



European Scout Committee

Annual Review 2008-2009



SCOUTS[®]

Creating a Better World

Chairman's Welcome

It is a pleasure to introduce this Annual Review of the European Scout Committee's work covering the period July 2008 to July 2009.

The year under review has seen significant change.

Since the 38th World Scout Conference we have seen changes in WOSM that have recognised the important role that Regions can and should play in supporting National Scout Organisations. I have been encouraged by many of the measures adopted by the World Scout Committee.

It is reassuring to note that Scouting in Europe has performed well over the last 12 months, despite the economic climate.

Our strategic focus on membership growth has continued to deliver positive results. Scouting in Europe has continued to grow with over 1,446,340 members in our 41 National Scout Organisations at the end of June. This is an increase of 45,987.

Whilst this increase in membership is very encouraging we have witnessed membership decline in several associations. With a wide range of support channels available to associations, the European Scout Committee will continue to encourage their use, be they forums, seminars, events, partnership initiatives or tailored support.

The European Scout Committee has remained very focused on implementing the Regional Scout Plan 2007-2010 as well as the Resolutions from the 19th European Scout Conference and the Recommendations from the 13th European Guide and Scout Conference.

Whilst there is scope for further improvement, feedback from associations has been generally positive, with many indicating that the right type of support is being provided to ensure the development and growth of Scouting across Europe. We continue to strive to deliver focussed, high

quality support whilst exploring innovative new approaches. In particular, the 'Academy' concept has proved to be very popular and positively evaluated.

We have continued to build close relationships with associations, listening carefully to ensure that we better understand the general and specific needs and in turn, delivering relevant and focused support that will yield results in terms of organizational development, sustainable growth and improvements in quality.

During the year under review, and in response to Resolutions from the 19th European Scout Conference, the European Scout Committee has worked hard with colleagues in Africa and Eurasia to create mutually beneficial links. European involvement in the 2nd Africa Scout Summit and the 1st Europe Eurasia Meeting was genuinely appreciated.

The work involved in implementing the Regional Scout Plan and the Resolutions from the last European Scout Conference is considerable. It would not be possible to achieve so much without the commitment and belief in our Mission that is demonstrated by our many highly motivated volunteers and professionals.

Looking forward to the 20th European Scout Conference, much still needs to be done, including evaluating the impact of the work done since Slovenia. Work needs to start on building the next Regional Scout Plan and we look forward to your close involvement in that process.

I hope that this Annual Review provides you with an insight into what we have been doing on your behalf since the 19th European Scout Conference.

Craig Turpie

Chairman

European Scout Committee

Aiming for Excellence

Fascinating Figures

- **1,446,340** Members of WOSM in Europe
- **445,788** Visits to scout.org/europe
- **107,300** Euros committed to Partnership Fund projects
- **314,654** Euros sourced from external sources
- **3,651** People attended seminars and events
- **20** Visits to National Scout Organisations and National Scout Associations
- **12** Seminars and events organized
- **10** Issues of Euro.Scout.Info
- **11** Packages of tailored support being delivered
- **3** Meetings of the European Scout Committee
- **2** Major publications produced

Regional Co-operation

It is clear that the year under review has seen the European Scout Committee focus on developing co-operation with areas inside Europe as well as with other Regions.

In pursuing these actions, the European Scout Committee has been mindful at all times of its responsibility to support the development of Scouting in Europe.

Co-operation with the Africa Scout Region

Resolution 10/2007 'Solidarity with Scouting in other Regions' from the 19th European Scout Conference requested that efforts be made to facilitate the cooperation among NSOs/NSAs 'based on mutually agreed needs and under the principles of the Marrakech Charter'.

In view of this, an informal Europe-Africa Meeting was convened during the 38th World Scout Conference in Korea. During this gathering, representatives of NSOs/NSAs from both Europe and Africa requested their respective Regions to liaise more and support, where possible, joint projects being planned or implemented by NSOs.

Following the gathering in Korea, further discussions with the Africa Scout Committee and the Africa Regional Office about possible actions took place.

The European Scout Committee then agreed several actions that it would propose to present to African NSOs that would be attending the 2nd Africa Scout Summit.

Five specific actions were proposed and accepted. They were as follows:

1. Appointment of a Europe-Africa Liaison Officer
2. Initiation of a Multilateral Partnership Project
3. European Union – African Union co-operation
4. Support for the 13th World Scout Moot
5. Knowledge Sharing

For more details, please consult Circular 23/04.09.

