

STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL YCS

INTRODUCTION

On the basis of its intuitions, the YCS defines itself as an evangelization movement of the student milieu. Thus, it plays an active part in the mission of the church. The YCS understands evangelization as a complex process integrating faith and liberating commitment together with all those who practice justice, in solidarity with the poorest and the oppressed, a process changing our hearts, lives and personalities as well as the world and all human relations, promoting brotherhood worldwide, rooted in God's love.

The YCS endeavors to undertake a thoroughgoing theological reflection concerning its commitment, emphasizing prayer, liturgical celebration, the expression of our faith in Jesus Christ, risen and alive, and the building of a Church relevant to our times and itself an object of evangelization.

(Cf. Evangelii Nuntiandi, n° 15)

Name and Head Office

Article 1

- 1.1. A movement called the International Young Catholic Students (International YCS) is constituted.
- 1.2. The Head Office is at present located in France.

Aims

Article 2

The specific aims of the International YCS, which are more explicitly defined and explained in the IYCS Common Bases to which these Statutes must be faithful, can be summarized as follows:

- a) to take up the apostolic responsibility for the student milieu in the world, together with other apostolic organizations working within it, strengthening the will to promote movements able to make students aware of their social responsibilities;
- b) confrontation and detailed study of orientations, exchanges of experiences and mutual aid between YCS movements;
- c) cooperation in file work of international organizations, especially youth organizations.

Composition

Article 3

The International YCS includes two types of membership status: member movements and collaborator movements.

MEMBER MOVEMENTS

Article 4

Can become members of the International YCS movements that

- a) exercise their apostolic activities in the student milieu as a whole, placing such action in the global social context;
- b) profess their faith in Jesus Christ, live in communion with the Church, actively take part in the life of the local Church and are recognized by the Bishops' Conference;
- c) are led by the students themselves;
- d) are present nationwide or within an important ethnic group of the country concerned;
- e) have participated for at least one year, as collaborator movements, in the work of the International YCS.

Article 5

5.1. The member movements of the International YCS pursue the same aims. This commitment entails,

- a) participation in the work of the International YCS both at the regional and world levels, especially in the meetings of the World Council;
- b) the execution of joint decisions;
- c) moral and financial contribution to the life of the International YCS.

5.2. In all other fields, the movements retain full autonomy concerning organization and action.

Article 6

6.1. A Regional Council may decide on the expulsion of a member movement from that region, if expulsion procedures are laid down in the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Coordination concerned. The General Secretariat must be consulted. If an exclusion is decided, it must be submitted for ratification by the World Council.

6.2. The exclusion of a member movement can be decided,

- a) if, in view of its orientation or adopted stances, a movement no longer finds itself in fundamental agreement with the identity and options of the International YCS;
- b) when the General Secretariat and the Regional Secretariat (if there is one) will have verified that the YCS no longer exists in the country concerned;
- c) when the movement concerned decides to dissolve itself.

COLLABORATOR MOVEMENTS

Article 7

- 7.1. Catholic student organizations existing nationwide or within an important ethnic group of the country concerned, can request collaborator status.
- 7.2. Collaborator movements take an active part in the work and activities of the International YCS at the regional and world levels, and benefit from the services of the General Secretariat and Regional Secretariats.

Statutory Bodies

Article 8

The International YCS has two bodies: the World Council and the General Secretariat.

WORLD COUNCIL

Article 9

- 9.1. All member movements are members of the World Council and each has the right to one vote per sector in which its activists operate.
- 9.2. However, those member movements which have not paid their dues to the International YCS will not have voting rights at the World Council.
- 9.3. The members of the General Secretariat and of the Regional Secretariats participate in a consultative capacity but without the right to vote.

Article 10

The World Council is the supreme body of the International YCS and,

- a) decides the working orientations of the movement and its external relations;
- b) modifies and votes the Statutes, the Common Bases and the Rules of Procedure;

- c) rules on the decisions of affiliation or exclusion of member movements taken by a Regional Council and submitted to it for ratification; for those regions without their own coordination structures, or for those without defined affiliation or exclusion procedures, the World Council decides the affiliation or exclusion of movements as members;
- d) draws up and votes the budget of the International YCS and controls its application;
- e) controls the work of the General Secretariat and rules of the report that the latter submits to it;
- f) elects or re-elects the Secretary General and the lay members of the General Secretariat presented by the latter or by the member movements;
- g) undertakes all the other functions assigned to it by the Statutes or the Rules of Procedure.

