



Y'S MEN INTERNATIONAL

Serving Communities and Partnering the Mission of the YMCA Worldwide

RD MEMO 4-2019/20

3 April 2020

JV/jo

To: Regional Directors

From: Jose Varghese

cc: RDs Elect, Past RDs, IEOs, IEOs(E), ICMs, ICMs Elect, ICMs(E) Elect, IPICMs, ISDs, ASDs, PIPs, PISGs, PITs, TOFCC, BFECC, IAM, Area and Regional Offices

1. COVID-19 PANDEMIC

I hope that you and your family are safe and healthy in this unusual period of time. My thoughts and prayers are with you and all club members in your Regions. We are trying our best to stay connected with all the leaders around the world through different ways and strengthen our solidarity and fellowship.

Although you are undoubtedly facing many limitations on the way you and your clubs can serve the community at this time, as a socially committed organisation, we urge all to consider the needs of the most vulnerable people in this crisis, including the poor and the aged. The Korea Area and Y's Men International have jointly created a limited **COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund** as a matching fund for Regional/club-level initiatives. [Details of the fund](#) have been communicated to all Area Presidents.

We would appreciate if you could share your stories concerning COVID-19 on our website – both the impacts and local responses (<https://www.ysmen.org/covid-19>). On the website you will also find our [recommendations to clubs](#) at this time. In addition this advice, we urge you and your club members to abide by all local government measures. We are confident that the world will overcome this crisis collectively and we will continue our service to humanity. May God bless you and keep you safe.

2. MID-YEAR MEETING 2019/20

This year's Mid-Year Meeting was a unique event in many ways. With the APE training conducted in conjunction with the International RDE Summit in Toledo in November 2019, this MYM was physically attended by the IEOs and the ISG only. Nonetheless, during the MYM, all the submitted mid-term reports were considered and discussed as usual. This year, the following proposed initiatives were selected by the IEOs for special consideration:

- New Membership Campaign 2020/21 focusing on the formation of YMI clubs of 15 or more club members between the ages of 20 -30 years old, with a three-year 50% discount on international dues.
- All clubs asked to conduct an “Open House” during the campaign period, inviting friends from the community, business circles, churches, YMCAs, etc to visit the club for a global picture of YMI, local activities and club life.
- Consideration of and possible adjustment to the international calendar for membership reporting and dues payments.
- Revision and restructuration of the functionally challenged Service Directors system.
- Creation of International Supply Centre at the Chiang Mai Satellite Office.
- Focus on and promotion of TOF and RBM considering the recent programme revisions.
- Establishment of a Centenary Celebration Team to identify and implement a unique global project to honour our history, as well as 100 individual community service challenges to be undertaken by our clubs in the next two years.

All the above matters will be discussed and decided upon at the 2020 International Council Meeting.

3. WORLD MALARIA DAY – 25 APRIL

World Malaria Day is 25 April and I ask for continued emphasis on the promotion of Roll Back Malaria (RBM) along with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Each new year of awareness and fundraising activities for the Roll Back Malaria fundraising campaign begins on 1 April with a special focus given to the observation of World Malaria Day.

Around World Malaria Day 2020, Y's Men's Clubs worldwide are encouraged to renew their efforts to combat this preventable disease and to show their support and enthusiasm for our new partnership agreement with The Global Fund, the Department for International Development (DFID) (the international development arm of the UK government) and the World YMCA - which has been selected as a partner to increase both our monetary impact through the DFID's commitment to contribute twice the amount raised by YMI and our grassroots influence through the implementation of local advocacy and educational campaigns.

4. INTERNATIONAL ELECTION 2019/20 - RATE OF PARTICIPATION

For the second time, online voting was used to conduct the International Elections. As you will see from the table below, the rate of participation in the voting process is considerably higher than in recent years. I thank RDs and Regional Teams for their support to ensure clubs exercised their right and duty to vote.

The change to online voting online means that only eligible clubs received the invitation to access the online ballot, enabling an improved representation of participation rates by calculating the percentage participation of only those clubs eligible to vote - and resulting in a higher participation rate.

Important Notes:

- From 2011/12 to 2017/18, the percentages relate to the total number of clubs, not number of clubs eligible to vote.
- Previous years also considered invalid votes in participation statistics. Online voting ensures that 100% of submitted ballots are valid.
- The number of ballots received this year was the highest since 2014/15, and 333 more responses than last year.

