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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

**World Scout Bureau, Asia-Pacific Regional Office
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To: Chief Commissioners
International Commissioners
Chief Scout Executives

18 January 2013

24th APR Scout Conference Resolutions

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to send you a copy of the 24th APR Scout Conference business resolutions. Excluding the Resolution of Thanks, the Conference Resolutions consist of 12 provisions that are directly related to National Scout Organizations (NSO), the Asia-Pacific Region, and World Scouting.

The Regional Scout Committee and NSOs are bound by the constitution to implement the resolutions. Therefore, may I, on behalf of the Regional Scout Committee, request all NSOs to integrate the resolutions into their national action plan for the period 2012-2015 and to take appropriate action to give effect to the resolutions at national level. The Asia-Pacific Region will likewise incorporate the resolutions in relevant regional policies.

The Regional Scout Committee reviews the progress of implementing the resolutions at its every meeting, to be presented as a document at the next Regional Scout Conference in 2015.

Best regards,


Abdulrahman Rasheed
Regional Director

24th Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Conference
24– 29 November 2012
Dhaka, Bangladesh

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

03/12 **Special Needs**

Arising from the Asia-Pacific Workshop on Special Needs held in Perth, Australia in April 2012, the following recommendations were made and to be endorsed by this conference.

1. NSOs are invited to be the host country for the next APR Workshop on Scouting for Young People with Special Needs for 2014.
2. Each NSO is encouraged to develop training sessions at basic and advanced levels which increases awareness of special needs and make this training available to all adults in Scouting.
3. NSOs should support leaders to modify/or adapt components of the award schemes that ensure the youth with special needs are able to achieve success whilst still being challenged.
4. Each NSO should have a system in place which allows them to monitor modifications/ or adaptations that have been made to the award scheme. Higher awards should be reviewed by the appropriate person at each NSO /Branch eg – sectional commissioner and the coordinator for special needs program
5. Each NSO is encouraged to host or attend an Agoonoree or Agoonorette.
6. NSOs are encouraged to include youth with special needs at major events such as Jamborees and Moots and ensure facilities and activities are available for these young people.
7. NSOs are encouraged to develop processes to collect appropriate data about youth members with special needs to develop appropriate programs and training.
8. NSOs are encouraged to make their best practices of program delivery for young people with special needs and training of leaders available to APR for distribution to other NSOs.
9. Propose to the regional conference that a sub-committee or support mechanism be established for Special Needs to follow up on recommendations and provide direction, support, training etc
10. Each NSO should be encouraged to appoint a coordinator for special needs programs.
11. Each NSO representative at the workshop is encouraged to report on the Special Needs Workshop and provide the recommendations to their NSO.
12. A web-based information portal be available for sharing all NSO's special needs information and resources – including programs for youth members and leader awareness programs.

04/12 **Full Rights for Associate Members in the APR Youth Forum**

Recognising the repeated recommendations from the Asia Pacific Regional (APR) Scout Youth Forum, particularly the 6th APR Scout Youth Forum (Malaysia 2009) and the 7th APR Scout Youth Forum (Bangladesh 2012) and understanding that APR Youth Forum is not a constitutional body;

It is proposed that Macau and French Polynesia, which are currently Associate Members of World Organisation for the Scout Movement (WOSM), be accorded full rights in the APR Youth Forum and to amend the guidelines accordingly to provide for the inclusion.

However, as Associate Members, they may not put forward any Young Person as a candidate for the Young Adult Members Group (YAMG).

05/12 **Youth Involvement**

Arising from the APR Seminar on Youth Involvement held in Thailand, November 2010, the conference resolves that:

- a) Seminars and workshops on Youth Involvement be held frequently to further develop understanding of youth involvement strategies that include a balance of youth leaders and adult leaders. The program could be organized or run by youth members, at NSO level, or amongst a group of NSOs.
- b) For countries in which Scouting is underdeveloped, support needs to be provided to ensure that youth involvement is included in the development of Scouting from the beginning, such as a simple guidebook (e.g. The Scout Method or National Rover Council), or from representatives of other countries providing support to the NSO.

