To: All the State Secretaries, State Associations of The Bharat Scouts and Guides, INDIAN UNION

Dear Sir/Madam,

SUB: OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE CELEBRATION 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2019 & 150 YEARS OF CELEBRATING THE MAHATMA

The International Day of Peace is observed around the world every 21st of September. On this day, the United Nations declared it as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations. The World Scout Bureau, Asia-Pacific Region, under the umbrella of Messengers of Peace Programme, has taken this initiative for five years now to encourage and inspire young people and leaders to make this day a commitment day for year-round peace actions. In the previous years, numerous activities were held in celebration of this day with several NSOs engaging thousands of people in undertaking peace actions.

This year’s theme as announced by the United Nations is “Climate Action for Peace”, directing towards action on SDG Goal No. 13 - Climate Action. The theme draws attention to the importance of combatting climate change as a way to protect and promote peace throughout the world. In the lead up to the International Day of Peace on 21 September, the United Nations calls upon all to take action to tackle climate change. Every human is part of the solution - from turning off unused lights to taking public transport, to organising an awareness raising campaign in the community.

Goal for International Peace Day 2019

Although activities may vary from State to State, our aim for this day is to involve as many young people as possible in peace actions or activities with the objective of creating massive awareness on the roles they can play as global citizens leading to positive changes in their communities with particular focus on Climate Change.

Taking this opportunity, we can set records by:

- Conducting massive tree planting activities in a day
- Conducting activities such as peace run, peace march, peace walk, etc.
- Conducting nature hikes and expeditions focusing on actions for climate change

This will be a befitting tribute to father of Nation Mahatma

Involvement of State Associations:

Please nominate a suitable coordinator and contact details of assigned leaders be sent to the Bharat Scouts and Guides, NHQ, New Delhi by 10th Sept, 2019, so they can become part of our network.

Here are some of our suggested activities:

1. Peace Run – A popular event nowadays, a Peace Run could be organised with a theme leading to actions on climate change. This event may be open to all, Cub/Bulbul/Scouts/Guides/Rovers/Rangers and non-Scouts alike. (peace march, peace walk, peace expeditions could also be conducted simultaneously)
2. **Peace Rally** – A route march in various cities/community that raises awareness on local issues related to climate change and seeks to inspire people in overcoming those issues and achieve desired ideals.

3. **Trees for Peace** – Plant trees, an activity that complement the sustainable development goal on “climate action” and encourage young people to be environment friendly. It is important to ensure that saplings planted are well taken cared and its growth monitored.

4. **Youth Speech for Peace** – A local community gathering that engages young people to share how they could contribute climate change and share success stories from their Messengers of Peace experiences and/or projects.

5. **Peace Pledge and Awareness Programme** – A commitment campaign where Scouts and Guides are encouraged to be the prime movers of peace while undertaking actions on climate change. This may include the posting of selfies and/or photos of a Scout/Guide holding his/her pledge cards with commitment towards actions supporting climate change (e.g. I will note use plastic, I will use eco bags to shop, I will start to make compost in our house, etc) on social media.

6. **Community Service/Development Initiatives** – Finding opportunities to undertake action, such as short or long-term community service/development projects.

7. **One-day Peace Gathering** – A training organised to explore the importance and use of dialogue and mediation as a way of promoting peace with emphasis on actions towards climate change.

**Important:** Use Mahatma 150 logo in all banners & publication materials.

**Share your Peace Activities**

All the Units, Districts and States are specially requested to involve parents, public and well wishers of the movement in all the activities related to observance of the Day of Peace. You can also create more activities as per your possibilities to create visibility of Scouts and Guides of our Nation in action on Peace to create a better world.

You are requested to send brief report of the activities with action photographs to the National Headquarters at info@bsqindia.org & pro@bsqindia.org https://www.facebook.com/bsqnhq/ for uploading in our website and magazine #GandhiJayanti #BapuAt150 #MahatmaGandhi #MyGandhigiri

You are also requested to share your Peace Activities through www.scout.org, the WOSM official website, and the official MoP WOSM and social media accounts using the hashtags #PeaceDay and #ClimateAction.

Should you need any further assistance or support from our end, please do not hesitate to contact Shri Amar B. Chettri, Dy. Director (Boy Programme) bovprogramme@bsoindia.org

A report form is attached to ensure that all projects held in celebration of the international Peace Day is well documented.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

DIRECTOR

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**ENCL: As Above**

**Copy to:**

1. All the NHQ Office Bearers of the Bharat Scouts and Guides, National Headquarters.
2. Chairman/Secretary, Railway Scout and Guide Board, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. All the District Secretaries, District Association of Dammam, Riyad, Muscat and Jamiat Youth Club with a request to take necessary action.