Article 11

- 11.1. The World Council meets every four years. The General Secretariat convenes the ordinary meetings of the World Council.
- 11.2. The majority of a Regional Council, or three member movements from different regions, can ask for an extraordinary meeting of the World Council, which will take place if two thirds of member movements agree.

Article 12

The World Council is chaired by a Presidium composed of the Secretary General and three delegates from national movements (full members or collaborators).

Article 13

According to the procedures stipulated in the Rules of Procedure, the votes during the World Council will,

- a) seek unanimity, which obliges the Presidium to carry out one or more opinion polls, according to the Rules of Procedure stipulations. After these polls, decisions will be taken by a four fifths majority of votes cast. This procedure is compulsory for
 - 1) the Orientations;
 - 2) the Statutes and the Common Bases;
 - 3) the exclusion of member movements;
- b) require simple majority for:
 - 1) the election of the Presidium;
 - 2) the adoption of the Agenda;

- c) require two thirds of votes cast for all other issues, unless the World Council itself decides to opt for a four fifths majority for any of these issues.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Article 13 bis

13. bis 1. In the eventuality of the General Secretariat being materially or financially unable to convene the World Council, it can decide, after consultation with the Regional Secretariats, to convene an International Committee.
13. bis 2. Such a decision is taken at a Consultation Meeting with the Regional Secretariats (Art. 17 of the Statutes), after having heard the report from the Audit and Financial Advisory Commission on the financial situation.
13. bis 3. The International Committee is composed of,
- 13 bis 3.1.
- the outgoing members of the General Secretariat and the candidates for the incoming one;
 - the members of the Regional Secretariats;
 - some member movements per region, according to the relative weight of the regions, the relevant criteria being explained in the Rules of Procedure.
13. bis 3.2. The national movements able to participate in the International Committee are chosen by their respective Regional Council or invited by their Regional Secretariat. For those regions without a Regional Council, the General Secretariat directly invites the movement(s) in consultation with the movements of the region concerned. The aim must be a balanced representation of sub regions and of the different types of experience. The mandate is for four years, not renewable for the following period.
13. bis 3.3. Each member movement participating in the International Committee chooses the delegate representing it.
13. bis 3.4. Each Regional Secretariat and each movement present have one vote.
13. bis 4. The competence of the International Committee are the same as those of the World Council.
13. bis 4.1. In case of amendments to the Statutes, the decision of the International Committee must be ratified through a postal ballot by the World Council.

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article 14

- 14.1. The General Secretariat is composed of a full time Team including the Secretary General the General Ecclesiastical Assistant and other members. The total number of

Team members is fixed by the World Council on the basis of the recommendation of the General Secretariat.

- 14.2. The lay members of the full time Team are elected by the World Council, taking into account the various geographical regions and their experience in the movement; the majority of the Team members must come from full member movements.
- 14.3. The Team works according to the principle of collegiality. It is accountable to the World Council and itself decides on the distribution of tasks among its members.

Article 15

The functions of the General Secretariat are:

- a) to undertake the required work in pursuit of the aims of the International YCS, taking all necessary initiatives, in the framework of the present Statutes and the decisions of the World Council;
- b) to awaken and deepen the national movements' awareness of constituting one and the same international movement and, with this in mind, to carry out extension work, coordinate regional work, reflect upon the different challenges posed by reality and integrate all these questions into a global view of the world;
- c) to take initiatives and decisions, in case of emergencies, about those issues not tackled by the Statutes or the World Council, on condition that they are ratified by the World Council;
- d) to grant collaborator status to movements requesting it, in consultation with the Regional Secretariat concerned; in those regions whose Statutes stipulate that it is the Regional Council that grants such status, the decision of the Regional Council is subject to ratification by the General Secretariat;
- e) to prepare the meetings of the World Council and to apply the corresponding decisions;
- f) to administer the budget of the International YCS;
- g) to draft and present a report to each meeting of the World Council, one part of which dealing with its own work during the preceding period, and another with an analysis of the world situation;
- h) to represent the International YCS;
- i) to accomplish all other tasks entrusted to it by the Statutes or the Rules of Procedure, as well as, within those limits, by the World Council.