Co-operation with the Eurasia Scout Region

Following on from the informal Europe Eurasia Meeting held during the last World Scout Conference in Jeju, Korea, the 1st Europe Eurasia Meeting was organised and took

place in Kiev, Ukraine, over the weekend of 24-26 April 2009.

The programme started formally on the Saturday morning and ran through until early on the Sunday afternoon. The theme for the meeting was 'Good Neighbours' and the aim was to provide a forum for NSOs from both the European Scout Region and Eurasia Scout Region to discuss issues of common interest, develop new partnerships, strengthen existing partnerships and clarify how both Regions can be better 'neighbours' towards each other.

Following inputs on the general situation in Europe and Eurasia, NSOs and NSAs provided highly illustrated and detailed presentations of their own situations. Although it was long, feedback from participants identified this session as being particularly helpful. Mario Diaz, Vice-Chairman of the World Scout Committee and Luc Panissod, Secretary General, provided an update from the world level and also offered helpful reflections on the presentations that had been given.

The meeting concluded with the preparation and approval of the Europe Eurasia Co-operation Agreement.

For more details, please consult Circular 29/05.09.

Co-operation with the Arab Scout Region

The 8th Euro Arab Meeting took place in Kristianstad, Sweden, from 6-10 May 2009. Building on the success of previous events, this well attended gathering was considered by many to be very beneficial.

Discussions topics included:

- Influence of religion on Scouting
- Scouting as a part of society
- Spiritual development and its importance in Scouting
- Peace as part of our Mission
- Fundraising
- Youth Exchanges

Paolo Fiora

Paolo says...

On the basis of the work done last year, in the current one I planned meetings in all my countries. All Members of the European Scout Committee attended the 38th World Scout Conference in Korea. It was an excellent opportunity to meet with the delegations of my contact countries, in particular, the ones that I hadn't visited yet.

During this event we had the opportunity to progress our partnerships with the other Regions and the two meetings that we planned with Eurasia and Africa started to produce benefits also for our European NSO/NSAs. During the year the Euro Arab meeting, Africa Summit and the 1st Europe-Eurasia Meeting were related to our Resolution commitments.

In the Development and Support Team and Tailored Support fields, I have monitored the support in a number of countries. We understand that the meaning of the tailor made support concept it is not completely clear yet, because this kind of service is not only delivered through the Tailored Support Unit. I invite all NSO/NSAs to send their requests in and a process/procedure will be developed for your needs. In this way the NSO/NSAs can benefit from our services.

Representing the European Scout Committee on the Kandersteg International Scout Centre Committee and Foundation I'm very happy to see that the projects and objectives that have been approved in the last triennium are implemented and are already of benefit to NSO/NSAs.

With our WAGGGS colleagues the feelings are always very good and we breathe a positive atmosphere. I think that our joint work respects the inputs that the European Conferences voiced in Slovenia, two years ago.

The willingness of the Members of the European Scout Committee and the Staff in the European Regional Office, led by the Regional Director, to improve our management information and reporting is positive.

It is also good that NSO/NSAs participate in the life of the Region with their members, of course, but also with their feedback.

Duties and responsibilities

- Member, European Scout Committee
- Member, Development and Support Team
- Member, Kandersteg Committee
- Member, Kandersteg Foundation
- Member, World Trainers' Network

Meetings and missions

- 38th World Scout Conference
Jeju, Korea, 11-21 July 2008
- European Scout Committee
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 10-12 October 2008
- The Scout Academy 2008
Mollina, Spain, 23-26 October 2008
- Kandersteg Committee and Foundation Meetings
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 31 October – 1-2 November 2008
- Development and Support Team
Milan, Italy, 14-16 November 2008
- Seminar on Youth Policies
Bracciano-Rome, Italy, 26-28 September 2008
- Growth Network
Helsinki, Finland, 5-7 December 2008
- Seminar on Youth - New and Next Generations
Rome, Italy, 13 December 2008
- Field Visit to Andorra
Andorra, Andorra, 17-19 December 2008
- Kandersteg Weekend
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 23-25 January 2009
- Field Visit to Spain
Barcelona, Spain, 13-15 February 2008
- European Scout Committee
London, United Kingdom, 6-8 March 2009
- Kandersteg Committee and Foundation Meetings
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 20-22 March 2009
- Field Visit to Spain
Madrid, Spain, 30 March 2009
- 1st Europe-Eurasia Meeting
Kiev, Ukraine, 24-26 April 2009
- Growth Network
Billund, Denmark, 8-10 May 2009
- Field Visit to France
Becours, France, 30-31 May 2009
- European Scout Committee
Ohrid, FYRO Macedonia, 12-14 June 2009
- RoverWay2009
Iceland, 23-28 July 2009

Contact countries

- Andorra, Estonia, France, Hungary, Monaco
Norway, Spain, Switzerland and United Kingdom

Zorica Skakun

Zorica says...

