

YCS/YSM India

CONSTITUTION OF THE INDIAN YOUNG CATHOLIC STUDENTS/YOUNG STUDENTS MOVEMENT

Interpretations: In these Rules and Regulations, unless anything in the subject or context inconsistent There with:-

1. Young means a person above the age of 13, in the case of Parish YCS (Young Catholic Students) movement 13 -18 and in the case of YCS/YSM (Young Catholic Students/ Young Students Movement) movement student attached to any of the educational institutions from VII grade till XII grade. The beneficiaries of YCS shall be primarily catholic and in YSM student of any class, caste, creed, religion, colour, region etc.

2. Catholic means baptized person of the Catholic Church and also means “universal”, in the sense of “according to totality” or “in keeping with the whole” meaning “broad minded”, “all embracing” (Cfr CCC Nos 830-831)

3. Student means attached to any of the educational institution/Parish or its equivalent, unmarried person accepting to live the aim and objectives of the movement and willing to work with others in the same orientation.

4. Movement means a group of people, united around the figure of a great person (a founder or leader) and around the key ideas of the spirit and spirituality of that person. For YCS/YSM that great person is Jesus Christ himself and his follower Cardinal Joseph Cardijn who was the inspiration for this movement.

YCS/YSM shall adopt the characteristics of an Movement as outlined and made applicable to all Catholic Organizations in the Canon Law (Cfr Canons 298-329)

Article I - Name of the Movement and Location of the National Office

1.1: The **Young Catholic Students Movement** is composed of Young Catholic Student groups and is indicated by the abbreviation YCS, young students of any faiths and indicated by the abbreviation YSM, in the constitution and Internal Regulations it is referred to as ‘The Movement’.

1.2: The Name and the abbreviation of YCS/YSM can be translated / adapted into local language with approval of the National Executive Committee (NTA/ Exco).

1.3: The National office may be located at any place in India decided by the National Executive Committee (NTA/ Exco) with approval of CBCI and with a resolution of the Governing Body of YCS/YSM Trust. The present address is: YCS/YSM National office, 66 (old 151) Luz Church Road, Mylapore, Chennai – 600 004.

1.4: YCS/YSM is a Public Charitable Trust registered under the Government of Tamilnadu on 24th day of April 1997 named as Young Christian Students/Young Students Movement, the document no 475/1997 under the Indian Trust Act 1882.

1.5: The YCS movement is recognized officially on 6th December 1969 as a National Movement in India (with the appointment of Sr. Jeanne Devos ICM as the National Advisor) and YSM is recognized in 1970 for the students of other faiths.

1.6: The Movement is affiliated to International Young Catholic Students (IYCS) as member movement on 14th August 1970 (Collaborating movement in July 1969). International YCS is a nonprofit making organization recognized by the United Nations and its bodies and agencies as an international nongovernmental organization. It has Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Commissions (ECOSOC) and Operational Status with United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) – (Refer Article 1d of IYCS International Statutes)

1.7: YCS/YSM is recognized officially by CBCI in September 1981 as National Catholic Organization engaged in the service of Young and Humanity.

Article 2 – Vision, Aim and Objectives

2.1: The **vision** of the Movement is to enable the personal growth of Young Catholic Students in the Catholic Faith and students of other faiths in their own faith or their personal beliefs in taking up responsibilities in the Church, in the student world and in society towards building God’s Kingdom a New Society, i.e. a community of Justice, equality, freedom and love, with the specific methodology of ‘Review of life’.

2.2: The **Aim** of the movement is “**Building a New Society**” i.e. “God’s Kingdom”

2.3: The main **objective** of the movement is “**Change Self – Change Others**”, understood as change of attitudes towards transformation of self and transformation of the society. It means-

2.3.1: To develop one’s personality through Review of Life in the methodology understood as See (Awareness), Judge (Reflection), Act (Action) and Evaluation.

2.3.2: To give a platform for a meaningful expression of one’s religious faith and faith formation through the study of one’s religious scriptures and deeds of charity.

2.3.3: To train them in creative leadership by creating space to realize their inner potentialities.

2.3.4: To discipline their life and encourage them to pursue higher/further studies and social activities

2.3.5: To broaden their horizon towards religious harmony and communal amity

2.3.6: To train them in social reality, thus to participate in the justice and peace activities in the society.

2.3.7: To train them to work in collaboration with likeminded movements.

2.3.8: To train them in the activities of national integration, protection of environment, movements of global and national concern and work for one’s integral formation.

2.3.9: To build a society where humanity, equality, justice and peace prevails.

2.3.10: and to realize the objectives given in the YCS/YSM Public Charitable Trust.

Article 3 – Admission – Membership

3.1: As a Student Movement it exists at the Secondary/ Higher secondary schools, Junior colleges, Colleges, Educational institutions/ Parishes or their equivalent.

3.2: The membership of YCS/YSM is open to any Student attached to a Parish (YCS) and educational institution or its equivalent (YSM) at the age of 13 and above who accepts to live the aim and objectives of the Movement and is willing to work with others in the same orientation and may be approved to join the Movement.

