



37th WAGGGS WORLD  
CONFERENCE  
UGANDA  
2021

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF GIRL GUIDES AND GIRL SCOUTS  
**37th WORLD CONFERENCE**

**WoCo 10: MEMBERSHIP  
PROPOSALS**

APRIL 2020



WORLD ASSOCIATION  
OF GIRL GUIDES  
AND GIRL SCOUTS

Subject to ratification by a 75 percent vote by Full Members, the World Board proposes the following motions:

1. Associassao Guias De Mocambique (AGMOZ), the National Organisation in Mozambique, be recognised as an Associate Member of WAGGGS.
2. Savez Izviđača Crne Gore, the National Organisation in Montenegro, be recognised as a Full Member of WAGGGS.
3. Surinaamse Padvindsters Raad (SPR), the National Organisation in Suriname, be recognised as a Full Member of WAGGGS.
4. Sakartvelos Gogona Skautebis Asociacia (DIA), the National Organisation in Georgia, be recognised as a Full Member of WAGGGS.
5. Asotsiatsiya Haydiv Ukrayiny (AHU), the National Organisation in Ukraine, be recognised as a Full Member of WAGGGS.
6. That the Membership of Lietuvos Skauciu Seserija (LSS), the National Organisation of Lithuania, be terminated with immediate effect.

# APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

## 1. ASSOCIASSAO GUIAS DE MOCAMBIQUE (AGMOZ) – GIRL GUIDES OF MOZAMBIQUE (GGM)

### INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Mozambique is a country located in Southeast Africa bordered by the Indian Ocean to the east, Tanzania to the north, Malawi and Zambia to the northwest, Zimbabwe to the west, and Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) and South Africa to the southwest. The capital and largest city is Maputo.

The country's economy is based largely on agriculture, but industry is growing, and the tourism sector is also expanding. Since 2001, Mozambique's annual average Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth has been among the world's highest. However, the country is still ranking low in GDP per capita, human development, measures of inequality and average life expectancy. In 2019, Mozambique suffered floods and destruction from the devastating cyclones Idai and Kenneth.

Portuguese is the official and most widely spoken language of the nation, spoken by 50.3% of the population. Other languages spoken include Swahili, Makonde Makhuwa and Shona.

Primary level education is compulsory. While 94 percent of girls enroll in primary school, more than half drop out by the aged of 10, only 11 percent continue on to study at the secondary level, and just 1 percent continue on to college. Among children who finish primary school, nearly two-thirds leave the system without basic reading, writing, and math skills grade. Suffrage is universal at eighteen years of age.

The total population of Mozambique is 27.2 million, with a total female population of 13.88 million in 2018. The total population of girls aged 0-14 is 6 million and the total population of girls/young women aged 15-24 is 2.97 million. Currently AGMOZ has approximately 250 registered members.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Girl Guiding in Mozambique has a long history originating from colonial times, but due to civil wars after independence (1975) has had a time gap of active Guiding in the country. Re-starting Guiding after the wars was initially supported by Portuguese Guides and later through support of WAGGGS staff and volunteers based on a local champion set-up. Champions trained to lead and drive the formation of local groups and national set-up.

Guiding is both school based and community based. As of January 2020, three active Guide Groups exist and thrive. Two school based and one community based. Initial work has been done to formalise an additional five groups across the country.

The current National Board consists of nine members covering core areas of organisational foundation. Four members are based in the Maputo area and the remaining five represent other districts of Mozambique.

In January 2020 the Association obtained confirmation of registration from the Government.

## **RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT VISIT**

### **Educational Programme**

The curriculums reflect the mission and goals of WAGGGS though the activity content and the method of delivery. The curriculums contain age-relevant activities with a range of different topics that meet the needs of the girls. For the younger girls relevant life skills are taught and opportunities to do something they have never done before is offered, empowering them to do more. Activities designed for older girls are directed to developing a different set of life skills, which enables them to learn trades.

The curriculum reflects the girls' engagement in the Guiding Promise and Law e.g. service, caring for the environment, etc. Pictures and stories indicate that activities are meaningful, educational and fun and that learning is based on 'learning by doing'. The curriculum reflects an international dimension. The champions have interacted closely with Girl Guides of Zambia and had workshops together. As the programme/curriculum is new, material is being tried out and evaluation is ongoing.

## Training

GGM shared and explained a comprehensive training programme (available only in Portuguese). They also provided a full pack covering guidelines for training of leaders of each age-group, adult training policy and also introduction to Guiding, the Promise and Law for their new leaders. As the training program is new, material is being tried out for use and the intent is to update, review and develop as needed.

