



A 50th Anniversary Celebration of Joy



Everyone, delegates, young people and old, the color of the blue sky of Rome, the blue that makes us look far into the future! We left with the sun of St Peter's Square warming us deep within our souls and with a suitcase full of small gifts, we left all signs of this shared friendship, this community we have lived in for five days, a **sign of God's love for the world.** We have had some truly beautiful times! I will remember three in particular: **The opening** of the meeting, when we put up our tents outside. This moment when every man and woman came to deposit a little earth from his or her country. We became part of history, what we are and the earth of each one of our countries is being used to grow a beautiful olive tree. It was beautiful and powerful! **Meeting the Pope.** Did you see how he made the first move in coming to greet me? I was told that at the end of your speech, you will go to greet the Pope. Like a lot of you, I wondered what I was going to do: was it necessary to kiss his hand, to kneel, what would I say? Then he made the first move, and by coming towards me, I felt very strongly that he was coming towards us all, towards the women that we are, towards the youth leaders that he counts on so much. He continued, shaking the hand of every man and woman, with a word or a gesture for each one, stopping those who wanted to kneel before him: he put you on your feet! The third time, but only because I have to choose, was when **we sang and danced Ressuscito** with the young people and all of a sudden... there is Rose Maria, responsible for the ICCG worldwide in the very beginning of the ICCG, amongst us, on her wheelchair, singing and dancing! What a beautiful image for all the generations of Guides (Girl Scouts) to be reunited to sing: Christ is risen!!! We are now enthusiastic to be back serving our Guides, each one of them with our various responsibilities. What we have experienced in Rome is the beginning of the next fifty years. **Long live Guiding! Long live the ICCG!**

Extracts from the closing speech of Catherine Faucher, World Executive for ICCG .

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Laudato Si

Walk with the Pope Francis

We are, since the time of the nativity, invited to seize in all parts of the world the Light, one that does not turn off, even in the darkest night. This Light enlightens our communal home, the earth, the gifts received. The Bible tells us that on this earth lives human beings created by love, in the image and likeness of God.

“This affirmation demonstrates the great dignity of every human person, which is not something but someone.”, wrote Pope Francis.

Thus each one of us is needed to continue the work of creation.

We are given this beautiful mission to look after the relationship with God, with the next and the earth. Within our Guide movement, we are awakening, ploughing, cleaning and cultivating what is **the very essence of our life and of our lives.** “We

and all beings in the Universe, are united by an invisible link and form a type of universal family, a sublime communion that leads us to a sacred respect, tender and humble.” (Pope Francis)

This is what gives our action, our relationship with the environment and society.

It is on this ground that ICCG has subscribed itself for the next three years in those of *Laudato Si*. It is therefore to pose a wondering gaze on what makes the life of every Guide through its unique history and discover its environment , where God has laid His steps. Enjoy the adventure, together praising the God of tenderness!

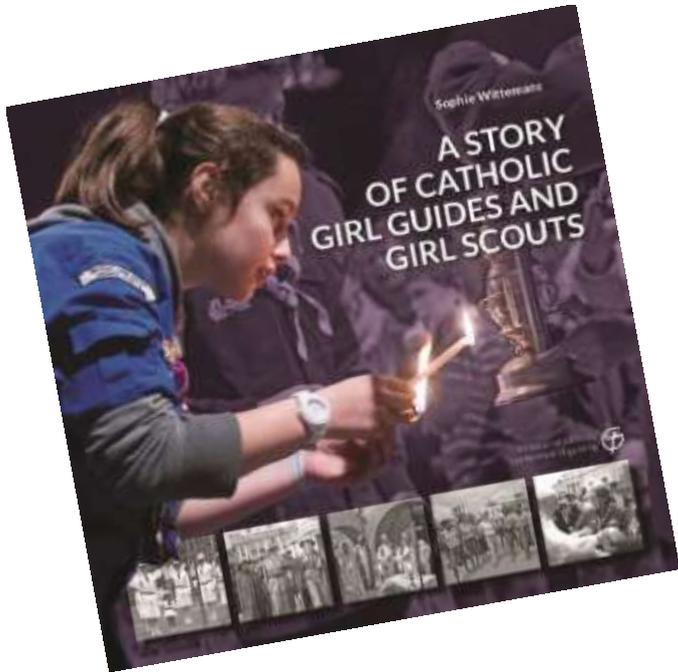


*Fr Jean-Luc Depaive
World chaplain*

Trefoil trumps
ICCG News letter

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Janvier 2016

AN EXCITING BOOK: A STORY OF CATHOLIC GIRL GUIDES AND GIRL SCOUTS



A book written by Sophie Wittemans, former federal commissioner of the Catholic Guides of Belgium, about the history of Catholic Guides and Scouts over more than a century. 253 pages. Versions in French, English and Spanish.