06/12 **Membership Growth**

Arising from the APR Workshop on Membership Growth held in Malaysia in May 2010, the conference resolves that:

- a) NSOs be encouraged to further explore the models of Scouting, for growth, in order to reach out to all segments of society.
- b) Persons responsible for Membership Growth at NSOs should communicate and share ideas with each other on membership growth and retention.

07/12 **Environmental Education**

Arising from the International Seminar on Environment Education and Biodiversity held in Jakarta, Indonesia in June 2011, and the subsequent Environment Workshop held in Malaysia in June 2012, the conference resolves that:

- a) The APR encourages and supports NSOs to take an active role in developing environment education programmes, and identify local actions consistent with the World Scout Environmental Programme (WSEP) framework.
- b) That NSOs commit to the adoption of the WSEP, including the preparation of guidelines and action plans.
- c) That NSOs are highly recommended to register and develop an action plan for the 'Clean Up the World' campaign that takes place in September annually.

08/12 **National AIS Policy**

Arising the APR Workshop on Effective National Adult Resources Committee and National Training System held in Japan in September 2011, the conference resolves that NSOs review their National AIS Policy, that would provide for a timely, flexible and modular approach to equipping Adults in Scouting, and to further consider establishing the tools and strategies for in-service support.

09/12 **Partnership and Fundraising**

Arising from the APR Workshop on Partnership and Fundraising held in Korea in October 2011, the conference resolves that NSOs should be encouraged to set clear and specific guidelines when undertaking partnerships and fundraising projects including instituting regular reviews, evaluation and a reporting system.

Further, NSOs should engage innovative ideas and be aware of current trends in developing their fundraising activities.

10/12 **World Office**

The Conference welcomes the decision of the World Scout Committee to close the Geneva Office and strongly supports the establishment of only one global office within 2013.

In recognition of the deliberations of the World Scout Committee held on 28 September – 01 October 2012, where a decision was made to distribute functions of the World Office, no decision was made to split the World Office into two global centres.

However, the WOSM online survey regarding the location/structure of the World Office is focused towards and implicitly supports the proposal to have two global offices. It is recommended that the WSB revise and recirculate the survey before the NSOs in the APR respond.

11/12 Strengthening Social Media, Scout Network and Environmental Education for Young People

Arising from the 7th APR Youth Forum (Bangladesh, Nov 2012), the conference resolves that:

- 1) NSOs develop internet and social media safety guidelines for the movement supported by the Regional Office and APRSC. This should be accompanied by training on internet safety for both Leaders and Youths.
- 2) NSOs are encouraged to develop an ICT training curriculum to be included in the Leaders Training, where applicable.
- 3) NSOs are to create an environmental education program to be incorporated into their youth program. This could include integrating environment and conservation events (eg. Earth Hour), websites and social media campaigns, as well as activities such as tree planting and recycling.
- 4) A network of National Youth Councils (eg. Venturer, Rover Council) within the Region be established. NSOs who have yet to establish such councils and network are reminded of previous recommendations (15/04.4 Youth Forum, 20/04 Promotion of Rover Scouting) encouraging them to do so.

12/12 Financial Support for Young People

The conference resolves to request the Regional Scout Committee to seek ways and means to financially support young people's involvement in peace initiatives, community development projects and exchange programme, and encourage all NSOs to do likewise.

13/12 Human Rights

Being reminded that from inception, Scouting has been a youth educational movement, and that Scouting values as set out in the Law and Promise and the Scout Method are entirely consistent with and are conducted with a spirit of respect for Human Rights, and

Bearing in mind the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights ('the Declaration'), the World Scout Committee's Statement on Human Rights Issues issued in March 2010, the World Scout Committee's Declaration to the 39th World Scout Conference in Brazil, and the 7 September 2011 letter of Hon. Jejomar C Binay, the Chairman of the Asia Pacific Regional Scout Committee to the World Scout Committee;

Noting that as members of a particularly diverse region, we as members of the Asia Pacific Region ("APR") understand that all people are entitled to universal human rights under the principles set out in the Declaration, and

Acknowledging that the discussion of Human Rights issues can be a challenging and sensitive undertaking given the diverse cultural, religious, legal and other societal backgrounds of NSOs;

This Conference:

