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1. News from individuals/groups/(sub)regions

AFRICA

Angola
Fraternidade Frei Agostinho di Bassano, the Fellowship of Angola has fulfilled all the criteria and conditions to become a National Scout and Guide Fellowship and the World Conference will decide on their application for full membership.

South Africa
Trefoil Guild contributed to Cape West’s Region a total of 1424 Hope jars, which were donated to many different charities in the Western Cape. The Hope jars project was a Girl Guide South Africa project, as this year they are celebrating 110 years of Girl Guides. So, each Region was asked to fill 110 jars. Cape West far surpassed that amount. The contents of each jar was rice, lentils, soup mix (lentils), soup powder, soya mince, and a stock cube.

Zimbabwe
Just recently Willard Nyambiya, Central Branch member of Zimbabwe since 2016, informed the media that the Guinea Fowl Primary school in Gweru has been supported during the COVID-19 crises. Willard together with a team donated hand sanitizers, masks, gowns and thermometers to the Guinea Fowl Primary school (680 children).

ARAB

Arab Region
The Arab Region celebrated their 35 years of existence. They organized lectures and workshops online because of COVID-19. The regional programme team arranged online evenings relating to Environment Day, International Literacy Day, World Humanitarian Day, Drug addiction prevention and a cultural evening about the Sinai.

ASPAC

Asia Pacific Region
The AsPac Region Committee have meetings on Zoom. It has been decided to have the regional conference in Penang, Malaysia from 25 – 30 November 2021. It seems that Myanmar and Brunei are interested to join ISGF. The next Zoom Region Committee meeting will be on the 14th January 2021.

EUROPE

Europe Region
Some countries in and outside Europe who are normally receiving the Peace Light have to improvise and have done their best to rotate the light in a different way as this year’s distribution has been cancelled due to COVID-19.
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

WH Region
The Region passed their four years of existence and for that occasion an online Zoom meeting had been organized with more than 55 participants from 14 countries. The Region is very active. During the 2nd Western Hemisphere Conference held in New York in 2019 the members voted for organizing concrete activities, but social distancing and hygiene measures prevents them to totally fulfill these actions. That is why some countries will work on planned activities in 2021.

Brazil
The Jam Cam was held before the outbreak of COVID-19 and Marcos Pessoa from Associação Brasileira de Amigos Escoteiros e Bandeirantes (ABAEB) manned a booth to advertise their adult organization. Together with the Scouts of Brazil they joined forces in the initiative “Todos pela Saúde”. They initiated interactions in a virtual environment and showed the different skills to support elderly residents who are in a long-term institution.

Guatemala
A new country entered the world of ISGF. In a short period of time the ATZ Fraternity of Scouts and Guides of Guatemala registered 151 members. They are hardworking towards affiliation. For the concrete activity they supported the Rescue Operation Foundation during its Pre-Christmas Campaign by helping to collect toys, food, clothing and economic donations. The donations will be distributed in different villages in the Palencia area near the capital city Guatemala which has been affected by the pandemic.

Peru
Asociacion Scouts y Guias Adultos del Peru (ASGAP) supported with groceries a project called “Azul Wasi”. The Association Azul Wasi project is an orphan home for children abandoned on the streets of Cusco and the surrounding area. Groceries were delivered in a shelter in the town of Oropesa, a remote village in the outskirts of Cusco.

Suriname
Despite the pandemic some members of PAVEURS could work on their project. They visited a home for HIV Positive children and young adults in Paramaribo. They offered gifts.
and a festive meal. A birthday cake was shared in celebration of the birthday of one of the children.

**Trinidad & Tobago**
They gained forty-one (41) members and the total is now 44.

**Uruguay**
Fraternidad de Antiguos Scouts y Guías del Uruguay (FASGU) coordinated collecting spectacles to be re-used. They collaborated with a local optician (COOPTICA) who recycled the spectacles for use of children and older adults who cannot afford to pay for their prescription glasses.

**Venezuela**
Fraternidad de Antiguos Scouts y Guías de Venezuela (FASGV) held recently their General Assembly online. They elected a new Board and published a Newsletter, see this link.

2. Upcoming ISGF events in 2021/22/23
Do not forget to register for participation in the 29th World Conference which is only possible online. See this link on the ISGF website for full information.

- **12 – 16 May 2021**
  10th Central Europe Conference
  Puck, Poland
- **17 – 22 August 2021**
  29th ISGF World Conference
  Madrid, Spain
- **25 – 30 November 2021**
  16th AsPac Regional Conference
  Penang, Malaysia
- **2021 No date yet**
  2nd Western Africa Gathering
  Nigeria
- **26 – 30 May 2022**
  30th Nordic Baltic Gathering
  Selfoss, Iceland
- **25 – 29 October 2022**
  17th Mediterranean Gathering
  Cyprus
- **29 October – 1 November 2022**
  6th South America Gathering
  Los Angeles, Chile
- **2022 No date yet**
  28th Western Europe Gathering
  Lille, France
- **August 2023 No date yet**
  11th Europe Region Conference
  Denmark
- **2023 No date yet**
  10th Arab Region Conference
  Jordan
- **2023 No date yet**
  4th Africa Region Conference
  Dakar, Senegal
- **2023 No date yet**
  3rd Western Hemisphere Conf.
  Cordoba, Argentina

3. News from World Bureau
- World Committee meeting 2020 took place in Brussels in March 2020. However, because of COVID-19 some World Committee members could not attend physically so they attended the meeting online.
- The online Board meeting of the International Ambassadors Guild took place on November 15, 2020. The Chairman Bjorg Walstad decided to step down and has been replaced by former World Committee member Nana.
Gentimi. Bjorg remains vice-chairman. See this link.

- The ISGF global project in Uganda to support the IMVEPI Refugee settlement with refugees has been finished. Many NSGFs, Central Branch groups and individuals donated for this project up to twenty-five thousand eight hundred and three (25,803) euros. Fifty (50) semi-permanents huts were built.

- The 29th ISGF World Conference has been postponed till next year from 17 – 22 August 2021.

- Relocation announcement: World Bureau will move as per 1 January 2021 to a new office. The former World Bureau will be transformed into social rental housing. The new World Bureau will occupy a workstation in a rented place of a 11-storey building. A positive reason is that the location will be in a better environment near the Brussels Central Station. New address: ISGF, Avenue des Arts 6, 1210 Brussels, Belgium. Full details will soon be announced on ISGF website.

4. Fee payment
Some members/groups did not pay their fee yet and reminders have been sent. It is recommended that any possibility of paying cash at ISGF events or visits should be exploited. It is also possible to pay in advance.

5. Annual reports
Thanks to 6 (six) Central Branch groups we received feedback of activities in the different groups over 2019. In the beginning of January 2021, the contact persons will receive a new questionnaire over 2020 to be filled in. We are looking forward having your feedback on using this document.

6. Update Central Branch members
As per 5 December 2020 we have now 1578 Central Branch members in 39 countries. (Click here for a complete overview). We are happy to announce that some Central Branch groups (Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Netherlands, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela) are hard working on the criteria to become a National Scout and Guide Fellowship.

We are amongst a global pandemic and fireworks may have cancelled but nevertheless Happy New Year and best wishes for peace and prosperity in 2021.
“When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don’t adjust the goals; adjust the action steps.” – Confucius

Links to ISGF website, You Tube, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and SlideShare

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