

### Setting up a Regional Committee

According to the ISGF Constitution, the National Scout and Guide Fellowships (NSGFs) in a Region may set up a Regional Committee. The limits of the Regions normally coincide with the geopolitical Regions of the world: in case of doubts, ask the ISGF World Bureau. If an NSGF belongs to a Region but its country is bordering on another Region it may also join the other Region, after consulting the World Committee.

A Region can only be established if in that geopolitical area NSGFs are sufficiently numerous and developed. The Regional Committee must not be a bureaucratic layer between the world level and the NSGFs, but a means to provide opportunities for the Region's NSGFs, and the Central Branch members residing in the Region, to communicate and share activities, concerns, experiences and human resources, and in general to get together and co-operate in a closer way. Establishing a network is essential, also to reach other persons or groups (e.g. within WOSM or WAGGGS) not belonging to ISGF but who nevertheless want to be part of its regional network. The leading team of the network must all be individual members of ISGF.

### Existing Regions

At the moment, two Regions are formally in existence, with their Regional Committees: the Europe Region and the Arab Region. NSGFs exist also in other regions of the world (e.g. Asia-Pacific, Western Hemisphere, Africa): these regions may consider establishing a network as a first step, as indicated above.

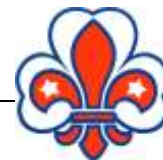
### Structure of Regions

Regions can get organised the way they wish. The normal structure is the setting up of a Regional Committee. But a Region may decide to have a leaner structure, such as a Regional co-ordinator. Regional Committees consist of at least three members (normally five or seven). They may be elected by the NSGFs belonging to the Region or, as is the case for Europe, by the sub-Regions. The normal rule is that they serve for a term of three years and can be re-elected for another three years. The Committee elects a Regional Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Treasurer and a Secretary: or it may appoint functional members, such as a person who will work with the ISGF Central Branch co-ordinator, a person in charge of communications, a person in charge of programmes of "lifelong learning" etc. The World Bureau is informed of these appointments, and in general of the Regional Committee's activities.

### Main goals and activities

The Regional Committee meets at least annually and discusses the means and activities to develop adult scouting/guiding, support the NSGFs programmes and activities and promote co-operation within the Region. The Regional Committee may also establish contacts with the Regional Offices of WOSM and the regional co-ordinators of WAGGGS, via the ISGF World Bureau. Information about the meeting is sent to all NSGFs of the Region (and Central Branch members of the Region via the CB coordinator), as well as to the World Bureau and the World Committee. The Committee works with the CB coordinator in order to support and encourage the progress of non-member countries towards membership.

Regional Committees will want to promote regional gatherings, and in particular to convene Regional Conferences, e.g. every three years. In order that these Conferences will not interfere with World Conferences, they should all take place in the year before the World Conference. Participants to the Regional Conferences are delegates from all the Region's NSGFs, and the CB members of the Region. The World Committee is also invited (normally its Chairman and/or a member responsible for the Region will attend and be given the floor). For these representatives of the World Committee the organisers will normally offer the Conference fee, while transport costs will be borne by the World Committee. The participation fee should be as low as possible to



## **Regions and Regional Committees: directions for use**

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encourage participation. Since lodging is an important cost factor, several levels of lodging, including camping, should be proposed. The planning and co-ordination of conferences and gatherings includes preparation of formal and informal papers, logistical arrangement, decisions and follow-up. See also the existing Guidelines for World Conferences, Regional Conferences and sub-regional gatherings.

### **Regional Constitutions**

Regions will also want to approve their own Constitution, or letter of agreement if they prefer a less formal arrangement. A Regional Constitution should be approved by a Regional Conference, normally upon the proposal of the Regional Committee. The Regional Constitution or letter of agreement and any amendment to it must be approved by the World Committee before they enter into force.

### **Sub-Regions**

A Region may also subdivide into Sub-Regions, with the approval of the World Committee. The same guidelines as above will apply to Sub-Regions so far as possible.

A Sub-Region may set up a network and work with co-ordinators instead of appointing a Committee.

### **Communication & PR**

Capture success stories from the Region and then work with Communication & PR team of the World Committee who will publish them on the ISGF website.