



1st World Scout Education Congress

22-24 November 2013
HONG KONG

SCOUTING: EDUCATION FOR LIFE.

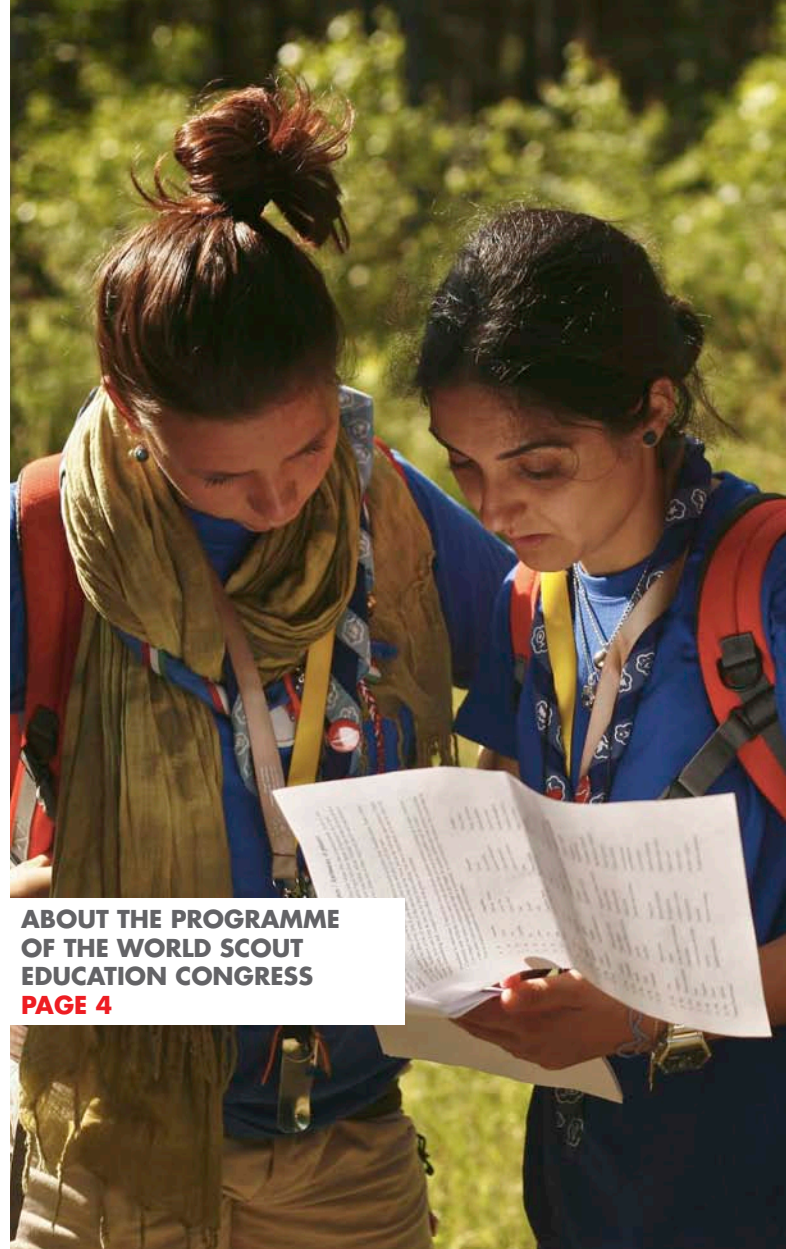
What kind of education?
What kind of life?

Bulletin 1



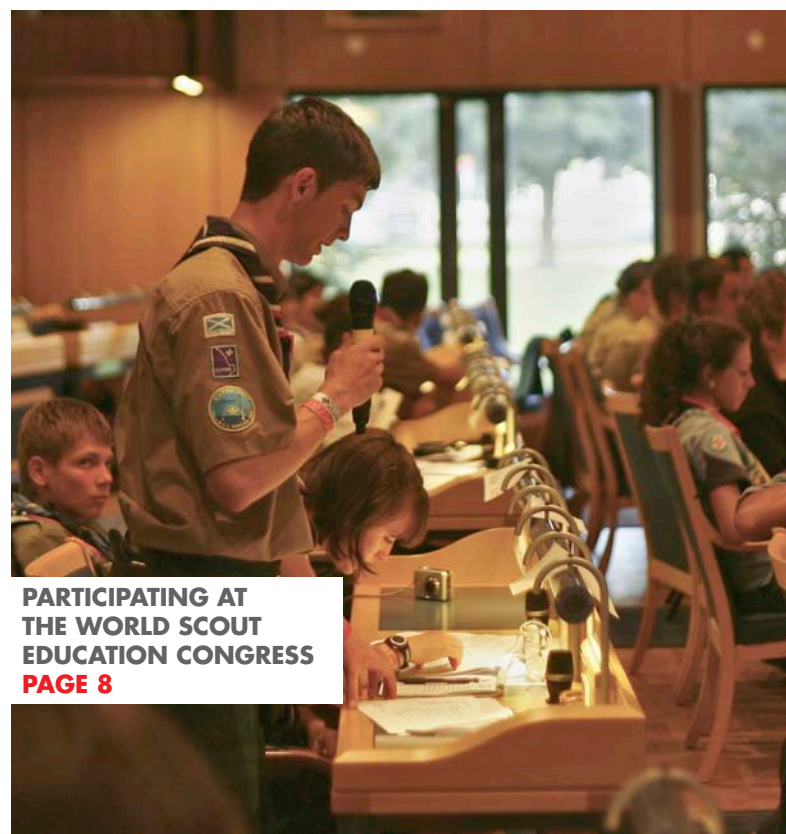
**ABOUT THE HOST:
THE SCOUT
ASSOCIATION OF
HONG KONG**
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**ABOUT THE PROGRAMME
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**PARTICIPATING AT
THE WORLD SCOUT
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Dear Sister and Brother Scouts:

I am delighted that the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) intends to set a major milestone with regard to its educational component - the Scout Method - and how it is positioned in today's and (more importantly) tomorrow's society. Welcome to the "1st World Scout Education Congress" to be held in Hong Kong from November 22-24, 2013!

This event will focus on what Scouting is really all about:

- Youth Programme
- Adult Resources
- Our Impact on Society – Now and in the Future

This event will only be deemed a success if as many National Scout Organizations (NSOs) as possible from around the world are represented. I therefore call on our top NSO leadership to begin identifying and recruiting a high-level delegation to this most important Congress.

