Dear Colleagues:

International Seminar for Scouting and Child Labour

This is an invitation to National Scout Organizations to take part in the upcoming seminar on child labour, one of the most serious social and economic problems, especially in many Asian countries. Nearly 250 million children worldwide are currently estimated to do work while completely withheld from appropriate educational opportunities as well as good health fundamentals and basic freedom rights.

The Scout Movement has contributed in spreading awareness on the problem at regional and world levels. At the same time, the Movement supported all activities and programs concentrating mainly on improving the standards of living of working children. If your national Scout organization is planning to initiate projects on Child Labour, this seminar is an event that you should not miss. Here are the details of the seminar:

Date: 4-10 February 2005

Venue: Cairo International Scout Centre – Cairo, Egypt

Objectives: At the end of the seminar, the participants should be able to:

• Get and share information on the issue of child labour at local, national and international levels
• Analyze the various forms of child labour in their country, their causes and consequences
• Identify various opportunities to develop/support projects for the benefit of working children in their countries or abroad
• Identify how to make the best use of the Scout Method for supporting working children

Axes:

• How to protect and help those children who work in workshops and small industries and their families
• How to provide children at work, aged 7-18 years old with appropriate health care and different educational services responding to their needs, through the Scout programme
• How to adapt to Scouting and use the “Scream programme” developed by the ILO
• Developing partnerships with the UN agencies working on child labour and their regional offices (UNESCO, ILO, UNICEF, ACDD, etc)
Organizers: The Arab Scout Regional Office with the support of the World Scout Bureau, Central Office (Youth Programme Unit) and its regional offices

Participants:

- Leaders in charge of "Child Labour" projects in Scout Organization at provincial or national levels
- Members of Regional/National Youth Programme Committee or teams willing to develop or support projects concerning "Scouting and Child Labour"
- Members of provincial or regional teams in charge of projects co-operation and fundraising.

Each participant should prepare a report on the most important project which their respective Scout Association has supported or implemented in the following fields:

- Improving the standards of living for working children
- Raising awareness to eliminate child labour phenomenon
- Helping families to keep their children in primary education

Report should cover the main points (objectives, activities fields – related organizations, successful stories, difficulties faced) and finally a brief summary on the activities to be presented during the Conference using one of the available audio and video facilities.

Registration deadline: 12 December 2004

Accommodation: The Arab Scout Region will cover food, accommodation (in the Cairo International Scout Center) and inland transportation for all participants from 4-10 February 2005.

For those who may want to arrive earlier or leave after the fixed dates of the event, an extra fee of US$15.00 per person per night must be paid by the participant. This covers half board "bed and breakfast", in a double room.

Each participant should obtain his entry visa to Egypt. Official invitation for the needed visa will be provided on request.

For more inquiries, please contact:

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Yours sincerely,

Abdullah Rasheed
Regional Director

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