

Totara Springs, Matamata, New Zealand 10 - 16 October 2015



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rotara Springs searoa New Zeala Page 1

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Motions for Servas International General Assembly 2015

Motion Num.	Motion Title	Motion Wording
ARG_ URU- 001	SI Candidates present themselves six weeks before the SI Elections	Candidates applying to positions in SI must present their history of cooperation in Servas (antecedents) as members or in previous positions. This information plus the supporting document should be available to voting members at least 8 weeks in advance to the election for the position in GA. SI Candidates present themselves with their antecedents of collaboration in Servas as members or in previous positions, and a document signed by twelve members of the NG, current officers in the candidate's country and officers of the time the candidate had a National position, supporting the candidature and explaining reasons for such support. The antecedents should presented openly to: the NG, current officers in the candidate's country and officers of the time this candidate had a National position. A document should be presented by the current officers including at least 10 members and previous officers in order to support the candidate, in the case the candidate had previously a National position. The document should present also disagreements with this candidature, which should be signed and supported by real knowledge of the inconveniences of this candidature. b) presented openly to NSs and other officers in the Region in case the candidate was a AC – approved and signed, and disagreements should be also presented, signed and supported. c) colleagues of the Committee, EXCO, or any other working group if the candidate was integrating one of this International working groups. – idem – approved, signed, disagreements presented and signed and supported. 2) All the information sent must reach the NC 2 moths in advance the CICOGA so that in can be published eight weeks before the SI Elections by the Nominations Committee among the AG voting members. 3) There will be no last- minute candidatures.
ARG_ URU - 002 ARG_	Area Coordinator intervene in internal country conflicts Conflict Resolution	Area Coordinator should have the possibility to intervene in internal conflicts of the region's countries if the country's NS, officers or National Board require this intervention There should be an agile system of the Conflict Resolution Committee to expulse a member who
URU - 003	Committee agile system	has repeated incorrect behaviour, or whose behaviour has severe consequences which damage the organization.
ARG_ URU - 004	Remove SI Officer if they do not comply with a Conflict Resolution Committee required action	When the CRC mediates between the parties on a conflict, sometimes, the CRCs decision implies that one of the parties must take certain action. In case this member or officer does not comply with CRCs decision, that is, if this member or officer does not do what is requested then he can be removed from the Servas position he/she is holding until he complies with it (or until the situation is resolved).
ARG_ URU - 005	Exco communicate with National Secretaries about tasks and answer questions	EXCO should maintain periodical communication with NSs about tasks being performed and answer NS' questions in due time
ARG_ URU - 006	Servas On Line should include standardized reports on Hosts and Travellers, visible for both parties at the time they are arranging a visit	ServasOnline should include a report on the experiences of Hosts and Travellers with some degree of standardization. This qualification should be visible to both Hosts at the time they are required by travellers to open their doors and for Travellers at the time to choose Hosts.



