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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

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To: International Commissioners

September 2010

WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee

Dear colleagues,

You will find attached, for information, the minutes of the last meeting of the WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee held in London on 22 March 2010.

Yours in Scouting,

Luc Panissod
Secretary General WOSM

WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee (WWCC)

Record of the Meeting held at Pax Lodge, London

Monday, 22 March 2010

Present

WOSM

- Rick Cronk, Chairman, World Scout Committee (chairing)
- Thérèse Bermingham, Member, World Scout Committee
- John May, Member, World Scout Committee
- Luc Panissod, Secretary General, WOSM

WAGGGS

- Margaret Treloar, Chairman, WAGGGS World Board
- Liesbeth Lijnzaad, Member, WAGGGS World Board
- Gabriela Derosa, Member, WAGGGS World Board
- Mary Mc Phail, Chief Executive, WAGGGS

WAGGGS staff support

- Elena Moya, Executive Officer Governance

1. Review of Agenda and order of business

The Agenda was agreed.

2. Review Minutes of last Meeting

No further comments were made.

3. General organization update: WAGGGS and WOSM

Rick Cronk gave an update on WOSM, looking to the future. Rick reported that financial resources would need to come from philanthropy and not from membership as more and more members were themselves struggling to safeguard their own income base.

WOSM aimed to provide as much resources to NSOs as possible. Regional Offices were providing inspiration and leadership to the membership, so that WOSM was no longer Geneva-centric. A new process had been used to recruit the three new Regional Directors (in Africa, Eurasia and Interamerica), giving a new boost to the regions, with a new way of thinking.

A customer satisfaction survey was circulated last year to NSOs asking for their opinions on the support received from the World Organization; this would continue to happen at six month intervals. Two surveys had been completed already, with a return rating of eight out of ten as an average score.

The exact number of members was still unsure due to under reporting from some NSOs. A new system starting on 1 October 2011 would be proposed to the next World Scout Conference. This would hold the annual invoices for the next nine years to motivate growth in the Movement and obtain true figures. Annual invoices would be based on declared membership figures as at 31 December 2008 (possibly 2009) and remain unchanged for the entire period except for adjustment for inflation.

The final report of the Governance Review Task Force was considered by the World Scout Committee at its meeting over the weekend and a number of decisions were taken. These decisions will be communicated to NSOs and may lead to constitutional changes. Two important topics are youth involvement/participation and regional structures. A feasibility study regarding moving the World Scout Bureau out of Geneva would be communicated to the Conference in due course.

WAGGGS reported on Vision 2020, currently 18 months into the process. Consultation had taken place about the future of Girl Guiding/Girl Scouting with many different stakeholder groups, internal and external, and particularly with girls and young women from across the five Regions. External consultants had produced a very interesting and challenging Global Trends Atlas detailing what the key trends are going to be that are going to have a major impact on the lives of girls and young women in the future. All the information and feedback had been assessed and analysed by the Vision 2020 Task Group in order to develop a Vision 2020 framework with a new Vision. WAGGGS' Mission will remain the same and there will be a new set of goals and global outcomes. The Vision 2020 framework will be consulted further at the Regional Conferences and then voted on at the World Conference in 2011 in Edinburgh.

The Regional Committees had recently met. The Advocacy programme was progressing, including work on the Global Action Theme linked with the Millennium Development Goals. The Regional Conferences would be an important milestone and an opportunity to clarify key messages, where commitment across the whole Movement will become strongly aligned.

A new Regional Director for the Europe Region had been recently recruited and staff in Advocacy and Communications roles were also being appointed at the World Bureau.

WAGGGS had recently launched a new website, focusing on being a global Movement reaching out to girls and young women aspiring to leadership roles. The website had a huge functionality built in to serve young people's needs, and opening up communications possibilities for volunteers.

The strapline *girls worldwide say* had recently been removed from WAGGGS' logo, but would still be used separately as a specific campaigning line.

Among a series of international events intended for WAGGGS' Centenary celebrations, the Young Women's World Forum (YWWF) activities stood out.

The first YWWF would take place in the UK in 2010, would spread out to the four World Centres in 2011 and then a sixth Forum would take place in USA in 2012. Themes would cover: empowerment, non-formal education and the environment, all integrating and contributing to the step change of the organization. Girlguiding UK has done a spectacular job organizing the 2010 Forum with WAGGGS' support, involving the media, government and sports. Meetings and agreements were held with the Girl Scouts of the USA, organizers of the last Forum to be held in 2012.