It is anticipated that delegates will include (but will not be limited to):

- National Adult Resources Commissioners
- Youth Programme Commissioners
- International Commissioners
- Chief Commissioners
- Other key NSO decision-makers

We are very much aware that conflicts with personal time, other projects and events that are taking place, as well as financial restrictions that might hinder recruiting a large delegation. We have put two elements into place to try to overcome these hurdles:

Firstly, we are developing an online platform, which will allow full digital participation in this world event – so you can also participate in the Congress from your home or even the headquarters of your NSO. The only thing you will need is a connection to the internet.

Secondly, we foresee a Solidarity Operation for the event, through which we want to enable every NSO - especially those in developing countries - to send at least one participant to the Congress.

Please read this first bulletin as in it you will find much more in-depth information on the 1st World Scout Education Congress. You will gain a much better idea of the topics to be discussed, how and when you can register, and learn about our fantastic host... the Scout Association of Hong Kong. Our host has gone the extra mile to ensure that all of us have a wonderful time in Hong Kong as their special guest!

I look forward to joining you, either in Hong Kong or online, during the 1st World Scout Education Congress!

Sincerely,

SCOTT A. TEARE
Secretary General
World Organization of the Scout Movement



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Dear Friends in Scouting,

Scouting is one of the leading movements in the field of non-formal education and its mission is clear: "to contribute to the education of young people, through a value system based on the Scout Promise and Law, to help build a better world where people are self-fulfilled as individuals and play a constructive role in society."

This educational profile was reaffirmed by the World Organization in 2011 when the 39th World Scout Conference adopted "Education for Life" as the cause of Scouting. The Conference felt that this phrase best expresses our common goal, something that we must strive to offer as a Movement.

But let us ask what kind of Life are we talking about at the beginning of this 21st century? What impact does Scouting have upon individual lives? And what Education best addresses current and future individual and collective challenges?

The rapid changes that the world has experienced in the last few years and the increasing uncertainty about the future pose significant challenges in the fields of education, including non-formal education. To maintain relevance in this changing environment requires regular review of the assumptions and practices by which organizations operate. This is what we want to do during the 1st World Scout Education Congress: to look both inside and outside of our Movement and reflect on where we want to go. We therefore see this event as :

- placing "education" once more at the centre of attention, as the core business of World Scouting;
- raising awareness and assessing impact of current and future world and youth trends upon the educational model of Scouting;
- inspiring and strengthening NSOs in the field of education by bringing together expertise from inside and outside Scouting;
- pointing the way forward, looking at the future for the educational methods of Scouting;
- being a showcase of a collaborative event of the 21st Century.

Collaboration will in fact be a key word and we're very excited with the idea of having people from all over the world contributing to this collective endeavour: NSOs representatives, of course, as well as partners in the NGO world, the academic community and other institutions. Together, we will explore issues such as Scouting values, leadership, trends, the Scout Method, competencies and Skills for Life, unity and diversity, Youth Empowerment, learning environments, managing Adult Resources and many, many others.

You are all very welcome to contribute in creating this event and we're looking forward to meeting you in Hong Kong in November 2013!

Yours in Scouting

João Armando G.
World Scout Committee, member



The term “Congress” originates in Latin (“congressus”) and it originally meant “to walk together” (“con” – together, “gradi” – to walk).

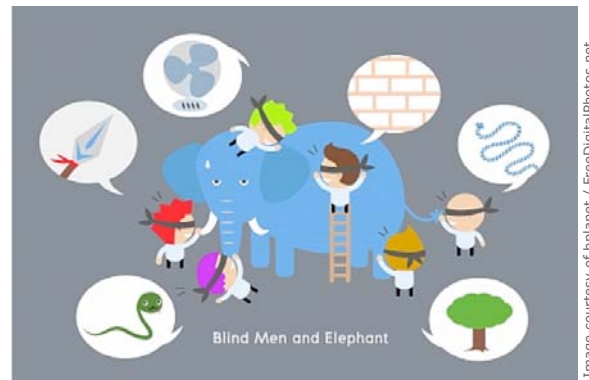
About the programme of the World Scout Education Congress

Scouting has been defined in different ways, depending on the time and the audience for whom the particular definition of Scouting was intended. There is one definition contained in the Constitution of WOSM, another that can be derived from Scouting’s Mission statement, probably over 200 developed at NSO-level and so on.

Though the terminology and particular elements emphasised may vary, all of the definitions of Scouting carry one common thread: Scouting is about providing education. This is and should remain the core business of our Movement: providing young people with opportunities to learn and develop themselves as happy people and active citizens.

It is true that Scouting and the (relevance of the) education it provides is perceived very differently depending on one’s standpoint: youth member, parent, sponsor, adult leader at local level, politician, school-teacher, entrepreneur, non-Scout, national commissioner, etc. in direct relation with the social, cultural and economic background in which the Movement operates. However, like in the story of the blind men describing the elephant, these views are not mutually exclusive. Rather, they are complementary. This is what the 1st World Scout Education Congress is seeking to achieve: describing the entire elephant!

**LITERALLY TRANSLATED,
HONG KONG MEANS
“FRAGRANT HARBOUR”**



We aim to offer an overall image of what Scouting education is and does and, perhaps more importantly, what it should be and should do. This image is a puzzle composed of experiences and expertise from many National Scout Organizations, so their contribution to the content of the event is absolutely crucial. An additional perspective over this will be provided by the input from experts in the theory of education and how people actually learn - a welcome opportunity to look at our work from a scientific and methodological perspective.

Scouting does not exist in isolation. Only 1 out of every 184 people on Earth is actively involved in Scouting. And, in itself, Scouting is not a place to live but an opportunity to develop and prepare for life in a community and a society with norms and rules that we have to understand, if not embrace. Scouting is also not something that comes on top of an empty space, rather it is proposed to young people that have needs, dreams and aspirations determined by the society and the times in which they live. Listening to the needs of young people (didn’t our Founder encourage us to “ask the boy”?) and those of the society they’re bound to live in is another important element in the equation of success in Scouting. We should not forget that the term “scout” itself has its roots in the Latin “auscultare”, which means “to listen”!

