

SURVEYS IN Y'S MEN INTERNATIONAL

(Slide 1) There have been a number of surveys done within our movement – the first one “in modern time” was a questionnaire asking for information on **age, women in Y'sdom, Y's Menettes, length of membership in Y'sdom and in YMCA** sent with the 1 Apr 1977 Report forms. Responses were received from 19 Regions representing about 20% of reported membership and especially Africa and Asia were not well represented among the answers. IHQ had no computers at that time, so results are not tabulated in any spreadsheet.

Slide 2 shows the age distribution according to the April 1977 survey and that the average age was 46.1 years.

Our movement was one of the first Service Clubs to open up membership also for women in 1974 (Civitan and Toastmasters were the other two). According to the April 1977 survey, we had already then 7% women members.

To refine the data, a new questionnaire on age distribution was sent out with the October 1977 Report Forms. Responses were received from 30 Regions (India, Philippines, Central Atlantic, Ohio/West Virginia and West Central missing) representing 57% of our membership. This survey, with a response rate almost three times higher, shows an average age of 45.2 years. **Slide 3** shows the data from October 1977 later tabulated in an Excel-file.

Since then there have been several more surveys done.

- **(Slide 4 - April 1986)** In preparation of a Strategic Long Range Plan, a “Strategic Planning Questionnaire” was sent out to 291 selected international leaders (PIPs, PISGs, IEOs, ISDs, ASDs, ICMs and RD Troikas). 156 responses were received.
- **(Slide 5 - December 1986)** With the Voting Ballots 1986/87 was sent a questionnaire on **women membership, Y's Menettes, age distribution, length of membership in Y'sdom and in YMCA**. Responses were received from all Regions (39 at that time) representing 55% of our membership.
(Slide 6) There was also a questionnaire to be copied for all club members: **”Y's Men International Membership Survey” with 34 questions**. A total of 2'337 responses were received from 36 Regions (Korea South, Philippines and Taiwan missing) representing 9% of reported membership.
- **(Slide 7 - April 1991)** A questionnaire for clubs was sent with YMW 3-1990/91 asking for information on **women membership, religion, age, YMCA membership, support to local YMCA/community**. Responses were received from 37% of the clubs representing 43% of reported membership. A preliminary analysis was presented in the “SG Report 1990/91”.
- **(Slide 8 - April 1996)** A questionnaire approved by MYM 96 was sent out to be returned with 1 Apr 1996 Reports. Questions were asked about **membership, age, women, and support to local YMCA, communications, participation in international programmes, Y's Menettes, Youth involvement and use of new technology**. Responses were received from 40% of the clubs representing 47% of reported membership. An analysis of responses is reported in the “SG Report 1995/96”.

- **(Slide 9 - April 2000)** A questionnaire with the questions from Apr 96 plus questions about **need for information about programmes (service areas), programmes to merge or delete or add** was sent to be returned with the 1 Apr 2000 Report. The questionnaire was translated into: Japanese, Korean, Chinese, French, German, Finnish, Polish, Swedish and Spanish. Responses were received from 37% of the clubs representing 45% of reported membership. No responses were received from 10 Regions: Korea Chonbuk, Philippines, Taiwan, Western Canada, Central India, West India, Hawaii, Mideast, North Atlantic and Southern, while Japan East and Brazil showed 100% response rate.
- **(Slide 10 - October 2004)** As agreed upon at ICM 2004, a questionnaire (similar to the ones used in 1996 and 2000) was sent out in bulks for distribution to all clubs in October 2004 to be returned by 10 December 2004. The deadline was prolonged and as at 26 June 2005 responses were received from 361 clubs (24%) covering 8'269 members (30% of total membership). No responses at all came from 11 Regions: Korea Chonbuk, Korea East, Korea West, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Western Canada, Central India, Hawaii, Mideast, North Atlantic and South Atlantic.

Slide 11 shows a table with the response rates to October 1977 survey and to the surveys below, asking for clubs to respond.

Slide 12 shows in graphic form the response rates for Europe (consistently high response rate), Y's Men International (average of all 8 Areas) and for India (consistently low response rate).

A brief analysis of the data collected in these surveys follows. Detailed information by Region on all aspects of the analysis of the responses referred to in this brief analysis is available at IHQ.

1. Age distribution and average age.

Slide 13 shows how the average age of our members has increased since 1977. Our average age has increased by 12.4 years over a period of 27 years (almost half a year per year). This trend is typical among Service Clubs.

Slide 14 shows that there are differences in average age between the Areas.

Slide 15 shows the age distribution for Y's Men International in October 2004. There are great variations between countries as can be see from:

Slide 16 showing the age distribution for India and **Slide 17** showing the age distribution for Norway.

