

**2028**  
**REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

**BIDDING PROCESS**

**MARCH 2026**



# INTRODUCTION

Hosting the Regional Conferences offers a unique opportunity to bring Member Organisations together to connect, learn, and collaborate. In line with the World Board's commitment to delivering the 2028 Regional Conferences as in-person events wherever possible, we are inviting Member Organisations in the Africa, Arab, Asia Pacific, and Western Hemisphere Regions<sup>1</sup> to submit Expressions of Interest to host their 2028 Regional Conference by **Sunday, 22 March 2026**.

Given the timeline and the need to confirm hosts during the regional sessions at World Conference, this process will move quickly. If no Member Organisations submit an Expression of Interest within the timeframe, Regional Teams will reach out directly to Member Organisations and World Centres to explore hosting options and models, and to ensure we have suitable venues for our 2028 conferences.

## Note on potential impact of World Conference Proposed Motion 4

### World Conference Proposed Motion 4

Proposed Motion 4 aims to strengthen shared leadership within the World Board by reducing longstanding distinctions between globally elected Trustees and Regional Chairs.

To achieve this, it realigns the timing of Regional Committee elections so that all World Board members, both global and regional, begin their terms at the same time, with a shared mandate and equal responsibilities. Regional Committees would be elected during their Regional Conferences, held within the World Conference, ensuring that all Trustees take office simultaneously.

If Proposed Motion 4 is approved, the 2028 Regional Conferences will become a dedicated space for Members to shape the direction of their Region and strengthen their influence at the global level. It will provide an opportunity for the Regional Committee to report on its work, and for Member Organisations to define and agree on regional priorities. These priorities will inform global decision-making, including strategic direction, from the very start.

The Regional Conference will also serve as a platform for learning and exchange. Member Organisations will be able to share experiences, innovations, and good practices, strengthening collective capacity across the Region. Consultations held during the Conference will ensure that the membership voice actively shapes the global agenda from the bottom up.

Equally important, the Regional Conference will continue to offer space to build and deepen relationships, creating opportunities for collaboration and partnership-building among Member Organisations and with the regional team.

**If you are interested in hosting the next Regional Conference, please submit the expression of interest by Sunday 22 March 2026 to [membership@waggs.org](mailto:membership@waggs.org).**

<sup>1</sup> As in previous years, the WAGGGS Europe Region aims to hold its Regional Conference within the Joint Conference framework together with the WOSM European Scout Region. In 2025, the Federazione Italiana dello Scouting (FIS) was selected to host the WOSM European Scout Region Conference in 2028. The WAGGGS Europe Region will therefore aim to join them in Italy in 2028.

We thank FIS for its commitment to joint regional work.



# REGIONAL CONFERENCE DETAILS

The Regional Conferences will be held in 2028, between July and October. The dates are proposed by the host Member Organisation (MO) and confirmed by the Regional Committee. Between 80 and 140 participants (Head Delegates, Delegates, Observers, Guests, World Board and Committee Members, Volunteers, Staff and WAGGGS Partners) attend the Regional Conference, which normally lasts for 5 days.

Generally, there is a Young Women's pre-event one or two days before the start of the Conference and an orientation session the day before the Conference starts. These will require plenary space for participants and interpretation equipment, where needed. WAGGGS staff and Regional Committee members usually arrive 1 or 2 days in advance of the start of the Regional Conference and remain for a day afterwards. Therefore, for the host country, the pre- and post-conference period lasts approximately 7 to 8 days.

## BIDDING PROCESS TO HOST THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Full Member Organisations in WAGGGS Africa, Asia Pacific, Arab and Western Hemisphere regions<sup>2</sup> are invited to express their interest to host their region's Regional Conference in 2028. The expression of interest and the bidding process is as follows:

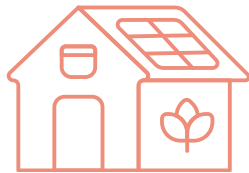
- WAGGGS sends out a call for expression of interest to host the Regional Conference (**6 March 2026**).
- MO expresses an interest in writing by filling out the Expression of Interest form (Deadline: **22 March 2026**).
- The expression of interest will include basic country information, including visa restrictions and security, and a capacity assessment of the MO to deliver the conference.