The second year was mostly dedicated to the implementation of the Regional Scout Plan.

For me, that has involved being an active member of the Educational Methods Team and has included the planning of meetings, conference calls, visits to events, supporting our volunteers and working with the professionals, monitoring and capturing on the lessons learned and reporting to the European Scout Committee.

In particular, I have been focused on mainstreaming some of the crosscutting issues such as gender and diversity.

Other important areas of work have included maintaining and developing cooperation with my contact countries.

I had several successful country visits which helped us to exchange on the current plans and challenges but also to promote examples of successful projects and practices across the Region. Also, as a result, there have been three active projects funded by Partnership for Development and Growth Fund. The projects are about developing an integrated digital tool for management; youth programme review and work on a new organisational structure to better meet the needs of young people.

The last year has been busy and rewarding. The enormous capacity and experience invested by our volunteers into the implementation of the Regional Scout Plan has made it possible and successful. With a more tailored approach to the particular needs of NSOs/NSAs some quality changes were brought and partnerships among NSOs/NSAs and the Region.

I believe for the future it is still in our hands to find the ways for more interaction and crosscutting cooperation among the different areas of work.

Also, I think for the next action plan preparation, which is on the doorstep, we need to make sure we use our resources in a more economic manner. We should still practice to work less but more strategic being focused on the growth of every single NSO/NSA in Europe.

Duties and responsibilities

- Member, European Scout Committee
- Member, Educational Methods Team
- Member, Planning Team for 2010 Conferences
- Chairwoman, Gender Unit

Meetings and missions

- 38th World Scout Conference
Jeju, Korea, 11-21 July 2008
- Lands of Adventure Camp
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 13 – 15 August 2008
- Gender Unit Meeting
Geneva, Switzerland, 16-18 August 2008
- Field Visit to Germany
Burg Rieneck, Germany, 5-7 September 2008
- Educational Methods Team Meeting
Budapest, Hungary, 26-28 September 2008
- European Scout Committee
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 9-12 October 2008
- Overture Network Meeting
Milan, Italy, 17-19 October 2008
- The Scout Academy 2008
Mollina, Spain, 23-26 October 2008
- Field Visit to Malta
Valetta, Malta, 7-10 November 2008
- 6th Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources
Planning Team Meeting
Amsterdam, Netherlands, 21-23 November 2008
- Gender Unit meeting
Paris, France, 5-7 December 2008
- Kandersteg Weekend
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 22-25 January 2009
- Gender Unit Meeting
Brussels, Belgium, 6-8 February 2009
- Field Visit to Belgium
Brussels, Belgium, 8 February 2009

Contact countries

- Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Malta and Portugal

Marios Christou

Marios says...

The second year of my second term in the European Scouting Committee has been a challenging one. It started with the 38th World Scout Conference in Korea, the result of which was such that it took our World Organisation out of the earlier crisis.

The success of the World Scout Conference allowed us to return back to our 'normal' work and to focus on the Regional Scout Plan of the European Scout Region.

The current financial crisis, however, added an extra dimension to our Region's finances since, as it is well known, our main source of income is produced by an investment fund managed externally in the United States.

The adverse impact on the value of the fund due to the crisis presented us with a challenge; to create a long term sustainable model to ensure income stability for the Region over a longer term time horizon.

As the European Scout Committee member following financial issues I have focused in creating a long term financial management model.

This was proposed and accepted by the European Scout Committee. With the approval of the model, I believe that our Region will effectively have a long term financial stability and a sustainable income independent of any external economic and financial influences.

I was also involved in the recruitment of our Staff in the Brussels Office and have been pleased with the results being achieved, including in the field of external relations as well as external funding.

Being on the Planning Team for the 8th Euro Arab Meeting in Sweden was also a highlight and I was particularly pleased to see how much the Euro Arab meeting has evolved over the years.

I have continued to follow, as closely as possible, developments in each of my contact countries by making visits and keeping in close contact. I have enjoyed witnessing the outcomes from some of the first Partnership for Development and Growth Fund projects.

