



Dear Friends

Luc and Rick, can I compliment you for the wonderful Conference so far!

One of the nice parts of our job in the World Scout Foundation is that we have to sell scouting to potential supporters outside the Movement,

Scouts tell others that we are changing the world, that we are training leaders, that we are an educational movement ... the question is, what do those people hear, what do they believe?

The test, of course, is, what do they say back to us?

Well, one man we know, looked at scouting ... and concluded, in his own words that "Scouts are the messengers of peace".

This man believes that you are changing the world ...

The man I am speaking about is the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia ...

Back in 2001, hearing the drumbeat of war around the world, he challenged **you** to work for peace ...

You did amazing work!! ... and the Gifts for Peace programme was born ...

Let's look at what you did:

→ **Gifts for Peace VIDEO**

In 2007 we presented the result of your work – 10 million scouts in 110 countries working for peace activities small and big in their communities ... and he was impressed!

Let's hear Prince Faisal bin Abdullah, Minister of Education of Saudi Arabia:

→ **Prince Faisal message ...**

Listen to Prince Faisal's message:

... We would like to challenge you to do more ...

Very recently, King Abdullah and King Carl Gustaf of Sweden have got together.

The good news is that they would like to consider launching an initiative in September this year –

... an initiative that would be called **Messengers of Peace** ...

There would be two objectives ...

FIRST – to reward scouts throughout the world for the great work they have done for peace.

Second – to support scouts around the world to increase the impact of their work for peace – reaching more people, spreading their work to another district, another region or to another country entirely...

This programme will hopefully be launched in September at the Peace Camp in Saudi Arabia – with both King's present.

But Before the launch, to give you an example of the kinds of initiatives they are interested in Prince Faisal has asked us to reward a number of NSOs who he considers are already Exceptional Messengers of Peace. You've seen their stories on the screens in this room this week ...

On stage to present the awards are His Excellency Ambassador Kurdi of Saudi Arabia, Professor Abdullah Al Fahad Vice President of the Saudi Scout Association, His Excellency Mr Saleh Al Humeidi of the Ministry of Education of Saudi Arabia, Mike Bosman, Lars Kolind, Rick and of course Luc.

I'd like to call on Sierra Leone, South Africa, Amohoro Amani, Slovakia, Hong Kong, Sweden, EL Salvador, UK and Ireland, USA, Haiti, and Kenya. We'd also like to invite KISC, Saudi, and Philippines.

1. Sierra Leone – is a Messenger of Peace for their work to build peace in the communities following the tragic war ..
2. South Africa is a messenger of Peace because of their work to re-integrate HIV AIDS orphans into the community
3. Amohoro Amani is a messenger because of the heroic peace education in the Great Lakes region of Africa following the genocide there...
4. Slovakia is a Messenger because of its work with the Roma community,
5. Hong Kong is a messenger because of their work with young people in prisons
6. Sweden is a messenger of Peace because of its work to integrate immigrant communities through scouting,
7. El Salvador is there because of their work with violent street gangs
8. UK and Ireland are messengers because of their work to build bridges between the catholic and Protestant communities in Northern Ireland
9. USA is a messenger because of the amazing work each of their 50,000 eagle scouts EACH YEAR do for their communities
10. Haiti for their work following the devastating earthquake
11. Kenya for their work with street kids – they invented Ticket to Life which has been exported to Asia Pacific
12. KISC – for their work as a permanent place for bringing cultures together and for their work on environment education and action
13. Philippines for their work with street kids
- 14 and finally Saudi Arabia for their work to promote peace and understanding ...

Today we recognise you with a simple certificate and a traditional Saudi Messenger envelope ... well it's a rather fancy envelope!!!

... but the two kings are looking for a way to reward not only the associations but **each individual scout** involved in the programme ...

We will be asking the Youth Forum members to advise us on this – so any youth representative, please come to the session tomorrow afternoon ...

Thank you guys – you can leave the stage

Can I ask you to applaud our first “Messengers of Peace”!

The second objective of Messengers of Peace was to support scouting to do much more – you heard Prince Faisal ...

We have asked the two Kings to help find the resources,

... but for them to be convinced, we need to prove that we mean business

So we need to show them we are ready to work for peace not just locally, but globally!!!

Well, today and tomorrow, some of our First Messengers of Peace that you have just seen on stage have volunteered to act ambassadors for this initiative.

If they haven't already done so, one of them will talk to you and ask your NSO to become a messenger of peace ... each NSO is asked to tell what you might do in the future ...

So far, Luc we have 65 NSOs signed up!

We need all 120 who are present at the conference!

If you haven't had a visit come and talk to us at our stand – have your photo taken by Yoshi and we'll add your list for the launch of the programme in September in Saudi Arabia.

Luc – you will lead this initiative globally ...

Thank you Luc

Dear friends, please imagine for a moment we are together again in three years time.

We are discussing the report of the first three years of the Messengers of Peace programme.

We are very happy.

In the past three years, millions of scouts in 160 NSOs have received a letter from the Kings of Saudi Arabia and Sweden, congratulating them for their work for peace.

We have had so many local projects posted on Google Maps that the Nobel Committee in Oslo has realised that WOSM is one of the strongest candidates for the Peace prize this year

In the past three years poorer NSOs around the world have received support to strengthen their organisation, to run great projects and expand those projects to reach a wider audience.

The Messengers of Peace Initiative is seen as WOSM's strategic fund – paying for its consultancy approach, supporting the most needy scouts, and telling the story of scouting to a much wider audience.

Dear friends, what I have described here might be a dream today, but believe me, with everyone in this room on board, this dream **will** become a reality.

I said at the beginning, one of the nicest parts of the job of the World Scout Foundation is to sell scouting to people outside the Movement. Mike the other day said that we need you on side to help us raise the funds.

Here's a great ay that together with Luc, we can show to our two kings, that we mean business.

Please sign up!

Ask Luc, Mike, Lars, me or Mark – or any of the ambassadors for more details!

Two final points –

1. Tomorrow afternoon we have a reception to discuss this initiative further... All Head of Delegation have had an invitation in your pigeon holes.

Secondly. We hope to launch this initiative in September at the Peace Camp in Saudi Arabia. Remember, only NSOs who are signed up will be invited to attend

This, as Luc has said is a very exciting challenge for the Movement ...

It's an external recognition that you are doing what you say you are doing – you are changing the world...

Thank you all very much – you are amazing!!!

Finish ***The Challenge Video***