



Invitation

11th Euro-Arab Meeting

Muscat, Oman | 3 – 8 November 2015

Background

This is the eleventh in the series of Euro-Arab meetings which have developed from being institutional meetings between the Arab and European Regions of WOSM more to be a real sharing of experiences, knowledge and projects between representatives of the National Scout Organisations of the two regions including effective youth representation from associations from both Regions as a pre-requisite for participation.

The theme of the meetings is Dialogue for Understanding. This will involve contributions from young people and others on the changing environment growing up in Europe and the Arab Region, understanding the cultural and political background and finding ways to explore our beliefs and values as Scouts.

Aim

The Aim of the meeting is to continue to build and develop relationships between Scouts from the Arab and European Regions based on the changing political, cultural and religious backgrounds in our two Regions.

Objectives

The objectives of the meeting are:

- encourage greater youth participation
- increase the participants' positive awareness and understanding of other cultures;
- carry out exchange on best practices and partnerships which contribute to active citizenship;
- active support the creation of new bilateral/multilateral partnerships and strengthen those already existing;
- increase the knowledge on different concepts, institutions and elements related to the two regions and the interregional element;
- share information on funding and events

Dates

3-8 November 2015

Participants are requested to arrive on Tuesday, 3 November during the day. Departures are on Sunday, 8 November 2015.

Venue

The meeting will take place in Muscat, Oman. The venue is the Safeer Plaza Hotel in shared rooms (with an opportunity to request a single room for an extra fee).

Methodology

The activity will be a combination of theoretical and practical inputs, using non-formal Scout methods including audio-visual presentations, case studies, group discussions and tasks, workshops, games, exhibition and ideas fair and other active methods and visits from the venue.

A programme is being developed and will be shared closer to the event.

At present, the programme includes:

- Getting to know your sessions
- Update on progress from the last meeting
- Inputs on major issues developing in the last 12 months – political, religious and cultural
- Input on Better World activities – Scenes, Scouts of the World, World Scout Environment Programme
- Project inputs from participants
- End communiqué

Outcomes of the meeting

It is expected that the outcomes will be:

- A short declaration written by the participants, to be used for further work
- Active dialogue on live issues within both Regions at this important time for international understanding
- Sharing of knowledge, empowering motivated, confident and skilled volunteers active in the field of youth at local and national level
- A peer to peer learning exchange
- A follow up back home on the issues tackled, in the best way identified by the participant

Languages

The meeting will be held in English and Arabic possibly with consecutive interpretation during plenary sessions. During working groups the interpretation service will be limited and assistance from participants may be required.

Participants profile

- Those involved in partnership projects between associations in the two regions
- Those wishing to start a new partnership between associations in the two regions
- Young people involved in intercultural and interreligious dialogue;
- Members of International Teams, International Commissioners and Youth Representatives;
- Aged from 18 upwards;
- Able to communicate well in English, French or Arabic;

Following the recommendation of previous Euro-Arab meetings, this meeting seeks to develop a growing participation of young people and all National Scout Organisations are asked to actively encourage the participation of young people aged between 18 and 25.

Number of participants

The event is open to both Regions and maximum participation is encouraged.

Applications

Priority will be given to have the largest number of different countries represented and to those who have experience in the relevant fields.

The European Region will offer support to encourage participation from Europe. For those 26 and under an amount of up to €400 is available for the first person from an NSA. If the first person is over 26, the support offered is EUR 250.

Please register initially using the attached form as soon as possible. Individual registrations will be completed after the initial registrations of "contingents".

If you are seeking to accept the support offered, please also advise the Regional Director on europe@scout.org.

Participation fee

Participation is covered by the Government of Oman.

Participation covers all accommodation and meals from the dinner of Tuesday, 3 November to breakfast on Sunday, 8 November; the local transport, all programme materials and documentation and translations.

(For a single room there is an additional cost to be advised)

The participation does not cover international travel costs to reach the venue of the meeting.

Travel arrangements

Once participants have been confirmed and advised, they will receive acceptance letters and the invitation letter for their visa, if necessary. Most of Europe is exempt from advance applications for visas. They can be issued on arrival. For those who need a visa, please indicate this when the "contingent" is completing the online registration after initial registration. Please do not book travel before confirmation is received.

The venue is in the centre of Muscat and transfers will be arranged by our Omani hosts.

In due time, travel forms will be sent to all registered participants.

Insurance

The WOSM - European Region does not cover the participants during the event neither during the travel to or from the venue. Please note that this is the exclusive responsibility of the national association to check and be sure that the participants are covered by insurance (illness, accidents, repatriation etc...)

Additional information

If you need any further information please contact Marguerite Potard: mpotard@scout.org

Annexes

- Contingent registration form.

