Scouts Across Africa mark the Africa Scout Day 2017

The Arusha International Conference Centre in Tanzania hosted over 800 Scouts and Scouters, who gathered to mark this year’s Africa Scout Day celebrations. The occasion was graced Hon. Prof. Joyce Ndichako, Minister for Education Science & Technology and President of Tanzania Scouts Association as Chief Guest. Also present were government officials of the United Republic of Tanzania, diplomats and friends of Scouting.

The audience at the celebrations was drawn from the following countries: Angola, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Denmark, Ethiopia, Ghana, Italy, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Nigeria, Poland, Senegal, South Africa, Korea, Spain, Togo, Uganda, Zimbabwe and the hosts Tanzania.

The speakers who addressed the gathering gave some historical background of the day and its significance to Scouting. They went on to demonstrate the huge impact that Scouting continues to make in Africa and around the world.

The Regional Director, Frederic Tutu Kama-Kama made a special recognition of Mr. Frederic Peter Nguma, the International Commissioner for Tanzania Scouts Association for the key role he has played in the growth of Scouting in Tanzania over the last 7 years. He also presented a token of appreciation to the Chairman of the World Scout Committee, Joao Armando in recognition of his service to World Scouting.

Dr. Wayne Adrian Davies, Chairperson of the Africa Scout Committee underscored the importance of this day observing it as a great recognition by African Governments. “We thank the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for the tremendous support to the hosting of this event and to Scouting in the country in general. We further call on all governments to continue supporting Scouting because of the values and skills training it imparts in our young people,” he said.

The Chairperson of the World Scout Committee, Joao Armando in his remarks highlighted the vision of World Scouting and the global social impact of the movement. He further called upon the Scouts to recruit their friends, family members, and colleagues to join the movement saying, “we have a vision to reach 100 million members by 2023 and use to our numbers to impact our communities positively. This can only be made possible by the Scouts, who already know the values of our movement.”

Hon. Gabriel Fabian, the Deputy Regional Commissioner for Arusha, who had earlier graced the opening ceremony of the Africa Scout Day International Youth Camp commended the movement for standing in the gap to mend the moral fabric of the society that is slowly being eroded away with the increasing engagement in drug and substance abuse by young people.

On her part, the Chief Guest, was pleased to note the training and character building programmes that the Scout movement offers to young people. She said that the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania recommended Scouting to run in all primary, secondary, tertiary schools and universities in the country. “If you we do not give young people an opportunity to participate in educational programmes

The 2nd World Scout Education Congress should assist NSOs in building capacity in the areas of Youth Programme and Adults in Scouting. It should also help shape the focus for Educational Methods around the world from 2017 onwards.

Find out more at: scout.org/congress
that help to make them better people - like Scouting, then what do we expect them to do?“ she asked to a rousing round of applause by the audience.

The Chief Scout of Tanzania, Hon. Mwantumu Bakari Mahiza moved a hearty vote of thanks appreciating all those who played a part in making the event successful. She concluded by inviting everyone to the centenary celebration of Scouting in Tanzania which will be held June in Dodoma. The next Africa Scout Day celebrations will be hosted by Scout Association of Zimbabwe in March 2018.

Read more at https://www.scout.org/africascoutday

Madagascan Scouts Mark Earth Hour with a Climate Walk

Every year, March 25th is an opportunity to remember that every day gesture can have a great impact for the planet.

This year, Scouts and other young people in Madagascar with support from WWF Madagascar went out to mobilize young people around the event. (especially 2hy-connect, Green N Kool, Scouts, Youth for wash with the messengers of peace). For several weeks, various youth organizations have been mobilizing together to make animations in schools, conferences and eco-workshops supported by the WWF and culminating in the main celebrations on 25th March.

The event brought together over 1000 participants to engage in activities such as one hour climate walk and different workshops on various environmental and climate change thematic areas

https://www.scout.org/node/328771

Tanzania Holds U-Report Instructors’ Workshop

54 youth and Scout Leaders from nine regions in Tanzania (Dar es Salaam, Manyara, Singida, Mtwara, Mbeya, Njombe, Iringa, Mara and Shinyanga) gathered together in Dar es Salaam to take part in the U-Report Instructors workshop. The aim of the workshop was to empower them to act as catalysts for change and to be able to teach others how to use the U-Report social monitoring tool to give them the opportunity to contribute to decision-making and discussions on matters affecting their lives. The recently launched SMS based U-Report initiative works through mobile phone networks which are currently supported in Tanzania by Vodacom, Airtel, Zantel and Tigo. To participate, people have to send the message "SUBSCRIBE" to 15070.

https://www.scout.org/node/328771

The Kenya Scouts Association has elected lands Cabinet Secretary Prof. Jacob Kaimenyi as its new Chief Scout. Prof Kaimenyi replaced Hon. Francis Ole Kaparo, the chairman of the National Cohesion and Integration Commission, who had been at the helm for 14 years.

