

# **12<sup>th</sup> Euro Arab Scout Meeting**

## **17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018, Istanbul, Turkey**

### **Declaration**

We the participants of the 12th Euro Arab Scout Meeting held in Istanbul, Turkey from 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018, would like to:

- Express sincere thanks to President of Scouting and Guiding Federation of Turkey, Mr. Hasan Dincer Subasi for his patronage of the meeting.
- Thank the Istanbul Municipality who facilitated the support to the meeting
- Thank the Scouting and Guiding Federation of Turkey for hosting an excellent event.
- Thank the organisations and venues, which hosted and supported the touristic visits (Topkapi Palace, Bosphorus Tour, Hidiv Pavilion).
- To acknowledge that the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting achieved the general aim to continue building and developing mutual relationships between Scouts from the Arab and European Regions and further strengthened cross-region friendships.

This declaration builds on the partnership cooperation between the Arab and European regions, within the framework set out by the World Organization of the Scout Movement in the Marrakech Charter, revised in Bangalore in 2006. The partnerships created within the Euro-Arab cooperation should contribute to achieve our Movement's vision for 2023 and work towards the aim of Growing Together, while reflecting relevant ongoing global priorities, such as ensuring sustainable development with Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Furthermore, the importance of youth as positive agents of change should be further developed as set out in the UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security and the Youth Engagement policy of WOSM.

Following the various workshops, presentations, sessions and discussions, focusing on creating bilateral and multilateral partnerships, Youth Exchanges, engagement in welcoming refugees as well as building on the recommendations of the previous Euro-Arab Meetings, we would like to further recommend:

#### **To the Participants:**

1. To reflect and follow up on the learning outcomes from the 12<sup>th</sup> Euro-Arab meeting
2. To use ideas and contacts from 12<sup>th</sup> Euro-Arab Meeting for possible follow-up activities and projects in Partnerships
3. To be active promoters of Euro-Arab cooperation in their own NSOs
4. To encourage their NSOs and local groups to develop new, achievable partnerships with one or more countries
5. Support the continuation of dialogue and first exchanges that happened during the meeting to transform them into new concrete partnerships
6. To contribute towards the two Regions in developing plans on growing the partnerships and understanding between NSOs

#### **To the National Scout Organisations:**

1. To encourage and provide opportunities for more young people to become involved in partnerships

2. Develop a culture of trust and dialogue in friendship, partnership and programme development
3. To support each other in building partnerships with relevant external stakeholders
4. To continue the sharing of best practices with other NSOs related to actions of Scouting for welcoming refugees, started in the 12<sup>th</sup> Euro-Arab meeting
5. Recognising that countries of destination for migrants and refugees are not the only ones which can offer support; NSOs can support each other in overcoming language and other barriers when working with migrants and refugees, i.e. providing volunteers, translation support, funding etc.
6. To focus on our shared beliefs, values and cultures to encourage interreligious dialogue
7. To take the SDGs into consideration when forming new or revising existing partnerships in order to better communicate about their impact in creating a better world
8. Submit dates and details of events open to Scouts from both regions for inclusion in the WOSM events calendar
9. To ensure shared projects have clearly defined positive impacts on Scouting and local communities
10. To promote youth participation in events and future Euro-Arab gatherings by ensuring a delegation where at least half consists of young people. Consideration of gender balance in the delegation is equally important

**To the Regional Committees and Regional Offices:**

1. To promote good practices of Partnerships between NSOs by story telling in WOSM channels
2. To use existing regional or world events to promote, stimulate and follow up on existing and potential partnerships between the two regions (e.g. world or regional conferences and partnership events)
3. For any future Euro-Arab meeting/gathering/event, continue the good practice experienced at the 12<sup>th</sup> Euro-Arab Meeting of having a planning team composed of representatives of the hosting and the two regions. The planning team is composed of volunteers supported by staff
4. Review inputs from NSOs young people and participants as well as the outcomes of the Euro-Arab meetings in order to consequently put in place a revised concept for Euro-Arab interaction which (a) is coordinated by the two Regions (b) ensures a more direct involvement of youth (c) includes an appropriate level of representation of the NSOs and (d) makes a stronger impact at national and local level

Agreed: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018, Istanbul