3.3: The age group of YCS members in the Parishes will be from the 13th year beginning and till 18 years, **Jan 1** as the D date, on which one who completes 18 may leave the movement or continue till the end of that academic year and for YSM members from age of 13 beginning till they complete XII grade. Those who are elected for NEXCO (National Executive Committee) will continue their tenure of three years till the end of next National Council.

3.4: College unit students (unmarried) will continue to be the members of the movement till the completion of their studies as long they are attached to a particular educational institution or its equivalent.

3.4.1: In the Diocese and Region, Higher Secondary School YSM units, Parish YCS units and College/ City cells shall have separate DEXCO (Diocesan Executive Committee) and REXCO (Regional Executive Committee) according to the rules given below.

3.4.1a: College students as **Ex YCS/YSMers** may also set up a **City Cell** recognized and guided by the DYD and help the younger members of the movement achieve the aim and objectives of the movement by their service of volunteerism while living the spirit of the movement.

3.4.1b: They shall be recognized as Ex members of YCS/YSM and they shall hold meetings once a month and organize their own programs in the spirit and methodology of YCS/YSM.

3.4.2: Each member will pay the prescribed membership fee to their unit and additional Rs 2 each to the diocese, region and national movement (Rs 6) which should be collected at the unit level and sent to the Diocesan Director and the Diocesan Director to Regional office and National Office directly to which an official receipt shall be issued as acceptance of their membership or as decided by the NEXCO time and again

3.4.3: The Unit, Diocese, Region and National movement will recognize one as the member of the movement only when one pays the membership fees annually to the unit, diocese, region and national movement which has to be remitted within a month of starting of academic year. i.e. by the end of July/ Feb

3.5: Cessation of Membership:

3.5.1: The membership shall cease upon leaving the educational institution for any reason.

3.5.2: If someone who is a student and marries being a student will cease to be the member of the movement.

3.5.3: No member shall be expelled without any reason and opportunity of being heard and counseled for proper reformation and until the expulsion is ratified by the respective unit. (Authority - Appendix)

3.5.4: A person who has publicly rejected catholic faith shall not be allowed to continue in YCS, yet that student can be a member of YSM as it accepts students of other faith or even those who do not profess any faith, provided the person is a student still attached to an educational institution and accepts to live the aim and objectives of the movement according to the prescribed age group. (Authority - Appendix)

3.5.5: A member who has committed a cognizable offence against the law of the land and worked against the aim and objectives of the movement and human values may be expelled from the movement by the local unit, having heard his/her point of view and having given due reason with understanding for one's expulsion.

3.6: Rights and Privileges of membership:

3.6.1: Each member of YCS/YSM unit defacto, shall be member of YCS/YSM, India

3.6.2: The members shall be entitled to participate in all the programmes organized by YCS/YSM at the unit, diocese and regional level.

3.6.3: The catholic members shall be given priority to participate in the national, Asian and International level programmes because of its catholic origin and nature.

3.6.4: For any election/selection/nomination for National, Asian and International office and programmes only the official catholic members shall be given priority.

Article 4 - Structure and Office bearers

4.1: Cell: The cell forms the base of the Movement containing 8-12 members having a leader and a secretary

4.2: Unit: Cells together in a school (Education Institutions)/ parish form a Unit having President, Secretary, Treasurer and Reporter (Spokes person) along with appointed Animator by the Local Director (Head of the Institution/ Parish Priest/DYD).

4.3: DTS: Diocesan Team of Students

4.3.1: Units in the diocese form Diocesan movement which shall have elected DEXCO having President, Vice presidents (boy & girl), Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter (Spokes person), Editor (Bulletin), Liturgical secretary and the diocesan representative(s) for the region along with Diocesan Director and Coordinator. The term of office for DEXCO is for one year.

4.3.2: The Diocesan President and the diocesan representative(s) shall represent the diocese for the region as RTS. Gender balance shall be maintained. The term of office for the Diocesan Representatives for the region is for two years.

4.3.3a: If there are large number of YCS and YSM units (more than 50 each) in the Diocese separate DEXCO shall be elected for YCS and YSM for better participation who shall work under the DYD.

4.3.3b: In such cases both the DEXCO Presidents along with the diocesan representatives(s) shall be a part of RTS.

4.3.3c: In such cases some of the diocesan activities may be combined, like Convention and Annual meet giving both equal opportunity and responsibility

4.3.4: All the elected DEXCO members shall be members of the local unit.

4.4: DTA – Diocesan Team of Animators

4.4.1: All the diocesan animators form DTA having 2 elected members (male & female) to assist the DEXCO along with Diocesan Director and Coordinator in the diocesan activities.

4.4.2: The Diocese which has less than 50 units shall elect 2 animators and for every 50 additional units one more representative shall be made DTA member.

4.4.3: Their term of office is related to DEXCO

4.4.4: DTA/DTS shall be under the patronage of Diocesan Bishop

4.5: RTS: Regional Team of Students:

4.5.1: The Diocesan President and the diocesan representative(s)-(both of YCS and YSM, if any) from all the Dioceses along with Diocesan Directors and Diocesan Coordinators (if any) shall form the RTS.

4.5.2: The Diocese which has less than 50 units shall elect one representative (boy/girl) and for every 50 additional units one more representative shall be elected as RTS member along with the Diocesan President. Gender balance shall be maintained.

