



DOCUMENT 2 - World Scout Youth Forum Guidelines

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The following Guidelines for the organisation of the World Scout Youth Forum (WSYF) have been revised and updated by the 14th WSYF Planning Committee, endorsed by the Youth Advisors to the World Scout Committee (WSC) and submitted for the approval of the WSC.

The following Guidelines are designed to allow for flexibility in the modalities of delivering the Youth Forum, specifically to include provisions to allow for a virtual event.

The WSC approved these WSYF Guidelines in February 2021.

1. Introduction

The 40th World Scout Conference in Slovenia, 2014, adopted the updated [World Scout Youth Involvement Policy](#). This policy states, as a basic principle, that "Scouting is a Movement of young people, supported by adults; it is not a Movement for young people managed by adults only. Thus, Scouting offers the potential for a learning community of young people and adults, working together in partnership of enthusiasm and experience".

The WSC emphasises that the involvement of young people in decision-making is an integral and essential part of the Scout Method, defined as a system of progressive self-education.¹

2. What is the World Scout Youth Forum?

The WSYF is an **educational tool** to support the process of developing youth involvement in partnership with adults and young members in the oldest age sections of Scouting across the world. It is an event that empowers and inspires young people through a participatory approach, helping them to develop skills in decision-making which can be used within Scouting and in society.

The WSYF is a place for information sharing, training and the concrete experience of discussing and acquiring a deeper understanding of various issues. It is also a source of inspiration, providing contact with new people, fresh ideas, innovative thoughts, different experiences and working methods.

A WSYF, therefore, provides an opportunity for young people to:

- learn, discuss and express their views on issues of interest to them, preparing inputs, proposals and reporting for the World Scout Conference;
- develop the skills necessary to strengthen their capacity to take part in decision-making processes;
- be actively involved in their own Member Organization.

The WSYF shall enable young people to:

- share their ideas and experiences on current issues and trends affecting young people in different parts of the world;
- suggest ways of strengthening national youth policies and training young people for world citizenship;
- contribute new ideas to the Movement on how to enrich educational programmes for young people over 16².

The WSYF shall be held immediately prior to World Scout Conferences, which will allow more young people to participate in World Scout Conferences and to be better prepared for them. A joint effort between both events should be made to identify and promote ways to have more young people participating in both events as part of their national delegations.

¹ Check World Scout Committee Policy Statement in annex 2B as amended and endorsed by the 36th World Scout Conference, Thessaloniki, July 2002

² Resolution 2002-06 on Youth Involvement in Decision-Making

3. Programme of the World Scout Youth Forum

In adherence with the World Scout Conference Resolution 1993-10, the WSC is ultimately responsible for the agenda and procedures of the WSYF, and a Host Committee (if applicable) is responsible for the facilities and support services. However, these committees delegate to young people the planning, organising and running of this event.

To achieve this, the WSYF Planning Committee was created with certain criteria that will be explained later in the guidelines. This WSYF Planning Committee is supported by the WSC, the World Scout Bureau (WSB) and the Host Committee.

a. Theme

The WSYF Planning Committee chooses a theme for the WSYF, as an inspirational framework of action and according to the topics on the agenda. It is recommended that young members of the Movement are consulted through the communication channels available during this process. It is also recommended to align the WSYF theme with the theme of the World Scout Conference. Ultimately, the theme should be endorsed by the WSC.

b. Agenda

The agenda of the WSYF should be determined by young people.

The WSYF should allow participants to discuss issues relating to Scouting that are of interest to them. This may include any topics to be discussed at the upcoming World Scout Conference, such as issues related to the proposed Triennial Plan and the Strategy for Scouting. This will help strengthen the intergenerational dialogue and facilitate the actual involvement of young people in WOSM's decision-making processes. Discussions may also relate to issues that are affecting young people in different parts of the world and how Scouting can help improve young people's lives. However, the agenda should be flexible, allowing participants to organise and discuss topics that they suggest during the event.

