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| Andrews, W T—Treasurer, South Pacific Division | 85-0001068 |
| Appenzeller, Ronald E—Publishing Department Dir, North American Div | 85-0001089 |
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| Babcock, George P—Education Dept Associate Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Bahimba, Pheneas—Education Department Director, Africa-Indian Ocean Div | 85-0001092 |
| Bailey, Patricia—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Far Eastern Div | 85-0001089 |
| Bailey, Ralph P—Secretary, Eastern Africa Division | 85-0001092 |
| Bain, Donald E—Health & Temperance Dept Director, South Pacific Div | 85-0001068 |
| Baird, Ronald N—Health & Temperance Dept Director, Southern Asia Div | 85-0001082 |

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| Banfield, Warren S--General Field Secretary, General Conference | 85-0001089 |
| Banfield, Warren S--NAD Office of Human Relations Dir, No American Div | 85-0001089 |
| Barham, Graham--Auditor, Trans-European Division | 85-0001082 |
| Barron, Richard E--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Bauman, Herman--Church Ministries Dept Director, Afr-Indian Ocean Div | 85-0001092 |
| Beach, Bert B--Public Affairs & Rel Liberty Dept Dir, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Bediako, Mathew--General Field Secretary, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Benjamin, Vedamuthu--Auditor, Southern Asia Division | 85-0001082 |
| Berg, Henrique--Church Ministries Dept Director, South American Div | 85-0001081 |
| Bertochini, Gilbert J--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Gen Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Bertochini, Gilbert J--Church Ministries Dept Director, Far Eastern Div | 85-0001124 |
| Birch, A E--Church Ministries Department Director, South Pacific Division | 85-0001082 |
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| Brooks, Charles L--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Brown, George W--GC Vice-President assigned to Inter-American Division | 85-0001061 |
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| Carter, G Tom—Trust Services Director, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Cartwright, Harry A—Ministerial Assn Secretary, Eastern Africa Div | 85-0001088 |
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| Cherian, M E—Public Affairs & Rel Liberty Dept Dir, Southern Asia Div | 85-0001082 |
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| Coombe, R L—Public Affairs & Rel Liberty Dept Dir, South Pacific Div | 85-0001099 |
| Cooper, Lowell C—Church Ministries Dept Director, Southern Asia Div | 85-0001082 |
| Cooper, Victor H—Communication Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Copiz, Pietro—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Copiz, Pietro—Education Department Director, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Craig, Helen C—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Crane, Donald E—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Crumley, George H—Associate Treasurer, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Crumley, George H—Treasurer, North American Division | 85-0001093 |
| Currie, A D C—Ministerial Assn Secretary, South Pacific Division | 85-0001082 |
| Currie, A D C—Spirit of Prophecy Director, South Pacific Division | 85-0001082 |
| Dabrowski, Raymond—Communication Dept Director, Trans-European Div | 85-0001082 |
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| Espinosa, Joseph--General Field Secretary, General Conference | 85-0001089 |
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| Figueroa, Jose H--Secretary, Inter-American Division | 85-0001081 |
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| Finley, Mark--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Trans-European Div | 85-0001093 |
| Finley, Mark--Ministerial Association Secretary, Trans-European Division | 85-0001099 |
| Fletcher, L Herbert--Education Department Director, Inter-American Div | 85-0001081 |
| Flowers, Karen M--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
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| Fly, James--Communication Department Dir, Africa-Indian Ocean Division | 85-0001092 |
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| Griffiths, Victor S—Education Dept Associate Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Gungadoo, Stenio—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Afr-Indian Ocean Div | 85-0001092 |
| Gustavsson, Sievert—Health & Temperance Dept Dir, Inter-American Div | 85-0001081 |
| Hadley, G Gordon—Health & Temperance Dept Director, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Halm, Jean-Claude—Auditor, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Handysides, A R—Health & Temperance Dept Director, Eastern Africa Div | 85-0001088 |
| Hartlein, Marion—Education Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001089 |
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| Hayden, Iris—Health & Temperance Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Haylock, Tulio R—Communication Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
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| Henning, Rudi H—Publishing Dept Associate Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Herzel, Daniel E—Auditing Service Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Heye, Bekele—GC Vice-President assigned to Eastern Africa Division | 85-0001061 |
| Hodgkinson, R L—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, South Pacific Div | 85-0001092 |
| Holbrook, Betty—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Holbrook, Delmer W—Church Ministries Dept Director, General Conference | 85-0001089 |
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| Huzzey, James M—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Trans-European Div | 85-0001093 |
| Inada, Minoru—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Far Eastern Div | 85-0001089 |
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| Jones, Frank L—Assistant Treasurer, North American Division | 85-0001093 |
| Jones, Frank L—Associate Treasurer, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Joseph, Thomas K—Publishing Dept Director, Southern Asia Division | 85-0001082 |

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| Justiniano, Amasias--Ministerial Assn Secretary, South American Div | 85-0001081 |
| Kim, Tong C--Secretary, Far Eastern Division | 85-0001088 |
| Kio, James B A--Public Affairs & Rel Lib Dept Dir, Afr-Indian Ocean Div | 85-0001092 |
| Klimes, Rudolf E--Health and Temperance Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Kloosterhuis, Robert J--General Vice-President, General Conference | 85-0001063 |
| Knopper, J T--Publishing Department Director, South Pacific Division | 85-0001068 |
| Knott, Harald--Church Ministries Dept Director, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Knowles, George E--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Koilpillai, Johnson--Treasurer, Southern Asia Division | 85-0001082 |
| Koilpillai, Johnson--Trust Services Director, Southern Asia Division | 85-0001082 |
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| Korff, Eric A--Auditing Service Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Kujur, P D--Church Ministries Dept Associate Dir, Southern Asia Div | 85-0001092 |
| Laue, Clarence M--Auditing Service Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Leito, Israel--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Inter-American Div | 85-0001081 |
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| Luukko, Heikki J--ADRA Director, Trans-European Division | 85-0001093 |
| Luukko, Heikki J--Field Secretary, Trans-European Division | 85-0001093 |
| Mager, Johannes--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Mager, Johannes--Ministerial Assn Secretary, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Martell, J Lynn--Church Ministries Dept Director, North American Div | 85-0001093 |
| Martin, Charles D--Adv Chaplaincy Ministries Director, General Conferenc | 85-0001123 |
| Martinez, Eloy--NAD Office of Human Relations Assoc Dir, No Amer Div | 85-0001089 |
| Masuku, L--Publishing Department Director, Eastern Africa Division | 85-0001092 |
| Mathias, Jorge S--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, South American Div | 85-0001092 |
| Matthews, Neville O--Public Affairs & Rel Lib Assoc Dir, Gen Conference | 85-0001124 |
| Maury, Ramon H--Treasurer, Inter-American Division | 85-0001081 |
| Mayer, Edwin--Health & Temperance Dept Dir, South American Division | 85-0001092 |
| Mayr, Werner--Communication Dept Director, South American Division | 85-0001092 |
| Mayr, Werner--Public Affairs & Rel Liberty Dept Dir, South American Div | 85-0001092 |
| Mayr, Werner--Trust Services Director, South American Division | 85-0001092 |
| McKee, Richard L--Publishing Department Director, Far Eastern Division | 85-0001088 |
| McKee, Richard L--Publishing Dept Associate Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| McMillan, Leslie--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Inter-American Div | 85-0001081 |
| McMillan, Leslie--Trust Services Director, Inter-American Division | 85-0001081 |
| Meyers, Samuel D--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001124 |
| Miller, Thomas P--Auditing Service Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
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| Monnier, Samuel F--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Moore, R Martin--Auditor, Far Eastern Division | 85-0001124 |
| Muderspach, John--Treasurer, Trans-European Division | 85-0001068 |
| Muderspach, John--World Foods Service Director, Trans-European Div | 85-0001082 |
| Muganda, Baraka--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Eastern Africa Div | 85-0001088 |
| Murrill, William L--Undertreasurer, General Conference | 85-0001068 |
| Myers, D Cameron--World Foods Service Director, South Pacific Division | 85-0001068 |
| Nagel, Ruy H--Treasurer, South American Division | 85-0001081 |
| Nature of man - CM amendment directive, 203-85G | 85-0001122 |
| Ndhlovu, R R--General Field Secretary, Eastern Africa Division | 85-0001088 |

| DESCRIPTION | REF # |
|--|------------|
| Newman, J David—Ministerial Association Assoc Secy, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Nixon, Robert W—Communication Dept Director, General Conference | 85-0001089 |
| Nkungula, T H—Education Department Director, Eastern Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Nominating Committee | |
| Appointed for 1985 Session | 85-0001011 |
| Caucusing of delegates from unions being transferred, 250-85G | 85-0001010 |
| Consolidated report for Session | 85-0001126 |
| Currie, H Carl—Member of Nominating Committee | 85-0001064 |
| Loma Linda Foods to name one person to Nominating Committee | 85-0001010 |
| Membership from attached unions | 85-0001009 |
| Report #1 | 85-0001013 |
| Report #10 | 85-0001092 |
| Report #11 | 85-0001098 |
| Report #12 | 85-0001123 |
| Report #2 | 85-0001020 |
| Report #3 | 85-0001023 |
| Report #4 | 85-0001061 |
| Report #5 | 85-0001063 |
| Report #6 | 85-0001063 |
| Report #7 | 85-0001068 |
| Report #8 | 85-0001081 |
| Report #9 | 85-0001087 |
| Representatives from division institutions—To be studied, 234-85Ge | 85-0001120 |
| Saldivar, Virgilio—Added to Nominating Committee | 85-0001022 |
| USSR representatives, 251-85G | 85-0001009 |
| Nominating Committee appointed, 256-85G | 85-0001011 |
| Nominating committee - CM amendment directive, 166-85G | 85-0001080 |
| Nominating committee - CM amendment, 165-85Ga | 85-0001078 |
| Nominating committee - CM amendment, 165-85Gc | 85-0001080 |
| Nortey, Jacob J—GC Vice-President assigned to Africa-Indian Ocean Div | 85-0001068 |
| Nortey, Jacob J—Trust Services Director, Africa-Indian Ocean Division | 85-0001092 |
| North American Conference Corporation legal meeting held | 85-0001064 |
| North Mexican Union Conference recognized, 131-85G | 85-0001004 |
| Northeast Union Section accepted into sisterhood of unions, 111-85G | 85-0001005 |
| Northern European Div name changed to Trans-European Division, 245-85G | 85-0001009 |
| Northern European Division | |
| Name changed to Trans-European Division, 245-85G | 85-0001009 |
| Northern Union Section—Territorial adjustment, 111-85G | 85-0001005 |
| Oliveira, Enoch—General Vice-President, General Conference | 85-0001023 |
| Onwere, Philemon—Treasurer, Africa-Indian Ocean Division | 85-0001092 |
| Ordination of women to the gospel ministry, 175-85GNa | 85-0001120 |
| Ordination—Reform of practices, 175-85GNc | 85-0001121 |
| Osborn, Robert E—Associate Treasurer, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Pakistan Union transferred to Northern European Division, 190-85Gd | 85-0001008 |
| Parents' meetings - CM revision, 154-85G | 85-0001067 |
| Parents' societies/Home & School fellowship - CM revision, 160-85G | 85-0001073 |
| Parliamentarian for Gen Conference Session business meetings, 234-85Gd | 85-0001119 |
| Patterson, Clifford G—General Field Secretary, Eastern Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Paulsen, Jan—GC Vice-President assigned to Trans-European Division | 85-0001061 |
| Pedersen, Kaj—Publishing Department Director, Trans-European Div | 85-0001082 |
| Pedersen, Perry F—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Pederson, Kaj—Spirit of Prophecy Director, Trans-European Division | 85-0001082 |
| Pelton, Raymond L—Health & Temperance Dept Assoc Dir, Gen Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Pheirim, C—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Southern Asia Division | 85-0001092 |

| DESCRIPTION | REF # |
|---|------------|
| Pitton, Leslie H--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Poddar, D S--Communication Department Dir, Southern Asia Division | 85-0001124 |
| Pohjola, Pekka T--Secretary, Trans-European Division | 85-0001068 |
| Popa, Dumitru S--Field Secretary, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Pres & comm direct dept secys, their work not admin - CM, 164-85G | 85-0001078 |
| Procedural rules for Gen Conference Session business meetings, 234-85Gc | 85-0001119 |
| Proctor, Stoy E--Health & Temp Dept Dir, North American Division | 85-0001099 |
| Proctor, Stoy E--Health & Temperance Dept Assoc Dir, Gen Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Ramsey, George R--Adventist Personnel Service Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Ranzolin, Leo S--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Rawson, Robert L--Treasurer, Far Eastern Division | 85-0001088 |
| Reaching the unreached--Harvest 90 | 85-0001017 |
| Reiche, Lothar--Field Secretary, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Reid, George W--General Field Secretary, General Conference | 85-0001089 |
| Resolution of Gratitude, 257-85G | 85-0001124 |
| Riches, R D--Secretary, Southern Asia Division | 85-0001082 |
| Robinson, Donald E--Associate Treasurer, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Rock, Calvin B--General Vice-President, General Conference | 85-0001063 |
| Rodriguez, Ricardo--Publishing Dept Director, Inter-American Division | 85-0001081 |
| Role and Function of Denom Org--Committee system, 140-85GNf | 85-0001056 |
| Role and Function of Denom Org--GC Church Ministries Dept, 140-85GNe | 85-0001050 |
| Role and Function of Denom Org--GC-NAD special relationship, 140-85GNd | 85-0001041 |
| Role and Function of Denom Organizations--Section amendments, 140-85GN | 85-0001015 |
| Role and Function of Denom Organizations--Section amendments, 140-85GN | 85-0001019 |
| Role and Function of Denom Organizations--Section amendments, 140-85GN | 85-0001021 |
| Role and Function of Denom Organizations--Section amendments, 140-85GN | 85-0001023 |
| Role and Function of Denominational Organizations, 140-85GN | 85-0001025 |
| Role and Function of the NAD--Implementation, 140-85NGXb | 85-0001041 |
| Role of Women in the Church | |
| Ministerial worker functions in NAD--Clarification, 175-85GNd | 85-0001121 |
| Ordination of women to gospel ministry--No definitive action, 175-85GNa | 85-0001120 |
| Women's participation in church work, 175-85GNb | 85-0001120 |
| Ross, Gary M--Public Affairs & Rel Liberty Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001124 |
| Rossi, Gianfranco--Religious Liberty Dept Director, Euro-Africa Div | 85-0001088 |
| Roster of personnel elected for quinquennium 1985-1990 | 85-0001126 |
| Ruhaya, Ntwali--Field Secretary, Africa-Indian Ocean Division | 85-0001092 |
| Rwanda Union Mission accepted into sisterhood of unions, 115-85G | 85-0001005 |
| Sabbath School - CM amendment, 156-85G | 85-0001071 |
| Sabbath School offering/Expense money - CM revision, 157-85G | 85-0001072 |
| Sakul, Hans--Auditor, Eastern Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Samaan, Philip--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Afr-Indian Ocean Div | 85-0001092 |
| Scales, William C--Ministerial Association Secretary, No American Div | 85-0001089 |
| Schmidt, Arturo E--Ministerial Association Assoc Secy, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Segovia, Agripino C--Education Dept Associate Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Simorangkir, Amos--Education Department Director, Far Eastern Div | 85-0001088 |
| Sladek, Oldrich--Field Secretary, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Smith, Paul G--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Smith, Robert--Publishing Dept Associate Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Sorensen, N Clifford--Education Dept Assoc Dir, NAD Bd of Higher Ed South American Division | 85-0001089 |
| East Brazil Union--Conference status, 209-85G | 85-0001006 |
| South Brazil Union--To be divided into 2 unions, 210-85G | 85-0001006 |
| South Brazil Union--To be divided into two unions, 210-85G | 85-0001006 |
| South Mexican Union Conference recognized, 131-85G | 85-0001004 |

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|--|------------|
| South Pacific Division | |
| Elected staff for 1985-1990 | 85-0001129 |
| Southern Asia Division | |
| Elected staff for 1985-1990 | 85-0001130 |
| Northern Un Sec—Territorial adj; NE Un Sec—Recognized, 111-85G | 85-0001005 |
| Reorganization, 190-85Gc | 85-0001008 |
| Territorial assignment, 190-85Gb | 85-0001008 |
| Transfer of Pakistan Union to Northern European Division, 190-85Gd | 85-0001008 |
| Southern Asia Division reorganization—Territory, 190-85Gb | 85-0001008 |
| Southern Asia Division/Far Eastern Division—Reorganization, 190-85Gc | 85-0001008 |
| Southern European Union Mission—Dissolution, 197-85G | 85-0001005 |
| Spangler, J Robert—Ministerial Assn Assoc Secy, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Spirit of Prophecy statement—1985 GC Session, 246-85G | 85-0001097 |
| Stabenow, Paulo—Church Ministries Dept Director, South American Div | 85-0001092 |
| Stabenow, Paulo—World Foods Service Director, South American Division | 85-0001092 |
| Standards of Christian living - CM amendment, 222-85G | 85-0001085 |
| Standing Constitution & Bylaws Committee between sessions, 234-85Gf | 85-0001120 |
| Stephan, Frederick R—Education Dept Assoc Dir, NAD K-12 Bd of Ed | 85-0001089 |
| Sterndale, Elizabeth—Health & Temp Dept Assoc Dir, Nursing, No Amer Div | 85-0001099 |
| Sterndale, Elizabeth—Health & Temperance Dept Assoc Dir, Gen Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Stevenson, Michael H—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Gen Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Stevny, Georges—Secretary, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Stevny, Georges—Spirit of Prophecy Director, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Stoeger, Herbert—Health & Temperance Dept Director, Euro-Africa Div | 85-0001088 |
| Strickland, Lloyd C—Auditing Service Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Swanson, Gary B—Health & Temperance Dept Assoc Dir, Gen Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Telegrams of best wishes—Thanks to divisions & subsidiaries | 85-0001125 |
| Thomas, Dale L—Publishing Dept Director, Africa-Indian Ocean Division | 85-0001124 |
| Thomas, Fred G—Associate Secretary, General Conference | 85-0001093 |
| Thomas, Fred G—Secretary, North American Division | 85-0001093 |
| Thompson, G Ralph—Secretary, General Conference | 85-0001013 |
| Tolhurst, A H—Secretary, South Pacific Division | 85-0001068 |
| Trans-European Division | |
| Elected staff for 1985-1990 | 85-0001130 |
| Tribute to United States of America | 85-0001091 |
| Troy, Owen A—Communication Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Tyner, Mitchell A—Public Affairs & Rel Liberty Assoc Dir, Gen Conference | 85-0001124 |
| USSR representation on Nominating Committee, 251-85G | 85-0001009 |
| Unfinished business referred to GC Committee at headquarters | 85-0001123 |
| Union Conference Constitution & Bylaws model referred, 207-85G | 85-0001122 |
| United States of America—Tribute to | 85-0001091 |
| Uruma, Masao—World Foods Service, Far Eastern Division | 85-0001088 |
| Vail, Wayne—Auditor, Africa-Indian Ocean Division | 85-0001124 |
| Van Dolson, Leo R—Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Veloso, Mario—Secretary, South American Division | 85-0001081 |
| Viegas, Nelci N—Publishing Dept Director, South American Division | 85-0001081 |
| Wager, Wyman—Trust Services Associate Director, General Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Wangai, Frederick K—Communication Dept Director, Eastern Africa Div | 85-0001092 |
| Wangai, Frederick K—Public Affairs & Rel Liberty Dept Dir, Eastern Afr Div | 85-0001092 |
| Wecker, Barry H—Health & Temperance Dept Dir, Afr-Indian Ocean Division | 85-0001092 |
| Wensell, Roald N—Auditor, South American Division | 85-0001092 |
| West Cent Afr Un name changed to Cent African Union Miss, 238-85G | 85-0001009 |
| White Estate | |
| Spirit of Prophecy statement—1985 General Conference Session, 246-85G | 85-0001097 |

| DESCRIPTION | REF # |
|--|------------|
| White, A G H--Trust Services Director, South Pacific Division | 85-0001082 |
| White, A W--Trust Services Director, South Pacific Division | 85-0001124 |
| Whiting, Albert S--Health & Temperance Dept Assoc Dir, Gen Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Widmaier, Karl--Publishing Department Director, Euro-Africa Division | 85-0001099 |
| Wilkens, John F--Associate Treasurer, General Conference | 85-0001098 |
| Wilkens, John F--Treasurer, Eastern Africa Division | 85-0001088 |
| Williams, DeWitt S--Health & Temperance Dept Assoc Dir, Gen Conference | 85-0001123 |
| Willmott, John--Ministerial Assn Secretary, Southern Asia Division | 85-0001082 |
| Wilson, Neal C--President, General Conference | 85-0001013 |
| Wilson, Ted N C--Secretary, Africa-Indian Ocean Division | 85-0001092 |
| Witzel, Everet E--Health & Temperance Department Director, Far Eastern Div | 85-0001088 |
| Wolde-Endreas, Solomon--Church Ministries Dept Assoc Dir, Eastern Afr Div | 85-0001088 |
| Wolff, Joao--GC Vice-President assigned to South American Division | 85-0001061 |
| Women's participation in church work, 175-85GNb | 85-0001120 |
| Woodfork, Robert L--Associate Secretary, North American Division | 85-0001089 |
| Woolford, Orville--Education Dept Director, Trans-European Division | 85-0001093 |
| Yost, F Donald--Archives & Statistics Director, General Conference | 85-0001089 |
| Yugoslavia Union transferred to Northern European Division, 205-85G | 85-0001008 |
| Zachary, James H--Ministerial Assn Secretary, Far Eastern Division | 85-0001088 |

FIRST BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
June 27, 1985, 3:00 p.m.

The actions of the General Conference Session were published in the daily bulletins of the Adventist Review as usual. For the convenience of General Conference Committee members the actions are also being printed and sent to the field in the same format as the minutes of the General Conference Committee. Reference lines and administrative year numbers are included where applicable. For convenience all actions will be indexed.

GCO/181-84G/GCC/85GCSDel/85GCS to GRT

130-85G 1985 GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION DELEGATES--
25% PROVISION

VOTED, 1. To waive the reading of names of the delegates to the 54th General Conference Session, under Article III, Section 3-b of the Constitution, listed in the agenda.

2. To seat the delegates listed under the General Conference Constitution, Article III, Section 3-b.

85GCS to GRT

1985 GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION DELEGATES--ART III, SEC 3-C

VOTED, To ratify the appointment of 60 delegates at large to the 54th General Conference Session under the provisions of Article III, Section 3-c of the Constitution.

85GCS to GRT

DAILY PROGRAM APPROVED

VOTED, To approve the daily program for the 54th General Conference Session as it appears in the Session program booklet.

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GCO/SEC/GCO/GCC/85GCS to GRT

231-85G 1985 GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION--STANDING COMMITTEES

VOTED, To approve standing committees for the 1985 General Conference Session as follows:

Constitution and Bylaws

Charles B Hirsch, Chairman
David H Baasch, Secretary

K J Mittleider, Vice-Chairman

Milton Afonso, Mary Angawa, Alva R Appel, Warren S Banfield, Bert B Beach, Alfred E Birch, J William Bothe, George W Brown, J A Bulley, Lance L Butler, Winston T Clark, Nevenka Cop, Gerald J Christo, Paulini Ene, Kurt Faddersbol, Bassim A Fargo, Castillo Fortunato, A Edwin Gibb, Warren L Johns, Cardinal King, Finn H Opsahl,

Robert E Osborn, Jan Paulsen, Harold Lance, W Richard Leshner, Manuel Lopez, Tiburcio S Macias, Mrs Delores Maupin, Daniel Nestares, Harold F Otis Jr, Calvin B Rock, Donald J Sandstrom, Charles R Taylor, Ronald W Taylor, G Ralph Thompson, Guy S Valleray, Donald W Welch, F W Wernick, A S Whiting, Neal C Wilson, Norman J Woods, F Martin Ytreberg, F Donald Yost, Jean Zurcher.