**HONG KONG
IS THE MOST
DENSELY
POPULATED CITY
IN THE WORLD.**

Tens or probably hundreds of millions have experienced Scouting in the last 100 years and they all wanted to leave this world a better place. As hard as they have wished for and worked towards this dream, it is quite obvious that the mission is far from being accomplished. There are still things to be fixed in our societies!

But how exactly are Scouts creating a better world? By what means and how can that be measured? Personal development is easy to understand but how does that contribute to making life better in any given community? On average we represent less than 1% of the world population and, though changes have been triggered by far smaller groups, the particularity of Scouting is that it does not generally influence directly any given situation but it educates and trains people to be willing and able to take stands and make efforts based on personal values.

Taking all of this into account, the programme of the Congress can be defined as an exploration of three areas:

1. "The life & society we prepare for"
2. "The education we provide"
3. "The impact of Scouting in the life of young people and communities".

Or, to come back to the analogy of the elephant, we aim to describe not only the animal, but also the jungle in which it lives and the role it plays in the ecosystem!

THE FOCAL POINTS OF THE CONGRESS

The challenges that National Scout Organizations are facing vary greatly throughout the different parts of the world where Scouting is delivered to young people. However, experience shows that the needs of NSOs in what concerns education in the 21st Century tend to fall into a limited number of categories. The Planning team of the Congress, reinforced by its very diverse background, has prepared a provisional list of "focal points" that the event is going to concentrate on, most of them being addressed through the filters of the three areas described above (education, society, impact).

- Leadership
- Scouting's unity and identities
- Values
- Trends in Youth and Education
- Youth Empowerment
- Competencies and Skills for Life
- The Scout Method
- Reaching Out and diversity in Scouting
- Learning Environments
- Managing our Adult Resources

Scouting is a worldwide organisation (Scouts call it a worldwide family). Once a week you meet up at your village hall (or somewhere like it). You should go on at least one camp a year. You can start Scouts at 10 and a 1/2 (some allow you to start at 10 years old). To sum it up its basically a activity/challenge youth group but alot more fun :). It is for boys and girls. (note that some Troops will only allow boys into the troop. there is one reason for this. because, not being sexist but girls dont like some activites that boys do. It basicly makes a big arguement. I go to (name of the village) Scouts in (name of the region). they only alow boys into the troop.) By the way troops (in scouting) are like the villages scouting, E.G my village is a troop. Hope this helps :)

Genuine answer from one young person to another to the question "What is Scouting?" on a website

The list isn't - and it can't really be - exhaustive and the titles and definitions might leave a lot of room for improvement. However, it represents a first discussion point for the partnership we hope to develop with you, National Scout Organizations and national leaders, in order to define the content of the Congress.

There will be many ways in which you can contribute to the building of the programme for the Congress:

- On the Facebook page of the World Scout Education Congress (facebook.com/1WSEC) we will launch regular polls on which topics you feel are most relevant to discuss.
- You can post a message on our wall to focus the attention of the planning team on a specific item with regard to education in Scouting you feel as being particularly important.
- On the event website you will have an opportunity to cast a vote on the sessions once their topics are defined.
- You have an opportunity to organise and facilitate your own sessions (training sessions, sharing sessions, best practices presentations, etc.), based on interesting projects and experiences from your NSO (a form will be provided in due course).
- Finally, you will have an opportunity to propose topics even during the event, at the open sessions provided daily in the event programme.

If you intend to be directly involved during the event (and this includes also those who will take advantage of the broad range of possibilities to attend online a major part of the Congress), please make sure that you make your views known and encourage others to do so – it's the only way to ensure that what is delivered at the Congress is what YOU want and what YOU need.

The Congress will last for 3 days

- starting on Friday, November 22nd 2013 with the Opening Ceremony at 09:00 (GMT+8)
- closing on Sunday, November 24th 2013 with the Closing Ceremony at 21:00 (GMT+8)

WORKING METHODS

The work of the Congress is structured around the idea of a CITY.

Not only you will actually be in one of the greatest cities in the world, but, as in any town, you will have the opportunity to choose your own way around in our symbolic city as well.

THE ORIGINAL VERSION OF NON-FORMAL EDUCATION EMERGED IN 1968 (COOMBS 1968)

The programme is flexible and complex, allowing (we hope) everyone to "navigate" their way across sessions, picking the areas and the methods that suit her or him best.

Each of the three days will be dedicated to one of the main areas defined for the Congress - "education", "life/society", "impact of scouting" – and will follow a similar pattern.

- Each morning we will discover **"the city"** from afar, with a plenary keynote address from a major speaker, who will present an innovative view on the theme of the day.
- In the second part of the morning, participants will have the opportunity to enter inside the walls and choose a stroll in **"the Central Square"** (with a presentation from one of the themes of the day from guests representing a government organisation or and NGO), go up to **"the University"** (with an input from representatives of the academic world) or get excited in **"the Stock Exchange"** (where a session is organised by people representing the business or economic world).

- There will be plenty of opportunities to stop at "cafés" and at some "street corners" to chat with your peers about the input received and what it means in the real world, back home.
- After lunch, everyone is invited to **"the Market"**, where all sorts of products, sizes and colours are available to you. This is the heart of the City, where people discuss real Scouting, concrete ideas and form long lasting relationships. Based on your needs and interests you can choose from:
 - WOSM input sessions, facilitated by a WOSM expert
 - Round tables and Think Tanks
 - Panel discussions
 - Training sessions
 - Sharing sessions

Every day will see 8 to 12 different such sessions, with some of them being repeated so participants would get a chance to choose a real tailored-made solution.

- Cafés and street corners are always options for a quick chat in the afternoon
- After dinner, the programme becomes more informal, focusing on social life, with a number of "clubs" opened every evening. There is the **"Book Club"**, a resource centre and library for Scouting, **"the Museum"**, where NSOs have a chance to present their materials and projects to all those interested, the **"Commissioners Club"**, where national commissioners sharing similar responsibilities at national level (i.e. Rover Commissioners, Cub-Scout Commissioners, Training Commissioners, etc.) will have a chance to participate in facilitated exchanges, there's a **"Speaker's Corner"**, where anyone of you can propose topics for ad-hoc discussions, there's the **"Internet Café"**, where you can get in contact live with our followers from across the globe and there is **"the Emergency Room"**, where major challenges that your NSO is "suffering" from might be alleviated after a one-to-one consultation with a WOSM expert.
- Overall, 8 to 12 parallel sessions will be organised for participants to choose from.