Speaking during the Annual General Meeting at Rowallan Scouts Camp on 25th March 2017 in Nairobi, Prof Kaimenyi urged Scouts countrywide to continue being messengers of peace as the country gears up for elections.

In February last year during a memorial service for founder of the Scout movement - Lord Baden Powell and his wife Olave - Prof Kaimenyi promised to issue title deeds to Scout centres.

"We assure that in the next few months we will issue title deeds to all centres in all counties,” he said.

Also elected at the meeting were the following new members of the National Scouts Board:

• Assistant Chief Commissioner, Administration: Victor Radido
• Assistant Chief Commissioner, Programme: Flavian Mwandigha
• Assistant Chief Commissioner, Training: Tiemeri Mkenya
• National Commissioner Representing Administration: Amin Mohammed
• National Commissioner Representing Program: Eric Masaba
• National Youth Leader Representing Youth: Edgar Marumbu
• National Youth Leader (Male): Desmond Chepkwony
• National Youth Leader (Female): Mary Waniku Wachira

The Kenya Scouts Association is the largest youth movement in the country with a membership of more than 1.4 million.

The 2017 West Africa Zonal Scout Conference & Youth Forum took place between 22-26 February at the Stade de l’Amitié Cotomu, Benin with attendance from eight out of the 13 National scout organizations in the zone.

The youth forum was held from 22-23 February and attracted over 40 participants from seven NSOs. The opening ceremony of the Forum witnessed the presence of several dignitaries in the Movement and the government.

The forum witnessed a great deal of training ranging from Messengers of Peace, Dialogue for Peace, U-Report, Telling Scout Stories and an orientation on Youth Forum Guidelines. The forum also made a range of resolutions and recommendations that were forwarded to the zonal conference for approval and action.

The climax of the Forum was the restructuring of the West African Scout Youth Advisors through an electoral process which witnessed the entry of two new Youth Advisors (Adoli Latame and Abigail Edwin) as well as a change of the leadership of the team. Given the engagement of the previous Chairperson and Secretary of the team (Pamela Akplogan and Solomon Eltim), as Youth Advisors at the African Regional Level, they were replaced by Dade Rapheal and Adoli Latame as Chairperson and Secretary respectively.

The conference on the other hand took place from 24-26 February and was attended by over 80 participants from eight NSOs. Members of the the Africa Scout Committee, the Africa support Centre and Scouts from France, Korea, Poland and Cameroon were also present. The Chief Guest was the Minister for Youth in the Republic of Benin. The conference also witnessed the election of new leaders for the West Africa Zonal Scouts Secretariat.

The second Regional Education forum was also held during this period. This was an opportunity to familiarize with their respective modus operandi upon his assumption into office as the Youth and Sports Minister, the statement said.

The youth constituted the major source of human capital for the transformational agenda of the country. He said: “The active population of the country is the youth and therefore much attention should be given to them.” To this end, the Minister assured that all efforts would be made to ensure that these youth groups received the needed support from the Ministry.

The 2017 West Africa Zonal Scout Conference, Youth Forum and Education Forum Held in Benin

Youth Organizations in Ghana meet with Minister for way Forward

The executives of “Big Six” youth organizations in Ghana namely the National Youth Authority, Ghana Scout Association, Ghana Girls Guide Association, National Cadet Corps Ghana, Head of State Award Scheme, Boys and Girls Brigade and the Ghana Red Cross Association, recently met the Minister for Youth and Sports Hon. Isaac Kwame Asiamah, to discuss the issues and challenges within their respective circles and a possible roadmap to address them.

According to a statement issued by the Ministry, it was the first time in many years that the sector Minister had opened his doors to youth groups in the country. “The Ministry engaged the groups in devising ways that could bring about the required support as part of the Ministry’s commitment towards mobilizing the youth of Ghana for socio-economic development. The meeting was also to accord the Minister the opportunity to familiarize with their respective modus operandi upon his assumption into office as the Youth and Sports Minister,” the statement said.