In order to achieve the WSYF objectives, the agenda may also include inspirational sessions, such as sharing of best practices or keynote speakers, as well as capacity building sessions related to topics such as, but not limited to, Youth Involvement and others identified by the WSYF Planning Committee. Also, it is recommended that the configuration of the agenda helps participants reflect on what they are learning, and what they can take back to their home countries and Member Organizations after the WSYF.

c. Working methods

Working methods will include methods that are currently practised in international Scout decision-making bodies. During the WSYF, participants are invited to discuss and share topics of interest to them using democratic methods and clear rules of procedure, which would be useful for their participation in international Scout and/or youth events in general. Through this, participants will develop their motivation and skills to participate in decision-making at local, national and international levels.

The different experiences and cultural backgrounds of the participants will allow them, with the help of the working methods proposed during the WSYF, to have fruitful exchanges, to enrich their personal views, to strengthen their skills, to think innovatively and to reflect on what they have learned and achieved.

It is important to use creative, diverse and appropriate working methods (including virtual ones) that will ensure the successful realisation of the objectives of the WSYF, but that will also serve as an example to

be replicated in participants' Member Organizations. Working methods are defined by the WSYF Planning Committee taking into account the above.

i) Educational dimension

The WSYF Planning Committee must make sure that there is sufficient information, instruction and explanation included in the WSYF programme and its preparation period to allow participants who may be less prepared than others to still take a full and active role in the WSYF.

There is an important balance to be drawn between a training and educational opportunity for all those who have limited experience of such events, and in offering a suitable programme for those WSYF delegates who may have extensive experience in participation as a youth representative at a national and international level.

The WSYF must offer an environment where all the young people present can engage in an active, useful development of ideas, and can provide input to the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) on programme development, strengthening national youth policies and training young people for global active citizenship.

As the WSYF also serves (temporarily or otherwise) as a training ground for World Scout Conference participation, some of the working methods used at the WSYF should reflect those of the World Scout Conference. Participants should learn about Resolution development, proposing Amendments and voting procedures through using such techniques.

ii. Keynote inputs

Guest speakers with experience in the WSYF's topics could be invited to attend the WSYF, provide inputs and engage with the participants. Whenever possible, the sessions should be made interactive and participatory. The inputs should be organised in various ways and be innovative. Guest speakers will be identified and proposed by the WSYF Planning Committee as part of the proposed agenda. If keynote speakers address the plenary, it may then be possible to follow speeches with participant-led discussion groups, thereby developing further the participants' understanding of the topic.

iii. Peer leadership

WSYF participants should be encouraged to actively run sessions themselves. Those with experience from similar events and with expertise in particular areas of interest could be invited to lead sessions, and to nominate subjects themselves. While the sessions should mainly be organised by young people, this should not eliminate the possibility of asking older adults to lead sessions where their expertise can be of value.

These individuals should be identified before the event and supported in the preparation and delivery of the sessions.

iv. International teams

Throughout the WSYF, participants (delegates and observers) will mostly work in international teams, not in their national delegations. Each team will have around eight persons³ in number and each team will reflect a balance in age, gender, Scout Region and experience. The WSYF Planning Committee will assign the teams prior to the WSYF (after the registration process is closed) and propose a pre-Forum engagement.

³ Applying the basic organizational structure of the Scout Method "team system" for cooperative decision-making purposes, according to the "Essential Characteristics of Scouting" 2019.

v. Continuous Virtual Communication⁴

To allow participants of the WSYF to stay in contact before, during and after the WSYF, an internet platform will be created and duly communicated through all possible channels to be known to the WSYF participants.

All participants at the WSYF and the Regional Scout Youth Forums (or equivalent) shall be invited to be part of this Internet platform and engage in online discussions. It is suggested to accommodate all current and past participants of the World and Regional Youth Forums, with more focus on the current participants. This platform will also include other young people who would like to share their views during the triennium (between the WSYFs).

The six elected Youth Advisors of the triennium, with the technical support of the WSB, shall be responsible for discussion animation and coordination. Youth Advisors may delegate sessions to other volunteers who wish to run discussions.

d. Outcomes

As a safe space where young people can present, share, and discuss ideas, and as an inspirational experience of empowerment, it is important that the WSYF be included in the wider structures developed for the involvement of young people within the Movement. As such, the outcomes of the WSYF should have ongoing consequences for further youth involvement in any other areas.