Order by emailing
cicgmondiale@orange.fr

Contents

From the birth of Guiding (Girl Scouting) to the present day, skipping the creation of ICCG fifty years ago, the international history of Catholic Guides has been told and made real through the journeys of many women and Guide associations. 100 years of meetings and exchanges. 100 years to raise the challenge of improving so much for Catholics, Guiding being practiced at the heart of the Worldwide Association of Girl Guides and Scouts, and to influence the Guides in the debates at the heart of the Catholic Church. Being a Guide and being Catholic, educated in the faith, a liberating education, the place of the woman in the Church, the place of the faith at the heart of Guiding, the inculturation of the faith... As much as the stakes involved have drawn the path for the Catholic Guides, they have also modeled the image of Guiding today on thousands of young Catholic Guides all over the world. Testimonies, portraits, accounts, the conferences of Catholic leaders in WAGGGS, the history of ICCG in the regions and in the world, and several illustrations.

- Catholics interested in Guiding from the Beginning (1909-1925)
- The Stakes of Guiding at the Centre of Catholicism (1925-1940)
- The Post-War Conferences for Catholic Den Mothers
- The Birth of ICCG in 1965
- A Liberating Education (1967-1980)
- A New Charter: a Liberating Education in the Guiding Community (1980-1994)
- In Rhythm with the Regions (1965-2015)
- The Guiding and Emmaüs Pathways (1994-2009)
- ICCG and the Vatican: Relationships and Pressure
- The Regions in Action (1994-2015)
- ICCG-WAGGGS: Building Trust
- The Global Network of ICCG in 2015
- ICCG Today: Risking the Network of Women, Guides and Catholics (2009-2015)

21st World Council of ICCG

World

The 21st World Council of ICCG took place in Rome in the amphitheater of Villa Aurelia. Twenty-six member associations, six requesting their affiliation and four with observer status were represented by 112 delegates. Presided by Noémi Ruzzi (Italy), the council listened to the world committee presenting, they asked for statutes, activity and financial reports from the last three years, and they proposed twelve resolutions and recommendations for 2015-2018. The council allowed them to proceed to vote for the adhesion of six new associations, the ratification of the election of those responsible for regions and the election of a person to be responsible for ICCG worldwide. The world council mostly approved of the reports and resolutions proposed. After the elections, the new world committee is constituted of: Catherine Faucher (France), World Executive for ICCG as a second mandate; Marthe Lebiria (Madagascar), Regional

Executive for Africa and Marie-Jo Kahale-Koueiry (Lebanon), Regional Executive for the Middle-East, both as a second mandate; Gabriela Arean (Argentina), Regional Executive for the Western Hemisphere and Petra Adamuskova (Czech Republic), Regional Executive for Europe as a first mandate. The world committee created by the Council will propose Father Jean-Luc Depaive as the worldwide **chaplain, will renew Barbara Bringuier's position** as Worldwide Treasurer and will name Vicky Cuartas as the Official Representative for the Development of ICCG in Asia-Pacific. To end the session, the World Council approved the proposition of the Guides in Rwanda to host the next World Council and Meeting in 2018. Afterwards, the president thanked the Italian association, AGESCI, for hosting this meeting and for their great support in organizing it.



ICCG new members

Guides du Came-
Guides du Congo

Muchachas Guías
de Guatemala

Guides de Guinée

Girls Scouts
of the Philippines

Scouting Slovakia

La CIGG compte en
2015



*In the center, Katarina Rausová
Scouting Slovakia*



*The delight of the chaplain (who was able to get a
visa) at the result of the elections, which declared
him as a member of ICCG
for the Guide Organization of Guinea*

Countries represented at the Worl Meeting

Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mauritius, Republic of the Congo, Republic of Guinea, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo, Uganda.

Asia-Pacific: Philippines.

