

BYI

THE MODEL YOUTH PARLIAMENT
Apathy is Boring Initiative



Council ?)

for ~~franchise~~ debate
deliberation & decision

Steering Committee
Agenda for the 1st Meeting

↳ Round Table of Youth

Target Date: Wednesday, December 11 (2 hours)

We welcome you to the Steering Committee of the Model Youth Parliament initiative! As a member, we hope you can commit to offering your wisdom and experience to overseeing the project in its inaugural year.

and advisory.

The Committee is comprised of the following individuals:

US/BN

Member	Affiliation
Rigzin Regal	GNH Youth
Namgay Zam	BBS
Sir Rana	Bhutan Youth Foundation
Sangay Tshering	Mops & Condoms
Madam Karma Pokto	Pelkhil HS
Phub Dorji	Founder, Youth Parliament
Dasho Tashi Wangmo	National Council
Manny Fassih	BCMD
Karma Tshering	UNICEF (personal.)
Michael Rutland	Honorary Consul, UK

personal capacity.

To give youth a voice on the policies that affect them and to enable them to participate in and contribute to decision-making.

In our first meeting, we would like to discuss the following items:

#1: The Defined Role of the 'Model Youth Parliament'

+ 1 name =>

Vision:
Young, compass & visionary leaders & citizens.

There are a wide-range Youth Parliaments models worldwide, from the UK to Sri Lanka. But, Bhutan, as a young democracy, requires a model that is sensitive to its specific needs.

With your advice we would like to draft a mission statement for the Youth Parliament that reflects these needs and expresses the interim purpose of the Youth Parliament.

Draft mission statement: To offer a cohort of youth practical, hands-on experience in deliberating on policy issues and taking community-based action.

#2: Results of the Youth Parliament Elections:

We will present the results of the Elections for Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) conducted between November 25 and December 1.

#3: The Training Syllabus

Before the MYPs go into session, they will be required to go through a rigorous training that prepares them to be effective and compassionate representatives. We would like to run through some of our ideas for learning modules that will feature in the 8-10 day training. We will briefly discuss our strategy for tracking and monitoring the MYP growth and development throughout the year to assess the impact of the program.

#4: The First Sitting: Procedure

We would like to model the Youth Parliament after the National Council's in terms of its rules of procedure. We will share what we have adapted from the "Rules of Procedure" Document (2011).

#5: Communications Strategy

- Review the name of the initiative.

We do not want to arouse any unnecessary concern from authorities about the Youth Parliament. Yet, at the same time, we would like to promote the good work of the MYPs and get some positive youth representation in the media. Therefore, we will need to be judicious in our approach to communications.

Cepul Ep - HWH

End approach →

→ work to create a manifesto? or a
shared statement

→ or review existing policy & provide a
future "vision".

Asli Darli Darli
for comments.

Model Youth Parliament: RULES OF PROCEDURE

Introduction

1. These rules shall be titled "Rules of Procedure of the *Model Youth Parliament of Bhutan*"
2. They will come into force on the 13th of December 2013 coinciding with the inauguration of this informal association.
3. Members who have been elected from their respective constituencies will present their information to the Steering Committee. This information will be part of their Member of Youth Parliament [Henceforth called MYP] profile. The members of the Steering Committee will decide the content of this information. The nature of information in the profile shall not be of confidential nature. MYPs hold the right to refuse information if they feel the information asked by the Steering committee too personal. However, while refusing to submit the information, the MYPs will have to explain the reason for their refusal to the Steering Committee members.
4. The MYPs will be presented with a Dhar and their election certificate in the form of an MYP handbook on the day of inauguration. This shall mark the formal start of term for the MYP.
5. The MYPs shall be administered an oath of office on the day of the inauguration mention in section 2.
6. Each MYP is expected to fill in the profile that is set by the Steering Committee.
7. The contents of the profile will be decided by the Steering Committee but, it should include
 - a. The interests of the MYP
 - b. Names of inspirational leaders to individual MYPs
 - c. Capabilities of each MYP
8. The Youth Parliament will assemble at least twice a year. One in the winter and another in the summer.
9. The Youth Parliament will discuss the issues that concern the Youth of Bhutan.
10. In keeping with the aim to remain "apolitical", the Youth Parliament will thus far follow the National Council procedures.
11. There shall be, under the Youth Parliament a number of committees that will look to tackle specific issues. ~~The Steering Committee can alter the number of these committees.~~ For 2014, the following have been identified:
 - a. Education Committee
 - b. Marginalized Youth Committee
 - c. Economic policies committee
 - d. Youth employment and labor rights committee
 - e. Human Resources Committee
12. Based on the profile mentioned in section 7, each MYP will choose a committee (refer section 11).
13. Each of these committees will nominate leaders for their groups. These leaders shall be called "Advisors".

