

## Document 2



## World Scout Youth Forum Guidelines

12<sup>TH</sup><sub>E</sub> WORLD SCOUT  
YOUTH FORUM  
FORUM DES JEUNES  
DU SCOUTISME MONDIAL  
SLOVENIA 2014



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# WORLD SCOUT YOUTH FORUM GUIDELINES

The following Guidelines for the organisation of the World Scout Youth Forum (WSYF) have been revised and updated by the 12th World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee for the approval of the World Scout Committee.

The World Scout Committee approved these Guidelines in March 2014.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The 33rd World Scout Conference in 1993 adopted a Policy on Involvement of young members In Decision-Making.<sup>1</sup> This policy states, as a basic principle, that "Scouting is a Movement of young people, supported by adults; it is not a Movement for young people managed by adults only. Thus, Scouting offers the potential for a learning community of young people and adults, working together in partnership of enthusiasm and experience."

The World Scout Committee emphasises that the involvement of young people, male and female, in decision-making is an integral and essential part of the Scout Method, defined as a system of progressive self-education. Through the small group system, young people are encouraged to participate, according to their stage of development, in decision-making relating to the choice and organization of activities, the evaluation of group life, the determination of common rules and the evaluation of personal progression.<sup>2</sup>

## 2. WHAT IS THE WORLD SCOUT YOUTH FORUM?

The World Scout Youth Forum is an educational tool to support the process of developing youth participation in partnership with adults and young members in the oldest age sections. The WSYF is an event that empowers and inspires young people through a participatory approach, helping them to develop skills in decision-making which can be used within Scouting and in society.

The Forum is a place for information, training and concrete experience of discussing and acquiring a deeper understanding of various issues. It is also a source of inspiration by providing contact with new people, fresh ideas, innovative thoughts, different experiences and working methods.

A World Scout Youth Forum, therefore, provides a dual opportunity for young members:

- to learn, discuss and express their views on issues of interest to them, preparing inputs, proposals and reporting in the World Scout Conference; and
- to develop the skills necessary to strengthen their capacity to take part in decision-making processes and to actively being involved in their own national Scout organisations (NSOs).

The World Scout Youth Forum shall "enable young people to:

1. share their ideas and experiences on current issues affecting young people in different parts of the world;
2. suggest ways of strengthening national youth policies and training young people for world citizenship; and
3. contribute new ideas to the Movement on how to enrich educational programmes for young people over 16.<sup>3</sup>

The World Scout Youth Forum shall be held immediately prior to World Scout Conferences, which will allow more young members to participate in World Scout Conferences and also to be better prepared for them. It was decided that World Scout Youth Forums should be empowered to make such draft resolutions as they feel appropriate to the World Scout Committee and National Scout organisations for their consideration.

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<sup>1</sup> See Annexes

<sup>2</sup> As amended and endorsed by the 36th World Scout Conference, Thessaloniki, July 2002

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 6/02 on Youth Involvement in Decision-Making

### **3. PROGRAMME OF THE WORLD SCOUT YOUTH FORUM**

The World Scout Committee is ultimately responsible for the agenda and procedures of the WSYF and a Host Committee is responsible for the facilities and support services. However these committees delegates to young members the planning, organising and running of such events.<sup>4</sup>

#### **a. Theme**

The Youth Forum Planning Committee chooses a theme for the World Scout Youth Forum, according to the topics on the agenda.

#### **b. Agenda**

The agenda of the World Scout Youth Forum should be determined by young people and the participants themselves.

The Forum should allow participants to discuss issues relating to Scouting that are of interest to them. This may include any topics to be discussed at the upcoming World Scout Conference, including issues related to triennial planning. This will help strengthen the intergenerational dialogue and facilitate the actual involvement of young people in decision-making. It may also include, but should not be limited to, the issue of Youth Involvement.

The agenda should be flexible, allowing participants to organise and discuss topics that they suggest during the event. Participants should also be encouraged to nominate topics of interest to them when they register, in order to allow preparation of materials which may aid their discussions.

#### **c. Working methods**

Working methods will include methods that are currently practiced in international Scout decision-making bodies. At the WSYF, participants are invited to discuss and share topics of interest to them using democratic methods and rules which would be useful for their participation in international Scout and/or youth events in general. The different experiences and cultures of the participants will allow them, with the help of the methods proposed during the Forum, to have useful exchanges and to enrich their personal abilities.

It is important to use creative, diverse and appropriate methods that will ensure the successful realisation of the objectives of the WSYF but will also serve as example to be replicated in participants' national Scout organisations.

Through this, participants will develop their motivation and their skills to participate in decision-making at local, national and international levels.

##### **i. Educational dimension**

The Planning Committee of the WSYF must make sure that there is sufficient information, instruction and explanation included in the WSYF programme and its preparation period to allow participants who may be less well prepared than others to still take a full and active role in the Forum. There is an important balance to be drawn, between a training and educational opportunity for all those who have limited experience of such events, and offering a suitable programme for those Forum delegates who may have extensive experience in participation as a youth representative at national and international level.

The World Scout Youth Forum must offer an environment where all the young people present can engage in an active, useful development of ideas, can provide input to the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) on programme development, strengthening national youth policies, and training young people for world citizenship.

As the WSYF also serves (temporarily or otherwise) as a training ground for World Scout Conference participation, then some of the methods used at the Forum should reflect those of the Conference. Participants should learn about draft resolution development and voting procedures through using such techniques.

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<sup>4</sup> Resolution 10/93

## **ii. Keynote inputs**

Guest speakers with experience in the Forum's topics could be invited to attend the WSYF, provide an input and engage with the participants. Whenever possible, the sessions should be made interactive and participatory. The inputs shall be organized in various ways and to be innovative.

## **iii. Peer leadership**

Youth Forum participants should be encouraged to actively run sessions themselves. Those with experience at similar events and with expertise in particular areas of interest could be invited to lead sessions, and to nominate subjects themselves. The sessions should mainly be organized by young people, this should not eliminate the possibility to ask older people to lead sessions where their expertise can be of value. These may be identified before the event, and requested to bring materials with them, or be previously prepared, or they may be identified and approached at the event.

If keynote speakers address the plenary, it may then be possible to follow speeches with participant-led discussion groups, thereby developing further the participants' understanding of the topic.

## **iv. International teams**

The delegates will work, throughout the Forum, in international teams, not in their national delegation. Each team will be around eight persons in number. The Planning Committee will assign the teams and each team would reflect a balance in age, gender, Region and experience.