Training is offered to new leaders as needed. As GGM is just starting up focus has been to ensure basic introductions and trainings in Girl Guiding elements. Champions have been trained to support new leaders and will act as experienced leaders, whom new leaders can turn to for advice and support. Champions were trained as part of a start-up training offered by WAGGGS.

## Membership

In 2015 when starting up again there were 50 members, this grew to approximately 100 members in 2016 and has reached approximately 250 members currently. The current market share is small at 0.002%. However, ultimately the Association has huge growth potential with a population in target group of 11 million girls and young women. Currently Guiding is present in five and established in three of 11 districts. An additional five groups are in planning and their Board is very keen to drive this agenda further. Membership reflects the diversity in rural, urban, age groups, religion and wealth. Units are currently based in school, church and other community spaces.

## Relationship To Society

The purpose of Guiding is clear to all in the organisation. GGM has a positive relationship with the national government and contact has been made with various non-governmental organisations.

Guiding is new to the general society and they are still getting to understand it. In general, Guiding is perceived positively as interesting and very appropriate for the girls and young women.

GGM has looked into issues affecting girls and young women and identified specific issues in the areas where they have set up units. These issues include domestic violence and early marriage. The Free Being Me programme has helped girls build their self-confidence and handle bullying in school. In Tete region the unit for young mums and out of school girls has an empowerment program that helps them return to school for adult literacy training and set up income generating activities to improve their livelihoods as well as self-esteem.

## Structure and Management

Registration with the government got final approval and certification on 17 January 2020. The Constitution also received formal approval from the government on the same date.

There is a new National Committee in place selected into office in 2019. The National Committee has a mix of leaders with varied backgrounds. All the leaders have been involved as champions in the development of Guiding in the country. A core team meets physically at least once a month in Maputo. Other meetings take place via Skype. The financial implication of bringing together team members from the regions currently limits the number of physical meetings.

The organisation has been allocated an office at the Santa Ana da Munhuana Catholic Church in Maputo. This serves as the GGM headquarters. There are plans to recruit more volunteers and increase equipment as the membership and administrative support needs grow. Annual General Meetings (AGMs) were held in 2018 and 2019. GGM involve young women in decision making by having young women amongst the members of its National Committee e.g. the Deputy Chief Commissioner.

## Finance

A National Treasurer has been appointed and is a member of the Board. The person appointed to the role is an economist in the private sector in Mozambique.

So far funds have been made available when needed. A plan is being developed to ensure appropriate income to fit the ambition of activity level. The draft financial policy mentions a policy on fund development and fundraising. GGM have an ambition to start fund development activities, but as approval of the Association from the government was only granted on 17 January 2020, no actual funding opportunities had been confirmed at the time of the assessment. The Association does not have audited accounts yet as they are yet to have a full year with income and expenses to report.



(Full member vote, 75 per cent majority required)

## PROPOSED MOTION

That Associassao Guias De Mocambique (AGMOZ), the National Organisation in Mozambique, be recognised as an Associate Member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

# APPLICATION FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP

## 2. SAVEZ IZVIĐAČA CRNE GORE - MONTENEGRO

### INTRODUCTION

Montenegro is a country in South and Southeast Europe on the coast of the Balkans. It borders Bosnia-Herzegovina to the northwest, Serbia to the northeast, Kosovo to the east, Albania to the southeast, the Adriatic Sea to the southwest, and Croatia to the west.

Montenegro emerged as a sovereign state after a referendum for independence in May 2006. The vote heralded the end of the former Union of Serbia and Montenegro itself created only three years earlier out of the remnant of the former Yugoslavia.

Classified by the World Bank as an upper middle-income country, Montenegro is a member of the UN, the World Trade Organization, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the Central European Free Trade Agreement and a founding member of the Union for the Mediterranean. Montenegro is also a candidate negotiating to join the European Union and NATO.

The official language in Montenegro is Montenegrin. Also, Serbian, Bosnian, Albanian and Croatian are recognised in usage. Women have traditionally not been given the same opportunities as men. They have not been allowed to contribute to national, political, economic, social and cultural development. Women in Montenegro are legally entitled to equal pay for equal work, but patriarchal attitudes often limit their salary levels and educational opportunities. Women are underrepresented in government and business. Trafficking in persons for the purposes of prostitution and forced labour remains a problem. The government adopted an anti-trafficking strategy in 2018.

There is no gender disparity in school enrolment. Employment rates for women (20-64) is 51.5%.

