

Statutes of the Swedish Mission Council

§ 1 Identity

Svenska missionsrådet (SMC) is an association of faith communities, mission organizations and other Christian organizations in Sweden, which collaborates with churches, ecumenical bodies and other cooperation organizations in Sweden and other countries. Collaboration takes place to clarify God's mission in the world through testimony, service and fellowship based on a holistic view in a global perspective. SMC shares the Christian Church's beliefs about Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, about a triune God - Father, Son, and Spirit - and about the world as God's creation. Based on this conviction, SMC seeks to fulfill the mission that God has given the Christians in the world to proclaim the good news of God's kingdom.

§ 2 Purpose

The Council's task is:

- to promote the cooperation and unity of churches, communities and Christian organizations.
- to renew and deepen the biblical and theological understanding of the mission of the Christian Church in testimony, service, and fellowship in a global perspective.
- to be an open meeting place with a strategically chosen agenda to clarify the Christian mission and the role of the Church in the global society of members, churches, ecumenical bodies, and other interested parties, and to participate in public discourse on these issues with a prophetic voice.
- in contact with other ecumenical bodies and affiliated members represent the common interests in relation to domestic and foreign organizations and authorities.
- in their activities and collaboration with churches and organizations contribute to international cooperation in qualitative testimony, service, and community.

§ 3 Membership

To qualify for membership in SMC, organizations should:

- subscribe to SMC's tenet expressed in § 1 and support SMC's purpose expressed in § 2,
- have a democratic approach, popular support and a documented international cooperation for at least 5 years.
- actively engage in SMC's work, which means:
 - to participate in SMC's meeting places,
 - to be part of networks, working groups, committees and boards;
 - to comply, where applicable, with the specific conditions relating to distribution of grants managed SMC
 - to support work within the network through membership fees.

Membership is prepared in the Board of Directors and decided in the Annual Meeting. A religious community/organization can be represented by an individual congregation or equivalent. SMC does not have the right to intervene in the internal affairs of individual members.

§ 4 Annual Meeting

SMC's highest decision-making body is the annual meeting, to which members have the right to appoint representatives entitled to vote as follows:

The basic rule is that each member has one vote. In addition, each member receives an additional vote if the member has more than 15,000 members or on an annual basis raises more than SEK 25 million for international activities.

The financial year covers the calendar year. The annual meeting will take place no later than May 31. Calls for annual meetings with any board proposals must be submitted to members no later than two months in advance. Motions must be received by the Board no later than six weeks before the annual meeting.

At the annual meeting, the following issues shall be addressed:

1. Whether the meeting has been convened in accordance with the statutes
2. Election of Presiding officers and other meeting officials
3. Possible membership issue
4. Notification of members' representatives and attendance
5. Presentation of the annual report, including income statement and balance sheet
6. The auditors report
7. Adoption of the annual report and income statement and balance sheet
8. Resolution on discharge from liability for the Board of Directors
9. Election of Board
10. Election of Chairman of the Board
11. Election of two auditors with replacements, at least one ordinary and at least one substitute shall be authorized auditors.
12. Election of nomination committee
13. Decisions on operational plan and financial framework
14. Determination of membership fee for the coming financial year
15. Consideration of proposals from the Board of Directors and submitted motions

All elections will take effect immediately after the annual meeting.

The annual meeting's decision is taken by a simple majority. However, a decision on a change in the statute and the admission of members requires a 2/3 majority.

Elections are held openly if the Nomination Committee agrees, and no other proposals are made. In other cases, or where a representative entitled to vote so requests, elections are held by secret ballot.

§ 5 Council meeting

If necessary, the Board may convene a Council meeting for consideration and decisions on urgent matters. Voting representatives are appointed and decisions are made according to the same principles as at the annual meeting. Notice of a council meeting with any board proposals shall be sent to members no later than one month in advance.

§ 6 Board of Directors

The annual meeting elects the board. This consists of nine (9) ordinary members and three (3) substitutes representing the breadth of the size, tradition and activities of the SMC organizations. The full term of office is three years. Re-election may be made once for an additional three-year term of office. By-elections may be made to replace a member who has resigned prematurely.

Members elected by by-election may be re-elected for two ordinary terms of office. The total term of office may not exceed eight years. One-third of the board is elected each year. Eligible for the board is a person from an organization that has been a member of SMC for at least two years. Appointment in addition to the Chairman takes place within the Board.

The Board's task is to:

- manage the Council's activities within the framework set by the Annual Meeting
- establish the operational plan and budget
- where appropriate, set up committees and provide directives for working groups
- prepare the matters to be dealt with by the annual meeting
- appoint signatories
- appoint Secretary-General
- represent the Council in statements, consultations and other expressions of opinion
- establish work and delegation procedures

The Board meets at least 4 times a year. The Board is based in Stockholm.

§ 7 Board's decision

The Board is in a quorum when at least half of the members are present.

§ 8 Nomination Committee

The Nomination Committee shall consist of three (3) members and one (1) replacement. For continuity, at least one member should always remain each year. The Nomination Committee shall prepare for the annual meeting and the council meeting. The Annual Meeting draws up guidelines for the work of the Nomination Committee.

§ 9 Audit

After an audit of the board of directors' activities and the council's accounts, the auditors shall draw up the auditor's report with proposals regarding discharge from liability for the Board.

§ 10 Amendment of the Statute

Amendment of these statutes requires identically worded decisions in two consecutive annual and/or council meetings, one of which shall be an annual meeting.

§ 11 Dissolution

Dissolution of the SMC can take place only after an identically worded decision in two consecutive annual meetings. In the event of dissolution of SMC, the council's assets and liabilities shall be distributed in a manner that corresponds to SMC's purpose in accordance with § 2 and as the annual meeting decides.