## **v. Continuous Virtual Communication**

In order to allow participants to the WSYF to stay in contact before, during and after the Forum, an internet platform will be created and duly communicated through all possible channels to be known to the Forum participants.

This web platform will enable the participants to engage in on-line discussions. Technical support and maintenance, including registration of members, are the responsibility of the World Scout Bureau.

All participants at the World Scout Youth Forum and the Regional Scout Youth Forums (or equivalent) shall be invited to be part of this Internet platform. It should accommodate all current and past participants of the World and Regional Youth Forum with a slight focus on the current participants. This platform will include also other young people who would like to share their views during the triennium (between the forums)

Youth Advisors shall be responsible for discussion animation and coordination. Youth Advisors may delegate sessions to other volunteers who wish to run discussions.

# **4. PARTICIPANTS**

## **a. Delegates and observers**

There are two kinds of participants at WSYF: delegates and observers. At the time of registration each delegate and observer will be required to produce an official letter of appointment clearly indicating the function of either delegate or observer, signed by the President, International Commissioner or other responsible official of his or her National Scout Organization, unless his or her name is listed on the appointment of delegates form deposited with the World Scout Bureau in advance.

Each National Scout Organization is encouraged to send two delegates and a maximum of three observers to the Forum. National Scout organisations are strongly encouraged to send at least one delegate to a World Scout Youth Forum. Only individuals who are members of the World Organization of the Scout Movement can be delegates to the World Scout Youth Forum.

Each delegation may cast two votes, irrespective of the number of delegates representing a National Scout Organization at the Forum.

## **b. Profile**

World Scout Youth Forum participants should have:

- experience in, or knowledge of, decision making at the institutional level within their National Scout Organization and/or at Regional level;
- experience in, or knowledge of, current issues under consideration at world level in the World Organization of the Scout Movement;
- experience in, or knowledge of, conference participation, techniques of draft resolution development,
- experience in, or knowledge of, representation of young people, and
- Willingness to share experience with his/her peers at national, regional and world level after the Forum, with the possibility to take an active role at one, some or all these levels if needed.

## **c. Selection**

National Scout Organizations are responsible for ensuring the selection of appropriate participants at World Scout Youth Forums, in accordance with the profile set out above.

Gender, social, ethnic and geographical background should be taken into consideration when the participants are selected. Organizations with both female and male members should try to ensure gender-balance in the selection process.

Participants must be selected in advance of the event. The selection process should take into consideration the participants' capacity to contribute to the World Scout Youth Forum topics. Participants should be appointed or elected by their peers according to democratic principles, and they should represent the young members of their association. To achieve a truly democratic process, it is of importance to involve young members in the process.

## **d. Global Resource Pool**

In order to increase the involvement of young members in working groups, task forces and subcommittees of the World Scout Committee, Forum participants may volunteer, during the registration process, to be part of a Global Resource Pool. Being part of the pool, will give the opportunity to the Forum participants to contribute to Scouting at World level in specific topics, according to their skills, expertise and performance during the Forum.<sup>5</sup>

## **e. Preparation**

National Scout Organizations are responsible for providing support to World Scout Youth Forum participants in their preparation for the event. Participants should be selected, or provided with training, in accordance with the criteria listed.

Adequate information about the topics to be discussed by a World Scout Youth Forum should be given to National Scout Organizations early enough to allow them to pass it on to their participants to prepare for the Forum.

The World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee should support the preparation of the participants through the dedicated Internet platform and through any other appropriate means. An online information tool will be available to all participants to go through. Registration to the Forum will not be completed without passing it.

## **f. After the World Scout Youth Forum**

As a means of encouraging greater participation in the official decision-making processes of the Movement by young adults – in particular those who have had the opportunity to develop their personal skills through taking part in a World Scout Youth Forum – it is recommended that Forum participants be included in their National Scout Organization's delegation to the World Scout Conference which immediately follows the Forum.

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<sup>5</sup> All participants who wish to be part of the "Global Resource Pool" will need an official endorsement of their National Scout Organisation. Also, when answering to the general Open Call, national Scout organisations will continue to be encouraged to nominate young leaders as well as members of all ages, providing they have the right expertise.

Forum participants attending the Conference should be invited to brief the other members of the delegation on the results of the WSYF. National Scout Organizations should ensure that, on their return home, Forum participants are enabled to share their experience within the Organization and report on the Forum to responsible bodies.

Participants are encouraged to maintain informal contact with each other after the World Scout Youth Forum, as well as with their respective Regional Youth Forum participants, to share their experience of the Forum.

#### **g. Other participants**

The World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee may also invite visitors to attend some sessions of the World Scout Youth Forum. Visitors may be invited by the Planning Committee to speak but they have no right to vote. The age limits do not apply to visitors.

It is highly encouraged that the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee invites guests from partner or other organizations with similar scope of work as the World Organization of the Scout Movement. These guests may share good practices and engage in the discussions of the Forum.

#### **h. Age range**

World Scout Youth Forum participants must be between the ages of 18 and 26 during the period of the forum, in accordance with World Scout Conference Resolution 10/93.<sup>6</sup>

### **5. ORGANIZATION**

#### **a. World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee**

##### **i. Composition**

The World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee shall comprise:

- Two of the six elected Youth Advisors (irrespective of their Region). They will not necessarily be members of any working group at world level apart from being part of the planning team of the Forum. They would be selected among the six Youth Advisors on their first meeting after the Forum.
- Four to five representatives from the young members of the "Global Resource Pool" which will ensure representatives from each of the WOSM Regions (minimum of four – in case the two elected Youth Advisors are from different Regions - and maximum of five – if the elected Youth Advisors to the planning committee are from the same Region). The six elected Youth Advisors, in coordination with Regional Youth Advisors and Regional Offices, will select these representatives. These young representatives should receive official endorsement from their National Scout Organizations for this task.
- one representative of the Host National Scout Organization;
- one member of the World Scout Committee; and
- executives from the World Scout Bureau giving specific support to the Forum.

##### **ii. Functions**

The World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee has the following functions:

- to identify topics of interest to young people which may be considered by the Forum;
- to take into consideration input from the World Scout Committee on any particular topics the Committee may wish the Forum to consider;
- to ensure, within the programme of the Forum, opportunities for the development of skills of participants in the processes of decision-making;
- to recommend to the World Scout Committee for approval, the main content of the programme and agenda of the World Scout Youth Forum;
- to prepare information for National Scout Organizations on the main topics to be discussed by the Forum in advance of the event;
- to develop the detailed programme and agenda of the Forum;

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<sup>6</sup> For the 12th World Scout Youth Forum in Slovenia, participants must be born on or between the dates of 4 August 1988 and 4 August 1996.

