

NOVEMBER 2010

What's New

Committee confirms new dates for 2012 Regional Scout Conference

The Regional Scout Committee met on 30-31 October in Seoul, Korea for its third meeting this year. The first meeting was in February in Singapore followed by the June meeting in Bangalore. Committee members also attended the WSPU welcome reception hosted by the President of the Korea Scout Parliamentary Association Hon. Eui Hwa Chung and the opening session of the 6th WSPU General Assembly.

First Vice-Chairman Prakorb Mukura presided over the meeting on behalf of the Regional Chairman, Vice-President of the Philippines Jejomar Binay. Secretary General Luc Panissod attended the meeting in full.

Among many others, the Committee endorsed the conference theme and logo and approved the proposed dates and venues of the 24th Asia Pacific regional Scout Conference and its ancillary events, as follows:

Conference dates: New dates of the 24th Asia Pacific Regional Scout Conference is from 24 to 29 November 2012 and with no change of venue, the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.

Dates for ancillary events: The Course for Leader Trainers is from 15 to 21 November 2012, and the 7th Asia Pacific Youth Forum is from 17 to 21 November 2012.

Dates of other events: The Committee also endorsed the dates of the other events to be held in conjunction with the Conference, as follows:

- Chief Scout Executives Meet 21 November 2012
- All APR Sub Committee meetings 22 November 2012
- Regional Scout Committee meeting 23 November 2012
- Meeting with the heads of delegations 23 November 2012

Venues of ancillary events: The Committee endorsed the Bahadurpur Rover Training Centre as the venue for the Course for Leader Trainers and the 7th Asia Pacific Youth Forum will be held at the Mouchak Training Centre.

Guideline for the use of APR Logo

The APR logo was first designed in 1956 and had undergone a series of evolution since then. Until today, the logo is visible primarily in APR events, regional awards and for other promotional purposes. With more and more NSOs and individuals using the logo, the Regional Committee found it necessary to develop a basic guideline to standardize its use, either by NSOs or by individuals. The details will be drafted and adopted later while a general regional circular will be issued shortly.

Ticket to Life project measures progress of members

Four years after the Asia-Pacific Region introduced Scouting to street children through the Ticket to Life (TTL), the third round of project evaluation took

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2010

WSPU 6th General Assembly

1-4 November
Korea

Centenary Jamboree & 3rd ASEAN Jamboree

4-9 December
Singapore

For details of events Visit

www.scout.org/asia-pacific

Email

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place from 5-8 October in Mirigama, Sri Lanka.

Country coordinators of TTL evaluated the on-going projects in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Currently the project has over 1200 Scout members, male and female, in those eight countries. A large number of TTL members are children living in the streets due to poverty, neglect, or abandonment.

The workshop had 12 overseas participants from 5 countries and another 11 from Sri Lanka. This year's evaluation focused on the progress of members in the Scout ranks, so that next year or so, some of them will earn the highest Scout rank just like in any regular Scout troop.

Member of Parliament Hon. Wasantha Senanayake, a former Scout, addressed the workshop participants and cited their work of involving the most underserved segment of society.

Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed confirmed that after three evaluation workshops, evident changes have been recorded using a sample size of over 400 children. Constant feedback had also been received from coordinators, parents and teachers.

Supporting the workshop with their presence were Chief Commissioner Chandrasena Batuwangala, APR Management Sub Committee Chairman Janaprith Fernando and International Commissioner Shiraz Shalih who was the workshop director.

TTL project continues to operate with the support of donors such as the United States Fund for International Scouting (USFIS), APR Scout Foundation, the Scout Association of Japan and the Queen Sylvia Fund through the World Scout Foundation.

Scouting for children in conflict with the law: Marikina City Council in the Philippines launched a campaign to support children who have been in conflict with the law and are currently under the social welfare department. The project, using the same title as the APR flagship project – Ticket to Life – will provide Scouting program to the children as a means of giving them hope and confidence to lead better lives.

Marikina City Mayor Del R. De Guzman, an active Scout Leader, initiated the project and City Chief of Police Romeo S. Magsalos has volunteered to head the project with an initial enrollment of 30 children, in coordination with Boy Scouts of the Philippines (BSP).

At the launch, BSP Senior Vice President Wendel E. Avisado spoke about the TTL project he started earlier in his hometown in Davao City, which inspired Marikina City to launch its own.

Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed expressed his appreciation to the group of 50 volunteers who are financing the project and the Chief of Police who will convince police officers under his command to adopt the children as their foster children, and guide them to become useful citizens and protectors of the law.

