

# Youth and Environment Europe (YEE)

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting 2014

### August 15 – 17, 2014, Valmiera, Latvia

#### Participants:

GONÇALO ALVES (OPE), ANA BIANCA BADEA (GREEN ECHOES), GIRTS BARANOVSKIS (BALTA DABA), VASILY BASHUTKIN (EYC), JENS BUCH JOHANSEN (NATUR & UNGDOM), INES CILKA (EDEN CENTER), MERCEDES FIORAVANTI (YEE), RAMILA GUBAYDULLINA (AYA), ELISAVETA GUŢU (GUTTA CLUB), LIRA HAKANI (EDEN CENTER), PATRIK HANACEK (HNUTI BRONTOSAURUS), KRISTINA HUDA (YEE), KYRYLO IVLIEV (EYC), CHRISTIANE KLEMM (FOJ-AKTIV), KETEVAN KOCHLADZE (SAEM), TIJANA LJUBENOVIC (YRS), NATALIA LUCHKO (YEE), RUZANNA MANYAN (YEGHVARD), CARLO MASSEI (MINE VAGANTI), JESSICA MASSUCCO (LEWE), TIM MEINECKE (DJN), RUI MENDES (OPE), ROXANA NICA (YEE), NOA PHILIPPON (BIODIVERSA), STEFANIA PINNA (MINE VAGANTI), RALFS PIZIKS (BALTA DABA), ALEXANDRA PODYMSKAYA (IPSO JURE), VLADIMIRA REGEROVA (HNUTI BRONTOSAURUS), KNYAZ SAROYAN (FYCA), MATEJ SEDLACEK (HNUTI BRONTOSAURUS), ZARUHI STEPANYAN (KHAZER), MIHAELA TABARCEA (GUTTA CLUB), ANJA WILKEN (FOJ-AKTIV), SVITLANA YAROVA (INYOUTH)

#### Participants with the right to vote (10):

JENS BUCH JOHANSEN (NATUR & UNGDOM), INES CILKA (EDEN CENTER), ELISAVETA GUŢU (GUTTA CLUB), CHRISTIANE KLEMM (FOJ-AKTIV), KETEVAN KOCHLADZE (SAEM), TIJANA LJUBENOVIC (YRS), RUZANNA MANYAN (YEGHVARD), TIM MEINECKE (DJN), RALFS PIZIKS (BALTA DABA), VLADIMIRA REGEROVA (HNUTI BRONTOSAURUS)

#### Abbreviations:

**AM** – Annual Meeting, **BM** – Board Meeting, **E+** – Erasmus +, **EB** – Executive Board, **EVS** – European Voluntary Service, **EYF** – European Youth Foundation, **GA** – General Assembly, **MO** – Member Organisation, **PBA** – Partnership Building Activity, **SG** – Secretary General, **TC** – Training Course, **WP** – Work Plan, **YE** – Youth Exchange, **YiA** – Youth in Action

## Agenda

### Friday, 15 August 2014

- 1) Official Opening of the Annual Meeting
  - Quorum
  - Voting rights
  - Election of the Chair of the AM, Minute Takers, Election Committee
  - Introduction to the Agenda of the AM
  - Amendments to the Agenda
  - Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Introduction to YEE
- 3) YEE Annual Report 2013-2014
- 4) Financial Report
- 5) Secretariat Report
- 6) Internal Audit Report
- 7) Reports of the Executive Board 2013/2014
- 8) Clearing of the Executive Board 2013/2014
- 9) Opening of nominations for the Executive Board 2014/2015 and Internal Auditors
- 10) Project planning I

### Saturday, 16 August 2014

- 1) YEE short term strategies: Presentation, discussion and approval
- 2) Proposal of rise in YEE membership fees
- 3) YEE opportunities
- 4) Rights and responsibilities of YEE MOs
- 5) Member organizations
  - Review and cancellation of membership
  - Acceptance of new MOs
- 6) Project planning II
- 7) Elections
  - Executive Board
  - Internal Auditors

### Sunday, 17 August 2014

- 1) Presentation and discussion of projects
- 2) YEE Work Plan 2015: prioritizing projects
- 3) YEE Work Plan 2015: approval
- 4) Draft budget 2015: presentation, discussion and approval
- 5) Evaluation & Closing of the Annual Meeting
- 6) 1st Board Meeting of the newly elected Board

## ACTUAL MINUTES:

# Friday, 15 August 2014

### **Ice-breaking games (from 09:00 to 09:30 a.m.)**

YEE EVS volunteers led name and ice-breaking games.

