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## Notes of the Rover/Ranger Commissioners meeting at Roverway Iceland, 25 July 2009

### Purposes of the meeting:

1. present the results of the R Forum that took place during Roverway
2. network
3. gain information on what exist at European level for the age group

Commissioners present: see annex 2 (for a list of all Rovers and Rangers present at the R Forum, see annex 1)

Age range for Rovers and Rangers: 16-22

### Intro to the R Forum

The Forum was an opportunity for RR to meet and have a debate on issues that are important for that age range. RR exchange their views, created new friendships, devised a lotto and a message about Rovering and Rangering in Europe and had the possibility to discuss about topics that could also matter for other RR back home.

Divided in 5 groups, participants were asked to discuss about the role of religion in G&S and the image of G&S. Each group also worked on a slogan that could be used to promote G&S in their age group.

The slogans are:

1. **“Rovering the way ahead”**. Rovering can inspire people to live according to important values like spirituality, service, respect for the nature, etc). The people in this group felt that G&S is not something that should be advertised.
2. **“Scouting is for everyone. Not everyone is for Scouting. Are you?”** People in this group felt that G&S do not tell people how they have to think and that everyone can think as s/he wants.
3. **“Join the journey of a lifetime”**. G&S is a way of life is not a single adventure.
4. **“Come and get some”**. The basic idea of this slogan would be to encourage people to try some of the activities RR do on a regular basis (rock climbing, etc).
5. **“We do not just tie knots... we don't just bake cookies... we offer opportunities and loads of different models”**. G&S are more than what we can see from outside, we challenge people to change their outlook.

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts  
Association Mondiale des Guides et Eclaireuses



World Organization of the Scout Movement  
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout

## Discussion with RR during the Commissioners meeting

RR were asked to answer the following questions:

1. Why are you still in G&S?
2. At which level of common talking did you go since you come from different associations?
3. What do you want from the Regions? What can the role of the Regions be in promoting Rovering and Rangering?

These were some of their answers:

- We found both similarities and differences, but at the end there is no much difference between the countries. The main diversities can be found in the technicalities and logistics.
- We do not necessarily want the Region to provide big events but to do more at national level and for the individuals
- More forums where we could discuss issues that concern us
- In the event we could organize more music concerts, festivals and they could be open also to non scouts and guides so that they could see what we are and what we do. Sometime we tend to speak too much about ourselves.
- We should do more to remove the stigma of the uniform
- G&S should be for those interested and we should take care of ourselves and how we are doing
- We are still in because G&S can get better the older you get
- Promoting G&S is all about PR, both at internal and external level. It all depends on what people can see of what we do and how open we look.
- Some countries are more open than others and by sharing we could learn from each other.

## Activities available at European level

### WOSM

- A website for Rovers: rovernet.eu
- A resource kit: rokoreki
- Guidelines on how to produce a programme for Rovers
- A Rovernet meeting every three years
- Agora: an activity for Rovers managed by Rovers taking place every year (a tool kit on how to organize an Agora at different levels is also being produced).

### WAGGGS

- Events for RR at the World Centres (re Ranger/Rover week at Our Chalet)
- Volunteering programme at the World Centres
- Juliette Low seminars (re Juliette Law Seminar in Kenya this year)
- World Leadership Development Programme (WLDP) workshops

## Roverway – The concept

A discussion on the concept of Roverway followed. Input on how the event and the suitability of its programme, its impact on young people and on things that could be done better was asked. Commissioners were also asked to suggest ways for the future of the event.

Answers:

- During the journeys people could be more mixed;
- There should be guidelines for the organizers on how to plan and organize the journeys in a way that they suit different activities;

- The chain reaction still need to be developed;
- During the journeys participants should do something with the community;
- Agora could be organized before Roverway and give a chance to the participants to prepare themselves to change something (Give us a chance);
- More fora to discuss the event should be organized;
- Use better the promotion that event like Roverway can stimulate. High visibility is good promotion;
- Participants are having a great time;
- It is a self growing/development experience;
- It is important to separate Rovering and leadership;
- More international cooperation could be good;
- The biggest challenge is the language barrier, but somehow they manage to communicate;
- It would be good if participants could come as a team, mix up for the journeys and then get together again. It should definitely be a team experience;
- The team for the journeys should be smaller 5 to 10 and not 15 from the same country/NO;
- During next editions participants could exchange more about G&S in their own countries;
- We could foster the importance of the preparation period, before they arrive on the spot;
- Projects shall be well prepared and well organized;

## **Conclusions**

A call for Roverway 2012 will be open in October 2009.