The total population of Montenegro is 628,076 (2019) with a total female population of 314,651 (2018). The country has a female population aged 0-14 of 54,207 (2018) and a female population aged 15-24 of 38,755 (2018). The Association currently has approximately 1,500 registered members.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Scouting first appeared in Montenegro in 1928 as part of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. In 1995, the Scout Association of Yugoslavia, which consisted of the Scout Association of Serbia and the Scout Association of Montenegro, was admitted to the World Organisation of Scouts. On 1 May 2006, the Scout Association of Montenegro became an independent organisation.

The Scout Association of Montenegro is open to all, regardless of origin, nationality, religion and political affiliation.

The association cooperates with youth organisations and local governments.

The National Scout Association participated in the WAGGGS Europe Regional Conference in 2016 and indicated their interest to register their girls with WAGGGS. They have recently participated at the Conference in 2019, Juliette Low Seminar and other regional events.

## **RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT VISIT**

### **Educational Programme**

The programme is based on the experience of established leaders and is adapted to the different ages. Initiatives have been launched to formalise the programme for teenagers. The first priority is to work on the Rovers programme as this is 'the missing link' at the moment and the association loses young people at college age.

The activities and programme are based on Scouting principles and relate to the mission of the association, the Promise and the Law. Practice clearly reflects that 'learning by doing' is the method used. Gender equality, decision-making for girls and equal chances for all are addressed in activities. International activities are promoted. The Association also hosts visitors from other countries (for example, Belgium) and tries to maximise on these opportunities.

## Training

There is a system in place for basic training of young leaders, leaders of the 14-17-year-old age group and cub leaders but this will be redeveloped once the new programme materials have been finalised. Other age sections are under development. For cubs, specialist training is already running. More advanced training is under development in collaboration with Slovenian and Serbian Scouts. A mentoring system with new unit leaders being mentored by leaders of established units is being developed.

## Membership

The Association is open and inclusive and efforts made to reach out to all regions of the country. The current market share is approximately 2% of the potential population.

There is growth in terms of new groups and the creation of new units, including three new units this year. There is significant potential to expand in several areas of the country. The Association aims to have at least one group in each of the 24 municipalities over the country (currently they are in eight). Growth in the North is the current priority where the main objective for 2020 is to have three new municipalities covered. Their key focus to enable this, is finding the leaders to get started. The percentage of girls is higher than boys (60/40), but only 22% of leadership positions are held by females.

## Relationship To Society

The Association gets good media coverage and their relationship with government is positive. While keeping their independence, the Association knows how to get the right level of involvement, and is able to make their voice heard on the level of Ministries and local communities. The Association currently manages to have some influence on upcoming laws. There is a link with civil protection, where Scouts have an official role in emergency response as logistics providers in case of calamities in the country. The Association is recognised by law for this mission. They work closely with UNICEF and the Red Cross on policy-making at a national level on issues that affect girls/young women. They also have contacts with the Ministry of Youth and Sports and with municipalities.

## Structure and Management

The organisation is officially registered and is recognised by the Ministry of Sports and Youth. The leadership team represents the diversity of the Association e.g. regions, aged 23-37 and different experiences in Scouting. The official headquarters/office is in Podgorica.

There is a plan to modernise the structure, making the National Board more effective by decreasing the number of delegates and introduce a more formal regional representation. The National Board meet at least three times a year. An AGM is held every year.

Currently there are four females out of 22 members in the National Board. Girls and young women are involved in decision making at national level through the existing structure via the leaders. Involvement of youth is through surveys and consultation, but a culture of participation still needs to grow.

## Finance

The organisation can guarantee a minimum level of income each year to cover the cost of its activities mainly from membership fees, secured external funding and other funding enabled activities. WAGGGS' membership fees will feature in the Association's annual budget.

They have also received funding or support in kind from UNICEF and the Montenegro Government, among others. Their accounts are audited independently and financial reports are available on the Association's website.



(Full member vote, 75 per cent majority required )

## PROPOSED MOTION

That Savez Izviđača Crne Gore, the National Organisation in Montenegro, be recognised as a Full Member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

### **3. SURINAAMSE PADVINDSTERS RAAD (SPR) – SURINAME (FEDERATION) COMPONENT ASSOCIATIONS: 1. HET SURINAAMSE PADVINDSTERS GILDE 2. GIDSEN SURINAME**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Suriname is located on the North-eastern coast of the Atlantic Ocean in South America and is bordered by French Guyana in the East, Guyana in the West and Brazil in the South. Suriname has been a colony of England and the Netherlands and gained Independence on 25 November 1975.

