

## JOINT STATEMENT

*"Peace cannot be secured entirely by commercial interests, military alliances, general disarmament or mutual treaties, unless the spirit for peace is there in the minds and will of the peoples. This is a matter of education."*

Baden-Powell, opening speech at Kandersteg International Conference,  
published in "Jamboree", October 1926

The undersigned Scout organizations having religious denominations having met in Ljubljana, Slovenia on August 14, 2014 at the 40<sup>th</sup> World Scout Conference.

### Considering that

- A. the Scout movement has promoted over the years brotherhood and friendship among all its members and the different people all over the world; Scouts are peacemakers ("artisans de paix").
- B. the Scout organizations having religious denominations share the ambition of the Scout movement to contribute to the creation of a better and peaceful world;
- C. in particular, the religious and cultural identities must not become a source or a justification for conflicts but, on the contrary, that they have to be considered a source for mutual understanding and respect as well as an opportunity to get to know and to appreciate the other;
- D. differences in faiths and beliefs are reasons for enrichment and comprehension and cannot be detrimental to the unity of the movement;
- E. the impact that the Scout actions have on the society, communities and individuals and in particular the possibility to inspire the rest of the world on considering the other as a brother or sister, not as a stranger;
- F. that the situations of wars, conflicts, persecutions, injustice that are affecting many populations of different faiths, culture, ethnic origins all over the world are reason of deep concerns and pain in front of which it is not possible to show indifference;
- G. that education of young generations to the values of peace is a critical and essential way to ensure a peaceful future to the world.

### Reaffirm

Their commitments

1. To operate in favor of mutual recognition and tolerance among the people in view of a peaceful coexistence;
2. To promote a better and deeper knowledge of the causes that determine the conflicts with a view to find solutions that reflect the reasons of justice instead those of violence;
3. To promote a vision of the other as a brother and sister in order to enrich our relationship and promote peace both within ourselves and the others;
4. To support WOSM actions in favor of the education of young generations;
5. To advocate the respect of human rights all over the world.

### Signed

- CPGS — Council of Protestants in Scouting and Guiding
- DESMOS — International Link of Orthodox Christian Scouts
- ICCS — International Catholic Conference for Scouting
- IFJS — International Forum of Jewish Scouts
- IUMS — International Union of Muslim Scouts
- WBSB — World Buddhist Scout Brotherhood