As you see, there is no shortage of opportunities to make the Congress a really relevant event for everyone involved. It is really up to the participants to get engaged all along the process of preparation and implementation. Together we might just be able to write history!



Hong Kong has the most skyscrapers in the world. Classified as buildings with more than 14 floors, Hong Kong has around 8'000, almost double that of New York its nearest rival.

USE OF LANGUAGES

- The main working language of the 1st World Scout Education Congress will be English.
- All official information (like this bulletin) will also be available in French. We also work together with World Scout Bureau's Regional Offices to ensure translation of official documents in Russian, Spanish and Arabic, although these might take a bit longer to become available.
- During the plenary sessions we will provide simultaneous translation in French. Some informal translation assistance will be provided in Arabic, Russian and Spanish.

HONG KONG HAS THE HIGHEST AVERAGE IQ IN THE WORLD AT 107

We are working together with the Regional Offices to make this happen, using their experience and network. Although we will do our best to ensure as much language

facilitation as possible, due to the high amount of parallel sessions we cannot guarantee that this will be possible everywhere. Please make sure that you also foresee arrangements within your delegation to ensure language facilitation where necessary.

- If you are an accomplished translator from English to one of the other 4 official WOSM languages and willing to support us as a volunteer during the Congress, please let us know us at congress@scout.org.

REACHING CONCLUSIONS & HAVING IMPACT

As any other major event, the Congress measures its success by the impact it will have on the future development of our Movement in terms of education. Of course, this is not to say that the numerous and useful ideas and experiences that all participants (being them present in Hong-Kong or participating online) will take home with them and enrich their National Scout Organization with, are not extremely important.

But the aim of the 1st World Scout Education Congress is also to impact on how World Scouting looks at the future of its educational proposal, values and methods. However, it should be clear for everybody that the Congress is not a decision-making body, we have the World Scout Conference for that. So we will not spend time on voting resolutions or drafting declarations and seeking majorities, etc. What we intend is to collect, compile and synthesise the views of all its participants and express them clearly to World Scouting.

And for this we foresee:

1. A special wrap-up session at the end of the Congress, where a well-balanced panel will discuss the key outcomes of the Congress
2. A dedicated group of 7-10 *rapporteurs* from around the world will have as its sole responsibility to capture the essence of discussions and opinions during the event and compile out of that an extensive report with their findings within 3 months after the closing of the Congress to all NSOs, Regions and the World Scout Committee.
3. NSOs can then use this report to decide which are the key outputs of the Congress that should be part of a decision-making process during the World Scout Conference at its meeting in August 2014 in Slovenia.
4. The World Scout Committee will also carefully consider the report and draft its own conclusions from it, which will also translate into resolutions for consideration by the 2014 World Scout Conference.



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The challenges that National Scout Organizations are facing vary greatly throughout the different parts of the world where Scouting is delivered to young people.

Participating at the World Scout Education Congress

The venue is property of the Scout Association of Hong Kong, which is also the host for the 1st World Scout Education Congress. You can read more about Hong Kong Scouting in the article in this bulletin about the host.

The Congress as well as the accommodation will all take place in one building, the BP International House. Airport transfers, included in the registration fee, will be arranged only from Hong Kong International Airport, which has connections to all major airports around the world.

From the moment you step into BP International, you'll be impressed by its refreshingly modern design. Simple elegance combined with inspired artistry creates a spacious and comfortable environment where discerning guests will feel right at home. Equipped with modern facilities and dedicated staff, BP International House will give all WSEC participants a pleasant and memorable stay.

REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee below includes participation to all sessions of the 1st World Scout Education Congress for 1 person at the venue in Hong Kong, including lunch and dinner from the 22nd until 24th of November 2013 included.

ARRIVALS:

Thursday, 21nd November 2013, all day

OFFICIAL OPENING:

Friday, 22nd November 2013,
09:00 GMT+8

OFFICIAL CLOSURE:

Sunday, 24th November 2013,
21:00 GMT+8

DEPARTURES:

Monday, 25th November 2013, all day

Registrations will open on **worldscouteducationcongress.org** from March 15th, 2013 onwards until September 20th, 2013. Registration is preferably done online, although we will also provide a paper registration form for those with limited access to the Internet. Payment is preferably done by wired transfer (TT) – the registration process will provide you an invoice based on your choices. In the event of full booking, priority will be given to those who have fully paid their fees.



Category A countries	150 USD
Category B countries	200 USD
Category C countries	250 USD
Category D countries	300 USD



ACCOMMODATION FEE

Accommodation is foreseen in double rooms, twin rooms or in 4-bunk dorm rooms, all located in the BP International. Each room has en-suite shower and toilet. You can find photos and additional information on the hotel website -

www.bpih.com.hk

The prices quoted below are the prices per night per person, inclusive of breakfast – the registration process will give you the option to indicate that you wish to share your room with someone else, enabling you to share the room cost between 2 (or 4, if you opt to stay in a bunk dorm).

PRICES TWIN AND DOUBLE ROOMS (price per person / per night, breakfast included)	62.50 USD
PRICES 4-BED BUNK ROOM (price per person / per night, breakfast included)	37.50 USD

These rates apply only to the nights on 21, 22, 23, 24 November 2013. Reservations made after 20 September 2013 may not be guaranteed.

Please do not book directly with the hotel but make your hotel reservation request through the Congress online registration system, which will automatically forward your request to the hotel, which will then finalize the reservation directly with you. Taking arrival and departure day into account, you should foresee to stay 4 nights in the BP International.

SOLIDARITY PROGRAMME

A Solidarity Programme has been put in place to ensure that at least one person per NSO can participate to the 1st World Scout Education Congress, with priority given to Category A and B countries. Eligible persons for the Solidarity Programme need to have the position of National Adult Resources Commissioner or Youth Programme Commissioner or similar in their NSO. If your NSO would like to apply for the Solidarity Programme, you should contact your Regional Office which has all necessary details to assist you.

PARTICIPATING ON-LINE

The obvious way to take part in the Congress is of course to be part of your NSO delegation and join the Congress in Hong Kong physically, "on-site". However, we are very much aware that a large part of potential participants will not be able to join the Congress physically, due to a broad range of constraints.