<sup>2</sup> As in previous years, WAGGGS Europe Region will deliver its Regional Conference under the Joint conference framework with WOSM Europe Region. In 2025, Federazione Italiana dello Scouting (FIS) was selected to host the WOSM Europe Regional conference in 2028. WAGGGS Europe Region will therefore deliver their 2028 Regional Conference in Italy.



- WAGGGS arranges an online meeting, where the capacity of the MO is assessed, and the venues are inspected (week of 23 March 2026).
- WAGGGS supports interested MO in preparing their bid to host the Regional Conference, which will include proposed venue and dates, estimated registration fee and accommodation cost, and a risk assessment.
- The Regional Committee confirms the bid.
- WAGGGS circulates all bids to MOs to allow them an information-based voting at the Regional Gathering during World Conference (**16 MAY 2026**).
- Bidding MO presents its bid at the Regional Gathering during the World Conference
- The Regional MOs confirm the host MO for the 2028 Regional Conference with a vote at the Regional Gathering during the World Conference.

The Regional Committee reserves the right to withdraw its confirmation for any bidding MO during any stage of the bidding process. The withdrawal can only be based on security concerns or the capacity assessment of the bidding MO.



## VENUE REQUIREMENTS

As WAGGGS is a charity organisation, we are conscious with how we spend our funds. We recommend the conference venue to be university campus with lecture halls, a 3\* hotel or similar cost-effective solution. The conference venue should have easy access to an international airport and should adhere to international health and safety standards.



### **The conference venue needs to meet the following requirements:**

- Plenary room for 120 participants (ideally with banquet set up with enough room for interpretation and other equipment at the back, when needed) with tables for laptops.
- Office space for WAGGGS Global team.
- Office space for host MO planning team.
- Meeting space for 10/15 people boardroom style.
- 3/4 breakout rooms for workshops (each holding up to 30 participants with banquet set up).
- Space for evening activities (Opening and Closing Ceremony and International) – can be the same as plenary room or a different space.
- Space for exhibition and shop.
- Space for registration and information desk.
- Space for lunch, dinner and coffee breaks for all participants (lunch can be standing; dinner should be sitting).
- Prayer room/reflection room / quiet space (if accommodation facilities are not at the same location).
- Ability to stick materials to conference rooms' walls or a similar solution.
- Access for people with a disability.

### **The following equipment is required:**

- Projectors, screens and microphones
- A reliable sound and audiovisual system that enables real-time participation and interaction for remote participants
- Interpretation equipment (for Western Hemisphere, Africa and Arab Region)
- Laptops and printer at registration desk
- Laptops and heavy-duty photocopier and printer in WAGGGS Global team office
- Wi-Fi access for all participants in all conference areas
- Dedicated Wi-Fi access for planning team in all areas

### **The accommodation facilities need to meet the following requirements:**

- Accommodation for approximately 120 participants
- Option of single and twin rooms and shared accommodation in 3 different price options (budget, mid-price, premium)
- Accommodation does not need to be in the same complex as the conference venue, but it needs to be within short walking distance
- Access for people with a disability



## WAGGGS AND HOST MO PARTNERSHIP



WAGGGS and host MO will work in partnership to produce the Regional Conference.

The detailed division of responsibilities will be negotiated between WAGGGS and host MO with a Memorandum of Understanding.

## HOST MO INVESTMENT

Host MO is expected to invest staff and volunteer resources to ensure production of the Conference. There is no initial expectation that the host MO would need to financially sponsor the Conference, but it is expected to fundraise to minimise the investment of all participants to attend the Conference.



The host MO is required to establish an administrative structure for the purpose of hosting the Conference. Besides the planning team of staff and/or volunteers, the Service Team is a vital part of the administrative structure. The Regional Conference is an ideal opportunity for Guides, Rangers, or members of the Senior Section to experience the international dimension of Girl Guiding / Girl Scouting.

## WAGGGS COMMITMENT TO HOST MO



During the bidding process and the preparation to host the Regional Conference, WAGGGS will make it a priority to build the capacity of host MO. This will be done in all areas relevant to hosting an event. As part of the lasting impact, the host MO will have developed the tools, knowledge and capacity to host international events.



