

World Service



Conference Report

WSC Administrative Committee

The 1996 annual meeting of the World Service Conference will take place at the Holiday Inn Four Seasons Hotel and Koury Convention Center, 3121 High Point Road, Greensboro, North Carolina. A lodging reservation form is included in this mailing and you may obtain one by contacting the World Service Office. The conference will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 26, 1996, and adjourn on Saturday evening, June 1, 1996. On Saturday, May 25, there will be H&I and PI workshops for Development Forum participants, a WSB meeting, and a general orientation session. Please see the attached tentative agenda for more detailed information.

There has been some discussion about why world services provided recommendations on the regional motions in the CAR but did not provide recommendations on the Resolution Group's proposals. There may be several answers to that question, but it is really a matter of procedure. The Resolution Process Plan adopted at WSC'95 provided that the proposals from the RG be put directly in the CAR, which superseded our usual procedure of having input go to a WSC committee or board before presentation to the WSC. This is not unusual as we have done it many times in the past, most recently with proposals submitted by the Composite Group. In situations like this, world service committees or boards may wish to report separately to the conference about any recommendation they may have about a pending proposal.

Another opportunity for comment from world service boards and committees will come on the floor of the conference. A conference participant may ask to hear any recommendations a board or committee may have at any time during the discussion of a particular project or proposal on the floor. We encourage you to do so. The more information we have, the better prepared we will be to make a decision.

Issue Discussion Papers

We have included the issue discussion papers in the same mailing as this *Conference Report*. At the annual meeting, time will be set aside to discuss the issues prioritized at WSC '95: Racial and cultural diversity and our First Tradition, and group conscience in

the service structure. (*Webmaster's Note: The issue discussion papers are not included in this Web Site version of the Conference Report. We also did not include regional reports. To obtain a copy of the discussion papers or the regional reports, please contact your Regional Service Representative.*)

Unity Day

Again this year, we hope to facilitate a way for our members to participate in observing World Unity Day by telephone, and hear the main speaker at the world convention. We are working toward our goal of providing you with specific information in the orientation package and at the WSC annual meeting in May. This way, conference participants can take information back to their regions so that all who wish to participate can prepare well in advance.

April leadership meeting

The next WSC leadership meeting is scheduled for April 27-28, 1996, in Greensboro, North Carolina. The purpose of this meeting is to finalize a plan for the implementation phase of the inventory and prepare the 1996-97 WSC budget.

Role of WSC treasurer

Many of the financial matters originally assigned to the Administrative Committee are now the responsibility of the Interim Committee. The treasurer plays a key role in those matters, and the Administrative Committee is recommending that the WSC Treasurer be assigned to serve exclusively on the WSC Interim Committee, and to remove any assignment to the WSC Administrative Committee. The treasurer will remain a WSC officer elected directly by the conference. We would also recommend that the treasurer become a voting member of the Interim Committee and not just an advisory non-voting member, as is currently stated in the guidelines.

As we examined the role of the treasurer on the different committees, we also realized that the qualifications for WSC Treasurer need to be strengthened and updated. Therefore, Admin will also recommend that these qualifications be changed to reflect experience and knowledge of appropriate accounting functions.

Zonal forums

Members of the WSC Administrative Committee participated in several zonal forums this last year. Time will be provided during the conference for the Zonal Forums to meet, most likely on Wednesday, May 29th.

Rotation of WSC

Last year, the Administrative Committee submitted a motion that proposed worldwide rotation of the annual WSC meeting. When the motion failed, the *Temporary Working*

Guide to Our Service Structure was left with no criteria for the annual meeting of the WSC. Until the conference takes further action, we believe and recommend that the original language should be placed back in the TWGSS, with language calling for the WSC annual meeting to be held within seventy-five miles of the WSO (the original language, specifying that the annual meeting be held within a certain radius from WSO, was mistakenly re-inserted in this year's edition of the TWGSS and will be corrected). Your input on this is welcome.

Outreach

The responsibility of the WSC Outreach Ad Hoc Committee during CY 95-96 was to provide a report on the input received on their handbook from registered regional and area outreach subcommittees, world service boards and committees. Their report follows the treasurer's report and additional information also can be found in the WSB report.

The Admin Committee and WSO staff worked with Outreach leadership to develop an input form for each chapter and addenda, and a timeline for review and input. The forms were sent out to each of the all registered area and regional outreach committees (approximately 110). Twelve committees sent input, and additional input was received from the WSB and several WSC committees.

The input from the fellowship committees was vague and often consisted of one-word responses such as yes, no, or maybe, about whether the information in the chapter was useful. Weighting this type of input to get a sense of what the fellowship actually thinks of the information in the handbook is difficult at best. On the one hand, you could say that the response from the fellowship committees was favorable, but you could just as well say we really do not know anything more than when we started.

The evaluation from world services was much easier to assess. Generally speaking, the input from world services was critical, pointing out conflicts of philosophy and responsibility, redundancies, and general confusion about the actual purpose of outreach. Both perspectives of input stated that the handbook needed editing and organization, and that a great deal of the material could be made useful. So where are we now with this project and the ad hoc committee?

