

NOVEMBER 2008

What's New

Regional Committee concludes its meeting in Macau

The Scout Association of Macau (SAM) hosted a major gathering of the Regional Scout Committee for the first time after the historic Communications Forum back in November 2006. It was also the first business meeting of the current committee after the World Scout Conference in Jeju last July. Throughout the events, local Scouts demonstrated their enthusiasm to reach out for regional cooperation beyond Macau.

The committee discussed at length broad agenda items in addition to hearing the latest updates from the host organizing committees of the 2009 APR Scout Conference (Malaysia) and the APR Scout Jamboree (Philippines) also in 2009. The meeting also re-endorsed the holding of the APR Summit in Nepal in March 2009 and to organize all the sub-committee meetings there just before the Summit. Review was made on the implementation of the last Regional Scout Conference resolutions with an understanding to look at them again at the Summit together with resolutions of the World Scout Conference and the regional youth forum.

At the meeting, reports of the CNV missions in Indonesia, Pakistan, Scouts of China, Brunei Darussalam and Thailand were heard from the team leaders of the six missions undertaken since the CNV concept was adopted last year at the Japan conference. In addition, the committee re-confirmed the next CNV series of six countries scheduled for the first half of 2009.

Alex Wong of Hong Kong was reappointed chairman of the Regional Governance Review Task Force and Zainal Abidin of Brunei Darussalam as Awards Committee chairman. The next committee meeting will be held before the Summit and it was also agreed to hold a full business meeting in Malaysia in April 2009.

Committee Visit in Macau

Members of the Regional Scout Committee concluded the last CNV mission for this year in Macau with a fast track two-day meeting with key officials of the Scout Association. Chairman Jejomar Binay led the meeting together with Vice Chairman Mohamed Ali Khalid, Committee member Prakorb Mukura, Dr Mukhyuddin, Chairman of the Young Adults Group Manabu Hiratsuka, together with Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed and Prassanna Shrivastava of the APR office.

Macau, an associate member of the Asia-Pacific Region, was well prepared enabling the meeting to move fast and smooth. Conclusive results emerged after discussing the eight indicators for the association's development. Some of the remarkable conclusions are the steady focus on the advancement of Scout members to the highest Scout/Venture awards, the introduction of the Rover section, and a more vigorous marketing of Scouting.

A forum was arranged for the visiting team to dialogue with the Venture Scouts. It was an enriching and eye-opening occasion to listen to what young people think about Scouting and how they see its future.

In Macau itself, a local version of the CNV called "group visit" is being undertaken within the Scout association to get a better grasp of actual situations in the Scout units.

Youth Forum Planning – Malaysia

On 9 October, the Planning Committee of the 6th APR Scout Youth Forum met at the Dynasty Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The meeting was attended by Eric Khoo, Chairman of the

2009 EVENTS

Special Conference Preparatory meeting
10-11 January
Malaysia

Committee NSO Visit
15-17 January
Philippines

Foundation Fund-raising Event
16 January
Philippines

3rd Preparatory meeting/ 26th APR Scout Jamboree
31 January –
1 February 2009
Philippines

APR Workshop on Learning Organization
6-9 February
Philippines

All Sub-Committee meetings
27-28 February
Nepal

Regional Scout Committee Meeting
28 February - 1 March
Nepal

6th APR Scout Leaders Summit
1-4 March, Nepal

Committee NSO Visit
March
Papua New Guinea

Advanced Unit Leader Training Course
23-29 March
Cambodia

4th APR Unit Leaders Roundtable
19-22 April, Sri Lanka

3rd Preparatory meeting/ 23rd APR Scout Conference
24 April, Malaysia

Host Organizing Committee; Manabu Hiratsuka, Chairman of the 6th APR Scout Youth Forum; Mohd Zaliridzal B. Zakaria, Youth Forum Director from Malaysia, Rajalingnam Ramysamy, member of Youth Programme Sub-Committee; and Syd Castillo, Director of Youth Programme and IT.

