

SERVICE CIVIL INTERNATIONAL
International Secretariat

Minutes of the 27th International Committee Meeting held at Meina, Italy 8. - 9.4.1961
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7. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

a) East-West

Three camps are planned in Poland in co-operation with Polish Youth organisations. Twenty volunteers are asked for Yugoslavia. An East-West camp with Russian volunteers taking part is planned in France. IC members expressed their concern to have services in the D.D.R. (East-Germany). Klaus Buchheister explained the different opinions in the German branch while agreeing that all efforts should be made to have a camp. He felt the German branch should if possible take an important part in this camp, though there were serious hesitations regarding official co-operation with the Freie Deutsche Jugend (FDJ) particularly because of its implications for the work in the Federal Republic. He suggested that Chris Hollaender, who will represent SCI at the Forum on youth questions in Moscow should discuss possibilities of SCI co-operating in a camp in the D.D.R. and then consult with the committee of the German branch on further steps to be taken. Several members expressed appreciation of the willingness of many members in the German branch to tackle this problem open-mindedly. The IC suggested that one of its members attend the next German General Assembly to help Klaus interpret the IC's point of view in this question.

Designation of delegates to the Forum on youth affairs in Moscow.

It was agreed that Chris Hollaender and Lise Meyer represent SCI at the Forum. Also that more information be given about the Forum in the international bulletin. It was proposed that expenses of our delegates be paid from the East-West exchange items of the Development Fund.

Henri Majewski reported on relations proposed by the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) regarding SCI. Three alternatives were explained :

- a) either that SCI be member of the WFDY's Exchange Programme Office in Budapest or
- b) a regular correspondent, or
- c) that SCI have relations via the Coordination Committee for International Voluntary Work Camps. Henry thought the best arrangement version c), but it was also suggested we become regular correspondents. A decision was deferred. In the meantime we should await formal proposals from the WFDY and more detailed information on their planned Exchange Programme Office.

Henri Majewski then expressed himself in favour of SCI sending a letter to the Director General of Unesco to support WFDY's candidature for consultative status with Unesco. This would particularly facilitate exchange of volunteers with countries of the East in matters of visa etc. Ralph Hegnauer suggested we might support at the same time the candidature of the Coordination Committee for International Voluntary Work Camps which also has applied for consultative status recently. This, said René Bovard, would re-establish the principle of universality regardless of political attitudes. It was agreed that the letter be sent supporting the candidature of the two organisations.

Organisation of a seminar on work camps at the next WFDY Festival (1962 in Helsinki). Henri Majewski was asked to represent SCI at the meeting in Paris in April 1961 to prepare this seminar and then to send a brief report to the IC.

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