



## Invitation

# European Scout Symposium

### Budapest, 04 - 07 March 2010

#### Background

The development of a Regional Scout Plan for 2010 and beyond encompasses a number of steps, including reviewing what have been undertaken in the past, lessons learned, proposals for new and different working methods and drafting the proposals for the future.

The European Scout Committee intends to employ a fully participative method in preparing the next Regional Scout Plan. 2010 and beyond, as well as taking the opportunity to review current working methods and gather information. A discussion document to assist NSOs/NSAs who are planning to attend the Symposium will be circulated in December 2009.

In addition, the Symposium will provide an opportunity to discuss the work done by the Governance Review Task Force.

The European Scout Symposium has traditionally been the place where key decision makers from all European Scout Associations met and debated such regional issues in preparation for the European Scout Conference. The meeting in Budapest intends to follow the good examples set in Slovenia (2001), Italy (2003) and Cyprus (2006) and to constitute a milestone in the work of the Region for the next years.

#### Aims

To involve NSOs/NSAs through their key decision makers to prepare an overview of the strategic direction for the European Scout Region for the period 2010-2016 and to discuss the work in progress of the Governance Review Task Force.

#### Objectives

- To encourage NSO/NSA participation on a continued and sustainable basis to the ongoing work of the European Scout Region.
- To evaluate the current situation in the European Scout Region and to identify the needs of NSOs/NSAs.
- To agree on a strategic direction for the European Scout Region and propose potential actions to be included in the next triennial plan.
- To review the Governance Review Task Force proposals and to discuss them in view of the 39th World Scout Conference as well as the 20<sup>th</sup> European Scout Conference.
- To create a space for NSO/NSA to NSO/NSA contacts and networking opportunities.

#### Dates

04 - 07 March 2010

Participants are requested to arrive on Thursday, 04 March, in the afternoon. The departures are from Sunday, 07 March starting at 14:00.

#### Venue

The Symposium will take place in the Hotel Benczúr in Budapest, Hungary. The venue offers accommodation in double rooms and is equipped with all necessary conference facilities.

The venue is located near the city centre, at less than an hour from Budapest Ferihegy Airport. The transport from/to the airport will be provided by the host organisation.

You can find out more details about the venue here: <http://www.hotelbenczur.hu/en>

#### Methodology

A broad range of Scouting methods will be used during the Symposium, including audio-visual presentations, group discussions and team tasks, workshops, exhibition and a resource centre, etc.

#### Possible follow - up

It is expected that the outcomes of the European Scout Symposium constitute key elements in the development of the European Scout Plan 2010-2013.

Moreover the results of discussions and working groups from the Symposium will constitute the basis for establishing a strategic vision for the Region to 2016 and beyond.

## Languages

The main working language at the Symposium will be English. If there is sufficient demand for interpretation of the plenary sessions, the Regional Office will contact NSOs in order to identify people able to assist.

Working groups of different languages can and will be established to maximise the debate in small groups.

## Participants profile:

Key decision makers in National Scout Associations who are:

- Able and interested to contribute to the strategic thinking at Regional level
- Able to communicate well in English and/or French

## Number of participants

The event is designed to accept up to 150 participants. We will accept a maximum of 3 participants from each Association. Priority will be given to have the largest number of different countries represented and to those who have on-hand experience in designing the strategy of a NSA/NSO.

## Applications

The enclosed application form, or photocopies, should be mailed or faxed to the World Scout Bureau - European Regional Office or e-mailed to [europe@scout.org](mailto:europe@scout.org) by **15 January 2010**.

If the application is sent by e-mail, please send it through your national office or international commissioner (to confirm the support from your national association). Applications received directly from individuals will not be considered.

## Participation fee

The participation fee is **EUR 290**.

The fee covers all accommodation and meals from the evening of Friday, 4 March to lunch on Sunday, 7 March. The fee does not cover travel costs to Budapest, but it covers transport from the airport to the venue and back. It also covers all programme materials and documentation.

Bank details for paying the participation fee will be sent to all participants with the acceptance letter.

The European Scout Committee is keen to ensure that financial constraints should not prevent anyone from participating in the Symposium. If your Association has financial difficulties, you are invited to make a direct contact, in confidence, with the Regional Director, Mr. David McKee ([dmckee@scout.org](mailto:dmckee@scout.org)) to discuss what support may be available.

## Travel arrangements

Once participants have been selected, they will receive acceptance letters by 1 February 2010), they should make their own travel arrangements and obtain a visa, if necessary. If you require an official invitation to obtain a visa, please indicate this clearly on your application form. Please be aware, that it may take up to six weeks to obtain a visa, so please send your visa form with the application form in order to allow sufficient time for that process.

Travel forms will be included in the information package to be sent to participants with the acceptance letter.

## Insurance

The WOSM - European Region does not cover the participants during the event neither during the travel to or from the venue. Please note that this is the exclusive responsibility of the national association to check and be sure that the participants are covered by insurance (illness, accidents, repatriation etc...)

## Planning Team

The European Scout Committee and the Regional Director supported by Regional Staff.

## Additional information

If you need any further information please contact Radu Stinghe, Director, Youth Programme (World Scout Bureau – European Regional Office) at [rstinghe@scout.org](mailto:rstinghe@scout.org)

## Annexes

- Application Form