

EXC-018 MOTION FOR SI GA 2015

Subject Working Group: Finance

Title of motion

Setting up an independent international Servas Youth fund through a charitable trust
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National secretary and national member group proposing motion
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Ann Greenhough on behalf of SI Exco

Summary of the motion

The GA supports the initiative to set up an independent international Servas youth fund based in Britain as a charitable trust. Its aim will be to widen access to young people from around the world so they can take part in Servas activities.

This is to replace the temporary fund currently managed by Servas Britain which was supported by the 2009 GA. Donations will be sought from individual members (including bequests), national groups and outside organisations.

As in 2015, decisions about the allocation of grants to young people will be made by an international panel of members who are representative of regions across Servas. The trustees of the charitable trust fund in Britain will be Servas members although it will be financially managed independently of Servas Britain.

Background information and reasons for proposing the motion.

The purpose of the SI youth fund is to make it possible for young people to take part in international Servas activities who would otherwise not have enough resources of their own.

The first grants from the current temporary fund have been made to three young people to attend SICOGA 2015, together with three other applicants who have since been funded to attend from other sources.

An update about the fund will be provided by Ann Greenhough by the 2015 GA.

The history of the fund is that in 2007 a bequest from a Servas member provided funding for five young people to join a youth meeting organised by Servas Britain. The 2009 GA supported the setting up of a temporary fund to be based in the UK with a view to it leading to a permanent independent trust fund

After some delays in setting up the temporary fund donations from individual members and national groups were sought to provide grants for young people to attend the 2015 GA.

Likely benefits for Servas International and national groups if the motion is passed.

A permanent SI youth fund will accumulate resources over time so that young Servas members can contribute to international Servas activities who would otherwise not have that opportunity. Their involvement will enhance the development of Servas as an organisation for all ages and backgrounds and from all regions of the world.

Resource implications if the motion is passed in terms of time, human resources and specialist expertise.

Although the charitable trust supporting the fund will be run by Servas members there are no resource implications for Servas as an organisation. The international advisory panel will be made up of volunteers from the Servas membership worldwide.

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 budget implications for SI or national groups unless voluntary donations are made.

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.

Ann Greenhough and Jean Seymour from Servas Britain will take on responsibility for setting up the charitable trust and for recruiting and supporting the international advisory panel.

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

No as the youth fund will operate independently of Servas International

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

The temporary youth fund would continue to be managed by Servas Britain but without the benefit of being able to seek funding from outside organisations as a charitable trust. It is also unlikely that Servas members will consider making bequests whilst only a temporary arrangement for the fund is in place.