

***Speech by John Lawlor, Head of Contigent, Scouting Ireland
addressing the Scouts and guests during the Joining Hands for Road
Safety Event during the 22nd World Scout Jamboree***

Fellow Scouts and Friends,

You are welcome here to this highly significant event for Scouting and Global Road Safety. We have a fantastic opportunity to channel the energies of World Scouting to meet this national and international scourge. Every nation and every people on the planet have suffered and continue to suffer from road death and injury. In attending this evening's event you are helping launch a programme that will reach across the globe and will save countless lives and help stem a river of tears.

Part of our job as Scouts is to make the world a better place.

Mahatma Ghandi said that you should be the change that you want to make happen. Today is about dedicating ourselves as Scouts to this change.

The partners in starting this programme are Greek and Irish. At a time when our two countries make headlines for negative reasons, we have come together to make a positive initiative for the world.

We are delighted to have the support of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the World Organisation of the

Scout Movement for this work. This support will be vital as we build a Global Road Safety Scouting Programme linking National Road Safety Agencies and their National Scout Organisations. Ireland and Greece are prepared to show a lead. We want many others to follow.

Our Team have created a fantastic workshop on road safety at the Jamboree Global Development Village. It has proved to be one of the most successful and busy workshops of the GDV. They have done a great job and we are very grateful to them

This evening we will link hands for road safety in an act of solidarity and we will make a commitment to make the change and to be the change. I want to introduce you to my dear friend and a true world hero, Mrs Vasilliki Mylonas who has shown courage and leadership in the face of this global scourge.

John Lawlor, Head of Contigent, Scouting Ireland