- to choose the working methods of the Forum, favouring opportunities for skill development, discussions and group work by participants;
- to inform participants about their role both within the Forum itself and within their Association following the Forum.

### **iii. Chairperson**

The six Youth Advisors elected at that World Scout Youth Forum shall, on their first meeting, elect from among themselves the Chairperson of the next World Scout Youth Forum, which will be one of the two Youth Advisors elected at the Forum to serve as part of the Forum Planning Committee.

## **b. Roles and responsibilities**

### **i. Role of World Scout Committee**

The World Scout Committee is responsible for:

- approving the venue and other practical arrangements proposed by the host National Scout Organization;
- approving the participant fee for the World Scout Youth Forum;
- informing the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee of any specific topics it would like the World Scout Youth Forum to consider, in time for this to be taken into account by the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee in its work;
- approving the main content of the programme and draft agenda of the World Scout Youth Forum, as recommended by the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee;
- and to follow up the outcomes of the World Scout Youth Forum.

### **ii. Role of World Scout Bureau (WSB) (including Regional Offices)**

The WSB must devote the necessary resources, similar to those accorded to World Scout Conferences, to ensure the success of the World Scout Youth Forum. This includes:

- providing adequate information to National Scout Organizations about all aspects of the World Scout Youth Forum early enough to allow them to plan and prepare for their participation;
- providing executive support to the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee;
- providing secretarial and translation support during the Forum and in the days immediately following the event, when the report to the World Scout Committee is being prepared;
- supporting the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee to prepare and run the Forum;
- providing web development and on-going support to the on-line Internet discussion platform for young people.

### **iii. Role of host National Scout Organization**

In principle, the National Scout Organization hosting a World Scout Youth Forum fulfils the same responsibilities for the Forum as for a World Scout Conference; since the two events are run in conjunction many common procedures may be combined. The responsibilities of the host National Scout Organization include, among other things:

- proposing to the World Scout Committee a suitable venue and practical arrangements for the event;
- the appointment of a Host Committee and provision of support to its operation;
- arranging for government support, including the assurance of entry for Forum participants from all member countries.

### **iv. Responsibilities of the Host Committee**

The Host Committee is appointed by the host National Scout Organization. The Host Committee is responsible, inter alia, for:

- managing the venue (meeting rooms, offices and equipment);
- arranging for participants' reception, transportation and accommodation;
- arranging for the opening and closing ceremonies and social programme;
- providing the necessary staff to support the Forum.

The function of the representative of the host National Scout Organization within the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee is to act as the point of contact between the Planning Committee and the Host Committee.

### **c. General**

#### **i. Financial matters**

In principle, the same policies and procedures concerning financial matters that apply to World Scout Conferences apply to World Scout Youth Forums. This includes the self-financing nature of all World Events and the responsibility of the host National Scout Organization to cover any eventual financial deficit.

Since World Scout Youth Forums are run in conjunction with World Scout Conferences, budget and financial control for the two events may be combined, provided that separate financial statements for each event can be produced at the end.

The host National Scout Organization must establish, jointly with the World Scout Bureau, the global World Scout Youth Forum budget reflecting all income and expenditures associated with the event. In this regard, budgeted expenditure must include costs to be incurred by the Host Committee, the Planning Committee and the World Scout Bureau in all phases of planning and conducting the Forum.

The host National Scout Organization must propose to the World Scout Committee, for its approval, the fee for the World Scout Youth Forum on the basis of the provisional global budget; moreover, the host National Scout Organization, which assumes the final financial result at the closing of the accounts for the event, must raise the necessary funds to provide that part of the budgeted income which is not covered by the participants' fees. The World Scout Bureau will offer whatever assistance it can in identifying sources of funding, including special projects.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the fee for the World Scout Youth Forum should be kept as low as possible to encourage participation by young people from as many countries as possible. In addition, the host National Scout Organization, together with the World Scout Committee and World Scout Bureau, is strongly encouraged to consider what possibilities may exist, through the fee structure or other means of demonstrating solidarity, to facilitate the participation of young people from less wealthy countries.

#### **ii. Official languages**

The official languages of the World Scout Youth Forum are English and French.

## **6. REPORT, DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND DECLARATION<sup>7</sup>**

It is important that the Youth Forum be included in the wider structures developed for the involvement of young people within the Movement. As such, the outcomes of the Youth Forum should have on-going consequences. The event cannot be allowed to become an insular entity, where discussions take place that have no effect in any other arena.

For that reason, the World Scout Youth Forum may produce the following outputs:

- a Report, which will be presented during a session of the World Scout Conference, and will include the main developments occurring during the Forum
- Draft Resolutions, to be proposed to the World Scout Committee or any National Scout Organisation, to be put forward for adoption by the World Scout Conference
- A Final Declaration, a statement that summarizes the main concerns or messages that the participants would like to share with the World Organization of the Scout Movement or the world.

Regular updates on the status of the implementation of Resolutions originated in the Forum should be given through the web platform. A full report should be presented at the following World Scout Youth Forum.

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<sup>7</sup> WSYF will not propose any draft resolutions related to WOSM's constitution, policies or any major change that must reach the World Scout Bureau officially from the member organisations of WOSM not less than six months before the opening date of the Conference. This does not preclude the possibility of existing proposals being discussed during the Forum.

## **a. Nature of draft resolutions**

Draft resolutions will reflect the requests of the Forum participants for action to be taken, following the discussions they have had. The draft resolutions are to be submitted to vote during the World Conference for which they need to be presented by the World Scout Committee or any National Scout Organization. Therefore, Forum participants will find their endorsement.

The World Scout Conference Rules of Procedure should serve as an additional reference when writing draft resolutions.

## **b. Nature of the Final Declaration**

The Final Declaration should be in a form of general statement that expresses the key messages that the Forum participants collectively and/or individually, would like to convey. These may include major concerns, calls for action, wishes, encouragements, commitments, etc.

The final declaration will be included in the report of the Forum to the Conference and does not require endorsement by the World Scout Committee or national Scout organisations.

## **c. Drafting Committee**

### **i. Composition**

The Drafting Committee comprises:

- Four Forum delegates proposed by the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee on the basis of their competence to carry out their function. Among them, the members should be competent in one of the official languages of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, English or French;
- One Youth Advisor as a resource person;
- One facilitator from the World Scout Bureau.