### **1. Official Opening of the Annual Meeting (09:30 a.m.)**

The Annual Meeting was officially opened by YEE Chairperson Anja Wilken, the quorum was checked and the voting procedure was introduced.

- The Agenda of the AM was introduced.
- Roxana Nica (from Romania, EVS volunteer in YEE office) has been proposed to be the Chair of the AM.

Voting results: In favour: 10, against: 0, abstentions: 0

**Roxana Nica has been unanimously approved by the GA as Chair of the AM.**

- Minute takers were nominated and Jessica Massucco and Kyrylo Ivliev have been unanimously voted on as minute takers, both approved with 10 votes in favour.

**Jessica Massucco and Kyrylo Ivliev have been approved for taking minutes during the AM.**

- Roxana asked for suggestions for changes of the Agenda. The GA did not propose any amendments to the agenda.

The Agenda of the AM has been approved unanimously with 10 votes in favour.

- The GA nominated two people for the electoral committee whose responsibility was to count secret ballots. It had been announced that people in the electoral committee are not allowed to run for a position in EB.

Kristina Huda and Kynaz Saroyan have been nominated for electoral committee.

Voting results: Kristina: In favour: 10, against: 0, abstentions: 0; Knyaz: In favour: 10, against: 0, abstentions: 0.

**Kristina Huda and Knyaz Saroyan have been unanimously approved for electoral committee.**

***The session of the AM was closed and the next session opened at 10:00 a.m.***

### **2. Introducing to YEE (10:00 a.m.)**

YEE and the Secretariat were introduced:

- The YEE movie (about YEE's activities, mission and aims) was screened.
- EVS volunteer Kristina led a quiz about YEE
- GA has been invited to make themselves acquainted with and review all documents from the YEE library for 30 minutes (until 10:45).

***The session of the AM was closed at 10:45 and followed by a 30-minutes break. The next session opened at 11:15 a.m.***

A delegate from the organisation InYouth from Ukraine, Svitlana Yarova, joined the meeting after the break.

### **3. YEE Annual Report 2013-2014 (11:15 a.m.)**

EB and Secretariat outlined the **main activities** undertaken this year:

- ★ Training Courses:

- Youth participation for the environment (Czech Republic)
- Youth for Rivers (Armenia)
- Saving energy (not realised)
- Teaching people on sustainable living (not realised)
- Environmental Education for Sustainability (Serbia)
- Step Up – Ensuring quality in project management (Armenia)
- Sustainable Construction (postponed to 2015, Portugal)
- Follow-up and impact in international projects (Latvia)
- ▲ Youth Exchanges:
  - Eco photo (Armenia)
  - Water cycle (cancelled)
  - In love with energy efficiency (scheduled for October 2014)
  - Three Rs for the environment (scheduled for October 2014)
- ▲ Campaigns:
  - 30 years of volunteering for the environment
  - The Right to Be(e)
  - Office Cuisine
  - Sunny Campaign
  - Insecta Rules (scheduled for August 2014 – 2015)
- ▲ Local actions:
  - World Water Monitoring Day
  - International Volunteer Day
  - Urban gardening workshop
  - Volunteering days in Toulcuv Dvur
  - Earth Day celebrations
  - Documentary screening
- ▲ European Voluntary Service
  - Jessica Massucco and Jesus De La Hoz
  - Kristina Huda and Roxana Nica
- ▲ Publications:
  - Youth for Rivers
  - Environmental Education for Sustainability
  - E-Newsletters
  - Digital presence

#### **4. Secretariat Report**

The Secretariat presented/performed their **Secretariat Report** after a short period of preparation in a creative manner. Afterwards, the floor for questions was opened.