MOs were also celebrating the Centenary around the world, using the motto "100 years of changing lives".

In WAGGGS' advocacy role, direct engagement with UN issues, governments and other NGOs was ongoing. At the Commission on the Status of Women in New York earlier in the month, young women were speaking at the UN, engaging with

government representatives, having an impact and reporting on issues on behalf of girls and young women around the world.

Events had been held in Kenya and India through WAGGGS Leadership Development Programme (WLDP) involving young women around the world.

WAGGGS has invested significantly in fund development and now has a team of five people to take forward the fund development strategy. The Global Girls Fund has been launched with the intention to raise £10 million over four years. The first million has already been received. Bringing the resources in to support the girl is at the heart of what WAGGGS is doing.

4. Partnerships within WOSM and WAGGGS

a. ISGF

Liesbeth Lijnzaad (WAGGGS) and Eric Khoo (WOSM) had attended part of the ISGF World Committee meeting, held in Tavernerio, Italy (close to the ISGF World Conference location to be held in Cernobbio, Lake Como in 2011). Between now and next year, Liesbeth and Eric would work on a common position prior to the next ISGF World Committee meeting, with the intention of streamlining participation. For WOSM this is also related to a review of the relationship agreements with organizations having consultative status with the World Scout Committee.

b. ICCS/ICCG

It was noted that WOSM is in the process of streamlining its relationships with ICCS and this would serve as a model for other faith-based organizations which have consultative status with the World Scout Committee.

c. IUMS

The IUMS supports those within Scouting that are of the Muslim faith. WOSM has traditionally had formal partnerships with a number of faith-based groups which will be under review as part of the Governance review process.

5. External Partnerships

a. Alliance of Youth CEOs

The Alliance of Youth CEOs (AYCEOs) met twice a year either in London or Geneva. WAGGGS and WOSM worked productively together at these meetings. It was noted that the agenda was not always strategic. The AYCEOs had produced policy documents over the last ten years, most recently the Climate Change resource tool.

Communication between the AYCEOs was good and meetings were an opportunity to discuss governance issues across the organizations. It was questioned whether this was an exclusive group or whether other international youth organizations could be included. The group itself is looking at these questions.

Clarity regarding the purpose of the group was requested – and whether a bigger idea needed to be defined. It was agreed to leave the door open for a while.

b. Other partnerships

Open Minds Global: this was currently in the hands of legal bodies in Switzerland as the Open Minds Global Foundation was being dissolved.

6. Review of the cooperation at the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen

The WAGGGS delegation of 19 were delighted with the level of reach and impact that they had at the Conference. There were daily engagements with WOSM, both cooperation and sharing took place at the event. Very good press coverage was had on both TV and radio.

7. Forthcoming UNAIDS Conference in Vienna

It was noted that this event was taking place at the same time as the Europe Regional Conference in Belgium.

Following the request from the Austrian SAGNO to have WAGGGS/WOSM material exhibited at the UNAIDS Conference in Vienna, it was agreed that no formal agreement was needed regarding joint exhibition space. There would be an informal understanding within the Consultative Committee that both organizations would carry equal status at such events (where placed together) and that the CEOs would be the channel to cover such issues as and when they arise.

8. SAGNOs

a. Definition of a SAGNO

The World Scout Committee at its meeting in Kandersteg the previous weekend had approved a new definition of a SAGNO. The WWCC were provided with an advance copy of this document.

b. WOSM's Policy of not allowing new SAGNOs to form

Extensive discussion took place regarding this item. WAGGGS formally requested that WOSM reconsider their policy of not allowing new SAGNOs to form, in order to give MOs the potential to grow and to have a certain level of flexibility. After further discussion there was a joint willingness for the item to be addressed. It would therefore be added to the next World Scout Committee meeting agenda.

It was suggested that WAGGGS provide examples of emerging issues as well as a WAGGGS definition of a SAGNO.

9. Working with Federations

A brief history behind the establishment of Federations in WOSM was given, and how the criteria had been misinterpreted in the past. The Governance Review Task Force recommendation regarding Federations was discussed. It was confirmed that the Federation was the NSO and that members of Federations were not recognized as NSOs. Federations were discouraged. This was also the case in WAGGGS.