This committee should be endorsed by the World Scout Youth Forum delegates at the beginning of the Forum.

### **ii. Functions**

The Drafting Committee has the following tasks:

- to inform participants on the function and form of draft resolutions to be forwarded to the World Scout Conference;
- to receive proposed draft resolutions from Forum delegates, in their international teams;
- to arrange for redrafting, when necessary, and translation;
- to distribute copies of the proposed draft resolutions, in writing and in both official languages of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, to Forum participants sufficiently in advance of the final session of the Forum to permit participants to study them;
- to present the proposed draft resolutions in writing in both official languages to the final session of the Forum for consideration and voting.
- To draft the version of the Final Declaration to be submitted to the Forum at Closing Session

## **d. Presentation of the Forum Report**

The World Scout Youth Forum report is presented to the World Scout Conference including the general information, main outcomes and final declaration of the Forum. Sufficient time during the World Scout Conference is to be allocated to the report of the World Scout Youth Forum and reactions to it. *(from Resolution 15/08)*

## **e. Following progress in implementation of the Forum outcomes**

The Youth Advisors elected by the World Scout Youth Forum should follow up the World Scout Youth Forum outcomes during the triennium during the World Scout Committee regular meetings.

A member of the World Scout Committee should be appointed to follow up on the World Scout Youth Forum outcomes.

## **7. YOUTH ADVISORS**

Increasing youth participation in decision-making and strengthening youth involvement within the Scout Movement is a key issue for the World Scout Committee. The system of Youth Advisors has been created in the spirit of strengthening youth participation in World Scouting and is considered as an interim measure in achieving that goal. The Youth Advisors have the responsibility to individually work for the World Organization of the Scout Movement as a whole - not only the young members of the organization.

Nevertheless the Youth Advisors elected at the World Scout Youth Forum should bear in mind that they have a responsibility towards their constituency.

Youth Advisors System and the World Scout Youth Forum are considered as transitional tool in order to increase youth participation in World Scouting.

### **a. General**

#### **i. Youth Advisors elected by the World Scout Youth Forum**

Six Youth Advisors shall be elected at the World Scout Youth Forum, for a term of three years. Two out of the six Youth Advisors will be members of the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee for the next WSYF. The outgoing Youth Advisors shall be responsible for the conduct of the election of the new Youth Advisors.

Recognising that the Youth Advisors to the World Scout Committee do not work as separate entities but closely linked with the World Scout Committee, the new Youth Advisors will take office at the same time as the new World Scout Committee, elected at the World Scout Conference succeeding the World Scout Youth Forum. The mandate of the Youth Advisors ends when the term of office of that World Scout Committee ends.

The World Scout Committee should facilitate mentoring and introductory training for the Youth Advisors.

#### **ii. Role of Youth Advisors**

See Annex 1.

#### **iii. Nomination and election process**

Six months in advance of the next World Scout Youth Forum, the World Scout Bureau shall notify all Member Organizations that six Youth Advisors shall be elected, and shall request Member Organizations to send in names of candidates no later than six weeks in advance of the Forum.

The nomination of a candidate shall be made or endorsed by his/her own National Scout Organization. This list of all nominees shall be sent out to all Member Organizations in advance of the Forum and no additions thereto may be subsequently accepted.

Candidates standing as Youth Advisors must be delegates to the World Scout Youth Forum where the election will take place.

The World Scout Youth Forum delegates will elect six Youth Advisors for a period of three years. The World Scout Youth Forum shall elect them by secret ballot, from a list of nominees submitted by National Scout Organizations. In no case shall more than one elected Youth Advisor from any one National Scout Organization serve as Youth Advisor.

The consent of the nominee must be obtained before his or her name is submitted.

Youth Advisors do not represent any particular Member Organization or Region. Furthermore, as one of the World Organization of the Scout Movement fundamental purposes is to "promote unity" of the Scout Movement throughout the world (WOSM Constitution Article IV,2), all National Scout Organizations are invited to keep in mind, in making nominations, the desirability of geographical balance of the Youth Advisors and gender equality.

National Scout Organizations who have nominated a candidate for the role of Youth Advisor should ensure that this person is also a member of their National Delegation to the World Scout Conference.<sup>8</sup>

A Youth Advisor is not eligible for re-election.

#### **iv. Vacancies**

Normally, six Youth Advisors to the World Scout Committee are elected at the World Scout Youth Forum.

However, if a vacancy occurs before the next Youth Forum, the Youth Advisors may appoint a successor to serve until the next Youth Forum, who:

- a. is the next person on the list of the election results from the candidates for the position of Youth Advisor (i.e. person number seven (7) in the election results)
- b. if the person who comes seventh (7th) in the election is not available, the Youth Advisors may, at their discretion, choose a suitable person to take up the position, taking into account the election results, geographical distribution of Youth Advisors and gender balance.

A vacancy can occur if:

- a. a Youth Advisor resigns from the position on his/her own initiative.
- b. a Youth Advisor is not performing his/her duties for more than four (4) months or is not available for this period.

In the first case, a vacancy will occur automatically. In the second case, the Youth Advisor and his/her National Scout Organization shall be contacted to request a clarification on his/her absence. If there is no response from the person in question within 30 days of receiving the request, or if the response is considered to be unsatisfactory, he/she will be considered to have resigned from the position.

#### **v. Support for Youth Advisors**

The World Scout Bureau will support the Youth Advisors. The World Scout Bureau is responsible for support, liaison and co-ordination of all matters pertaining to the Youth Advisors.

Travel and accommodation expenses are covered for attendance at World Scout Committee regular meetings (in accordance with the Reimbursement of Expenses policy for World Scout Committee members), attendance at the next World Scout Youth Forum and World Scout Conference. In addition, the two Youth Advisors who are members of the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee are also covered for approved expenses for planning committee members. Innovative and less expensive ways of communicating are highly recommended.

If necessary, the Youth Advisors may elect from among themselves a coordinator who will represent the Youth Advisors.

#### **vi. Transfer of experience**

Ensuring a smooth transition of knowledge and experience between Youth Advisors generations is of great importance for the success of the Youth Advisors system. In order to achieve that, the following should be done:

- Organizing a joint meeting between the two generations of Youth Advisors at the end of the World Scout Youth Forum with a set agenda.
- The new Youth Advisors should elect one of the previous Youth Advisors at this meeting to act as a consultant/supporter of the current Youth Advisors until the first World Scout Committee meeting.

