



World Organization of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout

World Scout **Bureau** Mondial du Scoutisme

P.O. Box 241
CH-1211 Geneva 4
Switzerland

Rue du Pré-Jérôme 5
CH-1205 Geneva
Switzerland

Tel: (+41 22) 705 10 10
Fax: (+41 22) 705 10 20

worldbureau@world.scout.org

CIRCULAR N° 9/2004

To: International Commissioners

May 2004

Meeting of World Scout Committee Geneva, Switzerland, 2-5 April 2004

Dear Colleagues,

The World Scout Committee (WSC) held its latest meeting in Geneva from 2-5 April 2004. Twelve members of the World Scout Committee, and three Regional Chairmen, were able to attend.

The meeting was preceded by meetings of the Youth Forum Planning Committee, the Audit Committee and the Board of SCORE International, the trading arm of WOSM. A meeting of the WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee was also held prior to the WSC meeting (a separate circular will be issued with the minutes of that meeting.)

A number of guests attended the meeting, notably from NSOs hosting future World Events and young adults taking part in the Youth Forum Planning Committee (now also designated as youth advisers to the WSC).

Among the main agenda items were the following:

- A message from the new Secretary General, Eduardo Missoni, who had taken office on 1 April, outlining his priorities for the coming year. These include:
 - implementation of the Strategy for Scouting, to help build a better and more peaceful world, through strategic and operational planning
 - building a more effective unified World Organization committed to serving more young people, especially adolescents
 - improving the image and profile of Scouting at all levels, especially through effective communications
 - strengthening of partnership with external organizations, including the corporate sector, academia (universities, management schools), governments, UN organizations and other intergovernmental agencies, and NGOs
- The Strategy for Scouting. Workstreams on the three top priorities (Youth Involvement; Volunteers in Scouting; and Scouting's Profile) met to review progress and make plans for future work, especially in the period up to the next World Scout Conference in Tunisia. The WSC also approved an interim report on the Strategy which will be sent to NSOs shortly, and saw a video which had been prepared to support the discussions on the Strategy at Regional Scout Conferences this year.

- The WSC also further discussed the recommendations contained in the Evaluation Group report submitted last year. Most of these fall under the responsibility of the WSC and/or World Scout Bureau (WSB) and – in conformity with the WSC decisions previously announced – are now being implemented. A few recommendations will require approval of the next World Scout Conference in Tunisia if they are to be implemented. Details of these will be submitted to National Scout Organizations for consultation in due course, prior to the Conference.
- Further to Resolution 2/2002 of the last World Scout Conference, the WSC received reports on the situation of Scouting in Albania and Belarus. Given the encouraging report on Albania, the WSC agreed to extend for a further period of six months the status of the Scout association in that country, before making a final decision on possible termination of membership. However, the WSC reluctantly concluded that the membership of Belarus should be terminated effective 31 March 2004 (see Circular 7/2004).
- The WSC welcomed the news that the two constituent associations of Scouting Ireland had merged into a single Member Organization; rejoiced that the constitutional situation of Spain had finally been resolved; noted that Namibia now qualified for full membership of WOSM (rather than “accredited” status), subject to final approval of their constitution and a postal vote of Member Organizations; and considered a number of other country matters concerning which NSOs will be informed in the coming months.
- The WSC approved the financial accounts for 2002-2003; received an encouraging financial report for the current fiscal year; considered the situation of NSOs with fee arrears (see Circular 6/2004); received a report from the Audit Committee and from SCORE International; and heard a presentation by the Chairman of the World Scout Foundation on the Foundation’s fundraising strategy for the coming years.
- Under the heading of “relationships”, the WSC considered a report from the WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee and was updated on recent contacts with the International Scout & Guide Fellowship.
- Reports from the host country were presented on preparations for the 37th World Scout Conference and 9th World Scout Youth Forum in Tunisia in 2005. A schedule of Conference/Youth Forum fees was approved. (NSOs will receive details of these soon.)
- Reports were also received on plans for other future world events, including the 12th World Scout Moot hosted by Scouts of China later this year; the 21st World Scout Jamboree in 2007 in the United Kingdom; and the 100th Anniversary of Scouting in that year.
- Finally, the WSC discussed some regional concerns, including loss of membership in industrialised countries, especially in Europe; developments in the Asia-Pacific Region; the 50th Anniversary of the Arab Regional Scout Organization; and the project to promote HIV/AIDS prevention in Africa.

Please do not hesitate to contact the World Scout Bureau if you have any questions on any of these matters.

The next meeting of the WSC will be held in Geneva from 29-31 October 2004.

Yours sincerely,



Eduardo Missoni
Secretary General