



Poland handover WSPU secretariat, Korea to carry the flag forward

?????:Brian Okello

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On the 27th of November 2009, Korean Scout Parliamentary Association (KSPA) members met with Polish representatives of the WSPU secretariat, at the World Scout Bureau in Geneva, in order to complete the handover of the WSPU secretariat to Korea and renew the objectives of WSPU. The meeting was attended by: Hon. Chung Eui Hwa, President of KSPA, Hon. Kim Choon-Jin, Vice-President of KSPA, Hon. Lee Ju-Young Treasurer of KSPA. Also present representing the KSPA was Mr. Hong Seung-Soo Danny the Secretary General of KSPA and Mr Kim Hak-Soo the General Manager of KSPA. Representing the WSPU Secretariat in Poland was Mr Piotr Uhma, Mr Simon H Rhee Vice Chairman of the World Scout committee and Mr Luc Panissod Secretary General of WOSM.

Hon. Chung President of the KSPA expressed that this handover meeting was extremely important for WSPU and WOSM as it marked a new start of WSPU activities. Mr Panissod continued to explain the nature of the relationship between WOSM and WSPU how it came into being, its principles and statutes. The WSB as the professional secretariat of WOSM has traditionally supported WSPU and Mr Panissod expressed that with this new beginning this relationship will be rekindled. The primary role of the WSPU office has been to maintain contacts with Scout Parliamentarians around the world, prepare WSPU executive committee meetings, launch WSPU publications and liaise with the World Scout Bureau on items that maybe interesting for both Scout Parliamentarians and World Scouting.

This meeting was an opportunity to revive the World Scout Parliamentary Union by transferring the organization's Secretariat and institutional memory to Korea and by organizing the next WSPU General Assembly in Korea. The current hosts of the WSPU Secretariat in Warsaw, Poland declared their support to this endeavor.

Given that the general tone of the meeting was one of a fresh start the meetings participants also looked at possible activities and areas where WSPU's support would be of great impact. One of the major assessments was that WSPU and its network of Scout Parliamentarians could ?Support Youth Policy around the world?. There are countries where there are no clear youth policies, which makes it difficult to support the local Scout associations. With the help of WOSM which is an expert in youth and WSPU members who are policy specialists, support could be given to these countries through both bodies to create National Scout Parliamentary Unions to help raise the priority of youth policies on their agendas.

The meeting ended with the official handing over of the WSPU flag thus confirming the handover process.