The official language is Dutch. Other languages include Sranan Tongo (lingua franca), Chinese and Javanese. The population is among the most diverse in the world, with a multitude of ethnic, religious, and linguistic groups. Suriname is a country in economic development. Agriculture makes a large proportion of its GDP.

Education is accessible for all children and up to secondary school and the contribution of parents is kept low. The Government of Suriname commits itself to accord high priority to gender as an essential cross cutting issue in its national policy, and to implementing policies and programmes toward gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The total population of Suriname was 567,291 in 2016 with a total female population of 271,009 and a population of girls/young women aged 5-19 of 70,127. SPR currently has 267 registered members.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Surinaamse Padvindsters Raad (SPR) is the umbrella body of the two largest Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting organisations in Suriname, namely: Het Surinaamse Padvindsters Gilde (SPG - The Surinamese Girl Scouts Organisation) and Gidsen Suriname (GS - Girl Guides Suriname). These two organisations have groups in the different areas of Paramaribo (the capital of Suriname).

Currently the two organisations together count a membership of approximately 350. SPG and GS were established in 1947 and 1948 respectively. In 1968 the organisations came together and formed the SPR. They joined WAGGGS in 1972 as an Associate Member.

Both organisations have a law and a promise based on the fundamental principles of the international original Promise and Law. Membership is voluntary and is open to all girls and young women without distinction of creed, race, nationality or any other circumstance.

## **RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT VISIT**

### **Educational Programme**

The programme is age appropriate and meets the needs of the girls and young women as it takes into account the various stages of the individual (developmental, emotional, spiritual), interests, as well as prepares the girl/young woman to be a useful citizen of her community and the global community at large. In both Component Associations, members progress through the various stages, recording this progress in the various programme-recording books.

The international/global aspect of Guiding is considered as the girls undertake activities, which hone global competencies and prepare them as world citizens. Learning by doing is the main method used. Their varied and balanced programme is certainly aimed at good citizenship throughout society. The leaders evaluate their programme monthly at the Guiders' meetings and the girls evaluate unit meetings regularly.

## Training

The training scheme of Surinaamse Padvindsters Raad (SPR) has been accredited by WAGGGS. Both Components have basic training for leaders as well as working with a mentor. During the SPG Basic Training, the new Guider is paired with an experienced leader who acts in a type of coaching and mentorship role for about six months. During this time, they work through the investiture/enrolment preparation which the girls must complete.

Training of Trainers is carried out. Many of the trainers avail themselves of opportunities to attend training sessions offered by WAGGGS, Western Hemisphere and the Caribbean Link of Guiding. On their return, they share learnings with the other members at the monthly meetings. The Training Teams meet to ensure that the training programme is in synch with the local programme and WAGGGS initiatives and trends.

## Membership

Guiding in both Component Associations is open to all girls and young women including those who are differently able. The organisation currently has under 1% market share of the total girl population, so there is adequate room for growth. SPG are slowly growing; the challenge is to retain their membership. Membership in GS has not shown much growth but there are plans in place for recruitment and retention. Units exist only in the capital at this time. Meetings are held in community centres (SPG), schools and churches (GS).

## Relationship To Society

The Organisation has enjoyed a solid relationship with society for more than 70 years and very positive relationships with Government and local authorities. SPR is in regular contact with other NGOs, particularly on issues affecting girls and young women.

## Structure and Management

SPG and GS are both registered with Justice and Police. The Association holds yearly AGMs. SPR's Board is formed by members of both Component Associations. The Component Associations have councils that represent diversity of backgrounds. Surinaamse Padvindsters Raad meets quarterly.

The SPG possesses four centres (all in use), one of which is being used as the Headquarters. The SG does not possess an official headquarters however they have generally been given space over the years to use in the various church owned buildings.

Surinaamse Padvindsters Raad ensures an effective process of communication between national level and units, sharing information regarding the programme, resources from WAGGGS, etc. Policies and procedures are very transparent as well as accessible. Currently young women are on committees of the Board.

## Finance

The SPR and its Component Associations can guarantee a minimum level of income each year to cover the cost of activities. Sometimes the Surinaamse Padvindsters Raad undertakes fundraising activities reaching out to state-owned and private companies and to the Ministry to Youth. Individual personal contributions are also received. Both Component Associations carry out fundraising activities regularly.

Surinaamse Padvindsters Raad accounts are not externally audited. However, there is an internal controller with a financial background who reviews the figures and looks for errors or discrepancies. At SPG there is a four-member audit committee. With a view to transparency, the SPG Board always shares information on funds raised with the Guiders. A financial report is produced after each event.



