

# **The Constitution of the Swedish Social Democratic Party**



**Socialdemokraterna**

**Adopted by the party congress of 1997 with amendments decided on by the party congress of 2001 and the standard constitution adopted by the National Board of the Swedish Social Democratic Party.**

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**Socialdemokraterna**

# The Party Constitution

## **§ 1 Purpose**

Social democracy wishes to see the ideals of democracy characterise all of society well as the mutual relationships between people. We strive for a society where each individual has an influence on development as a whole as well as on civil actions in everyday situations. We strive for an economic order where each person in their capacity as a citizen, a wage earner and a consumer can influence the direction and distribution of production, the organisation and conditions of working life. Our aim is a society free from upper or lower orders, without class distinctions, segregation or ethnic divisions, a society without prejudices and discrimination, where everybody is needed and where there is room for everybody, where everybody has the same rights and the same value, where each child can grow up to become a free and independent adult, where each person is free to develop as an individual and in equal and loyal co-operation with others is free to search for the solutions which best serve the public good. For this purpose the party wants to unite everybody who recognises the principles of the Social Democratic Party program and the constitution of the party.

## **§ 2 Organisation**

### *Clause 1*

The Social Democratic associations and local clubs are the fundamental organisations of the party. The associations unite to form local branches, known as Labour Communes, the primary local organisations of the party. The local branches unite to form districts, which are the regional main organisations of the party and which build the party.

### *Clause 2*

Each of the local branches of Stockholm and Goteborg constitutes a party district.

### *Clause 3*

The congress is the supreme decision-making body of the party.

## **§3 Fees, reports**

### *Clause 1*

Each party district is to pay to the party the fee for a whole year stipulated by the congress. The party district is to send the fee, together with the membership report, to the party headquarters for each member obliged to pay a fee by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March at the latest.

### *Clause 2*

Each party district is to pay the fee stipulated by the congress for trade union organisations affiliated to the party. The fee, together with the membership report for the period due, is to be sent to the party office by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March at the latest.

### *Clause 3*

The party districts that fail to send in fees and reports to the party office within the time stipulated forego their rights within the party.

## **§ 4 Party congress**

### *Clause 1*

The congress is the supreme decision-making body of the party and shall consist of 350 elected delegates.

### *Clause 2*

The ordinary congress is held the year prior the year the general election takes place. An intermediate congress is held if called for by the national board of the party, or by voting according to the party constitution in accordance with § 11. An intermediate congress can only deal with the issues that have been taken up in the notice to attend congress.

### *Clause 3*

Notice to attend the party congress is to be issued by the national board of the party ten months before the congress at the latest. An intermediate congress can be summoned without observing this time period. The national board of the party stipulates thereby the times for the material issues regulated in §§ 4 and 5 of the constitution.

### *Clause 4*

The authorisation of delegates is issued by the district board and sent to the party office three months before the ordinary congress at the latest.

### *Clause 5*

The auditing authorisation is carried out by the auditors of the party and must be completed before the opening of the congress.

### *Clause 6*

The members of the party board have the right to address congress and to put forward proposals at the congress.

### *Clause 7*

The Parliamentary group of the Social Democratic Party and the Swedish Social Democratic group of the European Parliament appoint among themselves one delegate for each group of ten members. The delegate must attend the congress and has the right to address congress and to put forward proposals at congress.

### *Clause 8*

Auditors appointed by the party congress, members of the party programme commission, the chairman of the party districts and a representative of each one of the party groups of the executives of the Federation of County Councils, the Association of Municipal Councils have the right to attend the congress. They have the right to address congress and to put forward proposals at congress.

### *Clause 9*

The National Federation of Social Democratic Women, the Swedish Social Democratic Youth (SSU), the Swedish Christian Social Democrats and The Swedish Social Democratic Students' (SSF) have each the right to appoint one delegate to the congress. They have the right to address congress and to put forward proposals at congress.

*Clause 10*

The order papers and the agenda of the congress shall be drawn up by the national board of the party.

*Clause 11*

The annual reports for the congress period shall be submitted by the national board of the party to the ordinary congress.

*Clause 12*

A motion may be moved by an individual party member or by a local Social Democratic organisation and it shall be sent to the executive of the local branch within the period of time stipulated by the latter. The motion shall be dealt with at the meeting of the local branch. The local branch can adopt the motion as its own or decide to send it in as an individual motion or also reject the motion. A motion can also be proposed by the executives of the party districts. Proposals can be put forward by the national board of the party and its executive committee and also by the programme commission. If the national board of the so decides, the right to submit motions can apply until the intermediate congress. A motion to an intermediate congress can only deal with the issues taken up in the notice to attend the congress.

*Clause 13*

A motion shall be sent to the party office six months before the congress at the latest. A motion which submitted later than this period will not be debated at the congress.

*Clause 14*

The national board of the party shall reply to proposed motions. Motions together with replies and proposals from the national board of the party shall be sent to local branches, party districts and congress delegates six weeks before the congress at the latest.

*Clause 15*

Before replying to a motion concerning the party programme the motion must first be submitted to the programme commission.

*Clause 16*

The congress can choose its own committees and determine the subjects they will work with.

*Clause 17*

Only delegates have the right to vote at the congress. Every delegate has one vote. The right to vote must not be transferred.

*Clause 18*

Voting takes place by a show of hands. The election of individuals takes place by secret ballot when requested by a delegate.

In a secret ballot the candidates are listed in alphabetical order on the ballot paper. A valid ballot must list the number of persons who are to be elected. A ballot paper listing more or

fewer names is void. The person or those who have received the highest number of votes will be elected, unless the congress decides that a simple majority must apply to be elected.

If an equal number of votes are cast for each candidate in a secret ballot a second ballot can be held. In the case where only two candidates stand, the vote will be decided by lot. If there are an equal number of votes in a show of hands where only two candidates take part, the decision of the chair in determining the outcome will apply.

*Clause 19*

Congress decisions and amendments to the programme and constitution shall come into force, immediately, unless the congress decides otherwise.

*Clause 20*

The minutes of the congress shall be sent out to districts, local branches and congress delegates twelve months after the congress at the latest.

**§ 5 The election of delegates to the party congress**

*Clause 1*

In each party district one delegate is elected for each whole number equivalent to one three hundred and fiftieth of the number of party members. The number of members is determined on the basis of the reported membership. The distribution of delegates is decided on the basis of the number of members reported for the year prior to the congress year.

*Clause 2*

If the number of representatives to be elected according to clause 1 does not amount to 350, the remaining representatives shall be distributed with one representative each to the party districts where there is the largest surplus of numbers. If the surplus numbers are equal, the distribution will be determined by lottery.

*Clause 3*

Nine months before the congress at the latest the national board of the party decides and informs the party districts of the number of delegates each party district shall elect.

*Clause 4*

For the election of congress delegates the party districts should be subdivided into constituencies. These are stipulated by the district board which also stipulates the number of delegates and deputies in each constituency.

*Clause 5*

The subdivision into constituencies and the time stated for the concluding of the nomination of candidates shall be made public in a circular to the local branches and the Social Democratic associations and clubs eight months before the congress at the latest.

*Clause 6*

The election of delegates shall be by secret ballot.

*Clause 7*

The elections of delegates shall start six months before at the earliest and be concluded four months at the latest before congress convenes.

*Clause 8*

All party members who have paid their membership fees are entitled to vote when the congress delegates are to be elected in the local branch where their membership is registered.

*Clause 9*

Every member has the right to nominate candidates. Nominations shall be made to the board of the local branch within the time stated by the latter. The local branch shall send the district board a list of all the candidates nominated. The district board produces ballot papers and sends them to local branches. All the candidates within the constituency shall be listed on the ballot in alphabetical order. The number of delegates nominated for election must be stated on the ballot. Only the ballot paper drawn up by the district board may be used in the election.

*Clause 10*

The local branch of the Social-Democratic Party shall by an advertisement or in a written message 14 days before the election at the latest ensure that the members are informed of the election.

*Clause 11*

The election of the delegates must be held over at least two days. The time and place/s for the election is to be decided by the board of the local branch. The election of the delegates can also be done by postal voting according to the rules stipulated by the district board.

*Clause 12*

When voters cast their votes membership of the local branch must be validated on request.

*Clause 13*

A valid ballot must include the number of delegates to be elected. A ballot paper that includes more or fewer names is invalid.

*Clause 14*

Not later than eight days after the end of the election the local branch of the Social Democratic Party shall send to the district board the votes cast together with a protocol on the election in a sealed envelop, marked "Ballots".

*Clause 15*

The envelops are to be opened on the day of the count and the count is to be carried out by the district board or by the tellers appointed by the district board before the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> week before congress. The local branches and the Social Democratic associations and clubs shall be informed in advance of the time and place for the count.

*Clause 16*

The one who has or those who have received the highest number of votes in every constituency are elected as delegates. Deputies are summoned according to the votes they have received. When the number of votes is equal, the decision will be by lottery.

*Clause 17*

The district board shall make public the result of the voting by circulars sent to the local branches and the Social Democratic associations clubs immediately after the count.

*Clause 18*

The organisation of the election is to be determined by the district board.

*Clause 19*

If a member considers that the election of delegates is in conflict with the constitution of the party and wishes to appeal against the election this must be made known to the district board not later than five days after the result of the voting has been announced.

The district board shall send such an appeal, together with its reply to the same, to the national board of the party. If the national board of the party finds that the voting has not been carried out in accordance with the constitution and that this might have a bearing on the result of the vote, it shall recommend a new election within the constituency or the local branch concerned.

**§ 6 The National Conference**

*Clause 1*

The national conference assembles at least once a year during a year when there is no congress, and otherwise when summoned by the national board of the party.

*Clause 2*

A notice to attend the national conference shall be issued by the national board of the party not later than two weeks before the meeting.

*Clause 3*

The national conference shall act as the advisory organ to the national board of the party.

Before every meeting the national board of the party determines the and the order papers for the conference.