The planning meeting re-confirmed that the Youth Forum will be held in October 2009. A programme framework was designed from which the agenda will be based. A visit to the International Youth Centre, the venue of the Youth Forum, followed after the meeting.

Conference preparatory meeting

The second preparatory meeting for the 23rd APR Scout Conference was held at the Dynasty Hotel in Kuala Lumpur on 11 October. Participants of the meeting were RSC Vice-Chairman M.A. Khalid; Chairman of Host Organizing Committee Eric Khoo; Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed; Chairman of Young Adult Members Group Manabu Hiratsuka; APR Directors Prassanna Shrivastava and Syd Castillo.

Among other things, the meeting re-confirmed the dates of the conference, which is 27 October-1 November 2009 at the Hilton Hotel in Kuala Lumpur.

Foundation Management Meeting

APR Scout Foundation President Eric Khoo gathered the Foundation Management Committee in Kuala Lumpur on 11-12 October. They decided to produce luggage tags, new brochures, banners and pin to promote the foundation. They also target to raise USD400,000 by 2009, starting with a fundraising event to be held in Makati City in mid January.

A discussion was initiated for the Foundation to donate a subsidy of USD1000 for all APR titled events. The committee also discussed the details of the incorporation of the Foundation and approved two additional projects for funding. Joining the meeting were RSC Vice Chairman Khalid and Finance Sub-committee Chairman Horace Ho.

SAF Scout Camp - Bangladesh

Over 250 Scouts from Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh gathered together from 12 to 18 October 2008 at the National Training Center of Bangladesh Scouts, located in Mouchak for the 6th SAF Scout Friendship Camp.

Main part of this friendship camp was the youth forum where young people stood as Chief Commissioners and deliberated on issues affecting them. A young female leader from Bangladesh Scouts chaired the parliament. The deliberation was carried out in the presence of the representative from the Office of the President of the Republic of Bangladesh.

The event was assisted by APR from the planning stage and Programme Director Syd Castillo was present at the camp.

Chief Commissioner's Gathering

On 13th October 2008, Chief Commissioners of Scout associations in South Asia met at their annual gathering at the Jamuna Resort in Tangail District, Bangladesh for this year's Chief Commissioners Meeting.

Those who attended the meeting were L.M. Jain of India, Ahmed Ali Maniku of Maldives, Shree Ram Lamichhane of Nepal Scouts, Ghazanfar Mashkooor of Pakistan, Bernard C. Batuwangala of Sri Lanka and Md Abul Kalam Azad of Bangladesh.

At the meeting, Pakistan turned-over the chairmanship of the sub-region to Bangladesh and each country was given an opportunity to present an update of their national Scout organization's achievements and challenges from the previous year. The next gathering and South Asia Scout camp will be in October 2009 in India.

ASEAN Scout Jamboree

National Scout Organizations in southeast Asia have a collective membership of around 12 million. The ASEAN Jamboree on 18-26 October was not about numbers but on the quality of program offered to 1,600 participants from ASEAN countries, namely Brunei Darussalam,

Regional Scout Committee meeting
25-26 April, Malaysia

Committee NSO Visit
10-12 May, Maldives

APR Management Meeting, 26-28 May
Philippines

Committee NSO Visit
1-3 June, Japan

Program Review Workshop –
12-15 June
Mongolia

Committee NSO Visit
17-19 June
Mongolia

APR Forum for National Program & Training Commissioners'
7-10 July, Cambodia

APR Workshop on PR & Marketing
August, Maldives

6th APR Scout Youth Forum
22-25 October
Malaysia

23rd Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Conference
27 October -1 November
Malaysia

7th SAARC Chief Commissioners' Gathering
21 November
India

7th South Asia Friendship Camp
20-26 November
India

26th Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Jamboree
28th December –
3 January
Philippines

Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Vietnam with observers from Laos who attended on invitation of Gerakan Pramuka.

