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Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout

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## CIRCULAR N° 33/2004

To: International Commissioners

*For the attention of Programme  
Commissioners and Commissioners in charge  
of the senior sections (15 to 26 age range)*

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## Scouts of the World / Youth of the World

Dear colleagues,

The Scouts of the World programme is an initiative to help National Scout Organizations revitalise their programme for senior sections (15-26 age range) by giving young people more opportunities to face the challenges of the future as identified by the Millennium Declaration unanimously adopted by the 189 member countries of the United Nations in 2000 covering these three broad areas:

- Peace, security and disarmament,
- Development and the eradication of poverty,
- The protection of our common environment

A number of young people and leaders from various Scout organizations around the world, as well as the regional Scout offices, have helped with the development of the Scouts of the World programme over the four last years. This programme responds to two of the strategic priorities: "Youth Involvement" and "Adolescents". This programme was developed by the former Youth Programme Committee and the World Scout Committee Workstream on Youth Involvement. It is approved by the World Scout Committee.

The Scouts of the World programme also is linked to the Centenary of Scouting Gifts for Peace project.

### The Scouts of the World programme is simple

The Scouts of the World programme has two components:

- The Scouts of the World Award
- The Scouts of the World Network

**Award:** In order to obtain the Scouts of the World Award, young people are invited

- to attend a special course, The Scouts of the World Discovery, and
- to do Scouts of the World Voluntary Service.

By adopting the programme your association can provide senior Scouts with the opportunity to complete their personnel progression with a world award. This programme is adaptable to the activities that your senior section programme already offers. It will enrich the range of activities and make Scouting more attractive to adolescents and young adults.

**Network:** Scouts having obtained the Scouts of the World Award have the possibility to join the Scouts of the World Network in order to share their efforts and their experiences and help each other to develop projects and make the world a better place.

**Managed by young people for young people:**

The Scouts of the World programme is managed by the SW Technical Commission composed of young leaders from the various Scouting regions under the leadership of the Secretary General of WOSM.

**National Scout Organizations**

The World Scout Bureau, including its regional offices, is ready to help you adopt and develop the Scouts of the World programme.

Please find enclosed a document presenting the content of this programme. Additional information is available on a special website at: [www.youthoftheworld.net](http://www.youthoftheworld.net) On this website, the introductory document is available in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

This is the first information about the Scouts of the World programme. Soon you will receive a resource kit with the guidelines to implement the programme, and other supporting materials.

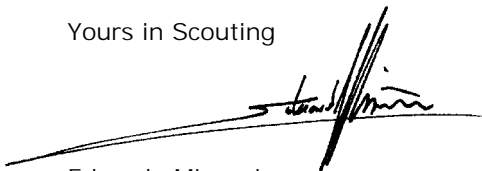
Please send your comments to [contact@youthoftheworld.net](mailto:contact@youthoftheworld.net) to help us develop the programme in the most effective way in the best interest of young people.

**Youth of the World: for all young people**

The Scouts of the World programme is the educational component of the Youth of the World campaign being developed by WOSM, working with the United Nations and several of its agencies. Its goal is to promote the Millennium Development Goals.

The Youth of the World campaign is aimed at **all** young people and offers them the opportunity to follow the Scouts of the World programme. This corresponds to Strategic Priority 4, "Reaching Out ". More information about Youth of the World can be found on: [www.youthoftheworld.net](http://www.youthoftheworld.net)

Yours in Scouting



Eduardo Missoni  
Secretary General



[www.youthoftheworld.net](http://www.youthoftheworld.net)

## The Scouts of the World Programme

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### 1. Introduction

#### 11 – CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD

The future of our small planet is threatened by many challenges:

- By 2025, 2 out of 3 people will not have enough water for their basic needs.
- A billion people do not have access to clean drinking water
- Polluted water affects the health of 1.2 billion people.
- Desertification affects over a billion people.
- Soil degradation affects a third of the world's land.
- 375 km<sup>2</sup> of forest disappear every day.
- Two billion people do not have access to electricity.
- 3.1 million people died from HIV/AIDS in 2002, 42 million are infected.
- 25% of the world population live in wealthy countries and consume 75% of energy.
- Over the past years, numerous conflicts led to 10 millions of deaths.

On September 2000, one hundred-eighty-nine UN member organizations adopted the UN Millennium Declaration:

"We will spare no efforts to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected... We believe that the central challenge we face today is to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people... For while globalization offers great opportunities, at present its benefits are very unevenly shared..."