*Clause 4*

The national conference consists of 120 delegates distributed among the party districts according to the same principle of distribution as for the ordinary congress.

Representatives and deputies of the national conference are elected by the district congress and sit for one year.

*Clause 5*

The members of the executive committee and the national board of the party and the deputies of the executive committee shall be summoned to the national conference meetings and they have the right to address conference and to present proposals.



When an ordinary member of the national board of the party is prevented from attending, the deputy delegates shall be summoned to the national conference in the same order as they have been elected and they then have the right to address conference and to move proposals.

*Clause 6*

The national conference elects the nominating committee for the period up to the next congress. The nominating committee consists of eleven ordinary members and six deputy members. When ordinary members are prevented from attending, the deputies take their places in the same order as they have been elected.

The nominating committee has the task of preparing the election of the national party board at congress, the executive committee, auditors, the programme commission, together with deputies in accordance with the party constitution §§ 7, 8, 9 and 10.

Nominations shall be sent to the nominating committee within the time stipulated by the nominating committee.

*Clause 7*

The Parliamentary group of the Social Democratic Party and the Swedish Social Democratic Party within the European Parliament appoint from among their members one delegate for every thirty members or for each new group of up to thirty members. A delegate must attend the national conference and has the right to address conference and move proposals at the national conference.

*Clause 8*

Auditors appointed by the party congress, one member of the programme commission, the chairmen of the party districts and one delegate from each one of the party groups of the board of the Federation of County Councils the Association of Local Authorities have the right to attend the national conference and the right to address conference and move proposals.

*Clause 9*

The National Federation of Social Democratic Women, the Swedish Social Democratic Youth (SSU), the Swedish Christian Social Democrats and the Swedish Social Democratic Students' (SSF) have each the right to appoint one delegate to the national conference. They have the right to address conference and to move proposals.

*Clause 10*

The national conference applies the same rules as for congress on the voting and secret ballots.

*Clause 11*

Protocols are to be sent out to party districts, local branches and representatives not later than 6 months after the national conference.

## **§ 7 The national board of the party**

### *Clause 1*

The national board of the party is responsible for the management of the activities of the party in accordance with the party programme and constitution as well as the decisions of congress.

The national board of the party is the supreme decision-making body of the party when congress is not assembled. The national board shall determine the budget and working plan of the party for the coming working year.

The national board of the party shall determine the attestation rights and the rules for delegation to the executive committee, the party board and the party office.

The party board determines the list of the Swedish Social Democratic candidates before an election to the European Parliament. The party board can, if required, delegate the task of determining the list to the national conference or to congress.

### *Clause 2*

Congress elects the national board of the party consisting of 33 members. Of these, seven are ordinary members of the executive committee.

The chairpersons of S-women, the Swedish Social Democratic Youth Association, the Swedish Christian Social Democrats' Association and The Swedish Social Democratic Students' Association have the right to attend the meetings of the party board and have the right to speak and to move proposals.

### *Clause 3*

Congress elects deputy members for each of the ordinary members of the executive committee.

Congress also elects a further 15 deputy members for the other members of the party board. These shall be summoned to the meetings of the party board. They have to speak and to move proposals as well as the right of voting when they replace the ordinary member. They stand in the order in which they have been elected.

### *Clause 4*

The newly elected party board elects the party treasurer at their first meeting. The party treasurer has the right to attend meetings, to speak and to move proposals at meetings of the executive committee and of the national board of the party.

### *Clause 5*

Every year the national board of the party shall hold an annual general meeting in the month of April. In addition to this a meeting is held when the executive committee finds it necessary or when at least five members of the national board of the party call for a meeting.

### *Clause 6*

At the annual general meeting of the national board of the party the executive committee shall present a report on the accounts and the work of the party for the year past.

## **§ 8 The executive committee**

### *Clause 1*

The executive committee administers the day to day management of the work of the and is responsible to the party board.

The committee has the responsibility to ensure that the decisions made by the congress and the party board are carried out. The executive committee has the responsibility to ensure that the archives are kept and preserved in a secure manner.

The executive committee is the responsible employer for the staff employed at the party office.

### *Clause 2*

The executive committee consists of seven ordinary members and seven deputies.

Of the standing members of the committee the chairperson and secretary are elected separately.

The chairpersons of the National Federation of Social Democratic Women, the Swedish Social Democratic Youth (SSU) and the Swedish Christian Social Democrats have the right to attend meetings of the committee, to speak and to move proposals.

### *Clause 3*

Deputy members of the executive committee shall be summoned to the meetings of the committee and the party board. They have the right to speak, to move proposals and to vote when standing in for an ordinary member. They stand in according to the order in which they have been elected.

## **§ 9 The Programme commission**

### *Clause 1*

The programme commission consists of five members and five deputy members. The deputies shall be summoned to the meetings of the programme commission. They have the right to speak, to move proposals and to vote when standing in for an ordinary member. They stand in according to the order in which they have been elected.

### *Clause 2*

The programme commission shall reply to proposals governed by § 4, clause 15 of the constitution, before the party board replies to such proposals.

### *Clause 3*

The members and deputy members of the programme commission have the right to attend the meetings of the national board of the party when proposals from the commission are to be discussed and they then have the right to speak and to move proposals.

## **§ 10 Audit**

### *Clause 1*

For the audit of the work of party executive, the executive committee and financial affairs of the party, the ordinary congress elects three auditors and three deputy auditors. When an ordinary auditor is prevented from attending , the deputies are summoned in the order they have been elected.

The national board of the party has the task of appointing an authorised accountant.

### *Clause 2*

At the annual general meeting of the national board of the party the auditors present their statement on the accounts and the work of the executive committee for the year past.

### *Clause 3*

At the ordinary congress the auditors present their statement of the accounts and the work of the national board for the congress period ending and present their report on the accounts and the work of the national board of the party during the congress period ending and move for a discharge or not.

### *Clause 4*

The auditors appoint among themselves a chairperson who submits the report to the executive committee, the national board of the party and the congress.

### *Clause 5*

The auditors' remuneration is set by the congress.

## **§ 11 General voting**

### *Clause 1*

The national board of the party can allow a vote be held within the party on an issue raised. At the same time as the matter to be decided by vote is being sent out, the national board of the party shall make public the period of time within which the vote is to be carried out and the protocol on it sent to the district and the national board of the party. The issue can be dealt with at a meeting summoned by the local branch, by means of a postal vote or in some other way according to the rules set by the national board of the party.

### *Clause 2*

If a vote takes place at a meeting summoned by the local branch, the board of the local branch shall send a protocol on the voting to the district board. On the protocol the total number of votes given is to be stated as well as the number of votes for and against the proposals submitted. The district board sends the protocols and a summary of them to the national board of the party.

### *Clause 3*

If at least five percent of the party members, according to the latest membership report submitted, support the submitted motion for a vote, the national board of the party is obliged to carry out a vote.

*Clause 4*

This is the only way , apart from a decision by congress itself that a congress decision can be amended or abolished.

**§ 12 The parliamentary group of the Social Democratic party**

*Clause 1*

The parliamentary group, which is responsible to the party congress, shall submit a report on its work during the previous year to the annual general meeting of the national board of the party. This report is added to the annual reports of the national board of the party for the coming congress.

*Clause 2*

A joint meeting with the national board of the party and the parliamentary group is held when it is regarded necessary by either party. A protocol at such a meeting is included in the protocol of the national board of the party.

*Clause 3*

The constitution of for the parliamentary group is set by the national board of the party based on proposals from the parliamentary group.

**§ 13 The European Parliament party**

*Clause 1*

The Swedish Social Democratic group within the European Parliament, which is responsible to the party congress, shall submit a report to the annual general meeting of the national board of the party on its work during the previous year. This report is added to the annual reports of the national board of the party to the coming congress.

*Clause 2*

A joint meeting with the national board of the party and the Swedish Social Democratic group within the European Parliament is held when it is regarded necessary by either party. A protocol at such a meeting is included into the protocol of the national board of the party.

*Clause 3*

The constitution of for the Swedish group in the European Parliament is set by the national board of the party on proposals from the Swedish group in the European Parliament.

**§ 14 General rules**

*Clause 1*

Only party members can be elected to positions of trust within the party. A member who leaves the party thereby resigns from his/her position appointed by the party.

*Clause 2*

A member who behaves disloyally towards the party, who makes propaganda in obvious violation of the general principles of the party or who in any other way deliberately damages the party and its work can be expelled by the national board of the party. For exclusion  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the votes cast is required.

*Clause 3*

A member, whom the local branch suggests should be expelled, can be suspended from his/her membership in the party by the executive committee until the national board of the party has made a decision in the matter, in such cases where the executive committee does not have the right to make decisions in accordance with clause 4.

*Clause 4*

When an accusation in a case of expulsion refers to disloyal behaviour in a trade union conflict, a membership in another political party or actions against the party in a general election the case can be dealt with by the executive committee. Decisions by the executive committee must be unanimous.

*Clause 5*

It is incumbent on the executive of the local branch to inform an affiliated union or club if a member has been excluded from the party.

*Clause 6*

If an excluded member wishes to renew his or her party membership, the application will be decided by the national board of the party. In cases of renewal of membership  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the votes given is required.

*Clause 7*

Exemption from the constitution of party districts and local branches can be granted by the national board of the party.

*Clause 8*

The constitution, as well as the party programme, can be amended or suspended only by an ordinary party congress.

# The constitution for party district organisations

## **§ 1 Purpose**

The party district has as its purpose

- to work for the Social Democratic ideas on the basis of the party programme,
- to be the main regional organisation of the party for all the affiliated local branches within an area stipulated by the national board of the party,
- to lead and co-ordinate the political work of the party in the party district on the basis of the county council and county-wide programme,
- to maintain the contacts with the local party organisations of the district and the national board of the party,
- to lead, co-ordinate and develop the party agitation, organisation, study and information activities within the district,
- to promote the child and youth activities of the working-class movement,
- to plan and lead the party work in general elections within the district area,
- to develop and co-ordinate trade union political activities,
- to work for more members to join the Social Democratic party.

