



JOTA-JOTI 2008: The Secretary General's Closing Message

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Over the week end, over half-a-million of you have gathered on the air, during the 51st JOTA, and via the Internet for the 12th JOTI. Luc Panissod, World Scouting's acting Secretary General, sends a closing message to all participants and national organisers.

Dear Friends,

Over the week end, over half-a-million of you have gathered on the air, during the 51st JOTA, and via the Internet for the 12th JOTI. Once again, the Scout Movement has demonstrated its capability to open space for dialogue and mutual recognition, to young people of all nations, regardless of culture, religion or race. Through the adherence to its values and principles, the Movement has shown how it jumps over obstacles and barriers, at least geographical ones.

Empowering young people by using communication technology is an important step to learn how to explore the world. Innovative by nature, Scouting uses technologies to pursue its educational mission.

About 3000 Scouts played to debate the issues related to peace, environment and Rover Scouts. I encourage them to deepen this exploration - to be prepared to engage in their communities.

During two days, the World Scout Bureau operated from the Scouts of Geneva's Centre, in Switzerland. My congratulations go to the organisers and I warmly thank you all the national coordinators and volunteers for the enthusiasm they put in going around the world in 48 hours.

Luc Panissod

Acting Secretary General

World Organization of the Scout Movement