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<sup>8</sup> In accordance with the Strategy for Scouting adopted by the 36th World Scout Conference in Thessaloniki, and in particular the priorities on youth involvement in the decision-making process, and in accordance with World Conference Resolution 6/02.

## **8. RULES OF PROCEDURE**

### **a. Approval by each World Scout Youth Forum**

- i. These draft Rules of Procedure must be submitted for approval by delegates to each World Scout Youth Forum at its opening session
- ii. Amendments to the Rules of Procedure may be proposed and adopted, provided that they do not contradict the text of the World Scout Youth Forum Guidelines approved by the World Scout Committee.
- iii. Proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure must be forwarded in writing to the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee in advance of the session at which they will be submitted for approval. The Planning Committee may establish a deadline for the receipt of proposed amendments.

### **b. Chairperson**

- i. As specified in the Guidelines, the Chairperson of the World Scout Youth Forum is elected from and by the six Youth Advisors who were elected by the participants at the previous World Scout Youth Forum.
- ii. The Chairperson's ruling is final.

### **c. World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee**

- i. The composition and function of the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee is specified in the World Scout Youth Forum Guidelines.
- ii. The members of the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee will assist the Chairperson of the Forum in running the sessions.

### **d. Voting**

- i. As specified in the Guidelines, each delegation may cast two votes irrespective of the number of delegates representing a National Scout Organization at the Forum.
- ii. Decisions made by vote must be approved by a majority of votes cast; abstentions are not considered.
- iii. Voting may be by voting cards if there is no visibly clear majority. The Chairperson may call for a vote by roll call of delegations or by secret ballot.
- iv. A minimum of three Tellers will be appointed by the Forum to count and verify the number of votes recorded, or where electronic counting of votes is used to oversee the voting procedure and to verify the number of votes recorded. All voting papers must be returned to the Tellers or submitted to the electronic system under their supervision.
- v. Voting papers spoiled either deliberately or inadvertently shall count neither 'for' nor 'against' in determining the number of votes cast.

### **e. Elections**

- i. Election of the six Youth Advisors for the period of three years up to next World Scout Youth Forum will be by secret ballot. The six Youth Advisors will be elected by simple majority of votes cast. As far as practicable, the procedure for electing Youth Advisors should mirror the procedure used to elect World Scout Committee Members.
- ii. Only delegates (two maximum per National Scout Organization) to the World Scout Youth Forum have the right to vote.
- iii. In case the election of the Chairperson-designate takes place at the World Scout Youth Forum itself, the new Youth Advisors will appoint a Chairperson from among themselves, either through election or some other process agreed upon. Election will take place through vote by simple ballot for one among them who will declare at the election meeting that there are candidates to the position concerned. The election will be by simple majority of votes cast.
- iv. Election process should copy a similar process of that happen in the World Scout Conference to the elections of the World Scout Committee members. Referring to the World Scout Conference rules and procedures in this regard could be done if needed.

## **f. Draft resolutions and Declaration**

- i. The composition and function of the Drafting Committee are specified in the World Scout Youth Forum Guidelines.
- ii. Draft resolutions must be proposed by one international team and seconded by another international team. Draft resolutions may also be proposed by the Youth Advisors., where such proposals do not require to be seconded. The Youth Advisors may not propose draft resolutions individually.
- iii. The Drafting Committee may fix a closing time for receipt of such proposed draft resolutions. Draft resolutions proposals submission shall be at any time from the opening of the Forum up to the closing time identified by the Drafting Committee.
- iv. Draft resolutions will express the concrete initiatives that the Forum thinks should be undertaken by the World Organization of the Scout Movement bodies or national Scout organisations in the following triennium. They are to be presented to the Conference through those who have the capacity to put them to a vote according to the rules of procedure: the World Scout Committee or any National Scout Organization. The Forum draft resolutions are not guaranteed to be all endorsed by either the World Scout Committee or the National Scout Organisations and their quality is crucial to increase the possibility for that to happen.
- v. The Forum declaration will include the key general messages that the Forum participants want to convey to the Organization or the world. These may include major concerns, calls for action, wishes, encouragements, commitments, etc. Drafting Committee will create the declaration according to the observations during the Forum and the outcomes of the different sessions. It will be available along with the proposed draft resolutions for amendment.
- vi. Proposed draft resolutions must be available in writing, in the two official languages of the Forum, sufficiently in advance of the final session of the Forum to permit participants to study them.
- vii. The Drafting Committee shall present the proposed draft resolutions to the final session of the Forum for approval. The Chairperson or a member of the Youth Forum Planning Committee shall read each draft resolution in turn, invite discussion and put any proposed amendments and the final draft resolution to a vote.
- viii. International teams may propose amendments to proposed draft resolutions in advance. These must be seconded by another international team, and should be handed in writing to the Youth Forum Drafting Committee. Delegates may propose amendments to a draft resolution during the voting session. These must be seconded by a delegate from another National Scout Organization, and should be handed in writing to the Chairperson. The Youth Advisors to the World Scout Committee may propose amendments to a draft resolution. It is not necessary for these to be seconded and they must be submitted as described above.
- ix. When an amendment to a draft resolution is duly proposed and seconded, the amendment is first put to the Forum for a vote before the original draft resolution. If the amendment is lost, the draft resolution is then put for a vote. If the amendment is carried, then the draft resolution is amended accordingly before it is put to the Forum.
- x. The Chairperson may limit the number of times and length of time delegates or observers may take the floor.
- xi. The Forum Declaration will have the same procedure as one draft resolution.

## **g. Use of languages**

- i. As specified in the Guidelines, the official languages of the World Scout Youth Forum are English and French.
- ii. Other languages may be used to address the Forum provided a competent interpretation into English or French is possible from within the resources of the Forum.

## **9. ANNEXES**

### **ANNEX I: ROLE OF THE YOUTH ADVISORS**

#### **Role of the Youth Advisors**

Approved by the World Scout Committee, (March 2014).

#### **Responsibilities of Youth Advisors**

The World Scout Committee:

Referring to

- Strategic Priority Number 1 "Youth Involvement"; and
- Resolution 11/05 World Scout Youth Forum, adopted at the 37th World Scout Conference.