## **§ 2 Organisation**

### *Clause 1*

The party district area shall consist of one or several constituencies for the election to parliament. A change of the district area can be decided by the national board of the party after proposals by party districts or several local branches in a constituency.

### *Clause 2*

Each local branch within the district shall belong to the party through the party district.

## **§ 3 Fees and reports of the local branches**

### *Clause 1*

Every local branch shall pay a fee for a whole year to the party district, which includes the fee to the national party.

The fee is determined by the district congress. The local branch shall pay a fee for each member who is obliged to pay a fee. The fee shall, together with the membership report, be sent to the district office on February 15 at the latest.

### *Clause 2*

Each local branch pays a fee determined by the district congress for the affiliated organisations.

The fee shall, together with the membership report for the period, be sent to the party district office on February 15 at the latest.

### *Clause 3*

Every year on April 15 at the latest the executive of the local branch shall send an account to the party district on the work during the previous year.

*Clause 4*

A local branch that has not sent fees and reports within the stipulated time to the district office foregoes its rights within the party district.

**§ 4 District congress**

*Clause 1*

The district congress is the supreme decision-making body of the party district.

*Clause 2*

The ordinary congress is held yearly at a time and place determined by the district board.

An intermediate congress is held when the district board so decides, or when at least 1/3 of the local branches within the party district call for a congress. An intermediate congress can only deal with the issues that have been taken up in the notice to attend it.

*Clause 3*

A notice to attend the ordinary congress shall be issued by the district board five months before the congress at the latest.

An intermediate congress can be summoned without observing this time. The district board stipulates thereby the time for the clauses referred to in the district the constitution § 4.

*Clause 4*

Every local branch that has fulfilled their obligations in accordance with the constitution of the party district has the right to appoint delegates to the congress according to the rules stipulated by the district congress or, when this is not the case, decided by the district board.

*Clause 5*

The election of delegates to the intermediate congress is carried out in accordance with the same rules as apply for the ordinary congress.

*Clause 6*

A member of the party district has the right to nominate candidates as congress delegates in the time stipulated by the latter. A Social Democratic association/club shall send information on all the nominated candidates to the executive of the local branch.

The meeting of the local branch elects delegates and deputy delegates. If the local branch has introduced a representative assembly the election will be carried out at the meeting of the same.

*Clause 7*

Authorisation of delegates and their deputies is issued by the executive of the local branch and sent to the district board within the time stated by the latter.



*Clause 8*

The audit of authorisation is carried out by the auditors of the district and must be completed before the opening of the congress.

*Clause 9*

Only delegates have the right to vote at the congress. Each delegate has one vote. The right to vote must not be transferred.

*Clause 10*

The members of the district board and an auditor submitting the report have the right to address congress and to move proposals.

*Clause 11*

At the congress the Social Democratic members of the county council within the party district shall submit a written report on their work during the previous year. They appoint one delegate for each county council area, who has the right to address congress and to move proposals.

*Clause 12*

A representative appointed by the national board of the party and the Social Democratic members of the parliament within the district area have the right to attend the congress and have the right to address congress and to move proposals.

*Clause 13*

A motion can be proposed by every individual party member or Social Democratic local organisation belonging to the party district and it is to be sent to the executive of the local branch within the time stated by the latter. A motion shall be dealt with at the meeting of the local branch. The local branch can either adopt the motion as its own or decide to send it in as an individual motion.

*Clause 14*

After the decision of the local branch a motion shall be sent to the district board three months before the congress at the latest.

*Clause 15*

The list of motions together with the replies to motions from of the district board shall be sent to the local branches, the Social Democratic associations, and clubs and congress delegates one month before the congress at the latest.

*Clause 16*

The congress elects a nominating committee for the next congress.

*Clause 17*

Votes are taken by a show of hands. A secret ballot for individuals is taken when someone calls for such.

In a secret ballot candidates are listed in alphabetical order on the ballot paper. A valid ballot must list the number of persons who are to be elected. A ballot listing more or fewer names is

void. The person or those who have received the highest number of votes will be elected, unless the congress decides that a simple majority must apply to be elected. If there are an equal number of votes in a secret ballot, another ballot can be held. If there are an equal number of votes in a ballot where only two candidates take part, the outcome will be by lottery. If there is an equal number of votes in a show of hands, the decision lies with the chair.

*Clause 18*

A report of the work of the previous year together with the guidelines for the work of the coming year shall be submitted to the ordinary congress by the district board.

*Clause 19*

The working order and the agenda of the congress shall be drawn up by the district board.

**§ 5 The advisory council of party district**

*Clause 1*

An advisory council will be set up after decision by the district congress. The advisory council assembles at least once a year – when summoned by the district board.

*Clause 2*

Notice to attend the council meeting is to be issued by the district board not later than two weeks before the meeting.

*Clause 3*

Before every meeting the district board decides on the agenda and working order for the meeting.

*Clause 4*

The advisory council consists of the number of delegates stipulated by the district congress and is distributed among the local branches according to the same principle for the distribution as for the district congress. Delegates and deputies for the advisory council are elected by the local branches for the period up to the next district congress.

*Clause 5*

The members of the district board have the right to address and to move proposals at the meeting of the advisory council.

*Clause 6*

For the advisory council the same rules apply referring to the right to vote and voting as at the district congress, § 4 clause 9 and 17.

*Clause 7*

A protocol from the meeting of the advisory council is issued to the local branches and representatives not later than six months after a meeting.

## **§ 6 The district board**

### *Clause 1*

The district board is responsible for the management of the activities of the district in accordance with these the constitution of and with the decisions made by the congress.

The district board is the supreme decision-making body of the district when congress is not assembled.

The district board has the employer's responsibility for the staff employed at the district office. The district board can delegate the employer's responsibility to the executive committee.

### *Clause 2*

The district board shall consist of at least seven members. For these deputies can be appointed. The chairperson is elected separately.

### *Clause 3*

Within the district board an executive committee can be appointed. If the district congress so decides, the executive committee can be elected separately.

### *Clause 4*

When ordinary members are prevented from coming, the deputies take their places as ordinary members in the same order they have been elected.

### *Clause 5*

A study organiser and a trade union leader shall be appointed within the district. They are to be appointed to the district board.

## **§ 7 The Audit**

### *Clause 1*

For the audit of the work of the district board and the executive committee and for the audit of the accounts of the district, the congress elects three auditors and three deputy auditors. When the ordinary auditors are unable to attend, the deputy auditors are summoned, according to order of the number of votes they have received.

### *Clause 2*

The auditors present their report on the accounts and the work of the district board for the year past and move or oppose a motion on discharge from liability for the board.

## **§ 8 General elections and the treatment of county council issues**

### *Clause 1*

For candidate nominations to general elections, the co-operation between elected representatives and the party organisations and the treatment of county council issues the party "Rules for candidate nominations", "Rules for the co-operation between elected representatives and the party organisations" and "Rules for dealing with county council issues" will apply.

## **§ 9 General rules**

*Clause 1*

In addition to these constitutional aspects, the party district and its executive shall also observe the constitution of the party and decisions of the party congress as to rights and duties.

*Clause 2*

Additional clauses to the constitution of for party districts can be adopted by the district congress. These must not conflict with or in any way set aside the fundamentals of the constitution.

*Clause 3*

The fundamentals of the constitution can be amended or set aside by the ordinary party congress alone.

*Clause 4*

The constitution of for the party districts of Stockholm, Goteborg and Gotland are laid down by the national board of the party.

**District grouping**

The party districts are:

The party district of Stockholm

- “ The county of Stockholm
- “ The county of Uppsala
- “ Södermanland
- “ Östergötland
- “ The county of Jönköping
- “ Kronoberg
- “ The county of Kalmar
- “ Gotland
- “ Blekinge
- “ Skåne
- “ Halland
- “ Goteborg
- “ Bohuslän
- ” Northern Älvsborg
- ” Southern Älvsborg
- ” Skaraborg
- ” Värmland
- ” the county of Örebro
- “ Västmanland
- “ Dalarna
- “ Gävleborg
- “ Västernorrland
- “ the county of Jämtland
- ” Västerbotten
- ” Norrbotten

# **The constitution for the local branches of the Social Democratic party (Labour Communes)**

## **§ 1 Purpose**

The local branch has as its purpose:

- To work for the Social Democratic ideas on the basis of the party programme,
- To be the main local organisation of the party and unite all the associations and clubs in the primary municipality which recognise the general principles of the Social Democratic programme and the constitution of the party,
- To lead and co-ordinate the political work in the municipalities on the basis of the action programme of the municipal party organisation, known as the Labour Commune, and of the local party organisations.
- To lead, co-ordinate and develop the party agitation, organisation, studies and information activities within the primary municipality,
- To promote the child and youth activities of the working-class movement,
- To plan and lead the party work in general elections within the primary municipality,
- To arrange meetings and demonstrations with a view to provide opportunities for citizens to express their opinions on political issues
- To develop and co-ordinate trade union political activities,
- To develop the value of membership,
- To work for more members to join the Social Democratic party.

## **§ 2 Organisation**

### *Clause 1*

The local branch is the main local organisation of the party and shall include all the Social Democratic unions and clubs within a primary municipality.

### *Clause 2*

The local branch or Labour Commune adopts an organisation plan for its field of activities. From this it will be seen which Social Democratic associations and clubs are included in the local branch.

A local branch with members who do not wish to have their party membership in any of the existing associations/clubs shall establish a free quota where the party membership is arranged.

The free quota is not a fundamental organisation and therefore does not obtain representation to the representative assembly of the local branch.

### *Clause 3*

The executive of the local branch has the responsibility to ensure that there are associations/clubs and an election organisation in housing areas and work places within the work field of the local branch.

*Clause 4*

At the annual general meeting a local branch can make a decision to set up a representative assembly. Rules for distributing delegates to the representative assembly are established at the annual general meeting of the local branch.