Delegates, Seating of Additional, and Additional Standing
Committee Assignments

Alf Lohne, Chairman

Roy F Williams, Secretary

J William Bothe, Jose H Figueroa, G Ralph Thompson

Plans

Lowell L Bock, Chairman
Enoch Oliveira, Vice-Chairman

Donald R Christman, Secretary

Carlos Aeschlimann, Betty Ahnberg, Erich Amelung, Ronald E Appenzeller, Dan S Ariyaratnam, Eric Armer, W John Arthur, Walter E Arties, Thomas M Ashlock, David R L Astleford, Euel Atchley, Ronald N Baird, H C Barritt, Richard E Barron, Maurice T Bascom, Bert B Beach, Assad Bechara, Claudio Belz, Gilbert J Bertochini, Alex Besenyi,

W Floyd Bresee, Charles D Brooks, Charles L Brooks, Benjamin Browne, Nino Bulzis, Shirley Burton, E E Bwiruka, Harry A Cartwright, D W B Chalale, Maliakal E Cherian, Gerald F Clifford, Larry R Colburn, Roger W Coon, Lowell C Cooper, Victor H Cooper, Pietro Copiz, Paul R Cordray, Beverley J Coysten, Donald E Crane, Helen C Craig,

George H Crumley, Robert L Dale, David Daniel, Joan Dell, David D Dennis, D D Devnich, Bernardo U Donato, Norman L Doss, Herbert E Douglass, W G Dowling, R R Drachenberg, Arthur N Duffy, William E Edsell, Gordon O Engen, Joseph Espinosa, L Herbert Fletcher, Ronald M Flowers, Castillo Fortunato, L S Gifford, Donald F Gilbert,

Paul A Gordon, Nevil Gorski, Robert B Grady, James Greene, John Griswell, Sievert Gustavsson, R B Hairston, A R Handysides, J Keith Hankinson, Mervyn G Hardinge, Fanuel Harelimana, James H Harris, Iris Hayden, Tulio R Haylock, Roland R Hegstad, Rudi H Henning, K C Henry, Fred Hernandez, Charles B Hirsch, Jim Hoehn, Betty Holbrook,

Delmer W Holbrook, Heinz Hopf, James M Huzzey, Peter R Jack, Mrs Hope Jacobson, Oscar R Johnson, Frank L Jones, Charles D Joseph, J Clyde Kinder, James B A Kio, Rudolph E Klimes, John T Knopper, Harald Knott, George E Knowles, Tommy F Kofoed, Russell M Kranz, Harold Lance, Herbert S Larsen, David E Lawson, George A Laxton,

Israel Leito, W Richard Leshner, A R Lickey, Kenneth H Livesay, Alf Lohne, John Loor, Manuel Lopez, Alice J Lowe, Donald Lowe, Charles D Martin, Neville O Matthews, Mrs Delores Maupin, Richard L McKee, Charles B Mensah, Samuel D Meyers, Edgar T Mimms, Cyril Miller, Merle L Mills, Erich Johannes Mager, Kenneth E Martin, Sonoko Mimura,

Kenneth J Mittleider, Sergio Moctezuma, Samuel F Monnier, Thomas J Mostert, Milton J Murray, Edward Naenny, Robert W Nixon, T H Nkungula, Enoch Oliveira, Robert W Olson, Harold F Otis Jr, Stanton H Parker, Doraci M Passos, Kaj Pedersen, Perry F Pedersen, Adrian M Peterson, Raymond L Pelton, Elbio Pereyra, Leslie H Pitton,

Stoy Proctor, Willis B Quigley, Louis A Ramirez, Howard F Rampton, George R Ramsey, Leo S Ranzolin, Donald G Reynolds, H M S Richards Jr, Earnest A Roberts, J Glenn Roberts, Calvin B Rock, Ricardo A Rodriguez, Roberto R Roncarolo, Ingeborg Roser, Gary M Ross, Gianfranco Rossi, Ariel A Roth, Philip G Samaan, Donald J Sandstrom, William C Scales, Fred E Schlehuger, Clinton L Shankel, J Russell Shawver, Amos Simorangkir, Hulman Sinaga, Herman J Smit, Mrs Kay Smith,

Paul G Smith, Robert S Smith, J Robert Spangler, Ernest H J Steed, Frederick R Stephan, Elizabeth Sterndale, Michael H Stevenson, Frederick Stong, Walter J Streithorst, Herbert Stoeger, Gary B Swanson, Charles R Taylor, Dale L Thomas, Helen Thompson, Robert A Thompson, Owen A Troy, Mitchell A Tyner, Mario Valenti,

George E Vandeman, Leo R Van Dolson, Meade C Van Putten, Mario Veloso, Nelci Viegas, Howard H Voss, Mrs Irma B Vyhmeister, Frederic K Wangai, Barry H Wecker, Donald W Welch, Francis W Wernick, Albert S Whiting, Melvin Wiese, DeWitt S Williams, J John Willmott, Richard W Wilmot, Ted N C Wilson, Everet W Witzel,

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Solomon Wolde-Endreas, Ernest Wolfe, Kenneth H Wood, Robert L Woodfork,
Norman J Woods, Naomi Yamoshiro, James H Zachary.

85GCS to RFW

SEATING OF ADDITIONAL DELEGATES

VOTED, To seat the following delegates at large under the 25 percent provision of Article III, Section 3-b of the Constitution:

1. Robert Soderblom in place of Milton Fredrickson, Pacific Union
2. Palmer Wick in place of Lorenzo Paytee, Pacific Union
3. Additional:
Calvin Berthelsen, Mid-America Union
Wadie Farag, Canadian Union
W R May, Southwestern Union
Jere Patzer, North Pacific Union

FED/GCC/Survey/148-83G/GCO/Survey/GCO/GCC/118-84G/85GSC to GRT

110-85G KOREAN UNION MISSION--CONFERENCE
STATUS RECOMMENDED

VOTED, To recognize and to record that the former Korean Union Mission has been granted union conference status by the General Conference Committee and is now known as the Korean Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

FED/GCC/Survey/147-83G/GCO/Survey/GCO/GCC/117-84G/85GCS to GRT

109-85G JAPAN UNION MISSION--CONFERENCE STATUS RECOMMENDED

VOTED, To recognize and to record that the former Japan Union Mission has been granted union conference status by the General Conference Committee and is now known as the Japan Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

IAD/GCC/Survey Commission/GCO/IAD/GCO/GCC/120-82/183-84G/85GCS to GRT

131-85G NORTH MEXICAN UNION CONFERENCE--NEW UNION CONFERENCE
SOUTH MEXICAN UNION CONFERENCE--NEW UNION CONFERENCE

VOTED, 1. To recognize and record the reorganization of the former Mexican Union Conference into two new union conferences known as

the North Mexican Union Conference and the South Mexican Union Conference effective January 7, 1985.

2. To accept the North Mexican Union Conference and the South Mexican Union Conference into the sisterhood of unions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in place of the former Mexican Union Conference.

SUD/GCO/GCC/SurCom/GCO/SUD/GCC/155-83G/121-84G/85GCS to GRT

111-85G NORTHERN UNION SECTION (MISSION) (SUD)--
TERRITORIAL ADJUSTMENT
NORTHEAST UNION SECTION (MISSION) (SUD)--
NEW UNION MISSION (SECTION)

VOTED, 1. To accept the Northeast Union Section (Mission) (SUD) into the world sisterhood of unions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

2. To record that the Northern Union Section (Mission) (SUD) will continue in the sisterhood of unions in the Seventh-day Adventist Church but with a reduced territorial assignment.

GCO/GCDO83AC/G83AC/198-83G/128-84G/129-85G/85GCS to GRT

115-85G CENTRAL AFRICAN UNION MISSION (AID)--DISSOLUTION
RWANDA UNION MISSION--NEW UNION MISSION

VOTED, 1. To recognize and record the dissolution of the former Central African Union Mission as of January 1, 1984.

2. To recognize and record the organization of the Rwanda Union Mission as of January 1, 1984.

3. To accept the Rwanda Union Mission into the world sisterhood of unions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

NCW/GCO/HO081AC/G81AC/341-81/85GCS to GRT

197-85G SOUTHERN EUROPEAN UNION MISSION--DISSOLUTION

On October 7, 1981 the General Conference Committee approved the request of the Euro-Africa Division to dissolve the Southern European Union Mission and to designate the organizations in Italy, Portugal and Spain separately as the Union of Churches in Italy, the Union of Churches in Portugal, etc., respectively. The Greek Mission became a mission attached to the Euro-Africa Division. The tithe percentages have been paid in harmony with existing policy (see GC Working Policy B 10 65-2). In the initial reorganization, there were no conference

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organizations. As the membership grows, it is expected that conferences will be organized.

VOTED, To recognize and record the dissolution of the Southern European Union Mission as of December 31, 1981.

SAD/GCO/GCC/GCO/GCC/85GCS to GRT

210-85G SOUTH BRAZIL UNION CONFERENCE SURVEY
COMMISSION REPORT

VOTED, To receive and record the report from the General Conference Committee regarding the approval it has given to the request of the South American Division and the South Brazil Union Conference for the latter to be divided into two union conferences.

SAD/GCO/GCC/GCO/GCC/85GCS to GRT

209-85G EAST BRAZIL UNION MISSION SURVEY COMMISSION REPORT

VOTED, To receive and record the report from the General Conference Committee regarding the approval it has given to the request of the South American Division and East Brazil Union Mission for the latter to be granted union conference status.

GCO/GCDOUP82AC/370-82/309-82/GCO/GCDOUP83AC/G83AC/105-83G/102-84G/85GCS
to GRT

102-85G AFRICA TERRITORIAL REORGANIZATION

The 53rd General Conference Session voted on April 17, 1980 to reorganize the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the African continent. In harmony with that mandate, the General Conference Committee on October 9, 1983 took the following action:

VOTED, To reorganize the East Africa, Ethiopian and Tanzania Unions, now administered by the Eastern Africa Division, and the South-East Africa, Zambesi, Zambia Unions, and the Botswana Field now administered by the Trans-Africa Division into a new division of the General Conference.

2. To attach the Southern Union Mission and the South African Union Conference directly to the General Conference with the following provisions:

a. Both unions are to continue as distinct union organizations.

b. The relationship to the General Conference as attached union organizations is to continue only until such time as it becomes possible to reincorporate the two unions into a division of the General Conference.

3. To designate the new division as the Eastern Africa Division.

4. To designate Harare, Zimbabwe and the present Trans-Africa Division facilities as the location and headquarters facility for the new division and to retain the present Eastern Africa Division facilities in Nairobi, Kenya, as a branch division office.

5. To request the General Conference Committee to appoint a standing committee at the General Conference headquarters to serve as the administrative liaison with the Southern Union Mission and the South African Union Conference in lieu of a division organization.

6. To define institutional relationships as follows:

a. Helderberg College to become an institution of the South African Union Conference.

b. Bethel College to continue as an institution of the Southern Union Mission.

c. Solusi College status to be determined by the new division.

d. Adventist University of Eastern Africa to be an institution of the new division.

e. Publishing houses (Africa Herald Publishing House, Ethiopian Advent Press, Tanzania Adventist Press, and Malamulo Publishing House) to continue serving the territories being served by them currently.

f. Southern Publishing Association (Cape Town, South Africa) future operations to be determined by the General Conference and the two unions in South Africa attached to the General Conference, and in counsel with the new Eastern Africa Division.

VOTED, To accept and record the report of the General Conference Committee in regard to the reorganization of the work of the Church on the African continent.

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GCO/G84AC/384-84Gb/85SM/85GCS to GRT

190-85Gb SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION REORGANIZATION -
TERRITORIAL ASSIGNMENT

VOTED, To reorganize the territory of the Southern Asia Division to include India, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Maldives.

G84AC/384-84Gc/GCO/85SM/85GCS to GRT

190-85Gc SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION/FAR EASTERN DIVISION--
REORGANIZATION

VOTED, To organize a new division comprising the Burma Union Section, the Bangladesh Union Section and the Sri Lanka Union of Churches, all in the territory of the Southern Asia Division; and the Japan and Korean Union Conferences, the Central Philippine, East Indonesia, North Philippine, South China Island, South Philippine, Southeast Asia, West Indonesia Union Missions and the Guam-Micronesia Mission, presently in the territory of the Far Eastern Division. (Nomenclature for the new division is to be determined.)

G84AC/384-84Gc/205-85G/85SM/190-85Gc/85GCS to GRT

190-85Gd SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION REORGANIZATION--
TRANSFER OF PAKISTAN UNION TO NED

VOTED, To transfer the territory of the Pakistan Union Mission from the Southern Asia Division to the Northern European Division. (See also GCO 84-1014, 84-129, 84-226, 84-259, 85-12.)

80GCS/GCO/GCDO83AC/G83AC/325-83G/GCO/GCDO84AC/G84AC/178-84G/
GCO/85SM/85GCS to GRT

205-85G EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL REALIGNMENT

Much time and study has been given to the matter of realigning the division territories in the European area in order to balance the responsibilities of the Northern European and the Euro-Africa Divisions. (See GCO 83-261, 83-270, 84-215, 84-238, 84-344, 85-12.)

VOTED, To transfer the territory of the Hungarian Union Conference, the Yugoslavia Union Conference, the Greek Mission and the Israel Field from the Euro-Africa Division to the Northern European Division.

NED/GCO/GCC/GCDO85GCS/85GCS to GRT

245-85G NORTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION--NAME CHANGED TO
TRANS-EUROPEAN DIVISION

VOTED, To approve the request of the Northern European Division that its name be changed to Trans-European Division.

AUD/ADCOM/GCDO83AC/G83AC/257-83G/138-84G/85GCS to GRT

119-85G AUSTRALASIAN DIVISION--NAME CHANGED TO
SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION

VOTED, To approve the request of the Australasian Division that the name of the division be changed to South Pacific Division.

ADCOM/GCC/85GCS to GRT

238-85G WEST CENTRAL AFRICAN UNION MISSION--NAME CHANGED
TO CENTRAL AFRICAN UNION MISSION--AID

On January 10, 1985 the General Conference Committee took action discontinuing the former Central African Union Mission. It is

VOTED, To record that the West Central African Union Mission has assumed the name Central African Union Mission as requested by the Africa-Indian Ocean Division.

85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP--ATTACHED UNIONS

VOTED, To authorize each of the attached unions--Middle East Union Mission, South African Union Conference and Southern Union Mission--to appoint one delegate each on the Nominating Committee of the 54th General Conference Session.

GCO/GCDO85GCS/85GCS to GRT

251-85G USSR REPRESENTATIVES--85GCS NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A plan is required for the selection of representatives from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to serve on the 85GCS Nominating Committee.

85-1010
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VOTED, 1. To request the delegates from the USSR to caucus as a group to choose two individuals to serve on the 85GCS Nominating Committee.

2. To request that in selecting the two individuals, one be chosen from each of the two organized associations of the Church in the USSR.

GCO/GCDO85GCS/85GCS to GRT

250-85G CAUCUSING OF DELEGATES FROM UNIONS BEING
TRANSFERRED BETWEEN DIVISIONS

Caucus arrangements are needed for delegates from unions which are being proposed for future transfer from one division to another.

VOTED, 1. To instruct delegates from unions being proposed for transfer from one division to another to meet with the caucus of the new division to which they will belong.

2. To instruct delegates to sit with the delegations of the divisions to which they currently belong.

R E C E S S

85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE ADDITION

VOTED, To authorize Loma Linda Foods to name one person to serve on the Nominating Committee.

85GCS to RFW

SEATING OF ADDITIONAL DELEGATES

VOTED, To seat the following delegates at large under the 25 percent provision of Article III, Section 3-b of the Constitution:

Richard Nies in place of James M Crawford, Loma Linda University

85GCS/DivNomCaucus/85GCS to GRT

256-85G NOMINATING COMMITTEE--MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENT

VOTED, To appoint the following as members of the standing Nominating Committee of the 54th Session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists:

Abdonel Abel, Caleb Adeogun, M Afonso, Japhet Agboka, Betty Ahnberg, Adekunle Alalade, E W Amundson, M Angawa, N R Arit, S A Armah, R J Atkin, F Augsburg, Z Ayonga, R Azavedo, Kyaw Balay, Pablo Balboa, Sergio Balboa, M S Baluku, Stefano Barabuliye, D Basterra, Bruce Bauer, D K Bazarra, Matthew Bediako, Mikel Beesoo, J Bellesi, H Berg,

K Bhaskara Rao, A E Birch, Bekele Biri, Mardian Blair, Gordon Blandford, W D Blehm, V F Bocala, D M Borba, C M Borda, F A Botomani, Reinder Bruisma, A Bullon, G Burnham, Luis Cadiz, Walter Cameron, Norberto Carmona, Isaac Carpin, R H Carter, Silvanus Chioma, K Chisakula, C D Christian, P D Chun, Y K Chung, R E Cobbin, W O Coe,

Flor Conopio, Daniel Cordas, D E Coy, Cami Cruz, Jaime Cruz, L C Cruz, P Daboyan, S Dabrowski, Kebede Daka, D David, A de Angel, P B de Freitas, Z Deucher, P M Diaz, F X Dos Santos, N Duarte, C E Dudley, Atilio Dupertuis, J A Edgecombe, V D Edward, A Enriquez, R D Fearing, Luis Florez, R R Frame, N S Fraser, S L Gadsby, Agustin Galicia,

E Garcia, Isaac Gomez, Aristides Gonzalez, Malcolm Gordon, R Gorski, Tevni Grajales, C A Gray, Helen Griffiths, Napoleon Grunder, Samuel Guizar, R Gullon, James Hayward, Elie Henry, George Hermans, J Hildebrandt, L Hmingliana, D W Holbrook, Roger Isaacs, Amon Iyamuremye, G C Johnson, Bruce Johnston, B N Josiah, C D Judd,

J A Justiniano, S Kabuye, K Kalume, Gerry Karst, T Katemba, E Kilian, C W Kim, P B Kopolo, Michel Krakonan, Merlin Kretchmar, M P Kulakov, Jonathan Kuntaraf, J N Kyale, Max Laurent, B E Leach, C S Lee, John Lee, W R Leshner, J Lobos, H Long, J Lorencin, William Loveless, H Luna Victoria, Y Lusingu, B Mabote, J Madsen, Orlando Manuela,

Mrs B Marks, O Martinborough, Daniel Martinez, W L Masoka, L Masuku, W H Mattison, G E Maxson, Siegfried Mayr, N Mbuguje, A C McClure, R McKenzie, W O Mendez, Cyril Miller, D E G Mitchell, R V Moe, A Moises, Paul Monk, G Monroy, H Moran, D Moroz, T J Mostert, A C Mpofu, E Mpyisi, B Muganda, M A Munoz, E J Murray, Nathanael Musaza, M Muze,

Nyembo Mwema, Senzo Nagakubo, Z M Ncube, G T Ng, D M Niare, J Niedermeier, Emmanuel Nlo, K V Oossanen, H F Otis, Jr, E Owotor, K Owusu-Mensa, Robert Peck, J O Perla, Pablo Perla, Alejo Pizarro, C S Plummer, D Popa, H D Posse, Neftali Quintero, A M Radjagukuk, L D Raelly, Donato Ramirez, Alex Rantung, L Reiche, B Reichel, Jorge Reid,

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O Reis, P C Rema, A Ribeiro, R D Riches, M Riveros, H A Roach, Paul Robberson, C B Rock, A P Roda, O Rouhe, Guiscard Sablier, M Salomon, N Sand, J Santos, T Sarli, N E Scavella, K Seligman, Victor Shepherd, R S Shinge, O Sladek, E Snorrason, Jerry Snowden, Helen Socol, Bahasa Soemarna, N Spady, E M Stiles, R Surridge, Shozo Tabuchi, P I Thomas,

S Thompson, A H Tolhurst, Joel Tompkins, Manuel Vasquez, J C Viera, C Villeneuve, H H Voss, V S Wakaba, M Walemba, Elton Wallace, William Wampler, P Wangai, E C Ward, Esther Ward, M E Weir, Arturo Weisheim, J W Wilson, Ronald Wisbey, N J Woods, D Woolley, Naomi Yamashiro, Yukio Yokomizo, Samuel Young, Fernando Zabala, N A Zhukaluk.

Adjourned.

F W Wernick, Chairman
G R Thompson, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Martha Horn and
Betty Pierson, Recording Secretaries

SECOND BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
June 28, 1985, 9:30 a.m.

TRE/85GCS to LLB

FINANCIAL REPORTS/AUDITORS' STATEMENT FOR QUINQUENNium 1980-1984

VOTED, 1. To approve the financial report of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the quinquennium (1980-1984) including the operations of the General Conference, the General and Hospital Retirement Plans, the General Conference Corporation and the General Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists.

2. To approve the auditors statement of Maner, Costerisan and Ellis, Certified Public Accounts, read by Jack Powers.

NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #1

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

General Conference

President, Neal C Wilson
Secretary, G Ralph Thompson

EAD/85GCS to NCW

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT OF BOTSWANA

Bekele Heye presented a letter of congratulation and petition to Neal C Wilson from the President of Botswana.

VOTED, To acknowledge the request of the President of Botswana and ensure him of the prayers of the Church on his behalf.

Adjourned

Alf Lohne, Chairman
J W Bothe, Secretary and Editor
Martha Horn, Recording Secretary

THIRD BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
June 28, 1985, 2:00 p.m.

GCO/GCC/GCO/GCDO84AC/ONUP84AC/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/208-84GN/85GCS to NCW

140-85GN ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT

(Pages referred to are the numbers of the pages of the 1985 General Conference Session support material filed with the official copy of these minutes.)

VOTED, To consider each section of the Role and Function of Denominational Organizations--Commission Report separately.

Section I-A-5, Page 99

I. PERSERVING THE UNITY OF CHURCH AND MESSAGE

VOTED, To approve Section I-A, The Unity of Denominational Organizations and Its Maintenance, as presented with the exception of paragraph 5 with the following amendment to paragraph 5:

5. Faithful ~~obedience~~ adherence to the Church Manual, applicable throughout the world. (see 85-1026)

Section I-B, Page 99-100

B. The Authority of the General Conference in Maintaining Unity

VOTED, To approve Section I-B, The Authority of the General Conference in Maintaining Unity.

Adjourned.

C B Hirsch, Chairman
D R Christman, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Betty Pierson, Recording Secretary

FOURTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
June 30, 1985, 9:30 a.m.

85GCS to RFW

SEATING OF ADDITIONAL DELEGATES

VOTED, To seat the following delegate at large under the 25 percent provision of Article III, Section 3-b of the Constitution:

Inter-American Division

Virgilio Zaldivar - Cuba Union Conference

GCO/85GCS to NCW

HARVEST 90--REACHING THE UNREACHED

VOTED, To adopt Harvest 90 as the special outreach plan for the coming quinquennium, as follows:

We are in the days of the harvest. The times demand that the Church arise and direct her energies to reaching every region and every ethnic, cultural, and social group. A vast multitude waits to be gathered from "every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people" (Rev 14:6). Said the Lord Himself, "The harvest is the end of the world" (Matt 13:39).

The final harvest of souls is far beyond our human resources. We need the promised latter rain of God's Spirit (see Joel 2:23) in pentecostal blessing and power to prepare the Church for evangelizing the world. To seek this should be our first work. The proclamation of the everlasting gospel and its power demonstrated in the lives of a Spirit-filled people will be used by God to call for the final events of earth. "If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be one hundred conversions to the truth where now there is only one."--9T 189.