(Full member vote, 75 per cent majority required)

## PROPOSED MOTION

That Surinaamse Padvindsters Raad (SPR), the National Organisation in Suriname, be recognised as a Full Member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

## 4. SAKARTVELOS GOGONA SKAUTEBIS ASOCIACIA (DIA) - GEORGIA

### INTRODUCTION

Georgia is mostly situated in the South Caucasus, while parts of the country are also located in the North Caucasus. It borders Azerbaijan, Turkey, Russia and Armenia. Its capital is Tbilisi. Georgia was one of the first Soviet republics to take steps towards independence. Georgia's Declaration of Independence was adopted in 1991.

According to World Bank rankings, Georgia has been recently moved to the upper middle income countries group. Although the Georgian economy has historically depended on its agriculture, over recent years the service sector has been the largest contributor to their GDP.

Currently there are a number of groups and organisations who actively campaign for the issues related to gender equality, including issues related to family violence, political rights and increased women representation in political arena, and early marriage especially in rural areas and areas of high minority population.

Georgia has a total population of approximately 3,783,683 with a total female population of 2,001,928 (52.9%) of which 339,733 are girls aged 5-19. Currently (census 2019) DIA has 540 registered members and another 300 girls that participate in their events, but are not registered.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The organisation was formally registered in 1993 as the Association of Girl Guides and Scouts of the Republic of Georgia – DIA. In 1999 DIA was accepted as an Associate Member of WAGGGS. Since the early 2000s, eight country visits have taken place in Georgia, in order to design and implement an action plan to reach Full Membership. The last visit in 2017 focused on gender and diversity and had as objective to train DIA's Board on the topic and raise awareness among the local groups.

## **RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT VISIT**

### Educational Programme

DIA's educational programme is created by experienced volunteers who understand the purpose and the Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting educational method.

Leaders make sure the 'learning by doing' method is used in every activity. Service to others is a big part of the programme and so are the outdoor activities and camping. Throughout their programme girls follow different areas of focus including character building, working in teams and issues affecting girls and young women. The programme enables good diversity by welcoming girls with different economic background, religion and ethnicity, and includes an international dimension. Girls find the educational programme useful, interesting and fun and their meetings a place where they can develop their skills, meet new friends, express themselves in a safe space and have a feeling that they belong to a global family. The programme includes initiatives like Free Being Me.

For some age groups, DIA's programme is still in the process of being developed. The programme development team is very capable and driven, and has made a lot of progress in the last three years.

## Training

DIA's adults training works on a mentorship basis: new leaders receive training from more experienced leaders on how to run groups. Progressive training sessions are in place for leaders. The training includes content on developmental psychology: leaders learn how to work with specific age groups of girls, build up activities and promote the values, mission and vision.

DIA's training scheme has not been accredited by WAGGGS yet, however, the Association is working hard on this process and aim to have it ready for accreditation in 2020.

## Membership

DIA is open to girls of different religious, ethnic, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. They are aware that due to different religious practices in different regions of Georgia (the country is very diverse by religion and culture) they need to approach recruitment in different ways. DIA's membership is growing by small numbers; the main reason for this is the lack of leaders.

The volunteering culture is yet developing in Georgia and DIA is putting a lot of effort to increase uptake. For the time being DIA occupies a very small portion of the market share, with circa 500 active members. Most of the groups are in Tbilisi (urban area).

## Relationship To Society

Guiding is perceived extremely positively by society in Georgia. DIA has a large group of supporters from different walks of life, NGO and business sectors.

DIA has a very good relationship with the parents, who speak very highly of the organisation, the leaders and of the positive changes they've seen in their girls since they joined Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting.

DIA has an active contact with UNICEF and are working with several local NGOs that support them with membership growth and fundraising,

## Structure and Management

The organisation is legally registered and is a very active member of the Georgian Youth Council. DIA's National Board meets regularly.

DIA currently uses an office space at 'Sunny House', a sort of youth centre. Sunny House is well known and respected in the NGO community and beyond. At present, DIA does not have paid staff.

The leaders are flexible and responsive and have a transparent decision making process. Local groups are free to take decisions that are relevant to their area and scope of work. DIA's Constitution is reflected in their daily functioning and strategic planning, and their policies are clear and transparent. DIA promotes and engages in active citizenship, as they believe that as girls grow and gain more national recognition, they will become proactive stakeholders at national level.

