

DOCUMENT

# 10B



**27<sup>th</sup>** Interamerican  
Scout Conference  
Conferencia  
Scout Interamericana  
Panama  
2018

Amendments to the  
Constitution of the  
Interamerican Scout Region  
proposed by Member  
Organizations



**SCOUTS**  
Creating a Better World



# Amendments to the Constitution of the Interamerican Scout Region proposed by Member Organizations

This Conference Document contains the proposal from Member Organizations to amend the Constitution of the Interamerican Scout Region, which has been received by the World Scout Bureau, Interamerican Support Centre prior to the deadline of 27 June 2018, 120 days before the 2018 Interamerican Scout Conference.

This proposal, which has been duly moved by Member Organizations, will be considered by the 2018 Interamerican Scout Conference in Panama. An explanation, the text of the Constitutional Amendment, and Background Information prepared by the World Scout Bureau, Interamerican Support Centre is included below for the proposed Constitutional Amendment.

This document should be studied and discussed by your Member Organization and brought to the Conference by your delegation. More details on the handling of the proposed Constitutional Amendments during the Conference in terms of opportunities for discussion, further amendment and the order of voting will be shared in Conference Document 10C.

The text of the present Constitution of the Interamerican Scout Region (March 2017) can be downloaded from the World Scouting website at: <https://www.scout.org/constitucionIARconstitution>

For any further questions or clarifications, you can contact José Gabriel Criollo, Director of Institutional Development at the World Scout Bureau, Interamerican Support Centre ([jgcriollo@scout.org](mailto:jgcriollo@scout.org)).

Brandon M AC

## Table of Contents

**Voting Rights for Youth Advisors.....2**

### **Languages**

*The official languages of the Interamerican Scout Region are English and Spanish. The World Scout Bureau, Interamerican Support Centre will make all Conference Documents available in both languages. 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.*

## Voting Rights for Youth Advisors

### Proposer

*This proposed amendment to the Regional Constitution was moved by **Canada**. The below background and rationale has been submitted by the proposer.*

Youth Involvement has been a focal point of Scouting, both on the national and international levels. Currently, two Youth Advisors, elected by the Youth Forum, are involved in Interamerican Regional Committee Meetings. Their responsibilities include attending committee meetings, being the voice of youth members of the Region and taking part in Regional working groups.

The initial goal of the Youth Advisor program at the World level was to grant youth members access to the governing bodies of scouting and allow them to be part of the decision-making process. Creating the position was a great first step, but we now believe it's time to fulfill our organisation's initial ambition and allow Youth Advisors the same voting rights as "Elected Members" as defined in today's regional constitution.

We firmly believe that all NSOs of the Interamerican Region should lead by example, and not only provide youth the opportunity to be heard in one of the Region's highest forums, but allow them an official say around the decision-making table.

This proposal should not add any financial burden on the Region's budget since Youth Advisors are currently present to all Committee meetings and are already budgeted in travel and hospitality costs.

Proposing Member Organization: Canada

The Conference,

- Adopts the following amendments to the Regional Constitution:

Existing Provisions	Proposed Amendments
<p><b>Article 10</b></p> <p>The Regional Committee is formed by:</p> <p>Elected Members (with the right to vote):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Eight Elected Members, who shall be members of the Member Organizations defined in Article 3.a.</li> </ul> <p>Ex-officio Members (without the right to vote):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Regional Director, acting as Executive Secretary of the Committee. The Regional Director is also an ex-officio member of all subsidiary committees of the Regional Committee.</li> <li>c. Youth Advisors.</li> <li>d. Regional Treasurer.</li> <li>e. Chairperson of the Interamerican Scout Foundation.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Article 10</b></p> <p>The Regional Committee is formed by:</p> <p>Elected Members (with the right to vote):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Eight Elected Members, who shall be members of the Member Organizations defined in Article 3.a.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ex-officio Members (with the right to vote):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>b. Two Youth Advisors (elected by the Regional Youth Forum).</b></li> </ul> <p>Ex-officio Members (without the right to vote):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Regional Director, acting as Executive Secretary of the Committee. The Regional Director is also an ex-officio member of all subsidiary committees of the Regional Committee.</li> <li><del>Youth Advisors.</del></li> <li>d. Regional Treasurer.</li> <li>e. Chairperson of the Interamerican Scout Foundation.</li> </ul>

Background Information provided by the **World Scout Bureau, Interamerican Support Centre:**

<p>Policy Implications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Constitution Chapter II: The Regional Conference</li> <li>Regional Constitution Chapter III: The Regional Committee</li> <li>Strategy for Scouting - Vision 2023</li> <li>Interamerican Youth Involvement Policy (2013)</li> <li>World Scout Youth Involvement Policy (2015)</li> <li>The Framework for a Strategy on Youth Involvement (with indicators of success to be achieved by 2020), as adopted by the 2011 World Scout Conference</li> <li>Youth Involvement in the Interamerican Region (2016)</li> <li>If this Constitutional Amendment is adopted, it is possible that 2 individuals from the same Member Organization could sit on the Interamerican Scout Committee at the same time, both with voting rights.</li> </ul>
<p>Historical Background</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Interamerican Scout Youth Forums (IARYF) started to be held immediately prior to the 19<sup>th</sup> Interamerican Scout Conference (Cartagena 1995). As a starting point these forums had a clear objective to encourage youth involvement in decision making.</li> <li>In January 2000, the Interamerican Scout Committee, in line with the policy adopted in October 1998 on setting up networks and working</li> </ul>

	<p>groups replacing its committees agreed to establish the Youth Network in accordance with the proposal of the Interamerican Scout Youth Forum held in Guadalajara, Mexico.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the same Interamerican Scout Committee Meeting (January 2000), the Interamerican Scout Committee approved the participation in its meetings of the Coordinator of the Youth Network and the then Vice President of the World Scout Youth Forum for the Interamerican Region. There was no budget for such participation and both Youth representatives should have secured their own means for participation.</li> <li>• The Interamerican Scout Youth Network was created in 2001 as a consequence of an agreement of the Interamerican Scout Committee</li> <li>• In 2016, the "<a href="#">Youth Involvement in the Interamerican Region</a>" integrated all regional Youth Involvement models and created the Youth Advisor System, with a different profile from the Youth Networks coordinators</li> <li>• The same document establishes that <i>travel and accommodation expenses for Youth Advisors' attendance at the meetings of the Interamerican Scout Committee (according to the expenditure policy of the Interamerican Scout Committee) and participation in the Interamerican Scout Youth Forum and Interamerican Scout Conference are covered by the Region (Support for Youth Advisors, page 28).</i></li> </ul>
Resources	<p>Adopting this Constitutional Amendment will have no direct resource implications for the Region, as it will only allow for voting rights to the youth advisors. The Youth Advisor System is budgeted on an annual basis, including supporting participation of Youth Advisors to meetings of the Interamerican Scout Committee.</p>