Defines the role of the Youth Advisors as follows:

Increasing youth participation in decision making and strengthening youth involvement within the Scout Movement is a key issue for the World Scout Committee. The system of Youth Advisors has been created in the spirit of strengthening youth participation in World Scouting, and is considered as an interim measure in achieving that goal. The Youth Advisors have the responsibility to individually work for the World Organization of the Scout Movement as a whole - not only the young members of the organization - however bearing in mind that the Youth Advisors elected at the World Scout Youth Forum have a responsibility towards their constituency.

#### **Responsibilities of the Youth Advisors to the World Scout Committee**

- Youth Advisors should be able to help the World Scout Committee whenever requested by the Committee.
- Given the current working structure of the World Scout Committee, this may include attending meetings and undertaking tasks for the working groups.
- Through the working groups, the Youth Advisors should be able to bring to the reflections and debates of the World Scout Committee the genuine opinion, views and proposals of young members of the World Organization of the Scout Movement.
- Youth Advisors have an open invitation to participate in all regular meetings of the World Scout Committee. Within the meetings the Youth Advisors have the right to speak and make suggestions.
- Youth Advisors should be encouraged to assist the World Scout Committee by joining any task forces and/or commissions set up by the World Scout Committee for specific purposes as individuals.
- The Youth Advisors present an ideal possibility to include young volunteers in the external representation of the World Organization of the Scout Movement.

#### **Responsibilities of Youth Advisors to other young members of the WOSM**

- Two Youth Advisors will be part of the Planning Committee of the next World Scout Youth Forum in accordance with the World Scout Youth Forum Guidelines. They shall plan and recommend to the World Scout Committee for approval, the main content of the programme and agenda of the following World Scout Youth Forum.
- Youth Advisors shall report regularly to Internet platform for youth.
- The Youth Advisors shall present a report of their activities over the past triennium to the World Scout Youth Forum.
- The Youth Advisors shall present regular reports on their work to the World Scout Committee.
- The Youth Advisors shall present a final summary report of their work over the triennium to the World Scout Committee.

## **Support and management**

- The Youth Advisors will be supported by an executive of the World Scout Bureau.
- This executive is responsible for support, liaison and co-ordination of all matters pertaining to the Youth Advisors.
- Travel and accommodation expenses are covered for attendance at World Scout Committee regular meetings (in accordance with the Reimbursement of Expenses policy for World Scout Committee members), attendance at the next World Scout Youth Forum and World Scout Conference. In addition, the two Youth Advisors who are members of the World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee are also covered for approved expenses for planning committee members. Innovative and less expensive ways of communicating are highly recommended.

## **ANNEX II: CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO WORLD SCOUT YOUTH FORUMS**

### **1. Conference Resolutions 1993: Bangkok**

#### **2/93 Policy on involvement of young members in decision-making**

The Conference

- recognizing the fundamental importance, in terms of achieving the purpose of the Scout Movement, of involving young members in decision-making
  - considering that Scouting is not only a movement for young people but also a Movement of young people
  - believing that Scouting is a Movement based on democratic principles
  - recognizing the value to the individuals concerned and to the Movement as a whole of leadership opportunities for young members
  - noting with pleasure the successes achieved by the 4th World Youth Forum in Australia (1990/91) and the 5th World Youth Forum in Switzerland (1992)
  - welcoming the World Committee's decision to encourage participation of young delegates in the 33rd World Scout Conference by offering a reduced Conference fee
  - encouraged by the results of youth participation in the efforts of the World Scout Environment Network
- adopts the Policy on Involvement of Young Members in Decision-Making
  - recognizes this new policy as an important contribution towards further strengthening the implementation of the World Programme Policy adopted by the 32nd World Scout Conference in 1990
  - strongly urges National Scout Organizations to implement the policy at all levels within their own associations
  - requests the World Committee to consider all means by which the policy may be implemented within the World Organization at regional and world level.

#### **7/93 Young Adult Members**

The Conference

- considering the adoption of the Policy on Involvement of Young Members in Decision-Making by this Conference
  - recognizing the valuable contributions made by young adults to this Conference and the World Programme Committee
  - welcoming the reduced fee facility that has assisted young adults participation in this Conference
- requests the World Committee to continue the principle of a reduced Conference fee for young adults at future World Conferences
  - requests the World Committee to continue to devise ways in which young adults can participate in policy formation and decision-making at world level.

#### **10/93 Youth Forums**

The Conference

- considering the adoption of the Policy on Involvement of Young Members in Decision-Making by this Conference
  - believing that Youth Forums constitute one useful method to complement genuine participation by young people in decision-making at all levels
  - recognizing that Youth Forums in Scouting provide a dual opportunity for young members to discuss issues of interest to them and to make recommendations on these; and to learn the skills necessary to enable them to take part in decision-making in the Movement
  - believing that Youth Forums should be linked closely, as advisory bodies, to the formal decision-making processes of the Movement
- recommends that Youth Forums be held in conjunction with all statutory meetings such as national general assemblies, regional and world conferences; that these Youth Forums make recommendations to and advise the statutory meetings and other decision-making bodies; and that Youth Forum delegates also participate in these statutory meetings as delegates or observers

- recommends that delegates to Youth Forums should be selected by democratic means and receive necessary logistical and material support from their association
- resolves that future World Youth Forums should be held immediately prior to each future World Scout Conference and that delegates to these events should be between the ages of 18 and 26
- directs the World Committee to establish as soon as possible the necessary procedures and guidelines for future World Youth Forums
- recommends that World Youth Forums should be organized on the same basis as World Scout Conferences, with the World Committee ultimately responsible for agenda and procedures of the World Youth Forum and with a Host Committee responsible for facilities and support events
- encourages the World Committee and the Host Committee to delegate to young members the planning, organizing and running of such events
- directs the World Committee to devote the necessary human, financial and material resources, similar to those accorded to other world events such as World Conferences, to ensure the success of future World Youth Forums
- requests the five Regional Scout committees to organize Regional Youth Forums prior to each future Regional Scout Conference, beginning with Regional Conferences in 1995, along the same lines as World Youth Forums
- encourages national Scout associations to organize Youth Forums along similar lines in conjunction with statutory meetings (for example, general assemblies) at national and local level.