## Finance

The Member Organisation is able to guarantee a minimum level of income each year to cover the costs of its activities. This is done through membership fees and active fundraising. DIA receives income from their work through World Vision programmes as well as several private contributions. The Finance Commissioner, who sits on the National Board, acts as treasurer for the organisation.

As they are a young organisation, there has not yet been a need for independent auditing but they abide by national laws and are aware of the need for auditing in the future.



(Full member vote, 75 per cent majority required )

## PROPOSED MOTION

That Sakartvelos Gogona Skautebis Asociacia (DIA), the National Organisation in Georgia, be recognised as a Full Member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

## **5. ASOTSIATSIYA HAYDIV UKRAYINY/ASSOCIATION OF UKRANIAN GUIDES (AGU) - UKRAINE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Ukraine is located in Eastern Europe: lying on the northern shores of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, it borders a number of European countries - Poland, Slovakia and Hungary in the west, Belarus in the north, Moldova and Romania in the south-west and Russia in the east.

The country gained independence after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 and has since sought closer integration with Western Europe. Ukraine has been in economic crisis since 2011 and in recession from mid-2012 to 2015. In 2014-2015, the violent conflict between government forces and separatists in east Ukraine and the related serious dispute with Russia (which annexed Crimea in March 2014 and supports the separatists) drastically aggravated the economic crisis.

Ukraine has a total population of approximately 42,014,281 with a total female population of 22,688,102 of which 2,997,201 are girls aged 5-19. Currently (census 2019) AGU has 174 registered members.

Despite the officially declared non-discrimination principle, there are signs of gender inequality in the country. Ukraine's rank in the Global Gender Gap Index was 56th out of 142 countries in 2014. Women have equal access to education, the social protection system and labour force participation, but sometimes receive lower wages for equivalent positions and are much less represented in the political life of the country. Despite this, Ukrainian women are challenging traditional gender roles and reclaimed visibility, recognition, and respect as society activists and volunteers. Participation of women in entrepreneurship boosted during the last 2-3 years and continues to increase gradually.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Since its beginnings, 24 years ago, members of AGU have opened women's foundations, clubs and spaces, held trainings for women, organised Girl Guides camps and meetings of volunteers for different social projects.

AGU had its first National Conference in 1995 and obtained legal registration in 1996. In 1999 they became an Associate Members of WAGGGS.

Members of AGU have been actively participating in WAGGGS seminars like Juliette Low and Helen Storrow since 2009. The Free Being Me curriculum was introduced in Ukraine in 2015-2019.

Since the early 2000s, six country visits took place in Ukraine, in order to design and implement an action plan to reach Full Membership, among other things.

## **RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT VISIT**

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME**

AGU's educational programme has recently been updated to ensure that it remains relevant. The review process took into account feedback from members and parents. The international aspect of Guiding has been especially important in attracting members. Within the formal programme, under the theme 'Me in Guiding land' girls take a trip around the Guiding world without leaving their meeting place, learn about WAGGGS and celebrate Guiding with girls across the globe. Members have regular opportunities to take part in camps abroad and young adults have been able to participate in WAGGGS events.

### **Training**

All new leaders are offered 'presentational' training followed by 'basic training', which they must pass. The training programme includes relevant information on the Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting method and the Ukraine Girl Guides programme. AGU are also trying to set up a system of mentors to enable new leaders to access one-to-one advice and support after the training. The training programme covers the areas of leadership, management and training. It also provides for thematic trainings, which includes camps and international trips.

In addition, the Association of Ukraine Guides have recently taken part in an Erasmus+ project, in conjunction with Georgia, Denmark and Finland. This included visits to Denmark and Finland to see how Scouting and Guiding works there. It enabled those who participated to shadow others to further their knowledge and follow up events were held in different parts of the Ukraine building on that experience. The 18-20 age group programme now includes 'Me as a Trainer' as one of its three themes.

## Membership

The membership statistics show a decline in numbers over the last few years (from 285 in 2016 to 174 in 2018). This decline is almost entirely attributable to the conflict with Russia, which resulted in the loss of two to three active branches, which were previously located in the Crimea region, the main area affected by the war. Although the official membership figures have declined, these do not include the girls who have participated in the organisation's recent rural camps. The organisation's previous membership strategy focussed on the main cities whilst the most recent strategy has been to focus on developing Guiding in rural areas, where there is a need for youth provision but much less by way of competition. The approach being adopted is to run a camp in a rural area, using any local contacts to invite girls from the local area to take part. Young women seem to be well represented both in the National Board and in other national positions.

