40th World Scout Conference

PROPOSED CONFERENCE RESOLUTION

SCOUTING AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Moved by: World Scout Committee

The Conference

- recalling the difficulties that emerged at the last World Scout Conference on the topic of Scouting’s approach to human rights and non-discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, which led the World Scout Committee to set up a Human Rights Task Force in this triennium

- recognizing Scouting’s acceptance of human rights as expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and reaffirmed in subsequent UN conventions, treaties, covenants, declarations and resolutions, and in international law, which make clear that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms stated in the Declaration without distinction of any kind and that States have a duty to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems

- recalling World Scout Conference Resolutions 19/77 and 8/88 and the Declaration from the World Scout Committee to the 39th World Scout Conference (2011) titled "World Organization of the Scout Movement and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – Reaching Out, Creating a Better World", which together with this resolution represent WOSM’s policy statements on human rights

- affirming that human rights education is a key to changing attitudes and behaviour and to promoting respect for diversity in societies

• reaffirms that Scouting, as a Movement based on its principles of Duty to God, Duty to others and Duty to self expressed in the Scout Promise and Law, does not discriminate on any grounds of human rights

• reaffirms that the World Organization of the Scout Movement has a responsibility to promote Human Rights Education among children and young people as part of its Mission

• endorses the World Scout Committee’s stated objective to do its best to ensure that all members in Scouting enjoy all rights and freedoms stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, without distinction of any kind

• endorses the World Scout Committee’s report on progress on achieving its undertaking made to the 39th World Scout Conference to:
  - include work on Human Rights Education as a part of its guidelines on the Scout programme for all age groups
  - collect and distribute best practices from National Scout Organizations, providing inspiration and help in creating strategies for National Scout Organizations to focus work on diversity, civil and human rights, and reaching out to different segments in society in a national or local perspective
  - provide National Scout Organizations with ongoing support in working with diversity, civil and human rights and reaching out to different segments in society

• adopts the principle that WOSM and National Scout Organizations respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; make sure they are not complicit in human rights abuses; and develop their own strategies and identify challenges that need to be addressed regarding human rights based on the Mission of Scouting and taking account of current legal, cultural and religious contexts.

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See Conference Document 12