Circular 08B- Motion proposal Australia

30th ISGF World Conference, Granada, Spain, 2024

Motion proposed by International Scout & Guide Fellowship (Australia) in relation to the subsidising of World Committee Members attendance at World Conferences.
Seconded by UK NSGF

Motion - "That the costs associated with World Committee Members attending future World Conferences, once authorised as appropriate reimbursements, that such expenses be fully covered by the World Committee operational budget and not charged to the individual World Conference budget."

The background to the motion:

For the Sydney World Conference in 2014, the organising team had to allow within the budget for the costing of numerous complimentary persons attending the World Conference including all World Committee Delegates and staff - in fact accommodation and meals for a total of fourteen (14) attendees - eight (8) committee members, one secretary, one treasurer, one Central Branch Co-ordinator, and three (3) member countries applying to joining ISGF at that meeting. The total budgeted cost of $15,000 when divided by the 320 participants was equivalent to an additional $47 per head for every individual member attending the world conference.

It is understood that similar expenses were budgeted for the 2024 World Conference in Spain, again increasing attendance fees.

The cost of World Committee Members and staff attending any World Conference should be regarded as a general operational cost, funded by the full membership, and appropriately shown in the general accounts of the World Committee.

What is currently happening is that all of these travel costs are being fully met by the individual members that are attending the World Conference events. This major expenditure subsequently adds to the formal fees charged to delegates for attending the World Conference, and these higher conference fees are actively working as a deterrent to numerous members actually considering attending future World Conferences. It would appear that we are now actually financially penalising our keenest and most committed members from around the world, those who are prepared to give up the additional time and represent their NSGF by attending World Conferences.

What is the alternative? Raising the annual census fee figure so that the World Committee Member costs for attending World Conferences is actually covered by the full membership that the World Committee is actually representing.

For example:
55,000 membership fees @ 0.10 euro by three years = 16,500 euro.