Regional Work

Article 16

- 16.1. At a geographical region level, and in view of the resulting proximity and ease of work, the International YCS member movements can organize regional work.
- 16.2. The member movements of a region make up the Regional Council which can set up a full time Regional Secretariat for regional work. Thus understood, each region defines its own organizational approach and operating rules, in accordance with the Statutes and Orientations of the International YCS.
- 16.3. Regional work involves the search, in close cooperation with the General Secretariat, for the appropriate means such as sessions, publications, surveys, etc. to pursue the aims of the International YCS at the regional level, with regard to exchanges and extension work, in conformity with the Orientations laid down by the World Council.

Article 17

- 17.1. In order to promote understanding and co-responsibility between the service structures of the International YCS, representatives from the Regional Secretariats come together with the members of the General Secretariat at least once a year for a common consultation, coordination, exchange and reflection meeting.
- 17.2. The General Secretariat can also invite to this meeting other individuals who are deemed competent on the issues on the agenda, whether they are members of national movements or not.

Article 18

VERSIONS

- 18.1. The official versions of these Statutes are written in English, German, French and Spanish. In case of doubt the French text prevails.

AMENDMENTS

- 18.2. All amendment proposals to these Statutes must be addressed to the General Secretariat, which will forward them to the World Council.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

- 18.3. The Statutes of the International YCS are complemented by Rules of Procedure which, in order to be adopted or amended, must obtain two thirds of votes cast at the World Council.

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL YCS

ADMISSION AND EXCLUSION OF IYCS MEMBER MOVEMENTS

A) ADMISSION PROCEDURES

A.1. Collaborator Movements (Statutes, Arts 7.1 and 15.d)

Article 1

- 1.1. Movements desiring collaborator status must present a request to the Regional Secretariat (if one exists) and to the General Secretariat. Collaborator status is jointly accorded by both Secretariats.
- 1.2. In regions where such procedures are defined, it is the Regional Council that decides; if the request is accepted, the Regional Council's decision is submitted to ratification by the General Secretariat.

A.2. Member Movements (Statutes, Arts 4 and 10.c) Article 2

Article 2

- 2.1. In regional co-ordinations where admission procedures for new members are defined, the Regional Council decides in the first place. This decision is submitted to ratification by the World Council.
- 2.2. In regions where no such procedures are defined, the affiliation procedure is as follows:
 - a) After at least one year as collaborator, a movement can request admission as a member movement to the General Secretariat. A presentation of the movement and a letter of recognition from the Bishops' Conference must be enclosed with the request (Statutes, Art.4.b).
 - b) The General Secretariat sends these documents to the members of the World Council, together with its own recommendation on the request.
 - c) At the start of the session, the World Council makes a decision on the basis of these documents.

B) EXCLUSION PROCEDURES OF MEMBER MOVEMENTS (Statutes Arts 6, 10c, 13a.3)

Article 3

- 3.1. The reasoned request for exclusion of a member movement must be submitted to the General Secretariat or to the Regional Secretariat at least six months before the World

- Council meeting. The General Secretariat is obliged to undertake a grassroots enquiry and to communicate its results to the World Council.
- 3.2. The request is included in the Agenda if, during the approval of the latter, at least one third of the members of the World Council agree.
 - 3.3. The exclusion decision is reached without the participation of the party concerned.
 - 3.4. In regions where such procedures are defined, the Regional Council can decide on the exclusion of a member movement; the General Secretariat must be consulted. The Regional Council's decision is submitted to ratification by the World Council.

C) INCREASE OR DECREASE OF THE NUMBER OF VOTES

(Statutes, Art.9. 1)

Article 4

Requests to increase or decrease the number of votes of a member movement are dealt with according to the procedures of admission or exclusion of member movements respectively.

D) WITHDRAWAL OF VOTING RIGHTS

(Statutes Art. 9.2)

Article 5

- 5.1. The General Secretariat makes public, before every ordinary meeting of the World Council, the list of movements not having paid their dues since the previous ordinary meeting and thus not having the right to vote.
- 5.2. The right to vote is, nevertheless, retained by those movements which, on arrival at the World Council, can justify themselves in front of it and have furthermore paid at least the minimum fee.
- 5.3. The World Council can exempt a movement from paying the minimum fee if the movement concerned can prove it is unable to do so, and this is confirmed by the General Secretariat.

WORLD COUNCIL

A) COMPOSITION AND NUMBER OF VOTES

(Statutes, Art.9)

Article 6

- 6.1. Each movement admitted as member can send one delegate to the World Council.
- 6.2. The General Secretariat can invite other people as observers.