Moreover, the WSYF represents a solid base for discussion and youth engagement in policies and topics related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and active citizenship, communication and governance at local, national and global levels. In this direction, the WSYF should allow participants to transfer know-how skills for those not able to attend the WSYF themselves and inspire them to be socially involved.

In this regard, and considering its objectives, the WSYF may produce the following outcomes:

i. Report to the World Scout Conference

A concise report that will be presented during the World Scout Conference, that includes the main developments occurring during the WSYF and its main results.

ii. Proposal of Draft Amendments

The World Scout Youth Forum may agree on a list of Draft Amendments, while observing the World Scout Conference "Resolution & Amendment Guidelines". These Amendments may pertain to Draft Resolutions (including the Triennial Plan) and Draft Emergency Resolutions under consideration by the World Scout Conference. Insofar as practical, the process of adoption will mirror that at the World Scout Conference as described in its Rules of Procedure.

This compiled list of proposed Draft Amendments emanating from the WSYF:

- will be made available to all delegations at the World Scout Conference as part of the WSYF Report, and
- will be highlighted during the respective break-out sessions during the World Scout Conference where the Draft Resolutions are discussed.

⁴ The main internet platform available now on both scout.org and Facebook is the *World Scout Youth Forum*.

However, none of the proposed Draft Amendments compiled by the WSYF will be considered by the World Scout Conference unless proposed and seconded at the World Scout Conference by Member Organizations.

iii. Proposals of Draft Emergency Resolutions

The WSYF may also agree on proposed Draft Emergency Resolutions for such matters that are “urgent” and “important” to consider. The required qualifications to meet “urgent” and “important” are described in Section 3.3 of Annex 2B of the World Scout Conference Rules of Procedure. The Drafting Committee (with the endorsement of the WSYF Planning Committee) will report on the compliance of the Draft Emergency Resolutions with the WSYF RoP and World Scout Conference Rules of Procedure.

Any proposals of Draft Emergency Resolutions emanating from the WSYF:

- will be made available to all delegations at the World Scout Conference as part of the WSYF Report, and
- will be highlighted during the respective break-out sessions during the World Scout Conference where the Draft Emergency Resolutions are discussed.

However, none of the proposed Draft Emergency Resolutions proposed by the WSYF will be considered by the World Scout Conference unless proposed and seconded at the World Scout Conference by at least nine Member Organizations from three different Regions.

iv. WSYF Final Declaration

A statement that summarises the main concerns or messages that the participants would like to share with WOSM and/or the world. This in part helps guide the Youth Advisors’ work during the triennium.

The Final Declaration should be in the form of a general statement that expresses the key messages that the WSYF participants collectively and/or individually, would like to convey. These may include major concerns, calls for action, wishes, encouragements, commitments, etc.

The WSYF Final Declaration will be included in the report of the WSYF to the World Scout Conference, does not require endorsement by the WSC or Member Organizations and will be communicated to all delegations.

v. Personal Action Plan

Based on the different sessions of the agenda, each delegate will develop an action plan, supported by guidelines provided by the WSYF Planning Committee, that will allow them to focus on their own personal interests and Member Organization’s expectations. Additionally, the action plan will support the delegates to transform decisions from the World level (policies and any outcomes of the WSYF and the World Scout Conference) into actions at their Member Organizations/local level. Initially, this personal action plan would serve to inspire action in the year immediately after the WSYF.

vi. Full report from the WSYF

A final report to provide clear indicators of capacity building, based on the educational dimension and objectives of the WSYF, through survey results (pre and post Forum). This WSYF Report will help to show the competencies developed by the participants, and to compile best practices to strengthen the inspirational and motivational aspect of the WSYF (either presented during the WSYF or as a result of the delegates’ Personal Action Plan implementation). This WSYF Report will also contribute to evaluate the World level strategy for youth involvement and to support the Youth Advisors (World and Regional levels) to follow up on specific projects or strategies to help WSYF participants in achieving their Personal Action Plans.

4. Participants

a. Age range

WSYF participants must be between the ages of 18 and 26 during the period of the WSYF, in accordance with World Scout Conference Resolution 1993-10.⁵ Exceptions should be approved by the World Scout Committee

b. Delegates and observers

There are two kinds of participants at WSYFs: delegates and observers.