There was one question about the main challenge and achievement of the year. The Secretary General answered that the main challenge was linked with uncertain situation in terms of finances and grants. The main achievement was considered to be accomplishment of most projects from the working plan as well as approval of administrative grants.

#### **5. Financial Report (12:10 a.m.)**

The **Financial Report** has been presented by the SG. She explained YEE's incomes and expenses in the business year 2013-2014.

- Income: 99131 EUR
- Expenses: 93988 EUR
- Result: 5143 EUR (positive)

The floor was opened for questions.

A member raised the question whether the financial resources raised by YEE member organizations with the help of YEE are included in the report. The answer was no. Another member asked about YEE's donation strategies. YEE has created a donation box on the website, but did not promote the campaign any further. Another member asked if YEE should accept donations from corporations and an opposing view suggested that would not suit YEE's ethical values. Another member suggested crowdfunding and the SG said it was considered but not pursued – maybe it should be tried? It was agreed to be discussed during the session about YEE Short-term Strategies.

It was proposed to consider having crowd-funding as a way of financing YEE projects.

***The session was closed.***

#### Proposal for the Final Budget 2014

The Budget of 2014 has been presented. The floor for questions has been opened. It was noticed that bank charges were quite a big part of the expenses. A member raised the question about ways to lower bank charges by finding alternatives. The SG said the charges were due to international transfers and they tried to keep charges down by limiting the number of transfers per project and for instance by reimbursing in cash.

It was asked if YEE has reserves. The SG answered that YEE has initial capital where every financial year's positive or negative result is added to or taken from. As a last resort, the SG's and Coordinator's salaries are lowered in case of limited funds.

According to a question about the External Audit the SG said that External audit has been conducted in February and was agreed to be made available for the delegates of the AM.

- The GA voted on the approval of the Final Budget 2014.  
Voting results: In favour of approval: 9, against: 0, abstentions: 1.  
The Final Budget 2014 has been approved by the GA.

#### **6. Internal Audit (12:40 a.m.)**

The auditor Christiane Klemm presented the results of the Internal Audit 2013-2014. The floor was opened for questions.

A member asked how YEE can make better use of the networks it is a member of due to the TC "Women for the planet" which got negative evaluation aiming at avoiding such situation in the future. This issue will be dealt with in another session. However, YEE should be more careful in composing project teams and designing project agendas as well as formulating aims and objectives. The comment has been made that in the Secretariat's opinion there is a need of discussing the mission of YEE, as such sort of discussion has last taken place a long time ago. Another member asked how they can contribute ideas and solutions to some of the problems found in the internal audit – where can they write public notes? She was invited to send her notes to the SG. Additionally, it was said that the session about Short-term Strategies is designed to address/discuss them.

***The session was closed at 13:00 for lunch break of 1,5 hours and therefore continued at 14:30 p.m.***

#### **7. Reports of the Executive Board 2013/2014 (14:30)**

The GA was divided into five groups and invited to circulate the room speaking to each board member for a set period of time (Treasurer absent). The Board Members updated the delegates about their achievements and how they met their duties. The delegates were invited to ask questions.

#### **8. Clearing of the Executive Board 2013/2014 (15:35)**

An explanation was provided by the SG that in case a Board member properly fulfilled his/her assignments, Internal Audit recommends to clear such a person. It was also explained that in case General Assembly does not clear a Board Member, further steps should be discussed as to what should be done by such a person to be released, for instance through an explanation letter.

It was asked how many people have not been cleared before. There have been at least 3 cases in the past. It was suggested not to have such thing as not clearing, because this leads to waste of time and causes extra work for the office since such people normally do not react to further communication, etc. On the other hand, another point of view was expressed that it is necessary to evaluate Board Members performance, also for legal reasons. It was underlined that further interpretation of the issue should be properly reflected in the statutory documents.