We will therefore put much effort to enable all those willing to join the World Scout Education Congress "on line" through a dedicated online website. This platform will act as the central point where you can choose from various means to contribute to the Congress: livestreaming, social media, blogging, ... It will bring together all those strands and so give a full overview of everything what is happening, on site and on line, during the Congress.

In the next Bulletin we will give a more in-depth overview of all available tools to join-in to the Congress online; and also some ideas on how you could organise an event in your NSO for members of the National Adult Resources or Youth Programme Team to participate online in the Congress, for example at your National Headquarters. In the meantime, you can also look for updates on **worldscouteducationcongress.org** or our Facebook page, **www.facebook.com/1WSEC**.

ANCILLARY PROGRAMME

Why not take the opportunity, if you possibly travel from the other side of the world to Hong Kong, to explore the region and Hong Kong Scouting? Our host, the Scout Association of Hong Kong is developing a number of add-on tours and programmes (touristic as well as educational or Scouting-related) to enrich your experience in this part of the world after the Congress. A full list of options will be published in Bulletin n° 2, scheduled for publication in June 2013.

During the Congress the Hong Kong NSO will also propose an accompanying persons programme for spouses or partners. This programme will be offered at the cost of 450 USD (per person per day) including meals, local sights seeing and shopping tours. You will have the option to register for this programme during the online registration.

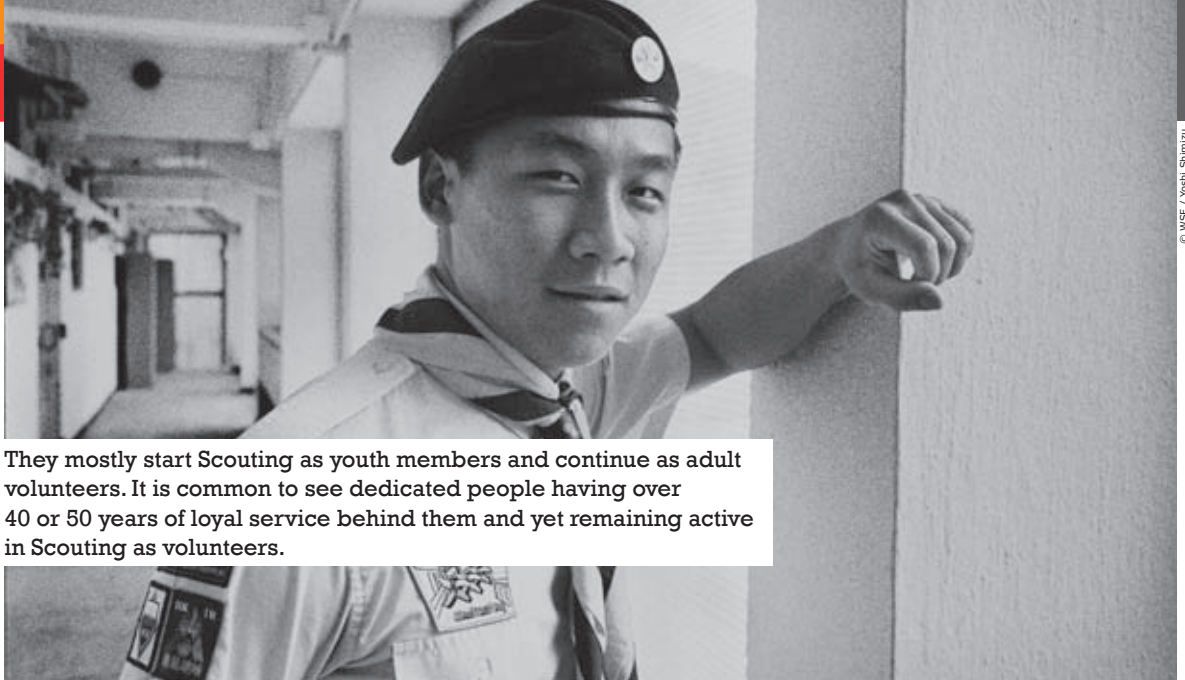
As far as the Post Congress Tour is concerned, the programme includes 3-full days visits:

25 November 2013: Visit to Tian Tan Buddha and Po Lin Monastery by cable car as well as traditional Tai O Fisheries Village.

26 November 2013: Visit to Disneyland.

27 November 2013: Visit to traditional Chinese. Che Kung Temple and Hong Kong Heritage Museum.

The fee per person for the above 3-days event is **US\$150** including transportation to and from BP International House, entrance tickets and lunch.



They mostly start Scouting as youth members and continue as adult volunteers. It is common to see dedicated people having over 40 or 50 years of loyal service behind them and yet remaining active in Scouting as volunteers.

About the host

The Scout Association of Hong Kong

SCOUTING IN HONG KONG – A BRIEF INTRODUCTION!

Scouting in Hong Kong began more than 100 years ago soon after the founding of the Scout Movement by Lord Baden Powell in 1907. British merchants, missionaries and military personnel introduced Scouting to Hong Kong.

Officially, the NSO has drawn a rather arbitrary line by setting 1911 as the official beginning of Scouting in Hong Kong even though "Boy Scouts" appeared in Hong Kong a few years before that. Building on value based tradition and led by successive strong and committed volunteers; present day Scouting in Hong Kong enjoys solid support from the government, schools, communities and parents.

AUTUMN IS THE SUNNIEST SEASON IN HONG KONG, WITH OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER BOTH AVERAGING CLOSE TO 200 HOURS OF BRIGHT SUNSHINE.

The Scout Association of Hong Kong (SAHK) has been fortunate to have two far sighted Chief Commissioners in its history, one of whom in the 1970s (before the subsequent amendments of the WOSM Constitution) was able to push for changing the status of SAHK from a Branch of the UK Association into an independent NSO and was accepted as a 'Full member' of WOSM in 1977. This change freed Hong Kong from any political complication that could have occurred following the surrendering of sovereignty of Hong Kong SAR by the British administration and the reunification of Hong Kong SAR with the People's Republic of China.

Another turn of events that profoundly affected the future of SAHK was the development of the Headquarters building into a 25 storey Hong Kong Scout Centre and BP International House, which currently boasts of 525 rooms alongside conference facilities. This was made possible thanks to the other Chief Commissioner in the 1980s.