Europe: Belgium, Catalonia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland.

Western Hemisphere: Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Panama, United States.

Middle East: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, United Arab Emirates.



The Day of the 50th Anniversary: History and Future



World



One day of the world meeting was dedicated to the fifty years of ICCG. For the first time, panel discussions hosted by young leaders allowed older ones to witness the key moments in the history of **ICCG, from it's foundations to it's re-structure**, which put the regions at the center of the organization, to the post-conciliar years marked by the theology of liberation or the first years of the 21st Century marked by the great evolution of the world and the church. A snakes and ladders game allowed the discovery of aspects of ICCG: games are always a good way to learn. Next came a brilliant presentation by Sophie Wittemans, author of

the book *The History of Catholic Guides and Scouts*, 100 years of history, livened up by the moving testimonies made by the former leaders present at the event or on video. The day ended with a remarkable show put in place by Françoise Parmentier based on a text by Jean Debruynne: **"Venez ! Venez ouvrir un chemin !"** (Come! Come follow the path!). The actors were participants in the meeting who, with only a few hours of rehearsal, brought the women of the gospel to life inviting us to take our Guide promise to follow new paths.

Guests

Anna Cristina Villa de Betancourt, **Responsible for the Women's Section, Saint Siège**

Père Joao Chagas, **Responsible for the Youth Section , Saint Siège**

Roberto Concinacih and Bray Barnes, **World President and World Chairman of ICCS and Father Jacques Gagey, Word Ecclesiastical Assistant of ICCS**

Sister Madeleine and Sister Anne-Marie from the Holy Cross in Jerusalem community, **founded by Father Sevin**

Father François Bousquet, **Theologist, Rector at the Church of Saint Louis des Français in Rome**

Shaleeka Abeygunasekera, **WAGGS World Committee representative**

Each panel discussion on the history of ICCG reunited generations and continents



On the left: Rosa Maria Carrasco (Catalonia), General Secretary of ICCG 1971-1977

On the left: actors from the show "Come! Come follow the path!" and lighting the anniversary candles



On the right: the snakes and ladders game for exploring the history of ICCG



Find all the resolutions, reports, testimonies, texts, photos etc. from the World-Council Meeting for the 50th Anniversary of ICCG at www.cicg-icg.com

THE YOUTH FORUM

So that its fiftieth anniversary opens up its future, ICCG invited the young generation. Thirty participants from 20 countries participated in the Youth Forum, despite the difficulties in obtaining visas which prevented fifteen people, from Syria, Guinea and the Central African Republic, from attending. Hosted by a multi-regional team (Christiane from Lebanon, Julie from Mauritius, Alba from El Salvador and Father Chuchralla from Lebanon), young people found themselves corresponding at the meeting during special mo-

ments. Exchanges and reflections allowed them to express proposals to the World Council, such as integrating youth more and more in ICCG's activities, defining a specific line of work which would allow young leaders to work with their guides on a spiritual level (reflections, prayer-time themes, spiritual missions...), and organizing meeting times, such as the forum, more frequently. Also, creating a special ICCG youth Facebook page where young people can talk about and publish their activities will facilitate the exchange between young people from differ-

ent countries. The World Committee has embraced their suggestions and a Forum #2 project is already under way; the Internet site is going to be redesigned leaving a place for the youth. The regional teams will take care to act in response to these expectations.



"This meeting marked my guiding life and strengthened my commitment within the Guides of Lebanon. It proved that our guiding commitment is not a simple one, but one that is devoted to the Lord, a true Christian commitment."

Cassandra

Testimonial

I had the opportunity, the privilege and even the great responsibility of being the head of the Youth Forum during the ICCG World Council which took

place from June 25th to the 30th, 2015, in Rome. A real challenge: to make known and promote ICCG to youth ages 18 to 30 from more than 20 countries, and to introduce them to the World Council. With the help of Alba Aguilar from El Salvador and Julie Pervenche from Mauritius, we rose to the challenge while ignoring all obstacles: language, experi-

ence, even the age of the girls! Discussions, games, walks and meditation, everything was at the meeting, and the party hosted by the youth will remain etched in the minds of everyone present: it's not every day that one can see guides from the world over, of all generations, holding hands and dancing together to celebrate the risen Christ, be it standing up, sitting in a wheel chair, or with a cane in hand! Challenge faced!
Christiane Rouhana, director of the Youth Forum



MESSAGES FROM WAGGGS



Nicola Grinstead,
WAGGGS president

An anniversary is an occasion to reflect on shared experiences, to celebrate successes and acknowledge everything that we have accomplished together. It's also a time to forge ahead, a time to commit to a strong future based and built on solid foundations, but inspired by the ambition to innovate, grow and renew.