10. Arab Region working relationship

a. Proposal for a protocol of understanding

Liesbeth Lijnzaad and Mary Mc Phail had recently attended the WAGGGS Arab Regional Committee meeting in Cairo. At this meeting, it was suggested that a protocol of understanding between WAGGGS and WOSM might be useful to support the development of the Region. It was noted that due to cultural norms it was often difficult for women to be recognised in their own right and to be able to take on formal leadership roles. This sometimes means that the interests of Guides are not represented to the Ministry, in the same way that the male leadership represents the interests of Scouts. This is an uncomfortable situation for WAGGGS members to find themselves in.

WOSM recognized there was a culture issue and much depended on the connections with the government in the Arab region. WOSM were committed that cooperation happened in the Arab region and that basic human rights were respected. Concrete facts would need to be gathered regarding the strategy.

Luc would investigate developments in WOSM Arab region further and feed back to Mary during the second week of April as well as the Consultative Committee informally.

Luc reported on the Arab Scout Conference in Sudan, at which very little translation was provided. Some fact finding was required and Luc would be meeting with the Arab Scout Regional Director, Dr. Atif Abdelmageed Abdelrahman to cover complex constitutional issues and gather facts on what is currently happening in the Arab Scout Region. Referring to the Arab Scout Regional plan WAGGGS noted that they read that WAGGGS were supposed to be engaged in a study to be undertaken in the Region in 2010, but had not been made aware of this formally.

b. Syria

WAGGGS reported that the Syrian Association: Scouts Syriens (Guides Branch) were being pressed by the Syrian Scouts (and WOSM Arab region) to demonstrate that they were not a SAGNO. Luc reported that at the recent Arab Conference in Sudan, Mr. Elias Shahhoud, Chief Scout of the Scouts of Syria, reconfirmed that the organization was not a SAGNO – as there had been an issue with the name originally and concerns had been expressed. Those that had questioned the status of the organization were unaware of the process that had been followed; Luc confirmed that the matter had now been dealt with.

11. Preparations for Regional Conferences and World Conferences

It was noted that a joint presentation would need to be prepared in readiness for the Europe Conference (presuming there was a slot on the Agenda for the Consultative Committee). John May and possibly Thérèse Bermingham would attend the Europe Conference as well as Luc Panissod. Margaret Treloar and Mary Mc Phail would represent WAGGGS. Once it was known what slot was available and who from each organization would attend, an interactive presentation would be worked on together by Margaret and Thérèse or John.

As there would be a six month time difference between both World Conferences in 2011, it was agreed that rather than a joint presentation from the WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee, that a presentation from WAGGGS (at the WOSM Conference) and WOSM (at the WAGGGS Conference) respectively would give the flexibility to be more creative. Therefore, a presentation on individual activities rather than joint activities would be considered. WAGGGS would possibly focus on the Centenary as well as Vision 2020. The idea was that presentations would be looking at the future, and would be value-based.

Regarding the remaining Regional Conferences, it was noted that WAGGGS and WOSM were usually invited to attend, but without a speaking slot. Both organizations would ensure that invitations were being circulated for the respective Regional Conferences, as a matter of routine.

12. World Scout Parliamentary Union (WSPU)

It was announced that the next World Scout Parliamentary Union meeting would take place from 1-4 November 2010, outside Seoul, Korea. WAGGGS would be kept in the loop regarding attendance at this meeting.

13. Purpose and future role of the Consultative Committee

The Consultative Committee meetings provided an arena to raise challenging issues face-to-face, and obtain a clarification of facts. It was agreed that the frankness in the meeting would not exist if it had taken place via Skype or any other conferencing method. In future, more work could be carried out on the agenda between the CEOs.

14. Any other business

Therese informed that she would be attending a planning meeting on 16 April with the organizers of the 2011 Jamboree. As WAGGGS had not yet received a formal invitation to the event, Therese would ensure that an official invitation would be forthcoming from Sweden.

15. Date and venue of next meeting

This would be confirmed once the date of the next meeting of the newly-elected World Scout Committee (tentatively fixed for 25-27 March 2011) had been finalised. The meeting venue would be Geneva. It was hoped that the meeting could take place at the end of the World Scout Committee meeting.

It was noted that this was likely to be both Rick Cronk and Thérèse Bermingham's last meeting. Thérèse thanked the WWCC for their openness at the meetings which she had really enjoyed attending.