The property generates sufficient revenue to support expenses for the maintenance and expansion of Scouting in Hong Kong.

Since its inception, SAHK continues to have the full support from all members of the society from the government to ordinary citizens. In Hong Kong, there is a very positive image for the Movement and hence, there is no real need to "sell" Scouting. Most people know what is a Scout and what Scouting stands for. Its value, its aims and what it will serve are well understood by most in Hong Kong. The only concern of parents is whether their children will have sufficient time to do Scouting alongside their busy studies schedules (a very common phenomenon in this part of the world).

Although Scouting in Hong Kong is mostly school based, it is not a part of the curriculum in a school, and it is not compulsory. The School is only a sponsor, which provides the venue for Scouting. However, membership can be restricted to students of the school. Leaders can be teachers (particularly if they are former Scouts or if they are interested to be a Scout leader), alumni of the school, or Parents. This is the formula of success in Hong Kong Scouting, which is a very metropolitan city where people live in high-rise apartment blocks and are not very religious. The schools are the centre and focal point of a young person's life. Not a Church or a community centre or town hall as may be the case in some other countries or smaller cities and towns where Scouting exists.

SAHK is a volunteer led organization with professional staff providing support and serving as the Secretariat. We have a large pool of dedicated volunteers who have contributed through decades of faithful and loyal service. They mostly start Scouting as youth members and continue as adult volunteers. It is common to see dedicated people having over 40 or 50 years of loyal service behind them and yet remaining active in Scouting as volunteers.

Modern day Scouting in Hong Kong has its competitors. We are no longer the only provider of such activities since non-formal education elements are now found in formal education as institutions try to copy parts or entire chunks of what we do in organisations like Scouting. Our uniqueness is perhaps that the other educational institutions/ organizations may pick up one or two of the elements from our Scout Method to incorporate into their core business whilst Scouting embraces all of them. The other strong point of Scouting is that we are a value-based organization and we offer value-based self-development opportunities to children and young people. However, in this modern day and era, Scouting is certainly challenged sufficiently, not only to remain relevant, but also to constantly innovate and adapt. It is therefore not only SAHK but also all NSOs that need to look wide and Scouting must not remain complacent because of its relative successes of the past.

The 1st World Scout Education Congress will give leaders in Hong Kong an opportunity to learn about the diversity in Scouting – to learn how people in other parts of the world do Scouting in their own way. Diversity is always a strength rather than weakness. Learning together is the best way to forgo prejudice, clear misunderstanding, and defuse enmity. Learning and sharing mutual examples of success is crucial for us in the Movement at a time when the unity of Scouting is under threat affected by 'Global Issues'. The upcoming Congress will provide an excellent opportunity for all of us.



By Alexander WONG
International Commissioner, SAHK
(host NSO of the 1st WSEC)

As part of the family of millions of Scouts from around the world, we need to work together to strengthen the unity and resolve of the Movement.

The Congress can really help to better our Movement and to bring more young people into Scouting and to Create a Better World.

Message from Chief Commissioner of Hong Kong, Mr. Cheung Chi-Sun



According to you, what is the importance of hosting this major World Scouting event?

I think sometimes we forget what Scouting is actually for. As far as I am concerned, educating young people is what Scouting is meant for. With that in our mind, then we can explore, we can think, find a way, open our heart and mind to all the different choices, alternatives and opportunities before us to achieve our aim.

I hope this Congress will be an opportunity for experience sharing. So many key people will be joining this event and I think that all of us coming to the event have a lot to share with other NSOs that have their own different experiences. This way we can have a good insight of what is Scouting really for. While we are talking about Scouting, we speak of Education of young people and through their Education we are "creating citizens". I hope after the Congress we can find or at least identify some good and practical ways to further enhance Scouting, not only in Hong Kong but also around the world.



Scout Association of Hong Kong

Scouting has been around for a long time, how do we keep ourselves relevant to society and its current needs?

As you know we have more than 100 years of Scouting history in Hong Kong. So, I would say we have a very strong tradition. We have a very strong Scout Association, very well organized, and our programme is well fitted for our youth community. I can say that in the Scout Movement today, Hong Kong is one of the successful associations because it is a strong organization, with important resources and support, as well as a good membership.

While I am saying that I would have to say that there are still quite a lot of areas that need to be improved because of the ever-changing situation in the society. Also the society requirements or demands are also changing all the time so we have to be very careful with our Programme so that the Programme we now offer meets the needs or the requirements of our members.

I am not saying that we should forget about all the tradition and the values or the spirit of Scouting. What I am trying to say is that, while we maintain the vital values of Scouting, we must open our mind in seeing what we can do more – or changes we can bring – so that we can give a better service to our youth.

Can you tell us a little about yourself and your current work in Hong Kong Scouting?

I have been Involved in Scouting for over 40 years now. I joined the Movement in 1968 as a venture Scout and 2 years later became a leader. But actually I wanted to join Scouting long before that. At that time Hong Kong was not rich as it is now, and my parents couldn't afford things. Even the uniform was too expensive for people with low incomes. After joining I was involved for over 20 years as a Scout Leader in one Scout Group and one day our Group Scout Leader asked me to come join him and work on the district level. So I started as Deputy District Commissioner and then I moved up to the National level over time.

THE HONG-KONG DOLLAR (SIGN: \$; CODE: HKD; ALSO ABBREVIATED HK\$) IS THE EIGHTH MOST TRADED CURRENCY IN THE WORLD. 1 EURO IS EQUAL TO APPROX. 10.5 HKD AND 1 US DOLLAR WITH APPROX. 7.7 HKD.

My personal best experiences in the Movement have been when I was a Scout leader. It is for me the essence of Scouting for volunteers – working with young people. After they leave the Group, you still keep in touch with them and share a real connection. For example, when they grow up and get married they invite you to their wedding. And sometimes when they have a problem even as adults, they come to you.

I took over as the Chief Commissioner fourteen months ago from a strong heritage left behind by my predecessor. But the priorities have evolved a bit since then, there are two key focus areas. One is resource development and management as part of which the renovation and construction project for the Headquarters is being undertaken. Also as part of this key area, we want to create two operational centres instead of one. This will also create more space for our Scouting Activities.