As you embark upon your second half-century, *we are eager to work with you on the motion on spirituality passed in Hong Kong*, and to report on it at our next meeting at the World Conference. Meanwhile, I extend to you all a big thank you for everything you do to promote our mission in assuring a world where the value of all girls is recognized as capable of changing the world.

message extracts sent by video

Shaleeka Abeygunasekera, WAGGGS World Committee representative

In recent days, I was happy to note that the topics of child abuse and attacks on female dignity are on the agenda of ICCG. Violence against women happens in all regions of the world. Worldwide, six out of ten girls and women will experience violence during their lifetimes.

Why has this human injustice taken place? Dr. Bob Moorehead provides an answer: We have learned how to make a living, but not how to make a life; we have added years to our lives, but not life to our years. We've been all the way to



Shaleeka meets Paoe Francis

the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbour. (...) Thus goes our era. The Movement of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts is based on service, faith and the values expressed in our original Promise and Law. These values are even more important today. WAGGGS has a vision of the world in which all women have value and can act to change the world. In 2014, the World Conference passed a motion on spirituality to connect with its spiritual networks and to ensure that the spiritual dimension is included in our educational programs. The spiritual dimension is essential in building confidence and respect between people regardless of their religion, and WAGGGS is committed to carrying out this motion.

ICCG is not a network outside of WAGGGS. ICCG is a part of WAGGGS and is able to even more strongly emphasize the commitment of WAGGGS to service and faith. In the name of WAGGGS, I thank you for your support and for all you are doing for the future generation.

Extracts of her speech at the end of the meeting

WORLD EXECUTIVE, CATHERINE FAUCHER'S ADDRESS TO THE HOLY FATHER

Most Holy Father:

(...) **On behalf of all the members of ICCG**, I would like to express the immense joy it brings us to meet with you. For us, this represents an enormous amount of support and recognition of our work with children and young people, **particularly girls and women. (...)**

Above all, we are educators of girls, adolescents, and young women. We are passionate about helping them through Guiding to become active, happy, and responsible citizens, always ready to serve, proud of their faith in Christ and of living as such daily. *We wish that, whatever their social or cultural situations may be, that they choose Christ as their travelling companion so they can be, themselves, missionary disciples in their own environments. (...).* **We want ICCG to enrich Guiding in its entirety through its testimony of love for even the most poor and with solidarity during times of hardship. (...)**

To think about the future is also to pay close attention to the problems of our era, particularly those that concern girls and women. The younger generations are here to tell us. *With the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts*, we hope that they can develop all of their potential, whatever their culture may be. *In our countries we work for women's dignity and for a true man/woman alliance.* Our faith wants us not to fear changing what we represent, and to act against violence against girls and

to combat injustices against women. (...)

Today, enriched by our history, we live the joy of the Gospel as Girl Guides. *The challenges are great*, and include: religious indifference, living our Catholic faith with believers of other religions, the suffering of our sisters in countries at war, the training of our leaders and decision-makers in cultural and contextual diversity, etc. We must search for the pathway to a new evangelization that will light the way of the

« We want ICCG to enrich Guiding as a whole through its testimony of love for the poorest and solidarity with those in difficulty. »
Catherine Faucher



Pope Francis with all the participants at the ICCG meeting.



Pope Francis is the first to receive the book written on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of ICCG "A history of Catholic Girl Guides and Girl Scouts".

lives of our youth.

Today, the network that has reunited ICCG displays the different faces of the Church across the world: the enthusiasm of the young African Churches, the interrogations of Latin American Catholics dealing with sects, the suffering of Oriental Churches, the questioning of European Churches that are confronted in their societies and similarly in the Girl Guide Associations by religious pluralism and by distancing themselves from the Church institution, the joy of Asian Churches of which ICCG knows little and by which it can be enriched. On all the continents, the Church is a sign of the love of Christ for all **men and for all women. (...)**

Most Holy Father, you can count on the prayer of the Girl Guides, for yourself, for all of the Church leaders, and for all of the faith educators.

