Circular N° 22/2020

To: International Commissioners

29 May 2020

Postponement of the 16th World Scout Moot in Ireland to 2022

Dear friends,

During an online consultation earlier this month, the World Scout Committee (WSC) considered the impact of the current COVID-19 worldwide health crisis on the World Organization of the Scout Movement’s (WOSM’s) calendar of World Events, including the 16th World Scout Moot currently scheduled for 19-29 July 2021. The primary considerations were to ensure the best possible context for our World Events, ensuring the best possible experience for all participants, while at the same time keeping the alignment between World and Regional Events.

In relation to the 16th World Scout Moot, we have been closely monitoring the evolving situation together with the Host (Scouting Ireland). Consideration was taken on the pros and cons of continuing as planned, versus postponing the event to a similar timeframe in 2022.

After careful consideration, the WSC decided to postpone the 16th World Scout Moot by one year, to a similar time frame in 2022.

We wish to thank all National Scout Organizations (NSOs) who have expressed strong interest in sending contingents to the 16th World Scout Moot. While we note the interest expressed by NSOs, we recognize that the timing of the WSC’s decision to postpone the 16th World Scout Moot comes before the collection of fees by the Host and should therefore help in reducing any administrative difficulties for the participating NSOs. Moreover, the timing of the decision will ensure that the Host will not be incurring major operational and infrastructure costs in the coming period.

The Host is currently working with local authorities to confirm the venues, after which it will make a proposal of the exact new dates for the WSC’s consideration. Similarly, a decision will be brought forward on the age restrictions for the 16th World Scout Moot, taking into account the exceptional situation of the postponement. We anticipate to be able to communicate on this in the next weeks to provide clarity to NSOs.

We understand the postponement of the 16th World Scout Moot will pose several additional operational questions for contingents; you can review the Questions & Answers page on the Moot website which aims to further inform you. Due to the evolving context, we ask for your understanding in that some of the questions require more time to provide you with a full answer.

In addition, the WSC confirms that the subsequent 17th World Scout Moot will be organized as planned in 2025. This ensures that the World Scout Moot remains scheduled in the middle of the World Scout Jamboree cycle, and no changes are required for the long-term event planning of NSOs and of the bidders for this event.

We sincerely hope that the postponement of the 16th World Scout Moot will offer an opportunity for NSOs to increase their contingent size, and also provide more time to mobilize resources for the planning and logistics in a more certain environment.
Should you have any further questions pertaining to the postponement of the 16th World Scout Moot, do not hesitate to contact Jacob Murray, Director, World Events of the World Scout Bureau (jmurray@scout.org) or Colm Kavanagh, Director of the 16th World Scout Moot (ckavanagh@scouts.ie).

Yours in Scouting,

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Secretary General  
World Organization of the Scout Movement