

27th ISGF World Conference

Report to the NSGFA Executive:

The Rules of Procedure were approved

It was announced that with proxy the Conference the Quorum was met.

World Markets: NSGFA did not participate in this but opened the NSGFA Retail every day with a profit in excess of \$2800.00

WOSM-ISGF Joint Statement was drawn up prior to the meeting and signed by Joao Goncalves, Chairman, World Scout Committee and the Mrs Maria Da Piedada Rodrigues, Chairman, ISGF World Committee. (Copy available). There had been a sever breakdown in joint communications but this is know resolved.

WAGGGS – ISGF Joint Statement is long standing agreement. Midas advised that both parties have been working together well so there was no need for updating this agreement.

A wonderful presentation by Ms Melanie Bennett, WAGGGS representative

Circular 04C – Candidates Standing for World Committee 2014 – 2020:

After presentations and voting the following four members were elected:

Alf Runar BAKKE (Norway)

Mohammad Abdul KHALEQUE (Bangladesh)

Wahid LABIDI (Tunisia)

Mathius LUKWAGO (Uganda)

Circular 05B – Country candidates for hosting the next ISGF WConf 2017 by secret ballot.

- HIPPRADA – Indonesian Scout and Guide Fellowship
- Ghana Scout and Guide Fellowship.

Hipprada Indonesian Scout and Guide Fellowship won the right to hold the 28th ISGF World Conference and gave a wonderful presentation.

Circular 06 – Invitation to presentation: The presentations were at various times during the conference. I found them interesting and very informative.

Circular 08A: Policy Recommendation (Finland): This was withdrawn after the report from the workshops re the future of NSGF's and ISGF. Report available.

Circular 09: Resolution 13 - Fee System. The conference accepted that the upgrade in the fee system. Level 1 - 2.04 Euros.

Circular 10 – Nomination Ex-officios – World Conference:

On the proposal of the ISGF World Committee the following were appointed:

- Chairman of the World Conference - Mr Brian Jackson (Australia)
- Vice Chairman Mr Jean-Luc DE PAEPE (Belguim)

Resolutions Committee:

- Mr Taher ETOUMI (Libya)
- Mr Jean – Francois LEVY (France)
- Mr Brent GRANT (Australia)

Tellers:

- Mr Roy CRECIAN (West Australia)
- Mr Desmond CROSS (NSW)
- Mrs Val HAYWARD (QLD)

Circular 11 – Agenda item 8; Triennial Report World Committee 2001 – 2014. *Also Available for perusal. This document was accepted by the delegates.*

Highlights:

- Two founding members, the UK Trefoil Guild and the PlusScouts, NSGF of Netherlands, withdrew at the end of 2011 which implied a loss of more than 23,500 members, a substantial decline of the ISGF human and financial resources.
- Concerns re possible withdrawal of the NSGF of Canada.

At the installation of the newly WCom, the ISGF was declining, was in crisis. Faced to such an unprecedented situation, the ISGF WCom members took measure of the challenges they have to cope with in order to restore the ISGF towards a sustainable development while introducing our organisation to new international opportunities. In this regard, the WCom members agreed on goals to be met for the triennium period:

- to re-establish and strengthen our contacts with the NSGFs and CB members;
- to develop membership and projects;
- to improve our Finance;
- to improve our relationships with WAGGGS and WOSM;
- to define the actions for the celebrations of the Centenary of Guiding 10th April 2012 and ISGF 60th Anniversary in 2013

Cecile Bellet was nominated as Secretary General of the World Bureau (paid staff) in March 2013.

The ISGF WCom is to meet at least once a year to assess the work carried out to decide on the future implementations. The WCom decided to reduce the working days from six to three.

The annual ISGF WCom meetings took place as follows:

Como, Italy, 2-3 October 2011; Athens, Greece, 10-12 March 2012; Brussels, Belgium, 8-10 March 2013; Tavernerio, Italy, 19-22 March 2014; Sydney, Australia, 8-9 October 2014

World Committee development strategy and implementations

NSGFs are the cornerstones of the ISGF and a healthy edifice can not be without solid foundations. At the light of the past elements, no doubt that it was necessary to reconsolidate and re-motivate the NSGFs.

