



## Youth Event

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It is our pleasure to invite you to the World Scientific Congress and the Youth Event of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. The World Scientific Congress and preceding Youth Event on "Education and the World Scout Movement: experiences and challenges" is to be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 13 to 17 November 2007.

The aim of this World Scientific Congress is to rebuild strong links between Educational Organisations such as the World Organisation of the Scout Movement and the academic community in order to benefit from academic research related to the main educational challenges in today's world and, based on their objective views of the capacity of Scouting and its partners in the world of non-formal education, to contribute to developing innovative solutions for the future.

The Youth Event that will take place immediately before the World Congress from 13 to 15 November has the specific objective of preparing the young delegates who will participate in the World Scientific Congress. These young delegates will come from National Scout Organizations, other International Youth NGOs (IYNGOs) and Regional Youth Platforms.

The working title of the event will be: "Young citizens of the world promoting diversity, participation and change: The contribution of 100 years of non-formal education".

The discussions will be based on the direct experience of practitioners and volunteers who are directly involved in the development of non-formal education and also on best practices and concrete examples corresponding to the various themes of the Congress. This is an opportunity to identify and showcase the impact of non-formal education programmes.

The added value that this event will bring to the Congress will be the sharing of expertise between young adults in Scouting and volunteers and experts from other organisations who have an educational mission in common, achieved through various non-formal methods.

The involvement of other NGOs will also provide the necessary base to ensure synergy for the external follow-up of the results of the Congress in terms of promoting non-formal education among practitioners and institutions. This will be another opportunity for World Scouting and other youth organisations to become more active in advocacy for the recognition of non-formal education.

## Participants

The participation of the Youth Event is limited to forty (40) participants. Participants will be selected from among experts and volunteers from international youth organisations, in particular coming from the ICMYO initiative and young adult leaders from National Scout Organizations.

The ICMYO (International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organizations) is an informal coalition of International Youth Organizations and Regional Platforms, which aims to provide a common space for two main objectives: the coordination of

political inputs to the ongoing political processes affecting youth worldwide and the strengthening of cooperation between youth organisations with a regional and global outreach.

Participants will actively take part in the World Scientific Congress afterwards and will play a direct role by sharing outcomes and experiences from the Youth Event in working groups of the Congress. The candidates should fulfill the established criteria and profile.

## Participant Profile

The participant should:

- Be a member of an National Scout Organization or member of another youth organisation
- Have experience in the non-formal education programme of their organisation.
- Be capable of bringing their personal experience of non-formal education to the event.
- Be under the age of 30
- Be capable of reporting back to their organisation after the event

## Links with the World Scientific Congress programme

The session will follow the same themes as the World Scientific Congress:

### 1. Personal Development

- Synergy between school and after-school programmes
- Character development: resilience, adversity, youth at risk, diversity
- Leadership and youth participation: cooperation and competition
- Gender issues
- Employability and non-formal education
- Health education, peer education

### 2. Social Development

- Learning from history, Scouting and nation building
- Peace education: culture of peace, multiculturalism, inter-religious dialogue, people, mobility and educational approaches
- Education and sustainable development: impact of new technologies in education
- World citizenship: North ? South cooperation, challenge of the North-South divide
- Youth Participation, leadership and democracy
- Moral and spiritual development.

For each theme/working group participants will prepare contributions as facts/stories/best practices to be presented during the Congress.

The coordination between the Youth Event sessions and the Congress will be strengthened by the involvement of a member of the Scientific Committee in the planning and implementation and by the presence of a number of youth researchers who will participate in the Congress<sup>2</sup>.

## Practical Requirements & registration fee

- The participation fee is **CHF 150** per person (This covers the fee for both events: World Scientific Congress and the Youth Event). The fee covers accommodation, meals, coffee breaks, transportation to/from the Hotel residence to other event locations and all of the programme materials and documentation.
- All participants taking part in the Youth Event will stay at the 'Best Western Century Geneva' (4 stars) from the 13-17 November.
- The World Scout Bureau will assist with letters of invitation for visa applications. Please note that these should be received sufficiently in advance.
- Please find attached the Registration Form.
- Insurance: is responsibility of each participant to obtain an insurance during the days of the events.