Totara Springs, Matamata, New Zealand 10 - 16 October 2015



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Motion Num.	Motion Title	Motion Wording	
ARG_ URU - 007	Redefine Guidelines and Mission of Area Coordinators	Redefining Guidelines and Mission of Area Coordinator, including criteria and mission for Area Coordinators, and how they will operate	
AUS- 001	No time limit for elected Servas International officials	We want to abandon the following motion, passed at the GA 2012: "Starting at the 2012 GA, a person cannot be nominated for an elected Servas International position if he/she has been in an elected or appointed Servas International position for a total of 6 or more years within the last 10 years. The clock starts at the 2012 GA."	
AUS- 002	"non-Dolphin" groups to use Dolphin	About half of the SERVAS member countries maintain their host data in Dolphin. To facilitate the development of SOL (Servas Online) and the migration of the existing host data to the future SOL database, all member countries should be encouraged to use dolphin as their member database.	
BRA- 001	Include Spanish as a working language of Servas International	Include Spanish as a working language of Servas International	
BRA- 002	Establish procedures to issue Letter of Introduction (LOIs) for foreign travelers	The issue of Letters of Introduction (LOIs) for foreign travelers in passing by another country has already been occurring for a while. However, specific procedures must be established officially to make sure this practice is done in accordance to Servas statutes. In this way, here are the suggested steps for issuing a LOI for a foreigner: • Traveler have to be interviewed by a local interviewer, fill out the letter of introduction and pay for a valid one-year stamp; • Traveler must not have any previous problems with Servas in her/his country of birth or residence. If he/she had belonged to Servas in the past and quit it for some reason, this info needs to be told to the interviewer; • In his/her LOI it must be informed the letter was issued "in transit" since he/she is not a current Servas member of that country; • The National Secretary and Host List Coordinator of traveler's country of birth or residence have to be informed as soon as traveler has been interviewed and a copy of his/her LOI sent to them; • The interviewer commits to provide all necessary info about Servas procedures for the traveler; • It is desirable that the traveler can meet an interviewer in his/her country of birth or residence once he/she is back in order to create a bond between him/her and Servas; • Every time this "in-transit issued LOI" is used again, during its valid period, the traveler should inform both his/her interviewer and the person-in-charge in his/her country of birth or residence. • By the end of the validity of his/her "in-transit issued LOI", the person can renovate it ONLY in his/her country of birth or residence.	
CAN- 001	Single night Servas stay option	Servas Canada moves that a single night Servas stay be recognized as a quality Servas International visit option, as long as hosts and travelers take time for meaningful interactions. This would be an additional option, along with the established two-night visit and the day host visit.	
CAN- 002	Servas officers work cooperatively with Conflict Resolution Committee when a complaint is filed	That all Servas officers are required to work cooperatively with the Servas International Conflict Resolution Committee (SI CRC), when a complaint has been filed. CRC must make every effort to help resolve an issue but in case there is no final agreement, CRC has the final authority while respecting Servas principles and rules; this decision must be binding and officially adopted by the sides involved.	
CAN- 003	Face-to-face mediation or translation for extreme conflicts	That a budget of 1,500 CHF be allocated over a three year period to cover costs for an extreme situation where a conflict can only be resolved through face-to-face mediation or when translation is needed	
CAN- 004	Code of Ethics and Behaviour	That Servas International develops a Code of Ethics and Behaviour that will be binding on all Servas members including officers. The SI CRC agrees to work with the Servas International Peace Secretary and other interested parties to develop a draft to be voted on by the General Assembly or through a Distant Vote	



Totara Springs, Matamata, New Zealand 10 - 16 October 2015



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COS- 001	Central America and Caribbean Area Coordinator requirements	After the current 3 years period for the CARIBEAN and CENTRALAMERICAN Coordination will reach to an end, Servas Costa Rica request that a person which will be identified with the AREA will be appointed. This person should hold meetings with members of the countries within the AREA. This person should inspire the REGION to make its membership to growth in Nicaragua and to start a Group in El Salvador. Up to now there were no works at all to motivate the groups within the AREA.
COS- 002	People travelling with Servas should remember the aims of Servas	The reason for Servas is to let people know the culture of countries and to foster peace around the world. Persons visiting us should have in mind the mission of Servas and follow every rule according the guidelines. They should foster the aims of Servas.
EXC- 001	Long term strategy for Servas International UN involvement	 SI will encourage Servas national groups and members to actively participate in learning about the UN goals and take local actions. To achieve this, it is moved that A Servas committee of 4-5 people, ideally representing NYC, Geneva, and Vienna UN venues be established. This UN committee will be proposed by SI Peace Secretary, appointed by SI EXCO, and report to the SI Peace Secretary who will be the convener. The UN committee will disseminate information about Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs) and select specific SDG goals for discussion and develop possible local actions during the calendar year for Servas members. The UN committee will also make recommendations for Servas members participation in local actions with other UN affiliated NGOs and community members, on the occasion of UN International Days. The UN committee will encourage the promotion of UN objectives through Servas members, who could be "ambassadors for peace", reporting on human rights issues they could experience and/or witness, and also about positive developments. Servas hosts locally could provide useful information. A template would be established to secure best possible correctness in the reporting, and those reports collected by National Peace Secretaries, who would report to SI Peace Secretary as convener of the committee. Ultimately, reports would be submitted to the UN relevant entities, as a contribution to UN work and mission.
EXC- 002	Linking Servas with other likeminded organizations	Servas International should increase its efforts to cooperate with like-minded organizations that share complementary missions
EXC- 003	Servas as a family- friendly organization	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.
EXC- 004	Merged with EXC- 003	
EXC- 005	Withdrawn	
EXC- 006 EXC- 007	Registration of SI domicile Getting the Servas archives in order.	To register Servas International (SI) in order to obtain a document that proves that SI is a recognized non governmental international organisation (NGO) with a domicile. One of the first tasks of the new Archivist would be to design an index to the contents of approximately 80 SI archival boxes at the Hoover Institution in California, USA, and post the index on the SI website for researchers to use. This way researchers can know what is in the holdings. It also would be helpful if the Archivist could get permission to organize the documents and files. The researcher would still have to come to Palo Alto, California, on the
		campus of Stanford University, to look at the materials. There is no money in the Hoover Institution budget to digitize the materials so that they could be read on-line.