During these closing events of the great controversy, we, as leaders of God's people, beseech the Lord of the harvest to pour out His Spirit on the Church. We call upon our members to commit themselves to the goal of Adventism: the completion of the gospel commission in the

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setting of the three angels' messages in preparation for the coming of Jesus.

Realizing that the goal of completing the gospel commission will be reached only with revival and reformation, we call the Church worldwide to:

---- Renewal and personal growth through Bible study, intercessory prayer, fellowship, and worship;

---- Revitalization of family religion, that our homes may become centers of love, care, and witness;

---- Recognition of the local church as the center of evangelism, nurture, and training of members for ministry;

---- Renewed proclamation of the Biblical-prophetic message of the Seventh-day Adventists;

---- Reclamation of inactive members of the church, and emphasis on maximizing church attendance;

---- Reaffirmation of the principles and standards of the Church, calling for reformation in appearance and lifestyle;

---- Reaching the large numbers of people who as yet are unreached by the gospel.

In view of our solemn responsibility to this desperate world, we urge each member to seek the "double portion" of the Spirit (2 Kings 2:9), and we prayerfully commit ourselves to doubling the strength of God's worldwide spiritual family during the quinquennium 1985-1990. By God's grace, it is our united desire and decision to:

1. Double, in every division, union, conference, local field, and church, the number of accessions that were achieved during the One Thousand Days of Reaping.

2. Double the number of members equipped for soul-winning activities according to their spiritual gifts, making every Seventh-day Adventist church a center of training for service.

To Jesus the Lord of the harvest, we give glory as we launch HARVEST 90. We pray that every member will join together in prayer, sacrifice, and commitment to doubling the strength of the Church between now and 1990.

GCO/GCC/GCO/GCDO84AC/ONUP84AC/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/208-84GN/85GCS to NCW

140-85GN ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT (Continued)

(Pages referred to are the numbers of the pages of the 1985 General Conference Session support material filed with the official copy of these minutes.)

VOTED, To approve Section I, C through E, with the following amendments:

Section I-C, Pages 100,101

Page 100. Section C, General Conference Delegated Power, has been rewritten as follows and paragraphs 1-10 rearranged as indicated:

The Church has delegated to the General Conference certain authority and areas of responsibility.

The worldwide work of the Church is conducted by the General Conference ~~conducts much of its work~~ through its division sections, which embrace local and union conferences/missions in large areas of the world. The divisions are the General Conference in their respective territories, and actions of the division committees are considered final, provided they are in harmony with the plans and policies of the General Conference as set forth in its Constitution, Bylaws, and Annual Councils.

Areas of authority and responsibility delegated to the General Conference in session are:

1. Church doctrine
2. Church Manual
3. The acceptance of unions into the sisterhood of unions

Areas of authority and responsibility delegated to the General Conference in session or to its executive committee are:

1. Church polity and world Working Policy
2. Issues that have interdivisional aspects or consequences
3. Election of world/division staffs
4. The worldwide designation and sharing of financial resources as expressed in the General Conference budget, including world mission offerings

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5. The operation of certain institutions of vital importance to the Church as a whole
6. Publishing certain journals of worldwide significance to the Church
7. Preparing the various Sabbath School lessons. (see 85-1028)

Section I-D, Pages 101-103

Page 101, lines 41-44 were amended as follows:

The division is not a separate constituent level but an administrative unit of the General Conference, with commensurate authority to carry out responsibilities in the territory assigned to it. It is not a separate constituent level of organization. (rest of paragraph unchanged) (see 85-1029)

Page 102, line 29: recommendations of the General Conference/division, thus uniting the local . . . (see 85-1029)

Page 102, lines 41, 42: churches and organizations, except where circumstances would indicate that it is more appropriate for the local conference/mission to do so. especially where several conferences in the same country or state could not do this. (see 85-1030)

Page 102, line 45: conferences/missions to the General Conference/division in two ways: (see 85-1030)

NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #2

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

General Conference

Treasurer, Donald F Gilbert

Adjourned

Lowell L Bock, Chairman
Roy F Williams, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Martha Horn, Recording Secretary

FIFTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
June 30, 1985, 3:15 p.m.

GCO/GCC/GCO/GCDO84AC/ONUP84AC/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/208-84GN to NCW-85GCS

140-85GN ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT (Continued)

(Pages referred to are the numbers of the pages of the 1985 General Conference Session support material filed with the official copy of these minutes.)

Section I-F-6, Page 103

I. PERSERVING THE UNITY OF CHURCH AND MESSAGE

VOTED, To approve Section F, World Vision as a Unifying Force on All Levels, 1-8, amending 6 to read as follows:

6. Internationalization of General Conference and/division staffs and institutions whose objective is to train international students. (see 85-1031)

Section II-A-B-C, Page 104

II. OFFICERS, DEPARTMENTS, AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES, FUNCTIONS, AND RELATIONSHIPS

VOTED, To approve Section II-A, Committee System of Governance as presented.

VOTED, To approve Section II-B, Authority of Officers as presented.

VOTED, To approve Section II-C, Role and Function of Departments, with the following amendments on lines 31, 32 and 34.

Departmental leaders directors/associates are the facilitators of the mission of the Church. (see 85-1032)

The duties of departmental leaders directors/associates are generally not along executive lines, but lie primarily in giving leadership to program planning and promotion. Furthermore, departments

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vary in their activities and responsibilities. Some departments are more "promotional" while others are more "administrative." Some departments are more involved in "problem solving" while others are more "service" oriented. (see 85-1032)

The departmental directors are elected by the constituency and therefore work under the direction of the executive committee. However, operationally and administratively they are responsible to the president, and assist him and the other officers in promoting plans and work outlined by the committee.

Section III-A-B, Page 105

III. THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF LAY PERSONS ON THE VARIOUS LEVELS OF CHURCH ORGANIZATION

VOTED, To approve Section III-A, Introductions and Section III-B, Recommendations, as presented.

85GCC To RFW

COMMITTEE ON THE SEATING OF ADDITIONAL DELEGATES AND ADDITIONAL STANDING COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

VOTED, To add the name of Virgilio Saldivar, Inter-American Division, to the Nominating Committee.

Adjourned.

Enoch Oliveira, Chairman
J W Bothe, Secretary and Actions Editor
Betty Pierson, Recording Secretary

SIXTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 1, 1985, 9:30 a.m.

NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #3

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

General Conference

General Vice-Presidents, Enoch Oliveira
Kenneth J Mittleider

GCO/GCC/GCO/GCDO84AC/ONUP84AC/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/208-84GN to NCW-85GCS

140-85GN ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT (Continued)

(Pages referred to are the number of the pages of the 1985 General Conference Session support material filed with the official copy of these minutes.)

Section IV-A-B, Pages 107 and 108

IV. THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES ON THE
VARIOUS LEVELS OF CHURCH ORGANIZATION

VOTED, To approve Section IV, A and B, without amendments.

Adjourned

Enoch Oliveira and
Neal C Wilson, Chairmen
D R Christman, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Martha Horn, Recording Secretary

SEVENTH BUSINESS MEETING
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 1, 1985, 3:00 p.m.

GCO/GCC/GCO/GCDO84AC/ONUP84AC/GCD0UP84AC/G84AC/208-84GN/85GCS to NCW

140-85GN ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT

VOTED, To accept the full report of the Role and Function of
Denominational Organizations Commission as amended in previous meetings
of this session as follows:

- I. Preserving the Unity of Church and Message
- II. Officers, Departments, and Executive Committees: Administrative
Roles, Functions, and Relationships
- III. The Role and Function of Lay Persons on the Various Levels of
Church Organization
- IV. The Role and Function of Departments and Services on the Various
Levels of Church Organization
- V. The Role and Function of the North American Division
- VI. Implementation of Recommendations Made by the Commission on Role
and Function of Denominational Organizations
- VII. Application at Local Church Level

I. PRESERVING THE UNITY OF CHURCH AND MESSAGE

A. The Unity of Denominational Organizations and Its Maintenance

In contrast to most other churches, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is a world church. Its organization permits both a centralized structure (an authoritative and effective world headquarters with division offices) and a decentralized sharing of administrative and promotional responsibilities with many individuals and organizations on four constituency levels in all parts of the world.

Unity, "that they all may be one" (John 17:21), is basic to the nature of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Ellen G White admonished, "God wants His people to counsel together, to be a united church, in Christ a perfect whole. . . . 'Press together, press together, press together.'" (2SM 374).

Such unity can be maintained through:

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1. Adherence to a common Bible-based faith. This doctrinal faith is expressed through the "Statement of Fundamental Beliefs" approved and voted by the General Conference in session.
2. Following the counsel of the writings of Ellen G White, translating them into scores of languages, and distributing them widely. These writings are of vital importance to unity of belief, unity of standards (life style) and unity of working methods.
3. Strong evangelistic proclamation of the Advent Message in its time-of-the-end setting.
4. Developing and strengthening a universal ethos that will characterize Adventists as a unique, worldwide, evangelistic, moral, healthy, happy, caring family.
5. Faithful adherence to the Church Manual, applicable throughout the world.
6. Constitutional structures. The General Conference Working Policy should contain model constitutions for Church organizations on the various levels. These are to be followed closely and adhered to in essence at the various levels of Church organization. When a constitution is adopted or revised by an organization, it should be with the counsel of the next higher organization and in harmony with the General Conference Working Policy.
7. Strong, effective leadership with the ability to achieve the mission of the Church.
8. Proper decentralization on various levels and within each level, thus making unity and belonging to the whole more desirable and functional by relating working leadership as closely as possible to local circumstances and to a responsible constituency. Remote control easily becomes a source of frustration and division.
9. Church leaders and organizations operating the Church in their area of responsibility in full harmony with the General Conference Working Policy. Thus unity of working methods and organization are maintained. (Church officials not able or not willing to do this should not be continued in leadership positions.)
10. One ordained ministry serving the worldwide Church.
11. One policy for the Church worldwide which recognizes spiritual gifts and provides for the setting apart of certain leaders for special responsibilities through the laying on of hands in response to God's call as it is recognized by the people of God.

B. Authority of the General Conference* in Maintaining Unity

The Seventh-day Adventist Church stepped onto the stage of history at the call of prophecy.

The General Conference is the highest organization in the administration of the worldwide Church and derives its authority from God through the people of God led by the Holy Spirit. The authority of the General Conference is the authority of the entire Church, joining together to do the gospel work and maintaining the unity of faith in all the world (See GC B 12 15).

The General Conference is not an entity apart from the churches, conferences, and unions that comprise the world Seventh-day Adventist Church. The General Conference "is the sum of all these" (See GC B 12 15). It is the main manifestation of the worldwide nature of the Church. The General Conference helps to maintain unity through:

1. Defining and upholding the faith of the Church.
2. Administrative leadership and influence.
3. Encouraging all entities and members to share responsibility for support of the world Church and finishing the work.
4. Creating policies at Annual Councils for the worldwide Church.
5. Upholding the tie-in between the levels of denominational structures.
6. Visits, counsel, promotion throughout the world by its staff.

C. General Conference Delegated Powers

The Church has delegated to the General Conference certain authority and areas of responsibility.

The worldwide work of the Church is conducted by the General Conference through its division sections, which embrace local and union

*Where the term "General Conference" is used in this document, it refers to the General Conference in session or the General Conference Executive Committee between sessions.

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conferences/missions in large areas of the world. The divisions are the General Conference in their respective territories, and actions of the division committees are considered final, provided they are in harmony with the plans and policies of the General Conference as set forth in its Constitution, Bylaws, and Annual Councils.

Areas of authority and responsibility delegated to the General Conference in session are:

1. Church doctrine
2. Church Manual
3. The acceptance of unions into the sisterhood of unions.

Areas of authority and responsibility delegated to the General Conference in session or to the General Conference Executive Committee are:

1. Church polity and world Working Policy
2. Issues that have interdivisional aspects or consequences
3. Election of world/division staffs
4. The worldwide designation and sharing of financial resources as expressed in the General Conference budget, including world mission offerings
5. The operation of certain institutions of vital importance to the Church as a whole
6. Publishing certain journals of worldwide significance to the Church
7. Preparing the various Sabbath School lessons.

D. Relationships Between Church Organizations

It is important for the unified operation of the Church that the basic levels of structure (church, conference/mission, union, General Conference/division) be maintained and kept in creative, pragmatic, and balanced relationship. The recent study, including field interviews, by the Commission on the Role and Function of Denominational Organizations clearly confirms this.

Fundamental to church unity is the local church, the organized fellowship of individual believers in each place. The conference/mission unites organizationally the churches in a specific geographic area. The union represents a united body of conferences/missions within

a larger territory. The General Conference embraces all unions and churches in all parts of the world and joins together the whole worldwide fellowship of believers into a united body.

The division is not a separate constituent level but an administrative unit of the General Conference, with commensurate authority to carry out responsibilities in the territory assigned to it. As its name "division" implies, it is a section of the General Conference, not an "association" or "joining" of church organizations, as is the case for unions or conferences.

The various levels of denominational organization provide ascending previews and reviews of leadership. Thus elected or appointed representatives can function freely, in a balanced relationship, and handle aspects of administration, coordination, and promotion that need to go no higher. This eliminates inefficiency or even failure that comes from distant control and lack of firsthand information and direct involvement.

Inter-organizational relationships are based on mutual cooperation, counsel and trust. This means that each level or organization must have the authority and ability to carry out, in harmony with the Church Manual and overall Church policy, its assigned tasks and responsibilities, without duplication on, or stifling control from, other levels.

The basic constituent blocks of the world Church are the unions. The constituent units of unions are conferences/missions. The unions perform several vital functions:

1. Coordinate and preserve unity in beliefs, plans, policies and focus for the preaching of the gospel in the territory of a group of conferences/missions. To do this effectively, the territory and number of conferences/missions must not be unreasonably large.
2. Provide closer and more frequent contact with local conferences/missions than the General Conference/division is able to maintain.
3. Speak on behalf of the General Conference/division to the conferences/missions and their churches, reflecting the actions and recommendations of the General Conference/division, thus uniting the local organizations behind the world program of the Church.
4. Provide training, counsel and guidance for the personnel of the local conferences/missions and serve as a resource center.
5. Operate certain institutions (e.g., colleges) on behalf of the local conferences/missions, keeping the administration of these institutions responsive to the needs and wishes of the local organizations.

6. Represent the Church officially to government and to other churches and organizations, except where circumstances would indicate that it is more appropriate for either the local conference/mission or a division-authorized interunion organization to do so.

7. Reflect the needs, wishes and concerns of the local conferences/missions to the General Conference/division in two ways:

a. The union presidents are constitutionally members of the General Conference/division committees.

b. The union conference/mission is the constituent body of the General Conference, and its delegates help elect the Committee, officers and department directors of the General Conference/divisions.

8. Provide back-up levels of administration and appeal.

E. Unity Between the General Conference and the North American Division. (See also Section V, The Role and Function of the North American Division, pp 85-1038,1039.)

Traditionally, the North American Division has been an integral part of the General Conference and administered by the General Conference. There are, of course, significant reasons for the "special relationship."

In view of past history, current administrative and pragmatic realities, and expected future prophetic development (e.g., role of the United States in the final prophetic events), it is unwise to plan for North America's becoming a division "like all other divisions." North America, in the Seventh-day Adventist setting, is unique. There needs to be a close and continuous relationship between the General Conference and North America. While it is advantageous for North America to have and be perceived to have its own identity, leadership, planning and coordinated evangelism, this role and function must be exercised in close cooperation with, and within, the General Conference. The North American Division-General Conference relationship must be more than ever one of cooperation and unity.

F. World Vision as a Unifying Force on All Levels

A vision of the world task of the Church is a potent and necessary force for unity. Where a church lacks this unifying and motivating vision, church unity will eventually perish. It is thus important to hold before the membership the world Church concept, "from everywhere to everywhere," through:

1. Continued weekly emphasis on Sabbath School world mission.

2. Exchange of workers and calls from everywhere to everywhere.
3. Volunteer service in other countries.
4. The Adventist Review, division and union papers, and other such publications.
5. General Conference and division visitation in the field.
6. Internationalization of General Conference/division staffs and of institutions whose purpose is to train international students
7. Regular promotion of world mission offerings, Ingathering, etc.
8. Invitation to selected union, conference and institutional leadership and pastors to visit other divisions to become acquainted with the life and needs of the world Church.

II. OFFICERS, DEPARTMENTS, AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES, FUNCTIONS, AND RELATIONSHIPS. (See also "Background Information, Committee System of Church Governance" pp 85-1056-1061.)

A. Committee System of Governance

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has a representative form of church government and functions between sessions of the constituency on what can be called the "committee system," administrative authority on all levels being vested in the executive committee. The committee has legislative, executive and oversight functions. The committee system is based on Biblical models and the need for a multitude of counselors (Prov. 11:14). The Ellen G. White counsel is clear regarding the sharing of responsibility.

Historically, the imitation of secular forms of government and organization has been an ever-present, but dangerous, attraction to the church. Today, government, business and academic structural forms in various countries are having an influence upon Seventh-day Adventist Church governance. In some countries it is easy for church members to

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think of the Church as a presidential system* with all other officers subordinated to the president. However, there are ecclesiological dangers in following such a system based on secular models of government, business, corporation, or academe. The Biblical advice is,

"It shall not be so among you." (Matt. 20:26). The Spirit of Prophecy counsels us to avoid "kingly power" (8T 232-233), which is the misuse of administrative authority within the Church (Matt. 20:26).

B. Authority of Officers

The president is the first officer and chairman of the executive committee. The secretary and treasurer derive their constitutional authority from the constitution and are elected by the same constituency that elected the president, and with the president work under the authority of the committee. The president has been elected to lead. His co-officers must acknowledge his leadership and work in close counsel with him, and vice versa. The concept of making the secretary or treasurer vice-presidents, runs counter to the basic Adventist model of Church government with its inbuilt distributed responsibility.

The authority of the officers as a group is the combined authority of the offices of the president, secretary, and treasurer. While their collegial authority does not grant the officers additional authority beyond the constitutional authority of their offices, yet it does increase their practical management.

The officers are not a substitute for the committee, but they do have important functions in directing the work of the committee and supervising executive implementation of its actions. Their responsibilities include bringing recommendations or options to the committee.

The officers function as management and execute the actions of the committee.

C. Role and Function of Departments

Departmental directors/associates are the facilitators of the mission of the Church.

*In the context of the Seventh-day Adventist Church governance, the presidential system is defined as any constitutional or organizational provision that would center authority in one person to whom the secretary and treasurer would be responsible; as compared to the committee system in which authority is shared and exercised by elected officers who are accountable to the executive committee, which in turn derives its authority from the constituency.

The duties of departmental directors/associates are generally not along executive lines, but lie primarily in giving leadership to program planning and promotion. Furthermore, departments vary in their activities and responsibilities. Some departments are more "promotional" while others are more "administrative." Some departments are more involved in "problem solving" while others are more "service" oriented.

The departmental directors are elected by the constituency and therefore work under the direction of the executive committee. However, operationally and administratively they are responsible to the president, and assist him and the other officers in promoting plans and work outlined by the committee.

III. THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF LAY PERSONS ON THE VARIOUS LEVELS OF CHURCH ORGANIZATION

A. Introduction

Our Lord established the Church by giving to all of its members the responsibility of ministry and witness. He provides through the Holy Spirit gifts and skills to meet the responsibility of gospel proclamation.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church began as a lay movement, and the Spirit of Prophecy highlights the key role of the Church membership as a whole in finishing the work. The governance of the Church is the responsibility of the total membership. The trend toward increased participation of lay persons in witnessing and Church governance is a positive development. Broadbased and active participation by church members will improve the decision-making process by bringing in various viewpoints. Increased participation will improve communication within the Church and will provide a greater sense of belonging and understanding among all segments of the Church.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Active membership participation in church planning and decision-making needs to be maximized.

2. Conference and union committees should have elected lay representation to meaningfully involve the resources of the Church membership. Elected representation on the General Conference and division committees is also important.

3. Divisions should endeavor to give counsel and direction to their subsidiary organizations regarding the proper proportion of lay representation appropriate for their executive committees and institutional boards. They should take into consideration that local

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conferences/missions which have direct contact with churches and congregations may have a higher proportion of lay representation than General Conference/division and union or institutional organizations, which have relatively less direct contact with those levels of Church organization.

4. In order to ensure quality participation:

a. Persons selected to participate in committees should be representative of the Church in stewardship, life style and witness and have given evidence of active support of the local church's mission in proclaiming the gospel.

b. Church organizations should provide training materials to equip individuals in more effective Seventh-day Adventist committee work.

c. Church members should be educated by the Church's communication media in the history and philosophy of Church organization. An information leaflet should be provided for their orientation.

IV. THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES ON THE VARIOUS LEVELS OF CHURCH ORGANIZATION

A. Introduction

The departments and services have contributed substantially to the growth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a worldwide body of believers. The varied activities fostered by the departments are incorporated into the conference/mission and local church programs and are a characteristic of the Church at present. This fact reveals the value which the Church has attached to its departments over many years.

The following recommendations do not diminish the value of the departments and services but will hopefully correct some problems which are perceived throughout the worldwide field as jeopardizing the importance of the functions which they foster.

Many around the world believe that the number of departmental personnel should be reduced on every organizational level. Responding to these concerns, this report outlines certain changes on all levels. It has been felt that duplication of functions should be eliminated on the various levels with conferences/missions being primarily program- and planning-oriented, while those on the other levels would be more resource- and concept-oriented, thus shifting the emphasis which seems to have predominated in more recent years.**

**The term "department" is at times used in this document to refer not only to departments, but also to "services" and "agencies."

B. Guidelines for Departments of the General Conference

1. Role

a. To develop concepts, provide expertise, produce resources, and prepare materials and publications necessary to preserve the worldwide unity of the Church, and which cannot be produced as economically and effectively in a division office (or by a union in the North American Division).

b. To coordinate, evaluate, and monitor the resources and materials produced by the division offices.

c. To evaluate the functions and effectiveness of departmental projects on lower levels, counsel with directors of those departments, and advise administration on progress.

d. To give leadership and coordination to those programs which the Church body, through its general councils, may decide should be given unified support around the world and may assign to a specified department as its responsibility.

2. Organization

a. Ministerial Association

b. Department of Church Ministries, the functions of the following departments to be incorporated: (See also "GC Departmental Realignment--Church Ministries", page 85-1047 and "Background Information, GC Church Ministries Department", pp 85-1050-1055.)

- 1). Lay Activities
- 2). Sabbath School
- 3). Stewardship and Development
- 4). Youth
- 5). Home and Family Service (see 85-1047)

c. Communication Department, a service-related organization which serves the administration and all the departments.

d. Education Department

e. Health and Temperance Department

f. Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department

g. Publishing Department

h. Services, agencies and organizations that serve the world Church.

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3. General Suggestions

a. Regular meetings (not less than quarterly) for the planning and evaluation of the overall program and administration of the Church should be held. On the General Conference level these would include officer representation and department heads. Parallel meetings should also take place on a regular basis on the other levels of Church structure.

b. When filling a departmental vacancy, administrators are expected to counsel with the departmental director on the next higher level of the organization.

C. Guidelines for Departments and Services in the Divisions of the General Conference

1. The same guidelines and groupings should be used as those outlined for the General Conference headquarters office, except the term "unions" should be used to replace the term "divisions."

2. It is possible that in some divisions not every department/service will be separately staffed. Flexibility must be allowed to cover these cases.