The second key area is the review of, and focus on Youth Programme and Leader Training. We conducted a study and based on the conclusions we will reform our "Wood Badge" system and programme. We are also reinforcing Sea and Air branches of Scouting. In collaboration with the government we are planning to develop each of the age sections to strengthen the programme areas and activities in them.

Scouting in Hong Kong is doing a lot of work on life skills, career development, youth employment, and the recognition of these skills. Can you tell us more?

In our part of the world, parents look for skills and accomplishments that can support young people to succeed in school, to get into a good university, develop skills and specific qualifications and even get a job. Our organisation therefore looked into this need and tried to find opportunities to develop a programme that is recognized by society, universities etc. We therefore recently developed a Qualification Framework System (under the education system) based on 3 courses on: Expedition; Leadership; and Adventure Education. And through our programmes, participants will get qualifications that are recognized by the government and not only in the Scouting family. Our aim is to have this type of recognition, outside of Scouting, for all our scouting accomplishments.

What would be your message to participants of the 1st World Scout Education Congress as they plan and prepare to come to Hong Kong?

Open your mind; try to be frank, say whatever you think is right, and most importantly put young people at the centre of everything.



About the planning of the 1st WSEC

SUBJECT

The 1st World Scout Education Congress is an official event of World Scouting, approved by the World Scout Committee and in line with the objectives of the World Triennium Plan 2011-2014.

For the purpose of organising the Congress, a global planning team has been set up which reports to the World Scout Committee and interacts directly with the host, the Scout Association of Hong Kong.

Coordination subteam

- Main tasks:
 - oversees the project as a whole
 - follows up the results of the other subteams
 - reports directly to the World Scout Committee
 - interacts on strategic issues with the host
- Strategic oversight: João Armando, Karin Ahlbäck & Mari Nakano - World Scout Committee members
- Other members: David Berg, Göran Hägerdal, Radu Stinghe, Pauline Berger

Programme subteam

- Main tasks:
 - Develop the programme and content of the Congress
 - Recruit facilitators, keynote speakers and external organisations to enrich the Congress
 - Oversee reporting phase
- Strategic oversight: João Armando, World Scout Committee member
- Members: Radu Stinghe, Saad Zian, Hany Abdulmonem

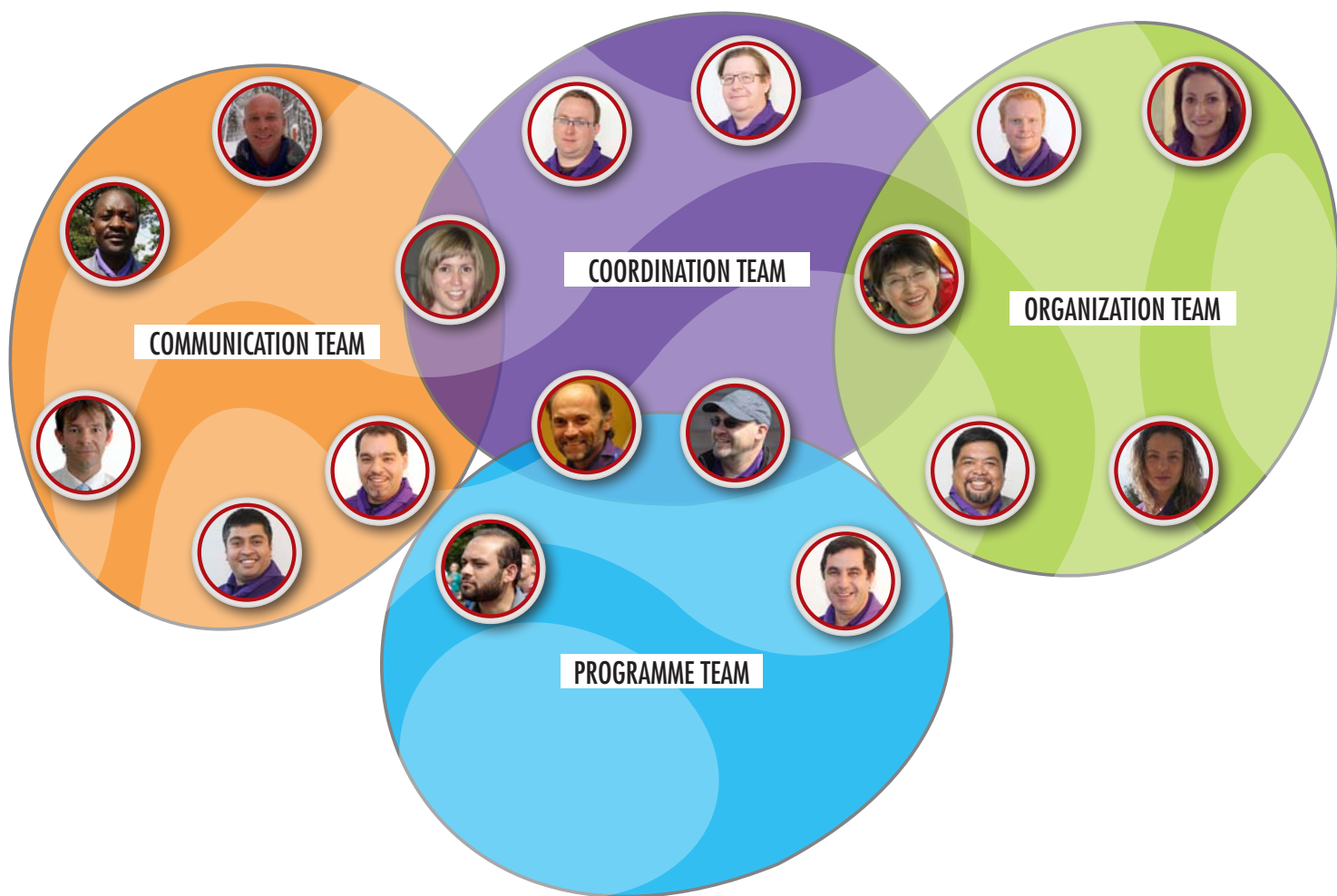
Communications subteam

- Main tasks:
 - Ensure maximum communication and promotion of the Congress
 - Interact with WSB Communications department
 - Develop bulletins and other communication channels
 - Coordinate digital participation platform
- Strategic oversight: Karin Ahlbäck, World Scout Committee member
- Members: Mostaff Matesanwa, Ralf Dilmann, Bruno Chambardon, Srinath Tirumale Venugopal, Victor Ortega

Organisation subteam

- Main tasks:
 - Interact directly with host on operational level
 - Develop and oversee social aspects of the Congress
 - Oversee Solidarity Project
- Strategic oversight: Mari Nakano, World Scout Committee member
- Members: John Lawlor, Sasha Tulina, Syd Castillo

If you think you can add a significant contribution to the planning team, do not hesitate to let us know through **congress@scout.org**



Planning Team members INTERVIEWS

David Berg



Where are you from?

