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WOSM Registration Fee System

Support Document for Draft Resolution 2021-B

by World Scout Committee



**World Scout
Conference**
**42nd Conférence Mondiale
du Scoutisme**
2021



SCOUTS
Creating a Better World

WOSM Registration Fee System

by World Scout Committee

This Conference Document has been structured to inform Member Organizations about the work done on WOSM's registration fee system during the past triennium, highlights the impact of recent events (notably the global pandemic) and finally outlines the proposal put for consideration to the 42nd World Scout Conference.

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| Conference proposal: | Draft Resolution 2021-B |
| Related document: | Conference Document 4A |
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WOSM's registration fee system which will be put forward by the World Scout Committee to the 42nd World Scout Conference is important to ensure stability and predictability for Member Organizations while providing flexibility for the WSC to adapt to the evolving economic and membership situation.

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Languages

The official languages of the World Organization are English and French. The World Scout Bureau will make all Conference Documents available in both languages. When possible, it endeavours to make them available also in Arabic, Russian and Spanish - the three additional working languages of WOSM. In the event of a conflict arising out of the interpretation of this Conference Document or any other official document of the World Organization, the English text shall prevail.

1. About WOSM's registration fees

Member Organizations (MOs) of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) should be mindful of the following:

- The [Constitution of WOSM](#) requires in Article XXIII.1 that each MO shall pay an annual registration fee to WOSM.
- Registration fees must be seen as an MO's constitutional obligation deriving from its membership of WOSM, and should not be confused with an "individual fee per Scout" or a "return on investment" through the provision of services.
- The registration fees collected from MOs are used to meet some (but not all) of the operational costs required to achieve the Triennial Plans at World and Regional level, as approved by the World and Regional Scout Conferences
- It is up to each MO to determine how it will raise the funds needed to pay its registration fee.

2. Background

Key background information on the registration fee system for WOSM in recent triennia can be found below. It is important to note that concern regarding the WOSM annual registration fee has been discussed at the last four World Scout Conferences.

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| 2011 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adoption of Conference Resolution 2011-02.• WOSM registration fees were fixed for all MOs for 10 years.• This was to enable time to explore new registration fee systems and for MOs to increase membership with no financial impact. |
| 2015 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Task Force on WOSM Fees was established by the WSC to develop a new registration fee system.• Extensive research, wide consultation with MOs and more than 14 different options were explored by the Task Force. |
| 2017 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One option was identified by the WSC in July 2017 and MOs were invited to provide feedback.• Workshops were held in Regions, and at the World Scout Conference in August 2017.• Further global consultations occurred in September 2017 and again in January 2018 to identify areas of concern. |
| 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The WSC Task Force on WOSM Fees proposed a registration fee system to the WSC based on extensive MO feedback.• The proposed registration fee system was endorsed by the WSC in April 2018.• Circular No 28/2018 provided details to all MOs, and invited further feedback. Support resources included an overview, short video, responses to frequently asked questions and an online simulator enabling MOs to get an indicative annual registration fee according to the proposed registration fee system. |
| 2018 - 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The proposed registration fee system was presented at each Regional Scout Conference, to each newly elected Regional Scout Committee and on many other occasions at various events. |
| 2020 - 2021 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In April 2020, MOs decided by referendum to extend the 2011 registration fee system for one more year, due to the inability of the Conference to meet in 2020.• In November 2020, WOSM's COVID-19 survey identified significant economic and membership impact in MOs worldwide. |

3. Overview of work carried from 2015-2020 on developing a new registration fee system and supporting measures

While not being brought forward for consideration at the 42nd World Scout Conference (see section 4), the World Scout Committee (WSC) wishes to highlight the extensive work carried from 2015 to 2020 in developing and promoting a new registration fee model for WOSM to eventually succeed the one currently in place (Conference Resolution 2011-02), as well as supporting measures put in place to support WOSM's and NSO's financial context.

3.1. Developing a new registration fee model

Between 2015 and 2018, the WSC evaluated and explored alternative mechanisms to the current registration fee system. This included,

- discussing and exchanging ideas on registration fee models at countless virtual and a limited number of in-person meetings,
- consulting with other iNGOs and youth organizations on their registration fee systems, including the Big 6 Youth Organizations,
- considering innovative ideas and thoughts brought forward by individuals, MOs and other stakeholders,
- sharing information and consulting with MOs during Regional Conferences and key meetings of National Leadership between 2015 and 2019 as well as at the 2017 World Scout Conference,
- reviewing at least 14 different models obtained from the above sources of registration fees, and coalescing this into one preferred new registration fee model,
- developing materials for MOs to increase understanding of the proposed new registration fee model, including a mini-website, video clip, fee calculator and FAQ,
- providing dedicated information sessions for MOs at all the 2018-2019 Regional Scout Conferences, incorporating their feedback and reflections,
- engaging in individual information sessions with MOs at their request.

