

## Events

### 1st EASTERN AFRICA SCOUT MOOT

10TH – 15th AUGUST 2008  
NAIROBI, KENYA

#### INTRODUCTION

The 1st Eastern Africa Rover Moot took place in Nairobi, Kenya, from Sunday 10th to Friday 15th August 2008, right after the Kenya Scouts Association's National Inter Patrol Camping Competitions. In fact the opening ceremony of the Moot coincided with the closing of the competitions and was hence celebrated together.

#### ORGANISATION

The Kenya Scouts Association (KSA), the National Scouts Organization of Kenya, hosted the regional Scout Moot. A committee was set up to work on the preparations and planning of the Moot. It had been hoped that the committee would comprise contingent Leaders from the zonal member Scout associations but unfortunately, the sister NSOs were unable to participate for a variety of reasons.

#### LOCATION OF THE REGIONAL MOOT

The regional rover moot was held at the Rowallan Scouts Camp – the premises of the National Training scouts camp. Rowallan hosts the Kenya Scouts Association headquarters and the World Scout Bureau - Africa Regional Office and occupies 90 acres of beautiful forested area full of attractive, human friendly wild animals.

#### PLANNING COMMITTEE

The appointed planning committee was responsible for recommending the main activities of the Rover moot to the Kenya National Organization committee.

The planning Committee comprised of the following persons:

- Kenya Scout Youth Forum officials,
- A member from WSB- ARO,
- Representatives of all the departments at KSA,
- Members of the Youth Programme Committee led by the Programme Commissioner,
- Several KSA volunteers

### 3. PROGRAMME

The moot programme had the objective to excite and motivate participants to do Scouting and to mind other people and the environment. It also provided challenges for rover scouts to think and improve their attitudinal and physical beings. The moot programme objectives included the following among others:

- To have a mock Celebration of 100 years of Scouting in Kenya (1910 &ndash; 2010);
- To demonstrate the unity and brotherhood of world Scouting;
- To improve and promote the quality of scouting while demonstrating its unique values;
- To promote world peace and global citizenship among young people;
- To provide enjoyable and valuable experiences to the participants;
- To demonstrate a commitment to nature, and show concern for all through outreach community activities that contributes to creating a better world.

The planning committee ensured that activities were to be carried out close to nature and in a &ldquo;Scout spirit&rdquo; as much as possible. (Tabulated Moot programme attached)

#### DAY 1

- Registration and sub-camp allocations
- Opening Ceremony
- Climate setting i.e.; Briefing participants & bonding activities

#### DAYS 2 &ndash; 5

- Community service, Expedition and Hikes, onsite activities and Closing ceremony

#### DAY 6

- Departure

#### ONSITE ACTIVITIES

- Sporting activities:

Sporting activities were done in the field, swimming pool and the main hall. They included:

- Soccer
- Chess
- Volleyball
- Basket ball
- Netball
- Swimming
- Tug of war

Participants from each sub &ndash; camp registered for the sports/games before hand at their sub camp offices. Time was set aside for each sub &ndash; camp to do sporting activities. There were then inter-sub camp sports competitions on two afternoons pitting 2 sub camps at a time.

- Workshops, talks and exhibitions:

Took place on the fourth and fifth day of the Moot. Various ministries, UN agencies, partner organisations and NGOs had been invited to mount their exhibitions and run workshops on two afternoons (13th and 14th August). Not all those invited were able to be present. However, some were to set up stands from the first day of the Moot for example the Liverpool VCT Centre which provided HIV and AIDS counseling and testing to the participants and staff throughout the period. Each organisation was given space to put up a stand to showcase its products, services and programmes to the young adults.

The following organisations were present to give talks and exhibitions:

- Scouting for Solutions (SfS) Project (Kenya Scouts/Path-Kenya) &ndash; Gender, HIV and AIDS, media/Scout Voice
  
- Bio-Intensive Agriculture Network (BIANET Kenya)
  
  
- Liverpool VCT Centre

- AMREF Kenya &ndash; put up a stand to show the work of artistic youth making a living out of their artifacts. They also had live performances on healthy choices for youth.

- Arena activities & extravaganza:

These activities were scheduled for most of the evenings. The participants presented items for their enjoyment such as:

- Poems
- Dances
- Songs
- Skits

#### Evening Programme:

The evenings were not without excitement. Each of them had an activity lined up for the participants to enjoy. There were sub camp fires, music night, a Cultural night which was used for groups/ NSOs to showcase their:-

- Foods
- Clothing
- Music
- Dances
- Other unique representations of their people, regions and nations.

The last evening was the mega campfire where all sub camps came together to enjoy an evening of fun and dance around a huge ball of fire to warm them on a chilly night.

#### OFF SITE ACTIVITIES:

- Community Service:

This activity shall be done from day 2 till day 5. The Rover scouts section motto is "Service". Therefore each of the four sub-camps shall have to undertake at least one community service. The following activities have been earmarked to be done during the moot:-

At the Dagoretti 4 Kids and Nyumbani Children's Homes, Rovers offered the following services:

- Clean ups

- Painting
- Gardening
- Sports (playing with the children)
- Donations & food and games equipment

#### Rowallan Scouts Camp

The Rovers began by sprucing up the venue of the Moot for "Charity begins at home". This could not have come at a better time as the National Inter-Patrol competitions had just ended at the camp leaving it in great need of tidying.

