

## Malta UNESCO Youth Association

Annual General Meeting, Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 at 19:00

At Jacob's Brew, Marsascala

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### **Minutes of Malta UNESCO Youth Association (MUYA) AGM 2024**

#### ***Opening of Meeting***

Mr. Fabio Scicluna, chairing the 17<sup>th</sup> MUYA's Annual General Meeting welcomed the attendees at 19:23 and introduced the agenda for the meeting, indicating that various points would be discussed until the election would be carried out.

#### ***Apologies for absences***

None.

#### ***Confirmation of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting***

Minutes from 2023 AGM are available online and were distributed amongst the members. No request was made for the minutes to be read and hence they were taken as read.

No abstentions arose.

#### ***Presentation of Annual Report***

Ms. Thelma Bonello presented the Annual Report for year 2023. She explained how the reporting changed and that she would be presenting the activities from January to December 2023 instead of the activities from one AGM to the next.

The following are the key points presented in the report:-

#### ***National Projects and Local Activities:***

- AGM 2023:
  - o The first event kicking off the year 2023 was the AGM, held on the 4<sup>th</sup> March at Jacob's Brew Marsascala. Ms. Thelma Bonello, Mr. Bernard Bonello and Mr. Reece Delia retained their previous roles as Secretary General, Committee Member and Treasurer, respectively. However, there were changes in other roles within the committee throughout the year. On the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 Ms. Anthea Xuereb resigned from her position as PRO. This vacancy was filled through the co-option of Mr. Yorath Abela, assuming the role on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023. On 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023, Mr. John Paul Formosa also resigned from the role of Committee Member and this position was filled through the co-option of Ms. Maria Fsadni effective 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023. Both co-options were managed through documented meetings where a voting between the committee members took place. Mr. Nathan Anthony Pace also started getting actively involved and the initial proposal was for him to assist with social media. The

idea behind engaging new members was to strengthen the Committee and to ensure the longevity of the NGO by introducing younger members.

- Learn2Play Multiplier Event
  - o Held on 30th April 2023.
  - o First project under KA2 written by MU YA thanks to Mr. Bernard Bonello.
  - o One of the deliverables was to organise an event of one day to present the board games game box and these were distributed free of charge to several universities and schools attending the event. The games tackle communication, time management, organization management and other soft skills.
- MU YA Meets Me:
  - o 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 - Event in Barracuda Vecija.
  - o 17<sup>th</sup> August 2023 - BBQ in Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq.
  - o Opportunities to meet new members for MU YA.
  - o Set of night walks was organised with Mr. Charles Tonna - Mr. Tonna organises walks around Malta and Gozo. Two were organised in total - one in Mdina and one in the Three Cities. We also aim to organise others in the future.
  - o Rodianne suggested printing flyers or preparing freebies regarding MU YA so that those attending the walks can follow us on social media and take part in our activities.
  - o Suggestions were made to organise these walks in the weekend so that more youth can attend.
  - o Fabio suggested contacting organisations such as Wirt iż-Żejtun to co-organise these events.
- MU YA Xmas Drinks were organised on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in San Ġwann.
- MU YA's photoshoot was organized on the 26<sup>th</sup> December 2023. A planning meeting ensued to discuss new Erasmus+ KA1 and KA2 topics. We would like to follow KA2 projects. Topics discussed involve mental health, social inclusion and linguistics. Reliable trainers are needed and we are in search of such persons to ensure that they can deliver training.
- Campus FM Radio Interview – On the 29<sup>th</sup> December 2023 Reece was invited on Campus FM to promote Carlo Diacono concert.
- Carlo Diacono Concert – On the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2023 the Carlo Diacono concert was organized in Żejtun which was backed up by various rehearsals prior to the event. The idea was to commemorate the 80 years of the legacy of Carlo Diacono. The project was funded by VOPS through their scheme and in total MU YA received €5,000 to be able to actualize the project.

### **Participation in International Projects Abroad:**

In the past year, MU YA was a partner in nine (9) international projects with 29 participants being involved. The following are these international projects:

- o *Learn2Play Training Course* - Estonia, March 2023. Games were tried and tested to distribute to educators.
- o *I Dream Green* - Limassol, Cyprus, April 2023. Attended by Fabio and Yorath. Environmental issues in different countries were discussed and ways how countries

could collaborate were discussed. A music video was created. Long-term connections were made.

- *TPM Learn2Play (last event)* - Poland, May 2023. 2 representatives per organisation. Commercialisation of the games was carried out. Bernard and Mariano participated on behalf of MUYA.
- *Adventure Education in Youth Work* - Slovenia, June 2023. Salto Youth Project. Lots of activities were held outdoors including trekking and camping. This involved experiential learning.
- *Mental Health First Aid Kit* - Spain, July 2023. How to tackle mental health situations and how to take care of yourself. Flyers were prepared by participants. To consider printing these flyers and making use of them.
- *Let Me See What I Can Be* - Slovenia, July 2023. 6 participants took part on behalf of MUYA. Tote bags were prepared as part of the experience. A Eurovision Night was organised. Jewellery was prepared too.
- *Facilitating Power (Training Course)* - Barcelona, August 2023. Power dynamics and how to deal with conflict as well as understanding racism and xenophobia. Lots of role play was involved.
- *Circus pedagogy as a tool of youth work* - France, August 2023. How the circus works in an inclusive manner. Activities were carried out (plate spinning, juggling). A show was organised in a French kindergarten.
- *Out of the Jar* - Latvia, August 2023. Different workshops were organised to involve youth and invite them to be active and take part.