Delegates and Observers must be registered on-line prior to the Youth Forum by the International Commissioner or the Official Key Contact recorded for the Organization in the World Scouting Directory. Alternatively, a letter listing the Delegates and Observers can be sent to the World Scout Bureau signed by the International Commissioner or the Official Key Contact recorded for the Organization in the World Scouting Directory.

Each Member Organization is encouraged to send **two delegates and a maximum of four observers** to the WSYF. Member Organizations are strongly encouraged to send at least one delegate to the WSYF. Only individuals who are members of WOSM can be delegates to the WSYF.

Each delegation may cast two votes, irrespective of the number of delegates representing a Member Organization⁶ at the WSYF.

c. Profile

WSYF participants should have:

- experience in, or knowledge of, decision-making at the institutional level within their Member Organization and/or at Regional level;
- experience in, or knowledge of, current issues under consideration at World level in WOSM;
- experience in, or knowledge of, World Scout Conference participation and techniques of Resolution development;
- experience in, or knowledge of, representation of young people;
- willingness to share experiences with their peers at National, Regional and World level after the WSYF; with the possibility to take an active role at one, some or all of these levels, if needed.

d. Code of Conduct

- I. In Keeping with Scouting values, and to ensure a safe space for all, all attendees of the WSYF are required to adhere to the World Scout Conference/WSYF Code of Conduct.
 - This Code of Conduct is circulated in advance of the WSYF to all attendees and is also made available through the Forum's communication channels.
 - All attendees will have completed, in line with the [World Safe from Harm Policy](#), a mandatory e-Learning training to familiarise themselves with the World Scout Conference/WSYF Code of Conduct prior to the WSYF.
- II. All Member Organizations and attendees of the WSYF have an obligation to immediately report any allegations of non-compliance of either Code of Conduct through the process outlined in the [Complaints Policy of the World Organization of the Scout Movement](#).

⁵ Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the postponement to 2021, participants to the 14th World Scout Youth Forum are eligible to attend if born on or between the dates of 19 August 1993 and 18 August 2003. Full details can be referenced in circular 37/2020 and 01/2021.

⁶ National Scout Organizations, who have been accepted as members of WOSM, are referred to as Member Organizations at the time of the World Scout Youth Forum (WSYF).

e. Selection

Member Organizations are responsible for ensuring the selection of appropriate WSYF participants, in accordance with the profile set out above.

Gender, social, ethnic and geographical background should be taken into consideration when the participants are selected. Members Organisations with both female and male members should try to ensure gender-balance in the selection process.

Participants must be selected in advance of the event. The selection process should take into consideration the participants' capacity to contribute to the WSYF topics. They should be appointed or elected by their peers according to democratic principles, and they should represent the young members of their Member Organizations. To achieve a truly democratic process, it is of importance to involve young members in the process.

f. Preparation

Members Organizations are responsible for providing support to WSYF participants in their preparation for the event. Participants should be selected, or provided with training, in accordance with the criteria listed.

Adequate information about the topics to be discussed by the WSYF should be given to Member Organizations early enough to allow them to pass it on to their participants to prepare for the WSYF. The WSB will circulate all useful information and documents to Member Organizations at least two months in advance of the WSYF.

The WSYF Planning Committee should support the preparation of the participants through the dedicated Internet platform and through any other appropriate means, including, but not limited to, reference documents and webinars. Registration to the WSYF will not be completed without passing the mandatory pre-engagement content that the WSYF Planning Committee determines.

g. After the World Scout Youth Forum

As a means of encouraging greater participation by young adults in the official decision-making processes of WOSM – in particular those who have had the opportunity to develop their personal skills through taking part in a WSYF – it is recommended that WSYF participants be included in their Member Organization's delegation to the World Scout Conference which immediately follows the WSYF.

WSYF participants attending the World Scout Conference should be invited to brief the other members of their delegations to the Conference on the results of the WSYF. Member Organizations should ensure that, on their return home, WSYF participants are enabled to share their experience and knowledge within their organisation and report on the WSYF to responsible bodies.

