



# 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

## CONFERENCE SUMMARY

The 39<sup>th</sup> World Scout Conference was held 10-14 January 2011 in Curitiba, Brazil. It was attended by 918 participants from 138 countries. Hosted by the União dos Escoteiros do Brasil (the Brazilian Scouts Association), the Conference was officially opened by two Brazilian Scouts named Julia and Sandro, who were the Masters of Ceremony.

Aside from the official sessions and workshops, participants had the opportunity to take part in a varied evening programme and discussion groups focusing on Governance and the Strategy for Scouting at the Santa Monica Camp Club on the Wednesday afternoon.

The World Scout Conference is the governing body, the "general assembly" of World Scouting, and is composed of all the members of the Organization: the National Scout Organizations (NSOs).

Its function is to consider the policy and standards of the Scout Movement throughout the world, formulate the general policy of the World Organization, and take the action required to further the purpose of the Movement.

## NEW MEMBER

The Conference welcomed one new member to their first Conference: The Belarusian Republic Scout Association.

This new Association, which was officially recognised on September 5<sup>th</sup> 2010, was presented with a certificate of membership on the opening day of the Conference.

## FUTURE EVENTS

Progress reports were made about the following future events:

- 14<sup>th</sup> World Scout Moot, Canada 2013
- 22<sup>nd</sup> World Scout Jamboree, Sweden 2011
- 23<sup>rd</sup> World Scout Jamboree, Japan 2015

The Slovenian Scout Association was chosen by the Conference to host the 40<sup>th</sup> World Scout Conference and 12<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum in 2014.

Iceland was chosen by the Conference to host the 15<sup>th</sup> World Scout Moot in 2017.

The Conference decided that the 24<sup>th</sup> World Scout Jamboree would take place in 2019 in North America, following a collective bid of Canada, Mexico and USA.

## ELECTIONS

Six people were elected to a three-year term on the World Scout Committee, from a field of twelve candidates:

- Ms. Karin Ahlbäck, Finland
- Mr. Abdullah Alfahad, Saudi Arabia
- Mr. João Gonçalves, Portugal
- Mr. Marcel Ledjou, Côte d'Ivoire
- Mrs. Mari Nakano, Japan
- Mr. Daniel Ownby, USA

Continuing their mandates on the World Scout Committee are: Mr. Eric Khoo (Malaysia), Mr. Wahid Labidi (Tunisia), Mr. John C C May (United Kingdom), Mr. John Neysmith (Canada), Mr. Oscar V. Palmquist A. (Brazil) and Mr. Simon Hang-Bock Rhee (Korea).

The World Scout Committee elected the following officers:

- Chairman: Mr Simon Hang-Bock Rhee, Korea
- Vice-Chairman: Mr Wahid Labidi, Tunisia
- Vice-Chairman: Mr John May, United Kingdom

Retiring World Scout Committee members are: Mrs. Thérèse Bermingham (Ireland), Mr. William F. "Rick" Cronk, (USA), Mr. Mario Díaz Martínez (Spain), Mr. Georges El-Ghorayeb (Lebanon), Mr. Nkwenkwe Nkomo (South Africa), and Mr. Gualtiero Zanolini (Italy).

## **KEY AGENDA ITEMS**

Formal reports were presented by William F. "Rick" Cronk, Chairman of the World Scout Committee; Luc Panissod, Secretary General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement; and Maurice Machenbaum, Treasurer.

The theme of the Conference was 'Leaders of Innovation' and in addition to innovative approaches being proposed by the World Scout Committee and World Scout Bureau, NSOs were invited to share their innovations in workshops during one session of the Conference on Tuesday 11 January.

There were two areas that were a focus for this Conference - Governance and the Strategy for Scouting. The Conference, following up on the work of the second Governance Review Task Force in the triennium 2008-2011, considered a set of proposed amendments to the Constitution, proposed by the World Scout Committee and National Scout Organizations. These were discussed in detail during the afternoon of Wednesday 12 January and decisions were taken in a focused session on Thursday 13 January.

An updated Constitution will be printed and circulated following the Conference and it is hoped that the amendments will support the continued growth and development of the Movement and appropriate governance by the World Scout Conference and its elected executive organ, the World Scout Committee.

On the Strategy for Scouting, there was a report on the evaluation of the overall strategy and on the initiatives to move the strategy forward.

The results of the evaluation showed that there is a high level of awareness of the Strategy for Scouting and the main elements are being used by NSOs to support their development. The strategy also acts as a compass to show NSOs the direction of WOSM which helps to orientate the direction of NSOs.

The report included new initiatives in relation to the Strategy for Scouting:

- A review of the 'brand health' indicated the need for Scouting to clearly define its 'Cause'. The Conference adopted the cause of Scouting as 'Education for Life'.
- The Net Promoter Score had been introduced to provide feedback on the services provided by the World Scout Committee and World Scout Bureau. This is seen as a critical indicator providing feedback to the Committee and Bureau on their support to NSOs. There is a commitment to continue to measure the Net Promoter Score.
- An analysis of the membership figures had shown that much more work is needed to obtain accurate figures from NSOs. This is why a membership management tool has been developed and it was introduced to NSOs in a workshop during the Conference.

