



**WORLD ORGANIZATION OF THE SCOUT MOVEMENT  
Consultative Status with the World Scout Committee  
Definition and Scope, Criteria, Rights and Obligations, Procedures**

During its meeting in September 2010, on the basis of the previous document adopted the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September 1994, and

- Considering the terms of the preamble of the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) which establish it "for the coordination of the Scout Movement throughout the world",
- Considering the terms found in chapter I, article I, II and III which confirm the definition, purpose, principles, Promise, Law and Method of the Scout Movement,
- Considering the terms of chapter II establishing the title, the purpose of WOSM and its organs,
- Considering the terms of chapter III establishing the requirements for membership to WOSM,
- Considering the terms of chapter V, article XIII, paragraph 11 of the Constitution of WOSM, which provides that one of the functions of the World Scout Committee is "To grant consultative status to such organizations as may be of assistance to the Scout Movement".

The World Scout Committee has established the definition, the scope of consultation and action, as well as the criteria, the rights and obligations, and the procedures, which allow it to grant consultative status to those organisations qualified to receive it.

**A. DEFINITION AND SCOPE**

**Article 1 Definition of consultative status**

*§ 1 Consultative relationship* The granting of the consultative status consists in establishing a consultative relationship between the World Scout Committee and "such organizations" qualified to receive this status.

*§ 2 Exceptions* Consultative status shall not be granted for prestige purposes, nor should it be perceived as conferring prestige.

**Article 2 Definition of qualified organization**

The expression "such organizations" describes organizations that are international by nature, external to WOSM, which work for the benefit of the aims of the Scout Movement, while respecting its definition, purpose, principles, Promise, Law and Method. An international Scout organisation whose national members are not recognised by WOSM cannot be qualified.

**Article 3 Scope of consultation**

The World Scout Committee may consult the qualified organization for all subjects of common or specific interest, which may affect the life of the Movement.

**Article 4 Scope of action**

The qualified organization will:

*§ 1 Support in other areas* Enhance, through its actions, the capacity of WOSM to fulfil its mission, by providing support in all fields that are not part of its usual functions.

*§ 2 Expert advice and other support* Allow WOSM to have access to information, expert advice, or all other type of support, which may help the Scout Movement at international level.

## **B. CRITERIA FOR OBTAINING CONSULTATIVE STATUS**

**Article 5** To obtain consultative status, an organization must:

- § 1 Compatibility with basis of Movement* Adhere to the definition, purpose, principles, Promise, Law and Method of the Scout Movement, as defined in the Constitution of WOSM, and always comply with them.
- § 2 Legitimate institutional structure* Have an acceptable Constitution or a similar document, a headquarters address, a democratically elected governing body and the authority to speak on behalf of its members.
- § 3 Assist the Movement* Provide assistance to the Scout Movement.
- § 4 International in nature* Be international in structure and scope, cover a substantial number of countries in different parts of the world and represent a substantial proportion of the associations concerned with its field of activity.
- § 5 Composition of recognised entities* Be composed of entities or national groupings, which have been recognised by National Organisations who are members of WOSM.

## **C. RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND OBLIGATIONS OF ORGANIZATIONS WITH CONSULTATIVE STATUS**

**Article 6 Rights and privileges of the organization with consultative status**

An organisation with consultative status has the following rights and privileges:

- § 1 Consultation with WSC* It may be consulted by the World Scout Committee on all matters which affect its field of activity.
- Al 2. Invitation to the WSC meetings* It may be invited to attend meetings of the World Scout Committee when matters within its area of competence and of interest to Scouting are to be considered.
- § 3 Invitation to the Conference* It will be invited as an observer to the World Scout Conference. This invitation includes the possibility to send up to two representatives to attend the Conference as guest.
- § 4 Other privileges* It may benefit from such other privileges as may be agreed by the World Scout Committee.
- § 5 Provided information* It will receive copies of all information provided to members of WOSM, sent by the World Scout Bureau central office.

**Article 7 Obligations of the organization with consultative status**

An organization with consultative status has the following obligations:

- § 1 Actions in harmony with Constitution* Ensure that the organisation and its members act in harmony with the provisions of the Constitution of WOSM.
- § 2 Provide counsel and expert advice* Assist the World Scout Committee by ensuring access to experts or advice from sources who have a special skill in the fields in which the consultative status was granted.
- § 3 Consult before taking action* Consult the World Scout Committee before taking any action which may affect the policies, structures or activities of WOSM.
- § 4 Avoid actions which may affect image* Ensure that, neither the organization, nor its members, take any action which may harm the identity or image of WOSM.
- § 5 Avoid potential confusion* Ensure that, neither the organization, nor its members, adopt titles, structures, symbols, names or activities which may affect the identity or image of WOSM.
- § 6 Avoid competition* Ensure that, neither the organization, nor its members, adopt an action plan which would be contrary or would compete with the action plans from WOSM's organs.

- § 7 Authorised use of emblems and logos* Obtain prior approval from the World Scout Bureau before any use of emblems or logos belonging to WOSM.
- § 8 Invite representatives to GA* Invite representatives of WOSM to participate in its General Assembly.
- § 9 Duty to inform* Provide WOSM with its annual reports and all other informational documents, including its financial reports.

## **D. PROCEDURE FOR GRANTING, SUSPENSION OR WITHDRAWAL OF CONSULTATIVE STATUS**

### **Article 8 Procedure for granting of consultative status**

- § 1 Procedure* The first step in the procedure is to send an official request letter, addressed to the Secretary General of WOSM, containing the aims of the organization and the reasons for which the candidate organization wishes to be granted consultative status on the basis of articles 1 to 5 of the present document.
- § 2 Constitution and /or ByLaws* The candidate organization must include with its request, a copy of its Constitution and/or ByLaws, the list of its leaders, an exhaustive list of its members, as well as an activity report.
- § 3 Admissibility of the request* The reasons justifying the granting of consultative status, as well as the Constitution and/or ByLaws of the candidate organization, will be examined on the basis of section B. of the present document.
- § 4 Process and probationary period* A one-year probationary period is required before granting of consultative status. This period of time will allow both parties (World Scout Committee and candidate organization), to agree on the legitimacy of the candidacy.
- § 5 Renewal of consultative status* The consultative status is renewed every three years. The documents required for the examination for the renewal are the same as those provided for the granting of consultative status.
- § 6 Time of examination* This examination shall be done during the second meeting of the World Scout Committee following the World Scout Conference.

### **Article 9 Suspension or withdrawal of consultative status**

- § 1 Authority for decision* Consultative status may be suspended or withdrawn by decision of the World Scout Committee.
- § 2 Criterias for suspension* Failure to respect the conditions contained in this document, as well as failing to provide the appropriate documentation for the renewal process, may lead to a suspension of the consultative status.
- § 3 Criterias for withdrawal* Serious violations to the definition, purpose, principles, Promise, Law and Method of Scouting, as described in the Constitution of WOSM, or grave violations to the obligations found in this document, may lead to a withdrawal of consultative status.

### **Article 10 Link to WOSM**

- § 1 Contact person of the WSC* The World Scout Committee will appoint one of its representatives to act as contact person with each of the organizations with consultative status.
- § 2 Support provided by WSB* The World Scout Bureau, as secretariat of WOSM, will provide regular contact with the secretariats of the organizations with consultative status. It will prepare the application forms, as well as the renewals.