

Key Points from the World Inter-religious Scout Forum

Friday morning – visit to Hylands Park - Jonathan to send out information about the faiths and beliefs zone.

Friday afternoon – sharing information on what is happening in the Faith and Beliefs zone – each group took responsibility to take their own notes.

Friday evening – Nicolas shared information on the Spiritual Development Task Team.

Saturday morning

1. Proposals to link the Inter-religious Forum and the Spiritual Development Task Team

1. Elect a representative from the World Scout Inter-religious Forum (WSIF) to be a representative in the Spiritual Development Task Team (SDTT) - Christos
2. Appoint an individual from the SDTT to attend the WSIF – Anne to action with GZ and J-PD
3. Put a consultation process in place between the WSIF and SDTT.
4. Hold a meeting of the WSIF and the SDTT in the presence of the EMC Chairman - Anne to action
5. Appoint an internal co-ordinator for the WSIF - Frederic
6. The meetings of the Forum are chaired by a representative from the host faith community – Bernd for the next one and the proposed venue is Geneva with SDTT.
7. Support is provided to the Forum and Symposium by WSB staff – Anne to action.
8. Work is undertaken with the World Scout Bureau to seek external funding to support the work.- Anne to action.

2. Action Plan for the Forum

To Autumn 2007

- recruit new members for the Forum (CP)
- develop training materials on spiritual development ---- and beyond 2007
- collate/gather documents from groups and share between the faith groups (FC)
- establish web presence for Forum, recruit a web-master and register a domain name
- identify representatives for future World Events (as soon as the venue is fixed)
- start planning for the Symposium 2009 (today and onwards)
- follow up from Symposium 2006 (today)
- establish electronic communication
- register domain name – check with Richard Amalvy, JH willing to host a domain which includes a mailing list.
- develop communication plan for the Jamboree so that presence of the Inter-religious area is promoted.

Beyond Autumn 2007-

- appoint a representative for the 2011 Jamboree to liaise with the Organising Committee. (HS)
- develop training materials on spiritual development ---- and beyond 2007

3. Review of Symposium 2006

- material should be distributed earlier
- the event should be held outside the faith area
- strengthen NSO participation
- visit different religions/faith groups in the host country
- follow own recommendations agreed at the Symposium
- focus on more practical workshops and training tools
- strengthen youth participation and an open call for papers
- tighter management control
- more marketing
- have a specific topic/focus
- planning team did not work as a team and put in as much effort for the second Symposium
- larger participation has a greater dynamic and the people did not fill the space in Taiwan
- difference between inter-religious dialogue and inter-religious co-operation. The dialogue that we are looking for is 'young people living and working together'
- need to clearly identify the target group – is it for young people or for decision-makers?
- establish clear aims/vision
- includes youth forum
- vision for the future (10 years time) that the Forum will be run by young people

4. Aims and Vision for the Forum

Vision:

1. (Prophetic – aims to create a better world)
2. In ten years time, Scouts will be stronger in their own faith identity so that they have the courage to meet and share with Scouts from other faith communities. ("*breaking down barriers*")

Aims:

- to deepen in Scouts their understanding of "duty to God" and their commitment to living it out
- to develop youth participation in spiritual leadership in Scouting
- to provide NSOs with examples of dialogue/working together
- to promote understanding of conflict resolution processes/method (in Scouting).

Methods:

- to invite Scouts from other faith communities to events
- to make use of significant places to emphasise the work of the Symposium
- make the best use of the Scout Method in this work

5. To do for the next WSIF meeting

- Everyone to send suggestions for the programme to the co-ordinator.
- Give suggestions of outlines and themes and how these can be delivered.
- Suggest keynote addresses (topics) with suggestions of speakers and a draft brief.
- Investigate the possibility of a residential experience for youth participation prior to the event – possible dates 15 October 2009 to end November 2009. (discuss possible dates with EMC)

Every person to provide at least **one** of each **one** month before the next meeting – for distribution before the meeting.

6. Targets for the next Symposium:

50 National Scout Organizations with 50 young people under the age of 30.

Draft report from the Symposium - comments

- the report should contain more than is currently present
- Report containing – summary, list of participants and key recommendations, speech from Gualtiero and the presentation on the Jamboree plus a summary of the other presentations if Mathieu has the time to prepare this.

Action:

Ask Mathieu to summarise these documents and include them in the documentation.

Saturday afternoon

7. Inter-religious Ceremony at the World Scout Jamboree

Phil Pearson presented the plans for the Sunrise Day and in particular the details for the Sunrise Ceremony. Essentially there will be a 2 minute slot for each faith community which needs to be planned by the faith community. Ideally young people will present and they should be young people who are already attending the Jamboree. It may be better to work with a group of young people from one contingent, rather than forming an international team.

The ceremonies should be final 6 months before the event.

Actions:

- All faith communities should provide Phil and Jonathan with the draft of the 2 minutes before the 15 December 2006 (further developed – see suggestion below)
- Presentations of the young people performing should be available by mid-April and sent directly to Phil Pearson.

Ceremony will probably need to rehearse twice before the event on Wednesday morning – on the Sunday and Tuesday evening.

An option is that the Jamboree team provide a framework within which the faith communities work.

It seems that there are four aspects: music, (words), movement and colour/visual. It would be good if all the young people could arrive on the stage together and being together at the beginning and the end with all young people representing the faith communities on stage all the time. Suggesting around 10 young people from each faith community.

List of faith communities contributing.

Definite: Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist, Won Buddhist, Orthodox, Christian (P), Christian (C)

Likely: Mormon, Sikh

Possible: Hindu, Shinto

It was agreed that:

1. There will be a common framework.
2. Part 1: 1 minute contribution from groups of 10 young people (5 girls and 5 boys wearing different colours) and images (pictures and logos) of the religion (provided by the faith communities). There will be a background movement. (12 mins). Passing on from one faith to another there will be a link – e.g. shaking hands.
3. Part 2: Song (hands on shoulders) e.g. You are my brother/sister (3 mins)
4. Part 3: Meditation (move sitting) (2 mins)

Action: Phil to provide the members of the WSIF with the songs that they are thinking of being used. All scripts to be agreed in advance.

Suggested theme: "Creating a Better World" as a working theme to provide the input from the faith communities.

Leaders involved may be more important from some faiths than others so if it is necessary for a leader to be part of the group, in their faith robes, this can happen as long as they do not take the lead on stage. Young people in the group can be up to 25 years old.

Action: It is important that what is agreed by the group is not a barrier for one of the particular faith communities. If this is causing a problem it is important to let Jonathan know.

Action: The contributions from the Christian groups have to decide if there are 1, 2 or 3 inputs which needs to be decided by the representatives in the group. (Post meeting note – there will be 3 inputs)

Anne Whiteford
20 November 2006