June 26th 2016, Sala Clementina



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THE HOLY FATHER'S ADDRESS TO ICCG

Dear brothers and sisters,

I am happy to welcome you to Rome (...) I give thanks with you for all the good that the Lord has allowed you to achieve in the hearts (of young people). At the same time I send my good wishes that the Holy Spirit may guide the diverse Associations that you unite on the path to follow, in view of rising to the challenges of the future. Education is indeed the indispensable way of allowing young girls to become active and responsible women, proud and happy of their faith in Christ lived out daily. In this way they will participate in the creation of a world filled with the Gospel.

I like the theme that you have chosen for your meeting: Living the joy of the Gospel as a Girl Scout. Therein is a magnificent program: announcing to others, by the testimony of our own life, that meeting Jesus makes us happy; that meeting Jesus frees us and heals us; that meeting Jesus opens us up to others and pushes us to declare it, in particular to the poorest, to those who are the furthest, the loneliest and the most abandoned. There has always been in Catholic Guiding this tradition of meeting with Christ and of joyful and generous openness to the needs of others, and I invite you to maintain and to develop this precious heritage even more.

As Catholic leaders, you also have the opportunity to make the unequivocal message of



Christ, which gives joy and light to the world, ring out at the heart of the World Association of Guides and Scouts. There you meet with Girl Scout leaders of all cultures and religions. I hope that this is the occasion for an honest and sincere dialogue between you, with respect to the convictions of each person, and in the calm assertion of your Catholic faith and identity.

I wrote, in the recent encyclical *Laudato si*, that ecological education is essential in order to transform mentalities and habits, so as to overcome the worrying challenges which humanity faces in regards to the environment. I think

that Guiding, which gives an important place to contact with nature in its pedagogy, is particularly well equipped for this. I hope that the Girl Scouts continue to be alert to the presence and goodness of the Creator in the beauty of the world which



surrounds them. This habit of contemplation will cause them to live in harmony with themselves, with others and with God. **It's a new way of life, more in keeping with the Gospel, that they will then be able to pass on in their places of living.**

Finally, **it is very important today the status of women be enhanced** as is fit, and that they can take up the position which befits them, as much in the Church as in society. Yet again, the role of Educational Associations like your own, which is aimed at young girls, is absolutely decisive for the future, and your pedagogy must be clear on its questions. We are in a world in which ideologies most contrary to the nature and plan of God for family and marriage are spread. It is therefore about, not only educating young girls in the beauty and grandeur of their calling as women, in a fair and differentiated relationship between man and woman, but also about taking up important responsibilities in the Church society. (...)

The Virgin Mary is the model woman needed by the Church and by our societies according to the Gospel and according to the heart of God. Let her be a source of encouragement and inspiration to you. **I entrust you all to her intercession, and I bless you wholeheartedly.**

June 26th 2015,
Clementine Hall, the Vatican

World

« I hope that the Girl Scouts continue to be alert to the presence and goodness of the Creator in the beauty of the world which surrounds them. »
Pope Francis

STRONG MOBILIZATION OF ICCG AFRICA IN ROME

Africa



Mass participation of the African Region with 14 of the 15 member associations (a visa problem stopped our sisters from Cameroon from being there) with 120 representatives: old, young and delegates. What a joy to meet Guiding sisters from other regions! The meeting with Pope Francis gives a new inspiration, hope and courage to always live with Jesus Christ who is our guide and light. This meeting remains memorable.

The African Regional Assembly was one of the noteworthy moments for the region: an evaluation of the life and activities of the region over the last 3 years, adoption of a plan of action for the next three years, election of the regional chairperson: Marthe Lebiria-Ravelonirina, nominated by the Guides of Madagascar.

The regional team was partly updated with two new members: Justine Lacle nominated by the Guides of Togo and Perevenche Julie by the Guides of Mauritius. Alice Some, nominated by the Guides of Burkina Faso, Rose Sarr by the Guides of Senegal and Josephine Kawuba by the Girl Guides of Uganda were re-elected and Father Antoine Metin remains the regional chaplain.