The communication already established via the social media (Facebook, Twitter) present vive interests for the ISGF members who enable people to share information and knowledge regardless of distance. The ISGF WCom intensified these virtual exchanges to overspread the visibility of the ISGF and to comply with the expectations of members.

In addition to these cyber relationships, it was fundamental to renew direct contacts with NSGFs and to restore the group synergy. The ISGF WCom members roamed worldwide to attend all the ISGF events and to meet with ISGF members.

The departure of the UKTG is a significant loss for the ISGF in terms of human resources. Their proficiency and experience was an asset to the ISGF. A second meeting held May 2014 where the UKTG had the opportunity to appraise the evolution and the realisations of the ISGF during the past three years. The UKTG decision is definite. UKTG members wishing to remain in the ISGF are free to do by joining the newly reconstructed NSGF of UK.

Fellowship Toys: This was very successful in many countries.

(a) ISGF events:

Regional Gatherings/Conferences:

- 2014: Africa Region Gathering (Johannesburg, South Africa); Arab Regional Conference (Marrakech, Morocco).

- 2013: Europe Region Conference (Stockholm/Sweden – Helsinki/Finland); 2nd Caribbean Gathering (Curacao)
- 2012: Asia-Pacific Region Gathering (Dhaka, Bangladesh).

Sub-Regional Gatherings in 2012: West-European Gathering (Cork, Ireland)*; Mediterranean Gathering (Cadiz, Spain*); Nordic-Baltic Gathering ((Birstonas, Lithuania)*; Central Europe Gathering (Pilsen, Czech Republic) *; 3rd Camporee in Chile*.

Other events:

General Assembly of Hipprada**** - NSGF of Indonesia (Jakarta) ; 4th European Workshop (Jambville, France)*; 5th European Workshop (Wandlitz, Germany)*; General Assembly of the Executive Committee of the Arab Region (Tripoli, Libya) ; meeting in Cape Verde** working towards its ISGF membership ; Triennial General Assembly of the NSGF of Canada*** ; General Assembly of the MASCI- NSGF of Italy*** ; visits to ANASMACH (NSGF of Mexico) and to NSGF of Nigeria ; Grossarl (no participation of WCom)

Code:

* Partly financially sponsored by WCom members.

** Integrally sponsored by WCom members.

*** On invitation, at no cost for the ISGF

**** Partly financed by ISGF

On all these occasions, the ISGF WCom had the opportunity to make the ISGF's voice heard, to spread the ISGF message of Friendship, International Fellowship and Leadership. The WCom members work for the ISGF members and they would not be able to carry out their duties without close relationships with the NSGFs.

Therefore, in parallel to these official events, the ISGF WCom make a point to meet individually with the ISGF members to get acquainted of their success stories as well their failure ones in view of bringing them the proper support or reply.

b) National Level

From these discussions, came out realities which required deep consideration and the implementation of adequate reinforcement strategies for NSGFs:

- This is in this respect that the WCom financially supported the Central Europe Sub-region in the re-development membership program established in favour of NSGFs of Estonia, Lithuania, Hungary, and Latvia facing difficulties of growth.
- In addition, the NSGF of Haiti victim of an earthquake in 2011 and thus weakened by the exodus of its members to United States, engaged a merger with the CB group, CASEGHA, (Haitian expatriates members to USA), upon the suggestion of the WCom.

Total of twinning 1244 registered – majority are trefoil guilds. Note updated list for Australia can be found on the ISGF website.

Data base request of volunteers unsuccessful as at the date of this report, but was again discussed during the conference in a most positive way. Those who wish to be involved advise the World Bureau.

ISGF "Our Kit ": Very little response to the documents circulated earlier in the year. This is a challenge that Barbara will finalise before the end of 2015 with the material received from her request two months ago. (Very little received). ISGF will produce 8 books. 1st Booklet – A4 with many drawings about Baden-Powell. Four languages.; 2nd Booklet – A5. Scout and Guide Thoughts for Adults. Booklet – More info – needs updating; 4th Environment. 5th: Finances organising by the

ISGF; 6th Membership / Activities / Projects / Programs; 7th: Complete forms and photo of projects; 8th Documents of ISGF s how to start on NSGFs, Development.