## Relationship To Society

The Board is clearly making very positive efforts to engage with government, against a challenging backdrop of political instability. The existing interaction with the government has been very positive. An important pre-requisite for applying for government funding is registration as a non-profit organisation and this has now been completed.

The new programme includes a theme around 'me and society', which encourages participation in community action/service projects. It also encourages development of self-confidence/empowerment. AGU members are also organising activities that look at involving citizens in environment-associated initiatives. Where possible the organisation engages with wider youth policy making fora. For example, they were recently represented at a Ministry-facilitated meeting for organisations engaged with non-formal education (Committee of Youth and Sports).

## Structure and Management

The Constitution provides for a board comprising six elected members. The Board have also appointed an Executive Director to support their work. The Board includes one young member (14 years old). This is a legal requirement and a pre-requisite for formal registration with the Ministry. All members are under the age of 35. The Board meets face to face at least twice a year. They consciously choose to meet in different parts of the Ukraine. There is an annual conference, which is open to all members of the organisation. Elections to the board roles take place at this conference. At the conference, each region has one vote.

The organisation has now completed all of the requirements for legal registration as a non-profit organisation. However, they are now waiting for the Ministry to provide them with the official certificate of registration.

AGU is a small organisation, which does not have the funds to support a headquarters. They have access to meeting spaces in a number of schools, where their patrols meet. Despite the absence of a physical office, the organisation has been able to produce some printed resources to support their work. AGU's policies, procedures and reports are transparent.

AGU only has one paid staff member and runs all other activities with the help of volunteers.

## Finance

AGU demonstrated their ability to cover costs through a combination of membership fees, small scale fund raising and participant event fees. Applications have been made to government on several occasions but these have been unsuccessful. This was attributed partly to the large number of organisations competing for a small amount of funding and partly to a system which is largely fuelled by connections and personal relationships. AGU also do some small scale fundraising.

All members of the National Board have visibility of the accounts files. The accounts are checked by the 'revision committee' and presented to the annual conference. The revision committee comprises two independent members who are elected by the National Conference.



(Full member vote, 75 per cent majority required )

## PROPOSED MOTION

That Asotsiatsiya Haydiv Ukrayiny (AHU), the National Organisation in Ukraine, be recognised as a Full Member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

# TERMINATION OF WAGGGS MEMBERSHIP

WAGGGS' Constitution states that *"Removal of membership of WAGGGS shall be considered by the World Board if:*

*10.4.2.1 the Member Organisation ceases to exist or a change occurs affecting a National Organisation such that it no longer complies with the conditions of membership as set out in sub-clauses 10.1.2 and 10.9;*

*10.4.2.2 the Member Organisation ceases to comply with any of the conditions of membership set out in sub-clauses 10.1.2 and 10.9;*

*10.4.2.3 any sum due from the Member Organisation has been wholly or partly outstanding for at least two years in succession.*

*Following consideration by the World Board, the World Board shall inform the Member Organisation as to the reasons why it is proposed to remove the Member Organisation from membership. In the case of failure to pay its membership fee the World Board may grant remission or postponement of the membership fee.*

*10.4.3 Should the Member Organisation fail to comply with advice given to it by the World Board or should the Member Organisation for any reason not be able to fulfil the conditions of membership as set out in sub-clauses 10.1.2 and 10.9 within the time frame determined by the World Board, having been duly reported to the Member Organisation, the World Board shall consider whether its membership should be terminated. The matter shall be referred to the Full Members at the next World Conference who may then terminate the membership of the Member Organisation by a resolution passed by a 75% majority of votes of Full Members". WAGGGS Constitution and Bye-Laws Section 10."*

The World Board, through the Regional Committee, works with Member Organisations to ensure that they provide quality Girl Guiding/Scouting to their members. However, if the Member Organisation concerned continually fails to meet the criteria and conditions as laid down in the Constitution and Bye-Laws of WAGGGS (see above), the World Board will recommend termination of its membership to the World Conference.

## **6. LIETUVOS SKAUCIU SESERĲA (LSS) - ASSOCIATION OF GIRL GUIDES OF LITHUANIA**

### **DESCRIPTION**

Lithuania is a country bordered by Latvia, Belarus and Poland in Europe. Its population is 2.8 million with a total girl population of approx. 200,000. It has a very high Human Development Index of 0.848. Lithuania has had a female president since 2009 and is generally a developed country in regards to gender inequality however one-third of women have experienced domestic violence and trafficking is still common.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Lietuvos Skauciu Seserija (LSS) achieved Associate Membership of WAGGGS in 2008. Following the achievement of WAGGGS Membership, WAGGGS staff and volunteers have worked closely with the Association to assure that Full Membership would be obtained within the official time frame (two triennia). The assessment as to the readiness of an Associate Member to move into Full Membership is taken by the Regional Committee in consultation with the Member Organisation and taken to the World Board for approval.

