



World Organization
of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale
du Mouvement Scout

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CIRCULAR

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To: International Commissioners

Dear Colleagues,

MEETING OF WORLD SCOUT COMMITTEE, WORLD SCOUT BUREAU, GENEVA, 30 SEPTEMBER – 1 OCTOBER 2001

The World Scout Committee held its latest meeting at the World Scout Bureau in Geneva on 30 September – 1 October 2001. The meeting was attended by nine elected Committee Members, by the Secretary General and the Treasurer, and by three Regional Chairmen, as well as the World Scout Bureau staff concerned. Guests included the Executive Director of Soma Hellinon Proskopon (for the 36th World Scout Conference), representatives of National Scout Organization of Thailand (for the 20th World Scout Jamboree), as well as a number of young Scout leaders from the Eurasia Region who were in Geneva as part of their ongoing “Excel Scout” training process. Members of the WOSM legal body, World Scout Bureau Incorporated, also attended the meeting.

A summary of the main agenda items and decisions taken is given below.

FINANCE & SUPPORT

The World Committee heard reports on the financial situation of the World Scout Bureau for the fiscal year ending 30 September 2001, and approved the budget for fiscal year 2001-2002. While the current fiscal year had ended with a surplus, largely as a result of a good record of registration fee collection, future financial prospects are uncertain due to prevailing economic conditions and falling membership in National Scout Organizations (NSOs) in industrialised countries.

The Committee also reviewed the situation of registration fee payments, including the list of NSOs whose membership of WOSM would be provisionally suspended effective 1 October due to arrears in payment. Proposed changes to the registration fee system, intended to help the poorest countries, were also considered; these will be submitted to the World Scout Conference in Thessaloniki for approval.

EDUCATIONAL METHODS

The World Scout Committee also received progress reports covering developments in the field of Youth Programme and Adult Resources. New programme resource materials produced by the Interamerican Region were circulated and the Committee commended the quality of these, as well as the collaborative approach now being adopted between the Educational Methods Group and the Regions.

STRATEGY FOR SCOUTING

The Chairman of the Strategy Task Force, which had met the day before the Committee meeting, reported on the task force's ongoing work on the development of the Strategy for Scouting. The text of a preliminary document to be sent to NSOs was approved.

REVIEW OF WOSM

The World Scout Committee heard progress reports on the study being undertaken by McKinsey & Company and on the results of an internal review which had also been undertaken by the World Scout Bureau with the aid of an external facilitator and which had involved all the Bureau staff.

WAGGGS/WOSM RELATIONSHIPS

The World Committee was informed of follow-up work which had been undertaken by members of the WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee since the meeting of that body which had been held in Prague, Czech Republic, in July.

As part of the process of coming to a closer mutual understanding between the two World bodies, various papers, on subjects such as the mission, purpose, principles and practice of a hypothetical new world organization for Guiding and Scouting and possible structures for such an organization, were being drafted jointly by members of the Consultative Committee from both the World Scout Committee and the WAGGGS World Board; these papers would be further discussed at the next meeting of the Consultative Committee in December.

CONSTITUTIONS

The Chairman of the Constitutions Committee reported on a number of constitutional dossiers being dealt with by the Constitutions Committee. These include the particularly complex process of assisting Ukraine to become a WOSM Member Organization.

WORLD AND REGIONAL EVENTS

The Committee received a progress report on plans for the **36th World Scout Conference** in Greece and agreed on the Conference theme: *From Mission to Strategy*. The agenda for the **8th World Scout Youth Forum**, as proposed by the Forum Planning Committee comprising mainly young people, was also approved.

Progress reports on preparations for the **20th World Scout Jamboree** in Thailand and the **21st World Scout Jamboree** in the United Kingdom were also presented.

The Committee also received feasibility reports on the invitations to host future World Events (Korea for the **38th World Scout Conference** in 2008; Iceland, Mozambique and Portugal for the **13th World Scout Moot** also in 2008) and agreed that these invitations should be considered by the next World Conference

Committee Members who had attended the European, African and Interamerican **Regional Scout Conferences** commented on their experiences of these events. Plans for the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in October and the Arab Regional Conference in November were also reviewed.

WORLD SCOUT FOUNDATION

The World Scout Committee extended a warm welcome to John Geoghegan, recently appointed Director of the World Scout Foundation, and expressed its sincere appreciation for the service of Doreen Tailens, who will soon be retiring as Executive Secretary of the Foundation. The Committee heard that the Foundation Board meeting, originally scheduled for New York in September but postponed as a result of the terrorist attacks in the United States, was being rescheduled for November in Stockholm. (The World Committee had earlier expressed its sorrow at the loss of life caused by these attacks.)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Moreillon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jacques Moreillon
Secretary General