*Clause 5*

If the local branch has set up a representative assembly all the associations and clubs affiliated to the local branch shall elect delegates directly to the representative assembly.

When affiliating a local trade union receives a local right to representation in all the local branches with representative assemblies that are included in the organisation and where it has members who have joined the party as individual members.

A trade union affiliated to an organisation also obtains representation according to the established rules for the members who have individually joined the party.

**§ 3 Membership in the local branch of the Social Democratic party**

*Clause 1*

Social Democratic associations and clubs, the members of the free quota, Social Democratic women's clubs, Christian Social Democratic groups, Social Democratic student clubs and the Swedish Social Democratic youth clubs which recognise the general principles of the Social Democratic programme and the party the constitution of have the right to affiliate to the local branch of the Social Democratic party.

When joining a local branch, all the members of these associations and clubs must belong to the local branch. Information on the number of party members in the association/club must be attached to the application for affiliation.

*Clause 2*

A local trade union can be affiliated as a member to a local branch.

The members of the organisation obtain membership after an individual application.

*Clause 3*

A local trade union affiliated to the local branch in the primary municipality where it has its location.

The trade union is a member of all the local branches within its field of work and where there are individually affiliated party members who belong to the trade union.

*Clause 4*

A member of the Social Democratic party must have his/her party membership in the local organisation or in the free quota in the local branch of the primary municipality where he/she is resident.

## **§ 4 Fees and reports from associations, clubs and local trade unions**

### *Clause 1*

Every affiliated association/club shall pay the fee for a whole year to the local branch. The fees for the coming year are fixed at the local branch meeting before the end of October. The association/club shall pay a fee for every party member who is obliged to pay a fee. The fee shall – together with a membership report – be sent to the local branch on February 1 at the latest.

### *Clause 2*

An association/club that joins the local branch pays a fee for the year during which the entry takes place.

### *Clause 3*

A trade association affiliated to an organisation pays an annual fee on February 1 every year. A membership report is sent at the same time as the fee.

The organisation fee to the local branch for the coming year is fixed at the local branch meeting before the end of October.

### *Clause 4*

Affiliated organisations, which despite a written reminder, are in arrears with fees and reports during a longer period of time than twelve months forego their rights in the local branch of the Social Democratic party.

## **§ 5 Meetings**

### *Clause 1*

The membership meeting of the local branch of the Social Democratic party is the supreme decision-making body, unless a representative assembly has been introduced, in which case this assembly will lead the membership meeting.

### *Clause 2*

At the annual general meeting, except for any other business, the following issues shall be considered:

1. the annual report of the board and the audit for the year ending
2. the report from the municipal council group
3. the discharge from liability for the board
4. the election of the executive and the deputy members
  - a) Chairperson
  - b) Other members of the executive
  - c) Deputy members
5. the election of auditors and deputy members
6. the election of a nominating committee
7. the guidelines for the coming work

### *Clause 4*

A motion to a membership meeting or to a representative assembly meeting can be proposed by every individual party member or by a Social Democratic local organisation

which belongs to the local branch respectively. A motion shall be sent to the local branch executive within the period of time stated by the latter. A trade union affiliated to an organisation has the right to submit motions in all the local branches that the organisation covers and where there are individually affiliated party members.

*Clause 5*

When deciding on discharge from liability for the executive, the members of the executive do not have the right to vote.

*Clause 6*

Votes are by show of hands. The election of individuals is carried out in a secret ballot when called for .

In a secret ballot the candidates are listed in alphabetical order on the ballot paper. A valid ballot must list the number of persons who are to be elected. A ballot listing more or fewer names is invalid. The person or those who have received the highest number of votes will be elected, unless the meeting decides that a simple majority must apply to be elected.

If there are an equal number of votes in a secret ballot, another vote can be held. If there are an equal number of votes in a ballot where only two candidates take part, the result will be determined by lottery. If there are an equal number of votes in a show of hands, the decision of the sitting chairperson will apply.

*Clause 7*

Proposals for candidates to election at the annual general meeting are sent to the nominating committee within the period of time stated by the local branch meeting. After the nominating time has run out the nominating committee alone has the right to propose candidates.

**§ 6 The executive of the local branch**

*Clause 1*

The executive of the local branch of the social democratic party is responsible for the management of the activities in accordance with this constitution of and the decisions made by the congress and the local branch. The role of the executive is to agitate for the party and its policy, to draw up municipal policy programmes, to be responsible for the economy of the local branch and the administration of the membership and to support the activities of the social democratic associations and clubs. When the local branch meeting is not assembled, the executive is the highest decision-making body of the local branch.

The executive has the employer's responsibility for the staff employed at the local branch office, unless this has been delegated to the executive of the party district.

*Clause 2*

The executive of the local branch shall consist of at least seven members. For these deputy members can be appointed. Among the members of the executive the chairperson, treasurer, study organiser and trade union leader are elected separately.



The number of members in the executive shall be an uneven number. The members of the smaller group in number stand for re-election one year and the others in the following year.

*Clause 3*

Within the board the executive committee can be appointed, or if the annual general meeting decides it, the executive committee can be elected separately.

*Clause 4*

When ordinary members are prevented from coming, the deputy members take their places in the same order as they have been elected.

**§ 7 General voting**

*Clause 1*

The executive for the local branch can on a certain matter arrange for a ballot among the party members of the local branch. Such a vote shall be consultative.

*Clause 2*

A final decision on a matter that has been the subject of a general vote is made by the membership meeting or the representative assembly meeting.

*Clause 3*

The rules for the carrying out a ballot are stipulated by the executive of the local branch.

**§ 8 Audit**

*Clause 1*

Three auditors and three deputy members are elected at the annual general meeting. When the ordinary auditors are prevented from attending the deputy members are summoned in the order they have been elected.

*Clause 2*

To the annual general meeting of the local branch the auditors presents their report on the accounts and the work of the executive during the previous year and move or oppose a motion to discharge the executive from their liabilities for the year past.

**§ 9 General elections and local issues**

For candidate nominations in general elections, the co-operation between the elected representatives and the party organisations and policy issues in county councils and primary municipalities the party “Rules for candidate nominations”, “Rules for the co-operation between the elected representatives and the party organisations” and “Rules for the dealing with policy issues in county councils and primary municipalities” will apply.

**§ 10 General rules**

*Clause 1*

A local branch cannot discontinue without the approval of the district board. If a local branch discontinues, all its assets shall be transferred to the party district.

*Clause 2*

Additional clauses to the constitution of for a local branch can be adopted at the annual general meeting of the local branch. Such clauses must not conflict with or rescind the content of these fundamental principles of the constitution.

*Clause 3*

The fundamental principles of the constitution can be amended or abolished only by the ordinary party congress.

# **The constitution for Social democratic associations and clubs**

## **§ 1 Purpose**

The association/club has as its purpose:

- To bring together those persons within its area of interest who share the values of social democracy,
- To develop the value of membership,
- To shape social democratic policy in an open and active dialogue with the voters,
- To work for the ideas and policy of social democracy on the basis of the party programme,
- To spread the information of the party and its policy through an outreaching formation of public opinion,
- To work for more members to join the social democratic party.

## **§ 2 Organisation**

### *Clause 1*

The social democratic association/club is the fundamental organisation of the party. Its field of activity is established in the organisation plan of the local branch.

## **§ 3 Membership and fees**

### *Clause 1*

Membership in the association/club is granted to every person who acknowledges the general principles of the social democratic programme and party regulations.

### *Clause 2*

When joining the association/club a fee is paid for the year during which the membership is registered.

### *Clause 3*

By paying a fee you become a member of the party. You are a member of the ground organisation you choose to belong to or of the free quota in the local branch and the party district where you live. Every party member pays a fee covering every level in the organisation only once.

The association/club can charge a member an administration cost if he/she wants to take part in the activity of the association/club but is not a party member of the association or club in question.

### *Clause 4*

The membership fee to the association/club for the new year is fixed by the association/club meeting before the end of November.

*Clause 5*

A member, who despite a written reminder, is in arrears with fees during a longer period of time than twelve months can be expelled from the association/club. On re-entry the fees that were outstanding when the member was expelled shall be paid in full.

**§ 4 Meetings**

*Clause 1*

The membership meeting of the association/club is the supreme decision-making body.

*Clause 2*

The annual meeting of the association/club is held before the end of February.

*Clause 3*

At the annual meeting, apart from any other business, the following items must be addressed treated:

1. the annual reports of the executive and the auditors for the previous year
2. the motion on a discharge for the executive
3. the election of members of the board and deputies
4. the election of auditors and deputy auditors
5. the election of one or several persons responsible for members
6. the election of the nominating committee for the next annual meeting

*Clause 4*

When deciding on a discharge for the executive, the members of the executive have no right to vote.

*Clause 5*

Votes are by a show of hands. Votes for individuals will be by secret ballot when called for.

In a secret ballot the candidates are listed in alphabetical order on the ballot paper. A valid ballot must list the number of persons who are to be elected. A ballot listing more or fewer names is invalid. The person or those who have received the highest number of votes will be elected, unless the meeting decides that a simple majority must apply to be elected.

If there are an equal number of votes in a secret ballot, another vote can be held. If there are an equal number of votes in a voting where only two candidates take part, the result will be determined by lottery. If there are an equal number of votes in a show of hands, the decision of the chairperson will apply.

*Clause 6*

Proposals for candidates for election at the annual meeting are sent to the nominating committee within the period of time stated by the union meeting. After the nominating time has run out the nominating committee alone has the right to propose candidates.

## **§ 5 The executive of the association/club**

### *Clause 1*

The executive of the association/club is responsible for the activities of the association/club in accordance with these regulations and the decisions made by the association/club. The task of the executive is hereby to form public opinion in favour of the party and its policy, to develop the value of the membership, to promote active and open party work within the association/club and to answer for the members being given the opportunity to influence the views of the party in current political issues and to take active part in the shaping of the activity of the association. The executive is the supreme decision-making body of the association/club when the membership meeting is not assembled.

