



SCOUTS[®]
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

CHAIRMAN RICK CRONK – CLOSING REMARKS
39th WORLD SCOUT CONFERENCE, BRAZIL
January 14, 2011

Thank you, Simon for your kind remarks.

Every three years, the largest youth serving Organization in the world gathers together to assess its effectiveness in serving young people and Scouts around the World.

It also meets to inspire its volunteers, to elect its leadership, and to celebrate its history of one hundred years since Lord Baden-Powell introduced the novel idea of strengthening the character and self-confidence of young people.

On this occasion of the 39th World Scout Conference in Curitiba, Brazil; Scouters from 139 countries have met to deal with the business of Scouting.

We were hosted by the happiest, most cheerful 397 Brazilian Volunteers and 24 professional staff imaginable, each wearing bright green shirts, and always with their welcoming smile. They worked day and night to make the World Scout Youth Forum and World Scout Conference a huge success. We would like to recognize them at this time.

May I call on stage the President of UEB, Rubem Tadeu and the Vice-Chairman of the World Scout Committee, Mario Díaz; and ask Mario to present a token of our appreciation to Rubem.

May I also call now on stage Paulo Salamuni, Chairman of the Host Committee and Oscar Palmquist, Vice-Chairman of the Host Committee, and member of the World Scout Committee, and the Secretary General, Luc Panissod; and ask Luc to present a token of our appreciation to Paulo and Oscar.

Thank you.

Our activities began with 170 young people meeting at a World Scout Youth Forum in Blumenau, Brazil.

These young adults spent three days in workshops exploring subjects around youth empowerment and explored ways that young volunteer leaders might become even more relevant to the vitality of Scouting around the world.

The World Scout Conference itself has met for five days:

This Conference

- Reviewed the work of its various Committees and Task Forces.
- Attended various seminars and workshops, focusing on the most important elements of an effective Scouting program.
- Elected its World Scout Committee for the next three and a half years. Among those elected for the first time in the history of World Scouting,

was a lady under 30 years of age. We have been working very hard toward this moment in time, for in essence 100 years. I think "World Scouting is beginning to understand." Karin, Congratulations.

- The Conference also celebrated the past and future of:
 - World Scout Youth Forums,
 - World Jamborees,
 - World Scout Moots,
 - and World Scout Conferences.
- The Conference reviewed amendments to its constitution and a wide array of resolutions.

But most importantly, the 1,000 people gathered at this Conference, spent time discussing how we might continue to change our culture, so we might magnify and enhance the work of National Scout Organizations.

- How can we together create an environment in which each NSO can most effectively serve their young people and Scouts.

Finally, we celebrated "Scouts in Action" in:

- Haiti
- Slovakia
- The Philippines
- Sierra Leone
- El Salvador
- Nairobi (Kenya)
- Saudi Arabia
- South Africa
- Burundi

And we looked forward to the importance and impact that more than 31 million Scouts might have in serving the world as "Messengers of Peace."

This 39th World Scout Conference has been productive, inspiring, and conducted in a spirit of good Scouting.

On this stage I would like to also recognize the World Scout Bureau team, which under Luc's leadership, contributed to the success of this Conference. Would you all please join me on stage.

May we achieve more over the next 3½ years, than we have ever before. Until we meet again, in Slovenia in 2014.

May Peace be with you.

I thank you very much!

Your Chairman

Rick Cronk