Totara Springs, Matamata, New Zealand 10 - 16 October 2015



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Motion Num.	Motion Title	Motion Wording
EXC- 008	Approve record of elections and decisions at GA	As part of the General Assembly (GA) process, a record of the results of elections and the decisions made at the GA, be submitted for approval before the end of the GA
EXC- 009	Amend election rules - SI committees and officers	To replace 2012 GA decision 5 (made on 25.8.12) Starting at the 2012 GA, a person cannot be nominated for an elected Servas International position if he/she has been in an elected or appointed Servas International position for a total of 6 or more years within the last 10 years. The clock starts at the 2012 GA. Starting from the 2018 GA a person cannot be nominated for an elected Servas International position if they have already served two terms (six years) in that post within the last 10 years.
EXC- 010	EXCO promoting a self-funding SI mid term meeting between SI conferences	In light of the benefits seen from the 2014 SI meeting held in Britain, SI Exco is encouraged to promote interest in a similar international meeting mid-way to the next SI conference and GA in 2018. This would be with a view to it being a self-funding event and focused on a specific theme relevant to Servas development. If possible it should be located in a different region to Europe to give members elsewhere the opportunity to participate. Consideration should be given to coordinating any such an event with other planned face to face meetings for key SI tasks. For example those involving Exco, audit, nominations and development committees or alternatively for it to be combined with a youth or regional meeting. Such a meeting midway between SI conferences would not have any decision-making powers. However it would give chance for an informal review of progress on 2015 GA decisions and encourage cooperation on future work before the 2018 GA.
EXC- 011	Update the structure and function of SI committees and SI officer roles	 i. In the period 2015-18 SI Exco will coordinate a review by each SI committee and each SI officer role of its structure, purpose, functions and name, taking into account the impact of changes that result from Servas going online. ii. With the help of the Job Descriptions and Statutes Committee Exco will ensure that the outcomes of the work of each committee and SI officer is brought together in an overview of the current SI structure together with any proposed changes. iii. This will be made available to all national groups and SI committees for consultation. iv. Following this consultation a proposal will be put forward at the 2018 GA for an updated structure for Servas International. It should be fit for purpose and aim to promote Servas as a modern, forward-thinking organisation whilst also reflecting its core values as a peace organisation. v. In carrying out this review particular consideration should be given to the sustainability of the current structure including whether committees and SI roles should be joined together, disbanded or new committees and roles created. vi. To inform the decision-making, Exco is encouraged to consider putting in place, on a trial basis ahead of the 2018 GA, any new ways of working that do not require a change in the statutes.
EXC- 012	Youth leadership Committee: number of members	The number of members elected to the Youth Leadership Committee will be reduced from five to three for the 2015 elections. This committee will then have responsibility for creating and managing a Servas Youth team with an undefined number of appointed members. As far as possible this team should be representative of all Servas regions and youth and family projects including SYLE. The purpose of this team will be to support the work of the youth leadership committee in promoting and organising Servas youth and family activities and projects worldwide.