#### Blood donation

45 rovers signed up to donate blood at the Nairobi Women's Hospital. The Institution's management was elated with the development considering that they were short of much needed blood supply by six pints.

#### Ushirika Community Health Clinic

Rovers visited the Ushirika Clinic at the nearby Kibera slums where they gave the main building a facelift through painting. They also slashed the grass and neatened the fencing around the premises.

#### - Trips & visits:

These were done between day 2 and day 5. They were done per sub-camp. Among the places toured are:

- Nyeri & selected Scouts, mainly from outside Kenya were taken to Nyeri to visit the gravesite of the Founder. They were indeed very excited about the opportunity which many admitted was a lifetime chance.

- Kenya National Museums
- August 7th Memorial Park
- Nairobi City Centre
- Uhuru Park
- Railway Museum

#### Hikes and expeditions

All Sub Camps went for a 25-Kilometer hike in turns. The purpose of the hikes was so that the Scouts could engage in:

- Learning about nature
- Observation

- Practice leadership
- Apply team work skills
- Test their endurance

## PARTICIPANTS

The regional rover moot had been expected to bring together two hundred rover scouts/youths plus 50 service staffs. The participants were expected to come from the seven member organizations of Eastern Africa zone including Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Eritrea and hosts Kenya. Each Association had been given an opportunity to raise at least 5 members to be recruited as service staff on a first come first serve.

Each participant both local and international was to pay a participation fee of Kshs. 500/- (Kenya Shillings Five Hundred only). The amount was to take care of moot scarves and programme. Groups were asked to carry their own food which they cooked in their crews/patrols.

The event was meant for Rover Scouts aged between 17 and 26 years old (i.e. born between August 1982 and August 1991). Those who applied had to be members of a crew and registered with their respective NSOs.

Eventually, the 1st Eastern Africa Scout Moot was attended by 196 participants from three National Scout Organisations (NSOs) namely Tanzania, Uganda and hosts Kenya.

The statistics per country are represented by the table below:

NSO

No. of Participants

Service Staff

Uganda

08

06

Tanzania

03

01

Kenya

185

67

TOTAL

196

74

The Scouting for Solutions project generously supported the participation of about 70 Rovers from Kenya by paying for the participation fees, transport and meals. The project also funded the production of the Moot scarves.

#### SUB &ndash; CAMPS

With an expected number of 200 rover scouts, 4 sub camps were planned for; each to contain 50 participants. Once the Moot got underway, the following was the distribution according to the sub camps:

Sub Camp	Participants	Total
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Female		
Male		

Desert		
10		
39		
49		

Jungle		
13		
32		
45		

## Mountain

15  
38  
53

## Ocean

14  
35  
49

## TOTALS

52  
144  
196

## Service Staff

The Moot would not have achieved its objectives were it not for the selfless dedication of the volunteers who gave of their time and expertise to deliver the programme and assist the participants in enjoying it. They consisted of 1 service staff from Tanzania, six from Uganda, 8 exhibitors, 4 guest journalists from a tertiary institution in Nairobi, 12 KSA members of staff and 43 volunteers. The table below represents the distribution of duties to the service staff:

## DEPARTMENT

## TOTAL

Administration and Registration

10

Camp Chief

1

Deputy Camp Chiefs

2

Sub Camp Chiefs

5

Programme

8

Transport

3

Health and sanitation

7

Sites and service

2

Equipments

2

Catering & Accommodation

6

Communication

7

## Welfare

1

security

20

TOTAL

74

## Media

- 3 editions of Scout Voice were produced entailing activities of the Moot
- Done interviews with participants as a way of evaluating the programme implementation of the Moot
- Involved some of the participants in the collection of the stories to be published

## Guests

- We received 7 members of the Tanzanian Parliament (belonging to the Parliamentary Scout Group)
- 2 visiting USA Scout Leaders from Georgetown University
- 1 Kenyan Member of Parliament
- 2 members from Denmark Scouts Association
- Other visitors from various organisations in Kenya

## Closing Ceremony

The Moot was closed on the evening of the 14th of August 2008. The ceremony was graced by the Minister of the Nairobi Metropolitan Hon. Mutula Kilonzo. The Minister articulated the government's firm commitment to support the Kenya Scouts Association in the preparations and hosting of the World Scout Moot in 2010. He said that the opportunity to host the Moot was a clear indication of the maturity of Scouting in Kenya and that it would be a great honour considering it is the first World Scout Moot to be held on African soil. He noted that being the largest youth movement in the country, Scouting was better placed to deliver on the Kenyan government's desire to put greater emphasis on youth development.

The Minister suggested that consideration should be given to having other Moot activity centres in other provinces of the country. He added that the Scouts should engage in clean up of the Nairobi River Basin as well as seizing advocacy status on the effect of garbage dumping on the lives of slum dwellers and the environment in general. He committed to avail areas within the Metropolitan for Scouts to plant trees as part of their community outreach during the Moot including Karura Forest and Nairobi River banks.