



**SCOUTS**<sup>®</sup>  
Creating a Better World

World Organization of the Scout Movement  
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout  
Всемирная Организация Скаутского Движения  
Organización Mundial del Movimiento Scout  
المنظمة العالمية للحركة الكشفية

**[For Immediate Release]**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Statement by the World Organization of the Scout Movement on the Fatal Accident Involving Scouts in Madagascar**

**4 August 2017, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia:** The World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) is saddened with the news of the road accident involving 38 Scouts from Tily Eto Madagasikara, one of the three National Scout Associations in Madagascar.

We are further saddened to learn that four of the Scouts lost their lives (along with 17 other people) and 34 others were hospitalised as a result of the grisly accident.

On behalf of all Scouts and supporters of Scouting around the world, we wish to send our sincere condolences to the families, relatives and friends of the Scouts and all the over 101 other passengers who were in the same bus when the accident occurred.

Our thoughts and prayers also go out to the entire Scouting fraternity and the people of Madagascar during this very sad moment. To those hospitalised, we wish them quick recovery.

We are aware that these young people were headed to join over 2,000 other Scouts at a National Scout Camp, under their Messengers of Peace Project supported by the World Scout Foundation in the Majinga area, about 200 kilometres from the capital, Antananarivo when the unfortunate incident occurred.

WOSM and WSF will continue to follow and monitor the situation as it progresses. We are already in contact with the Scouting leadership in Madagascar and will liaise with them to offer any support that we can. We assure them of our support that will be coordinated through our Africa Regional Support Centre in Nairobi, Kenya.

We also take this opportunity to reiterate Scouting's commitment to peace around the world. We honour these young people, some of whom have paid the ultimate price on the World Scarf Day, while in pursuit of a better and peaceful world.

May the God Almighty comfort their families, and grant their souls peaceful rest.

With deepest sympathies,

**Ahmad Alhendawi**  
Secretary General,  
World Organization of the Scout Movement

**\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\***

#### **About the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM)**

Scouting is one of the world's leading educational youth movements, engaging millions of young people around the world to be active citizens to create positive changes in the communities they live in. Founded by Lord Baden-Powell in 1907, WOSM is a confederation of 167 National Scout Organizations in a network of over 40 million Scouts in at least 224 countries and territories worldwide. As it has been doing for more than a century – creating a better world – it will continue to do so, and even better with the many Messengers of Peace across the globe.

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