D. Guidelines for Departments and Services on the Union Conference/Mission Level

1. Role

a. To assist the union president and the committee in coordinating departmental activities in the territory of a group of conferences/missions.

b. To serve as resource people and consultants to the departments in the local conferences/missions of the union.

c. To facilitate communication by the General Conference/division with the departments on the local conference/mission level.

d. To assist local conferences/missions in the finding of expertise and resources and, where necessary, in planning and promoting programs.

e. To help in adapting resources and materials to the needs of local areas.

2. Organization

a. Department of Church Ministries with one director, unless after study and counsel with the division it is felt desirable in certain unions to have one or more associate directors

b. Other departments/services as needed

c. The Departments of Communication, Health and Temperance, and Public Affairs and Religious Liberty would normally operate on the union level and where needed on the conference/mission level.

d. It is the intent of the proposed organization to reduce the number of personnel in all the areas.

E. Guidelines for Departments and Services on the Conference/Mission Level

1. Role

a. To work with the local churches in planning, creating and implementing programs as may be deemed wise and necessary.

b. To provide, where requested, appropriate support to programs in the local churches.

c. To coordinate and adapt resources prepared at the higher levels of the organization.

d. To coordinate those programs that general Church councils have determined as necessary for implementation throughout the unified world Church.

e. To hold workshops and seminars for the training of pastors and lay persons, using available expertise in counsel with the union.

2. Organization

a. Department of Church Ministries with a director and associates as may be needed.

b. Departments/services as may be needed, but not necessarily duplicating the departments/services in the union. (Please refer back to the union section.)

F. Guidelines Governing the Relationship of the Departments in the General Conference with the North American Division

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1. When the General Conference produces materials and publications for other divisions which it expects will be used in North America, it should cooperate with the North American Division in those materials in order to reduce duplication.

2. The North American Division departments may produce resources and materials which are especially suitable and adapted to the North American field.

3. The North American Division should not produce materials or publications for divisions outside North America unless specifically requested to do so by the General Conference department concerned and with the input and cooperation of the divisions and the General Conference department.

4. The departmental associate(s) for the North American Division should engage in regular consultation with and briefing of the General Conference departmental director with reference to the activities of the associate(s).

5. There should be no change in major departmental policies and procedures without consultation with directors of the General Conference departments/services.

6. Because the General Conference is located in the United States and because the nature of major public issues demands that the Church speak with one voice, the North American Division personnel in the Departments of Communication, and Public Affairs/Religious Liberty shall rely on and work closely with the professional staff at the General Conference level of organization in order to deal effectively in a unified manner with major national public affairs and communication issues.

V. THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION (See also "Background Information, GC-NAD Special Relationship", pp 85-1041-1047)
The role and function of the North American Division is as follows:

A. To maintain the special relationship which has existed historically between the General Conference and the North American Division.

B. To continue operating the General Conference and North American Division headquarters offices in the same complex but with facilities arranged so as to provide visible and functional unity and identity for the North American Division and its assigned staff.

C. To define more specifically the role and responsibilities assigned to the North American Division and to the General Conference staff members assigned to the North American Division.

D. To rename the North American Division Committee on Administration (NADCA), North American Division Committee (NADCOM).

E. To revise as necessary the terms of reference for the North American Division Committee on Administration (See NAD C 10 and C 50) to describe the larger role which will be assigned to the North American Division Committee (NADCOM).

F. To include in the terms of reference of the North American Division Committee (now NADCA) the authority to appoint standing and ad hoc study groups/task forces and commissions that deal mainly with North American Division, unions, conferences, and institutions.

G. To delineate the responsibilities and authority delegated to the North American Division Officers (NADO).

1. To include in the terms of reference of the North American Division Officers the authority to administer those areas which affect mainly the North American Division, its staff, and its subsidiary organizations.

2. To include in the terms of reference of the North American Division Officers the responsibility for recommending support personnel and assignments of staff serving the North American Division.

H. To designate the vice president of the General Conference for the North American Division also as the president of the North American Division and chairman of the North American Division Committee. He will be responsible to the General Conference Committee as provided by the General Conference Bylaws, Article III, Vice-presidents.

I. To elect those who are to be the officers and departmental directors of the North American Division to positions as associate treasurers, associate secretaries, and associate departmental directors of the General Conference, with the additional titles reflecting their respective positions in the North American Division (i.e. Secretary, North American Division; Treasurer, North American Division; Director, Education Department, North American Division; etc).

J. To request the General Conference Treasurer to follow a new approach in making appropriations to the North American Division by allocating the total general budget for the Division as a single total instead of assigning appropriations to specific purposes as in the past.

K. To ask the treasury to prepare an annual estimate of the cost of operating the North American Division.

L. To make no immediate amendments to the General Conference Constitution incorporating the changes recommended in this report, but rather to administer on a trial basis during the next quinquennium

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(1985-1990) those recommendations relating to the General Conference/North American Division relationship which may be approved by an Annual Council.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMISSION ON ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

It is realized that the implementation of recommendations made by the RFDCC will take some time. It is suggested:

A. That these 1984 Annual Council recommendations be submitted to the 1985 General Conference Session for approval and for authorization needed for implementation on a trial basis between 1985 and 1990.

B. That changes within the General Conference and division headquarters staff and organization, based on these actions, be implemented at the 1985 General Conference Session.

C. That changes at the union and local conference/mission levels be implemented not later than the first constituency meeting after the 1985 Annual Council.

D. That a report be presented to the 1990 General Conference Session concerning the effectiveness of the new program.

VII. APPLICATION AT LOCAL CHURCH LEVEL

The recommendations of the Role and Function of Denominational Organizations Commission relating to the organization of a Church Ministries Department, are intended to give emphasis and focus to four important functions within the Seventh-day Adventist Church: Lay Activities, Sabbath School, Stewardship and Development, and Youth Ministries. (See also page 85-1047 for incorporation of Home and Family Service.)

The new Church Ministries Department will have as its primary purpose the giving of optimum support to the local church pastor and leaders in those areas of activity which take place in the local church on a weekly basis, will seek to give overall leadership in the four major areas assigned to it, and will coordinate the production of materials for teaching, training and inspiring church members of all ages for effective nurture and soul-winning outreach.

It has been noted that true lay activity is done at the local church level, Sabbath Schools as such exist only on the local church level, Youth societies and Pathfinder Clubs, etc., all operate only on the local church level, Stewardship is learned and practiced by individuals on the local church level on a weekly basis. Therefore,

although a single Church Ministries Department is being provided for at the conference, union and General Conference/Division levels, the plan also provides that on the local church level all former ministries are to continue to function. Their activities, however, could be coordinated through a local Church Ministries Council.

N84AC/208-84NGXb/85GCS to NCW+CEB

140-85NGXb ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN
DIVISION--IMPLEMENTATION

VOTED, To authorize the North American Division to proceed with the implementation of The Role and Function of Denominational Organizations Commission report, Section V, "The Role and Function of the North American Division."

GCO/GCC/GCO/GCDO84AC/ONUP84AC/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/208-84GN/85GCS to NCW

140-85GNd ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
COMMISSION REPORT--BACKGROUND INFORMATION, GC-NAD SPECIAL
RELATIONSHIP

VOTED, To include as background information for 140-85GN Role and Function of Denominational Organizations Commission Report the document "The Rationale for a 'Special Relationship'":

THE RATIONALE FOR A "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP"

Historical Background

The relationship between the General Conference and its North American section (division) must be seen and understood in light of the historical development of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is our belief that the Advent Movement came into existence as the direct result of God's plan and His own prophetic timetable; and that the Lord, by divine design and providence, selected the place for the Advent Movement to be born and anchored. We also believe that God specified the mission and the message that should be taken to the world as a final appeal. Then to make sure that the Seventh-day Adventist Church would accomplish its mission in proclaiming the gospel to all the world, we believe that the hand of God was visible in the establishment of an organization and structure to achieve His purpose and eternal design of preparing a "people" for the second coming of Christ.

The Lord does not leave anything to chance. Only God, who knows the end from the beginning, could have foreseen the dramatic developments on the North American Continent. It was from this new continent, the home of two young nations, Canada and the United States, and each

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composed of diverse peoples from many countries, that heaven's final global mission was to be launched. It must be remembered that the United States of America was a land of religious liberty, a land of freedom of conscience, a land of opportunity; a land where slavery was denounced and a Civil War was fought to establish the value of each person; a land of uncalculated natural resources; a land of enormous financial strength--a land of world influence.

As C E Bradford so strikingly stated in a recent article entitled "North America at Midpoint," "Something altogether new was happening on this virgin continent toward the end of the 1260 days of the Church's wilderness journeyings. The way was being prepared for God's final movements on earth. His last appeal to the human family. The end-time message must be cradled, nurtured, and brought to term. If the new nation was conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal,' it was for the purpose of providing fertile soil where the plant of the final message and mission might quickly take root. Seventh-day Adventists have always felt this way, whatever their citizenship or national origin. They have felt that God worked a miracle in bringing about the perfect environment for the "woman" to emerge from the wilderness to speak to the last generation of earth's history (See Rev 12). . . . The rest of the story is well known. Sturdy New England farmers, learned clergymen, and ordinary citizens joined in intensive Bible study and came under the unshakable conviction that the hour had struck. The word must be given. . . . Audacious, daring, bold, they did exploits for God. They believed in the divine mandate and claimed the whole land for the kingdom of God."--The Adventist Review, August 9, 1984.

Controversy Over Formal Organization

A series of unusual events led up to the historic and prophetic date of 1844--a resurgence of Bible study, an interest in prophecy, the "Millerite" movement, the great Advent awakening, and a recognition of the beginning of the hour of God's investigative judgment. As a result companies and groups of Seventh-day Adventists merged and then came the organized churches. Because the pioneers were afraid of falling into the pattern of formalism, spiritual weakness, loss of sense of mission, as seen in the established and organized churches of their day, it was some time before they were willing to organize their churches and companies into conferences.

Those who opposed organization or "order" argued that it would trespass upon the believer's individual Christian liberty and some even said that such a church organization would immediately become Babylon. Those who set forth the benefits of organization pointed out that it would (a) prevent confusion, (b) control fanaticism, (c) unify the standards for acceptance into the gospel ministry, (d) facilitate the holding of property and (e) make provision for the support of the work.

Ellen G White, as early as 1853, urged the establishing of the Church upon "gospel order." After almost a decade of lively discussion, the Michigan Conference, the first of the state conferences, was organized October 6, 1861. In 1862 four other conferences were organized--North and South Iowa, Wisconsin/Illinois, and New York. In January of 1863, Iowa was combined into a single conference and Ohio and Minnesota were also added to the sisterhood of conferences.

Significance of 1863

The General Conference was organized on May 21, 1863 in Battle Creek, Michigan. Delegates from six state conferences gathered for this historic meeting--Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, New York, Ohio, Minnesota. The constitution, after being discussed item by item, was adopted in its entirety. The introduction and the first Article read as follows: "For the purpose of securing unity and efficiency in labor and promoting the general interest of the cause of present truth, and of perfecting the organization of the Seventh-day Adventists, we, the delegates from the several State Conferences, hereby proceed to organize a General Conference and adopt the following constitution for the government thereof:

"Article I. This Conference shall be called the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists."

As one reads the constitution it becomes clear that it was an unincorporated body brought into existence to administer the general affairs of the Church and especially to pursue its evangelistic aim, "to teach all nations the everlasting gospel of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and the commandments of God." This body was to coordinate, to guide and to administer the work of the conferences in the North American Division in order to achieve the objectives of carrying the gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. (See Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, Vol 10, p 495.)

Formation of Unions and Division

The North American Church and the General Conference have enjoyed a mutuality and a close partnership that has continued for 120 years. The General Conference had an exclusive and direct operational relationship with the conferences of North America for almost forty years. Then in 1901 unions were introduced to assist the General Conference in administering the growing world work. Finally in 1919 there is reference to the North American Division, even though nothing had been formally organized.

Unions are accepted and voted into existence by the General Conference in session. They do not create themselves as independent, free-standing entities of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The General Conference decides how it will relate to, and coordinate, the activities

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of unions, which are a part of the General Conference world family of unions and which form the basis and constituency upon which the General Conference itself exists. At no time must any other organizational structure "short-circuit" the relationship between the General Conference/Divisions and the unions upon which the General Conference/Divisions constituency is built.

In the development of the world Church and growing out of the 1901 reorganization, it was clearly recognized that a "special relationship" should continue to exist between the General Conference and its North American Division. There was an interesting experiment with a North American Division Conference between 1913 and 1918. It soon became evident, however, that this was an unworkable arrangement. In 1922 the General Conference Session finally established what appears to be God's leading and providence in connection with the relationship between the General Conference and its divisions.

Uniqueness of the North American Division

At this time the General Conference decided to oversee and administer the work in the North American Division and established what has come to be known as a "special relationship."

Quoting once more from C E Bradford's article: "He planted His last-day movement in North American soil. The work developed progressively--first there were churches, congregations, little flocks scattered here and there. Then there were districts and state conferences, groupings, sisterhoods of churches. At the same time institutions--publishing houses and sanitariums--were developing and organization was growing. The time came when organization must be further perfected, and there was the General Conference, a marvelous organization that brought the branches together in a united whole. The branches of the great tree that first flourished in North America soon spread to other parts of the globe, penetrating its land masses and island communities. But always the North American Church provided resources--both personnel and material--until now we see ten great world divisions, all of them sections of the one General Conference."--Ibid.

The relationship that exists between the General Conference and its North American Division is not one that is shared by any other divisions. In a sense, it is a privileged relationship and one that has served this Church well. For that reason, it seems unwise to alter this arrangement. For the reasons already expressed and for others that are yet to be shared, we feel that "the special relationship" should be maintained and strengthened and that we should not "regularize" the North American Division. To one who is willing to carefully review the historical background, it must be evident that the North American phenomena is unique and cannot be equated with any other section/division of the General Conference.

If the General Conference, with headquarters physically located in North America, wishes to relate to the North American unions in a way

that differs slightly from unions in other parts of the world, it should not be considered strange. It should be admitted, as a statement of fact, that the General Conference needs North America! The resources in terms of manpower, finance, and leadership influence are important in carrying on a world program. The General Conference needs a base of strength in order to adequately perform its function of holding together a world organization and structure which is being attacked from within and from without.

And so, it seems to follow that the General Conference should take the responsibility and initiative in working out how it will relate to the unions and the activities in the North American Division. This decision should not be determined by popular opinion or plebiscite.

Ultimately, relational decisions must be based on what is perceived to be the best approach in order to fulfill our world mission. Our fathers and predecessors in denominational leadership showed great wisdom when they recommended this "special relationship." As they sought divine guidance, the conviction developed that the General Conference could not give successful and harmonious leadership to the world Church if, in a given division territory, there were two centers of final appeal and authority. The present consensus seems to indicate that time has not changed this basic principle. This is especially true when it comes to the North American Division, but would also obtain if the General Conference world headquarters had been located in the territory of one of the other General Conference division territories.

There are a number of factors that constitute valid and logical reasons as to why a "special relationship" exists. To illustrate, let me identify the following items:

1. The office building is shared.
2. The North American Division staff is a part of the General Conference staff and not separate from it.
3. The operation is with a combined budget.
4. The retirement fund is mutually administered.
5. The financial and record keeping systems are unified.
6. The General Conference operates certain major institutions only in the North American Division.
7. The General Conference needs, and has always had, direct access to the manpower pool and human resources in the North American Division. This is vital in order to recruit an adequate number of missionary appointees.
8. The North American Division Board of Higher Education serves as a coordinating body for General Conference institutions of higher education.

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9. The North American Division Publishing Council gives coordination to General Conference publishing houses.

10. The North American Division Adventist Health System/US offers help and guidance to health care institutions operated by the General Conference.

It is obvious that we are interlocked in a "special relationship." The fact that the world headquarters of the Church is located in the North American Division territory and has been here from its inception, makes it impossible for the world headquarters to be silent on issues that exist or arise within the Church or in the public arena. Public authorities and Church leaders expect the General Conference to take positions on matters of current interest and controversy. People expect the General Conference to have the last word and to speak for the Church with ultimate authority. This demands a close working relationship between those in the General Conference (world headquarters) and those assigned to give leadership to the North American Division.

Conclusion

The General Conference is the highest authority and the sum of all the parts, not only philosophically, but also (1) organizationally, (2) legislatively, (3) administratively, (4) judicially, (5) in terms of policy and (6) Church standards. This being the case, it seems that it should be the desire of the conferences, unions, and any other organizations to do everything possible to weld the whole family together and strengthen the hands of the General Conference. It is reassuring to note that in the interviews conducted by teams sent out by the Role and Function Commission to all parts of the world, there was a theme which was universally endorsed--keep the General Conference strong!

It would be folly to do anything or say anything that would in any way weaken the influence and limit the leadership capabilities of the General Conference. If the nature of our structure is changed, it could very easily fragment the Seventh-day Adventist movement and lead towards regional or national churches. This human, and rather natural, tendency must be avoided. To do anything that would encourage congregational government would be a move in the direction of disintegration, and the inability to achieve our divine mission.

The General Conference is not something isolated from administration and leadership. It must not become just a "United Nations General Assembly" or a Council of Seventh-day Adventist Churches. It must have the ability to influence and motivate and also require accountability. The Church must remain united, and this requires strong, centralized authority derived from all of its parts.

When I visited the spiritual and tribal leader of the Ashanti people in Kumasi, Ghana, I learned much from the philosophy shared by this great statesman. As I left the palace, he gave me a very interesting memento to take with me. It was a carving made from the heart of a tree that grows in the Ashanti forests. His Highness the Asanthehe, Nana Opoku Ware II, told me the significance of this carving. It depicts the five fingers of a human hand securely holding an egg. The moral of this is that one who is in authority must hold the egg securely enough so that it does not fall to the ground and be destroyed, but at the same time not hold it so tightly or carelessly that the egg might be crushed within the hand of the holder. This, I think, represents the type of protective authority which the General Conference needs to exercise, and it also cautions against being over authoritarian.

At the very foundation of Adventism is unity, cohesion and oneness. We feel that the "special relationship" which exists between the General Conference and its North American Division is vital to maintaining world unity.

We believe that the message, the mission, and the organization go hand in hand. To remove any one of these three items would seriously threaten the redemptive effectiveness of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in fulfilling the destiny of God's global prophetic movement. The counsel of the Lord is that we should "Press together, press together, press together."

84AC/208-84GNa/GCO/GCO/ONUP85SM/85SM/GCO/85GCS to NCW

140-85GNa GC DEPARTMENTAL REALIGNMENT--CHURCH
MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

VOTED, 1. To approve the model for the General Conference Church Ministries Department as presented in the report entitled "Church Ministries Department of the General Conference" and illustrated by the "General Conference Department of Church Ministries" charts.

2. To direct that a similar model be followed by all divisions of the General Conference.

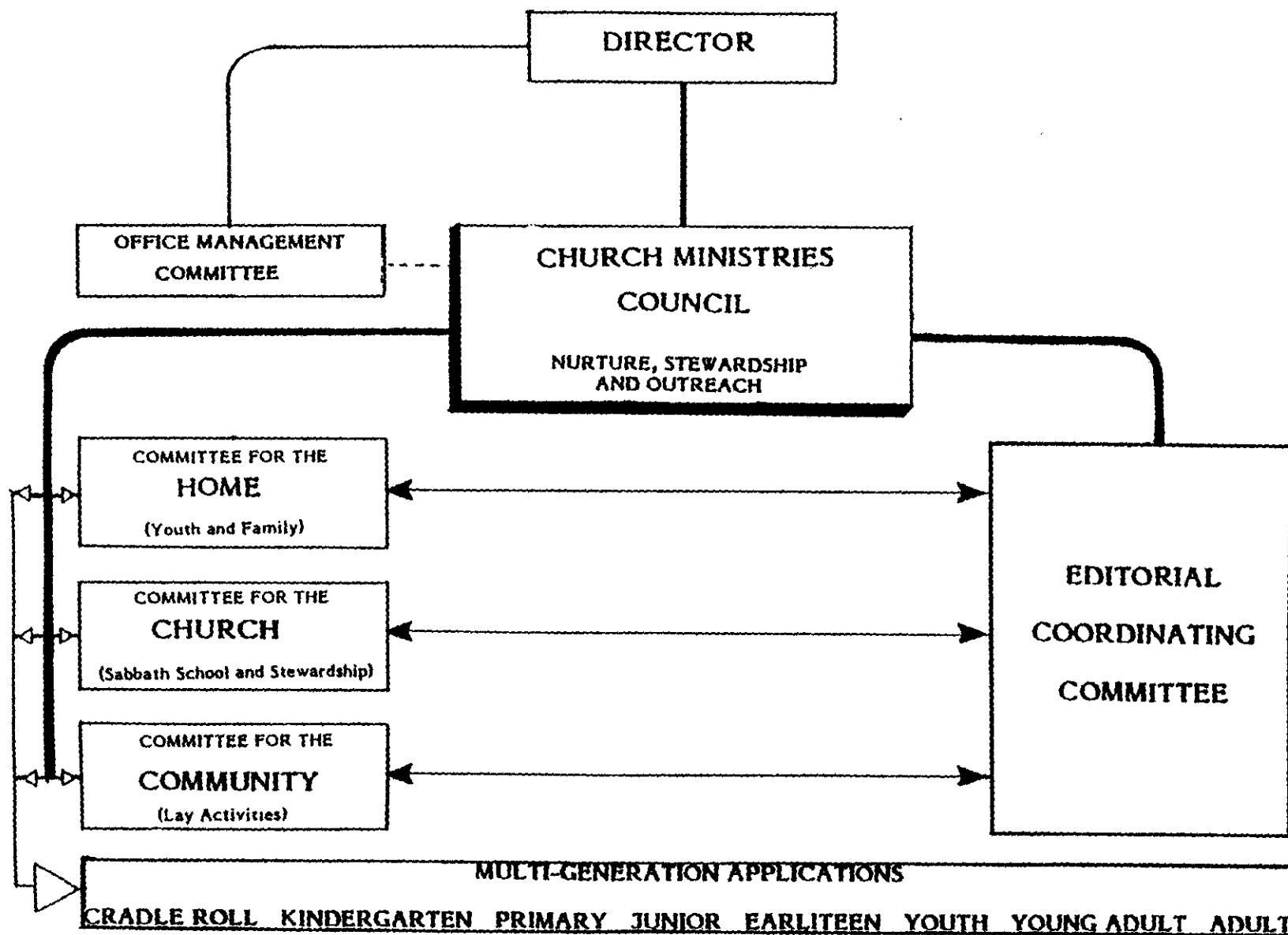
HFS/ONUP85SM/85SM/85GCS/218-85G to NCW

140-85Gc HOME AND FAMILY SERVICE--INCLUDE WITH CHURCH MINISTRIES

VOTED, To include Home and Family Service in the new General Conference Church Ministries Department.