Plan of action 2015-2018

Living the Gospel of Joy and Creation 2016

August
Celebration of 50 years of ICCG in Africa to take place in Senegal
September ICCG meeting in Uganda for English-speaking associations

July 2017
Training in sub-zones for Girl Scout leaders, chaplains, commissioners and referents

Easter 2018
Mauritius: Sichem 2018 for young people
Once a year distribution of ICCG Africa newspaper
Kibare

THE WORLD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE IN RWANDA IN 2018



The candidacy of the Guides of Rwanda to host the next World Council of ICCG in 2018 was presented on behalf of the delegation (photo) by Germaine, its international commissioner. This was accepted unanimously. For the second time in its history, ICCG will see its World Council take place in Africa. Thanks to the Guides of Rwanda for rising to the challenge!

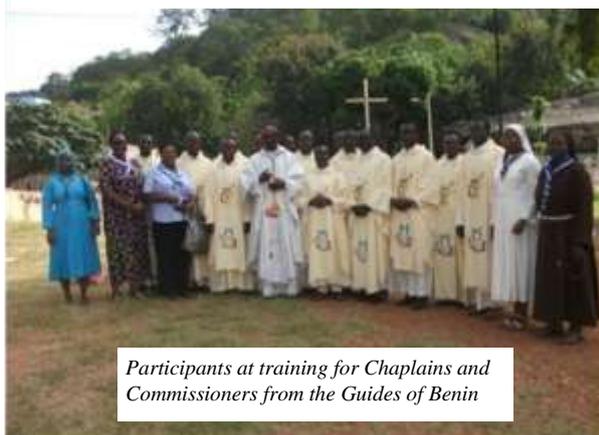
December 2015 Team meeting in Dakar – Senegal.

On the agenda: preparation for the fiftieth anniversary of ICCG in Africa. Plan of action 2015-18, meeting with the episcopate, development of ICCG in English-speaking countries, Sichem 2018 for young people, communication (newspaper, ICCG Africa Facebook page...)



The new African regional team around Mr. Benjamin Ndiaye, Archbishop of Dakar

News from the associations



Participants at training for Chaplains and Commissioners from the Guides of Benin

Benin: on November 11th and 12th the Regional Chaplain of ICCG in Africa, Abbot Antoine METIN, accompanied by a team member, Justine Lacle, led training for Chaplains and Commissioners from the Guides of Benin Association in Dassa, Benin (see photo)

The Guides of **Central Africa** and **Uganda** had the honor of welcoming Pope Francis to their country. Following the Pope's visit several advantages are in the public eye, for example the Pope having invited Catholic schools to offer scouting and guiding, ICCG is going to have work to do in informing and training the public.

Mauritius: The Guides of Mauritius are working on initiatives to protect the planet.

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE PHILIPPINES BECOME MEMBERS OF ICCG

Asia Pacific

The last World Council meeting of ICCG in July 2015 welcomed the first Girl Scout association from the Asia-Pacific region: The Girl Scouts of the Philippines (GSP). A delegation of seven members led by their international commissioner Amelita Go and their president Salud Bagalso presented the candidacy of the GSP. The World Council approved it unanimously and with great joy! There remains a long way to go to shape this burgeoning region of ICCG which we are beginning to know better.



*Dr. Salud Bagalso, President, Dr. Amelita Go, International Commissioner
Dr. Fe Violeta Taring, Presidente of National training comity, Paz Diaz, Trésorière nationale, Josefina Parental, Vicepresidente du Comité National au programme, María Dolores Santiago, National Executive with Catherine Faucher, world responsible, Fr Jean-Luc Depaive, world chaplain, and Vicky Cuartas, responsible for the development in Asia Pacific.*

CAP: CREATION OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

In order to promote the creation of a regional ICCG team in Asia-Pacific, the World Committee named Vicky Cuartas as responsible for the mission for the development of ICCG in this region. With the significantly strong support of the regional committee WAGGGS-Asia-Pacific she will pursue existing contacts with numerous associations to consider one or two meetings in this region. She will look for the support of one of them. Over the next three years she will establish a regional team step by step.



Vicky Cuartas, responsible for the mission for the development of ICCG in Asia-Pacific.

WAGGGS Asia-Pacific announced the membership of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines to ICCG on its website



A Sri-Lankan represented WAGGGS

In Rome we had the privilege of having a representative of the WAGGGS World Committee from the Asia-Pacific region. **Shaleeka Abeygunasekera**, from the Guides of Sri Lanka (in the center of the photo) joined us for the whole meeting and we learnt many things about the Girl Guide associations of Asia-Pacific.