## **2. Conference Resolutions 1996: Oslo**

### **4/96 World Youth Forum**

The Conference

- welcomes the contributions by the 6th World Youth Forum, in particular the Forum's reflections on the themes "Scouting for what?" and "Scouting for whom?" and the Forum's recommendations
- invites the World Scout committee and its education committees to take into account the outcome of the Youth Forum in their future work
- recommends that each National Scout Association's leadership meets with their delegates to the 6th World Youth Forum to discuss the outcome of the Forum and its implications for the future work of the association
- recommends that National Scout Associations support their delegates to the 6th World Youth Forum in making the outcome of the Youth Forum known in their own association and in maintaining contact with participants from other associations
- encourages close contact and co-operation between delegates to Regional Youth Forums and the World Youth Forum
- reaffirms the importance of WOSM's policy on the involvement of young members in decision-making and recommends to all National Scout Organizations to send at least one delegate to future Regional and World Scout Youth Forums and to include at least one participant who is under the age of 26 in the organisations delegation to Regional Scout Conferences and the World Scout Conference.

## **3. Conference Resolutions 1999: Durban**

### **10/99 7th World Scout Youth Forum**

The Conference

- appreciating and admiring the work done by the young people at the 7th World Scout Youth Forum
- stating its firm belief in the importance of paying great attention to the opinions of the young people in our Movement
- urges the World Scout Committee in its further work to consider the recommendations made by the 7th World Scout Youth Forum.

## **11/99 Future Role of World Scout Youth Forums**

### The Conference

- welcoming the steps that have been taken to move towards the position adopted in Conference Resolution 2/93, but accepting that there are still steps to take
  - believing that the World Scout Youth Forum is a transitional tool in the process of developing youth participation in partnership with adults within National Scout Organizations and national delegations to the World Scout Conference
  - believing that the World Scout Youth Forum should respond to the challenges faced by young adults in engaging actively in decision-making within National Scout Organizations
  - hoping that, in due course, the need for the World Scout Youth Forum will disappear due to the full and active participation of young adults in partnership at the World Scout Conference and at all levels of decision making
- recommends that the World Scout Committee carry out a major review, involving young adults and adults in partnership, of the role and format of the World Scout Youth Forum
  - recommends that the results of this study be presented to the next World Scout Conference and taken into consideration in the planning of the next World Scout Youth Forum.

## **12/99 World Scout Youth Forum**

### The Conference

- thanking the Organizing Committee and the World Scout Committee for organizing the 7th World Scout Youth Forum
  - appreciating and respecting the way that young people work and the need for youth involvement in the World Scout Conference
- recommends to the World Scout Committee to continue working to incorporate young people in the World Scout Conference through the preparation done at the World Scout Youth Forum.

## **13/99 Youth Participation**

### The Conference

- noting that the World Scout Youth Forum seeks the relationship between adult members and youth to be one of partnership and mutual respect
  - recognising the work that has been done at the Youth Participation session of the 7th World Scout Youth Forum
  - recognising that in most National Scout Organizations substantial progress has been made
  - believing that there are still steps to take before World Scout Conference Resolution 2/93 (adopting the Policy on involvement of young members in decision-making) is achieved, recommends to the World Scout Committee:
- that, at the next World Scout Conference in 2002, a day is spent in workgroups critically discussing Youth Participation
  - that suggested topics for this discussion focus on, among others:
    - a discussion between youth and adult members as to how each interacts in the decision-making process within their organizations today
    - evaluation of Resolution 2/93 after 9 years of progress
    - that work be done before the next World Scout Conference to stimulate critical discussion within National Scout Organizations on the above.

#### **4. Conference Resolutions 2002: Thessaloniki**

##### **6/02 Youth Involvement in Decision-Making**

The Conference

- endorses the World Scout Committee's statement on Youth Involvement in Decision-Making contained in Conference Document No.7, as amended.
- urges each national Scout association to ensure an equitable representation of young men and women under the age of thirty in national decision-making bodies and in the delegations to Regional and World Conferences, and invites each national association to present its efforts and progress made relating to this issue in its annual report to the World Scout Bureau.
- urges the World Scout Committee to give priority to young men and women over older persons in the nomination of members of technical committees and working groups at world level provided they offer the adequate competencies, and requests the Regions to apply the same principle.
- calls upon each national Scout association to act upon the commitments to strengthen youth participation made since 1993, by presenting young male and female candidates with the required profile and competence for election to the World Scout Committee.
- urges the Regional Scout Conferences to strongly advocate this course of action.
- decides that World Scout Youth Forums be considered as educational opportunities for youth members in the oldest age sections. Their purpose shall be to enable young people to:
  - share their ideas and experiences on current issues affecting young people in different parts of the world;
  - suggest ways of strengthening national youth policies and training young people for world citizenship; and
  - contribute new ideas to the Movement on how to enrich educational programmes for young people over 16.
- decides that World Scout Youth Forums should continue to be held immediately prior to World Scout Conferences, and allow more young members to be better prepared for the World Scout Conferences.
- decides that World Scout Youth Forums be empowered to make such recommendations they feel appropriate to the World Scout Committee for that Committee's consideration.
- urges NSOs to introduce and adopt policies that will allow the involvement of young people in local and national decision-making bodies and develop partnerships between adults and young people.
- decides that the World Scout Committee performs an evaluation of the situation of youth involvement in decision-making, after each World Scout Conference.

#### **5. Conference Resolutions 2005: Tunisia**

##### **11/05 World Scout Youth Forum**

The Conference

- referring to Resolution 6/02 on youth participation in decision-making adopted by the 36th World Scout Conference in Thessaloniki in 2002
- noting with satisfaction the progress achieved in the implementation of Strategic Priority 1 on Youth Involvement, notably through the publication of new educational tools in the field of youth programme, the success of the World Scout Youth Forum including the election of Youth Advisers to the World Scout Committee, and the creation of positions of young Project Officers in the World Scout Bureau
- pointing out that the Youth Advisers and the World Scout Youth Forum are not the final solutions to meet Strategic Priority No. 1 on Youth Involvement but are considered as a transitional tool in order to increase youth participation in World Scouting
- requests the World Scout Committee to give serious consideration to the recommendations proposed by the Youth Forum and particularly to the recommendation no. 16 related to the involvement of Youth Advisers in the meetings and work of the World Scout Committee

- calls on the World Scout Committee, Regional Scout Committees and all National Scout Organizations to expand their efforts consistent with Resolution 6/02 to improve youth involvement and empowerment at all levels, from the local Scout groups to the institutional level in the Movement, and in society itself
- requests National Scout Organizations, Regional Scout Committees and the World Scout Committee, during the next triennium, to adopt the following objectives in developing a youth involvement strategy:
  - integrate in the educational programmes for adolescents and young adults (15-25 years) the dissemination of life skills aimed at developing the capacity of young people to fully participate in the life of the Scout Movement and in society
  - support the Youth of the World Campaign and integrate the Scouts of the World Award in the programme of the senior age sections
  - include in the training of adults the acquiring of skills to enable them to encourage and foster youth involvement in the decision-making process
  - ensure greater consistency between all levels of our Movement in the field of youth participation, particularly through adapting, at national and regional levels, the youth involvement practical concept implemented at world level
  - consider Youth Forums at all levels as a step to train the future leaders of international Scouting
  - make the best use of the potential of the young people exposed to the above mentioned training experience, notably by including young people in national delegations to Regional and World Conferences and the selection of candidates for election to decision-making bodies; and by entrusting Youth Advisers, and other young volunteers selected in a transparent manner, with significant responsibilities both at Regional and World levels.

