

The Constitution of Chinese Students and Scholars Union of Bergen (CSSUB)

The Constitution is passed in a General Meeting, November 1988

Amendments - 1: August 25, 1990

Amendments - 2: April 14, 1995

Amendments - 3: November 01, 2003

Amendments - 4: February 19, 2005

Amendments 5: October 30, 2005

ARTICLE 1 - NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION:

The organization shall be called the "CHINESE STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS UNION OF BERGEN" and in short "CSSUB" formally, also in abbreviation of CIB (Chinese in Bergen) in unofficial way.

ARTICLE 2 - AIM OF THE ORGANIZATION:

The aim of the organization is to co-ordinate socio-cultural activities for the members and promotes understanding of Chinese culture among others.

This organization shall not pursue any political activities.

ARTICLE 3 - ADDRESS OF THE ORGANIZATION:

The mailing address of the organization is as follows:

POST BOX 386, FANTOFT STUDENTBOLIGER
5075 BERGEN
NORWAY.

*which would be changed according to the address of current president of the Union.

The official email and website for the organization is:

Email: ChineseInBergen@gmail.com

Website: <http://cib.uib.no>

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERS:

Any student (having "Student" status as defined by the Norwegians) in Bergen, and his/her spouse or "samboer" shall be eligible to be a member of this union subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

At the same time anyone affiliated with the University of Bergen, or institutions in that level, in the field of teaching, research or administration can apply for membership subject to the proposal of two existing members of CSSUB.

All interested shall apply for membership to the President of the Executive Committee in a prescribed form.

Any member can continue his/her membership with CSSUB as long as he/she wants even after changing his/her status as student.

Child and dependent of the members under age 16 years shall be considered as child member of the CSSUB.

Clause A: Membership Fee

All applicants accepted by the Executive Committee as members shall pay a minimum sum of Norwegian Krone 10,00 (Krone ten only) for single and 20,00 (Krone twenty only) for family or amount decided in annual general meeting as membership fee.

Child member shall not pay any membership fee.

Clause B: Lifelong Membership

Any member of the CSSUB can become a lifelong member of the union by paying an amount, decided in the annual general meeting, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

Besides, one can be awarded lifelong membership of the CSSUB by the Executive Committee as an honor to his/her contribution to the welfare of the union.

Clause C: Renewal of Membership

All the members shall pay a minimum sum of Norwegian Krone 10,00 (Krone ten only) for single and 20,00 (Krone twenty only) for family or amount decided in annual general meeting as annual renewal fee by the end of September each year.

Child member shall not pay renewal fee.

If someone fails to pay the renewal fee within the stipulated time shall be considered as defaulter and his/her membership shall be withheld automatically unless he/she can justify the delay.

Membership once withheld can be renewed by the following month of June/December by paying an additional sum of Norwegian Krone 5,00 (Krone five only).

If someone fails to renew membership within June/December his/her membership will be cancelled automatically unless he/she can justify the delay.

Reminder shall be given once to the defaulter by the Economic Secretary.

ARTICLE 5 - ACTIVITIES OF THE CSSUB:

Clause A: Cultural Activities

To arrange cultural and literary activities. The activities shall be arranged according to the convenience of the union.

Sub-clause 1: Activities that include the promotion of union's image (e.g. cultural functions, news bulletins and magazines, exhibitions, etc.).

Sub-clause 2: Activities that include strengthening the bonds between members (e.g., cinema, recreation, etc.).

Clause B: Activities Regarding Festivals

To observe different festivals both national and international.

Clause C: Activities Regarding Games and Sports

To arrange both indoor and outdoor games and sports.

Sub-clause 1: Games that include activities like mountain tour, ski tour, camping, card games, badminton, table tennis, angling, etc.

Sub-clause 2: Arrange any other recreational activities for the members of the union.

Clause D: International Activities

To conduct cross-national and cross-cultural activities.