Totara Springs, Matamata, New Zealand 10 - 16 October 2015



General Assembly Subjects president@servas.org Web www.servas.org/sicoga2015

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EXC- 013	Creating a strategy for regional development in Servas	 The GA approves the creation of a Servas International strategy for both sustaining and developing the organisation at a local and regional level. To achieve this aim, SI Exco should first encourage national groups and those in key SI roles (including the area coordinator if in post) to cooperate in creating a development strategy in each Servas region. In collaboration with national groups it is envisaged that the Development Committee and Youth Leadership Committee will play key roles in formulating such strategies as well as promoting activities and initiatives likely to increase Servas membership across all age groups and backgrounds. There should be particular emphasis on addressing the difficulties encountered in regions such as Africa and Central America in maintaining membership of some national groups at a viable level. Whilst looking at regional strategies the opportunity should be taken to evaluate the functions of the area coordinator role alongside the alternative ways in which national groups in some regions have worked together in shared activities. This is with a view to determining the best way of providing leadership, support and innovation within Servas regions in the future. SI Exco, in collaboration with other SI committees, should aim to bring together the work on development strategies in each region and formulate them into an overall SI strategy for regional development. 	
EXC- 014	Making connections: coordinating opportunities for in- depth and longer-stay experiences	O Any proposals requiring changes to the SI statutes should be presented to the 2018 GA. The GA approves the promotion of opportunities for in-depth and longer-stay experiences alongside the more usual encounters between hosts and travellers during a two night stay. Such opportunities will be coordinated on the new SI website under one 'umbrella', a resource to be known as Making Connections. Information will be posted on the Making Connections page, creating links and bringing together interested travellers with those hosts who can offer a variety of opportunities for extended stays or more in-depth visits. Volunteering, work experience, language learning, sharing skills and knowledge and connecting with local peace organisations are examples of potential activities that could be arranged in this way. The aim is to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences between a traveller and their host family and community with the emphasis on informal local networks known personally to the host. Guidelines for the project: 1. As well as information from individual hosts and travellers being posted the Making Connections page will also link to websites of countries where specific in-depth or longer stay opportunities are listed. 2. The idea of language learning with a purpose will be encouraged for all ages ideally through a specific activity, for example, a traveller exploring a special interest, acquiring new skills or volunteering. 3. Given the particular needs of young people, SYLE will continue to be about language learning for those under 30 although it will be possible to publicise the scheme under the Making Connections umbrella as well as it being part of youth activities. 4. Members of all ages will be able to take up the opportunities offered through the resource unless there is a specific reason to restrict to one age group. 5. Local groups of hosts will be able to connect with similar groups elsewhere with a view to exchange visits. 6. National groups will be encouraged to identify a lead per	