The President of Republic of Indonesia and Chief Scout H.E. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono opened the Jamboree in Jakarta, Indonesia. On-site activities provided opportunities to explore the 220-hectare Cibubur Scout Camp with pioneering and communication skills using radio and satellite communications. The adventure land was one of the favorite destinations where Scouts spent hours in a wooded village learning survival skills. The development village gave learning opportunities for reusing, reducing and recycling wastes and the use of solar energy. Government and NGOs demonstrated their crafts at the development boulevard to show ways of caring for the environment and using renewable energy. Oblivious of the humidity, Scout Olympiads enjoyed a one-day sportacular with a series of traditional and competitive games.

ASEAN Scout Conference

National Scout Organizations in southeast Asian countries met in Jakarta, Indonesia on 16-17 October for the second ASEAN Scouts Association for Regional Cooperation (ASARC). Participating countries were Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand with special participation from Scouts in Vietnam and a delegation from Laos as observers, who are attending an international Scouting event for the first time through the invitation of Gerakan Pramuka.

The conference declared to encourage and support bilateral and multi-lateral Scouting programs and projects initiated by ASEAN member countries. They will seek support from governments for their activities.

The ASARC terms of reference was adopted defining their aims and objectives, officers and conferences. Interim chairman of ASARC, Dr Prof Azrul Azwar, was reappointed for another term of three years. ASARC conferences will be held once in three years. The next one will be in Malaysia.

Board of Directors Meeting – Geneva

Acting Secretary General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) Luc Panissod headed the Board of Directors meeting held in Geneva from 27 to 31 October 2008, attended by the Regional Directors of the six regions: Africa, Arab, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Eurasia and Inter-america, together with Executive Directors of the central office. For the first time, the new acting Regional Directors of Africa and Inter-america regions attended the BOD meeting.

The BOD meeting focused on pertinent issues by reviewing their work and planned for the new triennium, while keeping track of the World Scout Conference resolutions. Some highlights were the review of the operational matters related to the recently circulated World Scout Committee Chairman William Cronk's inverted pyramid focusing to serve the national Scout organizations better.

National Strategic Plan – Mongolia

Setting the direction of the Scout Association of Mongolia (SAM) in the coming years, a strategic planning review workshop was held from 4 to 8 October 2008 at the Nairamdal Centre in Ulanbaataaar. A total of 31 participants and staff of SAM led by Chief Commissioner Mr Erdenebileg Erdenejamiyan, reviewed the national plan focusing on six strategic priority areas: membership growth, adult resources, youth involvement, PR and communication, management and financial resources.

Today there are over 8,000 Scouts covering 18 out of the 21 provinces across the country. Coordinating and facilitating the event were Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed and APR Director S Prassanna Shrivastava.

2nd International Scouting and Guiding Conference – Istanbul

APR was represented at the 5th Bagcilar and 2nd International Scouting and Guiding Conference in Istanbul on 20-22 October. Seyyah Scouting Club and the Scouting and Guiding Federation

For details of events

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of Turkey hosted the conference. Around 500 Turkish participants attended, including parliamentarians, government officials, Scouts and leaders. International participants came from Asia Pacific Regional Office, Africa Regional Office, IUMS, Czech Republic, Slovakia, UK, Bulgaria, Georgia, Sweden, Greece, Ethiopia, Spain and Egypt. Presentation from international participants dealt with climate change and global warming.

Best photos selected

APR office received a huge volume of photo entries vying for the top prizes this year. There were over 350 photo entries from 13 countries: Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Scouts of China, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Sri Lanka. The purpose of the contest is to enhance the visibility of Scouting through photos taken by Scout members.