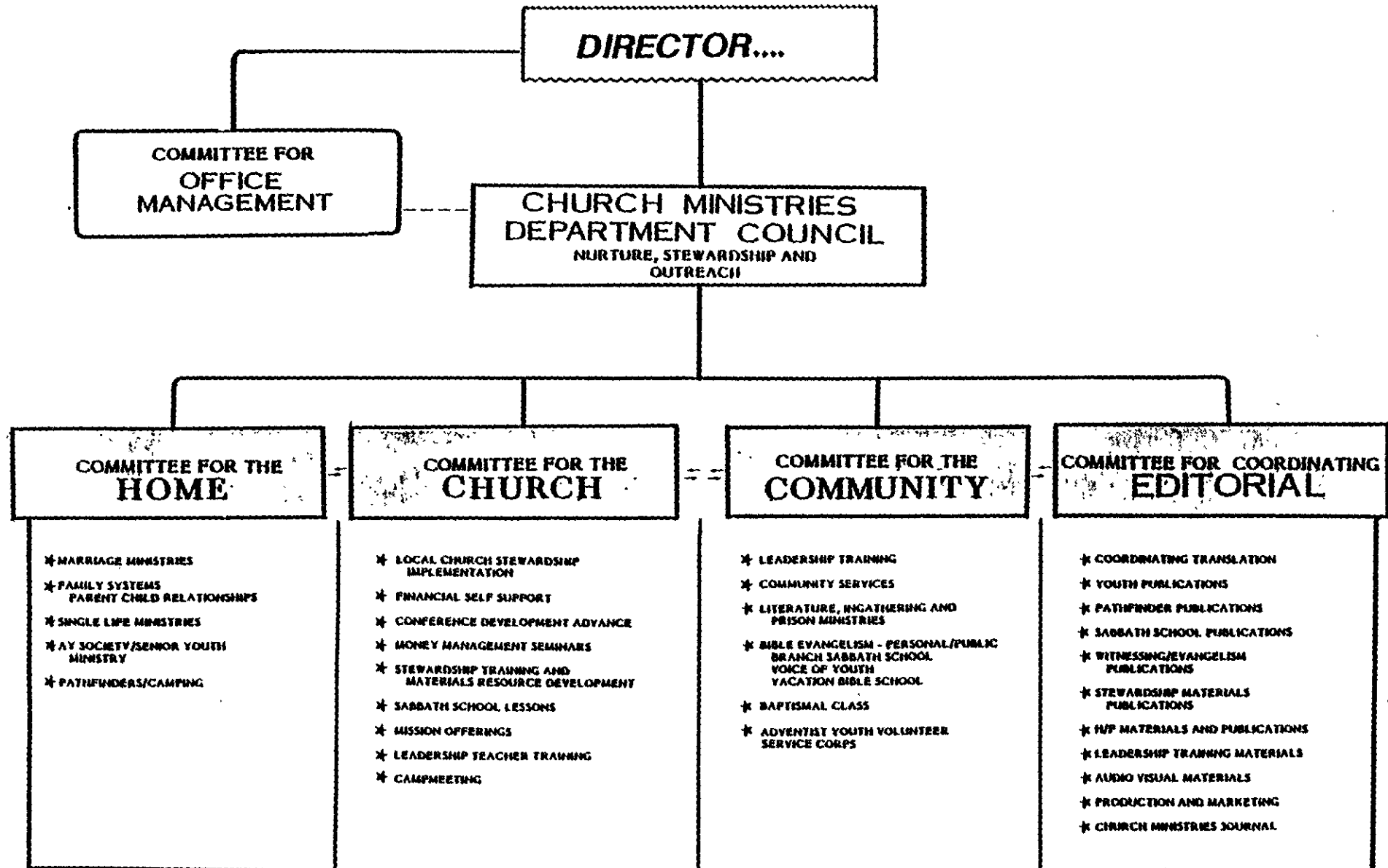
GENERAL CONFERENCE DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH MINISTRIES

ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTION



85-1048
July 1, 1985 - GCS

GENERAL CONFERENCE CHURCH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT



MULTI-GENERATION APPLICATIONS
CRADLE ROLL KINDERGARTEN PRIMARY JUNIOR EARLITEEN YOUTH YOUNG ADULT ADULT

85-1050

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GCO/GCC/GCO/GCDO84AC/ONUP84AC/GCD0UP84AC/G84AC/208-84GN/85GCS to NCW

140-85GNe ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS--
COMMISSION REPORT--BACKGROUND INFORMATION, GC CHURCH
MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

VOTED, To include as background information for 140-85GN Role and Function of Denominational Organizations Commission Report the document "Church Ministries Department."

CHURCH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

The primary responsibility of the Department of Church Ministries is soul winning--soul winning in the home, in the church, and in the community. To accomplish this objective the Department of Church Ministries will serve the above three target areas in the following ways:

1. Work to improve spiritual growth and development (Nurture*).
2. Help members to commit their lives and resources to the Lord (Stewardship**).
3. Promote evangelistic activities in the community and throughout the world (Outreach***).

Definitions:

*Nurture involves soul winning and retaining within the church itself; it means making sure every effort is put forth to foster spiritual growth and development. Proper nurturing will help build quality members. Carefully integrating members into church family life will help insure that members have a faith and experience to share.

**Stewardship involves principles which guide in the wise and unselfish use of life, making available resources such as time, talent, financial and material possession, and influence for Nurture and Outreach.

***Outreach involves sharing one's faith and experience. This is a natural outgrowth of Nurture. Those who have a relationship with Christ in salvation have something to share. Nurture and Stewardship facilitate this process. The result of Outreach is a caring and growing church.

The Church Ministries Department shares the responsibility for developing a global evangelistic strategy in consultation and harmony with administration and other departments of the church. It will challenge the world church with objectives, goals and plans to take the gospel to all the world. All of its activities will be coordinated into a holistic master strategy for soul winning.

Even though the master plan developed by the General Conference Church Ministries Department offers a coordinated strategy for soul winning, it recognizes that:

1. It is a support ministry to the church.
2. This support is developed primarily through leadership training, the production of resource materials and consultant services.
3. Its assignment is to integrate and coordinate the necessary functions comprehended in the former departments and services, i.e., Home and Family, Lay Activities, Sabbath School, Stewardship and Development, and Youth.
4. The responsibility to foster a holistic ministry involves nurture, outreach, and stewardship in order to provide a coordinated emphasis for the local church.

Through the development of plans, educational and resource materials, training programs and consultant services, it will assist the church in maintaining unity in theology and policy.

The Church Ministries Department will continually ask itself, "What can we do to help the world field advance the gospel? What are the needs of the local churches, conferences, unions and division?" It will endeavor to identify and meet these needs.

The Department will follow the directive of the 1984 Annual Council and provide resources and support essential to ensure the fulfillment of AC84, General Actions, pages 21 and 22, "Application at Local Church Level."

DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTOR

The Director must understand and accept the Church Ministries Department role as outlined in the preceding description under Church Ministries Department and will be the catalyst for coordinating all these potential soul-winning activities within the staff. Consequently it will be imperative for the Director to remain in the office as much as possible rather than travel as most other departmental directors do.

He will chair the Church Ministries Council or designate someone to do so and will maintain continuous contact with committee chairmen within the department. Under the Director's supervision, through the Office Management Committee, the departmental budget will be properly allocated, travel budgets will be assigned and staff functions will be coordinated in an efficient and productive manner.

The Director will represent and serve as advocate for departmental goals, programs and activities to the administrative bodies of the

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church and will represent administrative viewpoints to the departmental staff. He will also serve as liaison between the other General Conference departments and the Church Ministries Department.

CHURCH MINISTRIES COUNCIL

1. Is chaired by the Church Ministries Director or designee.
2. Is composed of all elected associate directors and appointed assistant directors.
3. Meets regularly to integrate and coordinate all departmental activities.
4. Coordinates its work to insure that the department is functioning in an efficient and productive manner to meet the needs of the world church.
5. Is responsible for long-range goals, plans, schedules and implementation.
6. Coordinates the development of curricula that will introduce individuals to all church beliefs and practices at appropriate times.
7. Establishes and maintains an Editorial Coordinating Committee.
8. Helps assure coordination by making all staff members available for resource input to each committee.
9. Appoints the members of the Office Management Committee and approves the allocation of the budget.
10. Approves staff travel requests.

COMMITTEE FOR THE HOME

1. The committee functions within the spirit and philosophy outlined in the description of the Church Ministries Department. It does not function independently of the other committees within the department but rather cooperates in developing a coordinated approach to spiritual growth and soul winning.
2. The committee develops activities, plans and supporting programs in response to the needs of its member organizations that are designed to enhance the holistic growth and development of each individual member and to strengthen intrafamily relationships.
 - a. It endeavors to make of the home a discipling center where family members by their relationships with each other are

encouraged in their relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. The focus is on relationship enhancement in the following areas:

Marriage, Parenting, Single-parenting and Blended Families, Singles.

b. A special emphasis is given to meeting the needs of and providing spiritual resources for the youth. The purpose of this ministry to youth is to support parents and others in leading youth into a growing, redemptive relationship with God; to build responsible, mature individuals; and to involve them in active, selfless service. In this way our youth can grow in the proper stages of development to become mature Christians--socially, physically, mentally and spiritually. The major objectives of youth ministry are: Commitment, Training, Mission, Nurture.

3. The committee plans and develops curricula as necessary. All curricula are coordinated by the Church Ministries Council.

4. New materials developed by this committee are channeled through the Church Ministries Council and Editorial Committee in order to eliminate duplication and to receive final approval.

5. The committee oversees the church ministry functions assigned by the Church Ministries Council as best fitting its particular area of expertise and emphasis.

COMMITTEE FOR THE CHURCH

1. The committee functions within the spirit and philosophy outlined in the description of the Church Ministries Department. It does not function independently of the other committees within the department but rather cooperates in developing a coordinated approach to spiritual growth and soul winning.

2. The committee develops activities, plans and supporting programs in response to the needs of its member organizations that are designed to nurture individual church members and to enhance their capacity to serve their local congregations. Specific areas of responsibility include:

a. Fostering a growing understanding of God's will through study of His Word.

b. Training for service in the church and fostering participation in Sabbath School, church worship services, youth meetings, prayer meetings, ordinances and other related church services and programs.

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c. Fostering church fellowship.

d. Facilitating church growth and self-reliance through holistic stewardship education and the coordination of spiritual and material resources and training. Providing technical information and resources for members, pastors and administrators to encourage greater faithfulness and generosity in tithe and offerings in the local church, local conference and world church.

e. Enlisting church members to help restore inactive members to fellowship.

The chief objective is to prepare church members "for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come." (Education, p 13.)

3. The committee plans and develops curricula as necessary. All curricula are coordinated by the Church Ministries Council.

4. New materials developed by this committee are channeled through the Church Ministries Council and Editorial Committee in order to eliminate duplication and to receive final approval.

5. The committee oversees the church ministry functions assigned by the Church Ministries Council as best fitting its particular area of expertise and emphasis.

COMMITTEE FOR THE COMMUNITY

1. The committee functions within the spirit and philosophy outlined in the description of the Church Ministries Department. It does not function independently of the other committees within the department but rather cooperates in developing a coordinated approach to spiritual growth and soul winning.

2. The committee develops activities, plans and supporting programs in response to the needs of its member organizations that are designed to lead nonmembers to accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and to assist them in becoming acquainted with all church beliefs and practices. This includes the fostering of personal and public evangelism and other forms of community service and the training of individual church members in such outreach ministries.

3. The committee plans and develops curricula as necessary. All curricula are coordinated by the Church Ministries Council.

4. New materials developed by this committee are channeled through the Church Ministries Council and Editorial Committee in order to eliminate duplication and to receive final approval.

5. The Committee oversees those church ministry functions assigned by the Church Ministries Council as best fitting its particular area of expertise and emphasis.

EDITORIAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

1. The Editorial Coordinating Committee oversees the editing of all Church Ministries materials and publications to insure that the department is speaking with one voice and represents the church theologically and in policy.

2. It works with each respective committee to suggest any necessary changes.

3. Before publication the material to be published must receive approval from both the Church Ministries Council and the Editorial Coordinating Committee.

4. This committee does not ordinarily translate materials but gives guidance and arranges for the translation of materials as needed.

5. It produces a (monthly/quarterly) Church Ministries journal.

OFFICE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1. The Office Management Committee is a subcommittee of and reports to the Church Ministries Council.

2. The committee is chaired by the departmental director.

3. Responsibilities:

a. Oversees the departmental budget and finances.

b. Recommends to the Church Ministries Council the allocations for travel budgets.

c. Monitors travel budgets.

d. Supervises staffing of the department.

e. Directs collection and analysis of statistics and reports to the field.

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GCO/adhoc/GCO/GCDO85GCS/85GCS/189-85G to NCW

140-85GNF ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
COMMISSION REPORT--BACKGROUND INFORMATION, COMMITTEE
SYSTEM OF CHURCH GOVERNANCE

VOTED, To include as background information for 140-85GN Role and Function of Denominational Organizations Commission Report the document "Committee System of Church Governance."

1. The Committee System of Governance

The Seventh-day Adventist Church and its conferences (on local, union and General levels) function on what is called the "committee system," final authority between sessions of the constituency being vested in the executive committee. The committee has policymaking, executive and oversight functions.

The committee system is based on Biblical models (Acts 15). Furthermore, the Ellen G White counsel is clear regarding the sharing of responsibility and the need for a multitude of counselors: "Never should the mind of one man or the minds of few men be regarded as sufficient in wisdom and power to control the work and to say what plans shall be followed" (9T 260; see also 9T 257 and 5T 293). She repeatedly counseled to avoid "kingly power" in the Church structure. By this was meant authoritarian one-man or "clique" administrative rule in the Church.

The Church members, pastors or conference/mission officers need to avoid views of church governance which transfer to the Church any secular governmental or similar system. There are serious ecclesiological dangers for instance in following a "presidential system" based on secular models in government or business. The Biblical advice is "so shall it not be among you." Mark 10:43. The Church, rather, is a fellowship of believers. The motivational factor in its work is the constraining love of God; not the motives of profit or power. It operates on the basis of contributions of time and resources given voluntarily and must therefore function largely by consensus.

Under a presidential system, the president is the "chief executive officer." He is elected by the constituency and in turn chooses and appoints his supporting subordinates. He carries final authority and responsibility. The officers and departmental leaders report to him (directly or indirectly) and are responsible to him. He is ultimately held responsible for all administrative decisions.

This, however, is not the way governance should operate in local, union and the General Conference/Division. In the Church, the same conference constituency that elects the president, elects his fellow officers and the departmental directors. They all work under the

authority and direction of the conference executive committee, in harmony with its policies and actions. It is to be expected that usually, though not always, the committee will approve the recommendations and follow the counsel of the president and his fellow officers.

The officers and departmental directors work in close counsel with the president, look to him for guidance and support and are loyal members of the team. However, the final word between conference constituency sessions belongs to the committee.

On the General Conference/Division level of Church organization, all officers and department directors are ex officio members of the executive committee. On the union level, all officers are committee members and in many unions, all the department directors are members. In some unions, only selected departmental directors are members. In local conferences, all officers are members and usually one or more department directors are members. Directors who are not members can be invited to sit with the committee for counsel and information, however. Since departmental directors work under the direction of the committee and their plans need committee approval, it is to be expected that in close counsel with the officers they should have ready access to the committee, whether they are members or not.

Seventh-day Adventist institutions such as colleges, hospitals and publishing houses often operate more after the pattern of the presidential system with a Chief Executive Officer. In such cases, the president is usually the only institutional staff member on the governing board; he usually serves as its secretary, but not as chairman. It is necessary for institutions to take into account accreditation requirements and accepted institutional administrative and business practices.

2. The Authority of Conference Officers

The president is the first officer and chairman of the executive committee. The secretary and treasurer have their own constitutional authority, derived from election by the same constituency that elected the president, and work under the authority of the committee. The president is elected to lead and coordinate and is the first among equals. His co-officers are expected to acknowledge his leadership. They shall work in close counsel with him and vice versa. The concept of making the secretary or treasurer vice presidents, and thus simply extensions of the president's office, runs counter to the Adventist model of church government with its inbuilt distributed responsibility. Any such structural deviation is not considered to be in harmony with Seventh-day Adventist church order.

85-1058

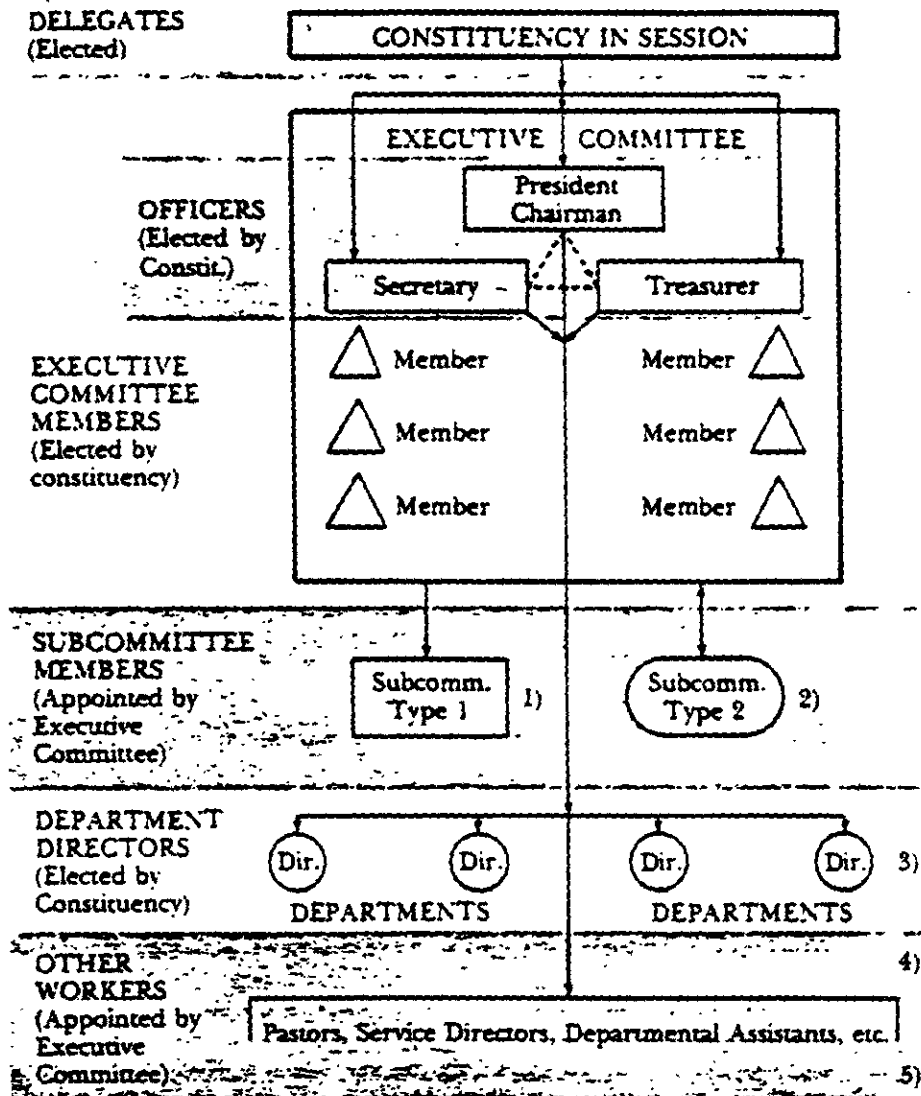
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The authority of the officers as a group is the combined authority of the president, secretary and treasurer. This collegial authority does not grant the officers additional authority beyond the constitutional authority of their offices, but does increase the practical management influence of the officer group.

The officers are not a substitute for the committee, but they have an important function in preparing the agenda and committee work. It is helpful for them to bring recommendations or options to the committee. They will examine and clear departmental plans before the directors present them to the committee. Efficiency requires that committee items be properly prepared. The officers have a management function, supported by the department directors, and supervise executive implementation of the actions of the committee.

3. Diagram

THE COMMITTEE SYSTEM IN A CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION



- RECTANGLES = Individuals/entities with executive authority
 ○ CIRCLES = Individuals/entities with advisory/promotional responsibility
 △ TRIANGLES = Committee members

| SUBCOMMITTEES | DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS | OTHER WORKERS: LAYMEMBERS |
|--|---|--|
| 1) Type 1—Is given power to act in specific matters | 3) —Are elected by the constituency and may be elected also as members of the executive committee | 4) —May be elected by the constituency as members of the executive committee |
| 2) Type 2—Is consultive in nature with no power to act | | 5) —Lay members may also be elected to the executive committee |

4. Notes Regarding Diagram

THE COMMITTEE SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE in a CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

1. The diagram illustrates how the committee system operates in a conference organization. It functions similarly at all levels (local, union, General/division) even though the number of officers and committee members may vary substantially.

2. The diagram shows that a conference constituency in session elects an executive committee to which it delegates the responsibility of operating the conference between sessions and to which it entrusts full policy-making, executive and oversight functions.

3. The constituency also elects a staff composed of officers who are given executive authority and of department directors who are given the responsibility of directing and promoting specific areas of the conference work.

4. The diagram also shows that between sessions of the constituency, authority and responsibility in a conference are delegated to the executive committee and that officers, department directors and other conference workers serve under its direction.

5. It also illustrates the relationship of the conference officers to the constituency, to each other and to the executive committee. It shows that the president is the chairman of the executive committee. The president, the secretary and the treasurer are the officers of the conference and derive their authority from the constituency which elected them. The diagram also shows that while officers have recognized leadership roles on the executive committee and in the conference, they work under the direction of the committee.

6. Department directors are elected by the constituency to advisory and promotional positions. Under the direction of the executive committee and of the officers, they lead and promote the work of the respective departments. They may be asked by the committee to assume responsibility for administering specific aspects of the conference work.

7. Department directors may also be elected as members of the executive committee. The number of department directors elected as members of the executive committee may vary (according to the number specified by the organization's constitution or bylaws). Department directors at all levels are frequently appointed also as members of standing subcommittees.

8. The diagram shows that the actions of an executive committee are implemented through its officers. It also shows that a committee may appoint standing subcommittees. Certain subcommittees may be given power to act in specific areas. Other subcommittees may have only a consultant/advisory role.

ADCOM/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/186-84G/85GCS to NCW

132-85G HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE DEPARTMENTS MERGER

The 1980 General Conference Session took an action to merge the Department of Health and the Temperance Department with the provision that the arrangement would be evaluated during the next quinquennium and that no amendment would be made to the General Conference Constitution until 1985.

VOTED, To approve the permanent merger of the Department of Health and the Temperance Department into a new department to be known as the Health and Temperance Department.

GCO/GCDO85GCS/85GCS to LLB-TRE

236-85G ASSOCIATE DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS OF DIVISIONS--
APPOINTMENT BY 85GCS - EXCEPTION

(The first part of this recommendation was accepted but the last subheading regarding salaries was referred to the treasurers for additional study. For this reason the record will be consolidated in the minutes of the afternoon session of July 2, 1985, see page 85-1065.)

NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #4

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

General Conference

Vice-Presidents

Assigned to Divisions, Charles E Bradford, North American
George W Brown, Inter-American
Gerald J Christo, Southern Asia
Bekele Heye, Eastern Africa
Jan Paulsen, Trans-European
W R L Scragg, South Pacific
Joao Wolff, South American

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Undersecretary, David H Baasch
Associate Secretaries, Maurice T Battle
B E Jacobs
D A Roth
Charles D Watson

Adjourned

K J Mittleider and
C E Bradford, Chairmen
R W Williams, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Betty Pierson, Recording Secretary

EIGHTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 2, 1985, 9:30 a.m.

NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #5

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

General Conference

General Vice-Presidents, Calvin B Rock
Robert J Kloosterhuis

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/251-84G/85GCS to CDW-GCO+ChMan

150-85G THE FORM OF ORGANIZATION IN THE SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

(Pages referred to are the number of the pages of the 1985 General Conference Session support material filed with the official copy of these minutes.)

VOTED, To refer to the General Conference Officers and the Church Manual Committee, 150-85G THE FORM OF ORGANIZATION IN THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH.

THE CHURCH'S INSTITUTIONS

Page 160, line 18

NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #6

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

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General Conference

General Vice-President, Wallace O Coe

Vice-Presidents

Assigned to Divisions, Ottis C Edwards, Far Eastern

85GCS to RFW

CURRIE, H CARL--MEMBER OF STANDING NOMINATING COMMITTEE

VOTED, To add the name of H Carl Currie of the Eastern Africa Division to the Standing Nominating Committee.