Mayor De Guzman appealed to donors to come forward and help improve the living quarters of these children. This is the first TTL project that has raised its own funds.

Parents join Ticket to Life project in Leyte: Even the parents of street children are volunteering to help. In Leyte province in southern Philippines, a new troop of street children joined the Ticket to Life, making it the 35th troop to be registered under the project.

Twenty-five children joined the investiture ceremony on 24th October at the Leyte Council. "The absolute discipline of the children during the investiture is remarkable", said Mr Morante, the Unit Leader. "When the troop started, they were so unruly and I could not imagine how they turned out to be so disciplined in three months." The parents who are volunteering to help the units were also invested.

"What makes it unique is that both the children and their parents are so motivated to join the Scouts," said Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed. Some parents witnessed their children's investiture while other children had no families as many of them were abandoned. They were reminded, however, that they were being welcomed into the larger and worldwide family of Scouting.

All children in this troop were handpicked from the streets. A council member said, "most of them sleep on rooftops around the business area. We are now happy that some of them will be given proper schooling with the help of the social welfare department".

Boy Scouts of the Philippines Secretary General JR Pangilinan and Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed officiated the investiture ceremony. Council Executive of Leyte Council Mr Antonio Cinco said that the Scout law is translated into the local dialect to make it simple and clear for the children to understand. Officials and members of the Leyte Council assured their constant guidance to the children and to continue supporting the project.

Sri Lanka Scouts review strategic plan

Some 30 key Scout leaders of Sri Lanka Scouts Association representing all Scout districts from around the country gathered at Lee Dessayanake Scout Camp in Mirigama from 10th to 15th October 2010. The gathering aims to review the Scout association's strategic plan "Towards 2013," which includes objectives and action steps for 2008 to 2010. The plan was adopted in 2004 focusing on youth programme, adult leadership, finance, management, and public relations.

Honorary Chief Commissioner H.S. Weerakoon inaugurated the workshop where he highlighted the challenges while drafting the first strategic plan in 2004 and commended the Scout leaders who remain committed to pursue the cycle of planning, implementation, and evaluation.

APR Management Sub-Committee Chairman Janaprith Fernando pointed out the importance of strategic planning for NSOs and the monitoring efforts by the regional office.

In the review, changes were highlighted in the policy involving young people in decision-making. Membership growth seminars were held across seven provinces with the introduction of female members and the training of more adult leaders. In addition, major upgrades were made on the Scout centres and camps in Mirigama and in Nuwara-Eliya. In the north and east of Sri Lanka, 14 troops were formed in war-affected zones.

The construction of an 8-story national headquarters building started in June this year due for completion in 2012, which will be a monumental way of celebrating the 100 years of Scouting in Sri Lanka.

Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed congratulated Sri Lanka Scouts Association for regularly assessing their strategic plan, making it the third of a series of planning and review. He said that the regional office had supported 16 NSOs in developing their national plan.

Other key national leaders joining the ceremony were Chief Commissioner Chandrasena Batuwangala, International Commissioner Shiraz Shalih and Mr. M.F.S. Muheed who is also the workshop director. From the Regional Office were S. Prassanna and Syd Castillo.

Sri Lanka Parliament Speaker to revitalize Scout Parliamentary Group

On a rare occasion, the Ticket to Life (TTL) project team, during their visit to Sri Lanka, met with the Speaker of the Sri Lanka Parliament Hon. Chamal Rajapakshe while the parliament was still in session.

The Speaker talked about his keen interest to see the Sri Lankan Chapter of the World Scout Parliamentary Union (WSPU) revitalized and as a good start, they are sending a delegation of four Scout parliamentarians to the forthcoming WSPU General Assembly in Korea from 1st to 4th November 2010.

Hong Kong organizes Training of Trainers

The Hong Kong Scout Centre was the meeting place of 40 participants, comprised of 27 locals and 13 overseas from Scouts of China, Macau, Malaysia and Singapore. They gathered for the 15th Course for Assistant Leader Trainers (CALT) from 29th September to 4th October 2010, organized by Scout Association of Hong Kong. The medium of instruction was Mandarin and Cantonese.

CALT is the first stage of the 'Two-Stage Approach' for Training of Trainers. It aims to introduce the principles and method of training and to demonstrate these based on the needs of National Scout Organizations.

This course is a prerequisite for a participant to become an Assistant Leader Trainer and will eventually become a 3-Beader who is capable of leading or conducting a basic training course.

Deputy Chief Commissioner Mr Cheung Chi Sun officiated the opening ceremony, witnessed by Assistant Chief Commissioner (Training) Dr Mak Wai-ming, who is also the Chairman of the APR Adult Support Sub-Committee. Other key leaders attended were Deputy Chief Commissioner Mr Lo Wai-shing and International Commissioner Mr Alex Wong.

