

The National Service Conference of The American Ethical Union

By-Laws

proposed in 2003; revised in 2005 at annual meetings in Philadelphia and Herndon, Va.

Article I - Name

The name of this organization is The National Service Conference of The American Ethical Union hereafter referred to as NSC. The NSC is an affiliate of The American Ethical Union according to its by-laws and 501 (c) 3. The NSC is financially self-supporting by means of dues, gifts, grants, contributions and other fund raising mechanisms.

Article II. Objectives

The objectives of the NSC are:

- 1) to further the aims of the Ethical Culture Movement;
- 2) to promote communication among NSC members with particular focus upon Ethical Culture Societies;
- 3) to act as a resource and to support member projects;
- 4) to develop interest and encourage action in matters of ethical importance on the local, national and international levels, with particular emphasis upon promoting the ethical principles espoused by The United Nations;

Article III - Membership

Sect. A Any member of The American Ethical Union is automatically a member of The National Service Conference. The NSC also welcomes those who are in sympathy with ethical culture principles:

Sect. B Dues paying members:

1. Individuals paying dues will receive the publications and communications of The NSC.
2. Group membership - A group consists of three or more persons. Groups will be considered one entity and therefore, receive one copy of all communications and publications.

Article IV - Governance

Sect. A The executive committee will represent a cross section from the Global Society and local Societies, Fellowships and Circles. A nominating committee appointed by/from the Executive committee will nominate officers to be voted upon at the annual Assembly. Representative to the United Nations will also serve on this Committee. Each member must be willing to attend at least four meetings.

Sect. B Executive committee members should demonstrate:

1. ethics based, self-starting leadership
2. tangible contributions/service to The NSC
3. flexibility and collaborative skills
4. willingness to share the duties and responsibilities of the Executive committee

Sect. C Duties of The Executive committee:

1. presiding at meetings
2. approving new members to the committee
3. maintaining accreditation at the UN
4. sending meeting notices well in advance of each meeting
5. corresponding with the AEU Board
6. providing accurate minutes to all dues paying members;

7. exercising one vote at the national Assembly meeting;
8. corresponding with members, through e-mail, thank you notes,
9. regular updating of membership lists and reports of member interests'
10. communicating out work in print and electronic sources
11. visiting local Societies, reporting in local newsletters and offering Platform talks;
12. determining the amount of annual dues;
13. creating committees as needed;
14. authorizing cooperation with other like-minded organizations and networks;
15. filling unexpired openings when vacancies occur and seek fresh leadership among members -

Section D Meetings

There will be three meetings of the committee each year, plus an annual meeting, the time and place to be determined by the President. Special meetings of the committee may be called at the request of any three committee members. A quorum will consist of a majority of committee members. Committee members will conduct the business of the organization in the interim period between meetings.

Article V - Duties of the Officers;

The officers of the NSC will include a President, two Vice-Presidents, recording Secretary and a Treasurer. Officers and UN representatives must be members of The American Ethical Union.

Sect. A The President will have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and perform such other duties as may be decided upon by the Executive committee. The President will work collaboratively and openly with the Executive committee and will make periodic reports and offer resolutions to the AEU Board. The President will have one UN permanent pass as stipulated by The UN Dept. of Public Information.

Sect. B The Vice-Presidents will assist the President and perform such other duties as the President and Executive committee shall designate.

Sect. C The Financial Officer will be chosen from within the Executive committee and will be called Treasurer. The Treasurer will keep accurate records of all moneys received and disbursed and will pay all bills and memberships. The Treasurer will present periodic reports to the Executive committee and an annual report with an audited financial statement. The Treasurer will prepare a proposed budget for the coming year.

Article VI - United Nations' Representatives

Sect. A NSC is accredited at The United Nations through The Department of Public Information. Three representatives are entitled to permanent passes and are mandated to carry out certain responsibilities. The representatives must comply with all requirements prescribed by The Department of Public Information. As public representatives to The American Ethical Union, they must also conduct their affairs in the spirit of the highest in ethical culture.

Sect. B - These representatives will be appointed by the President with approval of The Executive committee. They are called by the UN Department of Public Information: President, Main representative and Alternate representative.

Article VII - Annual Meeting

The NSC will elect officers, revise By-Laws and provide a report of its work. Each member present has the right to vote on all issues before the Annual meeting.

Article VII - Amendments to the By-Laws

Suggested revisions are to be submitted to anyone in The Executive committee. All proposals will be considered. If there is consensus agreement on the revision, the revision will be brought to the membership for a vote at the annual meeting. If there is not consensus, the suggestion will be tabled. A majority of those present will constitute an affirmative vote.