Ms. Nicole Bartolo thanked Mr. Nathan Anthony Pace for giving her a helping hand in this work and for giving us the necessary contacts. Ms. Thelma Bonello said that we are on the right track.

#### **Other meetings and collaborations:**

- Kingdom of Netherlands invited MUYA to invite an exhibition on resilient women throughout history. The event was held in Laparelli gardens.
- Ms. Maria Fsadni and Mr. Nathan Anthony Pace attended an event in September 2023 regarding a Rainbow Dress Party organised by Charles and Ron.
- Mr. Yorath Abela organized a MUYA stand for MCAST's Fresher's Week in October 2023. This is the first stand in a Fresher's Week that MUYA managed to organize. The feedback from Mr. Abela is that many young persons did not know about the opportunities that existed and hence our PR needs to increase.
- Ms. Rodianne Cassar held several meetings with MCAST on MUYA offering CSR opportunities to students (MCAST students through this scheme need to carry out 20 hours of CSR each). MUYA has published a post on our socials offering the opportunity and we awaiting replies.

#### **Future and Upcoming Projects:**

- *Approved Projects:*
  - Digibox 3.0 - April/May 2024. 30 participants from nine countries. Call for Malta is out. Yorath will be participating and we are looking for two (2) more.
  - CSR Opportunities for Students of MCAST.

- *Participation in International projects abroad:*

6 projects have been approved and accepted in total so far.

The Annual Report was proposed by Ms. Rodianne Cassar and seconded by Mr. George Farrugia.

### ***Presentation of Treasurer's Report***

Mr. Reece Delia, MUYA's Treasurer, presented the financial report for MUYA. There was a total income of EUR 42,039.67, with the major contributor being the Erasmus+ projects funds for local implementation. The total expenditure was EUR 37,674.05 with the main expense being the Learn2Play KA2 Project throughout the year. The closing balance as of 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021 was EUR 46,287.55. The treasurer congratulated the committee for the financial health and proposed to follow suit in 2024. Mr. Reece Delia commented that the bank transfer fees are getting high and hence it might be a good idea to consider other banks. He also reminded to think about how to invest the money for example, into advertising MUYA through promotional videos, and organising events that are more regular.

The Treasurer's Report was proposed by Mr. Bernard Bonello and seconded by Ms. Nicole Bartolo.

### ***Changes in Statute***

None.

### ***Committee nominations***

Mr. Fabio Scicluna read out the positions up for election in the AGM, together with the nominees -

- President – Ms. Thelma Bonello (to replace Rodianne Cassar after 9 years in the role creating a vacancy in the role of Secretary General);
- International Officer – Mr. Nathan Anthony Pace (who has taken over the role from Ms. Nicole Bartolo ending her term in this role);
- Public Release Officer – Mr. Yorath Abela (already co-opted and he will take up the role officially);
- Committee Member – Ms. Nicole Bartolo.

**One nomination was received for each role and hence all the above mentioned individuals are automatically elected.**

Given that there is one year vacant for the role of Secretary General, a co-option of Ms. Maria Fsadni was suggested and unanimously accepted by all the Committee members.

These efforts, Ms. Bonello explained, have been done since we are limited by age and hence we need to introduce new younger members to the Committee.

The committee is still made up of seven (7) members.

### ***Board of Vigilance***

It was proposed to change the members of the Board of Vigilance and Mr. Fabio Scicluna and Ms. Rodianne Cassar were nominated to take up the roles. These nominations were accepted by Mr. Bernard Bonello and seconded by Mr. Yorath Abela.

### ***Closure***

The leaving President Ms. Rodianne Cassar thanked all those involved in preparing the AGM and promised to remain present in the events of MUYA. She augurs well for the future and can see that there is great potential with the new committee's full involvement. She wished the Committee the best of luck and believes that the new members can bring new blood and new opportunities due to their contact with youth given they are closer to the youth sector.

The new President Ms. Thelma Bonello gave her address too. She indicated that a handover will need to take place from Ms. Nicole Bartolo to Mr. Nathan Anthony Pace. Ms. Maria Fsadni instead will receive the handover for the role of Secretary General. Ms. Thelma Bonello emphasised that will be fully present in the next months and remainder years of her tenure to act as guidance and transfer all the knowledge that is needed for the committee to progress further. She re-iterated that she firmly believes we are on the right track and that we should keep it up. She also thanked Ms. Rodianne Cassar for being her backbone throughout the years.

The Chairperson Mr. Fabio Scicluna thanked the people attending and closed the AGM.

**The meeting was adjourned at 20:43.**

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