Duties and responsibilities

- Vice-Chairman, European Scout Committee
- Member, Steering Group
- Member, Relationships and Funding Team
- Member, Finance Support Group
- Member, European Scout Foundation Board

Meetings and missions

- 38th World Scout Conference
Jeju, Korea, 11-21 July 2008
- Steering Group & Co-ordinating Group
Peebles, United Kingdom, 29-31 August 2008
- Recruitment Interviews
Brussels, Belgium, 20 September 2008
- European Scout Committee
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 10-12 October 2008
- Field Visit to Israel
Tel Aviv, Israel, 17-18 October 2008
- The Scout Academy 2008
Mollina, Spain, 24-26 October 2008
- European Scout Foundation Board Meeting
Geneva, Switzerland, 6 December 2008
- Steering Group & Co-ordinating Group
Valetta, Malta, 9-11 January 2009
- External Funding Unit
Brussels, Belgium, 13-15 February 2009
- Finance Support Group
Geneva, Switzerland, 28 February 2009
- European Scout Committee
London, United Kingdom, 6-8 March 2009
- Budget Meeting with Regional Director
London, United Kingdom, 5 April 2009
- 8th Euro Arab Meeting
Kristianstad, Sweden, 7-10 May 2009
- External Funding Unit
Nicosia, Cyprus, 15-17 May 2009
- European Scout Committee
Ohrid, FYRO Macedonia, 12-14 June 2009
- Field Visit to Israel
Tel Aviv, Israel, 3-5 June 2009

Contact countries

- Czech Republic, Greece, Israel, Slovenia and Sweden

Henrik Söderman

Henrik says...

When I look at the past two years, my feeling is 'happy but not satisfied'.

I am happy of all the work done in supporting NSOs; happy of the implementation of the decisions of the Conference and of the enormous commitment of the volunteers and staff of the Region, but not yet satisfied with the growth of Scouting in Europe. Many NSOs continue losing members or reach just a small proportion of young people. As a positive sign, some NSOs are increasing their numbers. This shows that our goal is reachable!

This year I have worked mostly with the contact NSOs in South East Europe. The tailored support approach is showing its first outcomes in Croatia and FYRO Macedonia. Intense efforts are being made with Albania where a partnership model with more direct WOSM involvement has been established.

Our co-operation with Africa has been intensified and we are moving to a stage of implementing the plans. The expectations are high.

A major achievement is that our goal of making 2011 the European Year of Volunteering will be realised. Following the European Parliament, both the Commission and the Council have given their support after considerable advocacy work. This political success is now to be turned into a recruitment and profiling success for Scouting in all European countries.

The role of Scouting as a leading youth movement in Europe was confirmed by the election of WOSM candidate Tine Radinja (ZTS, Slovenia) as President of the European Youth Forum and of Giuseppe Porcaro (AGESCI, Italy) as Secretary-General. Together with WAGGGS, we continue to influence the development of European policies in a favourable direction.

Applying for funding from the EU has become a systematic part of our work. We expect to raise considerable sums from EU and other sources during this triennium. This money will only partly show in the accounts of the Region: it will mainly benefit NSOs in the form of support for participation in events.

I am confident that the final year of the triennium will be as busy and productive as the first two!

Duties and responsibilities

- Member, European Scout Committee
- Member, Relationships and Funding Team

Meetings and missions

- 38th World Scout Conference
Jeju, Korea, 11-21 July 2008
- External relations Family
Bracciano, Italy 26-28 September 2008
- European Scout Committee
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 10-12 October 2008
- The Scout Academy 2008
Mollina, Spain, 23-26 October 2008
- Meeting of Guide and Scout Representatives
Dublin, Ireland 21-23 November 2008
- MEP meeting on restrictive legislation
Brussels, Belgium, 10 December 2008
- Kandersteg Weekend
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 23-25 January 2009
- European Scout Committee
London, United Kingdom, 6-8 March 2009
- Preparatory meeting for 2010 Conferences
Brussels, Belgium 22 March 2009
- 2nd Africa Scout Summit
Nairobi, Kenya, 15-19 April 2009
- External Relations Family
Brussels, Belgium 1-3 May 2009
- 8th Euro-Arab Meeting
Kristianstad, Sweden 8-10 May 2009
- European Scout Committee
Ohrid, FYRO Macedonia, 12-14 June 2009
- Field visit to Albania
Tirana, Kruje, Elbasan 14-15 June 2009
- Field visit to Croatia
Pula, Croatia 26-28 June 2009
- European Policies Support Group
Krk, Croatia 10-12 July 2009

Contact countries

- Albania, Croatia, Italy, FYRO Macedonia, Netherlands, San Marino and Slovakia

João Armando Gonçalves

João says...