## **6. Conference Resolutions 2008: Korea**

### **15/08 World Scout Youth Forum**

The Conference

- considering the centrality of youth involvement to the Scout Movement (Strategic Priority No.1)
  - considering the important role of the World Scout Youth Forum in World Scouting as an interim measure towards youth involvement and considering the constructive work which takes place at these forums
  - considering Resolution 11/05 from the 37th World Scout Conference : "make the best use of the potential of the young people..."
  - considering the need for participants of the World Scout Conference to be properly informed of the discussions and recommendations of the World Scout Youth Forum.
- requests that, during this interim measure, sufficient time is allocated to the report of the World Scout Youth Forum and then to reactions in regard to this; this should be implemented as of the 39th World Scout Conference in Brazil.
  - requests the World Scout Committee, during this interim measure, to give due respect and consideration to the views, opinions and recommendations of the World Scout Youth Forum, both inside and outside the World Scout Conference.

## **7. Conference Resolutions 2011: Brazil**

### **8/11 Youth Involvement in Decision-making in National Scout Organizations and within WOSM**

#### The Conference

- recognising the importance of involving young people in decision-making as a key part of the Scout Method
- taking note of the several Resolutions adopted on the youth involvement (2/93, 10-13/99, 6/02, 11/05, 14/08) and the need of concrete actions to achieve progress
- recognising that young people are citizens today and that they have a right to be involved in making decisions that affect their lives
- welcoming the progress made in youth involvement through the adoption of the Strategy for Scouting and particularly Strategic Priority 1: Youth Involvement
- recognising that many National Scout Organizations have made good progress in involving young people in decision-making at unit level, at institutional level and within local communities
- desires an end goal where Scouts are not evaluated based on age but on ability and experience, resulting in Scouts of all ages working together to give better Scouting to more young people
- encourages National Scout Organizations to adopt the vision for youth involvement set out in Conference Document No. 14
- encourages National Scout Organizations to create and identify opportunities for young people to be involved in decision-making at unit level, institutionally and in the community
- recommends that each National Scout Organization sets targets for youth involvement so that progress and achievements can be measured
- requests the World Scout Committee to:
  - set targets for youth involvement within the structure of WOSM so that progress and achievements can be measured
  - create an implementation plan for the targets to be reached within the coming triennium
  - report to the next Conference the progress made towards the visions on youth involvement in decision-making within the structure of WOSM and how to continue the process
  - develop tools and share resources and best practices to support youth involvement in National Scout Organizations
  - monitor progress in youth involvement in National Scout Organizations
  - focus on youth involvement in its communications.

### **9/11 World Scout Youth Forum Recommendations**

#### The Conference

- noting Recommendation 2.1.5 of the Governance Review Task Force, accepted by the World Scout Committee, that the Recommendations of the World Scout Youth Forum should be presented in full to the World Scout Conference for debate
- resolves that a session be devoted at the 40th World Scout Conference and subsequent Conferences for debate on the issues raised by the World Scout Youth Forum's Recommendations at a point in the proceedings that is early enough for such a debate to inform the development of appropriate resolutions.

### **ANNEX III: POLICY STATEMENT OF THE WORLD SCOUT COMMITTEE**

(as amended and endorsed by the 36th World Scout Conference, Thessaloniki, July 2002)

1. The World Scout Committee emphasises that the involvement of young people, male and female, in decision-making is an integral and essential part of the Scout Method, defined as a system of progressive self-education. Through the small group system, young people are encouraged to participate, according to their stage of development, in decision-making relating to the choice and organization of activities, the evaluation of group life, the determination of common rules and the evaluation of personal progression.
2. When applied correctly, the Scout Method ensures that young people are prepared effectively and have acquired the necessary skills and competence for participation in the democratic decision-making process and citizenship, within Scouting at all levels and in society.
3. However, the World Scout Committee notes with regret that the Scout Method is often not fully used. Systematic work therefore needs to be done to assist associations to implement this fundamental aspect of our Movement. It is only when the "educational dimension" of youth participation is achieved effectively that the "institutional dimension" can become a reality. In other words, it is only by helping young people develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to contribute to the decision-making process, that young people can fully participate in decision-making bodies.
4. The World Scout Committee has agreed to pay considerable attention to this issue. This will include supporting associations in implementing the principles enshrined in the policy on the involvement of young members in decision-making, adopted by the 33rd World Scout Conference (Bangkok, 1993), and subsequent resolutions building on this work, and developing tools for that purpose.
5. The World Scout Committee believes that participation in decision-making bodies at all institutional levels of the Movement must continue to be based upon competence, not age, gender or other criteria. Consequently, and as a matter of principle, young men or women under 30 should be given priority over older persons only if they offer the adequate competencies.
6. As far as the participation of young men and women WOSM bodies at world or regional level is concerned, the World Scout Committee believes that this will largely be solved when the participation of young people in national bodies is achieved; it will be a natural consequence of effective local and national participation. This, however, can only be accomplished in the long term, since youth involvement is not adequately applied within national associations. The Committee feels that something needs to be done at world level in the immediate future in order to get the process started and convey a strong message to the Movement, which defines itself as being a movement of young people and not only for young people.
7. The World Scout Committee considers that the World Scout Youth Forum allows young members all over the world to express their opinions, to have a wider exposure and global perspective, to make intercultural exchanges and to establish interpersonal networks. The Forum is a good way for young members to take their first step in their international vision of Scouting.
8. The World Scout Committee, having carefully evaluated recent World Scout Youth Forums, believes that they have been a very helpful transitional tool to increase the participation of young people at World Scout Conferences. The Committee feels, however, that maintaining forums as designed in 1993 risks perpetuating a parallel structure which goes against the very essence of the principle of partnership between youth and adults at the World Scout Conference and of youth involvement at all levels of decision-making.