4.5.3: The diocesan representatives (RTS) for the region shall be presented at the regional council by the respective dioceses and approved by the Regional Council and their term of office is two years i.e. from Council to Council. If not presented during the council, their names shall be sent to the Regional Director within two months after the Council.

4.5.4: RTS shall elect the Regional Team - REXCO having President, Vice presidents (boy & girl), Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter (Spokes person), Editor (Bulletin), Liturgical secretary and two National Representatives (NEXCO - boy & girl) for less/equal to five dioceses and for an additional five dioceses where YCS/YSM exists, an additional NEXCO.

4.5.5: While electing REXCO proportionate representation and gender balance shall be maintained between YCS and YSM members.

4.5.6: The NEXCO members shall be only Catholics

4.5.7: The NEXCO members are Ex officio members of the REXCO and of local DEXCO. Their term of office is three years.

4.5.7: All the elected REXCO and NEXCO members shall be members of their local units.

4.6: RTA: Regional Team of Animators

4.6.1: The Diocese which has less than 50 units shall elect 2 animators as members of RTA and for every 50 additional units one more representative shall be made RTA member

4.6.2: All the elected regional animators form RTA.

4.6.3: They shall elect 2 members (male & female) to assist the REXCO along with Regional Director and Coordinator for the regional activities.

4.6.4: Their term of office is related to REXCO

4.6.5: RTA/RTS shall be under the patronage of Bishop-in-Charge of Regional Office for Youth elected by Regional Bishops' Council.

4.7: National Exco (NEXCO)

4.7.1: National Exco shall consist of two or more elected/ selected Student Representatives of every region together with Regional Directors, National Chaplain and the National Coordinator.

4.7.2: The two or more regional representatives from every region shall be presented by the regions during the National Council as NEXCO and shall be elected or approved by 2/3 majority of those Regions present and voting at the National Council and their term of office is three years i.e. from Council to Council. If not presented during the council, their names shall be sent to the National Chaplain within two months after the Council.

4.7.3: Qualification for NEXCO

a) They shall have been members of the Movement at least for 2 academic years at the High School/ Junior College/Parish or its equivalent.

b) When presented, they shall not be beyond Junior college or higher secondary school (+2) level or its equivalent or above 18 years of age.

c) They shall still be involved in the Movement at the time of presentation and should be a member of any cell/unit.

4.7.4: National Team:

4.7.4a: The National Exco elects the National Team comprising of National Convener (President), Secretary and Treasurer during the council itself, if not within a period of four months after the council taking into consideration such factors as geography, region, language and personal experience in the Movement. As far as possible they shall be Student volunteers.

4.7.4b: The election process shall be done through secret ballot. All the ExcOs are eligible to be elected to any post of NT. They shall continue to be in the movement till their tenure of 3 years i.e. till the end of next national council.

4.7.4c: Other Exco members may take up responsibilities such as Editor of national news magazine, “The Search” and liturgy to help the national team for better participation. All the NEXCO members and office bearers shall be catholic.

4.7.5: National Chaplain and National Coordinator are the integral part of the National Team.

4.8: NTA: National Team of Animators

4.8.1: The Regional Youth Directors/ RC (Regional Coordinator), the Zonal Animators of the independent Zones along with the National Coordinator and the National Chaplain form NTA. They shall be animated by National Chaplain and National Coordinator.

4.8.2: They elect two members to assist the National Team in the national activities.

4.8.3: NTA/EXCO shall be under the patronage of Bishop-in-Charge of CBCI Office for Youth elected by CBCI.

4.9: National Team of Full timers:

4.9.1: National Chaplain after due consultation with the Bishop-in-Charge and NTA/EXCO may appoint more Full timers for the expansion and growth of the movement.

4.9.2: They shall assist the NTA/Exco and National Team guided by the National Chaplain and shall have the similar functions of NTA/Exco (Rf 6.1.2)

4.9.3: If required each Region may also appoint Regional Team of Full timers and guide them in their task.

4.9.4: If required each Diocese may also appoint Diocesan Team of Full timers and guide them in their task.

Article 5 – Councils

5.1: National Council:

5.1.1: The National Council, which is the supreme body of the Movement, is composed of representatives from all regions. This Council meets every three years unless otherwise decided by the National Exco in consultation with the NTA and the Regional Executive Committees (Regional ExcOs)

5.1.2: The National Council of YCS/YSM shall comprise of National Exco members, all the selected Regional Student Representatives (RSRs – including Regional Presidents), Regional Youth Directors (RYDs)/ Regional Lady Coordinators, National Chaplain, National Coordinator and Bishop-in-Charge of CBCI Office for Youth. (Ref Appendix VII)

5.1.3: National Council delegates shall be elected or selected by the respective REXCO.

5.1.4: The role of the National Council is defined as follows:

a) To evaluate the implementation of the plan of action of the previous council

b) To make decisions on basic policies and the orientation of the Movement.

- c) To draw up and vote for the budget of the National YCS/YSM
- d) To elect / approve new members for the National Executive Committee
- e) To draw up the plan of action on the selected theme to be realized during the three years term.

5.1.5: During the Council deliberations all participants have the right to express their views.

