

Timeline

The World Scout Parliamentary Union (WSPU)¹

- 1989, October Cairo, Egypt
Initiative on the establishment of the WSPU
The idea of creating WSPU was born out of a discussion between Hon. Mr. Kim Chong-Hoh, the President of the Korean Scout Parliamentary Association (KSPA), and Mr. Jacques Moreillon, the Secretary-General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).

- 1990, March 25-29 Seoul, the Republic of Korea
WSPU founding meeting
9 parliamentarians from 6 countries—South Korea, Great Britain, Japan, Kenya, Costa Rica and the Philippines—organized the Arrangement Committee and discussed the schedule of the formal launch of the WSPU.

- 1991, August 4-10 Seoul, the Republic of Korea
Formal launch of the WSPU 60 participants from 22 countries
The Constitution of the WSPU was adopted on 7 August 1991, and Hon. Mr. Kim Chong-Hoh was elected as the president of the organization.

- 1994, January 18-22 Santiago and Valparaíso, Chile
1st WSPU General Assembly 146 participants from 55 countries
The Assembly adopted the “Commitment of Valparaíso”, a statement expressing parliamentarians’ engagement in 6 programs of action for the benefits of the youth worldwide.

- 1997, August 17-22 Manila, the Philippines
2nd WSPU General Assembly 200 participants from 41 countries
The Assembly adopted the “Manila Declaration”, which recognizes the importance of non-formal education for character- and citizenship-building in young people. On this occasion, Hon. Mr. Kim Chong-Hoh was appointed the “Founder and President Emeritus” of the WSPU, and Hon. Prof. Aleksander Luczak, a Polish Member of Parliament, was elected to succeed to his presidency.

¹ Note: Adapted from “Timeline,” by World Scout Parliamentary Union, 2011, retrieved from <http://www.wspu.info/about/timeline.php>.

- 2000, August 23-28
3rd WSPU General Assembly
Warsaw, Poland
170 participants from 47 countries
The Assembly adopted resolutions on the importance of governments to have long-term, consensus-based national youth policies. Elected as the president of the WSPU, Hon. Mr. Tarek Abd Al Hamed El Gendy decided to maintain the secretariat in Poland.
- 2003, December 15-19
4th WSPU General Assembly
Cairo, Egypt
130 participants from 44 countries
The Assembly comprised 5 sessions under the following topics: (1) sharing cultures for more tolerance, (2) national youth policies serving a culture of peace, (3) interreligious dialogue serving education for peace, (4) parliamentarians can support NSOs, and (5) WSPU contribution to the celebration of the centenary of scouting, 2007. Also, the participants unanimously endorsed the “Olympic Truce Initiative”, and reaffirmed their support for the scout movement in war areas as well as efforts of scout organizations in fighting HIV/AIDS and other severe diseases.
- 2006, November
5th WSPU General Assembly
Dakar, Senegal
The event was cancelled.
- 2010, November 1-4
6th WSPU General Assembly
Seoul, the Republic of Korea
170 participants from 38 countries
The Assembly was held with the theme “Renewal and Revitalization Process of WSPU”. The participants discussed the roles of parliamentarians in supporting youth and scout movement along with several issues including the rights of the child, youth participation, equal access to education, poverty, diseases, exploitation and human trafficking. On this occasion, Hon. Mr. Chung Ui-Hwa, a Korean Member of Parliament, was elected as the president of the WSPU, and the WSPU Secretariat was moved permanently to the Republic of Korea.
- 2012, April
The WSPU was granted an observer status from the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) at the 126th IPU Assembly in Kampala, Uganda.
- 2013, November 6-8
7th WSPU General Assembly
Tokyo, Japan
172 participants from 19 countries
The Assembly was held with the theme “Further Development and Strengthening of WSPU”. Discussion revolves around the issues of youth development and empowerment in relation to the scout movement. At the plenary session, topics included “Character Education and Scouting” and “Building Future Leaders”. The Assembly also decided to amend the WSPU Constitution so as to expand its membership and further develop the organization. On this

occasion, Hon. Mr. Ryu Shinoya of Japan was elected as the president of the WSPU, along with Hon. Ms. Ewa Thalén Finné of Sweden and Hon. Mr. Sutham Phanthusak of Thailand, who were elected as the vice-presidents. In addition to this, the position of the “honorary president” was added to the executive committee, and Hon. Mr. Chung Ui-Hwa, the outgoing WSPU president, became the first person to be honored with the said position.

- 2016, August 31 - September 2 Stockholm, Sweden
8th WSPU General Assembly 89 participants from 26 countries
The Assembly discussed the issues of (1) a safe environment for children, (2) young and value-based leadership, and (3) employability and the scout movement. On this occasion, Hon. Mr. Ryu Shionoya, the outgoing WSPU president, was confirmed as the honorary president whereas Hon. Ms. Ewa Thalén Finné of Sweden, Hon. Dr. Thamrong Dasananjali of Thailand and Hon. Mr. Lee Ju-Young of South Korea were elected as the president, the first vice-president and the second vice-president of the organization, respectively. Also, the WSPU Constitution was amended to stipulate that the General Assembly shall meet once every three years or as the executive committee decides, while the executive committee shall meet once a year. In addition to this, it was decided that the 9th General Assembly be organized in Thailand.

Reference

World Scout Parliamentary Union. (2011). *Timeline*. Retrieved from <http://www.wspu.info/about/timeline.php>