The second year of the term consolidated the working relations and methods that were launched in the first year. The team spirit within the Committee and with the staff colleagues enabled a rather smooth operation and it was rewarding to start seeing some concrete results in several domains.

The presence of the European Scout Committee at the World Scout Conference was an excellent opportunity to build this team spirit by organising the several 'European moments' and also to nurture the relations with European NSOs. It was particularly good to meet the people and feel the positive atmosphere and feedback on the work being done in the Region.

In the Educational Methods area, the bulk of my work has been, together with my colleague Zorica, in supporting and advising the Directors for Youth Programme and Adult Resources, which are leading the implementation of the regional plan. The coordination of both areas has been done in the context of the Educational Methods Team, which includes the Chairpersons of the Youth Programme and Adult Resources Core Groups as well as one of the Youth Advisors to the World Scout Committee from Europe. A high point in this area was the delivery of the 6th Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources that proved to be, once again, a key opportunity to work and reflect on our core business.

The increasing friendly cooperation with our sisters in WAGGGS has also been a positive point in this second year. This has been very tangible in the preparations of RoverWay 2009 and the next International Commissioners' Forum.

But, again, one of the most rewarding tasks was the direct contact and support to NSOs. Through a number of visits and interviews but also intensive email exchange, it has been possible to follow extraordinary experiences and to provide some inputs, hoping to make some difference in NSOs operations.

The second year was to see plans become reality and that has happened. I'm sure the last year of the term will be exciting and full.

Duties and responsibilities

- Member, European Scout Committee
- Member, Educational Methods Team
- Advisor, Roverway 2009 Planning Team
- Member, International Commissioners' Forum Planning Team
- Member, Educational Methods Committee (world level)

Meetings and missions

- 38th World Scout Conference
Jeju, Korea, 13-20 July 2008
- Educational Methods Team Meeting
Budapest, Hungary, 26-29 September 2008
- European Scout Committee
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 10-12 October 2008
- The Scout Academy 2008
Mollina, Spain, 23-26 October 2008
- 6th Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources Planning Team Meeting
Amsterdam, Netherlands, 21-23 November 2008
- Field Visit to Luxembourg
Luxembourg, 28-30 November 2008
- Kandersteg Weekend
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 23-25 January 2009
- Field visit to Finland
Helsinki, 6-8 February 2009
- Educational Methods Committee (world level)
Geneva, Switzerland, 14-15 February 2009
- European Scout Committee
London, United Kingdom, 6-8 March 2009
- Forum on Youth Programme & Adult Resources
Óbidos, Portugal, 18-22 March 2009
- Field visit to Romania
Bucharest, Romania, 4-6 April 2009
- 2nd Africa Scout Summit
Nairobi, Kenya, 15-19 April 2009
- International Commissioner's Forum Planning Team
Brussels, Belgium, 27-28 April 2009
- Educational Methods Team meeting
Antwerp, Belgium, 15-17 May 2009
- Field visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina
Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 29-31 May 2009
- European Scout Committee
Ohrid, FYRO Macedonia, 12-14 June 2009
- RoverWay2009
Iceland, 19-29 July 2009

Contact countries

- Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Romania

Craig Turpie

Craig says...

This second year has been really, really exciting!

Having set out the operational framework at the beginning of our first year, it has been encouraging to see the initial results of our work.

However, not wishing to be complacent, we undertook a mid-term review in October 2008 and reflected critically on our operations. As a result, several small adjustments were made to optimise how we work in an effort to ensure that we can achieve what has been asked of us.

The potential to stray from the Regional Scout Plan is always tempting and part of my role during the year under review has been to maintain a focus on what we have said we would do. With the current economic climate, this has involved us looking even more critically at how we target human and financial resources.

At world level, I have continued to attend meetings of the World Scout Committee as well as peripheral meetings including the Budget Committee and Regional Support Team/Regional Support Co-ordination Group.

With regard to inter-regional co-operation I have endeavoured to work closely with counterparts in other Regions, in particular with the Chairmen of the Africa, Eurasia and Arab Regional Committees, in pursuit of the Resolutions from the 19th European Scout Conference.

Our joint work with WAGGGS continues to flourish. I continue to believe passionately that where it makes sense for us to collaborate together we should do so.

Two years into our three year mandate, and having had the opportunity to consider the impact of our actions to date, I'm confident that our strategic focus and ability to work so well together is delivering encouraging results.