A 2 member
Steering
Committee,
comprising?
Nos. will
guide the
MYP in all
its activities.

(Oath?) Come up
with one.

↳ elect a leader in each
committee
↳ advisors.

Chair

how long go on
how long be

Session

14. The Steering Committee members will decide the exact dates of every session.
15. While the session shall go on for as long as needed, it cannot be shorter than a working day or 5 hours of seating.
16. The Steering Committee holds the power to convene extraordinary sitting of the Youth Parliament. If any MYPs find it necessary to hold an extraordinary sitting, he/she can write to the Steering Committee to ask for one, with details of why the sitting is necessary. ~~The Steering Committee will then decide if there shall be a sitting.~~
17. During the extraordinary seating, the Youth Parliament shall consider only those bills that need immediate attention from the Youth of Bhutan.
18. Before taking his/her seat in the Youth Parliament, each member shall note their attendance in the roll call of members.
19. An MYP shall obtain leave from the Youth Parliament, from the training or the session or other meetings, through an application addressed to the Steering Committee specifying the period of leave, indicating the date of commencement and the termination of such leave and the grounds for it.
20. The Steering Committee will determine the order in which the members shall be seated during the session.
21. The Steering Committee shall determine the number of days of session, date of session, length of each day during the session and in case of one, date of adjournment and recommencement of session.
22. In case of change in the day, time and program of session, the Steering Committee will notify the MYPs.

Election of President and vice-President

23. On the last day of training or when necessary to fill a vacancy, the MYPs shall elect a President and a vice-President of the Youth Parliament from among its members.
24. The Youth member of the Steering Committee will preside over these elections.
25. Any MYP interested to stand for elections shall do so by registering with the Youth member on the day before the elections.
26. Each registered candidate shall speak to the Parliament. An MYP isn't allowed to campaign anywhere else or in any other form but this speech.
27. The candidate who receives the most votes shall be declared as President of the Youth Parliament; the one securing the second most votes shall be declared the vice-President.
28. There will have to be more than one nomination for the election of the President and vice-President. In event that there is only one, the Steering Committee will hold off the elections till fresh nominations come in.

29. The President and vice-President shall hold office until the end of term for the Youth Parliament. In case of death, resignation or removal during term, a new member shall be elected to the vacant post.
30. The election of the President and vice-President of the Youth Parliament shall be conducted in accordance with the above rules of procedure. The Steering Committee shall see to this effect.
31. In order to maintain a lawful election, the following rules shall be in place:
 - a. No registered candidate is allowed to campaign outside the Parliament/training.
 - b. Before the actual election, each registered candidate shall speak to the MYPs for a length of 4 minutes. This speech shall be the only form of campaign for the candidate.
 - c. Each MYP shall have 1 vote; MYPs shall avoid discrimination and not dispense any special favors to any person on grounds of gender, race, religion or any other reason.

