

From Our Chief Executive



Having been appointed Chief Executive of WAGGGS in 2007, I feel privileged to be working with an organization that is making such a significant difference in the lives of millions of young people all over the world and is taking its place on the global stage representing the voice of girls and young women. I believe that WAGGGS has a unique opportunity and a unique responsibility to work with, for and on behalf of girls and young women all over the world.

I am still learning every day about the dynamic and creative mix of different people, cultures and experiences that shape WAGGGS: a global network of millions of girls, young women, current and former adult volunteer leaders and of course, supporters and donors.

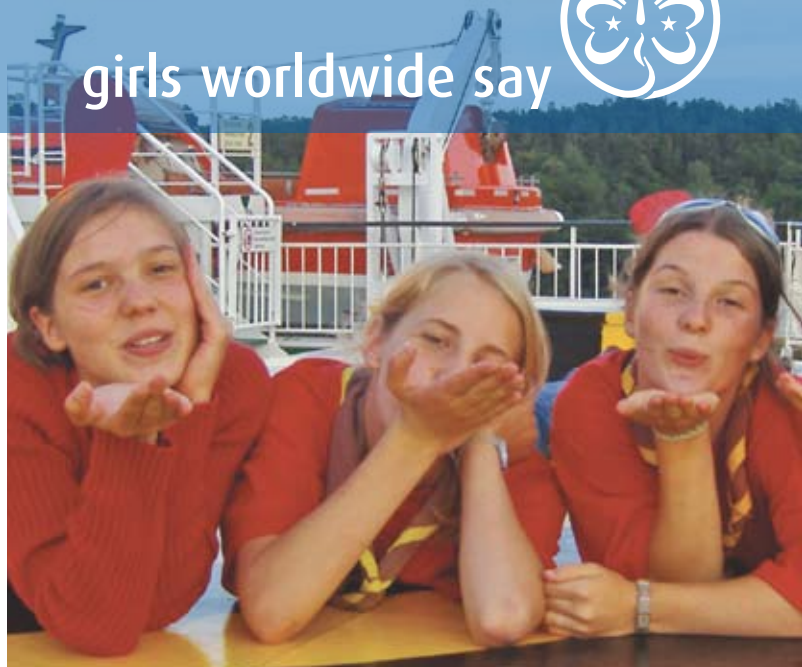
Our Mission: to enable girls and young women to develop their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world, may seem simple, however the issues are not. Around the world, girls and young women face intertwined social and economic barriers as well as everyday cultural and personal injustices that deny them their rights that can and do restrict their life opportunities and, in some parts of the world, can result in injury, illness and death.

At the same time we know that girls can and do act as powerful agents of change in the world – one family and one community at a time. Through the activities and programmes of our Member Organizations, ten million girls and young women are learning the skills and confidence critical to fulfilling their potential. They are encouraged to take an active and responsible role in society and to negotiate their equal place in society. Through WAGGGS, they are also developing a global voice and are involved in global actions in solidarity with girls and young women everywhere.

make a difference



girls worldwide say



WAGGGS listens to what it is that girls and young women want. We provide opportunities for them to learn and to grow, to have fun and accept challenge and leadership, to participate and to be agents of change in their own lives, in their communities and in the world.

We are now at that time in our triennium that we are looking forward to the World Conference in South Africa with our theme of girls worldwide say “join in, reach out, change lives”. I believe that today, more than ever, people are ready to acknowledge and to value the contribution that Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting is making to millions of young people and to hundreds of thousands of communities. Our task now is to make sure that they know even more about what we do and to encourage them to join in – to make a difference – as girls and young women in Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting, as volunteers, advocates, supporters and donors so that together we can continue to reach out and to change lives.

I want to thank Elspeth Henderson, our Chairman, who has provided me with such supportive and creative guidance in my first year as Chief Executive, as well as the members of the World Board with whom I have had the privilege to work. I am grateful that so many Members Organizations welcomed me warmly into their meetings and conferences and I also want to thank the team of dedicated and professional staff that support all of us to deliver the Mission and the Vision of WAGGGS.

Mary Mc Phail

