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To: Conference Participants
From: The Transition Group
Date: August 1, 1997
RE: Our report and the upcoming world services meeting

Introduction

The purpose of this memo is to present our report to all conference participants, and to describe our plans for the upcoming world services meeting in Rhode Island.

Our Report

The enclosed report represents the current status of our work regarding Resolutions B, C2, E, F, and G. Since the conference in April, we have had two meetings, and have been able to make the progress which you see in this report, thanks in great measure to your input at the conference. This report is provided to all conference participants for the purpose of receiving your continued input regarding the proposed changes to our world service structure.

The Upcoming World Service Meeting

As you know, the world services meeting will be held in Providence, Rhode Island this year on the last weekend in August. The following are our plans for the TG portions of that weekend:

Morning Presentations: On Friday and Saturday mornings, we plan to make presentations on Resolutions B through G, and on our proposal for a two-year conference cycle. After those presentations, the balance of Friday and Saturday mornings will be taken up by a Question-and-Answer period, so that we may clarify anything that might have been unclear in our report.

*We should also note that the Resolution E (Unified Budget) section of this report contains only the fundamental concepts and rationale for the proposed unified budget, but **we will have budget examples available in Providence for your review and discussion.***

Afternoon Panels: On Friday and Saturday afternoons, we will hold three separate "fishbowl" panel sessions for the purpose of gathering your input on our work. (The "fishbowls" will be used to draw participants' names from in order to eliminate standing at microphones for extended periods of time.) We have decided to hold panels so that (1) we can gather your input in a fair and reasonably comprehensive way; and also so that (2) you, as regional delegates and other conference participants, may hear what other participants are saying about this work—and so that you can thus report other participants' input to your region. We are holding three separate panels so as to maximize our available time in Rhode Island, and to give all conference participants present an opportunity to get to the microphone.

Input Deadline—September 19, 1997

We also recognize that many conference participants won't be attending the world services meeting in Rhode Island. Whether or not you plan to attend, **we hope that you will continue**

to **provide written input** in the form of comments, criticisms, and suggested improvements as this process continues as that will be most helpful in revising our work for eventual inclusion in the 1998 *Conference Agenda Report*.

We will be holding two meetings after the world services meeting. However, in order for us to be able to incorporate your input into our work for the 1998 CAR, **we are establishing an input deadline of September 19, 1997**. As always, your written input can be sent to the Transition Group, in care of the WSO at the above address.

Conclusion

We are looking forward to a productive dialogue at this upcoming meeting. In the meantime, we hope that you will take the time to read our report, consider it, and provide us with the input and direction necessary to move world services through to the implementation phase of the inventory/resolution process.

See you in Providence!