### *Clause 2*

The executive of the association/club shall consist of at least five members. For these deputies can be appointed. A chairperson, treasurer and study organiser are elected specially by the members of the executive.

The number of members in the executive shall be an uneven number. One year the members of the smaller number are newly elected and the other year the others.

### *Clause 3*

When ordinary members are prevented from coming, the deputies take their places as ordinary members in the same order as they have been elected.

## **§ 6 Audit**

### *Clause 1*

At least two auditors and two deputies are elected yearly by the annual meeting. When the ordinary auditor is prevented from coming, the deputies take his/her place in the order they have been elected.

### *Clause 2*

To the annual meeting of the association/club the auditors present their report on the accounts and on the work of the executive for the year past and move or oppose a motion on discharge from liability for the executive.

## **§ 7 General elections and the treatment of local issues**

### *Clause 1*

For candidate nominations to general elections, the co-operation between the elected representatives and the party organisations and the treatment of county council and primary municipal policy issues the party “Rules for candidate nominations”, “Rules for the co-operation between the elected representatives and the party organisations” and “Rules for the treatment of county council and primary municipal issues” will apply.

## **§ 8 General rules**

### *Clause 1*

Additional clauses for a Social democratic association/club can be adopted at the annual meeting of the association/club and shall be submitted to the local branch for approval. Such regulations must not conflict with or rescind the fundamental principles of the constitution.

*Clause 2*

The association/club cannot discontinue without the approval of the local branch. If a association/club discontinues, all its assets shall be transferred to the local branch.

*Clause 3*

The fundamental clauses can be amended or abolished only by the ordinary party congress.

# Rules for the nomination of candidates

## **General rules**

1. A party member who holds a seat in the European parliament or in the Swedish parliament or who is an elected member of a municipal council contribute to the executing the social democratic programme, established by the party congress, the district congress or a local branch meeting.
2. Every member of the party and organisation affiliated to the party has the right to propose candidates for election to the European parliament, the Swedish parliament and local government.
3. The ballot papers of the party shall be drawn up in such a way that there is an even distribution according to gender. The need for a continuous new recruitment of younger people shall be met.
4. The ballot papers of the party are drawn up at a meeting, a conference or by a general vote.
5. In order to promote unanimous conduct in general elections, organisations and party members are advised to counteract the emergence of so called splinter lists.
6. Parliamentary and local government appointments should be distributed to as many members as possible.

## **The nominating committee**

1. In order to prepare ballot papers for the parliamentary election the ordinary congress of the district appoints a nominating committee the year prior to the year for the parliamentary election.
2. In order to prepare ballot papers for the county council election the ordinary congress of the party district decides the year prior to the year for the county council elections the way in which the nominating committee is to be appointed.
3. In order to prepare the ballot papers for the municipal elections the meeting of the local branch appoints a nominating committee the year prior to the year for the municipal elections.
4. Within the nominating committee a working committee can be appointed.
5. The nominating committee of the party district should include at least one representative of the trade union committee of the party district.
6. The nominating committee of the local branch should include at least one representative of the trade union committee of the local branch.

### **Candidate nominations**

1. Proposals for candidates to parliamentary and county council elections are to be sent to the district executive within the time stipulated by the latter. This shall be announced in writing to local branches and social democratic associations and clubs.
2. Party members, affiliated associations, clubs, local trade unions and the union committee of the local branch send proposals for candidates for the parliamentary, the county council and the municipal elections to the executive of the local branch within the time stipulated by the latter. This shall be done through public notices and written messages to affiliated associations, clubs, local trade unions and the union committee of the local branch.
3. The local branch sends information on all the candidates proposed for the parliamentary and county council elections to the district executive. The local branch can in a report place the candidates in order of precedence.
4. After the nominating time has run out only the nominating committee has the right to propose candidates. However such a nomination must not be made after a decision has been made on a general vote.

### **Drawing up ballot papers at a meeting or at an election conference**

1. The nominating committee draws up a ballot paper for a parliamentary election. The proposal is submitted to the district executive for review.  
Before the 15<sup>th</sup> of April of the election year the proposal of the nominating committee and the views of the district executive shall be discussed at the district election conference. This may be the ordinary congress of the district, if it has been stated in the notice to attend that this congress should be an election conference. If a special election conference is arranged, what is prescribed in the constitution for the ordinary congress of the district will apply where appropriate.
2. The nominating committee draws up a nomination list for the election to a county council. The proposal is submitted to the district executive for review. Subsequently the proposal of the nominating committee and the views of the district executive will be discussed at a meeting or election conference in every county council constituency. The district executive arranges these meetings or election conferences before the 15<sup>th</sup> of April of the year of the election. The right of representation at such an election conference is determined by the ordinary congress of the party district.  
If the ordinary congress so decides, – not later than the year before the year of the county council election – the district election conference will discuss the views of the of the district executive and the nominating committee proposals for ballot papers in all the county council constituencies.
3. The nominating committee draws up a nomination list for the election of a municipal council. The proposal is submitted to the local branch executive for review.  
Subsequently the proposal of the nominating committee and the views of the local branch executive will be discussed at the meeting of the local branch before the end of March in the year of the election.



4. When drawing up ballot papers at a meeting or at an election conference voting shall be constituency by constituency.

To be listed on the ballot a candidate must have at least one vote more than half of all the valid votes. If such a majority is not achieved, a new election is held between the two candidates who have obtained the highest number of votes. When the number of votes is equal, the lot will decide.

When called for a secret ballot must be held unless the party district or the local branches have introduced other rules for a secret vote in the form of supplementary clauses.

### **Test-election**

1. During the nominating process a consultative test-election can be held.
2. Rules for the consultative test-election are established by the district executive in ballots for parliamentary elections and county council elections and by the local branch executive in the case of ballots for municipal elections.

### **General voting**

1. If at least 1/3 of those present who are entitled to vote at a meeting or at an election conference call for a general vote among the party members, such a vote must be held. The call for a general voting is discussed after a ballot paper has been drawn up in accordance with item 4 of "The establishment of a ballot paper at a meeting or at an election conference". The rules for a general vote, besides the ones mentioned here, are determined at the same time.
2. In a general vote the ballot paper drawn up in accordance with item 4, "The establishment of a ballot paper at a meeting or at an election conference" is used. On the ballot paper the rules for the vote are stated. In the polling station there must be a list of all the candidates nominated within the prescribed time.
3. Voters who want to change the order of the candidates on a ballot paper can do so by numbering the candidates. All the members who have been nominated within the prescribed time are eligible as candidates.
4. Only the ballot paper which includes the number of names as determined in drawing up the paper is to be considered valid. A ballot paper which takes up more or fewer names after cancellation is void.
5. A ballot which gives rise to doubt about the voter's intentions is to be disqualified.
6. After a general vote the candidates are placed on the party ballot paper according to the following rules. The first place is occupied by the candidate who has received most valid votes for this place. The second place is occupied by the candidate who totally has received most valid votes for the first and second places. The third place is occupied by the candidate who totally has received most valid votes for the first, second and third places. The following places are filled with the same method of counting as above. When the number of votes is equal, the result will be determined by lottery.

## **Rules for the co-operation between the elected representatives and the party organisations**

It is of great importance that the elected representatives of the party and other party members maintain firm and unbroken contact. In addition to this conditions must be created for good contacts between the elected representatives and the electorate they represent. The elected representatives are appointed to make their decisions on those measures which are important to the citizens, and to do so in a free and unconditional manner, but they also are the representatives of the voters and the party and for this reason must take part in meetings and other party assemblies to be informed of the opinions and proposals of the members and voters and to provide information of the policies of the party.

The party members must always be aware of the fact that all the details of the policy cannot be decided at meetings. The main lines of party policy are drawn up in the party programme, in the county council political programmes of the districts and in the municipal policy programmes of the local branches.

These programmes and the decisions of the party organisation on overall and fundamentally important issues are the guidelines for the elected representatives of the party. When judging the way the elected representatives manage their duties, members and organisations should take into consideration the different grounds for the standpoints which the representatives have adopted.

# Rules for working with county council and primary municipal issues

## Rules for treating county council issues

1. Members of the county council, who belong to the Swedish Social Democratic Labour party, shall form a county council group.
2. Members and deputies of the executive or board within the county council shall form a party group.
3. The Constitution of the county council group is drawn up by the ordinary congress of the party district. Before drawing up the constitution the executives of the county council group and the party district shall give their opinions on the regulations proposed
4. The congress of the party district draws up the party programme for county council policy before the general elections. The programme forms the guidelines for the elected representatives of the party. At the congress of the party district such county council issues that are of fundamental or economic importance shall also be discussed. The executive of the party district should continuously discuss county council policy. In addition to this different county council issues should be dealt with at the meetings of the party organisation. The county council group shall give a report on its work for the year prior to the ordinary congress of the party district. The report is introduced in the annual report of the party district.
5. The proposals for candidates to the elections held by the county council in the same year as general elections have taken place are drawn up by a nominating committee appointed by the annual congress of the party district. The nominating committee should also include representatives of the executives of the party district and the county council group and the union committee of the party district.
6. The proposals for candidates to the elections held by the county council in the same year as general elections have taken place are sent to the district executive within the time established by the latter. Local branches, Social Democratic associations and clubs, affiliated local trade unions and the union committee of the local branch shall be informed of this in writing.  
Party members, affiliated associations and clubs, affiliated local trade unions and the union committee of the local branch send proposals for candidates to the executive of the local branch within the time established by the latter. The executive of the local branch shall send information on all the candidates proposed to the district executive.  
The local branches can in the report place the candidates in order of precedence.
7. The nominating committee draws up a list of candidates. The executive of the party district reviews the proposal. After that the county council group discusses and determines all election issues and send them on to the preparatory organ of the county council. If the annual congress of the party district so decides, the proposals of the nominating committee will be discussed by the election conference before they are handed over to the county council group.
8. Proposals for candidates to by-elections to the various boards and committees within the county council are prepared by the executive of the county council group and the executive committee of the party district, unless the ordinary congress of the party district has decided differently.