Sub-clause 1: Activities that include the celebration of national and international days.

Sub-clause 2: Activities that include the cultivation of international amity and friendship among the members of international communities.

Clause E: Activities regarding social welfare

To participate in social welfare and humanitarian activities on its own and in cooperation with social welfare organizations.

Sub-clause 1: Raise funds for nations in periods of distress (flood, famine, etc.).

Sub-clause 2: Support and assist any welfare project taken by any organization, if CSSUB is asked for it.

Sub-clause 3: Orientate new-coming Chinese students with the new environment.

ARTICLE 6 - GOVERNING THE UNION:

Clause A: Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of the following members, and shall be responsible for the smooth functioning of the union.

Members of the Executive Committee:

- President
- 2 (three) Vice Presidents
- General Secretary
- Economic Secretary
- 5 (five) Executive Members

Clause B: Appointments

Sub-clause 1: Appointments of the members of the Executive Committee shall be decided once in a year in a general election on one member one vote basis.

Sub-clause 2: An Election Committee consisting of 3 (three) members (other than the Executive Committee members) appointed by the Executive Committee shall be responsible for annual general election.

Sub-clause 3: Nomination papers shall be submitted to the Election Committee in advance by any member candidate for a particular post.

Sub-clause 4: If no member submits a nomination paper for a particular post then the post shall be filled in by selection on the election day. In that case any member can be named and seconded for the post.

Sub-clause 5: In the case of a vacancy in the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall make necessary arrangements to fill this vacant post.

Any change of appointments thus made by the Executive Committee shall be informed to the members.

Clause C: Distribution of Responsibilities

Sub-clause 1: The President shall represent the union as and when necessary.

The President shall conduct the meetings of the CSSUB.

The President along with the designated Vice President shall audit the accounts of CSSUB as and when necessary.

The President along with the Economic Secretary can allocate a maximum of Norwegian Krone 500,00 (Krone five hundred only) to any sub-committee without discussing with the Executive Committee.

In absence of the President the designated Vice President shall represent the union. In absence of the President and the Vice Presidents any Executive Member nominated by the President or one of the Vice Presidents shall conduct all the tasks on their behalf.

Sub-clause 2: One of the Vice Presidents, as decided by the Executive Committee, shall represent the President in his/her absence.

One of the Vice Presidents, as decided by the Executive Committee, along with the President shall audit the accounts of CSSUB as and when necessary.

Sub-clause 3: The General Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining all liaisons within and outside the CSSUB.

The General Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining all official works.

The General Secretary shall help the President in conducting meetings.

The General Secretary shall serve notice for all the meetings except the sub-committee meetings. A convenient date for a meeting shall be declared by the Executive Committee.

Sub-clause 4: The Economic Secretary shall be responsible for the following activities:

Maintain the accounts and vouchers of all financial transactions.

All financial transactions and assets of the union shall be documented, verified and maintained.

Operate a joint account in a bank in Norway in the name of the union along with the president (so far, it's temporally using the president's personal account).

Formulate necessary means for assuring economic solvency of the union.

Maintain contacts with the Chinese Embassy of Norway, Bergen Kommune, Hordaland Fylkeskommune, Studentsamskipnaden i Bergen, Norsk Student Union (NSU), and other organizations who provide financial help.

The Economic Secretary along with any other Executive Member or the leader of any sub-committee, shall have the authority to spend upto Norwegian Krone 500,00 (Krone five hundred only) for the interest of the union without asking allocation from the Executive Committee.

Sub-clause 5: The Executive Members shall undertake any responsibility as described under Article 5 as and when necessary; and as assigned to him/her by the Executive Committee in different times.

Sub-clause 6: In the greater interest of the CSSUB, the Executive Committee can form a sub-committee under the leadership of any member (executive member or general member) to perform any activity as described under Article 5 as and when necessary. The sub-committee shall have the full authority to make any decision, and to take necessary actions on behalf of the union for that particular task. The Executive Committee, after assigning the responsibility to a sub-committee, shall not interfere in any decision and/or action taken by the sub-committee for the assigned task.