A summary of the original proposed new registration fee model that was originally envisioned to be put forward at the 42nd World Scout Conference in 2020, can be found through [this link](#) for reference purposes.

3.2. Supporting measures implemented by WOSM

While developing a new registration fee system was a key priority for the WSC, it also implemented a series of supporting measures to strengthen WOSM's overall financial stability as well as that of MOs:

- Strengthening the **partnership between the World Scout Foundation and WOSM** through the adoption early on in the triennium of a Memorandum of Understanding outlining mutual responsibilities and agreed ways of working.
- Further **diversification of WOSM's income**, including new and/or strengthened externally-funded projects such as,
 - a. Scouts for SDGs (through Alwaleed Philanthropies)
 - b. Earth Tribe (through UNEP and WWF)
 - c. Dialogue for Peace (through KAICIID)
 - d. Global Youth Mobilization for Generation Disrupted (through WHO)
- Increasing the **internal fundraising capacity** of the World Scout Bureau through the establishment of a Business Development Unit bringing together the functions of partnerships, resource mobilisation, grant management and monitoring and evaluation in one team serving all Regions.
- Significantly strengthening WOSM's **capacity for granting funds to National Scout Organizations**, building on the best practice of the Messengers of Peace Support Fund, by upgrading its grant management software as well as streamlining processes and staff capacity across all WSB Support Centres.

The above measures resulted in, on average, an additional 2.95 million USD being made available on an annual basis to WOSM's budget, supplementing the core income generated by MO registration fees and the unrestricted grant coming from the World Scout Foundation's endowment fund. Of this amount, on average 2.5 million USD is being sub-granted annually to MOs (a full overview on sub-grants to MOs in the past triennium is provided in the 2017-2020+1 Triennial Report which will be available in July 2021).

4. Registration fee proposal for consideration at the 42nd World Scout Conference

Extensive work was carried between 2015 and 2020 to develop a new registration fee system which was intended for approval at the 42nd World Scout Conference in 2020. Details of this work are provided under sections 2 and 3 of this Conference Document.

4.1. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on WOSM's proposed registration fee system

With the onset of the pandemic in early 2020, MOs voted to postpone the 42nd World Scout Conference until August 2021 and at the same time decided to extend the current registration fee system, established through Conference Resolution 2011-02, for the WOSM fiscal year 2020-2021. In the lead-up

to the 42nd World Scout Conference (2021), the WSC further analyzed the impact of the global pandemic on MOs worldwide, which yielded the following reflections:

- The “NSO COVID-19 survey”, conducted in October and November 2020, showed that a significant number of MOs were experiencing or anticipated a drop in income and/or Scout membership.
- Predictions from the World Bank and leading economic indicators around the world show that significant economic volatility can be expected in the coming years as a result of the global pandemic.
- Approving a new WOSM registration fee system in 2021 would require the adoption of new parameters for all MOs, notably gross national income (GNI) per capita and Scout membership, which would not reflect the 2021 reality. Given economic indicators and the results of the NSO COVID—19 survey, it can be assumed that these two parameters would have the potential to fluctuate significantly in the coming years, bringing undesirable unpredictability as to the registration fee MOs would have to pay.

4.2. Proposal brought forward to the 42nd Conference

In light of the above, the WSC wishes therefore to bring forward to the Conference a proposal that ensures **stability** and **predictability** for MOs in the registration fee system for the coming years, provides **flexibility for the WSC to adapt** to the evolving economic and membership situation and at the same time assuring a **continued stable income stream** to fund WOSM’s operations, in particular the implementation of the World and Regional Triennial Plans. This proposal is embedded in Draft Resolution 2021-B and entails:

1. Continuing until WOSM fiscal year 2023-2024 the [current registration fee system](#), as approved through Conference Resolution 2011-02 and the frozen annual fee per MO resulting from it (see Annex A for a reminder)
2. Request the WSC to continue monitoring membership and economic situation of MOs and assess
 - a. If the situation sufficiently stabilises, to have a new registration fee system proposal put forward for consideration at the 43rd Conference (2024)
 - b. If the situation does not stabilise sufficiently, to authorize the WSC to continue the current registration fee system until fiscal year 2026-2027 and bring forward a proposal at the 44th Conference (2027)
3. Request the World Scout Bureau
 - a. to continue developing conservative budget plans, mirroring the overall financial reality faced by Member Organizations
 - b. to continue offering tailored support to impacted Member Organizations as provided for in the [Policy concerning payment of registration fees](#);
 - c. to continue offering funding opportunities for MOs and exploring new partnerships for funding

The WSC would further like to emphasize that the opportunity remains for **MOs to voluntarily contribute in addition to the approved annual registration fee**, so providing additional support to WOSM’s operations. Going forward, this opportunity will also be reflected in the annual invoices sent to MOs.

Annex 1 – Reminder of current registration fee per MO

The table on the following pages represents the application of the registration fee system as approved by Conference Resolution 2011-02 to each current WOSM Member Organization. The amount quoted is identical to the registration fee invoiced between fiscal year 2011-2012 and 2020-2021 by WOSM to Member Organizations.

| Member Organization country | Current Fee 2019-2020 = Proposed Fee 2021-2024 |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Afghanistan | US\$ 1,727 |
| Algeria | US\$ 11,856 |
| Angola | US\$ 4,104 |
| Argentina | US\$ 29,051 |
| Armenia | US\$ 791 |
| Aruba | US\$ 536 |
| Australia | US\$ 74,133 |
| Austria | US\$ 11,436 |
| Azerbaijan | US\$ 541 |
| Bahamas | US\$ 1,043 |
| Bahrain | US\$ 2,230 |
| Bangladesh | US\$ 33,558 |
| Barbados | US\$ 2,356 |
| Belarus | US\$ 522 |
| Belgium | US\$ 106,808 |
| Belize | US\$ 1,891 |
| Benin | US\$ 526 |
| Bhutan | US\$ 3,796 |
| Bolivia, Plurinational State of | US\$ 2,673 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | US\$ 527 |
| Botswana | US\$ 1,378 |
| Brazil | US\$ 31,559 |
| Brunei Darussalam | US\$ 2,255 |
| Bulgaria | US\$ 1,079 |
| Burkina Faso | US\$ 315 |
| Burundi | US\$ 315 |
| Cabo Verde | US\$ 315 |
| Cambodia | US\$ 315 |
| Cameroon | US\$ 960 |
| Canada | US\$ 115,419 |
| Chad | US\$ 315 |
| Chile | US\$ 13,752 |
| China, Scouts of | US\$ 49,168 |
| Colombia | US\$ 4,849 |
| Comoros | US\$ 315 |
| Congo, Democratic Republic of the | US\$ 315 |
| Costa Rica | US\$ 3,728 |
| Côte d'Ivoire | US\$ 2,084 |
| Croatia | US\$ 2,867 |
| Curaçao | US\$ 1,484 |
| Cyprus | US\$ 5,250 |
| Czechia | US\$ 16,258 |
| Denmark | US\$ 47,243 |
| Dominica | US\$ 719 |
| Dominican Republic | US\$ 649 |
| Ecuador | US\$ 1,500 |
| Egypt | US\$ 32,211 |
| El Salvador | US\$ 1,513 |
| Estonia | US\$ 1,006 |
| Eswatini | US\$ 2,752 |
| Ethiopia | US\$ 315 |
| Fiji | US\$ 2,062 |
| Finland | US\$ 62,020 |
| France | US\$ 82,690 |
| Gabon | US\$ 2,447 |
| Gambia | US\$ 315 |
| Georgia | US\$ 430 |
| Germany | US\$ 126,799 |
| Ghana | US\$ 315 |
| Greece | US\$ 15,167 |
| Grenada | US\$ 921 |
| Guatemala | US\$ 2,890 |
| Guinea | US\$ 1,011 |
| Guinea-Bissau | US\$ 1,814 |
| Guyana | US\$ 315 |
| Haiti | US\$ 3,605 |