Totara Springs, Matamata, New Zealand 10 - 16 October 2015



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EXC- 015	Promoting special interest networks within Servas	The GA supports the promotion of special interest networks within Servas, making use of the new SI website to develop them in a more structured way than has previously been possible. Linking people with shared interests has the potential to enhance both individual and group experiences in Servas. Families in Servas will have a dedicated webpage on the SI website to promote Servas as a family friendly organisation and to encourage connections between families both as hosts and travellers. Likewise a Servas Youth webpage will replace the previous Servas Youth website. Other areas of interest will be promoted either though a separate webpage to be known as Special Interest Networks, or via the proposed Making Connections page. The Servas Environment Network will be encouraged as an first example on which to base future special interest networks, linking in with the proposed Making Connections project and working group. The potential use of new SI website will be explored to develop the most effective way of connecting Servas members with shared interests.	
EXC- 016	Servas as an organisation committed to ethical and sustainable travel	The GA approves Servas promoting ethical travel, concern for the environment and human rights as part of its philosophy as a global peace organisation. This would be expressed on the SI website through the statement: 'Travel peacefully and walk lightly on the earth'. As Servas members we should be aware of the social and environmental impact of our travels. We should respect and protect the vulnerable communities and fragile environments that we visit as an essential elements of peaceful travel. A special interest network will work in conjunction with the proposed environment network to raise awareness within Servas about issues concerning ethical travel. It will also seek to make links with organisations both local and global involved in sustainable tourism.	
EXC- 017	Promoting cultural programmes within Servas including meetings with a theme	The GA supports the development of guidance for anyone interested in hosting international Servas meetings including those focused on a particular theme. This to be in the form of a 'toolkit' of practical ideas and advice on all aspects of planning such an event. A working group is to be created to put together this guidance and to gather and collate information and feedback about meetings in the future. These resources to be made available via the SI website.	
EXC- 018	Setting up an independent international Servas Youth fund through a charitable trust	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.	
EXC- 019	Withdrawn	independency of bettus Bittain.	
EXC- 020	Rewrite SI Host List Coordinator Job Description	Rewritten duties and responsibilities and a new name for the Host List Coordinator: ServasOnline Coordinator.	



Totara Springs, Matamata, New Zealand 10 - 16 October 2015



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Motion Num.	Motion Title	Motion Wording	
EXC- 021	Approve SI 2013 Financial accounts	Approval of the financial accounts of Servas International for 2013 as presented by the Treasurer and audited by internal and external audit 1. Member Organizations of Servas International approve the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account of Servas International for 2013 as presented by the Treasurer and Executive Committee of Servas International. 2. Member Organizations of Servas International approve reports of Internal Audit Committee on the financial accounts of Servas International for 2013 and the Auditor's Report for 2013 presented by the external auditors' firm Vasudev Pai& Co. 3. All the above named documents are attached to this motion.	
EXC- 022	Updates to Financial Operating Procedures	Approval of the updates to the Financial Operating Procedures as proposed by the SI Audit Committee	
EXC- 023	Recommendation to use new SI logo	That Servas national groups around the world use the new SI logo	
EXC- 024	Procedural motion	The Statutes of Servas International adopted at the 2012 General Assembly and as amended at this General Assembly, October 2015, be adopted as the Statutes of Servas International replacing all previous versions	
EXC- 025	Procedural motion	The recommendations of the Membership Committee regarding giving member status to some national groups and canceling the member status of some member groups, be accepted.	
EXC- 026	Procedural motion	The Minutes of SI GA 2012 be accepted.	
EXC- 027	Procedural motion	The reports of EXCO members and other SI officers be accepted.	
EXC- 028	Procedural motion	Approve the SI Budget for the next three years.	
EXC- 029	Procedural motion	Authorise EXCO to pay for an external auditor for auditing of SI accounts.	
EXC- 030	Procedural motion	Decide which members of EXCO shall be empowered to sign on behalf of SI.	
EXC- 031	Procedural motion	The year in which the next GA will be held be decided.	
FRA- 001	Reduce SI Stamp fee by 15% or more (CHF revaluation)	This Assembly calls upon SERVAS INTERNATIONAL to reduce the stamp fee by an average of 15% to: 0 to 10 stamps 0 CHF 11to 50 stamps	
FRA- 002	Pay stamps in Eurozone currency or US\$	This Assembly calls upon SERVAS INTERNATIONAL to enable its members to pay for their Travellers stamps in either CHF, Euros or in US dollars	
GER- 001	Simplifying the SI fee system	We suggest that SI/Exco propose a fee system different to the current system which is based on the number of LoIs. A single fee to simplify the current system which is based on the number of LOI's.	