Participants are encouraged to maintain contact with each other after the WSYF, specially with their international teams, whether through the official platforms or other channels. They are encouraged to use this network to keep sharing information, best practices, concerns, and ideas. Also, they are encouraged and somehow expected to mentor and share their experience with future World or Regional Youth Forum participants.

Based on the WSYF outcomes, participants are encouraged to implement their Personal Action Plans, share the implementation of new projects and ideas, follow up the WSYF's Final Declaration and contribute to the final Report by participating based on working methods defined by the WSYF Planning Committee.

Finally, participants are encouraged to promote youth engagement platforms in their Member Organization and Region, to apply to open call opportunities at World and Regional levels, and to be more involved in their communities.

h. Other participants

The WSYF Planning Committee may also invite visitors to attend some sessions of the WSYF, enhancing the intergenerational dialogue principles of WOSM. Visitors may be invited by the WSYF Planning Committee to speak, but they will not have the right to vote. The WSYF age limits do not apply to visitors.

It is highly encouraged that the WSYF Planning Committee invites guests from partners or other organisations with similar scope of work as WOSM, to increase the visibility and work in the area of youth involvement at the World level. These guests may share good practices and engage in discussions of the WSYF.

Guests will be provided with a formal invitation from the World Scout Bureau which will also register the guest as an attendee to the Youth Forum.

The WSYF Planning Committee will not accept the registration of any participant (delegate or observer) that does not fulfil the profile or the age limit of the WSYF participants. Exception to this rule will be the WSYF Planning Committee, WOSM team supporting the WSYF, Host Committee and invited visitors and guests.

5. Organisation

a. World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee

i. Composition

The WSYF Planning Committee shall comprise:

- two of the six elected Youth Advisors (irrespective of their Region). They would be selected among the six Youth Advisors in any suitable time before the second official meeting of the WSC⁷ after the WSYF.
- four to five young members who have experience of participating in Youth Forums and represent each of WOSM's Regions (minimum of four – in case the two elected Youth Advisors are from different Regions - and a maximum of five – if the elected Youth Advisors to the Planning Committee are from the same Region). The six elected Youth Advisors, in coordination with the WSB (Global and Regional Support Centres) and the Regional Youth Advisors, will select these representatives. The selection should be gender balanced. These young representatives should receive official endorsement from their Member Organizations for this task.
- one representative of the Host Member Organization, if applicable (the WSYF Director).
- one member of the WSC.
- executives from the WSB giving specific support to the WSYF.⁸

ii. Functions

The WSYF Planning Committee has the following functions:

⁷ This is the second World Scout Committee meeting after the World Scout Conference (not including the meetings during the Conference or the induction training).

⁸ This should be the executive responsible for Youth Programme and/or the Youth Involvement in the WSB.

- to identify topics of interest to young people which may be considered by the WSYF,
- to take into consideration input from the WSC on any particular topic they may wish the WSYF to consider, that will be communicated in due time with the Member Organizations,
- to ensure, within the programme of the WSYF, opportunities for skill development of the participants in the processes of decision-making,
- to recommend to the WSC for approval, the main content of the programme and agenda of the WSYF,
- to prepare information for Member Organizations on the main topics to be discussed by the WSYF before the event,
- to develop the detailed programme and agenda of the WSYF,
- to choose the working methods of the WSYF, favouring opportunities for skill development, discussions and group work by participants, and
- to inform participants about their role both within the WSYF itself and within their Member Organization following the WSYF.

iii. Chairperson

The six Youth Advisors elected at the WSYF, shall elect from among themselves the Chairperson of the next WSYF. The elected Chairperson shall be one of the two Youth Advisors elected at the WSYF to serve as part of the next WSYF Planning Committee. The selection of the two Youth Advisors for the WSYF Planning Committee, including the role of Chairperson of the coming WSYF, should be endorsed by the WSC in its second official business meeting of the triennium. The endorsement shall then be announced officially.

