



World Organization
of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale
du Mouvement Scout

Richard Middelkoop
World Radio Scouting
& JOTA Advisor

Aak 8
NL-9801 MD Zuidhorn
The Netherlands

Tel. +31 594 507726
Fax: +31 20 8822651
Email: PA3BAR@Amsat.org
Packet: PA3BAR@PI8AWT

date : 17 May, 2000

subj. : 5th European Radio Scouting and Internet Seminar

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From 11 to 14 May 2000, 36 National JOTA / JOTI organisers, international commissioners and education committee members of 17 European Countries, representing 22 Associations met in Rome, Italy for the 5th European Radio-Scouting and Internet seminar.

Main aim of the seminar was to discuss the way ahead for the JOTA and JOTI activity within the European Region as well as exchange ideas and solve problems.

The pace at which communication technologies change is enormous. The participants discussed how the new possibilities can be used as an attractive activity for Scouts, and as an organisational tool. The focus is on letting Scouts experience that they belong to a worldwide movement. Amateur radio contacts have been used for this for many years; more recently internet offers similar options.

The way of working of the seminar included subgroup discussions, plenary sessions and presentations. The Italian host team also arranged for special visits to the Vatican Radio station and the internet web centre of the Vatican Jubilee Year. Both of these are normally not open to public visitors.

The participants discussed the question of the European Scout Committee on the frequency of holding this radio and internet seminar in view of providing continuity, and decided to shorten it to a 3-year cycle instead of the current 4-year one. Additionally the communication among national organizers will be increased through the electronic means now available.

Invitations to host the next event were made by the Ring Deutscher Pfadfinderverbände (RdP) and by Iceland. Although interest in going to Iceland was very high, the cost of travel would be a serious limitation for many. Therefore the German invitation was accepted.



RECOMMENDATIONS

2000-1 Combination of JOTA and JOTI

The participants of the 5th European Radio-Scouting and Internet seminar noting:

- that the interest in and the possibilities of communicating via internet have considerably increased over the past 5 years;
- that a growing number of Scouts take an interest in this form of communication;
- that a substantial support is received each year from external organisations like Amateur radio Associations and Internet Service Providers to run communication events for Scouts;

considering:

- that the Jamboree On The Internet (JOTI) and the the Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) offer the opportunity to the Scouts to get in touch with one another on a world-wide scale;
- that the JOTI benefits from the organisation structure which has been in place for many years for the JOTA;
- that over the past 3 years educational programmes have been successfully developed in various countries demonstrating that JOTA and JOTI can mutually support and complement each other;
- that joint organisation teams have been set up in most countries;
- that the rapid innovations in both internet communications as well as digital communications via radio fire the Scouts' imagination and add to the attractiveness of the programme;

recommend:

- that JOTA and JOTI should continue to be held on the same weekend;
- that both activities could well be placed under a common name;
- that both JOTA and JOTI are held in only one weekend per year (as is presently the case) to prevent the loss of support of external organisations like Amateur Radio Associations and Internet Service Providers;
- that other, smaller-scale, radio-scouting and internet activities can be organised throughout the year.

2000-2 organisational help offered

The participants of the 5th European Radio-Scouting and Internet seminar noting:

- that in nearly all European countries there is a wide-spread interest among local groups to participate in the JOTA / JOTI communication weekend;
- that in a number of countries the National Scout Organisation does not actively support these events, which prevents Scouts from joining in;

considering:

- that a number of National Scout Organisations (NSO's), notably those in Germany, Denmark, Netherlands, Italy, Portugal and Luxembourg have experienced organisation teams for JOTA / JOTI;
- that the representatives of these countries present at the seminar have expressed a willingness to assist other NSO's in organising JOTA / JOTI in their countries;
- that the current use of internet allows teams to remotely organise and support activities;

recommend:

- that the World JOTA Team of the World Scout Bureau contacts those National Organisations that currently are unable to support JOTA / JOTI and explores their possible needs;
- that NSO's interested to receive help from an organisation team in another country express their interest through their International Commissioners and will be brought into contact with an appropriate team that has offered help.

2000-3 further actions

The participants of the 5th European Radio-Scouting and Internet seminar noting:

- that the seminar is too short to treat all subjects of interest in-depth;
- that tasks and ideas need to be explored further and be transformed into practical proposals;

considering:

- that most of these tasks and ideas need to be looked at in the short term;

recommend:

- that the World JOTA Team of the World Scout Bureau monitors and facilitates the completion of the following agreed action points:
 - A. feedback on the idea of a World Scout Portal on the internet to be sent directly to Mark Clayton (mclayton@world.Scout.org) to serve as input for further discussions within WOSM (ACTION: **seminar participants**);
 - B. WSB to review and update existing JOTA / JOTI information including event guidelines. Seminar participants are asked to provide additional input. (ACTION: **seminar participants**);
 - C. Make the information material available via the WOSM web server. (ACTION: **World Scout Bureau**);
 - D. The web pages for JOTA and JOTI need to be reviewed to provide more on-line resources for event organisers. A volunteer web editor is needed; Applications will soon be invited for the volunteer position of web editor and another one for World JOTI Coordinator. (ACTION: **World Scout Bureau**);
 - E. create a discussion mailing list as an experiment for NJO's (ACTION: **Gino Lucrezi**);
 - F. discuss on the mailing list the idea of a certificate or badge for "trained" NJO's as well as brainstorm on a new name that can be used as an umbrella for both JOTA and JOTI. (**seminar participants**);
 - G. Experiment with on-line participation by "remote" participants during the next seminar in 3 years time (**Seminar organisation team RdP**);
 - H. Stimulate participation in both JOTA and JOTI by groups, not individuals. (**seminar participants**).