Roles and Responsibilities of President and vice-President

32. The President shall conduct the sessions of the Youth Parliament and have the sole authority to call members to debate in accordance with these Rules.
33. The President shall preserve the dignity and decorum in the Youth Parliament and maintain discipline among members.
34. The President, like every other MYP shall sign ~~Bills~~, resolutions and recommendations passed by the Youth Parliament.
35. The Steering Committee shall nominate MYPs to various bodies and committees where the Youth Parliament needs to be represented.
36. The vice-President shall take over the roles of the President in case the latter is unable to perform function through sickness or otherwise.
37. In case of death, resignation or removal of the President, the vice-President will officiate the former post till an election can be held.
38. The removal of President or vice-President shall take place with votes from not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ the total members of the Youth Parliament.
39. The vice-President will take over the roles of the President till a new election can be held; the election shall have to be carried out within 10 days of removal of the last President.

Proceedings in the Youth Parliament

40. The proceedings of the Youth Parliament shall be open to the public.
41. As stated in section 12, a member shall obtain leave of absence from the Steering Committee before addressing the Parliament.
42. The proceedings of the Youth Parliament shall be conducted in either Dzongkha or English.
43. The President may intervene if a member addressing the Youth Parliament deviates from the subject matter.
44. The Steering Committee can call on witnesses and experts to the Parliament

in case of need for specific expert advice.

45. All MYPs are expected to be present for the sitting. In case of presence of less than two-third of the Parliament, the Steering Committee will either adjourn or suspend the sitting till a time when the needed number of MYPs is present.
46. At least three-fourths of the Parliament must be present to vote on a bill/in the election for President/vice-President and on motions.
- 7 → 47. The Steering Committee will document and record all proceedings in the sitting of the Youth Parliament.
48. The record of proceedings and the report on the elections of MYPs and report on trainings shall constitute the Official Report of the Youth Parliament.
49. As stated in section 43, the Steering Committee shall have the duty to maintain the official reports.
50. The Steering Committee shall distribute the official report to the general public within 7 days of end of the session.
51. On the 10th day, the Steering Committee will hold discussions with the general public to receive reviews on the official report and progress of Youth Parliament. →
52. ~~As~~ ^{Proposals} to the Youth Parliament can come through the following channels:
 - a. An MYP may introduce the ~~bill~~ ^{proposal} to the Youth Parliament. But for this to happen, the MYP will firstly have to write to the Steering Committee with reasons supporting the ~~bill~~;
 - b. The Steering Committee members will decide the issues/motions to be held in the Youth Parliament
53. After the ~~bill~~ ^{proposal} is admitted into the Youth Parliament, such ~~bill~~ will be debated and put to vote in the Parliament.
54. In order that a motion may be admissible, it shall satisfy the following conditions:
 - a) It shall focus on definite issue;
 - b) It shall not refer to the conduct or character of persons except in their public capacity;
 - c) It shall not revive discussion of a matter which has been discussed in the same session; and
- 7 55. The Steering Committee shall decide the admissibility of a motion and may disallow a motion or a part thereof when it does not comply with these rules.
56. Any resolution on any bill must express the position of the Youth Parliament.
57. In order that a resolution may be admissible, it must fulfill the conditions stated in section 50.
58. The Youth Parliament may call the attention of a minister to any matter of urgent public importance.
59. While the Youth Parliament is sitting, a member shall:
 - a. Always address the President;
 - b. Maintain silence when not speaking in the Youth Parliament;
 - c. Not interrupt any member while speaking by disorderly expression or noises or in any other disorderly manner;
 - d. Not leave the Youth Parliament hall when the Chairperson is addressing the Parliament;

Proposals/
feedback

- e. Not obstruct proceedings, hiss or interrupt when speeches are being made in the Youth Parliament.

60. A member while speaking shall not:

- a. Make a personal charge against a member;
- b. Use offensive expressions or defamatory words;
- c. Use his/her right of speech for the purpose of obstructing the business of the Youth Parliament.

61. A member shall speak only after the Youth Parliament calls him to do so.

Oath of office

"I,, do solemnly swear/affirm that I shall uphold the sovereignty and integrity of Bhutan faithfully, conscientiously discharge my duties in the service of the Tsa-Wa-Sum and perform the duties of my office without fear or favour to the best of my ability, and that I shall bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of Bhutan."

certificates for M.P.

