



World Organization of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout

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CIRCULAR N° 23/2005

To: International Commissioners

August 2005

Meeting of the World Scout Committee, Rome, Italy, April 2005

Dear colleagues,

Introduction

The World Scout Committee held its latest meeting in Rome from 17-19 April 2005, to coincide with meetings of the World Scout Foundation. Attendance at the meeting was good, including several Youth Advisers who had attended a meeting of the Planning Committee of the 9th World Scout Youth Forum prior to the World Committee meeting.

As usual, the agenda was organised under a series of main headings:

- Secretary General: including his report to the World Committee; a new organization chart of the World Scout Bureau; Governance issues; recommendations from the Evaluation Group; triennial report to the World Scout Conference; and statutes of WSB Inc., which is WOSM's legal body under Swiss law.
- The Strategy for Scouting: including general progress report; preparations for the Strategy up to the World Scout Conference in Tunisia and in the next triennium; reports from workstreams on the three top priorities (Youth Involvement, Volunteers and Scouting's Profile); and work on the other four priorities.
- Institutional matters: including constitutional matters; financial matters (accounts for the current year, registration fees, estimates for the 2005-2006 budget, meetings of the Audit Committee and of the SCORE Board of Directors, World Scout Foundation); relationships matters (WAGGGS, organizations with consultative status to the World Committee); 37th World Scout Conference and 9th World Scout Youth Forum, Tunisia; recent Regional Conferences; 21st World Scout Jamboree, 100th Anniversary of Scouting 2007, and other future events.
- Regional matters, including reports from Regional Chairmen.

Secretary General's report

In his report to the World Committee, the Secretary General focused on the same nine areas he had identified in his previous report: strategic management, organization, human resources, information and communication technology, financial resources mobilisation, external communication and branding, external relations and partnerships, relations with the WSC, and relations with NSOs. During the discussion of his report, the importance of working collaboratively with NSOs on planned projects was emphasised.

The World Committee discussed a draft Conference Document on the Governance of WOSM and approved a proposal that a special task force be set up, during the next triennium, to conduct a Governance review. A Resolution for the World Scout Conference will be prepared.

Revised statutes for WSB Inc., the registered body which gives legal status to WOSM under Swiss law, had been drafted. The changes are intended to give the World Scout Committee itself, as the elected body of WOSM, stronger decision-making powers representing WSB Inc. If approved by the relevant Swiss authorities, the revised statutes will be submitted to the General Assembly of WSB Inc. for adoption.

The Strategy for Scouting

The World Committee received progress reports on the various strategic priorities, and approved proposals for the handling of the Strategy at the World Scout Conference. In discussion groups, participants will have the opportunity to share their NSO's successes and achievements over the past three years as well as the challenges and obstacles that were faced in developing and implementing their strategies. They will also have the possibility to comment on the process proposed to assess progress on the Strategy from 2005-2008. Conference Documents will be published to support these sessions.

The World Committee also considered proposals related to youth involvement and volunteers, the role of youth advisers, a communications and branding strategy, follow-up to the World Scout Seminar on Partnership (Marrakech+10), and the registration fee system for the next triennium.

Institutional matters

The World Scout Committee noted that, notwithstanding extensions to the deadline imposed by the last World Scout Conference, Besa Skaut Albania had failed to fulfil its constitutional obligations as the NSO in Albania; consequently, in accordance with Conference Resolution 2/2002, the Association's membership of WOSM was terminated with immediate effect. The Chairman of the Constitutions Committee reported that an application for membership from a new Association in Albania, Beslidhja Skaut Albania, had been received and its constitution had been approved. He recommended that it be admitted as the new Albanian NSO; the World Committee agreed that this application should be submitted to NSOs for a postal vote. (Note: The application from Beslidhja Skaut Albania will be considered at the World Scout Conference; see Conference Document No. 3.)

The World Committee also heard a report on the results of the postal vote that was underway to admit SPOK as the NSO of Ukraine, the deadline for which was 30 April. In light of responses received from NSOs to date, the Committee agreed that a special mission should visit Ukraine as soon as possible to determine whether the application was valid. (Note: Further information on the results of the vote on this membership application was contained in Circular No. 13/2005; see also Conference Document No. 3.)

The World Organization's latest financial situation was reported. 79 NSOs still owed part or the totality of their registration fees for the year. As the World Conference approached, additional efforts would be made to collect outstanding fees and especially arrears. At the date of the meeting 17 NSOs were provisionally suspended for non-payment of fees. The implications of sanctions imposed on suspended NSOs, with particular reference to World and Regional Conferences and events, were reviewed and clarified.

Relationships matters included a presentation to the Committee by representatives of the International Scout & Guide Fellowship (ISGF), one of the organizations which has consultative status with WOSM. Recent developments in relationships with WAGGGS, ICCS and WSPU were also reported.

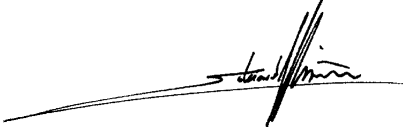
A progress report on preparations for the 37th World Scout Conference in Tunisia was received and the latest outline programme and agenda distributed. The World Committee endorsed the names of the jury for the Youth for Development Prize that will be presented during the Conference.

The planning committee for the 9th World Scout Youth Forum had met immediately prior to the World Committee meeting. Abdessalem Meghirbi, the chairman-designate of the Forum, reported to the Committee on the plans which had been developed. Revised guidelines for the Forum were approved.

Plans for the 100th Anniversary of Scouting in 2007, the 21st World Scout Jamboree, the 38th World Scout Conference & 10th World Scout Youth Forum and the 13th World Scout Moot were also discussed.

Many of the subjects discussed by the Committee at this meeting will be on the agenda of the World Scout Conference in Tunisia.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eduardo Missoni', written over a horizontal line.

Eduardo Missoni
Secretary General