



# DOCUMENT NUMBER 10



**28<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific  
Scout Conference**  
**TAIWAN · 2025**

## Addresses at Opening Ceremony





## Opening Remarks and Message from the Chief Scout TGASC

By Chairman, Chief Commissioner,  
The General Association of Scouts of China (TGASC) Allen K. L. Kao

Distinguished guests, Honorable Mayor Chen Chi-mai of Culture City, Deputy Minister of Education, Dr. LIU Kuo-Wei, Dr. Dao Shou Wong, the former senior presidential advisor of Taiwan, Chairperson of the World Scout Committee, Mr. Daniel Corsen, and the rest of the members, Secretary-General of WOSM, Mr. David Berg, two former Secretary-Generals of WOSM, Luc Panissod and Scott Teare, members of the Asia-Pacific Scout Committee, Scout leaders from across Asia-Pacific Region, and dear friends from all around the world, good afternoon.

On behalf of Scouts of China, Taiwan, it is my greatest honor to welcome all of you to Kaohsiung, the vibrant and hospitable city in southern Taiwan, for the 28<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Scout Conference.

Today, as we gather here with more than 500 participants from over 20 countries, we are witnessing not only a conference, but a reunion. Because a lot will know each other for a long time. A celebration of our scouting spirit that transcends country borders. Over the past few years, the world has gone through tremendous challenges. Yet, Scouting has never stopped. We adapt, we stay connected, and we continue to serve our younger people with creativity and resilience. And this is the first in-person Asia-Pacific Scout Conference after the COVID-19 pandemic. Seeing all of you here today in person, everybody's not just alive, you're still living, fills my heart with great joy and gratitude. This Conference is more than just a meeting, it is a milestone, where leaders from across Asia-Pacific come together to discuss our shared vision to strengthen our operations and ensure scouting continues to be a force for good in shaping better work for younger people and the triennium plan of Asia Pacific Scouting.

The Asia Pacific Region is the most dynamic and diverse in the world, with cultures, languages, and traditions as powerful as Scouting. Yet, we are united by one common purpose, to empower young people through Scouting and prepare them to become responsible citizens and compassionate leaders.

Such a meaningful gathering would not be possible without the strong support of many parties. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to President Lai Qing Te, also Chief Scout of the General Association of Scouts of China, Taiwan, for his full support to Scouting in Taiwan, our central government ministries for their assistance, encouragement to our young people. And most important to Kaohsiung City, Mayor Chen Chi Ma and Kaohsiung City Governor, whose enthusiasm and dedication make it possible for us to host this fantastic event here in Kaohsiung Exhibition Center.

During the coming days, I invite you to fully enjoy the Conference, to exchange ideas, to build new friendships, and to discover the charm of Kaohsiung, from its hollow greens to its delicious food and friendly people. Let us make this week a very memorable week, filled with inspiration, cooperation, love and unity.

Together, let us continue to move Scouting forward, ready for life, for the youth that needs our care, for the community where we are, and for the world that we must cherish, our only world. Thank you very much, my dear Scouting friends.

Welcome to Taiwan and welcome to Kaohsiung.



## Welcome Remarks by Deputy Minister of Education,

Dr. LIU Kuo-Wei

Mr. Kao, President of the Scouts of China, Mr. Yang, Secretary General, Mayor Chen Chi-mai of Kaohsiung City, Mr. Simon Rhee, Vice Chairman of the Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Committee, Distinguished guests, Scout leaders, and dear friends,

Good morning!

I'm truly delighted to be here today for the opening ceremony of the 28th Asia-Pacific Scout Conference, hosted by the Scouts of China.

The Asia-Pacific Scout Conference is one of the most important gatherings for Scouts in our region. It has been more than 36 years since Taiwan last hosted the 16<sup>th</sup> Summit. This year, we are honored to welcome Scout leaders and youth representatives from 33 countries across the Asia-Pacific Region.

Your presence here means a great deal to us. It shows the shared commitment of all our nations to promote Scouting education, strengthen international friendship, and build connections that bring the world closer together. For Taiwan, this is also a wonderful opportunity to showcase our dedication to youth development and to enhance our visibility in the international Scouting community.

The theme of this year's event — "With a Scouting Spirit, We Unite Asia-Pacific; Let's Make Friends with the World — Welcome to Kaohsiung, 2025 APSC!" — captures exactly what this gathering is about: unity, friendship, and working together toward a better future.

Throughout this week, through the Leaders' Summit, Scout Expo, city educational tours, Youth Forum, and Course for Leader Trainers, participants will exchange ideas on Scouting development, youth engagement, and leadership training. These activities also reflect the goals of Taiwan's 12-year basic education — to nurture initiative, interaction, and mutual growth — while helping young people strengthen their leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.