Article 7

- 7.1. Each member movement has a right to one vote per sector in which its activists operate.
- 7.2. For the purposes of this article, are considered as sectors of activity the following: the University milieu (women), the University milieu (men), secondary school (girls), secondary school (boys).
- 7.3. Consequently, the maximum number of votes per member movement is four.

B) VENUE AND CONDITIONS OF VALIDITY OF THE SESSIONS

(Statutes, Art.11)

Article 8

The General Secretariat decides on the venue of the sessions of the World Council, on the recommendation of the latter.

Article 9

- 9.1. If, according to the provisions of Art.11.2. of the Statutes, an extraordinary meeting of the World Council is requested, the General Secretariat is obliged to inform the Council by letter.
- 9.2. The extraordinary meeting takes place if the request counts with the written agreement of two thirds of the member movements.

Article 10

- 10.1. For a session to be valid, there must be two thirds of member movements either present or represented (in accordance with the following article) for the whole of the deliberations and at each vote.
- 10.2. For the determination of the two thirds mentioned in the previous paragraph, are not counted in the total those member movements whose voting rights have been withdrawn, unless such rights are restored according to the provisions of article 5.2.

C) DELEGATION OF VOTE

Article 11

- 11.1. The delegation of votes is admissible either before the Council or during its progress.
- 11.2. A movement can delegate its voting right to another member of the World Council or to a member of its own Regional Secretariat.

- 11.3. If, during a session, a voting member has to leave the room, he is asked to delegate his votes, his own or delegated, and to inform the Presidium of his leaving and returning. In this case, the votes can be delegated to one of the persons mentioned in the previous paragraph, to an observer or the chaplain of the national movement concerned.
- 11.4. In case of vote delegation, nobody can hold more than eight votes at a time. This limit is also applicable to the members of each Regional Secretariat taken as a whole. A member can receive a vote delegation from only one other member.
- 11.5. Each delegate must cast all the votes he holds, his own or delegated, in the same way.

D) PRESIDIUM

(Statutes, Arts. 12, 13b)

Article 12

The Presidium is chosen at the start of the World Council sessions in order to ensure the practical organization of all the meetings. The meetings are chaired in turn by the different members of the Presidium. The Presidium proposes the agenda for the meetings.

E) VOTING PROCEDURE

(Statutes Art.13)

Article 13

- 13.1. The number of votes will be counted at the start of each session.
- 13.2. For each vote, first are taken the votes against, then the abstentions, the remaining ones are considered as votes in favor.
- 13.3. The decision to submit to a four fifths majority an issue normally requiring two thirds of the vote must be taken by a two third majority.
- 13.4. When the World Council requires a four fifths majority, decisions must be taken by a positive vote of member movements present or represented at the Council, but abstentions and votes against have no effect as long as they do not exceed one fifth of the votes cast.
- 13.5. Upon request by two people with voting rights, the Presidium or two members of the General Secretariat, the vote will be taken by secret ballot.
- 13.6. The Presidium may decide to take an opinion poll instead of a vote. As the results are known, the Presidium may adjourn the discussion on the point in question.
- 13.7. The majority is defined with regard to votes cast (votes minus abstentions). The Presidium interprets the meaning of abstentions, in line with the spirit of Art. 13 of the Statutes.

F) MOTIONS

Article 14

- 14.1. Only member or collaborator movements have the right to table motions.
- 14.2. Every motion must be seconded by another member or collaborator movement and presented in writing to the Presidium.
- 14.3. A motion of order has priority over other motions. Motions of order are voted by simple majority.
- 14.4. A motion demanding the closing of a debate can only be tabled by a delegate who has not up to then taken part in the current debate or by a Presidium member. This type of motion is not admissible during a debate on the elections or on the admission of a member movement.

G) DEBATES AND DECISIONS

Article 15

- 15.1. All participants in the World Council, including observers, have the right to speak.
- 15.2. The members of the General Secretariat can always have priority as far as the right to speak is concerned. The members of the Regional Secretariats also have such priority (although not over and above the General Secretariat) when the point of the agenda concerns their own region. However, the motions of the General or Regional Secretariats have no special priority.
- 15.3. During a debate on a candidate, the Chairman may request him to leave the assembly for the duration of the debate.
- 15.4. If an accusation is leveled against a candidate, during the debate, the Chairman must inform him and the candidate has the right of reply.