These books will spread information about ISGF around the World.

Resolution 8: ISGF Presence in Canada

“ASKS the World Committee to continue working as a facilitator towards the identification of such a solution”

For almost ten years of tricky internal situation and after numerous talks, the Canadian issue has been clarified owing to the two CB groups (Agnes Baden Powell Trefoil Guild Fellowship and the Amicale Canadienne Francophone) had closed down any activities in the frame of the ISGF.

The NSGF of Canada is definitively recognised as the only national structure in the country and the threat of a resignation from the ISGF is thus null and void.

The official African Region was set up during the 4th African Gathering in Johannesburg, South Africa, in January 2014.

The official AsPac Region was created in 2012 during the AsPac Regional Gathering held in Bangladesh.

Keynote speakers:

- ✚ Melanie Bennett, NZ was the WAGGGS representative was an excellent speaker ;
- ✚ The Hon John Price AM who spoke about scouting
- ✚ There was no representative from UNHRC. They had not responded to the invitation by the World Bureau

Circular 12 – Membership: The Maldives NSGF were accepted into the ISGF as a full member NSGF Argentina was also accepted in to the ISGF as an associate member

Action Plan 2014 -2017 Development “The Steps to the Future”. This document contains the pertinent discussion items from the workshop sessions to be actioned.

Financial Plan 2015-2017: Nye the Accounts expressed in Euros.

Action 13: Action Plan 2014 – 2017

One of the weak points from remains Development. The delegation was spilt into 8 groups – 6 English speaking and 2 French speaking. Observers were invited to attend whichever session they were interested in. The document which is a culmination of these discussions is available. Unfortunately as each countries NSGF is organisation is so very differently in structure; language; importance; diversification, I believe it will be impossible to find a concise working base at Intentional level. It needs to continue to be a very flexible to accommodate all NSGF’s, Fellowships ect.

Action 13A: Australia was one of the few countries that sent their response to the World Bureau. Thank you Yvonne.

Presentation by by Mrs Bjorg Walstad, International Ambassadors Guild (IAG) sharing the opportunity to join this guild. By the end of the conference there were 12 new members.

Finances and Budget were presented and accepted.

Honorary Auditors appointed: Current auditor from Belguim and Angelci – Guild Master; Volunteer; Treasurer for 10 years and prepared to pay her way to Brussels to inspect the books.

The World Committee and the Conference was asked to consider the Arabic language in future conference translations. Result: This matter was not resolved but will remains under consideration.

General:

100 years of Scouting in Uganda

ISGF/NSGF's not to intrude in Scouts or Guides

Asia Pacific Region meeting held – interesting and uncomfortable. Not displayed was due and equal respect to female members of this region. No women on the executive. Push for the Asia Pacific regions NSGF's to vote for World Committee members from within the region.

Various occasions throughout the conference the AsPac Executive met. Richard will report on these meetings.

I would recommend that this AsPac region nurture and improve the relationships amongst their current membership; improve relationships with the World Bureau; ensure that they have better manners and more importantly give women the status and respect that they deserve. Then they can begin to grow the region.

Delegations should not be seated in Alpha order but placement picked randomly. To be considered for next World Conference.

Regional System is a work in progress. Please continue to study the constitution and see if we could provide any suggestions.

Brochures / leaflets / reports:

International Scout & Guide Fellowship Asia Pacific Region (AsPac). Note that Greg is in the picture

- 14th AsPac SGF – Special Issue to mark 60 years & Biennial Report 2012 – 2014. Gathering
- ISGF – AISG Fellowship and Twinning Card
- Indian Scout & Guide Fellowship Annual report 2013 – 2014
- ISGF Brochure. Red - English; Yellow - Spanish; Emerald Green - French

Resolutions presented at the end of the Conference we all accepted (Sheet available).

Barbara Dean

Head of NSGFA delegation

25/10/2014