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Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout

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To: International Commissioners

August 2006

Scout & Guide Spirit Flame and the Fire of Fires

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to inform you about the project called "Scout & Guide Spirit Flame" that was endorsed by WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee upon a proposal by The International Scout and Guide Fellowship (ISGF).

The main idea of the project is to carry a flame by means of an overland or sea journey from the Founder's grave in Nyeri, Kenya, to Brownsea Island, in the time span between Thinking Day/Founder's day 2007 and the eve of "Scouting's Sunrise" (22 February - 31 July 2007). During its journey the Flame will call at Moisson (65 km from Paris), where, in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Jamboree of Peace, it will light the "Fire of Fires" made up of pieces of wood coming from all the Scout and Guide historical grounds.

It is a great and unprecedented venture, an image-building symbol for the whole Movement and a very welcome complement to the Centenary celebration. We want the Spirit to be spread all over the world, representing the founding of the Movement. For this reason we are encouraging your NSO/MO to give the project every possible assistance and support, by publicizing it in your national press.

The Scout and Guide Spirit is the basis for the preservation and continued growth of the Movement so that it may contribute to a better world. Let us all help the Flame go!

For more details, please have a look at the documents enclosed.

Yours in Scouting and Guiding,

Eduardo Missoni
Secretary General

Encl.: Letter signed by Chief Executive, WAGGGS and Secretary General, WOSM
Description "The Scout & Guide Flame from Nyeri to Brownsea Island"
The Fire of Fires

one hundred years - one billion young people
cent ans - un milliard de jeunes
cien años - un billón de jóvenes



21 July 2006

To: All NSOs/MOs

Copy to: WOSM/WAGGGS Regional Bureaux and Regional Committees

Subject: **Scout & Guide Spirit Flame and the Fire of Fires**

Scout & Guide Spirit Flame

The International Scout and Guide Fellowship (ISGF), the worldwide organization of Scouts and Guides who are no longer active in specific functions within the Scout and Guide Movement, is at present engaged in organizing the "Scout & Guide Spirit Flame" project in the framework of the Centenary celebrations. The start of a new century of Scouting and Guiding worldwide is the time for ISGF to propose a symbol representing the essence of the Movement, the Spirit: THE SCOUT AND GUIDE SPIRIT FLAME.

The main idea of the project is to carry a flame by means of an overland or sea journey from the Founder's grave in Nyeri, Kenya, to Brownsea Island, in the time span between Thinking Day/Founder's Day 2007 and the eve of "Scouting's Sunrise" (22 February - 31 July 2007). The enclosed paper provides a detailed description of the project.

The project was endorsed by the WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee at its last meeting on 28 November 2005. We strongly would like to commend it to you. We believe it speaks for itself: it is a great and unprecedented venture, an image-building symbol for the whole Movement and a very welcome complement to the Centenary celebrations. We want the Spirit to be spread all over the world as it strongly symbolises the founding of the Movement. For this reason we are encouraging your NSO/MO to give the project every possible assistance and support, by publicizing it in your national press. You might soon be contacted by your national Adult Scout & Guide organization, if there is one in your country.

The Scout and Guide Spirit is the basis for the preservation and continued growth of the Movement so that it may contribute to a better world. Let us all help the Flame go!

The Fire of Fires

In addition, ISGF is proposing a side event of the Flame, to be known as the "Fire of Fires". During its journey through France, the Flame will call at Moisson (65 km from Paris), where, in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Jamboree of Peace (1947), it will light a fire made up of pieces of wood coming from all the Scout and Guide historical grounds: national training grounds, Jamboree and Rover Moot sites etc. The enclosed paper gives the details of the project.

Unlike the Scout & Guide Spirit Flame, **this project aims at involving all NSO/MOs directly**. All are called upon to send the organizers a piece of wood and the information sheet that goes with it, according to the instructions. More detailed information and instructions will soon follow by the French co-ordinator of the project, Yves Zacchi.

Yours in Scouting and Guiding,

Lesley Bulman-Lever
Chief Executive, WAGGGS

Encl.

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The Scout & Guide Flame from Nyeri to Brownsea Island

by Rigmor Lauridsen and Mario Sica

1) Short description of the idea

A flame lit on B.-P.'s grave in Nyeri, Kenya, symbolising the B.-P. spirit and at the same time being "The Flame of Peace 2007", will start from Nyeri on Thinking Day (22 February) 2007 and will be carried – by walking/biking and other surface means – by Guides/Scouts/Guild members all the way to Brownsea Island where it should arrive by 31 July 2007 as part of the Centenary celebrations. When the fire has burned down, all countries with Scouting/Guiding will get a box with the ashes deriving from The Flame of Peace 2007 and symbolising the spread of the B.-P. spirit throughout the world.

2) Route

The Flame will take the shortest route, i.e. via Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt up to Port Said or Alexandria (approximately 4,900 km from Nyeri). From there a "Sea Scout ship" (probably an Italian ship) will take the Flame to an Italian port. From Italy the Flame would be carried all the way by road to Oostende (approximately 2,200 km from Naples). From Oostende the Flame will be carried across the Channel to Dover, England, by a Belgian Sea Scout ship. From Dover the Flame will proceed to Brownsea Island along the Channel coast.

