

ISGF

International Scout and Guide Fellowship
(An organization for adults)



AISG

Amitié Internationale Scoute et Guide
(Une organisation pour adultes)

EUROPE REGION/REGION EUROPE

Report 9th Europe Conference, Tours - France 12- 15th September 2016

Delegates and observers (130) arrived for the Conference on Sunday and were greeted at Tours Station. In the evening everyone went to a nearby park to meet French Guides and Scouts who welcomed everyone with songs and refreshments.

Monday started with the setting up of displays in the Vinci Centre, followed by Sub Regional meetings. During the meeting Pierre Decoene, Belgium, was formally accepted as the new Sub Region Representative and Europe Committee member from the end of the Conference.

At 11 am the conference was formally opened and greetings were received from local dignitaries and Scouting personnel and followed by the World Committee greetings from Nana Gentimi Vice Chairman.

In the afternoon the formal business of the Conference started with the approval of the Chairmen, Martine Levy and Jane Wardropper. Following the roll call the meeting was declared quorate and the tellers were approved.

Document 1 **Rules of procedure** was introduced as a work in progress for the guidance of participants. **The Europe Region Triennial Report** (Document 2) which was illustrated by slides was presented followed by the **Financial Report** (Document 3a) and the auditor's report. All reports were accepted. It was decided to have two auditors in place of the retiring one Gjermund Austvik who was thanked for his services.

A local historian introduced everyone to the history of Tours which had been an important centre since Roman times. Everyone then departed to the Place Plumereau, a square in the centre of the "old town" for a concert by Scout and Guide musicians and time to socialise.

Tuesday started with Reflections provided by France and then there was a presentation by Bjorg Walstad on behalf of the International Ambassadors Guild who spoke of the projects supported by the Guild.

The main business of the day was **Amendments to the Constitution and the introduction of the new fee system**, Documents 4 and 5 and presentations by Germany and Cyprus on venues for the next conference.

The first amendments to the Constitution to be voted on were those concerning the Central Branch members (**1.1 Membership, 3.1 Aims 10.2 Voting delegates**) which were carried. The World Committee members present were asked if these changes could be ratified to enable the Central Branch members to take a full part in the Conference, they returned after coffee to say that the amendments had been ratified.

It was announced that **Amendment to 8.1 Terms of Office** had been withdrawn and that the subsequent sub amendment proposed by UK had also been withdrawn.

The amendment to **6.1 Europe Region Committee** was agreed clarifying the position if one NSGF was in two Sub Regions by saying "*that at no time shall more than one elected member from any NSGF serve on the Europe Region Committee*".

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The proposed fee system was discussed, **Document 5**, and agreed the next day. In future annual fees for Europe will be calculated using the Gross Domestic Product for the country and membership numbers. This would result in an increase in fees for some countries and a decrease for others.

Action times were held at various times during the day and included were presentations by Italy and Nepal on the work done for earthquake victims.

At 5pm everyone walked to the Town Hall for a civic reception.

On Wednesday the final day of the conference Italy provided the Reflection. The proposed new logo **Document 8** was presented and rejected by the delegates.

The Committee presented plans for the next 3 years, **Document 6**, and announced that a workshop, Steps to the Future, will be held in Slovakia 3-8 March 2017 the venue is about 50 miles from Bratislava.

The proposed budget 2016- 2018 **Document 7** presented and accepted

The two countries offering to host the next conference Cyprus and Germany made their presentations and after a secret ballot it was announced that Germany would host the next conference in 2019, in Bremen.

Action times continued during the day. The Nordic Baltic committee raised their concern about dates for events and asked that weekends be included if possible to enable “younger” working members to attend. This recommendation was carried by a show of hands. All Sub Region Gatherings were presented to the conference.

The new Europe Committee are:

Ms Doris Stockmann, Finland, Chairman
Mrs Angela Dernbach, Germany, Secretary
Mr Pierre Decoene, Belgium, Treasurer
Ms Ana Rodrigues, Spain, PR - Liaison to WAGGGS/ WOSM Europe

After the closing ceremony, in the evening, everyone was taken to Grange de Meslay a historic barn dating back to the 12th century for a Gala dinner.