It is not recommended to elect the two Youth Advisors of the WSYF Planning Committee and Chairperson of the coming WSYF during the ongoing WSYF.

iv. Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs on the WSYF Planning Committee before the next WSYF, the WSYF Planning Committee may appoint a successor to serve until the next WSYF, who is:

- a. elected by the Youth Advisors if the vacancy is of the two Youth Advisors in the WSYF Planning Committee.
- b. selected by the same Region and endorsed by the WSYF Planning Committee if the vacancy is from the other young members of the WSYF Planning Committee.

Vacancies in the WSYF Planning Committee from the members of the World Scout Committee, World Scout Bureau or the Host Committee will be appointed by the same respective bodies.

A vacancy in the WSYF Planning Committee can occur if a WSYF Planning Committee member:

- a. resigns from the position on their own initiative,
- b. does not perform their duties for more than four months, or
- c. is not available for this period.

In the first case, a vacancy will occur automatically. In the second and third case, the WSYF Planning Committee member and their Member Organization shall be contacted to request a clarification on their absence. If there is no response from the person in question within 30 days of receiving the request, or if the response is considered to be unsatisfactory, they will be considered to have resigned from the position.

If the vacancy occurs in a short time before the WSYF, the WSYF Planning Committee can consider to not have any replacement.

b. Roles and responsibilities

i. *Role of the WSC*

The WSC is responsible for:

- approving the venue and other practical arrangements proposed by the host Member Organization, if applicable;
- approving the participation fee for the WSYF;
- informing the WSYF Planning Committee of any specific topics it would like the WSYF to consider, in time for this to be taken into account by the WSYF Planning Committee in its work;
- approving the main content of the programme and draft agenda of the WSYF, as recommended by the WSYF Planning Committee;
- and to follow up on the outcomes of the WSYF.

ii. *Role of World Scout Bureau (including Regional Support Centres)*

The WSB must devote the necessary resources, similar to those accorded to the World Scout Conference, to ensure the success of the WSYF. This includes:

- providing adequate information to Member Organizations about all aspects of the WSYF early enough to allow them to plan and prepare for their participation;
- providing executive support to the WSYF Planning Committee;
- providing secretarial and translation support during the WSYF and in the days immediately following the event, when the report to the World Scout Conference is being prepared;
- supporting the WSYF Planning Committee to prepare and run the WSYF;
- providing web development and ongoing support to the online Internet discussion platform for young people.

iii. *Role of host Member Organization (if applicable)*

In principle, the Member Organization hosting a WSYF fulfils the same responsibilities for the WSYF as for a World Scout Conference. Since the two events are run in conjunction, many common procedures may be combined. The responsibilities of the host Member Organization include, among other things:

- proposing to the WSC a suitable venue and practical arrangements for the event;
- the appointment of a Host Committee and provision of support to its operation;
- arranging for government support, including the assurance of entry for WSYF participants from all member countries.

iv. *Responsibilities of the Host Committee (if applicable)*

The Host Committee is appointed by the host Member Organization. The Host Committee is responsible, among other things, for:

- managing the venue (meeting rooms, offices and equipment);
- arranging for participants' reception, transportation and accommodation;
- arranging for the opening and closing ceremonies and social programme;
- providing the necessary staff to support the WSYF.

The function of the representative of the host Member Organization within the WSYF Planning Committee (the WSYF Director) is to act as the point of contact between the WSYF Planning Committee and the Host Committee.

c. Financial matters

The WSYF fee will be approved by the WSC and all incomes and expenditures will be part of the overall World Scout Conference / WSYF budget, also approved by the WSC, in accordance with the MoU signed with the host Member Organization (if applicable).

6. Youth Advisors

a. General

i. Youth Advisors elected by the World Scout Youth Forum

Six Youth Advisors shall be elected at the WSYF, for a term of three years. Two out of the six Youth Advisors will be members of the WSYF Planning Committee. The WSB executive in the WSYF Planning Committee shall be responsible for the conduct of the election of the new Youth Advisors.

Recognising that the Youth Advisors to the WSC do not work as separate entities, but are closely linked with the WSC, the new Youth Advisors will take office at the same time as the new WSC elected at the World Scout Conference succeeding the WSYF. The mandate of the Youth Advisors ends when the term of office of that WSC ends.