	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17 ¹	16/17 ²	17/18 ¹	17/18 ²	18/19	19/20
AFR	22%	18%	10%	30%	8%	25%	18%	17%	17%	100%	100%
ASP	52%	66%	64%	52%	43%	50%	54%	36%	59%	77%	88%
CAC	29%	39%	53%	52%	24%	35%	35%	31%	39%	67%	82%
EUR	65%	69%	57%	64%	64%	39%	31%	44%	43%	84%	85%
IND	73%	66%	76%	75%	69%	72%	70%	59%	53%	58%	96%
KOR	50%	42%	52%	50%	40%	58%	59%	21%	22%	43%	100%
LAM	21%	23%	26%	31%	16%	19%	5%	28%	28%	42%	44%
USA	35%	54%	45%	33%	28%	30%	30%	29%	42%	67%	85%
TOTAL	58%	59%	62%	61%	54%	55%	53%	42%	44%	63%	92%
Ballots received	917	946	947	960	800	792	764	572	611	508	841

1) Voting on International Officers

2) Voting on amendments to the International Constitution

Guidelines 409, 410 & 411 determined voting eligibility. International Executives Officers met prior to the election to consider and endorse requests for exemption from the minimum requirement in Guideline 409.

The deadline for this year's International Election voting papers was 31 January 2020. The results of the elections were scrutinised and subsequently ratified by the International Executives Officers and candidates were notified by email on 10 February. Until the deadline, 841 clubs had sent in their voting ballots for International Officers. Based on the number of clubs eligible to vote (914 clubs), the participation rate was 92.0%.

5. INTERNATIONAL ELECTION 2019/20 - RESULTS

International President Elect 2020/21

International President
2021/22

Mr Kim Sang-chaе
(South Korea)

Korea Bu-Ul-Gyeong
Region, Korea Area



International Treasurer Elect 2020/21

International Treasurer
2021/24

Mr T.M. Jose (India)

West India Region
India Area



International Council Member

AP(E)/ICM 2020-21,
AP/ICM 2021-22

Mr Tsutomu Ohno
(Japan)

Japan West Region, Asia
Pacific Area



International Council Member Elect

AP(E)/ICM(E) 2020-21,
AP/ICM 2021-23

Mr Brian Minielly
(Canada)

Central & Western
Canada Region,
Canada/Caribbean Area



International Council Member

ICM (Young) 2020-22

Ms Seham Rabaa
(Canada)

Central & Western
Canada Region,
Canada/Caribbean Area



International Council Member

AP(E)/ICM 2020-21,
AP/ICM 2021-22

Mr Bjørn Arve Bentsen
(Norway)

Norway Region, Europe
Area



International Council Member

AP(E)/ICM 2020-21,
AP/ICM 2021-22

Mr Park Sung-chul
(South Korea)

Korea Daegu Gyeongbuk
Region, Korea Area



International Council Member Elect

AP(E)/ICM(E) 2020-21,
AP/ICM 2021-23

Mr Shaju Sam (USA)

North Atlantic Region,
United States Area



Our congratulations go to all newly elected officers. Make sure that you have good contact with the ICMs and ICMs(E) in your Area, as it is through them that your Region can propose matters for consideration by the International Council.

The International Executive Officers and International Council Members 2020-21 are:

International President 20/21	Mr Jacob Kristensen (Denmark Region – Europe)
International President Elect 20/21	Mr Kim Sang-chaе (Korea Bu-Ul-Gyeong Region - Korea)
Imm. Past International President 20/21	Mrs Jennifer Jones (Australia Region – Asia Pacific)
International Treasurer 15-21	Mr Philips Cherian (South India Region – India)
International Treasurer Elect 20/21	Mr T.M. Jose (West India Region – India)
ICM/AP Africa 20-22	Mr Tom Imbusi Waka (Africa Southeast Region)
ICM Asia Pacific 20-22, AP 20/21	Mr Soo Theng Lua (David) (Southeast Asia Region)
ICM Asia Pacific 20-22, AP 21/22	Mr Mr Tsutomu Ohno (Japan West Region)
ICM/AP Canada/Caribbean 19-21	Mr Murray Dunbar (Maritimes Region)
ICM Canada/Caribbean 20-22	Ms Seham Rabaa (Central & Western Canada Region)
ICM Europe 20-22, AP 21/22	Mr Bjørn Arve Bentsen (Norway Region)
ICM Europe 19-21, AP 20/21	Mr Bjarne Soenderskov (Denmark Region)
ICM India 20-22, AP 21/22	Mr Aurelian B Figureido (Aury) (Mid West India Region)
ICM India 20-22, AP 20/21	Mr A. Shanavas Khan (South West India Region)
ICM India 20-22	Mr Joseph Kottooran (Mid West India Region)
ICM Korea 19-21, AP 20/21	Mr Hong Young-seung (Korea Chonbuk Region)
ICM Korea 20-22, AP 21/22	Mr Park Sung-chul (Korea Daegu Gyeongbuk Region)
ICM/AP Latin America 20-22	Mrs Rossana Croci Reyes (Latin America Region)
ICM/AP United States 19-21	Mr Robert (Bobby) Stivers-Apiki (Hawaii Region)
ICM United States 19-21	Ms Lauren Henry (Pacific Southwest Region)

6. 1 FEBRUARY 2020 REPORTS AND 2ND SEMESTER 19/20 DUES PAYMENT

Many Regions worked hard this semester to report their membership and remit the International Dues to IHQ on time. However, there were several Regions that did not meet these deadlines and some Regions which still need to finalise reports or payments.

The deadline to receive these reports was 10 February. If you have not yet submitted the report and/or payment from your Region, please do so immediately.

Please also note that the final deadline to receive International Dues payment for the Second Semester 2019/20 was 15 March 2020.

The International Dues for the Second Semester are CHF 17.50 per member.

7. PAYPAL

IHQ can now accept [payments through PayPal](#), allowing payments from PayPal accounts and credit cards. Payments to IHQ through PayPal are free for the payer and ideal for clubs paying Dues and Programme Contributions to IHQ directly. Ideally, PayPal should be only used for payments less than CHF 500. To reduce fees, larger payments should continue to be sent by bank transfer or an online currency transfer service. Please contact IHQ if you need more information.

8. CHARTER FEES

At ICM 2017, the administration fee for chartering a new club was decreased from CHF 200 to CHF 100 (Motion 59, ICM 17). Any charter fees for the previous semester are to be remitted to IHQ with International Dues payments.

9. INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTIONS

All programme contributions for the fiscal year (BF, ASF, EF, RBM, TOF) must reach IHQ before 31 May. We hope that each Club and Region will do their best to collect and pay their International Programme contributions within the deadline. In addition to these payments, the amount of each programme contribution should be reported to the appropriate ISD by 30 April (contributions to RBM should be reported to IHQ).

10. CONTRIBUTIONS TO PWA LEGACY PROJECT

The **Paul William Alexander Legacy Project** is a collective effort to honour the founder of Y's Men International in the lead up to the 100th anniversary celebrations in 2022. In addition to commemorating our origin, the collection of projects aim to consolidate a unified future, strengthening international solidarity and club members' commitment to the vision of Paul William Alexander.

From the invitation for voluntary contributions, it is pleasing that funds are have started to arrive. It is expected that all club members will support the project with a minimum total voluntary contribution of USD 30.

Contributions will be recognised as follows:

- USD 100,000 Judge Paul William Alexander Centenary Award
- USD 50.000 Centenary Award
- USD 10,000 Founder Legacy Award
- USD 2,022 Golden Star Award
- USD 100 Centenary Pin
- USD 30 Legacy Pin

More information is available on the website, including full details of the above award tiers - <https://www.ysmen.org/centenary/pwa-legacy>

11. Y'S MENETTES

We appreciate the efforts of the Y's Menettes, especially through their International Projects selected from applications to the Time of Fast fund. Currently, the Y's Menettes are supporting one project - "Coaching for youth employment and starting of social business" (YMCA Albanian Center, Tirana).

To assist the International Director (ID) to keep track of Y's Menettes activities and projects in each Region, I ask each RD to encourage Regional Y's Menettes leaders to report to their ASD and the ID so that we can have a better picture of the valuable work that Y's Menettes are doing across the world.

Y's Menettes also need to be encouraged to register and make the required membership fee payment of CHF 2 per member.