9. When the count is completed after a general election of county council members, the executive of the party district shall summon the elected county council members and the district executive to a group meeting.
10. The party district board determines standard regulations for Social Democratic county council groups.

**Rules for treating primary council issues.**

1. Members and deputies of the municipal council, who belong to the Swedish Social Democratic Labour party, shall form a municipal council group
2. Members and deputies of the municipal board or executive shall form a party group.
3. Regulations for the municipal council group are drawn up by the annual meeting of the local branch. Before drawing up the regulations the executives of the municipal council group and the local branch shall express their opinions on the regulations proposed
4. The local branch establishes the action programme for municipal policy and the local action programmes of the party before the general election. The programmes form the guidelines for the elected representatives of the party. Local issues that are of fundamental or economic importance shall be discussed at the meeting of the local branch. Local issues of great importance for the area shall be treated by the Social Democratic associations and clubs. The municipal council group shall present a report on its work for the year prior to the annual meeting of the local branch. This report is included in the annual report of the local branch.
5. The proposals for candidates to the elections that are held by the municipal council the same year as general elections have taken place are prepared by a nominating committee appointed by the annual meeting of the local branch. The nominating committee should also include representatives of the executives of the local branch and the municipal council group and the union committee of the local branch.
6. Party members, affiliated associations and clubs, local trade unions and the union committee of the local branch send proposals for candidates to the executive of the local branch within the time established by the latter. This is to be made public in the form of a written letter and through advertising to affiliated associations and clubs, affiliated local trade unions and the union committee of the local branch
7. After the nominating time has run out only the nominating committee has the right to propose candidates to elections that held to the municipal council the same year as general elections have taken place.  
The nominating committee draws up list of candidates. The proposal is submitted to the executive of the local branch for review. After that the proposals are discussed at the meeting of the local branch. The municipal council group determines all the election matters and sends them on to the preparatory organ of the municipal council. The proposal of the nominating committee and views of the executive of the local branch shall be sent to affiliated organisations 14 day before the meeting of the local branch at the latest.
8. Proposals for candidates to by-elections, which are held by the municipal council, are prepared by the executive committee of the local branch and the executive of the municipal council group, unless the annual meeting of the local branch has decided differently.
9. When the count is completed after a general election of members to the municipal council, the executive of the local branch shall summon the elected municipal council members and deputies and the executive of the local branch to a group meeting.

10. The executive of the local branch, the executive of the municipal council group and the group of chairpersons of the committees and boards of the municipality shall discuss the local activities at least once a year. The board of the local branch will call the meeting.
11. The party group in local bodies shall provide an annual report on its activities to the Social democratic associations and clubs within its local area.
12. The party board decides on the standard regulations for Social Democratic municipal council groups.

# Standard regulations for social democratic county council groups

## **§ 1 Purpose**

The duties of the county council group are

- To work for the Social democratic ideas on the basis of the party programme and the local action programme.
- To accomplish in co-operation a thorough preparation and discussion of the county council issues.

## **§ 2 Membership and fees**

### *Clause 1*

Members and deputies who belong to the Swedish Social democratic Labour party are members of the Social democratic county council group.

### *Clause 2*

Group members shall strive for solidarity and unity in action.

### *Clause 3*

The annual meeting of the group determines the group fee.

## **§ 3 The discussion of county council issues**

### *Clause 1*

A group member, who intends to forward a motion or ask a question in the county council, shall inform the group board before doing so.

### *Clause 2*

When a matter of major fundamental or economic importance is discussed, the representatives of the party in the committee or board that has prepared the question shall be called to the group meeting where they have the right to speak and to make proposals.

### *Clause 3*

The proposals for candidates in elections that are held by the county council in the same year as general elections have taken place are prepared by a nominating committee appointed by the annual congress of the party district. The nominating committee should also include representatives of the boards of the party district and the county council group and the union committee of the party district.

### *Clause 4*

The proposals for candidates to elections that are held by the county council in the same year as general elections have taken place are sent to the district board within the time stipulated by the latter. This shall be announced in writing to local branches, Social Democratic associations and clubs, affiliated local trade unions and to the union committee of the local branches.

Party members, affiliated associations and clubs, affiliated local trade unions and the union committee of the local branch send proposals for candidates to the executive of the local branch within the time appointed by the latter.

The board of the local branch shall send information on all the proposed candidates to the district board.

The local branch can place the candidates in order of precedence in a recommendation.

*Clause 5*

The nominating committee shall draw up a list of candidates. The board of the party district discusses the proposal. After that the county council group discusses and determines all the election issues and sends them on to the preparatory organ of the county council. If the annual congress of the party district so decides, the proposal of the nominating committee will be discussed at the election conference before it is handed over to the county council group.

*Clause 6*

Proposals for candidates to by-elections to the committees boards within the county council are prepared by the board of the county council group and the executive committee of the party district, unless the ordinary congress of the party district has decided differently.

*Clause 7*

The congress of the party district draws up the party programme for county council policy before the general elections. The programme forms the guidelines for the elected representatives of the party. At the congress of the party district those county council issues that are of fundamental importance shall also be discussed. The board of the party district should keep county council policy under constant review. In addition other county council issues should be reviewed at meetings of the party's different organisations.

*Clause 8*

The group shall provide a report on its work for the year prior to the annual congress of the party district. The report is included in the annual report of the party district.

**§ 4 Meetings**

*Clause 1*

A member shall, unless he/she has a valid excuse, take part in the meetings of the group.

*Clause 2*

The executive committee of the party district and the representative/s have the right to attend the meetings of the group and have the right to speak and to move proposals.

*Clause 3*

Only members of the group have the right to vote.

*Clause 4*

The group holds an ordinary meeting before every county council meeting. In addition to this the group is called to a meeting when the group board or the chairperson so decides or when at least five group members have requested the chairperson to call a meeting.

#### *Clause 5*

At the annual meeting of the group the following questions should be discussed in addition to any other business.

1. the annual report of the board and the auditors' report,
2. the motion to discharge the board of any liabilities,
3. the group fee,
4. the time and place for the ordinary meetings of the group,
5. the election of group board,
6. the election of auditors.

### **§ 5 The board**

#### *Clause 1*

The work of the group is led by a board, which is elected at the annual meeting of the group. The board shall consist of at least three members: a chairperson, a secretary and a treasurer.

#### *Clause 2*

The board shall ensure that these regulations are followed and that decisions made are carried into effect.

#### *Clause 3*

The chairperson shall draw up an agenda for every group meeting.

#### *Clause 4*

The secretary shall issue a written notice to attend the meetings of the group and keep the minutes of the discussions and debates in the group.

#### *Clause 5*

The treasurer shall collect group fees and be responsible for the finances of the group.

### **§ 6 Audit**

#### *Clause 1*

Two auditors and two deputies are elected by the annual meeting of the group. When the ordinary auditor is prevented from attending, the deputies are summoned in the order they have been elected. When the number of votes is equal, the decision will be by lottery.

#### *Clause 2*

The auditors shall audit the accounts of the group and they shall present a report to the annual meeting on the accounts during the previous year and move or oppose a discharge from liability.

### **§ 7 General rules**

#### *Clause 1*

These regulations can be amended only by the annual congress of the party district.

#### *Clause 2*

The board of the county council group and the board of the party district shall express their views on a proposed amendment of the regulations.



# Standard regulations for social democratic municipal council groups

## **§ 1 Purpose**

The duties of the municipal council group are

- To work for the Social Democratic ideas on the basis of the party programme and local action programmes.
- To accomplish in co-operation a thorough preparation and treatment of the municipal issues.

## **§ 2 Membership and fees**

### *Clause 1*

The members and deputy members of the local municipal council, who belong to the Swedish Social Democratic Labour party, are the members of the Social Democratic municipal council group.

### *Clause 2*

Group members shall strive for solidarity and unanimity.

### *Clause 3*

The annual meeting of the group determines the group fee.

## **§ 3 The treatment of municipal council issues**

### *Clause 1*

A group member, who intends to propose a motion or ask a question in the municipal council, shall inform the group board before doing so.

### *Clause 2*

When a matter of major fundamental or economic importance is discussed, the representatives of the party in the committee or board that has prepared or will prepare the matter shall be called to the group meeting and they shall have the right to speak and to make proposals.

### *Clause 3*

The proposals for candidates to elections that are held by the municipal council the same year as general elections have taken place are prepared by a nominating committee appointed by the annual meeting of the local branch. The nominating committee should also include representatives of the board of the local branch and the municipal council group and the union committee of the local branch.

### *Clause 4*

Party members, affiliated associations and clubs, local trade unions and the union committee of the local branch send proposals for candidates to the board of the local branch within the time appointed by the latter. This shall be announced in writing and through announcements

to affiliated unions and clubs, affiliated local trade unions and the union committee of the local branch.

*Clause 5*

After the nominating time has run out only the nominating committee has the right to propose candidates to elections held by the municipal council the same year as general elections have taken place.

The nominating committee draws up a proposal for candidates. The proposal is submitted to the board of the local branch for a report. Subsequently the proposals are discussed at the meeting of the local branch.

The municipal council group determines all the election matters and sends them on to the preparatory organ of the municipally.

The proposals of the nominating committee and the reports from the board of the local branch shall be sent to affiliated organisations 14 days before the meeting of the local branch at the latest.

*Clause 6*

Proposals for candidates to by-elections held by the municipal council are prepared by the executive committee of the local branch and the boards of the municipal council groups, unless the annual meeting of the local branch has decided differently.

*Clause 7*

The local branch establishes before the general elections the municipal policy and action programmes and the local action programmes of the party. The programmes form the guidelines for the elected representatives of the party. Local issues that are of fundamental or economic importance shall be discussed at the meeting of the local branch.