After completion of the task the sub-committee shall submit a report and accounts to the Executive Committee.

The sub-committee shall be dissolved after its reports and accounts are reviewed and accepted by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 7 - MEETINGS:

All meetings shall be called after written requests from the General Secretary except the sub-committee meetings.

Sub-committee meetings shall be called after written requests from the leader of the sub-committee.

Clause A: The Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee shall meet as and when necessary to review the activities of the union.

The members of the Executive Committee shall be notified for a meeting minimum three (3) days in advance.

Any general member can attend and give suggestions in any Executive Committee meeting. But only the Executive Committee members shall have the right to vote in the Executive Committee meetings.

Clause B: The Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting shall be called once in a year and all the members shall be informed through letters/e-mails well in advance (minimum seven days in advance).

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for submitting proposed budget and activity plan for the next year in the Annual General Meeting. Any member can propose activity(-ies) in the meeting for inclusion in the next year's activity plan. All the proposals shall then be discussed and placed for voting.

Budget and activity plan shall be passed in the Annual General Meeting by a simple majority. The Executive Committee shall be responsible to execute these plans within the proposed budget.

The Executive Committee shall also be responsible for submitting accounts and activity report for the previous year in the Annual General Meeting.

Clause C: The General Meeting

The General Meeting shall be called at least twice in a year and all the members shall be informed through letters/e-mails well in advance (minimum seven days in advance).

The Executive Committee shall submit their activity report for the current period in the General Meeting. Any change in the budget and activity plan for the current year shall be passed in the General Meeting by a simple majority.

Clause D: The Emergency Meetings

In case of emergency or for the sake of greater interest of the union there can be Emergency meetings which include Emergency General Meeting, Emergency Executive Committee Meeting, and/or Emergency Sub-committee Meeting.

The President, the General Secretary or the leader of any Sub-committee can call an Emergency Meeting.

The notice for the Emergency meetings shall be served minimum one (1) day prior to the meeting.

Clause E: Absence from Meetings

Any member who is notified to attend a meeting but unable to do so shall inform the General Secretary, or the leader of the sub-committee, in good time.

ARTICLE 8 - DECISIONS:

Clause A: Decisions regarding inter organizational involvements

Proposals regarding inter organizational involvements shall, at first, come to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall place the proposal before the general members in a General Meeting or an Emergency General Meeting. The proposal shall then be discussed and placed for voting. If the proposal wins a simple majority in the meeting, the Executive Committee shall take necessary actions to execute the decision.

Clause B: Decisions regarding internal activities

Any proposal shall, at first, come to the President or the General Secretary.

The proposal shall then be placed before the Executive Committee. If the Executive Committee considers the proposal has enough merit and the cost of the proposed activity does not exceed NOK 1.500,- (fifteen hundred), the Executive Committee shall take a decision by simple majority. If the cost of the proposed activity exceeds NOK 1.500,- (fifteen hundred), it shall be placed before the general members in a General Meeting or an Emergency General Meeting. The proposal shall then be discussed and placed for voting. If the proposal wins a simple majority in the meeting, the Executive Committee shall take necessary actions to execute the decision.

Any proposal placed before the general meeting or emergency general meeting shall then be discussed and placed for voting. If the proposal wins a simple majority in the meeting, the Executive Committee shall take necessary actions to execute the decision.

ARTICLE 9 - AMENDMENT:

Any amendment of the CONSTITUTION shall be made in a general meeting. A proposal for an amendment shall be put first in the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall then place the proposal for voting in the general meeting. The proposal shall be passed by 2/3 (two-thirds) majority of the votes of the members present in that meeting. The amendments shall, then, be added to the CONSTITUTION of the CHINESE STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS UNION OF BERGEN.

The amendments shall be informed to the members by the General Secretary.