Somebody asked if it is possible to replace a board member half way through the working year. The SG replied saying it is impossible as the GA only meets once a year. Somebody suggested that reserve board members are elected at the AM in the unlikely event of such a situation. Somebody asked for a formal published explanation of what it means to clear the board members – to refer to. The SG confirms that the Board do not have access to bank accounts and are unlikely to cause YEE legal problems. The SG suggested that the GA can consider some alternative ways to deal with this issue or can ask the newly elected board to discuss it. The SG said that clearance allows board members to maintain their reputations within the YEE network.

#### Clearance voting

It was explained that clearing requires simple majority.

A secret ballot was requested. The votes were prepared as such: each voting member was given a piece of paper with all the Board Members on it. Beside each position the GA had to write Yes to clear, No to not clear or leave it blank to abstain.

The GA voted in a secret ballot on the clearance of Board Members 2013-2014.

- **Chairperson – Anja Wilken**  
in favour of clearing: 10, against: 0, abstention: 0  
Majority in Favour – CLEARED
- **Treasurer – Francesco Chiechi**  
in favour of clearing: 4, against: 5, abstention: 1  
Majority Against – NOT CLEARED
- **External Relations Officer – Zaruhi Stepanyan**  
in favour of clearing: 9, against: 0, abstention: 1  
Majority in Favour – CLEARED
- **Member Organisations Officer – Lira Hakani**  
in favour of clearing: 9, against: 0, abstention: 1  
Majority in Favour – CLEARED
- **Project officer – Ana Bianca Badea**  
in favour of clearing: 9, against: 0, abstention: 1  
Majority in Favour – CLEARED
- **Publications and Promotion Officer – Vasily Bashutkin**  
in favour of clearing: 9, against: 0, abstention: 1  
Majority in Favour – CLEARED
- **Anja Wilken, Zaruhi Stepanyan, Lira Hakani, Ana Bianca Badea and Vasily Bashutkin have been cleared of their duties.**
- **Francesco Chiechi has not been cleared.**

***The session was closed and a break announced until 16:30 p.m.***

#### **9. Opening of nominations (16:30)**

Zaruhi explained the procedure of nominations for the six positions in EB as well as two Internal Auditors: each participant can nominate both himself/herself and others. An individual can be

nominated for more than one position on the board. The board asks members who live close to the Czech Republic to consider applying to be an IA (to cut down on carbon emissions). The nominations will be closed on Saturday afternoon.

### **10. Project Planing I (16:40)**

It was explained that this session is designed to provide participants the opportunity to present their project ideas and find partners. Natalia explains YEE's typical funders and important deadlines (E+ Key Action 1 and EYF).

Teams working over the projects were invited to fill in a form with main points on their project ideas: title of the project, name of person in charge, type of activity, topic of project, reasons (why?), approximate date of project implementation, project team and partners. The results should be shared with the GA at 17:30.

An open space was created for members to present their project proposals and sign up for other projects. Members were asked to select a project to work on in teams for the remaining part of the session. They filled out a personal planner and the proposal form.

***The session was closed at 19:00.***

The day was closed with the session NGO Market where participants could present their organizations and activities their organizations are involved in.

## ***Saturday, 16 August 2014***

### **Energiser (from 09:00 to 09:15 a.m.)**

EVS volunteers led an energising game.

### **1. Short-term Strategies (09:10 a.m.)**

- After a short introduction about Short-term Strategies, the delegates were divided into five groups to discuss each of the five Short-term Strategies parts (Impact on environment; Representation in external affairs; Financial management; Communications; Publications, website and social media) prepared by the EB for the upcoming year. The discussion took 35 minutes and was facilitated by a Board Member responsible for this topic. The aim of this session for the delegates was to suggest possible amendments. These amendments were afterwards discussed by the GA.
- A question has been raised whether it is possible to participate in the discussion of more than one group. For the sake of efficiency it was suggested to stick to one group.
- The discussion and voting on the Short-term- Strategies should take place after the following session about YEE rights, responsibilities and opportunities.