Local issues of great importance for the area shall be discussed by the Social Democratic associations and clubs.

*Clause 8*

The group shall present a report on its work during the previous year at the annual meeting of the local branch. The report is included in the annual report of the local branch.

**§ 4 Meetings**

*Clause 1*

A member shall, unless he/she has a valid excuse, take part in the meetings of the group.

*Clause 2*

When drawing up the regulations the local branch decides who has the right to attend the meetings of the group and the right to speak and to move proposals.

*Clause 3*

Only the members of the group have the right to vote.

#### *Clause 4*

The group holds an ordinary meeting before every municipal council meeting. In addition to this the group is called to a meeting when the group board or the chairperson so decides or when at least five group members have requested the chairperson that a group meeting should be held.

#### *Clause 5*

At the annual meeting of the group shall, except for any other business, the following items must be discussed:

1. Annual and auditor's reports.
2. The discharge from liabilities for the board.
3. Group fees.
4. The time and place for the ordinary meetings of the group.
5. The election of group board.
6. The election of auditors.

### **§ 5 The board**

#### *Clause 1*

The work of the group is led by board which is elected by the annual meeting of the group. The board shall consist of at least three members: the chairperson, the secretary and the treasurer.

#### *Clause 2*

The board shall see to it that these regulations are followed and that decisions made are carried into effect.

#### *Clause 3*

The chairperson shall draw up a proposal for an agenda for every group meeting.

#### *Clause 4*

The secretary shall issue a written notice to attend the meetings of the group and keep the minutes of the negotiations of the group.

#### *Clause 5*

The treasurer shall collect group fees and be responsible for the finances of the group.

### **§ 6 Audit**

#### *Clause 1*

Two auditors and two deputy members are elected yearly by the annual meeting of the group. When the ordinary auditor is prevented from attending, the deputy members are called in the order they have been elected. When the number of votes is equal, the decision will be made by a lottery.

#### *Clause 2*

The auditors shall audit the accounts of the group and to the annual meeting of the group they shall present a report on the accounts for the previous year and move to discharge or to oppose a discharge for the board.

## **§ 7 General rules**

### *Clause 1*

These regulations can be amended only by the annual meeting of the local branch.

### *Clause 2*

The board of the municipal council group and the board of the local branch shall express their opinions on a proposed amendment of the regulations.

# Standard regulations for social democratic parish council groups

## **§ 1 Purpose**

The duties of the parish council group are

- To work for the Social Democratic ideas in parish council matters on the basis of the party programme and action programmes for the Church.
- To work for parish council issues in a democratic way and in close relations with the local branches of the Social Democratic party.
- To accomplish in co-operation a thorough preparation and treatment of the parish council issues.

## **§ 2 Membership and fees**

### *Clause 1*

The members and deputy members of the local parish council, who belong to the Swedish Social Democratic Labour party, are the members of the Social Democratic parish council group.

### *Clause 2*

Group members shall strive for solidarity and a unanimous behaviour.

### *Clause 3*

The annual meeting of the group stipulates the group fee.

## **§ 3 The treatment of local church council issues**

### *Clause 1*

A group member, who intends to propose a motion or ask a question in the parish council, shall inform the group board beforehand.

### *Clause 2*

When a matter of fundamental or economic importance is discussed, the representatives of the party in the board or board that has prepared or will prepare the matter shall be called to the group meeting and they shall have the right to speak and to make proposals.

### *Clause 3*

The proposals for candidates to elections that are held by the parish council the same year as elections have taken place are prepared by a nominating committee appointed by the annual meeting of the local branch/association. The nominating committee should also include representatives of the boards of the local branch/association and the parish council group and the union committee of the local branch.

### *Clause 4*

Proposals for candidates are sent to the board of the local branch/association within the time stipulated by them. This shall be announced in writing and through public advertisements to affiliated associations, clubs and affiliated local trade unions and the union committee of the local branch.

*Clause 5*

The nominating committee draws up a proposal for candidates. The proposal is submitted to the boards of the local branch/association and the parish council groups for a report. Subsequently the meeting of the local branch/association reviews the proposals and reports before the parish council group determines election procedures.

*Clause 6*

Proposals for candidates to by-elections and other elections, held by the parish council during the three-year-period, are prepared by the board of the parish council group and the executive committee of the local branch, the board of the union, unless the annual meeting of the local branch/association has decided differently.

*Clause 7*

The group shall see to it that such church council and local issues that are of fundamental or economic importance are discussed at the meeting of the local branch.

*Clause 8*

The group shall provide an annual report on its work to the local branch/association.

**§ 4 Meetings**

*Clause 1*

A member shall, unless he/she has a valid excuse, take part in the meetings of the group.

*Clause 2*

When drawing up the regulations the local branch decides who has the right to attend the meetings of the group and the right to speak and to move proposals.

*Clause 3*

Only the members of the group have the right to vote.

*Clause 4*

The group holds an ordinary meeting before every church council meeting. In addition to this the group is called to a meeting when the group board or the chairperson so decides or when at least five group members have requested the chairperson that a group meeting should be held.

*Clause 5*

At the annual meeting of the group shall, except for any other business, the following items shall be discussed:

1. Annual and auditor's reports.
2. The discharge motion for the board.
3. Group fees.
4. The time and place for the ordinary meeting of the group.
5. The election of group board.
6. The election of auditors.

## **§ 5 The board**

### *Clause 1*

The work of the group is led by a board who is elected yearly by the annual meeting of the group. The board shall consist of at least three members: the chairperson, the secretary and the treasurer.

### *Clause 2*

The board shall see to it that these regulations are followed and that decisions made are carried into effect.

### *Clause 3*

The chairperson shall draw up an agenda for every group meeting.

### *Clause 4*

The secretary shall issue a written notice to attend the meetings of the group and keep the minutes of the negotiations of the group.

### *Clause 5*

The treasurer shall collect group fees and be responsible for the finances of the group.

## **§ 6 Audit**

### *Clause 1*

Two auditors and two deputy members are elected by the annual meeting of the group. When the ordinary auditor is prevented from attending, the deputy members are called in the order they have been elected. When the number of votes is equal, the decision will be made by a lottery.

### *Clause 2*

The auditors shall audit the accounts of the group and they shall present a report on the accounts for the previous year to the annual meeting of the group and support or oppose a discharge motion.

## **§ 7 General rules**

### *Clause 1*

These regulations can be amended only by the annual meeting of the local branch.

### *Clause 2*

The board of the parish council group and the board of the local branch shall express their views on a proposed amendment to the regulations.

# **Standard regulations for social democratic party groups in boards and committees in county councils, municipal councils and church bodies.**

## **§ 1 Purpose**

The duties of the party group are

- To on the basis of the party programme, the principles laid down for municipal programmes, the action programmes for municipal councils adopted by the local branch/association to work for the Social Democratic ideas.
- To accomplish in co-operation a thorough preparation and treatment of the local issues

## **§ 2 Affiliation**

The ordinary members together with the deputy members shall form a party group.

## **§ 3 Meetings**

At the beginning of every term of office the group shall draw up firm guidelines for how the group is to work. At the same time the group should discuss how the parts of the action programmes of the local branch and of the associations and local clubs, which can impinge on the work of the group, are to be dealt with.

An attendance list shall be kept at the meetings of the group.

The group shall meet before every board /committee meeting or, if possible, before the meeting of the working committee.

The group leader summons to the group meetings.

## **§ 4 The co-operation with the council group**

In good time before the issues appear before the committees or boards the group shall establish fundamentally important standpoints in the council group.

## **§ 5 General rules**

### *Clause 1*

These regulations can be amended only by the annual congress/annual meeting of the party district/the local branch.

### *Clause 2*

The board of the council group and the board of the party district/the local branch shall express their opinions on a proposed amendment of the regulations.



Adopted by the executive committee/party board 17th of June, 1998

## **Regulations for the parliamentary group of the social democratic party**

### **§ 1 Purpose**

The parliamentary party of the Social Democratic party has as its purpose to gather the Social Democratic members of the parliament to work for the Social Democratic ideas on the basis of the party programme.

### **§ 2 Organisation**

The decision-making body of the parliamentary party consists of the group meeting, the board and the working committee. For special tasks working groups can be appointed.

### **§ 3 Membership**

A member of the group is the person who has been elected to the parliament on a Social Democratic mandate. In addition to this, deputy members of these members belong to the group, as well as all the Social Democratic cabinet ministers.

A member of the parliament who has been elected on the mandate of another party can, after the examination of the party board, obtain membership in the group. Such an examination will take place after the group has been consulted.

A member of the group shall be a member of the Swedish Social Democratic Labour party.

### **§ 4 The meetings of the parliamentary party**

The parliamentary party meets as a rule once a week during the plenary meeting of the parliament. An extraordinary group meeting can be held when called by the working committee or if at least ten percent of the group members require it.

A member, who wants to bring up a matter for treatment at a group meeting, shall report this to the group chancellery the day before the group meeting at the latest.

The annual meeting of the group is held before the end of March every year. A notice to attend the annual meeting is issued four weeks before the meeting at the latest. At the annual meeting the following matters shall be discussed.

- The board's proposal for an annual report for the parliamentary party, to be handed over to the party board.
- The economic report of the previous year.
- The account of the auditors.
- The discharge motion for the board.

In the same year, when the party congress is to be held, the annual meeting appoints, according to § 4, clause 7 of the party regulation, the representatives of the parliamentary party who shall be present at the party congress. The representatives of the intermediate party congress are appointed by a group meeting. A member of the Swedish Social Democratic group in the European Parliament has the right to attend the group meetings. At group meetings only the members of the group have the right to vote according to § 3.

## **§ 5 The board, working committee**

The group appoints a board, consisting of a party chairman or a group chairman in those situations where the party chairman is not the group chairman, the members of the working committee and the group chairmen in the parliamentary committees, the Advisory Committee on E.U. Affairs and a representative to the board of auditors of the Swedish parliament.