Stopovers of the Flame at Moisson, 65 km north-west of Paris (to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Peace Jamboree) and in Brussels have been planned.

The state of the roads is generally good, although in Kenya and Ethiopia some 800 km are earth roads, and in Sudan about 500 km are earth roads and 150 km tracks. These make little difference for the runners, but require a MTB (instead of an ordinary road bicycle) for the riders.

3) Means of transportation

Basically the Flame should be carried by runners or by bicycle riders. In order to carry the Flame by bicycle we are planning a special support adaptable to all bikes. Other surface means can also be used, especially if they are likely to increase local/women participation (e.g. camel, horseback, horse or donkey cart). So far as possible, no engine-propelled vehicle shall be allowed to carry the Flame.

We can count on a running average of 40 km and a bicycling average of 150 km per day, for teams of four runners/riders. From February 22 to August 1 there are 160 days. Kenya, Egypt and Sudan can probably provide the runners or riders. For Ethiopia we might have to take some runners/riders there from Europe. No such problems are foreseen once on European soil.

World famous runners from Kenya and Ethiopia could be made to join the running team. Famous cyclists could also be contacted. It could be an idea to have other "famous" people riding/running together with Scouts/Guides.

4) Climate

The end of February, March, April and May are good months to do the African part of the route – not so hot, and the weather is stable, though we might expect some rain in Ethiopia. The months of June and July are normally favourable in Europe.

5) Support team

The Flame Support Team will travel on at least two support cars (four-wheel drive). The two cars will be made available or hired in every country, to accompany the Flame from border to border.

6) Budget

A budget has been drafted to cover the Support Team and to pay for the other costs, including the transportation and lodging of riders/runners should the local people be insufficient: at least 35,000 dollars.

ISGF will launch a fundraising campaign. Tickets will be sold “to join the Flame”. Well-known people who can sponsor the Flame will be contacted.

7) Women participation

A minimum of female runners/riders should be included in each country. In European countries the ratio should be equal to the gender ratio in Scouting/Guiding/Adult Scouting and Guiding. If any riders/runners are “imported” from Europe for want of locals of both genders, a sizeable proportion of them should be women.

8) Security

Local authorities have been asked to provide a police escort from border to border. This will of course vary according to the security situation of the countries crossed by the Flame. In some countries a traffic escort might be sufficient, in others protection should be provided at all times, including for the sleeping quarters of the Flame team. Local Scout/Guide/Adult organizations have been fully involved in the contacts with their National authorities concerning both the permission for the Flame to go through and the security protection.

9) Procedure

Co-operation with WOSM and WAGGGS and with the British Scout Association, as well as with local Scout/Guide/Adult organizations, is essential. As a first step, the ISGF submitted the idea to the WAGGGS/WOSM Consultative Committee, which warmly endorsed it at its meeting of 28 November 2005. Contacts are underway with the UK Scout Association concerning the final section of the route.

THE FIRE OF FIRES

1) Short description of the idea

A camp fire will be lit in Moisson (France) on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Peace Jamboree and of the Centenary of Scouting. It will be formed of pieces of wood coming from all the main Scout/Guide training grounds of Europe and the world, as well as from the sites of World Jamborees and Rover Moots. In this way the flame of the fire will remind us of the tens of thousands of Scout and Guide Leaders who have passed through these training grounds and have served Scouting and Guiding throughout the world, and of the hundreds of thousands of boys and girls who participated in the great world gatherings of Scouting.

The camp fire will be lit by the Scout & Guide Flame when it stops over at Moisson during its route from Nyeri to Brownsea Island.

2) The wood

Each Scout/Guide Association will be asked to send to the person in charge of the project a piece of wood approximately 50-60 cm long and 1 to 4 cm thick, without any branches or leaves, preferably dry or half dry. One piece will be requested for each training ground or Jamboree or Rover Moot site, but every association will be able to send more than one, if it has more than one ground answering the requirements. The pieces of wood will have to be clearly labelled (name of training ground, name of the association, kind of wood in English or French).

3) The training grounds

Training grounds participating in the camp fire should answer certain requirements. It should be grounds having been used for a national level training (as opposed to a local or regional level). It is not required that they be still in use today by Scouting/Guiding, but they should have been used in the past for a substantial period of time (at least fifteen years; this span can be reduced to ten years for recently re-started East European associations). They should have been used for the training of Leaders, and not merely for Scout/Guide camps or for national gatherings.

4) Information on the training grounds

On top of the pieces of wood, participating associations shall be asked to provide some information on the training grounds by means of a form to be filled. Data like the number (even with an approximate figure) of people having been trained, the type of courses, years of functioning, names and biographies of the founders or of scout/guide personalities associated with the ground, some history of the ground, and its geographical coordinates will be among those requested. Similar data will be asked as regards the Jamboree and Rover Moot sites. A photo of the training ground will also be requested. These photos and information will be included in a pamphlet which will be published on the occasion of the Moisson camp fire.