### **2 . YEE Rights, Responsibilities, Opportunities (10:00 a.m.)**

- During the session of YEE Rights, Responsibilities and Opportunities participants were split into five groups and offered to fill in a questionnaire with questions on the topic within 15 minutes. Afterwards, Lira Hakani, MOs Officer went through the answers with the delegates.
- In addition to the point about YEE newsletters, the point has been made to include scientific articles as well as articles that provide an update on the actual state of political decisions on environmental issues in the newsletter.

### **3. Short-term Strategies II (10:30 a.m.)**

- The part about “**Environmental impact**” was not amended by the working group.
- The part of “**External representation**” was suggested to be added with the paragraph: “*to set up a cooperation with at least one politically influential organisation within one year which will help to make YEE heard on a political level*”. Somebody raised the issue of using YEE's

existing memberships before establishing a new partnership. Members supported this point. Another reminded the GA that YEE is currently not affiliated with any particular political party of political point of view, YEE would have to develop that to participate.

The GA voted for including the amendment to the part “**External Representation**”.

In favour of including this addition: 1; Against: 8; Abstention 1.

The amendment is not approved.

- The working group of the part of “**Communication**” suggested to delete “*each member of the board and secretariat should add at least five entries during the business year [to the google calendar]*” because it was not clear why the number five has been added there. At the same time a contra argument is that it could be useful to have such entries as it will help others keep track of other members’ activity.  
The SG confirmed that it was to encourage communication. Someone supported its inclusion because it helps the board members feel connected. Others say it unnecessary and arbitrary.  
The GA voted for deleting the sentence in the part “**Communication**”.  
In favour of deleting this sentence: 9; Against: 0; Abstention 1.  
The deletion is approved.
- The working group of the part of “**Communication**” suggested another amendment, namely, an addition: “*Create an external online profile of MOs containing: target group, main activities, mission, contact details and other observations of the MO. This profile should be updated every year.*”  
A member asked if this should be open to the public or for within the network. After some discussion ‘external’ was changed to ‘on the website’.  
The GA voted for adding this sentence in the part “**Communication**”.  
In favour of adding this sentence: 10; Against: 0; Abstention 0.  
The amendment is approved.
- Furthermore, in the part of “**Communication**” it was suggested to substitute the word “*email*” with “*reminder*”.  
The GA voted for editing/substituting this word in the part “**Communication**”.  
In favour of editing: 9; Against: 0; Abstention 1.  
The amendment is approved.
- The working group of the part of “**Financial Management**” suggested the following addition: “*create a list of a least (number) of organisations to contact for donations.*” After some discussion, for example that YEE should not take money from organisations with a bad environmental record, a consensus was found by saying “*at least five*”. Additionally, a representative from Hnuti Brontosaurus offered help with fundraising.  
The GA voted for adding this sentence in the part “**Financial Management**”.  
In favour of adding this sentence: 6; Against: 0; Abstention 4.  
The amendment is approved.
- The working group of the part of “**Financial Management**” suggested another addition: “*include the ‘donation button’ of YEE at MOs’ website and MOs’ newsletter.*”  
There has been made point that first we cannot oblige our MOs to do so and on the other hand it may be difficult from the technical point of view.  
The GA voted for adding this sentence in the part “**Financial Management**”.  
In favour of adding this sentence: 0; Against: 8; Abstention 2.  
The amendment is not approved.
- Another suggestion of the working group of the part of “**Financial Management**” was to add: “*create a draft of fundraising policy for YEE.*”  
Someone suggested changing “*policy*” to “*guidelines*”. There was some discussion on if the board should be trusted to represent the views of the network on this or if it was too important to not develop with the GA. Eventually it was decided to change it back to “*policy*” – to be voted for in the next AM.  
The GA voted for adding this sentence in the part “**Financial Management**”.  
In favour of adding this sentence: 8; Against: 0; Abstention 2.