ICCG EUROPE HAS A NEW TEAM

Europe

At the World Council meeting in Rome a new ICCG Europe team was approved. Petra Adamuskova from Junak (Czech Republic) was elected regional chairperson. The nominations of Marie Derain (Scouts and Guides of France) and Marie Hlavackova were accepted. Later, two new members joined the team: Father Lucio Sembrano (AGESCI) as regional chaplain and Urska Mali Kovacic (ZSKSS Slovenian Catholic Guides and Scouts Association). This new team met for the first time at the beginning of August in Paris. Despite it being the height of summer the team worked very hard and created a strategic plan of action. See <http://cicgiccg.com/mainpage.asp?COL=BLUE&LANG=GB&PID=257>

Projects for 2015-2018
May 2016
meeting of ICCG and ICCS teams
July 2016
participation of ICCG-ICCS at Rover way in France with the spiritual team
October 2016
meeting of ICCG and ICCS chaplains in Germany to share and meet with the Commission of Episcopates of the European Community (COMECE)
2017 inter-faith seminar



Lucio Petra Marie D. Marie H. Urska

Meeting of ICCS-ICCG chaplains Antwerp, Belgium, October 2015

For the first time in history, the ICCG Europe and ICCS Euro-Med organized a meeting for national chaplains and members of spiritual teams from October 20th to 22nd 2015. We worked together on the needs of ICCG and ICCS chaplains, discussed questions raised in the associations and the Church and spent an important time in the cathedral in Antwerp etc...

A meeting has been arranged for next year



July 25th to August 1st – Krakow (Poland) Come to the WYD (Youth Pilgrimages)

WYD (Youth Pilgrimages) in Krakow, Poland with a special program including a hike in the Tatra Mountains, one of Saint John-Paul II's favorite places. It is an opportunity to experience WYD with scouts and guides from all over world. Invitation and application form on this site: <http://cicg-iccg.com/mainpage.asp?COL=BLUE&LANG=GB&PID=259> and Facebook: www.facebook.com/iccg.europe

COME WITH US TO WORLD YOUTH DAYS KRAKÓW 25.07. - 01.08.2016

«Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God» (Mt 5:8)

TRAINING GIRL GUIDE LEADERS

Middle Eastern

A new regional team was elected on June 29th 2015, during the Middle Eastern regional assembly: Marie-José Kahale Khoueiry (Guides of Lebanon) was re-elected for a second mandate as regional chairperson. Ghada Qaqish (Catholic Scout and Guides Jordan), Souheir Helmi (Catholic Guides Egypt) and Fabiola Affaki, Guides of Aleppo (Syria) were nominated as members. With the chosen regional chaplain, Father Chucrallah Ghazal from the Guides of Lebanon, the team intends to respond to the needs of the Middle Eastern region by, amongst other things, organizing training and seminars for Girl Guide leaders and chairpersons of the region. It will put meetings in place which are used for the education of young people at a spiritual, **personal and Guiding level...In response** to the course choices voted for during the World Council is, amongst others in the planning stage, a regional camp in July 2016 with the aim of spiritual training for Girl Guide leaders and consolidation of our principles and way of Guiding based **on the theme: "When love grows within us, beauty grows also"** (Saint Augustin). Loving oneself: love of others, of nature, of beauty, love is Jesus. This camp will allow Girl Guide leaders, by



Around Catherine Faucher, world responsible, Victoria, representant of Ghada Qaqish (Jordan), Souheir Helmi (Egypt), Fabiola Affaki (Syria) and Marie Jo Kahale-Koueiry (Lebanon)

way of sharing and working on new techniques, to develop the life of the team, life in and with nature, awareness of ecological problems. The regional team will raise awareness in the region of the question of inter-faith dialogue. Finally, it will encourage the teams in the Middle-Eastern region to participate in parish life and activities started up by the Church.

Aïda and Abla (on the right), two former Guides from Jordan who have worked so much for ICCG Middle East



Abouna Chucrallah (on the left) at the international evening with Fr Jean-Luc.



NEWS FROM ICCG MIDDLE EAST

It is with great joy that ICCG welcomed two Girl Scout leaders from the group of Scouts and Guides of the Catholic Parish of Dubai, United Arab Emirates, for the fiftieth anniversary celebrations in Rome. New contacts are similarly in progress with the Christian Guides of Palestine.