Article 16

The official text of decisions is written in French.

H) CONSENT BY LETTER

(Statutes, Arts 10f, 15c)

Article 17

- 17.1. Matters to be decided by the World Council can be provisionally solved by the General Secretariat, the solution must be approved in writing by the members of the World Council.

- 17.2. The vote is closed twelve weeks after the date of the mailing of documents by the General Secretariat, by recorded postal delivery with acknowledgment of receipt. The General Secretariat will consider absent from the World Council all those movements whose acknowledgment of receipt have not arrived.
- 17.3. Lack of response from those movements whose acknowledgement of receipt the General Secretariat has received is interpreted as approval.
- 17.4. Amendments to the Statutes, to the Rules of Procedure and to the Common Bases, as well as to the orientations laid down by the previous World Council, cannot be dealt with through these procedures.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Article 17 bis 1

17. bis 1.1. The number of movements per region invited to participate in the International Committee (Art. 13 bis of the Statutes) will be decided according to the following criteria:
 - one from regions with less than five member movements;
 - two from regions with between five and less than ten member movements;
 - three from regions with between ten and less than fifteen member movements;
 - four from regions with between fifteen and less than twenty member movements;
 - five from regions with between twenty and less than twenty five member movements;
 - six from regions with twenty five or more member movements.
17. bis 1.2. The General Secretariat, in consultation with the Regional Secretariats, may invite other people as observers.

Article 17 bis 2

17. bis 2.1. For the International Committee to sit validly, at least three quarters of its members must be present, throughout its deliberations and for each of the votes.
17. bis 2.2. If a movement designated to participate in the International Committee is unable to go, another national movement from the same region may be invited, be it by the Regional Council, or by the Regional Secretariat, in consultation with the General Secretariat.

Article 17 bis 3

No member of the International Committee can have more than two votes (ie. only one delegation of vote).

Article 17 bis 4

17. bis 4.1. All members of the International Committee can table motions.

17. bis 4.2. Every motion must be seconded by another member and presented in writing to the Presidium.

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

A) ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE FULL TIME TEAM

(Statutes; Arts 10.f; 14.1 and 14.2)

Article 18

- 18.1. Candidates must be presented to the World Council at least 48 hours before the time fixed for the election.
- 18.2. The candidates must be prepared, as far as possible, to commit themselves to the General Secretariat for four years.

B) COLLABORATORS OF THE FULL TIME TEAM

Article 19

- 19.1. The General Secretariat's full time team can bring in collaborators for specific tasks and for a temporary period.
- 19.2. These collaborators must be current or former students, with experience of the Student Apostolate in their countries.

C) REPRESENTATION OF 'THE INTERNATIONAL YCS

(Statutes, Art. 15.h)

Article 20

- 20.1. The representation of the International YCS is normally ensured by the General Secretary and the other members of the General Secretariat, but the Secretariat can decide to entrust it, in certain cases, to a Regional Secretariat or to a leader of a member or collaborator movement.
- 20.2. The General Secretariat can appoint representatives for special missions and to international organizations. These representatives must follow the instructions of the General Secretariat.

D) CREATION OF A FINANCIAL COMMISSION

Article 21

- 21.1. An independent Audit and Financial Advisory Commission works with the General Secretariat in order to help in the management of the Secretariat. The tasks of this Commission are:
 - a) as a priority, to advise the General Secretariat in the search for funds;

- b) to help in the management of the General Secretariat and in the preparation of its annual budget;
 - c) to audit the annual accounts and make recommendations;
 - d) to contribute to the determination of the financial conditions for the activities of the General Secretariat members and eventual collaborators;
 - e) to be a link and a mediator vis à vis the French State and its institutions.
- 21.2. The members of the Commission are chosen by the General Secretariat among former members and friends of the IYCS, in consultation with the National Movements and Regional Secretariats.
- 21.3. The Commission presents a report to the World Council and at each Consultation Meeting with the Regional Secretariats (Statutes, Art. 17).
- 21.4. Member movements and Regional Secretariats can solicit information directly from the Commission.

E) ASSISTANT CHAPLAINS

Article 22

The General Ecclesiastical Assistant can ask, in agreement with the General Secretariat, that assistant Chaplains be appointed.