Duties and responsibilities

- Chairman, European Scout Committee
- Member, Steering Group
- Member, Development and Support Team
- Member, World Scout Committee
- Member, Budget Committee (world level)
- Member, Regional Support Co-ordination Group (world level)

Meetings and missions

- 38th World Scout Conference
Jeju, Korea, 10-20 July 2008
- Steering Group & Co-ordinating Group
Peebles, United Kingdom, 29-31 August 2008
- Field Visit to United Kingdom
London, United Kingdom, 13 September 2008
- European Scout Committee
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 10-12 October 2008
- FOSE Gathering
Hungary, 17-19 October 2008
- The Scout Academy 2008
Mollina, Spain, 24-26 October 2008
- World Scout Committee
Geneva, Switzerland, 6-9 November 2009
- Development and Support Team
Milan, Italy, 14-16 November 2008
- Chief Volunteers' Meeting
Zurich, Switzerland, 21-23 November 2008
- Field Visit to Poland
Warsaw, Poland, 19-21 December 2008
- Steering Group & Co-ordinating Group
Valetta, Malta, 9-11 January 2009
- Kandersteg Weekend
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 23-25 January 2009
- Field Visit to Latvia
Riga, Latvia, 30 January-1 February 2009
- Field Visit to France
Paris, France, 6-8 February 2009
- European Scout Committee
London, United Kingdom, 6-8 March 2009
- World Scout Committee
Geneva, Switzerland, 18-22 March 2009
- 2nd Africa Scout Summit
Nairobi, Kenya, 15-19 April 2009
- 1st Europe-Eurasia Meeting
Kiev, Ukraine, 24-26 April 2009
- 8th Euro Arab Meeting
Kristianstad, Sweden, 8-10 May 2009
- Field Visit to Israel
Tel Aviv, Israel, 3-5 June 2009
- European Scout Committee
Ohrid, FYRO Macedonia, 12-14 June 2009
- RoverWay2009
Iceland, 26-28 July 2009

Contact countries

- Latvia, Montenegro, Poland, Serbia and Turkey

Claudio Burkhard

Claudio says...

In the year under review the main concern was, and still is, the difficult situation on the financial markets. As the European Scout Region has a major income from assets in USD have been affected in two ways:

- The Fund for European Scouting lost approximately 1/3 of its value. Whilst not immediately concerning, this will have an impact in the future as the annual allocation from the Fund for European Scouting is calculated using an average over the preceding 36 months. Fortunately, these were the best years that the Fund for European Scouting ever had.
- The US Dollar is constantly losing value towards the Euro and Swiss Franc. Unfortunately, the forecast remains negative.

The European Scout Committee and that Staff of the World Scout Bureau – European Regional Office are very conscious of this situation and have worked hard to optimise the use of our financial and human resources in a way that doesn't detract from the support being offered to associations.

In the year under review, my main task has been on assisting the European Scout Committee to consider how to ensure greater financial stability and less exposure resulting from heavy reliance on the performance of the US Dollar.

The European Scout Committee has decided to create reserves to protect against a longer reduction of income. Measures are being taken to ensure long term financial predictability.

The Finance Support Group met twice. It focused on the difficult financial environment and discussed general issues on financial governance of the European Scout Region. The results were presented to the European Scout Committee.

Duties and responsibilities

- Honorary Treasurer, European Scout Committee
- Chairman, Finance Support Group

Meetings and missions

- European Scout Committee
Kandersteg, Switzerland, 10-12 October 2008
- Finance Support Group
Geneva, Switzerland, 16 November 2008
- Board of the European Scout Foundation
Geneva, Switzerland, 6 December 2008
- Finance Support Group
Geneva, Switzerland, 28 February 2008
- European Scout Committee
London, United Kingdom, 6-8 March 2009
- European Scout Committee
Ohrid, FYRO Macedonia, 12-14 June 2009
- Regular Meetings with staff from the European Regional Office in Switzerland
- Regular Meetings of the Steering Committee of the European Scout Foundation in Switzerland

European Scout Foundation

Jørgen says...

The European Scout Foundation has - like other financial bodies - experienced the economic difficulties of the day.

Basically we are in the favourite position that we don't have to sell our assets, and should then - like most 'pension funds' - be able to secure the asset on medium, and long term.

The year has again been overshadowed by the Friends of Scouting in Europe which is the most successful element of the European Scout Foundation, and some further CHF 100,000 has been secured during the year. A successful Friends of Scouting in Europe (FOSE) Gathering was also organised for those Friends who are able to take part in that always very popular event.

