

Tierp municipality point of view on the Final Report of the UBC Task Force on Development of the Organization

The member cities of the UBC have been asked to give their opinion on the Task Force report and here is Tierp municipality's opinion. As a whole, Tierp agrees with most of the suggestions for change mentioned in the report. Tierp points of view will be presented under each head chapter.

1. UBC Working Methods

Executive Board

Tierp strongly agree to more structured minutes where decisions clearly can be identified. It is also important that the meetings are more time efficient and when possible using new technology. Even though the official language in the UBC is English, a short summary in national languages from the executive board meetings can be of use since many politicians have poor knowledge in English. This might help to update politicians on what has been decided and make them more active. Each national representative can write the summary.

Presidium

Tierp agrees with the proposal.

General Secretariat

Since the secretariat is paid by the host City and not by the UBC, it is not so easy to have opinions on increase in staff capacity, working methods and so on. However working methods need to be more modern, efficient and digitalized. We welcome the suggestion on Communication Manager in order to coordinate and visualize UCB communication in a professional way. This helps the organization to attract more members and be an influential part in Baltic Sea issues. The post can at least partly be financed by reallocating means from other parts of the UBC. The UBC Bulletin cost a lot of money to produce and distribute. This can be made in a more efficient and digitalized way saving money that can be used for the new post. An increase in member fee may also be necessary in order to make necessary investments in new technique and staff.

Commissions

Tierp suggest a reduction of number of commissions. There are commissions similar to each other that can be merged. The commissions will be bigger, more resourceful, efficient and can attract more members to participate.

General Conference

Tierp agrees to the importance of participation of political decision-makers. The General Conference must be of real interest to attract mayors and other politicians. That should be focus when planning General Conferences. Language barrier can be an important reason for not participating and interpretation into other languages might be considered.

Election procedures

Tierp think it is necessary to establish at Nominating Committee. The main task for the Committee is to prepare elections and make sure all posts will have candidates. There should be a limit of how many times one person can have an office in a row.

Vision

Tierp agrees with the proposal.

UBC Communication

UBC communication must be more target group focused. Today almost everything is communicated to everyone. It should be possible to “prescribe” on certain information. Reduction of number of e-mails is desirable.

2. Recommendations for changes in the UBC Statute**Article 1**

Tierp agrees with the proposal.

Article 2

Tierp agrees with the proposal.

Article 3

Tierp suggest only one full member category – Member City.

Article 4

Tierp suggest an addition to the organs of the union – Nominating Committee

Article 5

Tierps suggest a limit of how many times one person can have an office in a row.

Articles 6 -9

Tierps agrees with the proposal.

New Article 10

Tierp suggest a new article about Nominating Committee.

3. Recommendations for changes in UBC Internal Regulations

Tierp agrees with the proposal.

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