This discrepancy is easy to understand if we look at the demographics for these two countries:

Slide 18 showing the demographics for India and **Slide 19** showing the demographics for Norway. It can be seen that the graphic representation for Norway no longer really can be called a population "pyramid", as these graphs used to be called.

2. Women involvement

Slide 20 shows a table with percentage of women as members – it has gone from about 7% in 1977 (no detailed data tabulated) to 20% today. Area Latin America/Caribbean continues to have the highest percentage of women members (66%). There are also many women, who have chosen to be members of a Y's Menettes Club. The October 2004 survey indicates that there are about 600 Y's Menettes' Clubs with about 4'300 members, but these figures need to be checked against the statistics kept by the leadership of Y's Menettes.

3. Youth Involvement (October 2004 Survey)

(Slide 21) In the October 2004 Survey 28 clubs reported having a **Youth Group** affiliated with a total of 576 youth involved. Extrapolating this, one would arrive at an estimate of over 100 clubs having a Youth group affiliated with maybe close to 2'500 youth taking part in such groups. These figures are difficult to verify, as there are no statistics kept on these youth groups. The October 2004 statistics show that there were 40 members of ordinary Y's Men's Clubs below the age of 18 and 557 members aged 18 to 25 years – most of them in India.

4. Length of membership (October 2004 Survey)

Slide 22 (scanned from "SG Report 76/77") shows that according to the April 1977 survey less than 40% of our members had been in the movement more than 10 years. The October 2004 survey shows that 53% of our members have been in the movement more than 10 years, but there are great variations between the Areas. Canada, Europe, South Pacific and USA have members with longer membership than the average, while Africa, Asia, India and Latin America/Caribbean have members with shorter membership (Africa the lowest with only 14% of its members being in the movement more than 10 years).

5. Financial support (October 2004 Survey)

Slide 23 shows the financial support from local clubs in percent of their total contribution in graphic form. The variations between Areas are striking, as can be seen in **Slide 24** with a table showing the same data. Clubs in USA give 84% of their support to their local YMCA and 6% to its local community, while for clubs in India it is reversed: 5% to their local YMCA and 81% directly to their local community. On an average, local clubs give 51% of their support to their local YMCA, 29% directly to their local community, 12% to Regional Projects and 8% (actually 7.6%) to International Projects

(Slide 25) Knowing that the amount contributed to our International Projects/Programmes (ASF, BF, EF and TOF) for 03/04 totalled close to US\$ 533'000 and that was reported as 7.6% of the total contribution from clubs reporting, one can estimate that local clubs during 03/04 collected a total about US\$ 7 million, of which about US\$ 3.5 million went to their local YMCAs, about US\$ 2 million directly to their respective local communities and over US\$ 800'000 to Area/Regional projects.

6. Other matters from October 2004 Survey

(Slide 26) The answers to the questions related to **communication** show that 86% of the clubs receive *Y's Men's World*, but only 18% receive a Regional Bulletin, while 40% of them indicate that they are issuing a Club Bulletin. 41% of the clubs responding are using our international website for obtaining information about the movement.

(Slide 27) As to rating **club's participation** in the listed Y's Men's Programmes or Activities, "Time of Fast" and "Brotherhood Fund", came out on top, closely followed by "Service to the YMCA", attending "District/Regional Conferences", "Service to Community" and "IBC". At the lower end was "STEP", and "YEEP" with "Extension" and "Youth Involvement and Activities" slightly higher.

(Slide 28) The highest number of requests for **better information** was for YEEP, followed by STEP and Youth Involvement and Activities. These were the activities with the lowest participation reported and the request for information can be seen as a positive sign that there is interest for these activities. There were also requests for more information on "popular" activities like BF and TOF, which shows the need for clubs to have better "tools" to improve their involvement.

7. Average membership per club and size of clubs (from half-yearly statistics)

Slide 29 shows that our clubs tend to get smaller – like for most Service Clubs. The graph shows the dramatic decrease in average membership in India from 36 members per club in 1975 to 13 today. Area Latin America/Caribbean has always been below the international average, but the decline is not so dramatic.

Slide 30 shows how the "membership profile" has changed over the years. The number of clubs with 20 – 29 members (where most of our clubs are) has decreased from 32% in 1987 to 21% in 2004, while the percentage of clubs with exactly 15 members (see next paragraph) has doubled – from 8% in 1987 to 16% in 2004.

The International Council meeting 2001 confirmed a decision by the International Council 2000 that a club to have voting privileges has to have at least 15 members. It was hoped that this would act as an incentive for clubs to increase their membership. **Slide 31** shows that this apparently is not the case – the percentage of clubs with 15 or fewer members continues to increase. Only the two "extreme" Areas (and the International average) are shown – the other Areas are "in between".