Our 'small projects' have not been as successful as in previous years, mainly due to the quality of the applications. We are working on that, and hope - through quality applications - to be able to attract more donors.

A new funding tool is under construction. It is aiming at small donations, which will be reinvested in the 'small projects'.

Based on the experience of the last years, the Board of the European Scout Foundation decided to have a 'European Scout Foundation Board light', where a new group of Super Friends (responsible for the promotion in their own country) has been created. This new initiative seems to be developing very well, and we hope at the 20th European Scout Conference to report further successes.

The European Scout Foundation continues to implement its one and only aim: to assist the development of Scouting in Europe!

Jørgen G. Rasmussen

Chairman

European Scout Foundation

World Scout Bureau - European Regional Office

David says...

Following the 38th World Scout Conference, the Region received the resignation of Mike Walker as Director of External Relations and Funding.

We recognise his commitment and energy to building our involvement with the European institutions, particularly the establishment of regular briefing meetings for Members of the European Parliament. Jaakko Weuro stood in for 4 months while recruitment took place.

This departure enabled some changes to be implemented in consultation with the European Scout Committee. As well as recruiting a new Director of External Relations and Funding, a new position was created – that of Funding and Project Support Officer.

Formerly a Policy Officer with the European Youth Forum and a former member of Guides de France with a journalistic background, Alix Masson joined us in November 2008. She was joined by Nicolo Pranzini, who came to us from AGESCI as a volunteer via a Cooperative and Development organisation in Italy. This partnership has enabled due attention to be given to the issue of support for the generation of funds, particularly from the European institutions. Having two people supporting this area will, we are certain, enable more positive results to be realised in the coming years.

The middle year of any triennium is inevitably the busiest as the initial planning and strategic thinking start to be implemented. This was particularly true in the implementation of the Tailored Support aspect of the work of staff.

The role of Strategic Development and Support, filled by Katrin Tauscher, took on a key role in implementing the support projects identified by National Scout Associations and the European Scout Committee. Significant progress was made in creating a consultancy type service with other Directors to assemble expert advice to make the tailored support 'product' as effective as possible. This aspect of the work will continue to be refined to ensure the best, most comprehensive support is available. The role of the Field Executive for South-East Europe, Jordan Bajraktarov, was refined to concentrate on supporting the implementation of tailored support.

In the area of communications – the website has been regularly updated with content, particularly in the News section and in Events administration by Mihajlo Atanackovic.

A new Joint website – www.europak-online.net was launched in February 2009 in conjunction with our colleagues in WAGGGS Europe. Euro.Scout.Info was issued on ten occasions and now regularly includes items submitted from Associations as well as regional information compiled by Joy Morton.

Administratively, the Region encountered an enormous upheaval to try to reconcile the legal requirements of the Swiss banking system and the legal registration of the Region accounts as part of the single registration of the World Scout Bureau. This took some months and provided many delays in being able to process claims for expenses and services for Annemarie Khetib and Anne-Christine Vogelsang.

In the area of Educational Methods, Radu Stinghe and Milutin Milosevic were joined by Caz Shields on a short term placement to provide additional support in this very important aspect of the work of the Region. Looking at the calendar of events and the work plans of all the staff, it is clear that while the number of events has reduced, the working groups of the region and other aspects of support result in few weekends when there is not at least one member of staff supporting a meeting – and more regularly more than one staff member is working.

Four staff meetings were held – October 2008 in Kandersteg, December 2008 in Geneva, March 2009 in London and May 2009 at Kandersteg for the Staff Management Conference. Regular conference calls are held each week to share work plans, outcomes, challenges and opportunities. We continue to refine the operation of these exchanges to get the most out of the time and to build a better team-working environment. There is still work to be done in this area.

David McKee

Regional Director

World Scout Bureau – European Regional Office

Resolutions from the 19th European Scout Conference

Resolution 6/2007

Partnership for Development and Growth Fund

- The Partnership for Development and Growth Fund was implemented. 12 projects have been supported to date. Interim updates on progress have been requested and illustrate progress.

