



World Organization of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout

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To: International Commissioners

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GOVERNANCE REVIEW TASK FORCE

Dear colleagues,

As you know, the World Scout Conference, in Resolution 7/2005, asked the World Scout Committee to establish, with appropriate Terms of Reference, a "Governance review Task Force" to conduct, in full transparency, a comprehensive review of the Governance of WOSM.

The World Scout Committee has now approved these Terms of Reference, a copy of which is attached.

To help it appoint the Governance review Task Force, the World Scout Committee now invites all NSOs to propose names of potential Task Force members. Proposals should be sent to me, together with a brief curriculum vitae (maximum 1 page) and a statement describing the kind of contribution the person proposed could make to the work of the Task Force, making reference - where appropriate - to the issues specified in the Terms of Reference. Please submit these **no later than 31 January 2006**.

The World Committee will then consider these proposed names and formalise the appointment of the members of the Governance review Task Force. All NSOs will naturally be kept informed of progress.

Thank you for your cooperation.

With best wishes,

Eduardo Missoni
Secretary General

The Governance Review Task Force

Terms of Reference

Status and Mission

The Governance Review Task Force (GRTF) is established in accordance with the 37th World Scout Conference Resolution 7/05.

The GRTF mission is to conduct a comprehensive review of the governance of WOSM during the current triennium (October 2005 - September 2008).

The GRTF will adopt as working documents the Conference Document No. 7 and the Report of the "Evaluation Group" and the issues identified therein as a framework for the conduct of the review.

"Unity" of the Movement should be the single most important goal.

Composition

The GRTF is an independent group, made up of people external to the World Scout Committee, reporting to the World Scout Committee who will appoint one vice-chairman as liaison with the GRTF.

The chairperson is appointed by the World Scout Committee. He or she is a respected individual, with significant Scout experience and, ideally, good knowledge of World Scouting and WOSM. However he or she is not a present member of the World Scout Committee or of any of its sub-committees, or of a Regional Committee. He or she has a good knowledge and experience of international organizations and related governance issues.

In addition to the chairperson, the GRTF is composed of no more than **seven** permanent members representing a variety of cultures, age ranges and gender. One or more of these members may be appointed as vice-chairperson.

The members of the GRTF are appointed by the World Scout Committee in agreement with the chairperson of the task force. They are appointed in a personal capacity among persons with knowledge and experience of WOSM, drawing on nominations coming from NSOs after worldwide appeal, as well as among others with an external perspective or experience. They are not present members of the World Scout Committee or of any of its sub-committees, or of Regional Committees. The appointment of task force members who are members of a NSO must be supported by that NSO.

The Steering Committee of the World Scout Committee will act as a "search group" for the identification of the chairman and of the other seven permanent members of the GRTF to be appointed by the World Scout Committee.

Members of the GRTF, including the chairperson, will be entitled to claim reimbursement of reasonable travel and accommodation costs for task force meetings. As volunteers for the task, they will have no right to any other compensation.

According to need, the GRTF is empowered to set up sub-groups and/or draw on specialist expertise.

With reference to the above mentioned "working documents", all together the GRTF, including established sub-groups, must encompass competencies enabling it to face the following issues:

- Representation and participation in NSOs: the review of structures and dynamics to ensure openness, diversity and internal democracy at local and national level (includes issues such as the value of federative structures, and solutions to the "dissidence" phenomenon)
- Direct international networking of local groups and direct participation of individual members to the global dimension of Scouting
- Minimum quality standards for membership (Scout method, democracy, openness, etc.)

- Equity, sustainability, ethical standards and effectiveness in the financing of Scouting: membership fees* and other sources of funds
- "Geo-political" dimensions of Scouting: the political-geographical and cultural references of Member Scout Organizations (UN parameters or autonomous criteria for WOSM membership?)
- "Corporate" governance:
 - World Scout Conference Representation and voting rights
 - structure and dynamics of the World Scout Committee (regional representation, gender and age balance, democracy, effectiveness)
 - relationships between elected volunteers and the World Scout Bureau
- WAGGGS/WOSM (the SAGNO issue; provisions to ensure a "win-win", reciprocally strengthening approach; governance provisions to facilitate co-operation)*
- International recognition and repositioning of WOSM*

(An asterisk indicates that the issue is already being dealt with externally to the GRTF)

Ways of working

The Governance Review process is intended to be as widely participatory as possible, both through ad-hoc consultation meetings and, especially, through the utilization of electronic communication.

The working attitude should be one of openness, mutual understanding and positive outlook toward the future ("a big wide-minded view before us" BP).

Besides NSOs the GRTF will involve consultation with all relevant stakeholders of World Scouting including WSF, WAGGGS, organizations in consultative status to WOSM, non-Scout organizations of interest to WOSM.

The GRTF will produce intermediate reports to be presented for feed-back to the World Scout Committee and its sub-committees at each meeting and circulated to NSOs.

Issues of Constitutional relevance will involve consultation with the Constitutions Committee.

The final report of the GRTF will take into account the provisions not requiring decisions by the World Scout Conference that may have been adopted by the World Scout Committee during the period of the review.

The WSB serves as the Secretariat to the GRTF.

The World Scout Committee will report to the World Scout Conference on the results of the GRTF and will propose the actions to follow.