The training was led by the Course Leader Mr Ivan Tam Chiu-hung with trainers from the Hong Kong Training Team, Ken Chen from Scouts of China, and Francisco Chan from Macau. Thian Hiong-Boon represented the Asia-Pacific Regional Office.

Rovers re-build schools in Maasin City

Large banners signaled the arrival of 1,200 Rovers to the small city of Maasin in southern Philippines. They came from nearby and distant provinces from all over the country, some traveling for five days from the southernmost Tawi-

tawi. Their sole destination was the Forest Park for the 7th National Rover Moot of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines (BSP), a 300 acre reserve dedicated by the city government as a campsite for Scouts.

The Rovers camped for two and a half days for vigorous community work with local Scouts, teachers, parents and government workers of Maasin. They repaired public schools using materials provided by local government officials. One of the school principals said, "We are thrilled to be part of this major undertaking. We never had this before."

Maasin City Mayor Maloney L Samaco officiated the opening ceremony with other representatives of the government and BSP Secretary General JR Pangilinan. Regional Director Abdullah Rasheed, as guest speaker, talked about the current state of Rovering, a robust section within the Scout Movement. He said, "Rovering makes young people active instead of passive. It enables self-control, a healthy mind and body, a service-oriented attitude". He emphasized that Rovering gives young people a sense of direction – not to drift away – as they paddle their own canoe in their journey through life.

Boy Scouts of the Philippines has 17,000 Rover Scouts with much potential to grow. The Regional Director challenged the Rovers to double their number so that more could reach out to their communities, citing the recent typhoons as opportunities where they could serve their localities on a continuing basis. He also urged them to join the "Scouts of the World Award", that would engage them in actions of world importance that promote the universal values of freedom, tolerance, equality, respect for nature, and shared responsibility.

Pakistan Scouts serve at Haji camps

More than 350 Scout Leaders & Rovers from all over Pakistan are rendering services in the local Haji Camps at Islamabad, Peshawar, Lahore, Quetta, Karachi, and other parts of the country. A Deputy Provincial Secretary has been appointed as Chairman Court of Honour in Islamabad. Amongst the local Scouts, 50 were selected for services in Saudi Arabia by the Court of Honour. This year's Contingent Leader was appointed from Balochistan to head the service team.

Leadership Changes in Cambodia Scouts

At the 2nd General Assembly of the National Association of Cambodian Scouts (NACS) on 2nd September, around 500 Scout representatives were in attendance including ministers and secretaries of state, national and municipal leaders of NACS.

The assembly adopted certain changes in the NACS constitution, which include among others the change of name from "National Association of Cambodian Scouts" to "Cambodian Scouts".

The AGM elected the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia as mentor and the Deputy Prime Minister as President of the National Council. Other officials who were elected to key positions were Mr Phan Sokim as the new Chief Commissioner; Mr. Touch Choeun as Adult Resources Commissioner; and Mr Lim Mora as Programme Commissioner and Mr. Lak Sam Ath remains as the Secretary General. The new International Commissioner will be Mr. Tuon Siphann.

The assembly adopted its 2010-2013 national strategic plan that identifies priorities in five areas: Youth Programme, Adult Resources, Financial Resources, Management and Communication.

What's Ongoing

WSPU 6th General Assembly Meeting

Who Scout Parliamentarians
When 1-4 November 2010
Where Korea

What's Upcoming

Executive Directors Team Meeting

Who Executive Directors from all regions and from central office
When 8-11 November 2010
Where Geneva, Switzerland

APR Seminar on Youth Involvement

Who Volunteers, key leaders and full time executives from National Scout Organization in-charge of Youth Programme or whose work is related to youth programme
When 13-16 November 2010
Where Thailand

Be Prepared

Jamb 100 and 3rd ASEAN Jamboree

Who Scouts from local and overseas countries.
Young people (boys and girls) aged 11-16 years old
When 4-9 December 2010
Where Sarimbun Scout Camp, Singapore

Hong Kong Scout Centenary

Who Young people (boys and girls) aged 12 to 25 years old.
Each Patrol should consist of nine Scout members and one Adult Leader. Each NSO may form more than one patrol.
When 27 December 2010 – 1 January 2011
Where Penny's Bay next to Hong Kong Disneyland. The site is located in northeastern Lantau Island, the largest island in Hong Kong. It is 30 minutes away from the Hong Kong International Airport and 40 minutes from the city centre.