The WSC should facilitate mentoring and introductory training for the Youth Advisors.

ii. Role Description of the Youth Advisors to the World Scout Committee

Reviewed and approved by the World Scout Committee, in February 2020

1. Responsibilities of the Youth Advisors

Increasing youth participation in decision-making and strengthening youth involvement within the Scout Movement is a key issue for the World Scout Committee (WSC). The system of Youth Advisors has been created in the spirit of strengthening youth participation in World Scouting and is considered as an interim measure in achieving that goal. The Youth Advisors have the responsibility to individually work for the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) as a whole - not only for the young members of the organization - however, bearing in mind that the Youth Advisors elected at the World Scout Youth Forum have a responsibility towards their constituency.

The World Scout Committee, referring to:

- The Strategic Priority of Youth Engagement,
- Resolution 2005-11 World Scout Youth Forum, adopted at the 37th World Scout Conference in Tunisia,
- Resolution 2014-09 of the World Scout Youth Involvement Policy, adopted at the 40th World Scout Conference, in Slovenia,
- Resolution 2017-12 Youth Advisor Functions and Responsibilities, adopted by the 41st World Scout Conference, in Azerbaijan,

Defines the role of the Youth Advisors as follows:

2. Responsibilities of the Youth Advisors to the WSC

- The six Youth Advisors will be expected to attend meetings of the WSC to (provide advice, support and) participate in its decision-making processes with full right of voice in all areas of work, including working as part of the WSC substructures and its operational framework.
- Youth Advisors do not represent a single country or region but are required in their inputs to represent a global perspective.
- Youth Advisors are expected to contribute to all discussions, debates, and work, as well as to bring to the reflections and debates of the WSC the genuine opinion, views and proposals of young people.
- Youth Advisors present an ideal opportunity to include young volunteers in the external representation of WOSM.
- One of the six elected Youth Advisors forms part of the Steering Committee of the WSC.

3. Responsibilities of Youth Advisors to young members of WOSM

- Two of the six elected Youth Advisors form part of the Planning Committee of the next World Scout Youth Forum in accordance with the World Scout Youth Forum Guidelines. They shall work with other team members to plan the main content of the programme and agenda of the next World Scout Youth Forum and present it to the WSC for approval.
- Youth Advisors shall report no less than twice a year to online and offline platforms for youth.
- The Youth Advisors shall present a final report and evaluation of their activities over the past triennium to the WSC and the World Scout Youth Forum.
- The Youth Advisors shall present reports on their work to the WSC integrated, wherever possible, in the regular reporting of WSC's substructures.

4. Support and management

- The six elected Youth Advisors appoint one from within their group to serve as coordinator of the work of the Youth Advisors for a period that the Youth Advisors decide.
- The Youth Advisor group is supported by a World Scout Bureau staff member. This staff member is responsible for the support, liaison and coordination of all matters, pertaining to the Youth Advisors.
- Innovative and virtual methods of meeting and collaboration are used wherever possible.
- Travel and accommodation expenses are covered for attendance at WSC's regular meetings (in accordance with the [Volunteer Expense Reimbursement Policy](#)), attendance at the next World Scout Youth Forum and World Scout Conference. In addition, the two Youth Advisors who are members of the next World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee are also covered for approved expenses for planning committee members.

iii. Nomination and election process

At least 5 months in advance of the next WSYF, the WSB shall notify all Member Organizations that six Youth Advisors shall be elected (call for nominations). The WSB shall request Member Organizations to send in nominations of candidates no later than fourteen weeks prior to the WSYF (first deadline).

After the first deadline, in case of non-compliance with either one or all of the criteria below, the WSB shall notify, no later than twelve weeks prior to the WSYF, Member Organizations to send in additional nominations of candidates (2nd call for nominations):

- a. 1st criterion – To receive valid nominations from all six Regions of WOSM.

In this case, the WSB will notify which Region(s) is/are not represented and to open the nomination for 4 more weeks only for Member Organizations from the particular Region(s) to submit nominations.

- b. 2nd criterion – To receive nominations of which at least 40% of males and females are represented.

In this case the WSB will notify which gender is not fully represented, and to open the nominations for 4 more weeks only for Member Organizations to submit nominations of candidates of that particular gender. For the avoidance of doubt, the nominations will not be re-opened if all the above criteria are satisfied after the first deadline.