This year is especially meaningful because the Scouts of China have also successfully won the bid to host the 17th World Rover Moot in 2029. This marks another milestone that will expand the depth and breadth of Taiwan's international Scouting exchange. The Ministry of Education is proud to support both of these major international events with financial assistance — as a sign of our firm commitment to the sustainable development of Scouting education.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Scouts of China for their hard work in preparing for this event, and to every Scout and staff member who has devoted time and effort to make it a success. My heartfelt thanks also go to Mayor Chen Chi-mai and the Kaohsiung City Government team for their strong support in hosting this summit.

I hope that each and every one of you will fully enjoy this experience — to learn, to share, to grow, and to make lifelong friends. May these memories become a valuable and unforgettable part of your Scouting journey.

Finally, I wish you all good health, safety, and every success in this meaningful event. Thank you very much.



## Welcome Address by Vice Chairman

Dr. Somboon Bunyasiri

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters in Scouting,

It is with great excitement and honor that I welcome you to the Asia-Pacific Scout Conference. I am thrilled to see many familiar faces, as well as many new ones gathered here in person once again after the challenges posed by the pandemic.

With representation from 27 NSOs across the region—and even participants from other parts of the world—this conference reflects the strength and unity of Scouting and our Scouting community.

We are privileged to have with us key leaders from the World Organization of the Scout Movement, including members of the World Scout Committee and other Scouting partners. Their presence is a testament to their support as we work together through plenary sessions and breakout groups, while also enjoying the hospitality of our vibrant region.

Welcome to our resource persons and facilitators who will guide us in our discussions about the World and Regional Plans in the plenary.

Beyond the plenary sessions, there will be ample opportunities for fellowship through the APR Scout Foundation events, reconnecting with old friends, recognizing past and present supporters of our movement with side gatherings and interactions of Chief Commissioners, International Commissioners, WOSM Consultants, Chief Executives and others.

As you may have seen in our Conference agenda, lots of things will happen in our exciting Conference here in Kaohsiung. Your presence enriches this Conference and strengthens our shared mission.

Together with you, we can make our Scout Region great.

Thank you, and long live the great Asia-Pacific Region!



## Welcome APSC to Kaohsiung – The City Government Fully Supports Scouting Values in Nurturing the Next Generation

Mayor Chen Chi-mai  
Kaohsiung City Mayor

Mr. Corsen, Chairperson of the World Scout Committee, Mr. Simon Rhee, Vice Chairperson of the Asia-Pacific Scout Committee, Mr. Kao Kuo-Lun, President of the General Association of Scouts of China (Taiwan) Deputy Minister Liu Kuo-Wei from the Ministry of Education, Distinguished Scout leaders and honored guests from across the Asia-Pacific region and around the world — Good afternoon.

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to Kaohsiung for the 28th Asia-Pacific Scout Conference (APSC).

Scouting is a youth educational movement that transcends borders and has a global impact. It promotes service, leadership, care for the environment, and teamwork - qualities that not only shape the growth of young people but also serve as essential foundations for peace and sustainable development in our world.

Taiwan has long been an active participant in the international Scouting movement - such as World Scout Jamborees, and international forums. We have also hosted many major regional events.

This year, the APSC returns to Taiwan for the first time since 1989 - and we are honored that Kaohsiung has been chosen as the host city. On behalf of all citizens of Kaohsiung, I express our heartfelt gratitude to our Scout friends.

To show our full support for this special event, the Kaohsiung City Government has provided NT\$7 million, including NT\$6 million for the venue and NT\$1 million for the opening banquet.

Thirty-six years have passed, and Taiwan - especially Kaohsiung - is no longer the same place it was after martial law ended.

Kaohsiung has transformed from a heavy industrial city into Taiwan's leading city for concerts and a hub for high-tech investment. Today, world-renowned companies like TSMC, NVIDIA, and Foxconn are investing here. These remarkable achievements reflect the core values rooted in Scouting - service, environmental awareness, and teamwork.

During your stay, I warmly invite all of you to explore Kaohsiung - to see how this great harbor city brings together industry, tradition, creativity, and innovation.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation once again to all the distinguished guests and participants.

Your presence makes this event truly special. The Kaohsiung City Government will continue to support the Scouting movement. Through the spirit of Scouting, we believe Taiwan and the world can become even stronger partners.

I wish you all good health, safety, and peace.

Thank you.

# Scouting

Integrated Versatility

