WORLD SCOUT COMMITTEE STATEMENT
ON RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

We recognize that all National Scout Organizations (NSOs) have to operate within their national context and we would wish to re-emphasize the non-political, voluntary status of Scouting as a worldwide educational youth Movement. However, WOSM as a whole is clear on its unequivocal support for Human Rights. These were expressed in the UN Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 and continue to evolve.

The values promoted by World Scouting are expressed within the Scout Promise and Law. From these values, it is understood that the dignity of the human being should be valued in each Scout programme and activity.

We want to send a clear message globally by publicly reaffirming our worldwide commitment to Scouting values and the Movement’s recognition of the sanctity of Human Rights which should apply without exception or discrimination. We would ask that any individual member of Scouting who finds his or her own position is incompatible with agreed Scouting values should consider seriously their own position, especially in the context of any adverse implications for Scouting that may be wrongfully inferred from this.

Education is at the heart of changing the world and we will not be swayed or distracted from this vital Mission.

World Scout Committee
March 2014