5.1.6: Each region present at the Council has the right to one vote.

5.1.7: The National Exco in consultation with the National Chaplain has the right to one vote.

5.1.8: The National Chaplain has the right to one vote.

5.1.9: Matters which have to be decided by the National Council may be provisionally decided by the NTA/EXCO and sent to the region for written approval. This approval is subject to ratification at the ensuing National Council.

5.1.10: If within ten weeks of sending the document no reply is received from the defaulting region, it is deemed as approved.

5.1.11: Amendments to the Constitution, Internal Regulations as well as the Orientation of the YCS/YSM cannot follow this procedure and have to be voted in the National Council with a 2/3 majority of those Regions present and voting at the Council.

a) The National Convener (President) is the Chairperson of the National Council and two persons from among the council members shall be elected to the presidium to help the National Convener during the proceedings of the National Council. (Ref 6.1.1c)

5.1.12: Quorum of National Council

5.1.12a: For a session to be valid there must be 51% of regional member movement present with the right to vote.

5.1.12b: If the required quorum is not achieved, an extraordinary National Council shall be convened with the regional members present, which will require all decisions made to be ratified by a simple majority of member movements through postal vote, a non response will be interpreted as approval.

5.1.12c: Above rules apply for Regional and Diocesan Council as well with due interpretations.

5.2: Regional Council:

5.2.1: Regional Council consists of selected delegates (02 for less than 50 units and 01 for every 50 additional units) from Dioceses and diocesan representatives (RTS) along with Diocesan Directors, Regional Director and Regional Coordinator (if any)

5.2.2: The expansion of the Movement in any Region, its organization and functioning is the responsibility of the Regional and National ExcOs. The spirit is that the whole Movement is responsible for all regions.

5.2.3: Regional Council meets once in two years (prior to the National Council) to evaluate the implementation of the plan of action of the previous council, to propose amendments on basic policies, extension and orientation of the movement, to approve new members for NEXCO, to draw up budget of the regional movement and to draw up plan of action based on the national theme to be realized during the two year time.

5.2.4: The National Team shall be invited to participate in the Regional Council.

5.2.5: In areas where a Regional Exco does not exist, the National Exco is directly responsible for the extension work which should be done in consultation with the Diocesan and Regional Animators.

5.3: Diocesan Council:

5.3.1: Diocesan Council consists of four office bearers of every local unit along with Local Directors and Animators

5.3.2: Diocesan Council meets at the beginning of the academic year to evaluate the implementation of the plan of action of the previous year, to propose amendments on the basic policies, plan out for extension and orientation of the movement, to elect the DEXCO and to draw a plan of action for the current year based on the National, Regional and Diocesan themes and to draw up budget of the Diocesan movement.

Article 6: DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS

6.1.1: Role of the National Exco (NEXCO):

a) NEXCO is responsible to the National Council for the implementation of the aim of the Movement and the decisions of the National Council.

b) The National Exco decides the time and place of the meetings and proposes the agenda.

c) The National Convener (President) is the Chairperson of the National Council and two persons from among the council members shall be elected to the presidium to help the National Convener during the proceedings of the National Council.

d) Each region sends to the National Council as many student and animator representatives as decided by the National Exco. They shall give due representation to newly formed regions and those in the process of formation.

e) The National Exco may invite observers.

f) During the period between two councils NEXCO shall have the power to co-opt National Student Full-Timers into the Exco.

g) National Full-Timers are proposed by the Regional or National Team and accepted by the National Exco.

h) The maintenance and up-keep of National Full-Timers and those working at the National level shall be the responsibility of the NT.

i) Between two National Councils, according to the needs or the work at National level, new members to the National Exco may be co-opted in consultation with the Regional ExcOs. (Not exceeding 7)

j) The National Exco in consultation with the NTA will propose to the Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI), a list of names showing their order of preference, for the appointment of the National Chaplain.

6.1.2: National Exco has the following Functions: They shall

- a) Work towards a common vision in the Movement.
- b) Animate the life of the Movement in its different aspects of awareness, reflection and action in keeping with the orientation, theme and policies decided by the Council.
- c) Integrate the Regional experiences in the context of the National and International experiences of the Movement.
- d) Help the National Team and the National Full-Timers in the fulfillment of their tasks as defined by the National Council.
- e) Collaborate with Youth and adult Organizations having a similar orientation.
- f) Present to CBCI when the need arises, a list of names expressing their preference of persons as National Chaplain.
- g) Invite competent people to help in its reflections, activities and planning.
- h) Meet at least twice a year to review and plan the progress of the movement.
- i) Select representatives to be the candidates for Asian and International Team Office and delegates for international meetings, in consultation with the Regional Exco's.

6.2.1: The Role of National Team (NT):

- a) **The National Team** (NT) shall consist of the Convener (President), Secretary, Treasurer, the National Coordinator and the National Chaplain.
- b) They function as a team and act in co-responsibility and meet as often as the need arises.
- c) The National Team shall hold office till the end of the next Council.
- d) Any member resigning from the N.T shall be replaced by a member elected by the National Exco from among them.
- e) The National team shall function not only as a representative body but also as the Executive and Administrative body having power to plan and execute activities for the extension and development of the Movement in all parts of India, in accordance with the fundamentals of this constitution.
- f) The National Convener, Secretary and the Treasurer shall remain in the same post till their tenure of three years
- g) The Ex-national Convener remains an advisory member of the NT till the next National Council.
- h) One region shall hold only one post in NT.

