



Address of the new Chairman of the World Scout Committee Mr. Herman C.S. Hui

*World Scout Conference, Yasmine-Hammamet, Tunisia
Friday, 9 September 2005*

Madam Chairman,
Dear World Scout Committee colleagues,
Dear representatives of the National Scout Organizations,
Dear friends,

I thank you, today, for seeing me as the bearer of a spirit of brotherhood, as an element of solidarity with our various bodies.

REACHING OUT TO YOUNG PEOPLE

The World Scout Youth Forum report brought a breath of fresh air to our debates. Helping the Organization to reach out will be one of the tasks that we will propose to the young advisors that the Forum elected by inviting them to become participating members of the World Scout Committee. It is not simply a matter of getting them involved but involving them as part of the decision process. We accompany these young people so they can be autonomous and strengthen their commitment. We welcome them as our equals and will give them the means by which to erase the impression of distance.

CREATING A TEAM

In the Committee, we need to build a team, a new team, a team that works, efficiently with transparency and integrity. I am blessed by the Conference to have elected the people needed for the team.

I hope that the terms of reference of the members of the World Scout Committee and the task forces and sub committees will be made clear at the first meeting of the new Committee, which will take place in the last week-end of November, in Geneva. The various teams and working groups needed to deal with the subjects at hand will be defined at that time.

As we owe you total transparency, we will produce reports to national scout organisations at regular intervals through the scoutpack and the internet. That will not only reflect the Committee's working sessions, but also how the members are advancing with the tasks emanating from your votes.

Coordination between the World Bureau and the World Committee will be strengthened, so that we can be close at hand, effective and worthy of confidence. I look forward to working with our Secretary General, Eduardo, who has impressed me as a true and honourable Scout, on developing coordination, and I encourage him, with his team, to find the forms of a solidarity that we wish to be total.

A TORCH FOR THE FUTURE

We have learned a lot from the past. Now, we need to look ahead as you have given us the very precise tasks.

The issue of governance is the greatest chunk, and certainly the most difficult one. However, it is also the most exciting one, as it will bring us to get the Movement to be a sounding board on its future and to look forward to writing the history book of its second century. Our task is a historic

one. This task will be chaired and undertaken by volunteers independently outside the World Scout Committee and the World Scout Bureau.

Wednesday's debate was full of pointers that will be taken into account in our road plan. In order to succeed and come back to you in 2008 with a visionary and realistic proposal, we will need to consult broadly, and in this, young people will have an active part to play, as I have already said, but we will, of course, also make use of all the networks, which represent the richness and diversity of the Movement. And, if helpful, we will seek opinions externally to add to our thinking and help outline appropriate solutions.

The issue of growth and development will need to be treated urgently and realistically. The work on improving the image, which was launched a few months ago, and which was presented to you on Monday, will continue, as it needs a long-term strategy.

We hope to improve coordination with the Regional Committees so as to strengthen international cooperation and forge the necessary spirit of collaboration to establish the principles of our future governance.

All these subjects constitute a torch for the future.

STRENGTHENING THE SPIRIT OF BROTHERHOOD

What actually keeps us together? It's the spirit of brotherhood that we are upholding. Beyond the conflicts, of whatever nature, it is this spirit of brotherhood which keeps us together to overcome obstacles. We do not want to be the victims of political instability that could crack the foundations of what unites us, namely the values and spirit of Scouting. This is why I call upon you to find solutions - together - to the problems that we face.

The Centenary year is the catalyst for union; it obliges us to reflect on our promise; it commits us to being ourselves - women and men who are active, useful and happy.

Please give me and your world scout committee support and cooperation to achieve the many tasks ahead of me. After all, it is your scout committee and our world organisation. Let us work together to make a better world.

Thanks you.

Herman C.S. Hui

Chairman of the World Scout Committee