LEGAL MEETINGS

The following legal meetings were held beginning at 11:00 a.m.

General Conference Corporation

General Conference Association

North American Conference Corporation

Adjourned

C E Bradford and

Enoch Oliveira, Chairmen

J W Bothe, Secretary and Editor

Martha Horn, Recording Secretary

NINTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 2, 1985, 2:00 p.m.

GCO/GCDO85GCS/85GCS/TRE to GRT+DFG

236-85G ASSOCIATE DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS OF DIVISIONS--
APPOINTMENT BY 85GCS - EXCEPTION

General Conference Bylaws, Article XI, Section 2, specifies that "Division committees shall appoint such Associate and Assistant Directors/Secretaries as may be needed to serve in special capacities, to labor under the direction of their respective directors/secretaries."

The Role and Function of Denominational Organizations Commission Report adopted by the 1985 General Conference Session includes a merger of Home and Family Service, and the Lay Activities, Sabbath School, Youth and Stewardship and Development Departments into a single department to be known as the Church Ministries Department. Therefore, one Church Ministries Departmental director is to be elected instead of directors being elected for each of the merged departments.

According to the provisions of the merger, a number of division departmental leaders would not be elected by the Session but would probably be appointed later as associates or assistants by their respective division committee. The suggestion has been made that the 1985 General Conference Session authorize a suitable transition by allowing associates of division Church Ministries Departments to be elected by the Session so that their names may be included in the report of the Session.

VOTED, 1. To authorize an exception to the General Conference Bylaws, Article XI, Section 2, Division Departments--Directors/Secretaries, Associates and Assistants, for the 1985 General Conference Session only and allow associate division departmental directors of the new Church Ministries Department to be nominated by the General Conference Session Nominating Committee and appointed by the 1985 General Conference Session to their respective positions in the divisions.

2. To specify that the following conditions will be applicable in connection with the implementation of the above exception:

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a. Appointment by the 1985 General Conference Session as an associate director of a division Church Ministries Department will not qualify the individual to be a member of the General Conference Committee.

b. No reduction will be made in the actual salary amount of an individual who has been serving as a division departmental director and is appointed as a division associate departmental director; however, the salary amount, as of June 30, 1985, will be frozen until cost of living adjustments reach the individual's new associate director wage scale percentage level.

TRE/ONUP85SM/85SM/85GCS to CDW

230-85G CONFERENCE/MISSION FUNDS - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 99, Conference Funds, to read as follows:

Conference Funds -- Conference funds, which include tithe, all regular mission funds, and all funds for special conference projects and institutions, are trust funds. At the close of each month or more often if requested by the conference the church treasurer shall send to the conference treasurer the entire amount of conference funds received during that month. The church may not borrow, use, or withhold such conference funds for any purpose.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/254-84G/85GCS to CDW

152-85G THE CHURCH TREASURER--FUNDS OF AUXILIARY
ORGANIZATIONS - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 100,101, Funds of Auxiliary Organizations, to read as follows:

Funds of Auxiliary Organization. Auxiliary organization funds include such funds as church outreach programs, welfare, family life, Adventist Youth Services, Dorcas Society, Sabbath School expense, and that portion of the health and temperance funds belonging to the church, and may include church school funds. All moneys received by and for these organizations are turned over promptly to the church treasurer by the secretary of the organization, or by the deacons. These funds belong to the auxiliary organizations of the church. They may be disbursed only by order of the auxiliary organization to which they belong.

The treasurer shall give receipts for all funds received including those deposited with him by any of the subsidiary organizations of the church. On receiving moneys from the church treasurer, the secretary of such organization shall give a proper receipt to the treasurer.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/255-84G/85GCS to CDW

153-85G THE COMMUNION SERVICE - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 117, 3rd par, Conducting the Communion Service, to read as follows:

After the ordinance of the washing of feet the congregation reassemble.

For the Lord's Supper the emblems should be arranged on the communion table by the deaconesses before the divine worship service begins. The minister(s) and the elder(s) take their places by the table on which the emblems have been placed. Ordinarily, after the singing of a hymn, the covering over the emblems is removed and then a suitable passage from the Gospels is read.

Suggested Texts: 1 Corinthians 11:25, 26 or Matthew 26:29

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/256-84G/85GCS to CDW

154-85G PARENTS' MEETINGS - CHURCH MANUAL REVISION

VOTED, To revise CM 134, Parents' Meetings, to read as follows:

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The Home and School Association is organized by the local church to coordinate the activities of the school, home and church. It is recommended that meetings be conducted on a monthly basis. Attention should be given to the education of parents, as well as to assisting the school to obtain needed resources such as room parents, books, teaching materials and equipment.

Materials to assist the Home and School leaders are available through the Department of Education.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/257-84G/85GCS to CDW

155-85G BUSINESS MEETINGS - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 134, 135, 1st par, Business Meetings, to read as follows:

Church business meetings duly called by the pastor or the church board in consultation with the pastor may be held monthly or quarterly, according to the needs of the church. Members in good and regular

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standing on the roll of the church conducting the business meeting may attend and vote. In order to maintain a spirit of close cooperation between the local church and the Conference/Mission, the church should secure counsel from the Conference/Mission officers on all major matters. The officers (president, secretary, treasurer) of the conference to which the church belongs may attend without vote (unless granted by the church) any church business meeting within the conference territory. A duly called business meeting of the church is a meeting which has been called at the regular Sabbath worship service, together with proper announcements as to the time and place of such meeting. At such meetings, at which the pastor will preside (or will arrange for the local elder to preside), full information should be given to the congregation regarding the work of the church; and at the close of the year, reports should be rendered covering the activities of the church for the entire year. When possible, reports should be presented in writing and should comprise the following activities:

NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #7

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

General Conference

Vice-Presidents

Assigned to Divisions, J J Nortey, Africa-Indian Ocean
Undertreasurer, William L Murrill

South Pacific Division

Secretary, A H Tolhurst

Treasurer, W T Andrews

Field Secretary, Arthur J Ferch

Auditor, G J Bland

Education Department Director, G F Clifford

Health and Temperance Department Director, Donald E Bain

Publishing Department Director, J T Knopper

World Foods Service Director, D Cameron Myers

Trans-European Division

Secretary, Pekka T Pohjola

Treasurer, John Muderspach

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Adjourned

K J Mittleider, Chairman
D R Christman, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Betty Pierson, Recording Secretary

TENTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 3, 1985, 9:00 a.m.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/259-84G/ChMan/GCO/ONUP85SM/85SM/85GCS to CDW
156-85G THE SABBATH SCHOOL - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, 1. To amend CM 145, 6th par, The Sabbath School, to read as follows:

The officers of the Sabbath School should be members of the local church. They are elected for one year.

2. To amend CM 146, 147, beginning with the 3rd par at the bottom of 146, The Sabbath School Council, as follows:

In addition to the appointed officers listed in the paragraph above, the Sabbath School Council appoints the teachers for all divisions. Any vacancies occurring in these offices during the year shall be filled by the Sabbath School Council. As an alternative, teachers of all divisions of the Sabbath School may be elected by the church along with the church officers. Where this practice is followed, careful study should be given to the needs of all groups. It is advisable to consult with the division leaders particularly when selecting teachers for the children's divisions.

Teachers appointed by the Sabbath School Council or elected by the church serve for the church year.

The Sabbath School Council is responsible for the successful operation of the entire Sabbath School through the leadership of its chairman, the superintendent. The Council should meet at least once each month.

Recognizing the importance of maintaining the integrity of the truths being taught, great care should be exercised in the choice of Sabbath School teachers. The time allotted for teaching approximates that of the pastor in the pulpit. All teachers shall be members of the church in good and regular standing and serve at the pleasure of the Sabbath School Council or the church board.

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ChMan/GC0/GCD0UP84AC/G84AC/260-84G/85GCS to CDW

157-85G SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERING/EXPENSE MONEY -
CHURCH MANUAL REVISION

VOTED, To revise CM 151, Sabbath School Offering, and Expense Money, to read as follows:

Sabbath School Offering. -- All Sabbath School offerings are to be carefully recorded by the Sabbath school secretary and handed to the church treasurer at the earliest suitable moment. This helps prevent accidental loss. When the extension division offerings are received, usually at the end of the quarter, they should be added to the offerings already received from the Sabbath School.

With the exception of the expense fund, all Sabbath School offerings are General Conference offerings and are to be passed on in their entirety by the church treasurer to the conference/mission for transfer to the General Conference. These funds include the regular Sabbath School weekly offering, the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, Sabbath School Investment, and Birthday-Thank Offering. All are mission funds, each of which is to be identified as a separate fund in the regular system of records from the local church to the General Conference. This is necessary to enable the General Conference to appropriate the percentages used for special projects according to church policy. No mission funds may be retained by the local church or conference/mission.

Expense Money. -- Many Sabbath Schools take offerings at stated periods for Sabbath school expense. All such money should be recorded by the secretary, passed on to the local church treasurer, and used only for paying Sabbath School expense as authorized by the Sabbath School Council.

The Sabbath School expense offering and the mission offering shall not be taken as one offering and divided according to an agreed-upon formula or percentage. Sabbath School expense offerings must be kept entirely separate from the mission offerings.

In many churches, Sabbath School expenses are included in the church budget and expended as authorized by the Sabbath School Council.

ChMan/GC0/GCD0UP84AC/G84AC/262-84G/85GCS to CDW

159-85G CHURCH EDUCATION SECRETARY -
NEW CHURCH MANUAL MATERIAL

VOTED, To add a new section, Church Education Secretary, CM 164, 3rd paragraph, to read as follows:

CHURCH EDUCATION SECRETARY

Recognizing that a comprehensive understanding and clear vision of Christian education--whose ultimate aims harmonize with those of redemption--can be developed and fostered only where the church is continually reminded of the preeminent mission of such an education, each church shall elect an Education Secretary to promote and generate support for Christian education. The Education Secretary shall be a member of the Home and School Association executive committee, and will work in cooperation with the Association. The secretary's duties shall be:

1. To be responsible for the regular promotion of Christian education and to plan, in cooperation with the pastor and Home and School Association leader, periodic programs or services which emphasize the values of Christian education.
2. To contact all Seventh-day Adventist homes where there are school-age children or young people, to encourage attendance at the local church school or at a Seventh-day Adventist secondary school, college or university, and to suggest possible solutions to problems.
3. To make every reasonable effort, where church schools are not available, to encourage the church to provide Seventh-day Adventist education in the area.
4. To maintain contact with students from the church who are in attendance at Seventh-day Adventist or other schools away from the home church.
5. To contact members who have no school-age children, encouraging them to provide financial aid for needy Seventh-day Adventist students.
6. To maintain an up-to-date census of all the children and youth of the church.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/263-84G/85GCS to CDW

160-85G PARENTS' SOCIETIES/HOME AND SCHOOL
FELLOWSHIP - CHURCH MANUAL REVISION

VOTED, To revise CM 164-167, Parents' Societies, and Home and School Fellowship, to read as follows:

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HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Purpose. -- The purpose of the association is twofold: to provide parent education and to unite the home, the school and the church in their endeavors to provide a Christian education for the children. The responsibilities of the Home and School Association are:

1. To conduct a monthly meeting for parents, teachers and all church members.
2. To maintain a Home and Parent library.
3. To give guidance for establishing in the home an atmosphere of love and discipline where Seventh-day Adventist Christian values can be instilled in children through Bible study, prayer, family worship and the example of the parents.
4. To educate parents in their work of fostering the development of the whole child--the "harmonious development of the physical, the mental and the spiritual powers."--Education, p. 13.
5. To work toward the goal of enrolling every child of the church in the church school.
6. To provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to develop a positive relationship in their work for the children.
7. To strengthen the relationship between home and school by promoting such activities as:
 - a. Participating in curriculum development
 - b. Encouraging frequent communication between home and school
 - c. Encouraging parents to visit the school
 - d. Encouraging teachers to visit the homes of pupils
 - e. Appointing room mothers and fathers
 - f. Providing volunteer services as requested by the school.

Membership. -- Members of the church and patrons of the school are members of the association.

Officers. -- The officers of this association, who shall be church members, shall consist of a leader, an assistant leader, a secretary-treasurer, a librarian, and other officers as may be needed, all of whom shall be elected by the church board.

Leader and Assistant Leader. -- The leader of the Home and School Association should be a person with experience and success in training

children, and whose mind is open to new ideas, who is apt to teach, and who believes in the importance of Christian education.

Secretary-Treasurer. -- The secretary-treasurer is to keep the records of the association and to report to the superintendent of education of the conference at the beginning and close of the year.

Association funds are to be channeled through the church treasurer and kept as a separate account.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/264-84G/85GCS to CDW

161-85G THE CHURCH SCHOOL BOARD - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 169, Officers, to read as follows:

Officers. -- The officers shall consist of a chairman and a secretary. In union school boards serving a school sponsored by two or more churches a treasurer, a vice-chairman, and an assistant secretary should also be appointed. Where the school is operated by one church, the chairman should be elected by the church; where the school is operated by two or more churches, the chairman should be elected by the board from among its own members at the first meeting after its election. In the event that agreement between the churches is not possible, the appointment will be made by the Conference Board of Education/Conference Committee. The principal of the school is generally appointed as secretary of the board.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/265-84G/85GCS to CDW

162-85G DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, TEMPERANCE DEPARTMENT -
CHURCH MANUAL REVISION

VOTED, To revise CM 174-176, Department of Health, and CM 178-180, Temperance Department, to read as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE

The church accepts its responsibility to make Christ known to the world and believes this includes a moral obligation to preserve human dignity by obtaining optimal levels of physical, mental, and spiritual health. In addition to ministering to those who are ill, this responsibility extends to the prevention of disease through effective health education and leadership in promoting abundant health.

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Church Health and Temperance Leader. -- For an efficient program to be planned and implemented in the church, it is necessary for the church to elect a health and temperance leader. He or she should be health-oriented and interested in promoting the church's standards in healthful living among the members and in the community through church-operated health and temperance programs. The leader should be able to screen programs and information that are representative of the ideals and philosophy of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and to integrate them into an effective spiritual-physical witness.

The health and temperance leader's duties should include the following:

1. To outline and plan, in consultation with the pastor and the church Health and Temperance Council or the church board, programs for the year that will emphasize total health and temperance for the church and the community.
2. To promote an ongoing witness in the community concerning the destructive effects of tobacco, alcohol, and other health-destroying drugs and substances.
3. To foster good relationships with community health and temperance organizations.
4. To encourage the study of the Biblical principles and the Spirit of Prophecy counsels on health and temperance.
5. To encourage the application of the principles of healthful living among church members.
6. To arrange for and promote the holding of health and temperance education programs for the church and the community it serves, in close cooperation with the conference health and temperance director.
7. To serve as secretary of the church Health and Temperance Council, except when he may be asked to serve as chairman.

Associate Church Health and Temperance Leader. -- The associate leader's duties shall be to assist in the leader's responsibilities.

Church Health and Temperance Council. -- Where practicable, a church Health and Temperance Council may be appointed. This council is designed to provide dedicated leadership to the church membership and to the community in the field of healthful living, and to assist in cooperative soul-saving activities through a viable program of health

and temperance, and spiritual emphasis. Members should be appointed by the church, and might include:

1. The pastor or local elder as chairman of the council.
2. The church health and temperance leader.
3. The Community Services director.
4. The Adventist Youth leader or two representatives from the youth group.
5. Three representatives from among the following: physician, dentist, dietitian, nurse, health education, stewardship leader, or others interested in health and temperance activities.
6. The director of the Health and Temperance Society when an active society exists.
7. A representative of the local SDA health care institution. The pastor, if not the chairman, should be an ex officio member of the council.

Health and Temperance Activities. -- The Church Health and Temperance Council, in collaboration with the Lay Activities Council, shall lead out in developing a schedule of health and temperance activities that will include programs, such as stop-smoking plans, cooking schools, health classes, stress-control programs, and other related endeavors.

Health and Temperance Society. -- In some areas Health and Temperance or Temperance Societies may be established as separate entities as distinct from church organizations. The Conference Director should be involved in establishing such organizations.

World Health and Temperance Sabbath Offering. -- The entire offering is sent to the local conference to be distributed according to policy among the General Conference, division, union and conference/field. Upon request to the conference, up to 25 percent of the offering received in the local church may revert to the church for health and temperance programs.

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ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/266-84G/85GCS to CDW

163-85G THE CONFERENCE PRESIDENT - CHURCH MANUAL
AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 182, The Conference President, to read as follows:

THE CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

The president of the conference should be an ordained minister of experience and good report. He stands at the head of the gospel ministry in his conference and is the chief elder, or overseer, of all the churches. He works for the spiritual welfare and upbuilding of the churches. He counsels them regarding their activities and plans. He has access to all the churches, church services, business meetings, and church boards, without vote unless granted by the church, and may, by virtue of his office, preside over the sessions of any of the churches when such a course is necessary. He has access to all church records, report books, et cetera.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/267-84G/85GCS to CDW

164-85G PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE DIRECT DEPARTMENTAL
SECRETARIES, WORK OF DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARIES NOT
ADMINISTRATIVE - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT DIRECTIVE

VOTED, To amend CM 182, 183, President and Committee Direct Department Secretaries, and CM 183, Work of Departmental Secretaries Not Administrative, by replacing the word secretaries with "directors."

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/268-84Ga/85GCS to CDW

165-85Ga NOMINATING COMMITTEE - CHURCH MANUAL
AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 191, 192, Nominating Committee, to read as follows:

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

In the Seventh-day Adventist Church, officers are elected annually through an appointed nominating committee. This committee brings its report to the church, which then acts on the names presented. This procedure enables the church to give careful study to each name prior to election, and avoids the public competitive element that may arise when nominations are made from the floor.

The nominating committee shall study the needs of the church and make careful inquiry into the fitness of members to serve in the different offices. For this reason officers shall not be nominated from the floor or by general ballot.

This manual does not determine the size of the nominating committee. It will range from five members in a small church to a larger number in a large church. The exact number to be chosen is left to the discretion of each church. This matter should be studied by the church board prior to presentation to the church. A suitable recommendation may then be brought to the church, using a minimum of time in the Sabbath worship hour.

When the Nominating Committee is Chosen. -- The nominating committee should be appointed early in the closing quarter of the church year and report at least 3 weeks before the final sabbath of the church year.

How the Nominating Committee is Chosen. -- The minister or, in the absence of a minister, the church elder should bring the matter to the attention of the church. The church shall then appoint a special committee which will be responsible to nominate the nominating committee. This special committee may be chosen in one of two ways:

1. By nominations, verbal or written, from the floor. If verbal nominations are made from the floor, it must be understood that no member may nominate more than one person. The effort of one individual or a small group to dictate to the entire membership of the church is disapproved. Everything of a political nature should be avoided.

2. By the church's authorizing the church board, together with five to seven additional persons chosen by the church, in accordance with paragraph 1. above, to function as the special committee.

The sequential steps are as follows:

- a. The church appoints by vote a special committee by either of the two methods listed above.

- b. The special committee recommends to the church names for the Nominating Committee, with suggestions for chairman and secretary.

- c. The church appoints by vote the nominating committee, naming the chairman and secretary.

- d. The nominating committee meets to prepare the list of church officers which will be presented to the church for approval.

- e. The church appoints by vote the various church officers for the ensuing year.

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ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/269-84G/85GCS to CDW

166-85G NOMINATING COMMITTEE - CHURCH MANUAL
AMENDMENT DIRECTIVE

VOTED, To amend CM 193, 2nd par, Work of the Nominating Committee, by adding the following two new positions which the church nominating committee fills:

Church Education Secretary
Family-Life Director

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165-85Gc NOMINATING COMMITTEE - CHURCH MANUAL
AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 196,197, Nominating Committee, to read as follows:

Reporting to the Church - This report is rendered to the church as a whole and not to the church board. The board has no jurisdiction in these matters. The report of this committee may be presented at the Sabbath service or at a specially called meeting of the church.

When the nominating committee is ready to render its report, the minister or elder should give the chairman of the nominating committee opportunity to make appropriate remarks to the church. A copy of the report should be placed in the hands of members or it should be read aloud by the secretary of the nominating committee. The chairman should announce that the report will be voted on the following week or two weeks later. If the church unanimously votes to waive the delay of one week before voting, it may proceed to accept the report after rereading the report.

Objecting to the Report of the Nominating Committee - It is the right of any member to raise an objection to the nominating committee's report. Any such objection should be presented in person to the nominating committee for consideration before the second reading of the report by making an appointment through the chairman or church pastor. Or, at the time of the second reading of the report, it is in order for the objector to move that the whole report be referred back to the committee for further consideration. If the motion carries, the chairman of the committee should then announce when and where the committee will be in session to hear the objections to any name. At that time the member making the objection, or any other member who desires to do so, should appear before the committee. If the election is deferred on the objection of any member, it would be a serious matter for that member to fail to appear before the committee. Trivial or

groundless objections to any name should never be made, but if there are serious reasons why any nomination should be changed, these reasons should be stated. The committee should give due consideration to the objections presented. If they are found to be justified, the committee will need to substitute another name for the one to which objection was made. The following week the report is again presented to the church, following which the church proceeds to vote on the report of the committee. Every church member should vote for the election of church officers. The election is by the majority vote of those present and voting.

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #8

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

Inter-American Division

Secretary, Jose H Figueroa
Treasurer, Ramon H Maury
Field Secretary, C Dionisio Christian
Auditor, Eugene Blackman
Communication Department Director, Israel Leito
Education Department Director, L Herbert Fletcher
Health and Temperance Department Director, Sievert Gustavsson
Ministerial Association Secretary, Carlos Aeschlimann
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department Director,
Lamartine Honore
Publishing Department Director, Ricardo Rodriguez
Trust Services Director, Leslie McMillan
World Foods Service Director, Sidney Cole
Church Ministries Department Director, Sergio Moctezuma
Associate Director, Israel Leito
Associate Director, Leslie McMillan

South American Division

Secretary, Mario Veloso
Treasurer, Ruy H Nagel
Education Department Director, Nevil Gorski
Ministerial Association Secretary, Amasias Justiniano
Publishing Department Director, Nelci N Viegas
Church Ministries Department Director, Henrique Berg

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South Pacific Division

Ministerial Association Secretary, A D C Currie
Spirit of Prophecy Director, A D C Currie
Trust Services Director, A G H White
Church Ministries Department Director, A E Birch

Southern Asia Division

Secretary, R D Riches
Treasurer, Johnson Koilpillai
Auditor, Vedamuthu Benjamin
Education Department Director, John M Fowler
Health and Temperance Department Director, Ronald N Baird
Ministerial Association Secretary, John Willmott
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department Director,
M E Cherian
Publishing Department Director, Thomas K Joseph
Trust Services Director, Johnson Koilpillai
Church Ministries Department Director, Lowell C Cooper

Trans-European Division

Auditor, Graham Barham
Communication Department Director, Raymond Dabrowski
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department Director,
Raymond Dabrowski
Publishing Department Director, Kaj Pedersen
Spirit of Prophecy Director, Kaj Pedersen
World Foods Service Director, John Muderspach

ChMan/GCD0UP84AC/G84AC/361-84G/ChMan/GCO/GCC/GCD085GCS/85GCS to FWW

182-85G GOSPEL FINANCE - CHURCH MANUAL REVISION

VOTED, To revise CM 203-205, The Tithe, to read as follows:

In recognition of the Bible plan and the solemn obligation that rests upon church members as children of God and members of His body, the Church, all are encouraged to return a faithful tithe (one tenth of their increase or personal income) into the denomination's treasury.

