

Opening remarks by Euloge Ishimwe, Communications Manager, WSB-Africa, on the Occasion of the Africa Scout Day, 13th March 2009

Almost a decade and a half ago, great men and women, in whose hands the leadership of our beautiful continent was entrusted, saw it wise to dedicate a day to the honour of the Scout Movement.

As they declared this decree, they were in the confines of the walls of OAU (Organization of African Unity) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Nonetheless, today, 14 years later, the echo of this historical legacy reverberates across the African continent.

Ladies and gentlemen, brothers and sisters in Scouting, I stand here, not to make a speech – as this is not my duty today – but to set the climate and to provide a symbolic background to an event that is currently being celebrated in 37 African countries. As we speak in unison with our colleagues in all these African countries, our voices travel through the airwaves, and by so doing we hope these voices reach the soul of our founder Lord Baden Powell, who is right now proud to see us down here carrying forward his legacy.

From the Highveld of South Africa,
To the Highlands of Kenya.
From the hilly mountains of the Democratic Rep. of Congo.
To the coastline of Côte d' Ivoire.

Today we raise higher the flag of the Scout Movement.

It is my intention to finally conclude my remarks at this juncture by welcoming you to this historic moment and by thanking all of you for having sacrificed your time to be with us.

Thank you for your support

Thank you for endorsing the theme:

“Our Africa,
Our Environment,
Scouts Care”

God bless Africa
God bless Scouting