6.2.2: The National Team has the following functions: They shall

- a) Work for the growth of the Movement, taking all possible initiatives in line with the Constitution and decisions of the National Council.
- b) Take decisions in cases of emergency.
- c) Administer the finances of the programmes conducted during their tenure and of the National Office.
- d) Draw up and present a report of its work every year and a consolidated report at the National Council.
- e) Interpret and implement the constitution of National YCS/YSM

6.2.3: For the continuity of the spirit of the Movement, members of the out-going NT could be invited to help the National Exco and the NT in their reflections.

6.2.4: Extension and Organization

6.2.4a: The National Team in consultation with the National Exco and NTA is entitled to set up subcentres and offices whenever and wherever necessary, to extend, co-ordinate and facilitate the work of the Movement.

6.2.4b: The NTA shall be responsible for the finances of the sub-centres and offices except in those matters which fall under the purview of the National Team as envisaged by the National Council.

6.3: The Role of National Chaplain:

6.3.1: The National Chaplain works together with the **NTA** and **EXCO**.

6.3.2: The National Chaplain's functions: He shall

- a) Animate the National Exco and NT. His special attention should go to the formation of leaders in the NT and National Exco.
- b) Act in co-responsibility with the NT in all matters concerning the Movement and its representation.
- c) Call-up and co-ordinate the meeting of the National Team of Animators whenever necessary.
- d) Reflect and evaluate with Regional Animators (RYDs) and whenever possible with Local Animators.
- e) Be accountable to the NTA and NT as far finances of the Movement are concerned.
- f) Take decisions during inevitable situations in view of policies and plan of action of the movement and shall inform the NTA and NT at the earliest to get ratification.

6.3.3: The National Chaplain appointed by CBCI shall hold office for a period of 3 years. He can be reappointed by CBCI for one more term.

6.4: The Role of National Coordinator:

- a) The National Coordinator shall be appointed initially for a period of one year. Depending on the availability of the person the term could be renewed by the CBCI Bishop-in-charge of Office for Youth.
- b) The National Coordinator is a part of the National Exco, National Team and the National Team of Animators.
- c) The National Coordinator shall assist the National Chaplain in all his responsibilities.

6.5: The National Convener (President): The Convener's duties are the following: He/ She shall

- a) Be responsible for the functioning of the National Movement and the National Office together with the NT.
- b) Assume responsibility with the NT for the representation of YCS/YSM as regards to civil and other authorities.
- c) Be the Chair Person of the National Council along with the Presidium
- d) Call up the meeting of the National Exco and NT in consultation with the National Chaplain.
- e) Have the right to send his/her representative to attend NTA meeting.

6.6: The National Secretary: He/ She shall be responsible for all records, communication, documentation and the report of the Movement.

6.7: The National Treasurer:

- a) He/ She shall be in charge of the a/c of the various programs of the Movement.
- b) He/ She shall present the budget and the account to the NTA/Exco yearly and at the National Council.

6.8: National Full-timers:

- a) National Full-Timers shall work for the growth of the Movement taking all possible initiatives in line with the constitution and decisions made at the National Council.

6.9: The National Team of Animators:

- a) Shall help to collect finances/ funds and administer the same for expenditures of the Movement.
- b) Shall work in close collaboration with the National Exco and help in its reflection.
- c) Is a link between the Movement and Hierarchy.

6.10: Regional Youth Director (YCS/YSM, ICYM):

- 6.10.1a:** RYD is responsible for the growth and sustenance of the movement in the Region.

6.10.1b: Some Regions may have separate Regional Youth Director for YCS/YSM and that RYD-YCS/YSM shall be solely responsible for the growth and sustenance of the movement.

6.10.1c: The RYD of YCS/YSM and the RYD of ICYM shall work together in the Regional Office for Youth under the Regional Office for Youth Bishop-in-Charge.

6.10.2: RYD shall organize the Regional Council once in two years (prior to National Council) and cause the election of the REXCO

6.10.3: RYD shall guide the REXCO to discharge their duties fruitfully in the manner which helps for the growth of the movement and to reach out to all the members of student community in the region by organizing them in the educational institutions and Parishes.

6.10.4: If the region has large number of separate YCS and YSM units (more than 50 units each) the office bearers (REXCO – YCS & YSM) may be elected separately to provide more participation and leadership while some of the activities may be organized together.

6.10.5: RYD shall organize the Regional Animators training as and when required, at least one training programme in a year comprising of animators from all the Dioceses of the region.

6.10.6: If the RYD – ICYM/YCS-YSM finds it difficult to manage the whole youth movement in the region, he may appoint an YCS/YSM regional coordinator for YCS/YSM for the smooth functioning of the movement.

6.11: REXCO

6.11.1a: The REXCO shall meet once in six months to review the growth and to plan activities of the movement.

6.11.1b: The office bearers of the region (REXCO) shall be responsible for the revival, extension, growth, sustenance and vibrancy of the movement. They shall be guided by the RYD, RTA and Regional coordinator.