Hon Asiamah reiterated the government’s commitment to ensure that the youth constituted the major source of human capital for the transformational agenda of the country. He said: “The active population of the country is the youth and therefore much attention should be given to them.” To this end, the Minister assured that all efforts would be made to ensure that these youth groups received the needed support from the Ministry.

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GONE HOME

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NIHORIMBERE Olivier - Burundi: District Commissioner of Rumonge Province, Burundi Scout Association.

Rev. Godspower E. Oboro - Nigeria: Member of the Bayelsa State Scout Council, The Scout Association of Nigeria

Sery Djedje Albert and - Côte d’Ivoire: Trainer of the Trainers and a member of the Catholic Scout Association in Cote d’Ivoire.


Mr. Francis Xavier Samakomva - Zimbabwe: He served as Scout Leader, District Commissioner, International Commissioner and lastly as the President of the Scout Association of Zimbabwe.

Rev. Eddy Laura Ramanampamonjy - Madagascar: The General Secretary of “Sampana Mpanazava sy Tily” - the Scouting and Guiding branch of the Presbyterian Church of Madagascar [FJKM], member of the National Board of Folbe Tily Eto Madagasikara in charge of the Faith and Religion, trainer of trainers and member of the college of trainers of the Tily Eto Madagasikara (Scouts Unionists of Madagascar).

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Scouting brings hope and life-changing opportunity to young people at Dadaab Refugee Camp

AVSI Foundation Kenya in collaboration with the Kenya Scouts Association is implementing a Scout project in the Dadaab Refugee Camp - the world’s largest refugee camp - for the refugee young people and the host community in primary and secondary schools. This is majorly due to the values of Scouting which would contribute against possible radicalization that is highly likely among young people in such camps.

AVSI Foundation Kenya funded by the American people through the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM) initiated Scouting for boys and girls in all the 5 refugee camps in Dadaab and its environs with an objective to tap on the rich human resources, that is the young people in the region and provide them with robust programs for the young people provided in the Scouting movement worldwide. The project has been on for the last one year now and results are very promising.

Young people in Dadaab are keen and eager to learn and embrace new ideas from "the outside world" that gives them a sense of direction and belonging to the other young people in the world.

The Scout movement seems to be addressing this yearning by young people, seeing how the movement has attracted huge numbers and the way the new Scouts are giving their all in participating in the Scouting activities and feeling unified with the other youths worldwide through the universal Scouting principles - the Scout Law and Promise.

The flexible and youth friendly life skills training methods adapted by the Kenya Scouts Association trainers in a non-examination environment has been a big excitement for the Scouts who have gained a broad range of knowledge on issues affecting the day to day lives of the young people in the region.

Scouting has brought together the host community and the refugee young people in meaningful and peaceful joint activities and training. The joint outdoor Scouting activities focusing on environmental conservation and effective utilization of locally available resources has brought new excitement amongst the young people in Dadaab.

Inter-patrol joint activities where Scouts have been undertaking competitive activities in friendly manner moving away from the culture of intense negative inter school competitions that mostly turn out be hostile inter-clans strife

Inter-camps joint camping brought together boy and girl Scouts from all the camps and winning public schools (host community schools) in a common ground for peaceful competitions and joint activities.

An emerging deep sense of patriotism for the boys and girls to their country of origin is clearly observable when the boy and girl Scouts congregate in joint Scout activities and when the Scouts are invited to entertain guests and visitors in the camps and at public functions. The Scouts lead the Somali national anthem so passionately that adult refugees are left in tears.

The energy and enthusiasm the girl Scouts have embraced Scouting activities is quite admirable. Unlike in other outdoor activities where girls mostly take the back seat and have to be given some form of affirmative action to move, the girl Scout patrols compare favorably with their boys counterparts. Some three girls patrols have consistently easily out-shined the boys patrols.

Leadership skills development is the other result emerging from both boys and girls engaging in the Scout programs. The patrol leaders are sharpening their skills in patrol management such as command, coordination, team mobilization, collaboration and Scout projects presentation skills. Interestingly two siblings – a sister and a brother, both patrol leaders in Hagadera Camp are outshining each other in patrol leadership with a lot of admiration from their mother who offered to accompany them.

https://www.scout.org/node/328981

UPCOMING EVENTS

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STAY IN TOUCH

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