The amendment is approved.

- Another suggestion of the working group of the part of “**Financial Management**” was to add: “*Make use of volunteer time recognition of the EYF in the projects organised by YEE.*”  
The GA voted for adding this sentence in the part “**Financial Management**”.  
In favour of adding this sentence: 7; Against: 0; Abstention 3.  
The amendment is approved.
- Another suggestion of the working group of the part of “**Financial Management**” was to add: “*to research opportunities to decrease bank charges and other transaction costs of YEE.*”  
Someone said it was too vague to add.  
The GA voted for adding this sentence in the part “**Financial Management**”.  
In favour of adding this sentence: 4; Against: 1; Abstention 5.  
The amendment is approved.
- The working group of the part of “**Publications, website and social media**” suggested to edit: “*to publish at least one (instead of two) articles and / or posts in YEE's...*”  
The GA voted for substituting this word in the part “**Publication, website and social media**”.  
In favour of editing: 8; Against: 1; Abstention 1.  
The amendment is approved.
- The GA voted for the approval of the whole Short-term Strategies document.  
In favour: 10; Against: 0; Abstention 0.  
The Short-term Strategies were approved.

***The session was closed at 11:15 a.m. for a coffee break for 30 minutes.***

#### **4. Proposal of rise of membership fees (11:45 a.m.)**

There has been presented proposal to increase the amount of membership fees. The reasons are summarized in the document “Proposal for change of membership fees”.

The participants were asked to partner with another individual and discuss this point for two minutes.

The SG suggested having three arguments against and three arguments for the change in fees.

- For: The benefits of being a member outweigh the fee.
- Against: The increase may be difficult for smaller organisations – some full members may choose to become associated members to avoid the bigger fee.
- The GA voted about the rise of membership fees.  
In favour of rising the fees: 7; Against: 1; Abstention 2.  
The rise of membership fees was approved.

#### **5. Membership issues (12:10)**

The session consists of three parts: membership review, organizations applying for membership and organizations applying for change of status.

##### **Review of Membership**

The following three organizations have been suggested to cancel YEE membership for several reasons: they did not pay membership fees, did not attend AMs, and did not respond to emails and calls.

- The GA voted about GAIA from Portugal.  
In favour of cancelling membership: 10; Against: 0; Abstention 0.  
The membership from GAIA, Portugal has been cancelled.

- The GA voted about Asociacion Ambiental y Cultural Oro Verde from Spain.  
In favour of cancelling membership: 5; Against: 0; Abstention 5.
- A secret ballot has been called.  
Results from the secret ballot:  
In favour of cancelling membership: 5; Against: 4; Abstention 1.  
The membership from Oro Verde, Spain has not been cancelled.
- The GA voted about MELP from Ukraine.  
In favour of cancelling membership: 5; Against: 2; Abstention 3.  
The membership from MELP, Ukraine has been cancelled.

### **Applying organisations**

2/3 majority of votes is required.

- **Digital Future (Italy)** applied for Full membership.  
Comments: They are not within the age limit and not ecologically focused so cannot be accepted as a full member. Maybe they can be invited to apply as an associate member next year. Maybe their knowledge would be useful or interesting for the YEE network. However, it is not recommended to accept them as a full member.
- The GA voted about accepting Digital Future as full members.  
In favour of accepting: 0; Against: 7 ; Abstention: 3  
The full membership of Digital Future has not been approved.
- The GA voted for accepting Digital Future as an Associate member.  
In favour of accepting: 1; Against: 4; Abstention: 5
- A secret ballot is announced.  
In favour of accepting: 4; Against: 6; Abstention: 0  
Digital Future, Italy, has not been accepted as associate member.
- **Association for Nature Protection and Environment Argonauta (Croatia)** applied for associate membership.
- The GA voted for accepting Argonauta as an Associate member.  
In favour of accepting: 10; Against: 0; Abstention: 0.  
Argonauta was approved as associate member.