6.11.1c: The REXCO with the help of RTA shall mobilize finances for the proposed activities of the region.

6.11.1d: The office bearers shall discharge their duties as per their responsibilities. The **President** shall lead the group together, **Secretary** shall keep the reports, records and documentation, **Treasurer** shall keep the accounts, **National Excors** shall regularly attend the NTA/Exco meeting supporting the regional movement and other office bearers shall discharge their duties for the growth of the movement and work in a regional CELL with RYD which is the basic unit of the movement.

6.12: Diocesan Youth Director (YCS/YSM, ICYM):

6.12.1a: DYD is responsible for the growth and sustenance of the movement in the Diocese.

6.12.1b: Some Dioceses may have separate Diocesan Youth Director for YCS/YSM and that DYD-YCS/YSM shall be solely responsible for the growth and sustenance of the movement.

6.12.1c: The DYD of YCS/YSM and the DYD of ICYM shall work together in the Diocesan Office for Youth under the Diocesan Bishop.

6.12.2: DYD shall organize the Diocesan Council once a year and cause the election of the DEXCO, plan activities, trainings for the year and review the progress of the movement.

6.12.3: DYD shall guide the DEXCO to discharge their duties fruitfully in the manner which helps for the growth of the movement and to reach out to all the members of student community in the diocese by organizing them in the educational institutions and Parishes.

6.12.4: If the diocese has a large number of separate YCS and YSM units (more than 50 units each) the office bearers (DEXCO – YCS & YSM) may be elected separately to provide more participation and leadership while some of the activities may be organized together.

6.12.5: DYD shall organize the Diocesan Animators training as and when required, at least twice a year comprising of all the animators of the Diocese. If required, separate meetings/trainings of YCS and YSM animators may be organized.

6.12.6: If the DYD – ICYM/YCS-YSM finds it difficult to manage the whole youth movement in the diocese, he may appoint an YCS/YSM diocesan coordinator for YCS/YSM for the smooth functioning of the movement.

6.13: DEXCO

6.13.1a: The DEXCO shall meet every month or as often as possible (at least bimonthly) to review the growth and to plan activities of the movement.

6.13.1b: The office bearers of the diocese (DEXCO) shall be responsible for the revival, extension, growth, sustenance and vibrancy of the movement. They shall be guided by the DYD, DTA and Diocesan coordinator.

6.13.1c: The DEXCO with the help of DTA shall mobilize finances for the proposed activities of the diocese.

6.13.1d: The office bearers shall discharge their duties as per their responsibilities. The **President** shall lead the group together, **Secretary** shall keep the reports, records and documentation, **Treasurer** shall keep the accounts, **Regional representatives** shall regularly attend the Regional meetings supporting the Diocesan movement and other office bearers shall discharge their duties for the growth of the movement and work as a diocesan CELL with DYD which is the basic unit of the movement.

6.14: UNIT OFFICE BEARERS:

6.14.1: The unit shall meet as often as possible (at least twice a month) at the prescribed time and place to coordinate and support the actions and functions of the cells with the help of their animator where the cell meeting shall be conducted every week in the spirit and spirituality of YCS/YSM using the methodology of SEE, JUDGE and ACT

6.14.2: The unit office bearers shall discharge their duties as per their responsibilities. The **President** shall lead the group together, **Secretary** shall keep the reports, records and

documentation, **Treasurer** shall keep the accounts, **Reporter** shall give due publicity to their activities encouraging the younger members to join the movement

6.14.3: The four office bearers of the unit or their delegates shall represent the unit in the diocesan council.

6.14.4: The office bearers and the cell leaders shall get trained to function effectively in the unit.

6.15: THE ANIMATOR

6.15.1: The Animator shall be an integral part of The Movement and the member with higher cadre.

6.15.2: The Animator of the movement shall guide the movement, the members and office bearers to get utmost good out of this movement in attaining the aim and objectives of the movement.

6.15.3: The Animator shall help the members change their self and attitudes towards self and society by making the methodology of YCS/YSM as their way of life.

6.15.4: The Animator shall animate the group accompanying them for their self transformation by transforming oneself through the methodology of YCS/YSM and making it the way of life, thus being role model to the members.

6.15.5: The Animator shall guide and reach out to the members in the times of crisis and in their growth process and in all their activities.

6.15.6: The Animator shall adhere to the Gospel/ moral values to the members in the process of their growth and life.

6.15.7: The Animator shall get proper training under DYD to function effectively.

6.15.8: The minimum age of the Animator shall be 24 years as regards YCS at Parish unit and a teacher (Teaching Staff) of the particular educational institution as regards YSM.

6.16: CELL & CELL LEADER & SECRETARY

6.16.1: Cell is the basic unit of the movement. It is understood as the structural and functional unit of the movement.

6.16.2: The cell shall be constituted annually by animator consists of 8-12 members. The Cell members shall be permanent members of a particular cell for a period of at least one year

6.16.3: Cells shall meet as often as possible and as required, at least once in a fortnight:

a) To share their experiences of life and faith and find the way of life towards personal growth in the movement spirituality using the methodology of the movement.

b) To plan their actions

c) To execute their actions

6.16.4: Cell leader shall conduct the cell meeting and give equal opportunities to all the members of the cell to share their feelings and experiences keeping in mind the fraternal nature of the movement.