F) COMMUNICATION OF INFORMATION

(Statutes, Art. 15.b)

Article 23

- 23.1. The General Secretariat keeps the national movements and isolated sections regularly informed of its work and decisions. It sends at least three circular letters a year.
- 23.2. National movements keep the General Secretariat up to date about their activities and, especially, about the following issues,
- change of leaders;
 - publications;
 - activities and discoveries in the student milieu;
 - national sessions.

REGIONAL WORK

A) REGIONAL COUNCIL

(Statutes, Art. 16.2)

Article 24

- 24.1. Apart from the member and collaborator movements of the region, the Regional Council can also be attended, in consultation with the General Secretariat, by permanent observers from countries not yet having a YCS movement.

24.2. The General Secretariat is invited and can delegate one of its members to attend the sessions of the Regional Councils (or Committees).

Article 25

The Regional Council

- a) elects the Regional Secretary and the other members of the Regional Secretariat, in accordance with the procedures established by the Council itself, as long as these do not contradict the International YCS Statutes and Rules of Procedure;
- b) vote the regional working initiatives at the general and regional levels;
- c) establishes and votes the regional budget and controls its implementation;
- d) can propose a regional chaplain to the General Ecclesiastical Assistant;
- e) votes the Statutes and the Regional Rules of Procedure.

B) REGIONAL SECRETARIAT
(Statutes, Art. 16.2)

Article 26

26.1. The Regional Secretariat works in close cooperation with the General Secretariat in a spirit of co-responsibility with the international movement and its orientations. The specific duties of the Regional Secretariat are

- a) to make sure that the issues involved in the regional student milieu are reflected in the international work program;
- b) to undertake the representation of the regional YCS in regional institutions;
- c) to guide and coordinate the work of the various movements in the region and to promote extension work;
- d) to organize meeting and study sessions for the movements of the region;
- e) to ensure the exchange of publications and leaders within the region and to launch or develop information and training publications;
- f) to promote the thinking and activities of the International YCS so as to maintain the internal unity of the movement;
- g) to present a report on the situation, challenges and work undertaken in the region to each session of the World Council;

- h) to undertake all the other tasks attributed to it by the Statutes or the Rules of Procedure and, in accordance to them, by the World Council or the Regional Council.

Article 27

- 27.1. During the Consultation Meetings between the International Team and the Regional Secretariats (Statutes, Art. 17), participants pay close attention
 - a) to the exchange upon and analysis of the situation of the milieu and the movement, and to encourage formation on themes connected to the orientations of the international movement; as far as possible (especially from the financial point of view), representatives from national movements are invited to these analysis and training sessions;
 - b) to the exchange of information on the financial situations and policies, and to ensure their coordination; in order to help reflection on these matters, external resource persons may be invited to participate.
- 27.2. As far as possible, these meetings should take place, on a rota system, in the different regions.
- 27.3. The General Secretariat is entrusted with the organization of these meetings, with the help of the Regional Secretariats, and it sends a report to all national movements.

Rules of Procedure approved by the IYCS World Council, August 4, 1991, Hong Kong

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL BETWEEN THE HOLY SEE AND THE IYCS

Article 1

The Holy See recognizes the IYCS as an International Catholic Organization, having approved the Statutes established at the 1978 World Council in Valladolid (Spain) and on the basis of the work accomplished by the IYCS over 25 years in the field of evangelization of young students.

Article 2

The IYCS accepts as members those movements recognized by the Bishops' Conference (cf. Statutes, art 4.b). It commits itself to take into account the orientations contained in the Holy See document relating to the definition criteria for ICOs. It will keep up regular contact with the State Secretariat and the Pontifical Council for the Laity.

Article 3

The IYCS International Team will communicate to the Holy See, four months before the date of election of the General Secretary by the World Council of the IYCS, the list of candidates submitted to the Council. The Holy See shall disclose, in due course, the names of the people to whom it is in a position to grant agreement (“Nihil Obstat”).

Article 4

- a) The Holy See shall appoint the Ecclesiastical Assistant of the IYCS.
- b) At least three months before the end of the mandate of the current Ecclesiastical Assistant, the International Team will present to the State Secretariat a list with at least three candidates priests with a view to that appointment.

Article 5

As an International Catholic Organization recognized by the Holy See, the IYCS will be so included in the ICO Register kept by the Pontifical Council for the Laity.

Article 6

Amendments to the Statutes must be submitted to the Holy See's approval.