In relation to the future direction of the Strategy the following ideas were discussed fully in workshops and adopted by the Conference.

- 'Be Prepared - Leadership for Life' recognises the importance in Scouting helping young people to develop leadership skills, particularly in the 14-25 age-groups and the opportunities that Scouting has to work in partnership with others to take this forward, in the private sector and with other bodies responsible for formal and non-formal education.
- The Conference discussed the proposed 'Consultancy' approach which, in addition to providing more targeted support to NSOs in the next triennium, will enable NSOs and individuals with particular skills to contribute to the overall growth and development of Scouting.

The Conference adopted the Vision and Strategy on Youth Involvement which challenges Scouting in local Units, institutionally and in the community, to offer young people

opportunities for engaging in decision-making and help them to develop skills to support this. Youth Involvement in Decision-Making will continue to be a key focus in the next triennium.

Following discussion on a proposed Resolution, a statement on Human Rights was presented to the Conference with some work identified for the World Scout Committee to take forward in the next triennium.

### **CENTENARY CERTIFICATES**

During the opening session there were also 47 NSOs /NSAs who recently celebrated 100 years of Scouting. They were presented with a certificate recognizing this momentous achievement; one anecdote is that although the Belarus Scout Organization was recently accepted into WOSM Scouting has been present in Belarus for over 100 years since 1909 making them also eligible for the centenary certificate.

### **BRONZE WOLF**

The Bronze Wolf, the only award of the World Scout Committee, was presented to Philippe Da Costa (France), Wayne Perry (USA) and Alexander Wong (Hong Kong). The following were presented at another time following the previous World Scout Conference: Air Vice Marshall (retired) Ahmed Abdel Latif (Egypt), Eberhard Von Koerber (Switzerland), Dominique Beñard (France), Howard Kilroy (Ireland), Katsuro Kuno (Japan), Derreck Pollard (United Kingdom) and John Ravenhall (Australia).

### **CONFERENCE HOSTS**

The success of a World Scout Conference lies for a great part on the shoulders of the Host Association and the Host Committee. The Brazilian Scouts Association hosted the 39<sup>th</sup> World Scout Conference, with special thanks going to the following members of the Host Committee:

- Mr. Paulo Saluamuni, President of the Host Committee
- Mr. Fernando Brodeschi, Vice-President of the Host Committee
- Mr. Oscar Palmquist, Vice-President of the Host Committee
- Mr. José Mario Moraes e Silva, Conference Director
- Mr. Ricardo Stuber, UEB International Commissioner and Youth Forum Director

### **SOCIAL EVENTS**

The following official social events took place during the Conference:

#### **- OPENING CEREMONY**

On Monday 10 January, the Conference officially began with style at the Opening Ceremony, held at Estação Convention Centre. The Ceremony featured live musical performance by a classical orchestra and the national flags of all WOSM members were paraded into the auditorium by over 150 young Brazilian scouts. Several senior political leaders from local, state and national level were in attendance.

#### **INTERNATIONAL EVENING**

The International Evening on Tuesday 11 January provided an opportunity to participants to share the traditional food, drink, music, dance and crafts of their countries with one another. The atmosphere at the Estação Convention Centre was lively and jovial and a great evening was had by all.

#### **BRAZILIAN NIGHT**

On Wednesday 12 January, participants enjoyed a taste of Brazil with traditional games, food, crafts, music and dance held at the Santa Monica Club, near Curitiba. In spite of the inclement weather conditions, the evening provided some light relief from the business of Conference and an enjoyable time was had.

#### **FAREWELL DINNER**

The week was rounded off in spectacular fashion with a grand farewell dinner and party at the Madalosso restaurant in Curitiba – one of the largest restaurants in the world. The band played upbeat samba music and participants danced and partied long into the night.

## **SPECIAL GUESTS**

The following Special Guests were present at the 39<sup>th</sup> World Scout Conference:

- World Scout Foundation, Mr. Michael Bosman, Chairman. He was accompanied by other distinguished members of the Foundation and of the Baden-Powell World Fellowship
- World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), represented by Gabriela Derosa, member of the WAGGGS World Board.
- Representatives of:
  - DESMOS - The International Link of Orthodox Christian Scouts
  - International Catholic Conference of Scouting (ICCS)
  - International Union of Muslim Scouts (IUMS)
  - Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC)
  - Council of Protestants in Guiding and Scouting (CPGS)
  - World Scout Parliamentary Union, represented by the Korean Scout Association

Special guests also included representatives from organizations that are working with World Scouting. It was a pleasure to welcome representatives from:

- United Nations Volunteers (UNV)
- The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association
- Eduard Vallory.

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