



World Organization of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout

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CIRCULAR N° 28/2003

To: International Commissioners

November 2003

Meeting of World Scout Committee Geneva, Switzerland, 23-26 October 2003

Dear Colleagues,

The World Scout Committee (WSC) met in Geneva from 23-26 October 2003. All fourteen members of the Committee attended, as did four Regional Chairmen.

The WSC meeting was preceded by meetings of subcommittees (Budget, Constitutions, Honours & Awards), and WOSM's legal body registered under Swiss law, World Scout Bureau Inc., also met.

Guests attending the meeting included, among others, members of WSB Inc. and representatives from National Scout Organizations (NSOs) hosting future World Events.

A summary of the main agenda items and decisions taken is given below.

SUCCESSION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

As previously announced by e-mail and in a previous Scoutpak, the World Committee appointed Dr. Eduardo Missoni, from Italy, as Secretary General designate. Dr. Missoni will take up his new appointment on 1 April 2004 on the retirement of the current Secretary General Dr. Jacques Moreillon. The appointment was the culmination of a lengthy process facilitated by the Zurich office of the recruitment firm Amrop Hever, which offered its services "pro-bono".

NEW LEGAL ADVISER

The World Committee also appointed a new Legal Adviser, Maître François Rayroux, to succeed Maître Olivier Mach, who had earlier announced his wish to retire from that function.

THE STRATEGY FOR SCOUTING

One full day of the World Committee meeting was devoted to discussions in the workstreams responsible for the three top priorities of the Strategy for Scouting: Youth Involvement; Volunteers in Scouting; and Scouting's Profile. Work focussed on implementing these priorities, with a view to reporting on progress to Regional Conferences in 2004 (including the adaptation of regional plans to conform to the Strategy) and presenting a comprehensive report to the next World Scout Conference in Tunisia in 2005. Further information will be provided to NSOs on an ongoing basis.

EVALUATION GROUP REPORT

The World Scout Committee approved the recommendations from the enlarged Steering Committee meeting in July 2003, i.e. to:

- accept the Evaluation Group (EG) report;
- undertake to find the best possible ways to implement those recommendations that fall within its competence;
- ask the Secretary General, and his successor, to do the same with those recommendations that fall within his competence;
- refer those recommendations that require constitutional amendments to the next World Scout Conference in Tunisia in 2005, following appropriate consultation with NSOs as recommended in the EG report.

The Committee also received a report from a task force, made up of members of the WSC, which had been charged with the responsibility to consider a number of the EG's recommendations dealing specifically with governance within the Movement. Further work in this area will be undertaken.

INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

Other agenda items considered by the WSC included:

- Financial matters, including approval of the budget for 2003-2004, which had been significantly affected by the reduced grant from the World Scout Foundation; the situation of registration fees, including provisional suspension of NSOs with fee arrears; and reports from the Audit Committee, SCORE International and the World Scout Foundation.
- Constitutional matters, including the situations in Ireland, Spain and Russia.
- Relationship matters, especially with WAGGGS. (The WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee met in London following the WSC meeting; the minutes of that meeting will be circulated shortly.)
- Recent and future World Scout Events, including, among others, the 20th World Scout Jamboree in Thailand, the 12th World Scout Moot to be hosted by Scouts of China, the 37th World Scout Conference and 9th World Scout Youth Forum in Tunisia, the 21st World Scout Jamboree in the United Kingdom and the 100th Anniversary of Scouting in 2007.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next WSC meeting will take place in Geneva on 2-4 April 2004. The subsequent meeting will be held from 29-31 October 2004, also in Geneva.

TRIBUTE TO JACQUES MOREILLON

The World Scout Committee paid tribute to the Secretary General, who was attending his last WSC meeting in that capacity. A special farewell reception will be organised during the April meeting of the WSC mentioned above.

Yours sincerely,



Jacques Moreillon
Secretary General