



World Organization of the Scout Movement  
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout

## **Address of Dr. Eduardo Missoni Secretary General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement**

### **Delivered in the closing ceremony of the 12th World Scout Moot (July 30 - August 10, 2004) Hualien, Taiwan**

Dear Scout sisters and brothers,

I am sure you had a real great time during this 12th World Scout Moot. For me as for many of you it was the first time in a Scout world event, and unfortunately I missed the first and most exciting part of it. At the next World Scout Moot in Mozambique I'll participate from the beginning.

Coming together from 84 different countries and territories, we have shown the world that we can break existing cultural, social, political, economical barriers and live together as real sisters and brothers.

As a Movement without borders, we have converted diversities into our strength. For Scouts, diversity is richness.

A well known Brazilian bishop, Helder Camara once wrote: "If you have more, whether money or knowledge, experience or health, you are not only more lucky or privileged, you also have more responsibility toward others".

Scouting has offered all of us an unprecedented opportunity. Don't keep it for yourself, share it. Our responsibility is to make the Scouting experience possible for every girl and every boy, for every young woman and every young man. The true nature of Scouting is "no barriers".

As Rovers you will be soon facing the choice to serve the Movement as leaders and educators. Take the challenge. The world needs Scouting, the Scout Movement needs you.

With the theme of this Moot, you were expecting to find "Unlimited Challenges" here. The hot weather was certainly one. The strongest of you may have found some activities to be too "easy". This however was only the start, ...the "hard stuff" is coming. The purpose of the Moot was to tune up, to create the right spirit, to join our best energies, to prepare ourselves for the next step: wherever you will be, in Scouting, in your job, in your community or in the international arena, you are now asked – as Scouts - to make a difference.

Change the world for better, be Scouts.

B-P told us: "Leave this world a little bit better than you found it". In present times this is not an easy task. The human community is overwhelmed by selfishness and the obsessive drive for personal advantage; disparities are growing; as is extremism and sectarianism. At least one third of humanity is experiencing exclusion and dramatic poverty. These are Unlimited Challenges for true Scouts.

Change the world for better, be Scouts!

We promised to do our duty to our country, but in times of globalization, our country is now the world.

Let's put all our efforts to build a world of social justice and real Peace, a world that everybody can enjoy, a world where nobody is left out, a world that also future generations will be able to enjoy.

Scouts are leaders. In the future I want you to lead our fantastic Movement. Together we will lead the world to the future, not to any future, but to a future of happiness for everybody. As B-P reminded us: "the best way to be happy is to give happiness to others".

Sisters and brothers: Change the world for better, be Scouts!

Friends, there is one thing that makes our movement really different and makes us "one" movement: the Scout promise.

Let's now stand up to renew together our commitment.

Raise your right hand to the Scout salute. In your own language and in the words used in your own country, repeat after me the Scout Promise:

- On my honour I promise that I will do my best -
- To do my duty to God and my Country
- To help other people at all times;
- To obey the Scout Law.

Thank you.

**12 August 2004**