### **Organisations applying for change in type of membership in YEE**

- **OPE (Portugal)** applies for changing the membership from associate to full members. The EB recommended to accept OPE as full member of YEE.
- The GA voted for accepting OPE as a full member.  
In favour of accepting: 10; Against: 0; Abstention: 0.  
OPE was approved as full member.
- **Youth without Borders (YWB) (Armenia)** applies for changing from associate to full member. The EB recommended to vote against the application as they have not proven active involvement in YEE activities during the last year.
- The GA voted for accepting YWB as a full member.  
In favour of accepting: 2; Against: 5; Abstention: 3.  
YWB was not approved full member (remains associate member).

***The session was closed at 14:00 p.m. and a break announced until 14:30.***

## **6. Project Planning II (14:30)**

- The delegates were given time to continue planning projects that they decided to organise. They were asked to fill out the online form and prepare a three-minute presentation using the computers available by 15:30. Nine projects were presented to the GA.
- After a short break the projects' ideas were presented (15:30).

### Project Implementation and Prioritising

- Next step is to have a look how the proposed projects can be imbedded into YEE Working Plan, bearing in mind deadline that our main funders have and rules they apply. After the discussion, it was decided which projects should be applied by which deadline and to which fund.
- It was suggested to vote on projects on Saturday taking into account that some participants representing full members leave on Sunday before the official closing of the AM and also since we have got some extra time left.
- It has been mentioned that there are some projects that YEE has already been working on and therefore these projects should be transferred to the work plan 2014-2015.

### Voting on projects

The GA voted for the inclusion of projects into the YEE Working Plan 2014-2015.

- **TC Environmental Training for Eco-Trainers (ET4ET)**  
In favour: 10; Against: 0; Abstention: 0.  
The TC was approved.
- **YE The Impact of conflicts on the environment**  
In favour: 7; Against: 0; Abstention: 3.  
The YE was approved.
- **The Right to be(e) Campaign**  
In favour: 9; Against: 0; Abstention: 1  
The campaign has been approved.
- **Green Entrepreneurship**  
In favour: 10; Against: 0; Abstention: 0  
Green Entrepreneurship has been approved.
- **Big Jump Challenge**  
In favour: 4; Against: 3; Abstention: 3  
Big Jump Challenge has been approved.
- **YE Art for the environment**  
In favour: 8; Against: 0; Abstention: 2  
The YE was approved.
- **Discover the soul of the Carpathian mountains**  
In favour: 8; Against: 1; Abstention: 1  
The project was approved.
- **The Climate Campaign**  
In favour: 7; Against: 1; Abstention 2  
The campaign was approved.
- **International eco-school partnerships**  
In favour: 8; Against: 1; Abstention: 1  
The project was approved.

***The session was closed at 17:45.***

## **7. Board Election and Internal Auditors' selection (18:15)**

The Chair of the AM explained the election and voting procedures (secret ballot). The nominees were presented to the GA and explained their motivation for applying. The voting should take place after all candidates presented themselves.

## **Executive Board**

### **Chairperson:**

**Nominee: Anja Wilken**

For: 10; Against: 0, Abstention: 0

**Anja Wilken has been elected Chairperson.**

### **Treasurer:**

**Nominees: Mattej Sedlavic and Vasily Bashutkin**

For Mattej: 2; Against Mattej: 0; For Vasily: 6; Against Vasily: 0; Abstention: 0

**Vasily Bashutkin has been elected Treasurer.**

### **External Relations Officer:**

**Nominee: Zaruhi Stepanyan**

For: 9; Against: 0, Abstention: 1.

**Zaruhi Stepanyan has been elected External Relations Officer.**

### **Member Organizations Officer:**

**Nominee: Lira Hakani**

For: 9; Against: 0; Abstention: 1.

