

SERVASONLINE MOTION FROM SERVAS FRANCE – SEOUL SICOGA 2018 FRA-001

1. Heading for motion (No more than 10 words)

Servas.org maintenance: to guarantee its quality and efficiency by professionals

2. Member Group(s) proposing motion (note that only SI Exco and Member Groups may propose motions)

Servas France

3. Exact wording of the motion to be voted on

We ask that a software company should be rapidly found to accompany the development of servas.org and guarantee its good running 24/7. The company should have recognized IT expertise by its peers, should be technically reliable. The company should appoint developers dedicated to Servas. It must commit itself to respecting Servas development agenda. As soon as the company is selected and the agreement signed, the company should be able to start working for Servas without delay.

A large budget should be voted corresponding to a full time developer (minimum) for the next three years. It is necessary to complement the website, to update its functionalities and to guarantee its future maintenance. Investing now will permit to diminish long term expenses.

Estimated cost :

We need to upgrade the ServasOnline yearly budget of CHF 35,000 by CHF 37,450 each year, for 3 years, which will amount to CHF 72,450 each year (or 63,000 euros).

4. Background information and reasons for proposing the motion

ServasOnline has been rapidly adopted by numerous countries. Today, 40 are operational, 20 others are on ServasOnline but with uncomplete data. This success is due to the active participation of volunteer key persons from many countries. They created a motivated group holding enthusiastic discussions leading to suggestions and improvement. They have helped and still help countries which are discovering ServasOnline.

Along the way, when the countries were entering ServasOnline, it appeared that Servas countries use different ways, processes and procedures in their management (interviews, fees, etc.) Hence, many changes and options were asked for. The 2016 website needs to be strongly updated to meet relevant changes which will facilitate the work of the key persons of all countries.

Today, a part-time freelance developer takes charge of the different requests under the Servas Project manager's lead. This developer is overloaded and can't meet with the numerous requests in due time. It should be noted that during six months, in 2017, there was nobody to do the urgent job which slowed (and sometimes prevented) some countries in joining ServasOnline.

Besides, as for other important functions in Servas, it is a known fact that volunteers are difficult to find and to stay on a job: continuity is jeopardized together with quality. ServasOnline project has suffered from that for many years. The project shouldn't be slowed down for the lack of developers and a project leader.

5. Who is responsible for accomplishing the results of the motion?

EXCO

6. Benefits for SI

Development of a better and more appropriate communication between Servas members worldwide.
Facilitation and development of meetings between Servas members worldwide.
Better appeal to young people if we have an up-to-date, userfriendly website.
Searching for hosts: quick, immediate and more and more reliable (updated data in real time).
Servas.org available 24/7.

7. Resource needs - time, human resources and specialist expertise

A hired reliable IT company.
A Servas team (volunteer) dedicated to the project (ICT + user group + EXCO)
An application manager competent in IT (Servas)

8. Budget implications

Estimated cost :
We need to upgrade the ServasOnline yearly budget of CHF 35,000 by CHF 37,450 each year, for 3 years, which will amount to CHF 72,450 each year (or 63,000 euros).
Taking this step now will strongly diminish the cost in the long term.

9. Does it affect the SI statutes?

N/A

10. What is the impact if the motion is not passed?

Catastrophic! Servas survival at stake!
If the motion is rejected, the website won't bring the necessary changes to make Servas evolve and develop.
Servas will lose membership and won't be able to attract young people.
It will bring a loss of confidence among members in the system for searching hosts.
A return to the past (e.g. back to pdf lists) would be harmful (not to say disastrous) to Servas image:
Servas = old-fashioned organisation which has missed entering the modern world.

For Minute Taker Use Only:

Amendments (Passed or defeated)

Final Motion (Passed or defeated)