The Millennium Declaration refers to universal values that are also those of Scouting: *freedom, tolerance, equality, solidarity, respect of nature, shared responsibility*. The Millennium Declaration identifies three main challenges for the future of the world:

- Peace, security and disarmament
- Development and poverty eradication
- Protecting our common environment

## 12 – THE UN MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

As follow up of the Millennium Declaration, the UN General Assembly adopted eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV-aids, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership

## 2. What is the Scouts of the World Programme?

### 21 - DEFINITION

The Scouts of the World Programme has been developed in the framework of the Strategic priorities "Youth Involvement" and "Adolescents" approved by the World Scout Conference in Thessaloniki 2002.

It is proposed to young people from 15 to 26 years old, Scouts (Senior-Scouts and Rover sections) or non-Scouts, willing to contribute to make the world a better place. It should help to improve the programme of the senior sections (over 15). This is why National Scout Organisations are invited to integrate the Scouts of the World programme within the programme of their Senior-Scout or Rover sections.

The Scouts of the World Programme can support the Centenary *Gifts for Peace* project, for the 15 to 26 age range.

### 22 - EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The Scouts of the World programme is aimed at helping young people to achieve the following educational objectives:

- Ability to explain the main challenges of today's world
- Ability to live and take action in an intercultural context
- Sense of solidarity and community spirit
- Aptitude for finding and analysing information
- Autonomy and leadership
- Aptitude for using negotiation, mediation and problem-solving techniques
- Aptitude for developing and managing collective projects

### 23 - COMPONENTS

The Scouts of the World programme comprises two components:

- The Scouts of the World Award
- The Scouts of the World Network

### 3. The Scouts of the World Award

The Scouts of the World Award is granted to individuals having successfully accomplished a "Scouts of the World Discovery" and a "Scouts of the World Voluntary Service".

#### 31 - THE SCOUTS OF THE WORLD DISCOVERY

The *SW Discovery* is an adventure lasting several days, proposed by a Scouts of the World Base with a focus on Peace, Environment and Development.

##### Process

The *SW Discovery* comprises three steps:

1. *Exploring* ("what is it about?"): active discovery of one or several aspects of the Millennium Development Goals, for example:
  - Hiking with rangers in a forest threatened by pollution
  - Visiting an ethnic community suffering from prejudices and racism
  - Visiting a refugee camp
2. *Responding* ("what does it mean for me?"): processing the collected information and developing a feeling of personal commitment towards the issue (through a process of critical thinking about the causes and the consequences).
3. *Taking action* ("what can I do?"): developing a personal project of action in order to increase community's awareness about the issue and contribute to solving the problem.

##### Content

1. Introduction to the Scouts of the World programme
2. An active exploration of the Millennium Challenges and Goals ("Exploring")
3. Sharing the outcomes of the exploration and reflecting on them ("Responding")
4. Training workshops: acquiring skills to be able to set up and carry on a project of personal action ("Taking action"), for example:
  - Problem-solving techniques
  - Communication skills
  - Organisation and planning skills
  - Renewable sources of energy
  - Mediation and negotiation
5. Conclusion: how to develop a personal voluntary service or project.

### 32 - THE VOLUNTARY SERVICE

After having accomplished a *SW Discovery*, a young person willing to obtain the SW Award has to do a period of voluntary service in order to contribute to solving a problem related to the Millennium Development Goals. The duration of the voluntary service should correspond to a period of 2-week full time work at least. A *SW Voluntary Service* can take two forms: (1) assist a project already developed by an organization (Scout Association, youth centre, NGO); (2) develop a specific project with a team of friends.

Examples of voluntary services:

- Working as a volunteer in a Scouts of the World Base
- Preparing and running a "Global Development Village" within an international youth event
- Participating at an international work camp for the protection of the environment
- Developing a project with a team of friends to prevent substance-abuse or violence at school

### 33 - HOW TO GET THE SCOUTS OF THE WORLD AWARD?

Any young person between 15 and 26 years old, girl or boy, member of the Scout Movement or not, can obtain the *SW Award*. The following steps have to be followed:

1. Contact their National Scout Association and ask for a *SW Dossier*. Inquire on where to accomplish a *SW Discovery* and how to register.
2. Register and accomplish a *SW Discovery* in order to acquire more knowledge and skills and prepare a SW Voluntary service.
3. Do a *SW Voluntary Service* either individually or within a team project.
4. Complete an evaluation process and record his/her experience in the *SW Passport*, obtained with the *SW Dossier*, and send it to a *SW Base* or to the Provincial/National Headquarters.

If the recorded experience fulfils the requested criteria, the *SW Award* is delivered.

## 4. Scouts of the World Bases

Around the world, there are thousands of Scout centres and campsites. They are invited to become *Scouts of the World Bases* and play a key role in the development of the programme.

With the agreement of their National Scout Organization, Scout centres can apply for accreditation as *Scouts of the World Bases*. This accreditation is given by the World Scout Committee for a period of three years. The period is renewable after a positive evaluation made by the SW Technical Commission.