| Member Organization country | Current Fee 2019-2020 = Proposed Fee 2021-2024 |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Honduras | US\$ 978 |
| Hong Kong | US\$ 76,570 |
| Hungary | US\$ 6,531 |
| Iceland | US\$ 1,955 |
| India | US\$ 104,870 |
| Indonesia | US\$ 125,844 |
| Iraq | US\$ 18,769 |
| Ireland | US\$ 42,005 |
| Israel | US\$ 22,355 |
| Italy | US\$ 109,630 |
| Jamaica | US\$ 1,412 |
| Japan | US\$ 153,968 |
| Jordan | US\$ 7,336 |
| Kazakhstan | US\$ 560 |
| Kenya | US\$ 26,784 |
| Kiribati | US\$ 444 |
| Korea, Republic of | US\$ 187,848 |
| Kuwait | US\$ 6,158 |
| Latvia | US\$ 327 |
| Lebanon | US\$ 9,664 |
| Lesotho | US\$ 315 |
| Liberia | US\$ 315 |
| Libya | US\$ 10,377 |
| Liechtenstein | US\$ 928 |
| Lithuania | US\$ 1,637 |
| Luxembourg | US\$ 6,705 |
| Macao | US\$ 3,445 |
| Madagascar | US\$ 315 |
| Malawi | US\$ 315 |
| Malaysia | US\$ 30,684 |
| Maldives | US\$ 2,997 |
| Malta | US\$ 2,630 |
| Mauritania | US\$ 315 |
| Mauritius | US\$ 1,928 |
| Mexico | US\$ 26,810 |
| Moldova, Republic of | US\$ 449 |
| Monaco | US\$ 220 |
| Mongolia | US\$ 1,067 |
| Montenegro | US\$ 529 |
| Morocco | US\$ 4,879 |
| Mozambique | US\$ 315 |
| Myanmar | US\$ 9,680 |
| Namibia | US\$ 1,372 |
| Nepal | US\$ 315 |
| Netherlands | US\$ 54,108 |
| New Zealand | US\$ 16,748 |
| Nicaragua | US\$ 449 |
| Niger | US\$ 315 |
| Nigeria | US\$ 2,923 |
| North Macedonia | US\$ 964 |
| Norway | US\$ 21,837 |
| Oman | US\$ 7,824 |
| Pakistan | US\$ 62,922 |
| Palestine, State of | US\$ 315 |
| Panama | US\$ 1,215 |
| Papua New Guinea | US\$ 802 |
| Paraguay | US\$ 315 |
| Peru | US\$ 2,318 |
| Philippines | US\$ 180,000 |
| Poland | US\$ 26,202 |
| Portugal | US\$ 73,874 |
| Qatar | US\$ 4,408 |
| Romania | US\$ 1,205 |
| Russian Federation | US\$ 8,192 |
| Rwanda | US\$ 315 |
| Saint Lucia | US\$ 315 |

| Member Organization country | Current Fee 2019-2020 = Proposed Fee 2021-2024 |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | US\$ 345 |
| San Marino | US\$ 210 |
| Sao Tome and Principe | US\$ 632 |
| Saudi Arabia | US\$ 18,340 |
| Senegal | US\$ 1,541 |
| Serbia | US\$ 1,802 |
| Seychelles | US\$ 210 |
| Sierra Leone | US\$ 315 |
| Singapore | US\$ 10,881 |
| Slovakia | US\$ 2,316 |
| Slovenia | US\$ 5,079 |
| South Africa | US\$ 9,452 |
| South Sudan | US\$ 315 |
| Spain | US\$ 54,515 |
| Sri Lanka | US\$ 12,094 |
| Sudan | US\$ 1,624 |
| Suriname | US\$ 1,386 |
| Sweden | US\$ 55,596 |
| Switzerland | US\$ 29,458 |
| Syrian Arab Republic | US\$ 3,475 |
| Tajikistan | US\$ 315 |
| Tanzania, United Republic of | US\$ 315 |
| Thailand | US\$ 136,331 |
| Timor-Leste | US\$ 2,628 |
| Togo | US\$ 315 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | US\$ 4,326 |
| Tunisia | US\$ 12,705 |
| Turkey | US\$ 20,586 |
| Uganda | US\$ 315 |
| Ukraine | US\$ 846 |
| United Arab Emirates | US\$ 5,738 |
| United Kingdom | US\$ 498,452 |
| United States of America | US\$ 1,555,169 |
| Uruguay | US\$ 1,048 |
| Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of | US\$ 9,797 |
| Vietnam | US\$ 2,807 |
| Yemen | US\$ 926 |
| Zambia | US\$ 550 |
| Zimbabwe | US\$ 711 |
| Total | US\$ 4,878,169 |