



SCOUTS[®]
Creating a Better World

World Organization of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout
Всемирная Организация Скаутского Движения
Organización Mundial del Movimiento Scout
المنظمة العالمية للحركة الكشفية

**World Scout Bureau, Central Office
Bureau Mondial du Scoutisme, Siège**

Rue du Pré-Jérôme 5
P.O. Box 91
1211 Geneva 4 Plainpalais
SWITZERLAND

Phone (+41 22) 705 10 10
Fax (+41 22) 705 10 20
Email worldbureau@scout.org
Web scout.org

Circular N° 7/2009

To: International Commissioners

March 2009

GOVERNANCE REVIEW TASK FORCE

Dear friends and colleagues,

I am pleased to send you herewith a message from David Bull, Chairman of the Governance Review Task Force, which I commend to your careful attention.

Yours sincerely,

Luc Panissod
Secretary General

To: All National Scout Organizations

From: David Bull, Chairman, Governance Review Task Force

Governance Review

You will recall that the World Scout Conference called for a continuation of our work on governance. A new Governance Review Task Force (GRTF2) has been established, with the following membership:

- David Bull (United Kingdom) - appointed as Chairman by the WSC, November 2008, with the following approved by the WSC in March 2009:
- Daniella Doueiry (Lebanon)
- Rev Vukile Mahana (South Africa)
- Milena Pecarski (Serbia) (Youth Adviser)
- Tan Cheng Kiong (Singapore)

One more member is to be appointed as soon as possible.

GRTF2 is starting its work and will have its first meeting as a whole in June. The members of GRTF2 will focus on the completion of the task on behalf of World Scouting and have not been appointed on any representative basis. They all have experience of governance at World and/or Regional levels and bring to GRTF2 experience of policy making and management in Scouting and elsewhere from as many different cultural backgrounds as possible.

1. Terms of Reference as approved by the World Scout Committee

GRTF2 shall consider issues discussed at the 38th World Scout Conference (Korea) and make relevant proposals, covering in particular:

- Governance in a decentralised organisation, where the ability to make strategy globally is balanced against the governance implications of delivery in Regions
- Committee structures and transparency of decision-making
- Communications in the context of governance
- WOSM membership, particularly voting rights and the role of Accredited National Scout Organizations (ANSOs)

and shall report to the World Scout Committee (WSC) in March 2010.

2. Ways of working

GRTF 2 will:

- meet at least twice a year, with working time of at least twenty hours each time
- consult with National Scout Organizations (NSOs), Regional Scout Committees (RSCs) and the World Scout Foundation (WSF), to take stock of thinking in World Scouting since the Conference in Korea
- provide regular updates to WSC members by email, in addition to the formal reports to WSC meetings
- consult regularly with the Constitutions Committee
- produce 'green papers' for consultation on aspects of the matters referred to in the Terms of Reference, so as to encourage discussion throughout the Movement
- analyse the responses to the green papers and to conduct discussions with as many individual NSOs as possible
- produce a draft 'white paper' containing proposals for the WSC in March 2010, in preparation for the 39th World Scout Conference (Brazil)

3. Work Plan

In order to deliver on the terms of reference agreed by the World Scout Committee, GRTF2 will work in the following areas:

WOSM MEMBERSHIP

- Checking that there are no viable alternatives to the current approach of recognising NSOs within states as included in the UN system
- Small NSOs and Accredited NSOs
- SAGNOs
- Federations
- Monitoring of continuing compliance of NSOs with WOSM membership criteria

Note: this element of our work will be dealt with early in the timetable, in cooperation with the Constitutions Committee, with a specific report to the World Scout Committee; the remainder of the work will be the subject of green papers for further discussion before proposals are made to the World Scout Committee.

REPRESENTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- Youth participation and the role of the Youth Advisers
- Voting systems and methods
- Format of World Scout Conferences
- Increasing opportunities for NSOs to participate in policy development
- Alternative approaches and technology

OPERATIONS

- The links and potential overlaps between management and policy/development/oversight
- How governance systems can support decentralisation, taking account of the current discussions on the location of the Bureau and on Regional delivery of support

WORLD AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES

- Reviewing the position after the debate at the Korea Conference
- The roles of the Committees and how to reduce the potential for conflict
- Board member duties, skills and training

I invite all NSOs to submit comments on any of these issues, to enable GRTF2 to develop proposals for further discussion.

Thank you in advance for your involvement in this work.

Yours sincerely,

David Bull
Chairman, Governance Review Task Force