Resolution 7/2007

Regional Scout Plan

- Regional Scout Plan 2007-2010 circulated in January 2008

Resolution 8/2007

Joint work with the Europe Region WAGGGS

- Joint meeting of volunteers, January 2008, KISC and January 2009, Our Chalet
- Joint Actions defined and circulated to NSOs/MOs

Resolution 9/2007

Open Working Methods

- Open call circulated 35 days after close of 19th European Scout Conference
- 83 applications received. Increase from 2004.
- Circular advising membership of Groups and Units on 31 October 2007, 31 days into the new financial year
- Balance of continuity from previous triennium
- Widening of Resource Pool
- Mid term review to assess whether changes required. Undertaken in late 2008
- Consideration being given to holding a new open call for the next triennium, in advance of the 20th European Scout Conference

Resolution 10/2007

Solidarity with Scouting in other Regions

- Henrik Soderman at 13th African Scout Conference, Kigali, Rwanda
- 'Europe-Africa Contact Meeting' at 38th World Scout Conference
- Meeting of Regional Scout Committee representatives at Jambville, France
- Meeting of Regional Chairmen in Geneva, Switzerland
- 2nd Africa Scout Summit, Nairobi, Kenya
- Multilateral partnership project established involving NSOs/NSAs from Europe and Africa including both Regional Offices
- Support for the 13th World Scout Moot in Kenya. Moot Team present at Roverway 2009 in Iceland
- Promotion of training opportunities in Europe and Africa

- Co-operation on EU and AU external relations work
- 1st Europe-Eurasia Meeting held in Kiev, Ukraine
- Successful 8th Euro-Arab Meeting held in Kristianstad, Sweden

Resolution 11/2007

Action for Membership Growth & Development

- 5 meetings of the Growth Network. 2 in pipeline. Participants meeting between meetings.
- Better analysis of membership figures and picking up information from field visits on statistical information.
- Enhanced analysis of membership figures in Europe with comprehensive Membership Report in production

Resolution 12/2007

Regional Structures

- Pro-active dialogue with the World Scout Committee
- Submission paper provided for the attention of the World Scout Committee
- Organisation of 'Moving Forward – A European Conversation'
- Ongoing engagement with the Governance Review Task Force

Resolution 13/2007

Overlapping Regional Plans

- Considerable work undertaken at June 2007 and October 2007 joint meetings
- Joint working session at KISC
- Circulation to NSOs/MOs of 7 joint areas of work
- Roverway 2009
- Centre Managers' Conferences
- Rovernet, Agora and Lands of Adventure pro-actively promoted
- Mapping of adult resources exercise undertaken

Resolution 14/2007

Co-operation with Eurasia Scout Region

- Zorica Skakun at 3rd Eurasian Scout Conference, Yalta, Ukraine
- Funding connection
- Proposed 'Europe-Eurasia Contact Meeting' at 38th World Scout Conference
- 1st Europe-Eurasia Meeting, Kiev, Ukraine

Resolutions from the 19th European Scout Conference

Resolution 15/2007

Recognition of Scout and Guide Practices

- Identification of relevant work areas of the European Commission and engaging with the concerned departments and policy processes positioning Scouting as the leading youth movement in the EU youth policy field
- Concerted attempts to collect examples from NSOs (also jointly with WAGGGS)
- Leading organisation in the campaign to have 2011 designated the European Year of Volunteering in partnership with the Red Cross and the European Youth Forum
- Concerted attempts to collect examples of restrictive regulations from associations

Resolution 16/2007

European Seminars

- Updated seminars and events list format
- Academy concept important in delivering on this Resolution
- Greater use of network events and willingness to use external speakers
- Academy concept retained for 2009 and 2010

Resolution 17/2007

Education for all, Girls and Boys

- Euro.Scout.Doc presenting a summary of the conclusions of the Gender Research – a shortened, user-friendly version is being prepared
- Ready-made articles being prepared for magazines of associations
- Leaflet on the main issues related to gender (available for download and print) – eventually, this can become an interactive web presentation of gender “key words”
- The Gender Toolbox – to be revised and completed with more tools including self-assessment for use at local level.
- Identify how co-education is implemented in European associations
- Incorporate sessions on gender at the 6th Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources
- Look at gender mainstreaming of fundamental processes e.g. Adults in Scouting, RAP etc.

Resolution 18/2007

Scouts of the World

- Global Youth Study Session, an event focusing on how Scouts and Guides can tackle global issues via concepts and projects like: “Scouts of the World” (WOSM) and “Advocacy – the Voice of Girls and Young Women” (WAGGGS), held in August 2009.



SCOUTS[®]
Creating a Better World

© World Scout Bureau
European Regional Office
August 2009

World Scout Bureau – European Regional Office
P.O. Box 327, Rue Henri-Christine 5
CH-1211 Geneva 4
Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 705 11 00
Fax: +41 22 705 11 09

europe@scout.org
scout.org/europe

Reproduction is authorized to
National Scout Organizations and
Associations which are members of the
World Organization of the Scout Movement.
Credit for the source must be given.