committee should receive the entire address list of member YMCAs to prepare application and partnership agreements for EU grant (office in Prague may be help) ->> October 2012 / Eva*
- => *receive report (impact assessment) of YES seminar 2011 + 2012 ->> fall 2012 / Stepan*

#### 5.5 European Youth Policy

- => *Regarding a new nomination of a YE representative to European Youth Forum to the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth Kie and Karin should be contacted. Further steps should be prepared. ->> May 2012 / Juan/Karin*
- => *This issue has to be considered again in ExCom (general guidelines how to nominate candidates, what mandate has been given to candidate) ->> fall 2012*
- => *YE representative in the advisory board should be involved in new YE platform "youth policy" ->> November 2012*
- => *ExCom expects regular reports by its representatives ->> fall 2012*
- => *Representatives should exchange information about meetings prior to discuss with staff/ ExCom to receive a mandate for meetings of advisory board ->> fall 2012*

#### 5.6 Finances

##### Friends of Europe Campaign

- => *take decision on FoYE campaign ->> fall 2012 / Evert*

##### National contributions/Voting rights

- => *write letters to respective member movements ->> immediately / Evert/Juan*
- => *put on agenda for next executive committee meeting -> fall 2012 / Eva*

#### 8. YMCA Europe Training Centre

- => *Inform national movements about price reduction for YMCA groups ->> Prague office*

#### 10. YMCA Europe Festival 2013

- => *send minutes of last steering group meeting to ExCom ->> immediately / Eva*
- => *provide access to Basecamp for executive committee members ->> immediately / Juan*
- => *Evert neEverts promotional materials for fund raising reasons ->> immediately / Juan*

#### 12. Any other Business

##### Results from Movement Strengthening Meeting March 2012 Berlin

- => *send out promised information/minutes of MS meeting to all participants ->> immediately / Michal/Juan*
- => *instead of "old report formats" (of FG, PG and Programme groups) develop new formats according to strategy (impact assessment) and from all member movements (including one questions with regard to existing field and partner groups) and from some subcommittees of ExCom ->> March/April / Juan, Eva (and further working on this until Fall ex com meeting)*
- => *include Movement strengthening report ->> immediately / Michal, Beate*
- => *take decision about final date and venue for next MS meeting ->> fall ex com meeting 2012*
- => *check procedure proposals for amendments/sending out working documents (ExCom)*