6.16.5: Cell Secretary shall write the brief report of the cell meeting and actions taken. Confidentiality of the person who shared those feelings and ideas shall be maintained with objectivity.

6.16.6: Cell members shall attend meetings and programs regularly.

6.16.7: Cell members shall be responsible to keep up to the confidentiality of the personal feelings and experiences, thus helping the person grow by giving fraternal support in their time of need.

6.17: BISHOP-IN-CHARGE OF CBCI OFFICE FOR YOUTH:

6.17.1: The Bishop-in-Charge of the CBCI Office for Youth shall be the Bishop-in-Charge of the movement.

6.17.2: The Bishop-in-Charge shall guide and support the National movement for its growth and sustenance.

6.17.3: The Bishop-in-Charge shall attend NTA/Exco meetings as and when necessary and guide them to make the right decisions for the extension and growth of the movement

6.17.4: The Bishop-in-Charge shall help and guide the national movement for its monetary needs by sharing, recommending and requesting funding agencies to support the project proposals of the movement.

6.17.5: The Bishop-in-Charge shall make the CBCI (Bishops) aware of this movement and urge them to revive and start the movement in their Dioceses, thus to reach out to all the student/teenage community for their faith formation, personality development, Christian leadership and personal transformation.

6.17.6: The Bishop-in-Charge with the help of respective secretaries (NYD-ICYM and National Chaplain of YCS/YSM) shall arrange for the Office for Youth meeting together with the national office bearers of ICYM and YCS/YSM to have a good understanding among them and work for the same cause of personal and social reformation.

6.17.7: The Bishop-in-Charge shall be the voice of the student/teenage community in the CBCI for their needs in their growth process.

Article 7: FINANCES OF THE MOVEMENT:

7.1: Source of Income: Finances/ Funds are raised through membership fees, annual subscriptions, grants and legacies, national campaigns and fund raising, diocesan and regional contributions, financial assistance from government and non government agencies – national/international, loan and special collections etc. The National Team of Animators shall help collect finances/ funds for the Movement.

7.2: Expenditure: These finances / funds will be spent for launching national programmes, Training programmes, National Team and NTA/Exco meetings, campaigns, researches, projects, services, maintaining Full- Timers, National Chaplain and National Coordinator, travels for all the

executive bodies of the Movement, documentation and publications, Office staff and administration etc.

7.3: Budget: The National Council shall stipulate a budget and entitle the National Team to collect subscriptions, funds etc. from the cells through the Diocesan and Regional Exco's and administer the same. The NT shall be accountable to the National Exco and NTA for the expenditures and receipts of the same.

7.4: Audit: All money collected by the National Movement shall be audited annually through a qualified Chartered Accountant and the accounts pertaining to FCRA will be submitted to the Home ministry.

Article 8: THE SEARCH

8.1: The Search shall be the official news magazine of YCS/YSM India. Members shall write articles and their experiences to the magazine and sustain the magazine through their subscriptions, advertisements and donations.

8.2: The **editor** of the Search shall be a NEXCO member and shall serve for the growth and sustenance of the magazine.

Article 9: LANGUAGE:

The proceedings of all the meetings and accounts shall be maintained in English. However during meetings any member may express himself/herself in any national/regional language with the help of an interpreter.

Article 10 - AMENDMENTS AND ARBITRATIONS

a) Any proposition for the amendment of the constitution must be sent at least four months prior to the next Council to the National Team (NTA/Exco meeting draft/ Chairman) which communicates the same to the Council.

b) Any proposition for the amendment reaching the National Team later than four months prior to the National Council and those submitted during the Council shall not be discussed in the actual Council but taken as suggestions for the next Council.

c) Any amendment to the constitution of the Movement has to be approved by 2/3 of the regions present and voting at the National Council.

d) In case of a situation which cannot be resolved within the Movement the Code of Arbitration proposed by the CBCI will be followed.

Article 11: There shall not be parallel cells of YCS and YSM in a unit.

Article 12: DISSOLUTION of Indian YCS/YSM:

12.1: In case YCS/YSM is to be dissolved, the National Council may decide with the concurrence of CBCI if 2/3rd of all council members are present, with 2/3rd majority for the dissolution. The National Council if decided so, shall work out the modality of dissolution and make it known to the IYCS.

12.2: If a unit was to be dissolved for inevitable reason a proper decision shall be taken by the Local Ordinary only with the proper process of dissolution. Natural justice should prevail while arriving at proper decision.

GUIDELINES FOR WORKING WITH STUDENTS OF OTHER FAITHS

Article 13: NAME:

Where the Movement works with students of other faiths, it shall be called YOUNG STUDENTS MOVEMENT (YSM)

Article 14: AIM AND OBJECTIVES: Same as Article 2.3 to 2.3.10

Article 15: ADMISSION

15.1: Any young student who accepts to live the aim and objectives of the Movement and is willing to work with others irrespective of religion, belief and caste in the same orientation may be permitted to join the Movement.