The nomination of a candidate shall be made or endorsed by their own Member Organization. This list of all nominees shall be sent out to all Member Organizations no later than 4 weeks in advance of the WSYF, and no additions thereto may be subsequently accepted. The consent of the nominee must be obtained before their name is submitted. In no case shall the list of nominees' state which candidates were nominated according to which deadline and candidates are strongly discouraged to disclose this information.

Candidates standing as Youth Advisors must be members of WOSM and delegates to the WSYF, where the election will take place.

The WSYF delegates will elect six Youth Advisors for a period of three years. The WSYF shall elect them by secret paper or electronic ballot, from a list of nominees submitted by Member Organizations.

All nominated candidates shall be listed on the paper or electronic voting system. In the event of a problem with the electronic voting system, or where called for by a majority of Member Organizations, the Chairperson will allow for the use of a backup system established by the World Scout Bureau.

In no case shall more than one elected Youth Advisor from any one Member Organization serve as Youth Advisor.

Youth Advisors do not represent any particular Member Organization or Region. Furthermore, as one of WOSM's fundamental purposes is to promote unity of the Scout Movement throughout the world (the World Organization of the Scout Movement Constitution Article IV,2), all Member Organizations are invited to keep in mind, in making nominations, the desirability of geographical balance of the Youth Advisors and gender equality.

Member Organizations who have nominated a candidate for the role of Youth Advisor should ensure to have that person as a member of their National Delegation to the World Scout Conference.⁹

Candidate presentations will be made available to the Youth Forum through suitable and fair means.

A Youth Advisor is not eligible for re-election.

iv. Vacancies

Normally, six Youth Advisors to the WSC are elected at the WSYF.

However, if a vacancy occurs before the next WSYF, the Youth Advisors may appoint a successor to serve until the next WSYF, who is the next person on the list of the election results from the candidates for the position of Youth Advisor (i.e. person number seven (7) in the election results).

If the person who comes seventh (7th) in the election is not available, the Youth Advisors may, at their discretion, choose a suitable person to take up the position, taking into account the election results, geographical distribution of Youth Advisors and gender balance.

⁹ In accordance with the Strategy for Scouting adopted by the 36th World Scout Conference in Thessaloniki, and in particular the priorities on youth involvement in the decision-making process, and in accordance with World Scout Conference Resolution 2002-06.

A vacancy can occur if a Youth Advisor:

- resigns from the position on their own initiative,
- is not performing their duties for more than four months, or
- is not available for this period.

In the first case, a vacancy will occur automatically. In the second and third case, the Youth Advisor and their Member Organization shall be contacted to request a clarification on their absence. If there is no response from the person in question within 30 days of receiving the request, or if the response is considered to be unsatisfactory, they will be considered to have resigned from the position.

If the time of the vacancy happened in a short time before the WSYF, the Youth Advisors can consider not to have any replacement if needed.

v. Support for Youth Advisors

The WSB¹⁰ will support the Youth Advisors. The WSB is responsible for support, liaison and coordination of all matters pertaining to the Youth Advisors.

Travel and accommodation expenses are covered for attendance at WSC meetings (in accordance with the Reimbursement of Expenses policy for WSC members), attendance at the next WSYF and World Scout Conference.

In addition, the two Youth Advisors who are members of the WSYF Planning Committee are also covered for approved expenses for the WSYF Planning Committee members. Innovative and less expensive ways of communicating are highly recommended.

If necessary, the Youth Advisors may elect from among themselves a coordinator who will represent the Youth Advisors.

vi. Transfer of experience

Ensuring a smooth transition of knowledge and experience between Youth Advisor generations is of great importance for the success of the Youth Advisor system. To achieve that, the following should be done:

- Organising a joint meeting between the two generations of Youth Advisors at the end of the WSYF with a set agenda.
- The new Youth Advisors should elect one of the previous Youth Advisors at this meeting to act as a consultant/supporter of the current Youth Advisors, until the first official WSC meeting.

¹⁰ The Youth Advisors main contact and support person in the WSB will be the executive responsible for Youth Programme and/or Youth Involvement. This will not limit the support from the WSB to one person only.