

Constitution of the European Ten Sing Group (ETS)

§1 Name

European Ten Sing Group (ETS) of the YMCA Europe (YE).

§2 Accountability

ETS acts on behalf of the YE and meets and acts under its own responsibility. ETS is recognised as a European Programme Group by the YE.

ETS is a part of the YE and works under its working documents. (Rules for working with YE groups - adopted by the EAY Executive Committee 30 October 1992, updated 2 November 1998. And the Terms of reference - European programmes adopted by the EAY Executive Committee 30 October 1992, updated 2 November 1998.)

§3 Objectives - purpose

The work of the ETS Group is based on the “Ten Sing Idea” which is set out in a separate document.

To promote and spread out the Ten Sing Idea as a youth programme to all national YMCA movements and to help them develop Ten Sing.

To facilitate an international and ecumenical Christian fellowship in programmes organised by the ETS in which the proclamation and testimony of the gospel is an integrated part.

To promote an international understanding and learning through programmes organised by the ETS.

To support local to local contacts and foster co-operation between the YMCA movements in Europe.

To enable leaders of ETS activities to run these activities according to common quality standards.

§4 Membership

National movements that are members of the YE and that have recognized Ten Sing work may apply for membership in the ETS. The ETS Conference gives member status by voting.

A membership application has to be sent at least two months before the ETS Conference to the ETS Executive Group. The applicant has to present itself at the ETS Conference in order to run for membership.

The national movement selects the delegates for the conference and is responsible for all expenses.

§5 Voting Delegations

All members of the ETS are voting delegations at the ETS Conference and have one vote each.

§6 ETS Conference

The ETS Group meets once a year at the ETS Conference.

Each voting delegation has one vote.

The ETS Chairperson is not a member of a voting delegation.

The rules of the conference are stated in the By-laws of the ETS Group.

§7 ETS Executive Group

The ETS annual meeting elects the ETS Executive Group for a two year term.

The ETS Executive Group acts on behalf of the ETS Group.

The ETS Executive Group has 5 members, but only one from the same movement.

Having less than 5 members is not a restriction to have an Executive group. If at the conference there can not be chosen 5 members, the Executive Group has permission to appoint the last members without a conference voting to serve until the next conference.

The ETS Executive Group elects one of them to be the ETS chairperson.

The ETS Executive Group meets at least once a year.

The main duties of the ETS Executive Group are the follow-up of the last, the preparation of the next ETS Conference and to take urgent decisions, which cannot wait until the next ETS-Conference.

The job description of the ETS Chairperson and the ETS Executives Group are stated in a separate document.

§ 8 Amendments to the official documents

§ 8.1 Needed majorities

- a) Constitution of the ETS Group:
Any proposal to amend the Constitution of the ETS Group must be approved by a 2/3 majority.
- b) By-laws of the ETS Group:
Any proposal to amend the By-laws of the ETS Group must be approved by a simple majority.
- c) The Ten Sing Idea:
Any proposal to amend the Ten Sing Idea must be approved unanimously.

§ 8.2. Deadlines to amendment suggestions

The deadlines for member movements to put forward amendment suggestions to the documents (§ 8.1) are stated in the By-laws of the ETS Group.

§ 8.3 Exception

Changes in spelling or wording in the documents that do not affect the content can be made by the ETS Group and the ETS Executive Group without following the deadlines to amendment suggestions.