From the city of Ghent in Belgium. But at the moment I spend most of my professional time in Geneva, Switzerland

What was your proudest moment as a Scout?

No doubt the opportunity I had to serve for 5 years as the Chief Scout of FOS Open Scouting, one of the 5 Belgian NSAs

What are your major expectations from the Congress?

Well, certain parts of the Scout Method have been basically unchanged since BP invented them in 1907. I really hope the Congress will be an opportunity to look at the whole framework of Scouting today, confirm what is still valid & relevant and make a start to adapt those elements that are in need of a refurbishment.

What message do you wish to send to all national leaders in WOSM?

Bring your expertise and that of your NSO to the Congress and let's together shape the future education proposal of the Scout Movement!

Which proposed topic for the Congress attracts you most?

"Life Skills" without any doubt – everybody always says that "as a Scout, you learn skills for life". But what are those skills we teach young people? And are they still relevant today?

Which topic proposed for the Congress is closest to your field of experience

Probably "Managing Adult Resources", as that was one of the key topics of work back when I was active at a national Scouting level.

Sasha Tulina



Where are you from?

Kiev, Ukraine. Ancient and picturesque country in the Eastern European, famous for its hospitality, rich traditions and tasty food.

What was your proudest moment as a Scout?

Training-course "Excelscout" for Rover-leaders of Eurasia Region. I attended the first course as a participant in

1999. And since 2003 until now I'm working as a trainer and organizer of this remarkable educational training for Eurasia Rovers. Every one course brings me new experience, new friends and new goals for development in future.

What are your major expectations from the Congress?

Globally, to build a forecast for our Movement as strong, significant and influential educational driving force for society. Particularly, to discuss updated Youth Programme Policy and share joint understanding of essential characteristics of Scouting, correlated and applicable in modern society, taking into account all youth needs and trends.

What message do you wish to send to all national leaders in WOSM?

Please, be open, positive and ready to work hard Your experience and variety of approaches will make our common goal achievable!

Which proposed topic for the Congress attracts you most?

"Scout Method", "Review of the World Youth Programme Policy" and "Woodbadge training", as they are in the top list of my professional field of interest.

Personally for me, as a Scout, I'm very interesting and believe in the exceptional importance of the topics related to spiritual issues, creativity, empathy, friendship experience – this is the priceless emotional, intellectual luggage and spiritual wealth that stays with us for our whole life, despite of our further activity in the organization, or other changes that occur to us inside or beyond Movement.

Which topic proposed for the Congress is closest to your field of experience

"Youth Programme Policy" and "Scout Method"

Hany Abdulmonem



Where are you from?

From the land of ancient civilization, Egypt, and from the city of a thousand Mosque minarets, Cairo (the capital of Egypt and the 16th largest city in the world). My life is now in Geneva, Switzerland.

What was your proudest moment as a Scout?

When I received the Lotus Award and Thanks given

Award from the Egyptian Federation for Scouts and Girl Guides because of my efforts in Scouting. The recognition of what you are doing is a fantastic and remarkable moment.

What are your major expectations from the Congress?

The Congress for me is a paradigm shift stage in our Scouting life. By the end of the Congress we will adjust our compass to take the right direction in our Scouting Roadmap. Education should return to be the main word of mouth everywhere through WOSM at all levels.

What message do you wish to send to all national leaders in WOSM?

"Ask the Boy" ... BP said that more than 100 years ago to tell us that Boys and Girls should be our axis of concentration. We should live with this quote.

Which proposed topic for the Congress attracts you most?

"Values" ... Scouting is a value-based structure and I think it is one of the most important strengths that we have in Scouting. I am looking forward to seen how the world nowadays looks toward Values in Scouting and how we could improve the situation worldwide.

Which topic proposed for the Congress is closest to your field of experience

"World Youth Programme Policy" and "the Scout Method" as they will reflect strongly on my professional work.

What's next

After reading this first Bulletin on the World Scout Education Congress, you're hopefully as eager as we are to start preparing for the Congress. Here's just a quick overview of when & where you can find more information.

KEY UPCOMING DATES IN PREPARATION OF THE CONGRESS

- March 15, 2013 – first day of registrations through **www.worldscouteducationcongress.org**
Paper (offline) registration forms will be distributed through Scoutpak
- Mid-June 2013 – launch of Bulletin n° 2, including final program and sessions, info about ancillary programme and more details on participating online.
- September 20, 2013 – last day of registrations
- October 2013 – launch of Bulletin n° 3, with final practical details for participation on site and on line

KEY INFORMATION CHANNELS OF THE 1ST WORLD SCOUT EDUCATION CONGRESS

- Web:
www.worldscouteducationcongress.org
The web presence and functionality will continually expand over the coming months
- Facebook:
www.facebook.com/1WSEC
- Twitter:
Education4Life
- E-mail:
congress@scout.org
- Post: World Scout Education Congress Planning Team, p/a David Berg, World Scout Bureau Central Office, Rue du Pré-Jérôme 5, PO Box 91 CH-1211 Geneva 4, Plainpalais, Switzerland



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Regional Contact Persons:

- **Radu Stinghe,**
European Regional Office
(rstinghe@scout.org)
- **Sasha Tulina,**
Eurasia Regional Office
(otulina@scout.org)
- **Mostaff Matesanwa,**
Africa Regional Office
(mostaffm@scout.org)
- **Ralf Dillmann,**
Interamerican Regional Office
(rdillmann@scout.org)
- **Syd Castillo,**
Asia-Pacific Regional Office
(syd@scout.org)
- **Hany Abdulmonem,**
Arab Regional Office
(hany@scout.org)

Do you feel you can bring added value to the planning of the 1st World Scout Education Congress? Contact us through one of our information channels, explain which expertise you can bring into the planning team and we'll get back to you!

22-24 November 2013
HONG KONG



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