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To: Mr Philip Harrison Chief Commissioner

Mr Aaron Wardle International Commissioner

The Scout Association of Australia

7 January 2020

## Dear friends,

We hope you and your family are safe as well as the larger Scouting family of Australia, in the wake of the most dangerous and catastrophic bushfires your country has faced. The reports and images of devastation that are reaching us are heart-breaking. The human casualities, material and wildlife loss are very saddening.

I also wish to express our sympathy with the organising team of the 13th Asia-Pacific and 21st Australian Rover Moot and the 515 participants from 22 countries who had to be moved from Camp Cottermouth to a school in Wanniassa. Thank you for keeping Young People and volunteers safe during this diffecult time.

We have learned that some Scouts are involved in ongoing relief efforts. If there is any plan to engage at national level, or if there is a need to support local initiatives, please, do let us know how the World Scout Bureau could assist the efforts of the Scout Association of Australia.

We keep the Scouts and people of Australia in our thoughts and prayers under those difficult circumstances.

Kind Regards,

**Ahmad Alhendawi** 

Secretary General World Organization of the Scout Movement

cc: Jose Rizal Pangilinan, Regional Director, World Scout Bureau Asia-Pacific Support Centre