**Lira Hakani has been elected Member Organisations Officer.**

### **Promotion and Publications Officer:**

**Nominee: Christiane Klemm and Ketevan Kochladze**

For Christiane: 8; Against Christiane: 0; For Ketevan: 2; Against Ketevan: 0; Abstentions: 0

**Christiane Klemm has been elected Promotion and Publications Officer.**

### **Project Officer:**

**Nominee: Ana Bianca Badea and Tijana Ljubenovic**

For Bianca: 6; Against Bianca: 0; For Tijana: 3; Against Tijana: 0; Abstention: 1.

**Ana Bianca Badea has been elected Project Officer.**

### **Vice Chairperson:**

Meeting by newly elected Board Members to nominate a person as Vice-chairperson.

**Proposed: Zaruhi Stepanyan**

For: 10, Against: 0, Abstention: 0.

**Zaruhi Stepanyan has been elected Vice-Chairperson.**

## **Internal Auditors**

**Nominee: Jessica Massucco (England)**

For: 4, Against: 0

**Nominee: Ketevan Kochladze (Georgia)**

For: 3, Against: 0

**Nominee: Tim Meinecke (Germany)**

For: 5, Against: 0

**Nominee: Kyrylo Ivliev (Germany)**

For: 6, Against: 0, Abstention: 1

**Kyrylo Ivliev and Tim Meinecke have been elected Internal Auditors.**

***The session was closed at 19:10.***

## ***Sunday, 17 August 2014***

### **1. Workplan 2015: approval (09:30)**

Ruzana Manyan and Tijana Ljubenic left last evening, therefore eight members of the GA are present. Knyaz Saroyan from the electoral committee left as well.

Matej Sedlacek was selected and voted with eight votes in favour to replace Knyaz.

Matej has been unanimously elected to be a member of the Electoral Committee.

- It has been explained that there are some projects (from the previous WP and long-term projects) that were not elaborated by participants but should be included into WP.
- Anja has announced that YEE has been contacted by a Greek environmental company applying for Horizon 2020 project. The aim of the project is to empower and encourage people to participate in the decision-making process. They asked us if we wish to become a partner. The role of YEE would be to find users to conduct tests of a platform. This partnership is believed to be potentially beneficial for YEE and does not require much effort. Project: "Step" (Internet platform).
- Another project was the campaign "Insecta rules" organized by OPE aiming at raising awareness of insects. The campaign was included in Working Plan 2014 and it will continue in 2015. YEE could continue being involved on it the next year.
- Sunny Campaign was excluded from the WP 2013-2014 and the Executive Board recommends not to include it in the WP of the upcoming year.
- A secret ballot has been offered but was rejected.

#### Voting for single projects to include in the Working Plan:

- STEP – Internet platform  
In favour of including: 8; Against: 0; Abstentions: 0  
**STEP has been included in the YEE Working Plan.**
- Insecta Rules  
In favour of including: 7, Against: 0, Abstention: 1  
**Insecta Rules has been included in the YEE Working Plan.**
- Sunny Campaign  
In favour of including: 1, Against 6, Abstention: 1  
**Sunny Campaign has not been included in the YEE Working Plan.**
- Voting on the Working Plan as a whole: The whole Working Plan 2015 document has been presented.  
In favour: 8; Against: 0; Abstentions: 0  
**The Working Plan 2015 has been unanimously approved by the GA.**

### **2. Draft Budget 2015 (10:30)**

The draft budget has been presented to the GA.

- Voting on the draft budget 2015:  
In favour: 8, Against: 0, Abstentions: 0  
The Draft Budget 2015 has been approved unanimously by the GA.

**The Annual Meeting was officially closed on 17<sup>th</sup> of August 2014 at 11.00 a.m.**

Afterwards an oral as well as a written evaluation of the AM followed.

Minutes taken by:

Jessica Massucco (LEWE, UK)

Kyrylo Ivliev (EYC, Russia)

Minutes proofread by:

Anja Wilken (FOJ-Aktiv, Germany)

Mercedes Fioravanti (YEE, Czech Republic)

Malgorzata Zubowicz-Thull (YEE, Czech Republic)