15.2: They shall be attached to an educational institution and their membership shall be limited till Junior college or its equivalent or higher secondary school (+2).

MISCELLANEOUS:

Article 16: In the decision making process of the movement the opinion, suggestions, sharing and feelings of student members shall receive respectful and due consideration by elder members of committees to reflect the nature of the movement **‘the students movement’**

Article 17: Universal and Natural rights of children shall prevail upon all the student members of YCS/YSM.

Article 18: The YCS/YSM Indian movement shall follow this constitution in letter and spirit in all its aspects in the national, regional and diocesan level.

Article 19: Any internal rules made by a region or diocese shall be presented to the National Team and shall be ratified within a year in consultation with the NTA/Exco.

Article 20: The decision of CBCI is final and binding to all concerned.

Appendix I - Consultation:

Consultation as it is used in the constitution is not a mere formality. To take decisions affecting the National Movement requires the EXCO to give due importance to NTA and Regional ExcOs and consider their suggestions with an open and free mind. The consultation with Regional ExcOs shall be done through correspondence and the written opinions of the Regional ExcOs shall be presented to NTA. As far as possible, proceedings shall be duly maintained.

Appendix II – Independent Zones:

Independent Zones that are directly under the National Movement shall have one representative each at the National Exco.

Appendix III: YCS/YSM Public Charitable Trust Objectives:

The movement is for the purpose to impart relevant education by promoting personality development, leadership and social responsibility which are geared towards making the students an effective instrument of change; evolve a new society; training in skills like capacity and leadership qualities; knowledge of life for their integral development; seminars and researches; organize programmes for the poor irrespective of race, caste and creed; social service activities; youth welfare activities, etc.

Appendix IV: Office bearers

a) If any office bearer of a CELL/UNIT/DEXCO/REXCO/NEXCO during the tenure of office moves out of unit/ school/parish/ diocese/ region/ nation, loses the position of office in the respective cell/ unit/ diocese/ region/ nation and a new person shall be nominated in their place by the respective authority in consultation with the respective bodies.

b) If a DEXCO/REXCO member is selected as NEXCO, it is desirable that he/she lays down the position to give other person an opportunity to serve.

Appendix V: Authority

a) Unit level: The authority to take decisions will be the Director/ Principal/ Parish Priest in consultation with the Unit Animator

b) Diocesan level: The authority to take decisions will be the Diocesan Bishop (Local Ordinary) in consultation with the Diocesan Director

c) Regional level: The authority to take decisions will be the Regional Chairman Bishop in consultation with the Regional Director

d) National level: The authority to take decisions will be the CBCI Bishop-in-charge of Office for Youth in consultation with the National Director

Appendix VI: NEXCO

a) The region which has only one diocese shall elect two NEXCOs.

b) The region which has more than one diocese but if the movement is present in only one diocese both the NEXCOs shall be selected from that diocese.

c) If that region has movement in more than one diocese it is desirable that the NEXCOs are selected from different dioceses, yet it is left to the discretion of the RYD with valid reason.

d) If in a region any diocese starts the movement anew the present NEXCOs shall continue their tenure of three years, unless someone is changed by the RYD with valid reasons in consultation with REXCO.

e) If a NEXCO member resigns during the tenure or moves out of the region and informs the RYD and NTA/Exco in writing about not being able to discharge the responsibility as NEXCO or one who does not perform the responsibilities as per the requirements of NEXCO in the spirit and objectives of the

movement, the REXCO may suggest another member as NEXCO to the NTA/Exco for approval, while REXCO shall having heard the point of view of that person and give valid reason with understanding for the expulsion. NT shall take appropriate decision after due consultation with the RYD and REXCO.

f) Though YCS/YSM is a catholic movement, it also incorporates students from other faith and since NEXCO member represents the region to the CBCI Office for Youth, only catholic members shall be selected as NEXCO and presented at the National Council. YSM members belonging to other faith shall not be selected/elected/nominated as NEXCO members.

Appendix VII: National Council participants:

a) At present 2 or more NEXCO members of every region, RYDs/ RCs, 1 student member each from every Diocese where YCS/YSM exists (Regional Presidents), 1 animator for every 5 dioceses, 8 ex members, 12 invitees (former national chaplains and representatives of other student movements), Secretary - CBCI Office for Youth, 1 Moderator, National Chaplain, National Coordinator(s), Bishop-in-Charge of Office for Youth and Resource persons shall participate in the National Council.

b) Selection of Delegates: In the case of One Diocese – One Region - 5 student members, any region having YCS/YSM in less than 5 dioceses - 5 student members (Regional President included) and more than 5 dioceses an additional 1 each per diocese shall be selected. If there are independent zones directly serving under National Chaplain one student member each per zone shall take part in the National Council.

The Diocese which has less than 100 units – 1 delegate and every additional 100 units – 1 delegate each (inclusive of YCS and YSM)

c) An YSM member belonging to any faith or not, may be selected as delegate to the National Council representing the particular region.

Appendix VIII

a) This constitution abides to the IYCS International Statutes in spirit as it is affiliated to IYCS International.

CBCI Office for Youth - YCS/YSM, New Delhi

Amended on 25th May 2013 in XVI National Council held at Bethel, Shillong, Northeast