- a) Acknowledges that the issue of Human Rights, especially within the context of the rights enumerated in the Declaration, is a valid and relevant topic for discussion, but cautions that any discussions of Human Rights issues in Scouting should be handled with wisdom and maturity, to avoid undue conflict within World Scouting; and

Reminds all NSOs that such discussion should be within the context of educating young people on such rights, and should not be a platform for the advocacy of or against any particular position, view or ideal;

- b) Observing that issues relating to sexual orientation and gender identity have been raised by particular NSOs in the past,

Reminds all NSOs that the topic of Human Rights is a broad area, relating to many areas of human existence and experience, and that Scouting should therefore not give undue focus to any individual issue within the context of Human Rights, and further

Expresses the view that

- such matters are private in nature and not the core business of Scouting, and
- Scouting is not a platform for the political discussion or advocacy of 'gay' or any other rights, or other related issues;

- c) Expresses the view that it is unnecessary and inappropriate to produce an agreement or statement outlining a definition of human rights as there is too much diversity of opinion on this topic,

That it is therefore unnecessary and inappropriate for World Scouting to develop policies on specific Human Rights issues where there are not already widely agreed international standards on the issue (for example, the existence of a United Nations declaration on the issue); especially when such discussions could lead to divisions within World Scouting, and

That any policy (or lack thereof) relating to non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity should be within the sole domain of individual NSOs bearing in mind their individual legal, societal and cultural underpinnings.

- d) Recommends that all NSOs should ensure that their youth program includes education on human rights, particularly within the context of Scouting. This must not be political in objective, but should strictly be related to the Scouting principles of Duty to God, Self and Others and Scouting activities, and should emphasise respect for diversity in culture, religion and ideas.
- e) Requests the APRSC to gather examples of best practices on the work of diversity, human rights and inclusiveness for sharing.

14/12 **Textual and Editorial Corrections to the APR Constitution and By-Laws July 2005 Edition**

The 24th Asia- Pacific Regional Scout Conference, Dhaka Bangladesh resolves that the editorial corrections as proposed below be undertaken in the APR Constitution and By-Laws.

The APR Constitution edition July 2005 needs some editorial corrections and textual changes in reference to the change in terminologies and to bring it in line with Constitution of WOSM adopted in Brazil in January 2011.

As these are mostly editorial corrections and are not considered as amendment to the constitution, it is submitted to the conference in the form of Resolution.

Present Text	Proposed Text (Changes are highlighted/Bold)
<p>Article I.1 "Asia Pacific Region" means the geographical area as defined by the World Scout Committee under the Article XIX of the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement.</p>	<p>Article I.1 "Asia Pacific Region" means the geographical area as defined by the World Scout Committee under the Article XX of the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement.</p>
<p>Article I.3 "Organization" means the Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Organization</p>	<p>Delete as it is stated in Article 1.1</p>
<p>Article II.1 The purpose of the Organization shall be</p>	<p>Article II.1 The purpose of the Region shall be</p>
<p>Article II b To Exercise such functions as are provided for in the Constitution or other laws governing the Organization</p>	<p>Article II b To Exercise such functions as are provided for in the Constitution or other laws governing the Region</p> <p><i>Note: Similarly, in other articles Organization to be replaced with Region</i></p>
<p>Article VIII.7 The Chairman shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the World Scout Committee with consultative status</p>	<p>Article VIII.7 The Chairman or one of the Vice-Chairmen shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the World Scout Committee as an ex-officio non voting member</p>
<p>Article XII.2 a Transitional provisions: At the Fifteenth (1986) Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Conference, five new members shall be elected to the Regional Committee for a term of Six Years. The Five members of the committee who were elected at the Fourteenth Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Conference (1994) for a four year term shall continue to serve in their positions in the committee for a further one year period and retire in 1989.</p>	<p>Delete</p>
<p>Article XII 2 b The amended Constitution shall enter into force following the fifteenth Asia Pacific Regional Scout Conference (1986) and the Sixteenth Asia- Pacific Regional Scout Conference will accordingly take place in 1989.</p>	<p>Delete</p>
	<p>General: The term "Regional Executive" be replaced with Regional Director in all articles of the constitution where it appears.</p>