The WSC has several decisions to make:

1. the ad hoc committee may continue as an ad hoc committee;
2. we may decide to form a standing committee;
3. we decide what to do with the handbook.

You already have our recommendation about the second question and we will be prepared to provide a recommendation on the first and third questions at the WSC.

Committed motions

"To hold the 1996 World Service Conference in the New England region."

Selection of the location for the annual meeting of the WSC is based on the consideration of many factors. Cost, availability of appropriate facilities, adequate time to negotiate, accessibility, and whether or not any recent world services meetings have been held recently in the geographic region are all part of the equation. We do not recommend approving a motion like this because it is too specific and does not give us any flexibility.

"That the WSC Administrative Committee notify all regions and conference participants at least three months in advance of the cutoff date for motions, topics for discussion, and other items for inclusion in the Conference Agenda Report."

This was done this past year and should become a common practice whenever possible.

"That the Conference Agenda Report and Conference Report (November and March) be translated into the four most spoken languages in the fellowship, i.e., Spanish, Portuguese, French, and German and that the translated material be distributed to regions concerned."

We agree wholeheartedly with the intent of this motion. Other priorities and limited resources such as time and money have really prevented us from doing this in the past. We were able to translate the CAR this year, so we are steadily making progress.

WSC Recognition Assistance Panel

The WSC Recognition Assistance Panel was created by the conference to assist service bodies seeking recognition at the WSC. The panel is charged with gathering information on new regions and reporting to the WSC. The following people served on RAP this year: Jeff B (WSC 2nd Vice Chairperson), served as chairperson, Floyd B (WSB), Darwyn L (WSB), Vandy A (WSC Policy), and Jeff H (WSC Policy). This year, the panel has received inquiries from either an ASC or individual members from Greater New York, South Carolina, South Dakota, Southern Nevada, Arizona, Washington/Northern Idaho, Greater Illinois, Victoria Australia, Belgian ASC. South Dakota has submitted a letter indicating their intention to attend and request seating at the 1996 annual meeting. Their letter is included later in this conference report.

I want to extend my sincere apologies to all of the conference participants about the confusion surrounding mistakes in the CAR and the errata sheets. We have all been extremely busy, and the plain truth is we did not always communicate very well. I want to apologize especially to the South Florida Region and hope that they understand it was unintentional.

Michael McDermott, chairperson

WSC'96 TENTATIVE AGENDA

SATURDAY 25 MAY--PRE-OPENING ACTIVITIES

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

- *World Service Board of Trustees*

2:00 to 6:00 PM

- *H&I workshop*
- *PI workshop*

7:30 to 9:30 PM

- *Agenda overview, general orientation*
-

SUNDAY 26 MAY--OPENING DAY

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

- *Introductions*
- *Approval of WSC '95 minutes*
- *Seating of new regions*
- *Adoption of procedures*
- *Old Business Motions Deadline*

12:00 to 1:30 PM

- *Lunch break*

1:30 to 5:30 PM

- *RG Presentation*
- *Discussion of RG Proposals*

5:30 to 7:00 PM

- *Supper break*

Beginning at 7:00 PM

- *Committee and board meetings*
-

MONDAY 27 MAY

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

- *Discussion of RG Proposals*

12:00 to 1:30 PM

- *Lunch break*

1:30 to 7:30 PM

- *Reports from WS Boards and Committees*
- *Service Resume Deadline*

7:30 to 9:00 PM

- *Supper break*
- *Beginning at 9:00 PM*
- *NA Meeting*

TUESDAY 28 MAY

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

- *Old Business Session*

12:00 to 1:30 PM

- *Lunch break*

1:30 to 6:30 PM

- *Old Business Session*

6:30 to 7:30 PM

- *Supper break*

Beginning at 7:30 PM

- *WSTC Meeting*
- *Interim Committee Meeting*
- *Position Nominations Posted*

WEDNESDAY 29 MAY

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

- *Old Business*
- *New Business Motions Deadline*

12:00 to 1:30 PM

- *Lunch break*

1:30 to 3:30 PM

- *WSC Budget Presentation*

3:30 to 5:30 PM

- *Elections/New Business*

5:30 to 7:00 PM

- *Supper break*

Beginning at 7:30 PM

- *Interim Meeting*
- *NA Meeting*

THURSDAY 30 MAY

9:00 to 10:30 AM

- *Issues Discussion*

12:30 to 2:00 PM

- *Lunch break*

2:00 to 4:00 PM

- *Issues Discussion*

4:00 to 7:00 PM

- *WS Board and Committee Meetings*

7:00 to 8:00 PM

- *Supper break*

FRIDAY 31 MAY

9:00 to 11:30 AM

- *WSC Budget Approval*

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

- *Lunch break*

1:00 to 6:00 PM

- *New Business*

6:00 to 7:30 PM

- *Supper break*

Beginning at 7:30 PM

- *NA Meeting*
 - *WSTC Meeting*
-

SATURDAY 1 JUNE--CLOSING DAY

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

- *New Business*

12:00 to 1:30 PM

- *Lunch break*

1:30 to 4:30 PM

- *New Business*

4:30 to 5:30 PM

- *Closing*

Beginning at 7:30 PM

- *NA meeting*