



World YWCA

Disaffiliation of Dormant Member Associations Policy and Process

Approved/World YWCA Board/March 2013

Background

Clause 11 of the Constitution provides that the World Council may disaffiliate a member association if it is of the opinion that the member association no longer complies with the conditions of affiliation.

Clause 14 of the Constitution provides that prior to giving notice of a proposed disaffiliation of a member association, the World Board shall take such steps it considers appropriate to assist the member association to comply with the conditions for affiliation.

The steps taken will be influenced by the resource implications for the World YWCA.

One year's notice of disaffiliation must be given under clause 15 of the Constitution.

Issues

There are member associations which are listed as members of the World YWCA but to the best knowledge of the World YWCA are no longer active or operational.

The World YWCA is negatively affected by the inclusion of dormant or inactive member associations in its list of members. They distort the affiliation fee formula, they make achievement of a quorum at World Council more difficult, and they affect the reputation of the YWCA if it indicates that it has a presence in a country where the YWCA is no longer active. While there is an argument that keeping these associations "on the books" leaves open the possibility for their revitalisation, it is also the case that the opportunity to create a new YWCA organisation may open greater possibility for re-establishment of a new member association with a new membership responsive to community needs.

Policy

An association will be deemed dormant if it meets all of the following 5 criteria

- Non-attendance at the last two World Council meetings;
- Non-attendance at World YWCA events or regional meetings for the past four years;
- Non-payment of affiliation fees for the previous four years;
- No response to formal communications from the World YWCA;
- No other knowledge by the World YWCA of activity by the association.

Process

- 1) Formal communication from the World YWCA is sent to the member association to a reliable address to ask for their core documents and work:
 - When there is no address, search the World YWCA files for latest contact persons/addresses or any communication received from the member association;
 - Inquire in the YWCA movement and networks if there is contact with individual members of the dormant member association;
 - Inquire in the local associations associated to the member association in question;
 - When feasible, put notice in a local newspaper that the World YWCA is giving 3 months' notice to the member association to respond to World YWCA.
- 2) The member association is given 3 months to reply.
- 3) In the case of no reply, a report is prepared by World YWCA staff to the Membership Support and Affiliation Committee on the dormant association and its history.
- 4) A recommendation by the World YWCA staff for disaffiliation of this member association is presented to the Committee.
- 5) The Committee reviews the report presented by the World YWCA staff.
- 6) A recommendation for disaffiliation is presented by the Committee to the World Board.
- 7) A formal letter (12 months prior to the World Council) is sent out to the dormant association and all member associations communicating the proposed disaffiliation.
- 8) The member Association has 3 months to appeal.
- 9) In the case of appeal, World YWCA staff review the case and make a final recommendation to the Committee.
- 10) The dormant association is considered for disaffiliation at the World Council.
- 11) The World YWCA informs the dormant member association about the decision of the World Council in regards to its status.

- 12) The World YWCA informs partners in a country (eg Ministries, NGOs, church, UN agencies) about the disaffiliation of the association and that it no longer belongs to the World YWCA movement.

Just as the World Council conducts a ceremony to welcome newly affiliated member associations, it may be appropriate to establish a tradition for celebrating and honouring the contribution of a dormant member association on disaffiliation.

Amended in accordance with feedback from the World Board on 12 October 2012

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