The tithe is not used or disbursed by the local church but is remitted to the conference treasurer. Thus the tithe from all the churches flows into the local conference treasury, which in turn remits one tenth of its total tithe income to the union. The union in turn forwards to the General Conference, or its divisions, one tenth of its total tithe income. Thus the local conference, the union, and the General Conference are provided with funds with which to support the

workers employed and to meet the expense of conducting the work of God in their respective spheres of responsibility and activity.

In addition to remitting to the union 10 percent of their tithe income, local conferences/missions also remit through the union to the General Conference, or its divisions, an additional percentage of their tithe as determined by the General Conference Committee or division committee for the financing of the Church's program.

These policies have been developed for the gathering and disbursing of funds in all the world and for the conducting of the business affairs of the cause. The financial and business aspect of the work are of great importance. They cannot be separated from the proclamation of the message of salvation; they are indeed an integral part of it.

Systematic Benevolence and Unity. -- The financial plan of the denomination serves a larger purpose than appears in its financial and statistical reports. The arrangement is more than a means of gathering and distributing funds. It is, under God, one of the great unifying factors of the Advent Movement. God's people are a united people. The Church's system of dividing the tithe between the conference and the union and between the union and the General Conference and of sharing the funds with the world fields has served a wonderful purpose in unifying the work throughout the world.

How the Tithe Is to Be Used. -- The tithe is to be held sacred for the work of the ministry, for Bible teaching and the support of conference administration in the care of the churches and of field missionary endeavors. The tithe is not to be spent on other work, on paying church or institutional debts, or on building programs.

"A very plain, definite message has been given to me for our people. I am bidden to tell them that they are making a mistake in applying the tithe to various objects which, though good in themselves, are not the object to which the Lord has said that the tithe should be applied. Those who make this use of the tithe are departing from the Lord's arrangement. God will judge for these things."--Ibid., p. 248

How the Tithe Is Handled -- The tithe is the Lord's and is to be brought, as an act of worship, to the conference/mission treasury through the Church in which the person's membership is held. Where unusual circumstances exist, church members should consult with the officers of their conference/mission.

Conference Workers and Church Officers to Set Example in Returning Tithe-- Conference workers and church elders and other officers and institutional leaders are to recognize it as a principle of leadership in God's work, that a good example be set in the matter of returning tithe. No one shall be continued as either a church officer or conference worker who does not conform to this standard of leadership.

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Tithing--a Scriptural Obligation. -- Although the returning of tithe is not held as a test of fellowship, it is recognized as a scriptural obligation that every believer owes to God, and as one of the spiritual exercises in which he should have part in claiming by faith the fullness of blessing in Christian life and experience.

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Mal. 3:10).

Adjourned

C B Hirsch, Chairman
R F Williams, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Martha Horn, Recording Secretary

ELEVENTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 3, 1985, 3:15 p.m.

ChMan/GCO/ONUP85SM/85SM/85GCS to CDW

201-85G CHURCH STANDARDS - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 226, 1st par, Recreation and Entertainment,
to read as follows:

Another form of amusement that has an evil influence is social dancing. "The amusement of dancing, as conducted at the present day, is a school of depravity, a fearful curse to society."--Messages to Young People, p. 399, 2 Corinthians 6:15-18, 1 John 2:15-17, James 4:4, 2 Timothy 2:19-22, Ephesians 5:8-11, Colossians 3:5-10.

ChMan/GCO/ONUP85SM/ChMan/ONUP85SM/85SM/GCDO85GCS/85GCS/GCO/ChMan to CDW

222-85G STANDARDS OF CHRISTIAN LIVING - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend the CM 227, 2nd paragraph, "Social Relationships,"
to read as follows:

Today the ideals which make these social relationships safe and happy are being broken down. Under the influence of passion unrestrained by moral and religious principle, the association of the sexes has to an alarming extent degenerated into freedom and license. Sexual perversions, incest and sexual abuse of children prevail to an alarming degree. Millions have abandoned Christian standards of conduct and are bartering the sweet and sacred experiences of marriage and parenthood for the bitter, remorseful fruits of lust. Not only are these evils damaging the familial structure of society but the breakdown of the family in turn fosters and breeds these and other evils. The results in distorted lives of children and youth are distressing and evoke our pity while the effects on society are not only disastrous but cumulative.

These evils have become more open and threatening to the ideals and purposes of the Christian home. Adultery, sexual abuse of spouses, incest, sexual abuse of children, homosexual practices and lesbian practices are among the obvious perversions of God's original plan. As

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the intent of clear passages of Scripture (see Exodus 20:14, Leviticus 18:22, 29 and 20:13, I Corinthians 6:9, I Timothy 1:10 and Romans 1:20-32) is denied and as their warnings are rejected in exchange for human opinions, much uncertainty and confusion prevail. This is what Satan desires. It has always been his plan to cause people to forget that God is their creator and that when He "created man in His own image" He created them "male and female" Genesis 1:27. The world is witnessing today a resurgence of the perversions of ancient civilizations.

The degrading results of the world's obsession with sex and the love and pursuit of sensual pleasure are clearly delineated in the Word of God. But Christ came to destroy the works of the devil and reestablish the relationship of human beings with their Creator. Thus, though fallen in Adam and captive to sin, those who are in Christ receive full pardon and the right to choose anew the better way, the way to complete renewal. By means of the cross and the power of the Holy Spirit all may be freed from the grip of sinful practices, as they are restored to the image of their Creator.

ChMan/GCO/ONUP85SM/85GCS to CDW

221-85G CHURCH DISCIPLINE - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 247, pars 2 and 3, Reasons for Which Members Shall Be Disciplined, to read as follows:

2. Violation of the law of God, such as worship of idols, murder, stealing, profanity, gambling, Sabbath-breaking, and willful and habitual falsehood.

3. Violation of the Seventh commandment of the law of God as it relates to the marriage institution, the Christian home and Biblical standards of moral conduct.

4. Such violations as fornication, promiscuity, incest, homosexual practice and other gross sexual perversions and the remarriage of a divorced person, except of the "innocent party" in a divorce for adultery or for gross sexual perversions.

Paragraphs 3 to 9 will become paragraphs 4 to 10 respectively.

ChMan/GCO/GCD0UP84AC/G84AC/270-84AC/85GCS to CDW

167-85G CENSURE DEFINED - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 246, Censure Defined, to read as follows:

An erring member may be placed under censure by a vote of the

church at any duly called meeting of the church, provided the member concerned has been notified. He can, of course, be present if he so desires. A vote of censure is for a stated period of time, such as for one, three, six, or nine months; it terminates the erring one's election or appointment to any and all offices he may hold in the church, and removes the privilege of election to office while under censure. A member under censure has no right to participate by voice or by vote in the affairs of the church and can have no public part in the exercises thereof, such as teaching a Sabbath School class, et cetera. Neither may he transfer his membership to another church during the period of censure. He is not deprived, however, of the privilege of sharing the blessings of Sabbath School, church worship, or the ordinances of the Lord's house. A vote of censure must not carry any provision involving severance of church membership in case of failure to comply with any conditions imposed. Proper inquiry should be made at the expiration of the period of censure, to ascertain whether the member under discipline has changed his course. If his conduct is satisfactory, he may then be considered in good standing without further action; however, any return to church office must be by election. If he has not changed his course, his case should again be considered and such discipline administered as the case requires.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/271-84G/85GCS/GCO/ChMan to CDW

168-85G CHURCH DISCIPLINE - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 253, Dropping a Member on His Own Request, to read as follows:

Dropping Members on Their Own Request. -- Great care should be exercised in dealing with a member who requests that his or her name be dropped from membership. The right of individuals must be respected, but ample time should be given for sober thought and reflection, and every effort should be made to restore them to a satisfactory experience. Letters of resignation should be presented to the church board which will forward them to the church at a duly called business meeting. Out of Christian consideration for the individuals involved, action shall be taken without public discussion.

NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #9

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

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Eastern Africa Division

Treasurer, John F Wilkens
General Field Secretaries, R R Ndhlovu
D W B Chalale
Clifford G Patterson

Auditor, Hans Sakul
Education Department Director, T H Nkungula
Health and Temperance Department Director, A R Handysides
Ministerial Association Secretary, Harry A Cartwright
Church Ministries Department Director, Eric Armer
Associate Director, Solomon Wolde-Endreas
Associate Director, Baraka Muganda

Euro-Africa Division

Secretary, Georges Steveny
Treasurer, Erich Amelung
Field Secretaries, Oldrich Sladek
Dumitru S Popa
Lothar Reiche

Auditor, Jean-Claude Halm
Communication Department Director, John Graz
Education Department Director, Pietro Copiz
Health and Temperance Department Director, Herbert Stoeger
Ministerial Association Secretary, Johannes Mager
Religious Liberty Department Director, Gianfranco Rossi
Trust Services Director, Erich Amelung
World Foods Service Director, Erich Amelung
Church Ministries Department Director, Harald Knott
Associate Director, John Graz
Associate Director, Pietro Copiz
Associate Director, Johannes Mager
Spirit of Prophecy Director, Georges Steveny

Far Eastern Division

Secretary, Tong C Kim
Treasurer, Robert L Rawson
Field Secretary, Larry R Colburn
Communication Department Director, G Ray James
Education Department Director, Amos Simorangkir
Health and Temperance Department Director, Everet E Witzel
Ministerial Association Secretary, James H Zachary
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department Director,
G Ray James
Publishing Department Director, Richard McKee
World Foods Service Director, Masao Uruma

Church Ministries Department:

Associate Director, Minoru Inada
Associate Director, Patricia Bailey
Associate Director, Bernardo U Donato

General Conference

General Field Secretaries, Warren S Banfield
Charles D Brooks
Joseph Espinosa
George W Reid
Lowell L Bock

Church Ministries Department Director, Delmer W Holbrook
Auditing Service Director, David D Dennis
Archives and Statistics Director, F Donald Yost
Communication Department Director, Robert W Nixon
Education Department Associate Director, Marion Hartlein

North American Division

Associate Secretary, Robert L Woodfork
North American Missions Director, Joseph Espinosa
NAD Office of Human Relations Director, Warren S Banfield
Associate Director, Eloy Martinez
Communication Department Director, Owen A Troy
Education Department Associate Director (Exec Sec, NAD
Board of Higher Education), N Clifford Sorensen
Education Department Associate Director (Exec Sec, NAD
K-12 Board of Education), Frederick R Stephan
Ministerial Association Secretary, William C Scales, Jr
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department Director,
Gordon O Engen
Publishing Department Director, Ronald E Appenzeller

Adjourned

Lowell Bock, Chairman
J W Bothe, Secretary and Actions Editor
Betty Pierson, Recording Secretary

TWELFTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 4, 1985, 9:15 a.m.

85GCS to DRC

TRIBUTE TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Walter R L Scragg, President of the South Pacific Division, spoke about the privilege of meeting in freedom in the United States of America for the 54th General Conference Session, and proposed the following action particularly appropriate on July the fourth, the American Independence Day:

VOTED, To record the appreciation of the delegates from 184 nations to the 54th General Conference Session

for the freedom to meet in Session
for the friendliness of the American people
for the leadership and dedication of the mother country of the Church from whose shores the Advent Message has been carried to all parts of the world.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/253-84G/GCDO85GCS/85GCS to CDW-ChMan+90GCS

151-85G THE DEACONESS - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To refer to the standing Church Manual Committee the proposed amendment of CM 94, The Deaconess, for consideration at the 55th General Conference Session, 1990.

85GCS to DRC

APPRECIATION TO CHURCH LEADERSHIP

VOTED, To express appreciation to the leadership of the Church for the spirit of goodwill and of brotherhood at the 54th General Conference Session.

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NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #10

Africa-Indian Ocean Division

Secretary, Ted N C Wilson
Treasurer, Philemon Onwere
Field Secretary, Ntwali Ruhaya
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department Director,
James B A Kio
Communication Department Director, James Fly
Education Department Director, Pheneas Bahimba
Health and Temperance Department Director, Barry Wecker
Trust Services Director, Jacob J Nortey
Church Ministries Department Director, Herman Bauman
Associate Director, Philip Samaan
Associate Director, Stenio Gungadoo

South Pacific Division

Church Ministries Department:
Associate Director, R L Hodgkinson

Southern Asia Division

Church Ministries Department:
Associate Director, C Pheirim
Associate Director, P D Kujur

South American Division

Auditor, Roald N Wensell
Communication Department Director, Werner Mayr
Health and Temperance Department Director, Edwin Mayer
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department Director,
Werner Mayr
Trust Services Director, Werner Mayr
World Foods Service Director, Paulo Stabenow
Church Ministries Department:
Associate Director, Jorge S Mathias
Associate Director, Paulo Stabenow

Eastern Africa Division

Secretary, Ralph P Bailey
Communication Department Director, Frederick K Wangai
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department Director,
Frederick K Wangai
Publishing Department Director, L Masuku

Trans-European Division

Field Secretary, Heikki J Luukko
Education Department Director, Orville Woolford
Temperance Department Director, Orville Woolford
Church Ministries Department Director, Donald Lowe
Associate Director, Mark Finley
Associate Director, James M Huzzey
ADRA Director, Heikki J Luukko

North American Division

Secretary, Fred G Thomas
Treasurer, George H Crumley
Assistant Treasurer, Frank L Jones
Church Ministries Department Director, J Lynn Martell

General Conference

Auditing Service Associate Directors, C Haupt
Daniel E Herzel
Eric A Korff
Clarence M Laue
Thomas P Miller
Lloyd C Strickland

Associate Secretary, Fred G Thomas
Education Department Director, George H Akers
General Field Secretary, Mathew Bediako
Ministerial Association Secretary, Floyd Bresee
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department Director,
B B Beach
Publishing Department Director, Ronald E Appenzeller
Health and Temperance Department Director, G Gordon Hadley
Trust Services Director, G Tom Carter
World Foods Service Director, Eric C Fehlberg
Assistant Treasurers, George H Crumley
Frank L Jones
Robert E Osborn
Donald E Robinson

Board of Trustees, General Conference Corporation

D H Baasch, C E Bradford, G Tom Carter, G H Crumley, D F Gilbert,
Warren L Johns, F L Jones, W L Murrill, Enoch Oliveira, R E Osborn,
D E Robinson, Fred G Thomas, G Ralph Thompson, Neal C Wilson.

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Board of Trustees, North American Conference Corporation

C E Bradford, G H Crumley, D F Gilbert, D E Robinson, Fred G Thomas, G Ralph Thompson, Neal C Wilson.

Adjourned

Lowell L Bock, Chairman
D R Christman, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Martha Horn, Recording Secretary

THIRTEENTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 4, 1984, 3:15 p.m.

ChMan/GCO/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/251-84G/85GCS/GCO/ChMan to CDW

150-85G THE FORM OF ORGANIZATION IN THE SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend CM 53-55, The Form of Organization in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, to read as follows:

FOUR CONSTITUENT LEVELS IN THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST ORGANIZATION

Among Seventh-day Adventists there are four constituent levels leading from the individual believer to the worldwide organization of the work of the church:

1. The local church, a united organized body of individual believers.
2. The local conference or local field/mission, a united organized body of churches in a state, province, or territory.
3. The union conference or union field/mission, a united body of conferences or fields within a larger territory.
4. The General Conference, the largest unit of organization, embraces all unions in all parts of the world. Divisions are sections of the General Conference, with administrative responsibility assigned to them in designated geographical areas.

"Every member of the church has a voice in choosing officers of the church. The church chooses the officers of the state conferences. Delegates chosen by the state conferences choose the officers of the union conferences, and delegates chosen by the union conferences choose the officers of the General Conference. By this arrangement every conference, every institution, every church, and every individual, either directly or through representatives, has a voice in the election of the men who bear the chief responsibilities in the General Conference."--Testimonies, vol 8, pp. 236,237.

THE CHURCH'S INSTITUTIONS

Within these four constituent levels the Church operates a variety of institutions. Seventh-day Adventists see in the gospel commission and the example of the Lord and His apostles, the responsibility of followers of Christ to serve the whole man. In their world outreach they have therefore followed the pattern of their beginnings in the development of educational, health care, publishing, and other institutions.

In Seventh-day Adventist theology and philosophy of church operation, such institutions have been from their inception integral parts of the Church, direct instruments in the carrying out of its divine commission. Therefore, the Seventh-day Adventist Church makes use of its denominationally owned and operated institutions such as health care institutions, publishing houses, and schools as integral parts to fulfill health, literature and teaching ministries; therefore, they are indispensable to and inseparable from the Church's total ministry in carrying the gospel to all the world.

The multiple units of the world church, whether congregations, conferences, health care institutions, publishing houses, schools, or other organizations, all find their organizational unity in the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in which they have representation. Through them the world Church reaches out in the name of Christ to meet the needs of a distraught world.

GENERAL CONFERENCE THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY

The General Conference in session, and the Executive Committee between sessions, is the highest organization in the administration of the Church's worldwide work, and is authorized by its constitution to create subordinate organizations to promote specific interests in various sections of the world; it is therefore understood that all subordinate organizations and institutions throughout the world will recognize the General Conference as the highest authority, under God, among Seventh-day Adventists. When differences arise in or between organizations and institutions, appeal to the next higher organization is proper till it reaches the General Conference in session, or the Executive Committee at the Annual Council. During the interim between these sessions the Executive Committee shall constitute the body of final authority on all questions where a difference of viewpoint may develop. The committee's decision may be reviewed at a session of the General Conference or at an Annual Council of the Executive Committee.

"I have been shown that no man's judgment should be surrendered to the judgment of any one man. But when the judgment of the General Conference, which is the highest authority that God has upon the earth, is exercised, private independence and private judgment must not be maintained, but be surrendered."-- -Ibid. vol. 3, p. 492.

EGWEstate/GCO/GCD085GCS/EGWEstate/GCOSTeering/85GCS to GRT

246-85G SPIRIT OF PROPHECY STATEMENT--1985 GENERAL
CONFERENCE SESSION

VOTED, To adopt the following statement regarding the Spirit of Prophecy:

We today express our deep gratitude to God for the continuing presence of spiritual gifts among His people, and particularly for the gift of prophecy as manifested in the life and writings of Ellen G White.

We praise and thank God (1) for the fact that this gift points unerringly to Christ's great sacrifice for the sins of the world and for its tender and moving appeals that lead and draw us to His cross and to Him as our Substitute and Surety, (2) for the unparalleled influence of this gift in exalting the Scriptures as the standard for character, the revealer of doctrines and the test of experience, (3) for the aid this gift has provided, and continues to provide, in helping us to understand God's eternal purposes and the certain working out of His will in the great struggle between good and evil, (4) for the instruction, counsel, warnings, and reproof provided through this gift, and for its decisive influence in guiding the Church through the years and in creating and maintaining the remarkable organizational and doctrinal unity of the Church.

In the light of these considerations,

We urge church administrators, church pastors and other leaders by precept and example to encourage church members to study earnestly the inspired counsels and follow carefully the practical instruction and principles for daily living that these counsels contain.

We call upon evangelists, pastors and lay preachers to make extensive use of the Ellen G White books in their soul-winning endeavors.

We call upon our education directors, school administrators and teachers in our educational institutions by precept and example to encourage students to study the Ellen G White books and the other rich, inspired materials available in the Ellen G White-SDA Research Centers.

We urge administrators, physicians, nurses and other workers in our health care facilities to study and honor Ellen G White's counsels as they relate to the operation of our medical institutions.

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We encourage non-English-language divisions to continue the well established program of translating the Ellen G White books into their various languages.

We urge all union and local conferences and missions to give careful study to the selection and appointment of persons with ability and enthusiasm to promote the writings of Ellen G White in the churches and institutions within their territories.

We urge our publishing houses to translate and publish the Ellen G White books, and we encourage our literature evangelists and church members everywhere to give these volumes wide circulation.

We encourage our publishing houses, where feasible, to translate and publish the new six-volume Ellen G White Biography, and we urge ministers and church members to read the volumes and to note carefully "the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history" (LS p. 196).

NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE #11

VOTED, To approve the following partial report of the Nominating Committee:

General Conference

Assistant Treasurer, John F Wilkens

Church Ministries Department:

Associate Directors, George E Knowles
Samuel F Monnier
Gilbert J Bertochini
Charles L Brooks
Helen C Craig
Leo R Van Dolson
Richard E Barron
Michael H Stevenson
Leslie H Pitton
Donald E Crane
Paul G Smith
Betty Holbrook
Leo S Ranzolin
Perry F Pedersen
Ronald M Flowers
Karen M Flowers

North American Division

Health and Temperance Department Director, Stoy E Proctor
Associate for Nursing, Elizabeth Sterndale

Euro-Africa Division

Publishing Department Director, Karl Widmaier

Trans-European Division

Ministerial Association Secretary, Mark Finley

South Pacific Division

Communication, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Departments
Director, R L Coombe

Adjourned

Alf Lohne, Chairman
Roy F Williams, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Betty Pierson, Recording Secretary

FOURTEENTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 5, 1985, 9:15 a.m.

84AC/106-85GN/146-85GN/147-85GN/176-85GN/177-85GN/
180-85GN/85SM/85GCS/GGConst&ByCom85GCS/85GCS to DHB

234-85G GENERAL CONFERENCE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS -
AMENDMENTS

VOTED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws to
read as follows:

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I--NAME

This organization shall be known as General Conference of Seventh-
day Adventists.

ARTICLE II--OBJECT

The object of this Conference is to teach all nations the
everlasting gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and the
commandments of God.

ARTICLE III--MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 1. The membership of this Conference shall consist of:

a. Such union conferences and union missions, either in
organized division sections or without divisional affiliation, as have
been or shall be properly organized and accepted by vote of the General
Conference in session.

b. Such local conferences and properly organized local
missions not included in any division, union conference/mission, or such
local conferences/missions/unions of churches directly attached to
divisions, as have been or shall be properly organized and accepted by
vote of the General Conference in session.

Sec. 2. The voters of this Conference shall be designated as follows:

- a. Delegates at large.
- b. Regular delegates.

Sec. 3. Delegates at large shall be:

- a. All members of the General Conference Executive Committee.
- b. Such representatives of missions of the General Conference and of general institutions and departments of work, and such general laborers, field secretaries and lay persons as shall receive delegate's credentials from the Executive Committee of the General Conference, such credentials to be ratified by the General Conference in session. The number of these delegates thus seated shall not exceed 25 per cent of the total number of delegates otherwise provided for.
- c. Four delegates from each division, without regard to membership, and one additional delegate for each 200,000, or major fraction thereof, of the division membership, such delegates to be appointed by the Division Committee and their credentials to be ratified by the General Conference in session. Calculations for these delegate allotments shall be based upon the membership as of December 31 of the second year preceding the Session.

Sec. 4. Regular delegates shall be appointed in the following manner:

- a. Delegates representing union conferences shall be appointed by the respective unions.
- b. Delegates representing union missions, and local conferences/local missions/unions of churches attached to the division but not to any union, shall be appointed by the Division Committee in consultation with the organization concerned.
- c. Delegates representing union missions, and local conferences/local missions/unions of churches, without division affiliation, shall be appointed by the General Conference Committee in consultation with the organization concerned.

Sec. 5. Regular delegates shall be appointed and accredited on the following basis:

- a. Delegates from union conferences/missions. Each union conference/mission shall be entitled to one delegate in addition to its president, without regard to number, an additional delegate for each local conference and each regularly organized mission in its territory

without regard to number, and an additional delegate for each 5,000 or major fraction thereof, of the membership of the union conference or mission.

b. Delegates from attached local fields. Each local conference/local mission/union of churches directly attached to a division or to the General Conference, as has been or shall be properly organized and accepted by vote of the General Conference in session, shall be entitled to one delegate, without regard to number, and an additional delegate for each 5,000 or major fraction thereof, of the membership of the local conference or mission.

c. Calculations for delegate allotments shall be based upon the membership as of December 31 of the second year preceding the session.

