

Introduction

For a decade, Africa, South of Sahara, has benefited from a support of successive World Committees of the International Scout and Guide Fellowship (ISGF). This has promoted the organization of various meetings on the continent.

The first was held in Uganda in 2004, the second in Ghana in 2007 and third in Zambia in 2010. There was even a sub-regional meeting for West Africa in Benin in 2010. The 4th African meeting was held in Johannesburg, South Africa, Gilwell Florida Centre from 20 to 25 January 2014.

1. The Participants

They had arrived from Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda, Benin and South Africa. A delegation of Libya participated. Members of the leadership team arrived from Portugal, the Netherlands and France.

2. The leadership team

It consisted of:

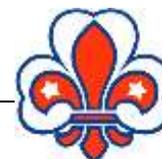
- Paul Lokossou (Team Manager for Africa in the World Committee ISGF);
- Mida Rodrigues (Chairman of the ISGF World Committee, Member of Africa Team ISGF World Committee);
- Leny Doelman. (Coordinator of the Central Branch);
- Martine Lévy (Member of Africa Team);
- Mary Gillett - de Klerk (Chairperson of the Host Committee, Member of the Central Branch).

3. The objectives of the meeting were:

- Take stock of the implementation of the decisions of the previous meetings and activities;
- Adopt the first Constitution for an Africa Region;
- Elect the Africa Committee of ISGF and install it;
- Develop a strategic plan for the NSGFs in Africa for the period 2014 - 2016;
- Seek opportunities to work between the NSGFs of the sub-regions of the continent, opportunities of partnership with other regions, especially Europe;
- Present projects carried out by the Fellowships;
- Discover the cultural and touristic richness of the host country and the activities of Scouting and Guiding in South Africa.

4. The program of the meeting

Various activities were planned: the presentation of ISGF, the study and the adoption of the Constitution of the Africa Region, the preparation and adoption of the Strategic Plan (2014 - 2016), communications on the Web site of ISGF, twinning, partnerships with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the presentation of projects of national organizations, community activities, the election and installation of the Regional Committee, the International market, campfire, discover Johannesburg.



5. Animation techniques of the meeting:

To achieve the objectives of the meeting, there were communications, working groups, plenary sessions, power point presentations, etc.

The meeting took place in English with possibly French translation.

6. The Decisions

During the work, the participants:

- Adopted the Constitution of the Africa region (see appendix);
- Adopted the Strategic Plan (2014 - 2016); (See appendix);
- Elected and installed the Regional Committee members.

7. The election of the members of the Regional Committee

It should be noted that among the present countries, there were Uganda, Zambia and Benin voting while South Africa and Tanzania were members of the Central Branch.

Four countries have given proxies: Senegal, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast and Nigeria. The leadership team of the meeting said that the ten (10) member countries of ISGF in Africa, seven (7) were participating in elections.

The quorum was reached for taking important decisions. The results of the vote were:

Burkina Faso	:	07 votes
Nigeria	:	03 votes
Uganda	:	07 votes
Senegal	:	04 votes
Zambia	:	07 votes

The Regional Committee for the African region following the elections is composed as follows:

Burkina Faso	EN/FR	Emmanuel Zombre	wendgaze@yahoo.fr or wendgaze@gmail.fr
Senegal	FR	Dembe Dia	ddsundeco@gmail.com
Uganda	EN	Richard Kagwa	ssalirichard@hotmail.com
Zambia	EN	Henry Lukwele	hlukweleach@yahoo.com

8. Cultural Visit

Participants had the pleasure of discovering the city of Johannesburg. Passing through the city, they visited the Constitutional Court of South Africa, the prison in which Mr. Gandhi and other personalities of South Africa were jailed, the Flame of Democracy, and other famous places of the country.

9. Campfires and environmental protection

Two campfires were held during the meeting. The first was between delegates with the participation of some scouts and guides of South Africa.



It was at Gilwell Florida Centre. The second was held at the Delta Scout Centre with the massive participation of several Scout and Guide associations members of WOSM and WAGGGS, their leaders and an impressive number of parents. Before this last campfire, Mida Rodrigues, Paul Lokossou, Mary Gillett - de Klerk and a member of the Regional Committee planted four olive trees in Delta Scout Centre.

10. Meeting with the delegations

The Chair of ISGF, the Head of the Africa team in the World Committee and the Coordinator of the Central Branch had working meetings with the delegations of Zambia, Uganda and Tanzania. While exchanging, they were informed of the activities in these countries and provided advice.

11. Meeting with youth

An information session for scouts and guides was organized during the meeting. The young people had the opportunity to learn more about ISGF.

12. Other activity

At the end of the work, Mary Gillett - de Klerk, Paul Lokossou, Martine Lévy and some delegates were invited to attend a progression ceremony of scouts and guides of South Africa "Gauteng Province Springbok Award 2013". The various leaders of the association, parents and young people arrived at the ceremony were widely informed on this occasion on the ISGF by Mary Gillett - de Klerk.

13. Evaluation

From the evaluation of the meeting, it emerged that the participants are very satisfied. They made various suggestions for future meetings.

14. Perspectives

The next African meeting will take place in 2016, but the host country is not yet chosen.

15. Acknowledgements

The leadership team of the meeting renewed his gratitude to Mary Gillet - de Klerk, President of the Host Committee, to the organizing committee and to all those who, directly or indirectly contributed to the success of the meeting. Everything has been done to make the 4th African meeting of ISGF truly successful.

And thus might the Africa Region of the ISGF be created.