The Scouts of the World Bases are committed to:

- Promote the Scouts of the World programme;
- Organize Scouts of the World Discoverys;
- Offer opportunities for Scouts of the World Voluntary Services;
- Organize exchanges with other SW Bases;
- Grant the SW Award.

## 5. The Scouts of the World Network

### 51 - WHAT IS IT?

The *SW Network* is open to Scouts having obtained the Scouts of the World Award.

Its mission is to:

- Develop friendship and solidarity among all Scouts and young people around the world;
- Encourage and support projects to contribute to building a better world;
- Encourage and support young people willing to prepare the SW Award;
- Any member of the SW Network deserves support and help from other members.

### 52 - HOW TO BECOME MEMBER OF THE SW NETWORK?

- To become a member of the *SW Network*, a Scout has to apply to the World Scout Bureau with an application form and a copy of his/her *SW Award Certificate*.
- He/she will receive in return an introductory letter signed by the Secretary General of WOSM and a membership card.

## 6. Support structures

### 61 – AT NATIONAL LEVEL

Every National Scout Organization willing to adopt the *Scouts of the World Programme* is invited to set up a *SW task force*, formed of experts and members of the Scouts of the World network, which will be in charge of promoting and supporting the implementation of the programme. This task force should be integrated within the National team of the senior section (Senior-Scout or Rover).

The *SW task force* has the following mission:

- To inform young people on the *SW Programme* with all appropriate means: magazines, website, exhibition, distribution of *SW Dossiers* through the local, provincial and national Scout headquarters, etc.
- To organise *Scouts of the World Bases* where young people can accomplish a *Scouts of the World Discoverys* and be supported to do their *SW Voluntary services*.
- To support the preparation and organisation of *SW Discoverys* and *Voluntary Services*.
- To ensure the proper delivery of the *SW Award* either directly from national level or through the *SW Bases*.
- To ensure the participation of the NSO to the *Scouts of the World Partnership* (see 63) in order to support youth exchanges and *SW Voluntary Services* in co-operation with other NSOs.
- To support the SW Network.
- To report to the Regional Office and World Scout Bureau (see 62) on the implementation of the *SW Programme*.

## 62 – AT REGIONAL LEVEL

Each Regional Scout Office will look at the most adapted way to support the SW programme. It can be through a team integrated in the task force or the working group in charge of the "Adolescents" Strategic priority.

Supported by the Regional Programme Director, this team has the following mission:

- To promote the SW Programme among National Scout Organizations in the Region.
- To support NSOs in organizing and implementing the SW Programme.
- To contribute to publishing training and educational resources in order to adapt the SW Programme to the specific background of the Region.
- To organize and support the SW Network and the SW Partnership in the Region.
- To report to the SW Technical Commission (see 64) on the development of the SW Programme.

## 63 - THE SCOUTS OF THE WORLD PARTNERSHIP

The *SW Partnership* is formed of NSOs and engaged in the SW Programme. It is supported by the World Scout Bureau Central and Regional Offices.

It has the following mission:

- To facilitate contacts and exchange of experiences and resources between NSOs engaged in the SW Programme;
- To organise co-operation and exchanges between the various Scouts of the World Bases in order to provide young people with a broader range of SW Discoverys and Voluntary Services;
- To support the SW Network at international level.

## 64 - THE SW TECHNICAL COMMISSION

At world level, a *SW Technical Commission* is created with the aim to ensure the development of the *SW Programme*. Directly placed under the authority of the Secretary General, it is composed of young people and experts from the various regions. It has the following mission:

- To promote the *SW Programme* within the Scout Movement and externally;
- To support Regional and national SW teams or task forces;
- To publish educational and training materials to support the implementation of the SW Discoverys and Voluntary Services;
- To support the development of the SW Network and the SW Partnership;
- To Collect and process information on the development of the SW Programme in the various regions and report to the Secretary General.
- To Contribute to the development of the *Youth Actions for Development Campaign*, in partnership with UN agencies and NGOs.
- To Support the organisation of the *Youth for Development Prize*

## 7. Youth for Development Prize

An international Prize called the "Youth for Development Prize" will be launched in 2004 in order to encourage young people to develop innovative projects in the framework of the MDGs.

In order to promote and recognise youth projects the Youth for Development Prize will be granted during world or regional events: Conferences, Jamborees, etc.

The Prize is granted to teams of young people having implemented innovative voluntary services or projects in the fields of environment, development or peace.

The Prize is granted by a World Jury formed of world renowned experts in the fields of environment, development and peace.

It is not a competition: all those who fulfil the criteria receive the Prize.

**Be a Scout of the World, change the world!**

[www.youthoftheworld.net](http://www.youthoftheworld.net)

DB/AM September04