The duties of the board are to lead the work of the group and thereby to prepare the group's standpoints on major and important political issues, to establish an action plan and a budget, and to decide on group nominations to commissions determined by the government. The board meets as a rule once a week during the plenary meeting of the parliament. The party chairman and the party secretary are called to its meetings when they are not members of the board.

The working committee consists of the group leaders of the parliamentary party, together with four other members, who are appointed for the term of office not later than one month after an election to the parliament has been held. Within the working committee the group appoints one or two vice-group-leaders. The mandates as a group leader and a chairman for the Parliamentary party can be held by the same person. If any member leaves his/her appointment in the working committee during the term of office, the Parliamentary party shall appoint a substitute for this person with due haste.

The Parliamentary party appoints within or outside the working committee a treasurer for the group.

The duty of the working committee is to take responsibility for the daily co-ordination of the political standpoints of the group, to provide grounds for the decision of the board on the action plan and budget for the group, to be responsible for the chancellery of the Parliamentary party and to prepare the nominations for commissions determined by the government.

## **§ 6 The work in parliament**

### **Election matters**

For the elections which shall be held by the parliament or the Parliamentary party the group will appoint a nominating committee which shall consist of a party chairperson, or a group chairman when the party chairperson is not the group chairman, and in addition to this six members. The nominating committee is appointed for one year at a time before the end of October.

Before the elections to the nominating committee the members of the group shall be given the opportunity to nominate candidates.

The group elects the members and deputy members to all the commissions set up by parliament, including the Advisory Committee on E.U. Affairs and the board of the auditors of the parliament. The group elects as well three party whips.

The Parliamentary party appoints the chairman, the vice-chairman of the Social Democratic party groups in the parliamentary committee, the Advisory Committee on E.U. Affairs and to the board of the auditors of the parliament.

### **Government bills**

A bill introduced by a government in which Social Democratic cabinet ministers are included shall be presented to the parliamentary party before it is presented to the parliament. This presentation shall be prepared in a dialogue between the responsible cabinet minister and the Social Democratic committee group which is responsible for the question.

### **Motions**

A member who wishes to propose a motion, individually or together with others, shall report the motion to the Parliamentary party. Party motions shall be discussed by a group meeting.

### **§ 7 Finances**

A member of the Parliamentary party pays a fee stipulated by the group.

### **§ 8 Audit**

For the audit of the accounts of the Parliamentary party three ordinary auditors are elected for the term of office. One of the elected auditors shall be a certified accountant and one a deputy auditor.

### **§ 9 Membership responsibility**

The Parliamentary party shall strive after unanimity, in line with the party programme and the decisions made by the congress, in the matters that are subject to parliamentary work. Furthermore the members of the group shall strive after mutual solidarity in their parliamentary work. If any member intends to adopt a standpoint differing from the standpoint of the group, this shall be reported at the group meeting. Such views must however not jeopardise the standpoint of the group in the parliamentary debate on the issue involved. An individual group member must not make public what has been negotiated at group meetings.

### **§ 10 Other rules**

More exact rules for the work of the Parliamentary party are established by the group on proposals from the board. These rules must not conflict with or rescind the content in these regulations.

A member of the group who on his/her own initiative leaves the Social Democratic party, or is expelled in accordance to the rules of the party, has no right to take part in the group meetings or to have access to its chancellery resources, nor has he/she the right to any of the assets of the group.

Adopted by the party board 13th February, 1999

## **Regulations for the Swedish Social Democratic group in the European parliament**

### **§ 1 The purpose of the group**

The Swedish Social Democratic group in the European parliament, which is responsible to the Social Democratic party congress, has as its purpose to gather the Social Democratic members of the European parliament, to support the individual members, to co-operate with the other Social Democratic parliamentarians within the Social Democratic group in the parliament and to provide the members with the administrative resources for their work.

### **§ 2 Organisation**

The decision-making body of the group consists of the group meeting and the board. For special tasks working groups can be appointed.

### **§ 3 Membership**

A member of the group is the person who has been elected to the European parliament on a Social Democratic mandate. A member of the European parliament who has been elected on the mandate of another party can, after the examination by the party board, obtain membership in the group. Such an examination will take place after the group has been consulted. A member of the group must be a member of the Swedish Social Democratic Labour party.

### **§ 4 The meetings of the group**

The group holds a meeting twice a month, and furthermore when the board finds it required. At these meetings the standpoints of the group on major matters will be recorded in official minutes.

Before the end of March and not later than one month after a general election to the European parliament has been carried out, the group will hold its annual meeting. At this meeting the following matters shall be discussed.

- The report of the board for the previous year.
- The auditors' report.
- The motion on a discharge for the board.
- The election of board members.
- The election of an auditor and an auditor's substitute.

The annual report shall be submitted by the board to the party board not later than two weeks after the annual meeting of the group

In the same year the party congress is to be held, the annual meeting appoints, according to § 4, clause 7 of the party regulation, the representatives of the group who shall be present at the party congress. The representatives of the intermediate party congress are appointed by a group meeting.

### **§ 5 The board**

A board, consisting of a party chairman, a vice-chairman and a treasurer, elected by the annual meeting of the group, is appointed for the group. The duties of the board are to lead the work of the group and thereby to prepare the group's standpoints on major and important political issues, to maintain continuously the contacts with the Social Democratic party board and as much as possible to co-ordinate the activities of the group with the other Social Democratic group in the parliament.

### **§ 6 The finances of the group**

At the annual meeting the group prepares a budget for approval by the party board. The budget is financed partly by means provided for information placed at the disposal of the group, partly by the special means for chancellery recourses that are placed at the disposal of the members by the European parliament. These means are provided by the group or the members of the group to the party board, who administers these means and accounts for them in a special report. To regulate the payments of the individuals more exactly, a special agreement is established between each group member and the party board.

At the annual group meeting an auditor together with his/her substitute are elected. The auditor shall audit the activities of the board and the administration of the means mentioned in the first paragraph.

### **§ 7 The chancellery of the group**

The party board sets aside the necessary chancellery resources for the work of the group, within the means regulated according to § 6 above.

To lead the work of the chancellery a manager is appointed by the group in consultation with the party board. The chairman of the group reports continuously on the work of the chancellery to the executive committee.

In consultation with the party board the group sets up a delegation system for the work of the manager of the chancellery.

### **§ 8 Membership responsibility**

The group shall strive after unanimity, in line with the party programme and the decisions made by the congress, in the matters that are subject to parliamentary work. Furthermore the members of the group shall strive after mutual solidarity in the work in the Social Democratic group in the European parliament. If any member intends to adopt an opinion differing from the one of majority of the group, this shall be reported at the group meeting. An individual group member must not make public what has been negotiated at the group meeting.

### **§ 9 Other rules**

A member of the group who during the electoral period on his/her own initiative leaves the Social Democratic party, or is excluded from it according to the rules of the party, is obliged to pay compensation according to § 6, the first paragraph, for a period of three months after the withdrawal or expulsion. During this period of time such a member of the European parliament has the right to utilise the resources of the chancellery within reason.

**An amendment of these regulations can be decided only by the party board in consultation with the group. A request to amend the regulations shall be decided by the annual meeting of the group.**

- i. At present these resources consist of a reimbursement for secretarial services and reimbursement for general costs.**
- ii. At present the sum amounts to 16 000 SEK per month.**

Adopted by the executive committee 26th of February and the party board 12 of March, 1999

## **Regulations for the social democratic group at the church synod**

### **§ 1 Purpose**

The Social Democratic group in the Church Synod has as its purpose to gather the Social Democratic members of church council to work for the Social Democratic ideas on the basis of the party programme.

### **§ 2 Organisation**

The decision-making body of church council group consists of the group meeting and the group board. For special tasks working groups can be appointed.

### **§ 3 Membership**

A member of the group is the person who has been elected to the church council on a Social Democratic mandate. In addition to this, the deputy members are also members of the group.

A member of the church council who has been elected on the mandate of another party can, after the examination of the party board, obtain a membership of the group. Such an examination will take place after the group has been consulted. A member of the group shall be a member of the Swedish Social Democratic Labour party.

### **§ 4 The meetings of the church council group**

The annual meeting of the group is held before the end of April every year. A notice to attend the annual meeting is issued four weeks before the meeting at the latest.

Furthermore the church council group meets during the church synod at times appointed by the group. An extraordinary group meeting can be held when called by the board, or if at least ten percent of the group members require it.

A member, who wants to bring up a matter for treatment at a group meeting, shall report this to the group board not later than the day before the group meeting.

At the annual meeting the following matters shall be discussed.

- The report of the board for the previous year.
- The report of the auditors.
- The discharge motion for the board.
- The election of members of the board.
- The election of an auditors and an auditor's deputy.

The annual report shall be submitted to the party board by the board two weeks after the annual group meeting at the latest. A member of the party board has the right to attend the meetings of the group.

### **§ 5 The board**

For the group appoints a board consisting of five ordinary members and two deputy members.

The duties of the board are to lead the work of the group and thereby to prepare the standpoints of the group on major and important church policy issues.

### **§ 6 Motions**

A member who wants to propose a motion, individually or together with others, shall report the motion to the group board. Party motions shall be discussed by a group meeting.

### **§ 7 Finances**

A member of the group pays a fee stipulated by the group.

### **§ 8 Audit**

For the audit of the administration of the board the annual meeting of the group elects an auditor together with a substitute for him/her.

### **§ 9 Membership responsibility**

The church synod group shall strive after unanimity, in line with the party programme and the decisions made by the group, in the matters that are addressed by the church synod. Furthermore the members of the group shall strive after mutual solidarity in their work. If any member intends to adopt a standpoint differing from the standpoint of the group, this shall be reported at the group meeting. An individual group member must not make public what has been negotiated at group meetings.

### **§ 10 Other rules**

A member who on his/her own initiative leaves the Social Democratic party, or is expelled from it according to the rules of the party, has no right to take part in the group meetings, nor has he/she the right to any of the assets of the group.