
Take Home



Conference Summary



H E L L A S 2 0 0 2

**36th
World Scout
Conference**

**36e Conférence
Mondiale
du Scoutisme**

- ATTENDANCE** The 36th World Scout Conference met in Thessaloniki, Greece from 15-19 July 2002. It was attended by 1,225 participants, making it the largest in Scouting's 95 year history. Delegates from 126 out of 154 member countries attended, and all 147 countries with voting rights were represented.
- NEW MEMBERS** During the Conference, three countries became members of the World Organization of the Scout Movement: Cape Verde, Ethiopia, and the Seychelles. Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation, which became members in 2000 were welcomed to their first World Scout Conference.
- FUTURE EVENTS** The World Scout Conference is the "general assembly" of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). The next meeting of the Conference will be in **Tunisia** in 2005.
- The Scout association in the Republic of **Korea** was selected to host the Conference in 2008.
- Mozambique** was selected to host the 13th World Scout Moot in 2008.
- Thailand** reported on plans for the 20th World Scout Jamboree at the end of 2002
- The **United Kingdom** reported on plans for the 21st World Scout Jamboree in 2007, the Centenary of Scouting.
- ELECTIONS** The **Scouts of China** reported on plans for the 12 World Scout Moot in 2004.
- Dr. (Mrs.) Marie-Louise Correa (Senegal) has been elected Chairman of the World Scout Committee. Mr. Mohd. Habibul Alam (Bangladesh), and Mr. Ferran Guimaraes (Spain) are its Vice-Chairmen.
- Dr. Correa's election marks the first time in the Scout Movement's 95-year history that a woman, and a black African, heads the worldwide organization of 28 million boys and girls. She has served on the World Committee for three years, and was previously Chairman of the Africa Scout Region. Dr. Correa is a medical doctor, and former Minister of Research and former Minister of Labour in Senegal.
- The World Scout Conference elected the following people to the 14-member World Scout Committee:
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| Mr. Mohd. Habibul Alam (Bangladesh) | Mrs. Ana Elisa Piubello (Argentina) |
| Mr. Philippe Da Costa (France) | Mr. Mohamed Ben Ali Triki (Tunisia) |
| Mr. J. Stephen Fossett (U.S.A.) | Mr. Gualtiero Zanolini (Italy) |
| Mr. John Alexander Gemmill (Canada) | |
| Mr. Herman Hui Chung-shing (Hong Kong) | |
- Retiring World Scout Committee members are: Mr. Garnet de la Hunt (South Africa) (Chairman), Mr. Patrick Lyon d'Andrimont (Chile) (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. Margot Bogert (U.S.A) (Vice Chairman), Mr. Stein Løvold (Norway), Mr. Garth Morrison (United Kingdom), Dr. Abdullah O. Nasseef (Saudi Arabia), and Mr. Constantinos Tsantilis (Greece). Mr. Habibul Alam (Bangladesh) completed the term for which he was co-opted, and now has been elected to a 6-year term.
- Continuing on the committee are: Dr. (Mrs.) Marie-Louise Correa (Senegal), Mr. Ferran Guimaraes (Spain), Mr. Walter Hofstetter (Switzerland), Mr. "Toby" Takemichi Suzuki (Japan), Dr. Jacques Moreillon (WOSM Secretary General), and Mr. Jean-Bernard Crelier, Treasurer.

STRATEGY FOR SCOUTING

The theme of the Conference ‘*From Mission to Strategy*’ was aptly named as the Conference unanimously adopted the proposed Strategy for Scouting.

Working in small groups, participants considered each of the seven strategic priorities and proposed practical suggestions for addressing them nationally. Three of the seven were selected as worldwide priorities for the next three years: Youth Involvement, Volunteers in Scouting, and Scouting’s Profile, including partnerships, financial resources and communication. (Other Strategic priorities are: Adolescents; Girls and Boys, Women and Men; Reaching Out; An Organization for the 21st Century.)

YOUNG PEOPLE IN DECISION MAKING

There was much discussion about the involvement of young people in decision-making at the local, national, and international levels. Approximately 20 percent of delegates and observers were under the age of 30, the largest percentage ever. The Conference adopted a policy entitled “Youth Involvement in Decision-Making”, and selected the subject as the top strategic priority for the next three years.

Scouting is not just a movement for young people managed by adults; it is also a movement of young people, supported by adults. A fundamental element of Scouting is the Scout Method. It requires the active involvement of young people, from the time they join the Movement, in the process of their own development, and makes each person the principal agent of that process. This is the element which, when correctly applied, makes Scouting most attractive to young people and enables their development as self-fulfilled individuals, able to contribute to a better world.

SAFE FROM HARM

Scouting, in common with all youth organizations, has a duty to ensure that all its members come to no harm, whether physical, emotional or sexual. The incidence worldwide of high profile cases of abuse of children, including child pornography and paedophilia, some of which occur in youth organizations, has emphasised the need for a thorough consideration of this issue by the Scout Movement. The Conference adopted a policy “Safe from Harm” which notes that some national organizations have done much in recent years for the protection of their members, and that all countries must do so.

2007 CENTENARY OF SCOUTING

In 2007 Scouting will welcome the dawn of a second century of Scouting. The adoption of the Strategy for Scouting, and a resolution on the 2007 Centenary, start the process by which Scouting will be stronger and serve more young people, and be able to celebrate its success in 2007.

The 21st World Scout Jamboree will be held in the United Kingdom in 2007.

The theme for the worldwide Centenary and for the Jamoree is: **2007: One World One Promise.**

CONFERENCE HOSTS

The Conference was hosted by Soma Hellinon Proskopon (the Scouts of Greece). SHP was founded in 1910, only three years after the founding of Scouting itself in England in 1907. It is a founder member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (1922). Presently there are 25,000 members, boys and girls, making Scouts of Greece the largest and oldest youth organization in the country.

Note: this document was printed before the close of the Conference, and a number of resolutions were still under consideration.

All Conference documents published in advance, and during the Conference, can be downloaded at: www.scout.org/wse/conf.html