



## **CIRCULAR**

21 November, 2001

### **Circular No. 40/2001**

To: International Commissioners

Dear Colleagues,

### **8<sup>th</sup> WORLD SCOUT YOUTH FORUM METSOVO, EPIRUS, GREECE, 8-11 JULY 2002**

The Planning Committee of the 8<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum met in June in Geneva to prepare this event. Its proposals were considered by the World Scout Committee at its meeting in September. The guidelines, objectives, programme and agenda of the 8th World Scout Youth Forum have now been approved and will be sent to national Scout associations with the documents for the 36<sup>th</sup> World Scout Conference.

The purpose of this circular is to inform you of the purpose and main discussion topics for the World Scout Youth Forum. We hope that this will enable you to select delegates and observers who are motivated by the topics and able to make a substantial contribution to this event, based on their personal experience and your association's experience in working on these topics.

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE FORUM**

The 8<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum is an opportunity for young men and women, aged 18-26, to:

- **Share ideas and experiences with young people from different cultures**
- **Develop skills to improve youth participation in decision making**
- **Identify ways of improving Scouting for adolescents and young people**

#### **2. TOPICS OF DISCUSSION**

The Forum will cover the two main elements of WOSM's Strategy which most concern young people: "adolescents" and "youth involvement in decision making". It will focus on the impact which Scouting can make on society and the way in which it can prepare young people to play an active role in their communities.

The five main topics are:

- **Are we making a difference in society?**  
(Impact on society: what contribution is Scouting making to a better world and what more could it do?)

- **Are we preparing young people to be active members in society?**  
(Result: when young people leave Scouting, are they equipped with the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to be happy and useful citizens in their local, national and international communities?)
- **Is the Scout Method really used?**  
(Process: are all the elements of the Scout Method used properly to ensure that young people are agents of their own development?)
- **Is our programme attractive to adolescents?**  
(Tool: are we using the right tool for the job, or does our programme need to be reviewed and updated?)
- **Where are the young people?**  
(Users: how can we reach, attract and retain adolescents in Scouting?)

### **3. METHODS**

Participative methods will be used to facilitate intercultural learning and the exchange of ideas and experiences among the participants. In addition to plenary sessions providing brief inputs, there will be workshops, a project fair, an exhibition, discussion groups, an international evening, games and social events.

### **3. HOW TO SELECT THE PARTICIPANTS**

Each National Scout Organization is entitled to send two delegates and up to three observers, aged 18-26, to the 8<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum. Delegates have the right to speak and vote, whereas observers have the right to speak but not to vote. If your Organization has both male and female members, your delegation should comprise both male and female members.

The selection of participants is the responsibility of National Scout Organizations. It is important to do this early and in a democratic way involving young members. Participants must be selected based on their ability to contribute effectively to the Forum topics. This also means that they should speak good English or French.

### **4. HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE FORUM**

Please support your participants in preparing for the Forum, by discussing the Forum topics with them and other young members. Each National Scout Organization is invited to prepare exhibition material showing its programme for adolescents and the impact which Scouting is making in society (photos, maps, texts, videos, publications, etc.) If you wish, you can also prepare a workshop to share innovative ways of preparing young people to play an active role in society.

Wishing you success in the selection and preparation of your Forum participants,



Jacques Moreillon  
*Secretary General*