Totara Springs, Matamata, New Zealand 10 - 16 October 2015



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ITA- 001	List of countries offering hospitality, and youth requesting, Syle	The national groups that are available to organise one or more Syle projects must communicate this fact before December 20th and June 20th of each year. The national groups of young members who are interested in participating in the Syle program must communicate this fact and the countries where the young people would like to go. This communication must be made to the International Youth Group which then prepares, within 20 days after the deadline, a list of countries that are available to organise one or more projects and a list countries requested by the young people. These lists must be immediately presented to the Executive Committees of the various countries so that the young people interested in the Syle projects can know which countries are available and the various countries can know if they are requested. The lists must also appear on the Servas International website and may be published on the websites of the various countries.
ITA- 002	Eliminate paper stamps and revise stamp fee	We propose the elimination of the paper stamp. When a new or renewed subscription happens, the right to travel will be automatically acquired by paying a quota for the LOI also (this cost will be notably less than what is currently paid, given that every member will pay it). In order to ensure that Servas International still gets the money that it currently acquires through paper stamps, each national group will be obliged to contribute annually to the SI budget in an amount that corresponds more or less to that which is now being paid annually for the paper stamps. Briefly, Servas International, from its budget adopted by the General Assembly (budget submitted, before G.A, to the national groups) and from the total number of its registered members, can calculate the cost per member just dividing the total costs budgeted by the total registered number of its members. Each country pays in proportion to their own number of registered members. Servas International could also set up various different range of prices depending on the average income of the nations or continents. We suggest that a database be created with a password for Servas members, such that each member can find the lists and so that potential hosts can verify that those requesting hospitality are properly inscribed. For each Country, the National Secretary, or his or her delegate, should check the regularity of their member, enter the data into the database and keep it updated or remove access in the event of irregularities or cancellation. Optionally, we also propose that before leaving home each traveller must in any event fill out a LOI, to be attached to the request for hospitality, and a copy of the LOI must be sent to the member's administrators.
KOR- 001	Servas International Peace Riding & other small activities	Organizing bicycle riding group in Servas International and arranging bicycle tour during Servas International Conference and General Assembly and Servas Youth meeting. Also arranging international bicycle riding tour to Servas member's countries with Servas flag.
POL- 001	No restriction on eligibility for SI positions	To cancel the restriction on eligibility for Servas International positions as imposed by 2012 GA, decision taken on 25th August, number 5: "Starting at the 2012 GA, a person cannot be nominated for an elected Servas International position if he/she has been in an elected or appointed Servas International position for a total of 6 or more years within the last 10 years. The clock starts at the 2012 GA."
SWE- 001	Actively work towards a rejuvenation of Servas	Servas International and the Servas National Groups shall actively work towards a rejuvenation of Servas. We propose that SICOGA 2015 nominates a workgroup of at least five people who will have the task of promoting the rejuvenation of Servas.
USA- 001	Servas Handbook and SI documents referenced in the Handbook	Approve and widely distribute recently up dated Servas Handbook and approve all SI documents referenced in the handbook as being current, clear and accurate.
USA- 002	Accountability required for SI Funding to attend the GA	Update/revise/complete as necessary, and Approve all Job descriptions and provide a format for annual reports which document activities, <u>accomplishments</u> (wording from SI FOP) and recommendations related to job description's roles and responsibilities to help determine if GA funding warranted.



Totara Springs, Matamata, New Zealand 10 - 16 October 2015



General Assembly Subjects president@servas.org Web www.servas.org/sicoga2015

Page	9	

Motion	Motion Title	Motion Wording
Num.		
USA-	Recognize,	Recognize the use of SI Mentors as teachers to help strengthen Servas
003	Encourage and	
	Support SI Mentors	
USA-	SI Job Descriptions	Update of SI Job Descriptions to give a truer picture of specific responsibilities, expected
004		outcomes required in the job in order that an annual report of activities and most importantly
		accomplishments and recommendations can be presented to SI
USA-	SI FOP updated after	SI Financial Operating Procedures shall be updated after each GA and before the next GA
005	and before each GA	Add this requirement to the SI Statutes

The content of this document has been composed by the Agenda Working Committee (AWG) members:

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Please make sure your answer (if required) is being sent to the Agenda Working Group 2015,

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