

## EXC-003 MOTION FOR SI GA 2015

<b>Title of motion</b>
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SERVAS AS A FAMILY-FRIENDLY ORGANISATION
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<b>National secretary and national member group proposing motion</b>
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Jonny Sågänger and Ann Greenhough on behalf of Exco
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<b>Summary of the motion</b>
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As a priority the GA supports the promotion of Servas as a family-friendly organisation. Exco is encouraged to create a special interest group for those willing to develop ideas and initiate activities for Servas families worldwide. The aim would be develop an action plan for Families in Servas.
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<b>Background information and reasons for proposing the motion.</b>
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Ahead of the SICOGA 2015 a draft action plan for Families in Servas will be prepared on behalf of Exco by a volunteer using their experience of leading youth and family meetings and projects.
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A first task will be to compile the material for the Families in Servas page on the new SI website. This will aim to present Servas to prospective members as an organisation with appeal to families both with younger children and with young people under 18.

The Families page will also be a place to bring member families together to share ideas for future activities and projects.

The action plan will also look at encouraging initiatives for families in all regions. This will build on experience in Europe in past years where several summer meetings and youth and family meetings have focused on family activities whilst also catering for the interests of other age groups.

At these meetings young people 18-30 have been popular as volunteers to run activities for children and teenagers.

There is much potential to attract more families to experience what Servas has to offer and to make connections with youth organisations with a view to joint projects.

One such possibility is to invite Servas families and any member in contact with schools or youth groups in their community to join an international Trees for Peace project. Each year trees are planted by children and young people around the world on UN Day for Peace in September and again in March. The target is to plant 100 million trees by 2017.

<https://sites.google.com/a/enoprogramme.org/enotreeday/home>

<b>Likely benefits for Servas International and national groups if the motion is passed.</b>
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Enhanced opportunities for families to enjoy what Servas has to offer
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<b>Resource implications if the motion is passed in terms of time, human resources and specialist expertise.</b>
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The special interest group with designated lead person would take responsibility for the plan of
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action for families.

Priority will be to compile the material for the Family page to meet deadlines for the new website. Future family focused events would rely on commitment and collaboration between the national groups involved, the Families in Servas group and representatives from the development and youth leadership committees as needed.

**What are the budget implications, if any, of the motion for Servas International and for national groups in the short and longer term?**

There are no additional cost implications in developing the Families in Servas page on the new SI website.

Previous youth and family events have been mainly self-funding. Sometimes funding from the SI youth budget has been used to support young people (18-30) as volunteers at the meetings, for example to lead children's activities.

Future family projects could be supported by funding from the SI development fund and youth budgets as well as funding from national groups.

**Who should be responsible for the actions arising from the motion in terms of planning, development and management, for example which officer within SI Exco or SI Committee.**

A special interest group with a designated lead person should be appointed by Exco to take on responsibility for developing Families in Servas.

An Exco member should be identified to act as link person with the project.

National groups would also be encouraged to nominate a lead person interested in promoting family activities and contributing to a wider Families in Servas initiative.

**Would there be implications for the Servas International statutes if the motion is passed?**

No

**What is the likely impact if the motion is not passed?**

The organisation will miss the opportunity to bring Servas families closer together and to reach out to other families who could be attracted to join Servas.