Middle East Delegation with the gift for the Pope

August 2015

Cap Jordan

On the August 4th 2015, Nour Kmeid and Kenny-Joe Chamoun, two Girl Scout leaders from the Guides of Lebanon left for Jordan in response to the invitation from ICCS to participate in the **Rovers Arab Camp "Limitless"**. The countries represented were Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine and Egypt; Syria not being able to participate given the prevailing circumstances in the country. This meeting was conducive to the meeting, sharing and discovery of customs and cultures particular to each country, and above all to the exchange of views on

varied and different Scouting traditions and customs. The camp was favorable to the principles of unity in diversity, Christian unity and the founding principles of Christianity in the Scouting life, due to an atmosphere of cohesion and brotherly joy, remembering despite the differences that we are by the love of Jesus Christ.

Western Hemisphere



REVIEW, ELECTIONS AND PROSPECTS

The Western Hemisphere's regional assembly was held on the June 29th in the morning. Delegates and young people of member associations participated: Argentinian Guides Association, Scouts and Guides Association of Colombia, Girl Guides Association of Panama, Girl Guides Association of El Salvador, National Guides Association of Haiti, Guides and Scouts Association of Costa Rica. Also represented as guests were the National Association of Girl Guides of Guatemala who had requested their membership of ICCG to the World Council and the Girl Scouts of the United States. With the help of a PowerPoint presentation the outgoing regional chairperson presented past activities and the financial review for the period between July 2012 and June 2015. Then the candidate for regional executive presented the proposed future regional action plan. To finish, the assembly moved on to the approval of nominations of new team members and the



election of the regional chairperson: Gabriela Areán (Argentinian Guides Association) became regional chairperson, Cecilia Cúneo (Argentina), Silvia Herrera (Costa Rica), Silvia Gómez (Panama) and Alicra Viteri (Colombia) are now members of the regional team.

One moment of the regional assembly that was full of emotion was the thanks to the **region's former regional chairpersons present** at the world meeting, Adriana Oyarzún (1986-1992), Silvia Staib de Chanes (1992-1997), Silvia Campisi (2003-2009) and Victoria Cuartas (2010-2015). A big thank you to them for the work undertaken for the development of ICCG over so many years.

A great number of delegates from the Western Hemisphere Region at the meeting in Rome.



Jeannette and Dayanara, delegates from Guatemala

The World Council accepted with joy the candidacy of the National Association of Girl Guides of Guatemala to be a member of ICCG.



Jennifer, from Guides d'Haiti

Silvia Chanes (Argentina), former regional and world chairperson meets Pope Francis



Around Vicky Cuartas, a number of the delegation of the Girl Guides of the US with Anna Maria Chaves, Chief Executive Officer

2015-2018 : WO Region will work with *Laudato si*

2015-2018: The Western Hemisphere Region will work with *Laudato si*

2016: I find God in creation

The activities that ICCG will propose in the Western Hemisphere region will be inspired by the papal encyclical *Laudato si* with article 6 of the Girl Guide Law: The Girl Guide is a friend of nature, therein she sees the work of God.

2017: I find God in me

The emphasis will be on growing the faith of adults who directly reflect this to Girl Guides through the practice of Christian values which inspire the Girl Guide Law: The Girl Guide puts her honor in being worthy of trust (art 11), the Girl Guide is loyal (art 2), The Girl Guide is courteous (art 5); the Girl Guide smiles and sings in difficult times (art 8) and the Girl Guide is pure in her thoughts, words and actions (art 10).

We will have as our flagship: service, love of our neighbor, generosity, selfless giving, authentic and open dialogue, in order to form a community in which Jesus is the center of action with articles 3 and 4 of the Girl Guide Law: the duty of the Girl Guide is to be helpful and to help others and the Girl Guide is a friend to all and sister to other Girl Guides.

2018: I find God in my neighbor

We will have as our flagship: service, love of our neighbor, generosity, selfless giving, authentic and open dialogue, in order to form a community in which Jesus is the center of action with articles 3 and 4 of the Girl Guide Law: the duty of the Girl Guide is to be helpful and to help others and the Girl Guide is a friend to all and sister to other Girl Guides.