12. Y's YOUTH CLUBS

We would like to hear about the Y's Youth Clubs in your Region. Please send the list all local Y's Youth Clubs with club leaders' details to the Youth Programme Assistant, Tong (tong@ysmen.org) so she may establish connections with our young leaders.

13. COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

The 2019 International Council Meeting introduced the Community Service Award to recognise the work of our clubs to giving back to and strengthen their communities - the principal purpose of a club.

Applications may be submitted by clubs, Districts, Regions or Areas. One award is given for the outstanding community service by a club and one award for outstanding community service by a group of clubs. Application deadline is 15 June. Apply - <https://www.ysmen.org/our-work/programmes/community-service/>

14. TIME OF FAST

A one-page summary of each of the eight new Time of Fast projects approved by ICM 19 was circulated with [RD Memo 2-19/20 on 17 September 2019](#).

15. ROLL BACK MALARIA (RBM) PROJECT - FROM MDGs to SDGs

“On 1 January 2016, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development — adopted by world leaders in September 2015 at an historic UN Summit — officially came into force.

Over the next ten years, with these new Goals that universally apply to all, countries will mobilise efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind.

The SDGs build on the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and aim to go further to end all forms of poverty. The new Goals are unique in that they call for action by all countries, poor, rich and middle-income to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognise that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and addresses a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.” (Source - United Nations website)

While your work as YMI club members in your community, together with our TOF initiatives, will routinely address many of the SDGs, Roll Back Malaria falls under Goal 3 which specifically addresses health and target 3.3 that focuses on malaria:

3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.

Any funds collected for RBM should be remitted with other international programme contributions by the final deadline of 31 May each year.

16. ELMER CROWE AWARD NOMINATIONS

RDs have been emailed with details on the nomination form for the Elmer Crowe Awards for outstanding District Governors. The forms are to be completed online before **31 May 2020**. We strongly request you to evaluate the overall performance of your DGs strictly following all the “criteria” mentioned in the form. Note that all nominations will be carefully scrutinised by IP Jennifer Jones and that a nomination does not guarantee an award.

Please adhere strictly to the deadline for sending your nominations:

**SUBMIT THE ONLINE FORM BY 31 MAY 2020
APs TO SEND FINAL LIST TO IHQ BY 10 JUNE 2020**

Nominations by you with recommendations by your AP which are not received at IHQ by 10 June cannot be considered for awards.

17. BOOSTER PLAN

The “Booster Plan” is continued this year by IP Jennifer Jones with the same rules as last year. Information has sent information to the RDs, ASDs and RSDs for MC and here follows a summary:

- a) Any individual having recruited 3 or more new members between 1 February 2019 and 31 January 2020 will be recognised as a “Booster Member of Y’s Men International”.
- b) Any club showing a net increase of 6 or more members between 1 February 2019 and 31 January 2020 will be recognised as a “Booster Club of Y’s Men International”.

As to a) above, work with the RSD MC to develop the best method in your Region to identify eligible candidates for the individual awards. Club Presidents with club members eligible for a Booster Member Award are invited to submit applications via the website - <http://ysmen.org/booster-member>

Submissions must be received by 31 May 2020.

As to b) above, we will check the official report from your Region and inform you if you have any eligible clubs.

18. IMPORTANT DEADLINES

15 April	Deadline for COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund requests
25 April	World Malaria Day
30 April	ISDs’ expense claims to be received at IHQ
30 April	Programme contribution amounts (ASF, BF, EF, TOF) to be reported to appropriate ISD
30 April	RBM contribution amounts to be reported to IHQ
1 May	Deadline for submission of applications for BF Cultural Exchange and BF Convention Grants 2020/21.
15 May	Deadline for Club Presidents to submit recommendation letters for BF applicants from their club and for APs and RDs to present opinions on applicants with whom they are familiar.
31 May	List of potential candidates for individual Booster Awards to be submitted by Club Presidents through online form
31 May	Elmer Crowe Award Nominations submitted online by RDs
31 May	All programme contributions for 19/20 fiscal year (ASF, BF, EF, RBM, TOF) to be paid to IHQ
10 June	Elmer Crowe Award Nominations from APs to IHQ
15 June	Deadline for Community Service Award applications

I kindly request you to send all dues and programme payments by the deadline because it takes time to prepare dues and programme statistics and then close the balance.

Thank you for your cooperation for all matters in this Memo.

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”

(Deuteronomy 31:6)