Brussels, January 21, 2010

To National Presidents, International Secretaries, Regional Teams and contact persons of Central Branch groups.

G’day everyone,

At the last World Committee (WCom) meeting, the WCom decided to form a team to maintain a register of the International Projects that our ISGF and its members are undertaking around the world, giving all ISGF members and other interested parties the opportunity to contribute to them as well. We are actioning this for two reasons.

Firstly, as our membership is so wide and diverse there is a greater freedom of choice to support a Project that takes their personal preference. As we know, young people these days like to have a greater choice on how they contribute to the world.

Secondly, the WCom have been charged with promoting the ISGF to find new members as well as supporting WOSM and WAGGGS. By establishing this register we will show how and where our members and supporters funds are being spent. A more open traceability of funds will also show WOSM and WAGGGS that we are actively supporting our youth. This openness we believe will attract new members.

This register, in no way over rides or attempts to intrude on existing Local Scout and Guide Fellowship (LSGFs) actions. It is a tool by which if a National Scout and Guide Fellowship (NSGF) feels there is a Project that could benefit from external support, then the ISGF International Projects Team (IP Team) will review the Project and promote the Project to the whole of the ISGF membership as well as external sponsors.

The ISGF makes grants to WOSM and WAGGGS every year. This action will be more proactive in showing how the money and services are utilised. We aim to spread the donations, which are mainly obtained through the excellent work of our Stamp Bank supporters, over wider actions than just one Grant. The WCom last year also directed a percentage of the membership fees into the International Development Fund, which is our Charity Fund, to be used for the development of Scouting and Guiding, along with personal contributions of individual members and NSGF’s.

There will be a paper coming out later this year on our finances explaining how they are used, with a discussion paper on how the ISGF finances should be actioned in coming years.

The document we are sending all members now is about how we will action the IP Team, the processes involved and how the actions will be carried out, from the first application to the WCom actions, IP Team responsibilities as well as how the NSGF and individuals are involved. It will have clear requests and outcomes with a set timeline and reports to be distributed to members. Anyone will be able to review where a project is up to and what requirements are still needed to meet the stated outcomes by visiting our website.
A Project could be the starting of a new Guide Troop. The local Guide Association may request 30 uniforms, 30 sets of badges, 30 training books and 30 camp kits. We would post this Project on our site. One NSGF could purchase the uniforms, another funds the books, an individual Guild may purchase the badges while we find an outside sponsor to supply the camp kits. We form a synergy of contributors to make this action a reality in a realistic time. A country may require assistance with bringing in an outside trainer to train local leaders. We will work to form a synergy of contributors to make Projects a success.

The WCom are currently in talks with WOSM and WAGGGS on several Projects which will get the ball rolling.

The WCom were instructed to be more proactive and we see this as a quantifiable way to show we are fulfilling the ISGF Vision.

Yours in Fellowship,

Brett D Grant
Chairman
ISGF World Committee.