Since 2008, the following actions were implemented towards the development of an action plan towards Full Membership:

- Three country visits to support and work together with LSS in 2008, 2010, 2012. In 2012 an action plan towards Full Membership was developed but never finalised.
- Meetings with LSS representatives attending regional events (2007 during the network meeting held in Lithuania; 2008 - Meeting with LSS representatives during the 33rd World Conference; 2009 - Meeting with LSS during the IC Forum event in Malta and 2012 - Skype meeting with National Board).

- LSS have not paid their membership fee since 2009. Despite WAGGGS' attempts, an agreement was never reached with regards to a payment plan.
- In 2012, a mentoring proposal was made by the Europe Region to improve educational programme and training system was offered, but unfortunately LSS never replied.
- In 2013 new attempts to discuss and agree on a payment plan and pending actions of the working plan were made. LSS failed to respond.
- Since 2013, many attempts to contact Lithuania were made via email, Skype, Facebook, letters (registered and regular), telephone, via other MOs and Volunteers, including contacting their previous International Commissioner, GSUSA overseas, regional volunteers and other MOs who we knew had been in contact with Lithuania previously. The registered letter sent to LSS mid 2014 was returned to WAGGGS, which indicates the official address does not exist anymore.

At the 36<sup>th</sup> World Conference in India in 2017 the Europe Committee and the World Board proposed the termination of LSS (Motion 14). The motion did not pass.

In the triennium (2018-2020) following the 36<sup>th</sup> World Conference, the Regional team pursued its effort to re-establish contacts with LSS. Below is a summary of the most recent findings:

- The International Commissioner's email ([ic@skautuva.lt](mailto:ic@skautuva.lt)) is not active anymore. The sender receives an "undeliverable" message when writing to the address.
- The address of the LSS website (<http://www.skautuva.lt>) does not seem to function anymore. An error message appears on the screen when trying to open it.
- On the LSS Facebook page the last post published was dated 2013. As of January 2020, the page had been closed and was not accessible anymore.
- In July 2019 the Regional team contacted the former LSS International Commissioner who confirmed that, according to her knowledge, LSS had been liquidated.
- This information was also confirmed by the Lithuanian Scouts Association (Lietuvos skautija) both through Facebook and emails during the second half of 2019.

- On 14 January 2020 the Lithuanian Youth Council confirmed that the Association of Girl Guides of Lithuania is not part of their members and that they do not know how to contact them.
- On 22 January 2020 a registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt was sent to LSS address. As happened in 2014, the letter was returned to WAGGGS, which indicates that the official address is not valid anymore.

According to the Lithuanian Center of Registers ([https://www.registrucentras.lt/jar/index\\_en.php](https://www.registrucentras.lt/jar/index_en.php)), that holds a record of all Legal Entities, including NGOs, registered in Lithuania, Lietuvos skaučių seserija (LSS) legal status has not been registered. In addition to this, LSS is said not to have submitted their annual accounts to the Register for more than 12 months. We presume their registration as legal entity in Lithuania was never finalised.

## CONCLUSION

Following continued extensive efforts by the Europe Regional Committee, the World Board brings back to World Conference the recommendation to terminate the Association of Girl Guides of Lithuania in accordance with WAGGGS' Constitution. There remains no functioning organisation in the country and appropriate efforts have been made to reach and communicate with the Member Organisation without any success.

The decision to present an Association for termination of its membership is not taken lightly but it is based on a comprehensive evaluation by both Regional Committee and membership staff and has been subject to review by the World Board.

Therefore, in accordance with the WAGGGS Constitution and Bye-Laws, as the Associate Member has not been able to fulfil the requirements for Full Membership and is not fulfilling its responsibilities as an Associate Member of WAGGGS after close monitoring followed by a two year period of support, the procedures for suspension and cancellation of Membership in WAGGGS will be implemented.

Given the absence of response from the Member Organisation since 2013, failure to pay membership fees since 2009, and the wide range of evidence indicating that LSS is not operational anymore, it is the Europe Committee and World Board's recommendation that the WAGGGS membership of LSS should be terminated at the 37th World Conference.

(Full Member vote, 75 per cent majority required )

## PROPOSED MOTION

That the Membership of Lietuvos Skauciu Seserija (LSS), the National Organisation of Lithuania, be terminated with immediate effect.