After a tedious selection process, winners of the 6th APR Scout Photo Contest 2008 are:

- Gold Prize: "Rift rafting Scout" by Frederick Bonifacio, Philippines
- Silver Prize: "Good turn" by Kin Sang Franklin Chan, Hong Kong
- Silver Prize: "For Better Health" by Delwar Hussain Mohammad, Bangladesh
- Bronze Prize: "Please live for long" by Norimasa Matsuba, Japan
- Bronze Prize: "My Scoutmaster" by Byung Hyum Koh, Korea
- Bronze Prize: "Teamwork" by Kok Onn Gan, Singapore

Other finalist photo entries to be used for the 2009 calendar are: "For Green Tomorrow" by Selim Newaj Bhuiyan of Bangladesh; "Growth for the Future" by Zainudin bin Haji Ishak of Brunei Darussalam; "Harvesting Rice" by Kandal of Cambodia; a photo by Shri Tajender Deep of India; "For the unknown friends in the world" by Yuki Ohshiro of Japan; "Onward Scouting Spirit" by Edmund Sing of Singapore.

Panel of judges consisted of renowned professional photographers – Mr Tilak Hettige, an international multi-media artist; Mr Louie Naguit, a professional photographer, and Mr Edwin Tuyay, a photo-journalist for several international magazines.

What is great about Scouts?

The Regional Scout Committee approved a new Scouting competition among young members in the region in the form of video and audio spots, essay writing, posters and blogs proposed by the APR Programme Sub-Committee. Categories and criteria will be announced to national Scout organizations through a circular. Submission of entries will close by end of January 2009.

New Appointment

Mr Alex Wong has been reappointed as International Commissioner of the Scout Association of Hong Kong with effect from 10 October 2008. Alex is not new to this position which he held from 1997 to 2001. He is a widely known Scout Leader in the Asia-Pacific Region and in world Scouting. Alex has been a Scout member since the age of 10. He rose through various Scouting positions in Hong Kong.

What's Ongoing

Nepal Evaluation Workshop

In cooperation with Nepal Scouts, APR office has invited the coordinators and unit leaders of street children Scout troops under the Ticket to Life program for an evaluation and planning workshop in Kathmandu. Coordinators and leaders will come from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, and Sri Lanka. They are meeting in Nepal from 13-16 November to review the present situation of the troops; the impact of the program on the individual members; the acceptance of the project in the community and the personal learnings of the unit leaders. World Scout Bureau (Geneva and Manila) will directly manage the review and planning exercise.

Main focus of meeting is to gather information from all the participating countries on impact assessment of the project using a common reporting format. Based on the country reports, a regional perspective will be presented in Nepal.

Indonesia to host Course for Leader Trainers

In coordination with APR office, Gerakan Pramuka will welcome qualified participants for the Course for Leader Trainers on 13-19 November at the Cibubur Training Centre. APR training team will comprise of Dr Evelyn Vicencio (Philippines), Dr Effendy B Rajab (Singapore), Dr Cyrus Wadia (India), and Thian Hiong-Boon of APR office. Course Leader will be Joko Mursitho of Indonesia.

Staff Development - Palawan

All 14 members of the APR staff will have their annual staff development workshop this weekend 7-9 November in the island of Palawan. This year's theme for their professional development is "communication and feedback".

What's Upcoming

APES Gathering

Who APES members
When 11-14 December 2008
Where Phuket, Thailand
Fee US\$500

Signing of Sunchun Asia Pacific Scout Center

Who Regional Scout Committee Chairman and Korea Scout Association
When 16 December 2008

APR Foundation Fundraising Event

Who Corporations in Makati City, Philippines
When 16 January 2009
Where Philippines

Be Prepared

Sub-Committee Meetings

Who All members of Youth Committee Sub-Committee, Adult Resources Sub-Committee, Management Sub-Committee, Finance Sub-Committee and Scouting Profile Sub-Committee
When 27-28 February 2009
Where Nepal
Fee To be announced

6th APR Scout Leaders Summit

Who Regional and Sub-Committee Members, key leaders of National Scout Organizations
When 1-4 March 2009
Where Nepal
Fee US\$300