

19th International Youth Convocation

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Code of Conduct

Introduction

YMI is oriented to serving the worldwide YMCA and the communities in which it is present throughout the world. The vision of YMI is to be recognised globally as a service organisation promoting cultural awareness leading to fellowship, friendship, and world peace. Young people are invited to share in the vision of YMI through Y's Youth Clubs and as members of regular clubs.

The International Youth Convocation (IYC) is an event held specifically for youth, usually in conjunction with the YMI International Convention. In 2022, the IYC was exceptionally held as a stand-alone event in Chiang Mai, after the cancellation of the 2020 and 2022 International Conventions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2024, it will again be held independently. As the International Convention was hosted this year in Chiang Mai, an alternative venue has been selected to allow youth delegates a unique experience.

It is a privilege and a responsibility to be selected as an IYC delegate. Eligibility for delegates to attend a YMI convocation begins at age 18 which is recognised as the age of majority in most parts of the world. In accordance with the mission and vision of YMI, it is anticipated that the behaviour of IYC participants will always be beyond censure during convocation-related events.

To promote a safe and welcoming environment for youth from around the world to gather in this forum, the IYC has established a Code of Conduct for participants and acceptance of the code is mandatory for final registration approval. The Code of Conduct includes specific rules and regulations for the 2024 International Youth Convocation.

General Code of Conduct

I will:

- Treat everyone and their property with respect and dignity.
- Use appropriate language and refrain from using vulgar or offensive language.
- Acknowledge and respect the customs, laws, and cultural guidelines of the host country.
- Wear suitable attire, complying with cultural norms for the host country and with consideration for the specific event.
- Be respectful of resources, materials and equipment provided for my convocation experience.
- Arrive on time and prepared to participate in all IYC activities and carry out responsibilities assigned to me.



Specific Rules and Regulations - IYC 2024

- Quiet hours are between 11.00 pm to 7.00 am
- Outside visitors are not permitted at the IYC venue or sleeping areas
- No alcohol or smoking at the IYC venue
- All participants are strongly encouraged to actively participate in all activities of the IYC programme
- The IYC has a zero-tolerance policy towards illicit drug use
- Health insurance is mandatory and must be arranged before arrival
- Abide by all laws and regulations of the United Arab Emirates

Summary of Laws and Customs

More information about the United Arab Emirates and a guide to travelling to the IYC will be provided after confirmation of your registration. In the meantime, you can familiarise yourself with some of the following resources:

- [Dubai Travel Aware Local Laws and Customs](#)

Self-Advocacy

Delegates are encouraged to be responsible for their personal conduct and safety. If confronted with a behaviour that makes you feel uncomfortable, expressing that it is unacceptable or unwanted is often all that is needed. The individual may simply not be aware they have offended, hurt or angered another person.

- Ask any person whose conduct infringes on personal comfort to refrain from the behaviour. Focus on describing the bothersome behaviour instead of the person as the problem. For example: say, “When you stand so close, I feel jammed,” rather than, “You are a jerk, stay out of my space!”
- Request the support of a Youth Leader to help resolve an ongoing issue. The mediation needs to focus on the issue, not the individual.

Health & Wellbeing

To maximise your IYC experience, your health and wellbeing and that of others should be a personal priority.

- Respect the quiet hours - get lots of sleep & make the most of relaxation time
- Drink plenty of water and eat well
- If you feel sick at any time during the IYC, immediately inform a member of the Youth Leadership Team for medical attention.
- Keep an eye on your fellow delegates and assist them to seek help if needed



Breaches of the Code of Conduct

Non-compliance with the Code of Conduct, including the specific rules and regulations, may result in disciplinary actions. These actions may include, but are not limited to:

- Warning that the behaviour is not meeting the expected standards
- Removal from specific IYC events or loss of privileges
- Restitution for damages
- Expulsion from the event with any associated costs being covered personally
- Notification to Region and/or Area leaders for further action if deemed necessary

Responsibility for Disciplinary Actions

The following persons are available to support any ongoing or serious issue. They are also responsible for dealing with disciplinary actions:

- **Members of Youth Leadership Team**
 - Youth Programme Assistant – Tong Phongtudsirikul
 - International Youth Representative (IYR) – Brian Simon
 - Area Youth Representatives
- **Host – Middle East Region Youth Mentor**
 - Ms Bindu
- **International Secretary General**
 - Mr Jose Varghese
- **Regional Director**
 - Mr Jacob Valloor

In the case of ongoing disagreement between parties, the decision of the International Secretary General, in consultation with the Regional Director, will be final.

Mandatory Acceptance

It is a condition of registration that delegates accept the Code of Conduct:

I understand that as an IYC delegate I represent my community, my country, and my Area. I have read the IYC 2024 Code of Conduct and I agree to follow it. I accept that breaches of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary actions and any financial costs associated with those actions shall be my responsibility.