Sec. 6. Credentials to sessions shall be issued by the General Conference to those appointed as provided for in harmony with the provisions of this article.

ARTICLE IV--OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Sec. 1. The officers of this Conference shall be a president, vice-presidents, a secretary, an undersecretary, associate secretaries, a treasurer, an undertreasurer, and associate treasurers, who shall be elected by the Conference.

Sec. 2. President: The president shall preside at the sessions of the Conference, act as chairman of the Executive Committee and labor in the general interests of the Conference, as the Executive Committee may advise, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to such office.

Sec. 3. Vice-Presidents: Each vice-president shall at the time of his election be assigned to serve as a general administrative assistant to the president or to preside over a division field.

Sec. 4. Secretary, undersecretary and associate secretaries: It shall be the duty of the secretary, undersecretary, and the associate secretaries to keep the minutes of the proceedings of the General Conference Sessions and of the General Conference Committee meetings, to maintain correspondence with the fields and to perform such other duties as usually pertain to such office.

Sec. 5. Treasurer, undertreasurer and associate treasurers: It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all funds of the General Conference, and disburse them in harmony with the actions of the Executive Committee of the General Conference, and to render such financial statements at regular intervals as may be desired by the

General Conference or by the Executive Committee. The undertreasurer and associate treasurers shall assist the treasurer in his work.

ARTICLE V--ELECTION

Sec. 1. The following shall be elected at each regular session of the General Conference:

a. A president, vice-presidents, a secretary, an undersecretary, associate secretaries, division secretaries, a treasurer, an undertreasurer, associate treasurers, division treasurers, general field secretaries, division field secretaries, an auditor, associate auditors, division auditors, a secretary and associate secretaries of the ministerial association, a director and associate directors of each duly organized General Conference department; namely, Communication, Education, Health and Temperance, Lay Activities, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, Publishing, Sabbath School, Stewardship and Development, Youth; a director of Archives and Statistics, a director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries, a director of Adventist Personnel Service, a director and associate director of the Office of Human Relations, a director and associate director of Trust Services, a director of World Foods Service; division Ministerial Association secretaries, division departmental directors, division directors of Trust Services and division directors of World Foods Service.

b. Other persons, not to exceed 60 in number, to serve as members of the Executive Committee one-third of which shall be laymen.

ARTICLE VI--EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of:

a. Those elected as provided by Article V except the General Conference auditor and associate auditors and division auditors.

b. Presidents of union conferences, presidents of union missions, past presidents of the General Conference holding credentials from this Conference, the president of Andrews University, the director and associate directors of the Biblical Research Institute, the president of Christian Record Braille Foundation, the president of the General Conference Risk Management Service, the director of the Geoscience Research Institute, the president of Harris Pine Mills, the director of Home and Family Service, the president of the Home Study International, the president of Loma Linda University, the president of Oakwood College, the president of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, the director of Philanthropic Service for Institutions, the president of the Seventh-day Adventist Radio, Television and Film Center, the president of the Review and Herald Publishing Association,

the executive director of Adventist Development and Relief Agency International, the executive secretary of the Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries, the director of General Conference Personnel Administration, the editor and associate editors of the Adventist Review, the secretary and associate secretaries of the Ellen G. White Estate, the speaker of the Breath of Life, the speaker of Faith for Today, the speaker of It Is Written, the speaker of the Voice of Prophecy and the speaker of the "La Voz de la Esperanza" (Spanish) radio program.

ARTICLE VII--TERM OF OFFICE

All officers of the General Conference and those members of the Executive Committee provided for by Article VI, Sec. 1a, shall hold office from the time of election until the next ensuing regular session, or until their successors are elected and appear to enter upon their duties.

ARTICLE VIII--INCORPORATIONS AND AGENTS

Sec. 1. Such incorporations may be authorized by the General Conference in session, or by the General Conference Executive Committee, as the development of the work may require.

Sec. 2. At each regular session of this Conference, the delegates shall elect such trustees and corporate bodies connected with this organization as may be provided in the statutory laws governing each.

Sec. 3. The Conference shall employ such committees, secretaries, treasurers, auditors, agents, ministers, missionaries and other persons, and make such distribution of its laborers as may be necessary effectively to execute its work.

Sec. 4. The Conference shall grant credentials or licenses to ministers and missionaries except in division fields, in union and local conferences, and in organized union missions.

Sec. 5. The General Conference Corporation is an organization formed as an instrumentality of the General Conference for the purpose of assisting the General Conference in carrying out its purposes.

ARTICLE IX--SESSIONS

Sec. 1. This Conference shall hold quinquennial sessions at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall designate and announce by a notice published in the Adventist Review in three consecutive issues at least four months before the date for the opening of the

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session. In case special world conditions seem to make it imperative to postpone the calling of the Session, the Executive Committee, in regular or special council, shall have authority to make such postponement, not to exceed two years, giving notice to all constituent organizations.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee may call special sessions of the General Conference at such time and place as it deems proper, by a like notice as of regular sessions, and the transactions of such special sessions shall have the same force as those of the regular sessions.

Sec. 3. The election of officers, and the voting on all matters of business shall be by viva-voce vote, or as designated by the chairman, unless otherwise demanded by a majority of the delegates present.

ARTICLE X--BYLAWS

The voters of this Conference may enact bylaws and amend or repeal them at any session thereof, and such bylaws may embrace any provision not inconsistent with the Constitution.

ARTICLE XI--AMENDMENTS

This Constitution or its Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voters present and voting at any session, provided that, if it is proposed to amend the Constitution at a special session, notice of such purpose shall be given in the call for such special session.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I--DIVISION SECTIONS

Sec. 1. The General Conference shall conduct its worldwide work in division sections, each section to operate within a specified territory in harmony with the policy of the General Conference.

Sec. 2. Union conference and union mission field organizations, together with all other organizations and institutions within the territory, shall be responsible to the respective division committees, or in the case of fields without divisional affiliation, to the General Conference Committee.

Sec. 3. The division sections shall be known as: Africa-Indian Ocean Division, China Division, Eastern Africa Division, Euro-Africa Division, Far Eastern Division, Inter-American Division, North American Division, South American Division, South Pacific Division, Southern Asia Division, Trans-European Division, The Seventh-day Adventist Church in

the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The boundaries of these division sections shall be subject to adjustment only at a session (sessions) of the General Conference, or at an annual council (annual councils) of the General Conference Committee.

Sec. 4. If a territorial adjustment is made at an annual council, it shall be made only provided each of the division(s) affected is(are) represented at the council by at least one of its executive officers. An exception to the requirement of division representation shall be made in a condition of emergency. In such a case, the General Conference Committee shall make whatever adjustments are necessary for the conduct of the work in the territory affected.

ARTICLE II--STANDING COMMITTEES

Sec. 1. At each regular session of this Conference, such standing committees as may be found necessary, including the following, shall be elected to consider such items of business as may be referred to them and to bring in their reports and recommendations to the session:

- a. Constitution and Bylaws Committee
- b. Nominating Committee
- c. Plans Committee

Sec. 2. a. The membership of the Nominating Committee shall consist of the following:

1) Each division and each attached union shall be entitled to membership on the Nominating Committee based upon its proportion of the world membership as of December 31 of the second year preceding the session. The total under this provision is not to exceed 200 provided, however, that no division have less than eight members on the Nominating Committee.

2) One member for each attached union and one member for each of the following General Conference institutions: Andrews University, Christian Record Braille Foundation, Harris Pine Mills, Home Study International, Loma Linda Foods, Loma Linda University, Oakwood College, Pacific Press Publishing Association, Review and Herald Publishing Association, and Seventh-day Adventist Radio, Television and Film Center.

b. The members of the Nominating Committee shall be chosen as follows:

1) Each division delegation shall act as a unit in selecting the members to which it is entitled on the basis of church membership. Delegates at large will join the delegations from the divisions in which they are or were last employed, or now reside.

2) The election of division representatives on the Nominating Committee shall be by the method of voting considered by the division to be most convenient and efficient, taking into consideration the size of the delegation and other circumstances.

c. Each division delegation in selecting its representatives on the Nominating Committee shall take into account the following points:

1) The division's representation on the Nominating Committee should, as far as possible, represent the various geographical areas, organizational segments and types of activity of the division.

2) Those chosen as members of the Nominating Committee must be duly accredited delegates in attendance at the General Conference Session.

3) Members of the General Conference Committee whose term of service is expiring at the Session and therefore stand for re-election shall not be members of the Nominating Committee.

d. No delegate shall nominate more than one person for election to the Nominating Committee.

e. The Nominating Committee shall elect its own chairman and secretary under the temporary chairmanship of the President of the General Conference.

f. The Nominating Committee shall limit its nominations to those positions for which budgetary provision has been made.

g. In order to expedite the work of the Nominating Committee, the representatives from each division, including North America, shall be allowed a reasonable amount of time to meet and consider the personnel needs of their respective divisions and to make recommendations to the full Nominating Committee. Decisions of these groups shall not be binding on the Nominating Committee as a whole, but shall be submitted as recommendations which will be considered. The North American Division group shall recommend personnel for the following offices in the General Conference:

Two associate secretaries
Two elected members of the General Conference Treasury staff
One associate director for the Department of Communication
One associate director for the Department of Education who shall serve as executive secretary of the NAD Board of Higher Education and who shall have been recommended by that board

One associate director of the Department of Education who shall serve as executive secretary of the NAD K-12 Board of Education and who shall have been recommended by that board

One associate director of the Department of Health and Temperance

One associate director of the Department of Health and Temperance in the field of nursing

One associate director of the Department of Lay Activities

One associate secretary of the Ministerial Association

One director of the NAD Office of Human Relations

One associate director of the NAD Office of Human Relations

One associate director of the Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty

One associate director of the Publishing Department

One associate director of the Sabbath School Department

One associate director of the Stewardship and Development Department

One associate director of the Youth Department

General field secretaries assigned to North America

ARTICLE III--VICE-PRESIDENTS

Sec. 1. General vice-presidents shall be elected to assist the President with the general administrative work of the General Conference. One additional vice-president shall be elected for each division of the General Conference.

Sec. 2. The general vice-presidents shall in the absence of the President serve as chairmen of the Executive Committee and shall assist the President in his administrative work.

Sec. 3. The Vice-President for North America shall work under the direction of the General Conference Committee.

Sec. 4. The vice-presidents elected for the divisions outside of North America shall act as chairmen of the division committees operating in their respective fields and shall have charge of the work in those fields under the direction of the division committees and shall be designated within their respective division territories as presidents of the divisions over which they preside.

ARTICLE IV--UNDERSECRETARY AND ASSOCIATE SECRETARIES

An undersecretary and associate secretaries shall be elected to share with the Secretary the responsibilities of his office. They shall perform such duties connected with the Secretariat as may be assigned to them by the Secretary.

ARTICLE V--DIVISION SECRETARIES

Sec. 1. A secretary shall be elected for each division outside of North America to be designated "division secretary."

Sec. 2. Division secretaries shall work under the direction of their respective division committees. It shall be their duty to keep the minutes of the division committee meetings, to collect information and make such reports as may be required, and to do such other work as usually pertains to such office.

Sec. 3. Division committees may appoint such associate and assistant secretaries as may be required to carry on the work.

ARTICLE VI--UNDERTREASURER AND ASSOCIATE TREASURERS

An undertreasurer and associate treasurers shall be elected to share with the Treasurer the work of his office. They shall perform such duties connected with the Treasury as may be assigned to them by the Treasurer or by the Executive Committee. They may be authorized by the Executive Committee to sign checks under the instruction of the Treasurer.

ARTICLE VII--DIVISION TREASURERS

Sec. 1. A treasurer shall be elected for each division outside of North America, to be designated "division treasurer."

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the division treasurers to receive and disburse the funds of the General Conference made available for their territory, under the direction of their respective division committees, and to perform such other duties as usually pertain to such office.

Sec. 3. A division committee may appoint an undertreasurer and such assistant treasurers and assistant auditors as may be required to carry on the work.

ARTICLE VIII--GENERAL AND DIVISION FIELD SECRETARIES

Sec. 1 The term "general field secretary" shall be used to designate general field workers elected in addition to the officers to serve in carrying the field responsibilities of the General Conference.

Sec. 2. The general field secretaries shall work under the direction of the General Conference Committee and the President, and be assigned either to field service or to special projects or responsibilities as may be determined by the General Conference Committee.

Sec. 3. Division field secretaries may be elected as shall be deemed necessary to labor in the divisions under the direction of their respective division committees.

ARTICLE IX--DEPARTMENTS--DIRECTORS/SECRETARIES, ASSOCIATES AND ASSISTANTS

Sec. 1. The departmental, association, and service directors/secretaries and associates elected by the General Conference shall work under the direction of the Executive Committee of the General Conference, or in the case of departmental, association, or service directors/secretaries in divisions under the direction of their respective division executive committees, and shall occupy an advisory relation to the field.

Sec. 2. The term "associate director/secretary" shall be used to designate such individuals as may be elected to associate with the director/secretary of any General Conference department, association or service in carrying the responsibilities of his office. Such person shall have the requisite experience, background and expertise to facilitate the work of the department in carrying out the functions assigned to it not only at headquarters but also throughout the world field. Certain specialized associate activities may be largely accomplished without extensive field activity.

Sec. 3. The term "assistant director/secretary" shall be used to designate such persons as are appointed by the General Conference Committee to assist the director/secretary and his associates in any department, association or service in carrying the work of the General Conference office, usually in one or more special procedures or functions. These special assignments shall be carried on largely in the office and serve to expedite the work of the departmental staff. Field appointments for departmental assistants shall be of a very limited nature and shall normally be confined to the North American Division.

ARTICLE X--DEPARTMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Executive Committee shall appoint a representative advisory committee for each department, association, or service of the General Conference. Such committee shall in each case be composed of the director/secretary, associates and assistants of the department, association or service; the directors/secretaries of departmental,

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association, or service work in the divisions; and such other persons as the Executive Committee may deem necessary.

ARTICLE XI--DIVISION DEPARTMENTS--DIRECTORS/SECRETARIES,
ASSOCIATES AND ASSISTANTS

Sec. 1. Division departmental, association and service directors/secretaries shall be elected by the General Conference for the respective division fields and shall labor under the direction of their respective division committees.

Sec. 2. Division committees shall appoint such associate and assistant directors/secretaries, as may be needed to serve in special capacities, to labor under the direction of their respective directors/secretaries.

ARTICLE XII--DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES AND STATISTICS

At each regular session the General Conference shall elect a director of Archives and Statistics whose duties shall be to administer the General Conference Archives and to compile and report the statistics of the world work, and who shall serve under the direction of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XIII--EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sec. 1. a. During the intervals between sessions of the General Conference, the Executive Committee is delegated the authority to act on behalf of the General Conference in session including the authority to elect or remove, for cause, officers, directors and associate directors of departments/services and committee members and to fill for the current term any vacancies that may occur in its offices, boards, committees or agents by death, resignation, or otherwise.

b. The Executive Committee shall also have power to grant or to withdraw credentials or licenses and to approve such committees and employ such personnel as may be necessary to execute its work effectively.

c. The Executive Committee shall have power to effect the retirement, before the expiration of the term for which they have been elected, of persons elected under Article V, Sec. 1 a, of the Constitution who may develop a health condition that prevents them from properly discharging their duties.

d. The removal from office by the Executive Committee of any person elected under Article V, Sec. 1 a, of the Constitution or its

withdrawal of credentials or licenses shall be by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any regular meeting.

Sec. 2. a. A meeting of the Executive Committee, known as the Annual Council, shall be held annually for the purpose of considering budgets from the fields and making appropriations, and for the transaction of other business and the adoption of such policies as may be necessary in the operation of the worldwide work.

b. A meeting of the Executive Committee, known as the Spring Meeting, shall be held annually for the purpose of receiving the audited financial reports of the General Conference and for transacting regular Executive Committee business as provided in the General Conference Working Policy relating to Spring Meetings.

Sec. 3. A majority of the full membership of the Executive Committee, including the President or a general vice-president, is empowered to transact denominational business of any nature at any time and place.

Sec. 4. Any fifteen members of the Executive Committee, including an officer of the General Conference, shall, after due notice to available members, constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee and shall be empowered to transact such executive business as is in harmony with the general plans outlined by the Committee at the designated place of meeting of the Executive Committee as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 5. All meetings of the Executive Committee, except majority meetings, shall be held at the General Conference headquarters, or at such other place as may be definitely arranged by a majority meeting of the Executive Committee, or by the quorum of at least fifteen members meeting in regular session at general headquarters.

Sec. 6. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called at any time by the ranking officer of the Conference who may be present at headquarters, and such officer, or any member of the committee appointed by him, shall act as chairman of the meeting.

ARTICLE XIV--DIVISION COMMITTEES

Sec. 1. In each division outside of North America, a division committee shall be constituted as hereinafter provided for the transaction of business pertaining to the division.

Sec. 2. The members of a division committee shall be the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the field secretaries of the division; the presidents of union conferences; the presidents of union missions; the division departmental, association, and service directors/secretaries; and any other members of the General Conference

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Committee present. Other members may also be appointed by the Division Committee.

Sec. 3. The actions taken by division committees pertaining to the administration of affairs in division fields shall be considered final, provided they are in harmony with the plans and policy of the General Conference as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws, and with its Executive Committee actions at regular Annual Councils.

Sec. 4. Five members of a division committee, including the chairman, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. When the chairman is unable to be present, the secretary may convene such a meeting at headquarters and shall serve as chairman unless otherwise determined by the President. Minority meetings of fewer than five members of the Division Committee may be held for the transaction of necessary routine business, but actions taken at such meetings shall not be final until the minutes of such meetings have been approved in a meeting with a quorum present.

ARTICLE XV--CORPORATION BOARDS

At each regular session of the General Conference the requisite boards of trustees, according to their respective Constitutions and Bylaws, shall be elected for each legal corporation serving as trustee and holding properties and receiving gifts and legacies for the General Conference unincorporated. The trustees of the General Conference Corporation shall also constitute the Board of Trustees of the General Conference Association.

ARTICLE XVI--AUDITORS AND AUDITS

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee shall have the accounts of the General Conference and of its legal corporations audited at least once each calendar year, and the auditor or one of the associate auditors shall report upon the same to the Executive Committee annually. The auditor or an associate auditor, as may be arranged, shall report also to the General Conference at its regular sessions. The General Conference auditor and the associate auditors shall also be made available for auditing the accounts of union conferences and general institutions as well as division accounts. The auditors shall be under the general direction of the Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. The division auditor or auditors shall audit the books of such organizations or institutions within their territories as the division committees shall direct.

ARTICLE XVII--WAGES AND EXPENSES

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee shall appoint annually eight persons not in its employ who, with the officers of the General Conference and not less than seven presidents of union conferences, shall constitute a committee to audit the expense accounts of employees and to fix their wages for the succeeding year.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall have power to make such adjustments from time to time in the wage of clerks, stenographers and other routine workers as may be necessary.

ARTICLE XVIII--FUNDS

Sec. 1. The funds of the General Conference shall be as follows:

a. A tithe of the tithe receipts of the union conferences and union missions and of the local conferences and missions not included in union conferences and union missions.

b. Regular mission offerings.

c. Special donations and proceeds from the maturities of deferred gifts.

d. Such percentage of the tithe of local conferences and missions as may be determined by a committee composed of the conference and mission presidents and the Division Executive Committee, or, in the case of North America, the conference and mission presidents and the General Conference Executive Committee.

e. Surplus tithes which may be appropriated by local and union conferences for the mission field.

f. Appropriations from our publishing houses, sanitariums and other institutions that are under the control of the General Conference which, because of the character of their work, have more than local influence and responsibility as may be arranged by joint counsel of the Executive Committee of the General Conference with the board of management of each institution.

g. Such percentage of the funds of union and local conferences and missions, institutions and Adventist Book Centers in North America as may be arranged by the General Conference Committee in counsel with conference presidents, the same to be known as the Retirement Plan for the support of aged and infirm workers and for the dependent widows and orphans of workers.

Sec. 2. Divisions outside North America shall adopt a retirement plan which shall be in harmony with the principles set forth in the General Conference Retirement Plan.

ARTICLE XIX--APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee shall make its appropriations for home and foreign work at the Annual Councils, said appropriations to be based on budgets from the fields requiring financial help.

Sec. 2. Appropriations shall be made subject to the receipt of the full amount of funds estimated in the General Conference budget. In case of a shortage, the distribution shall be on a pro rata basis to all the interests represented in the budget.

Sec. 3. Appropriations for major permanent investments shall be held in trust for the purpose for which the appropriation was designated. In case the project is abandoned, the funds shall revert to the General Conference. Other funds appropriated to division fields shall be administered by the Division Committee.

Sec. 4. All funds raised in division fields, except the regular funds belonging to the General Conference, as indicated under Article XVIII, may be used for the advancement of the work in the fields in which they were raised.

Sec. 5. General Conference funds in all the world shall be made available to meet the annual appropriations of the General Conference.

ARTICLE XX--FINANCE

Sec. 1. To tide over a possible financial depression and to provide a working fund for regular operations the General Conference shall maintain an amount of working capital as defined and specified in the Working Policy.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee, acting through its legal agency, the General Conference Corporation, shall have power to make such annuity contracts as may seem desirable; but all moneys obtained in this way shall be invested in securities and not be made available for appropriations until the annuity contracts have matured.

Sec. 3. The tithes and mission offerings received by the General Conference shall be held as a trust for appropriation to the work of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. It shall not be within the prerogative, therefore, of the General Conference Committee, the Treasury, nor of any agent or agency of the denomination, to loan these funds to private individuals, to endorse notes, sign bonds or other

securities or in any other way to divert the funds of the General Conference from their intended purpose. Advances specifically authorized under regular policy, and made in order to enable workers to become located and equipped for service, are not a violation of this provision.

Sec. 4. The basis for computing goals and per capita funds shall be the average of the membership of the four consecutive quarters ending on September 30 of the preceding year as published in the General Conference official statistical reports.

85GCS to DHB

GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION AGENDA--PROVISION
FOR ADVANCE AGENDAS TO SESSION DELEGATES

VOTED, 1. To provide to the delegates appointed to a General Conference Session, a copy of the proposed agenda eight weeks prior to the opening of the session, together with supporting materials and information regarding the agenda items.

2. To recognize that the General Conference Session agenda cannot be closed eight weeks in advance of a session and that items may be added to the agenda for consideration by the session.

Adjourned

Kenneth J Mittleider, Chairman
D R Christman, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Martha Horn, Recording Secretary

FIFTEENTH BUSINESS MEETING
54th General Conference Session
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 5, 1985, 1:30 p.m.

C&BL85GCS/85GCS to DHB-GCO+GCC+90GCS

234-85Ga GC CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS--REVIEW OF LANGUAGE
AND TERMINOLOGY

VOTED, To request the General Conference Committee to review the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws for the purpose of updating its language and terminology and to submit the results of the review to the 55th Session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

C&BL85GCS/85GCS to DHB-GCO+GCC+90GCS

234-85Gb GC CONSTITUTION--CODIFICATION OF ARTICLE III,
SECTION 3-b, PROVISIONS

VOTED, To request the General Conference Committee to develop a proposal for codifying the provisions of GC Constitution, Article III, Section 3-b for the purpose of establishing more specifically how the provisions of that section are to be applied and to submit the proposal to the 55th Session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

C&BL85GCS/85GCS to DHB-GCO+GCC

234-85Gc PROCEDURAL RULES FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSIONS

VOTED, To request the General Conference Committee to compile and publish rules of procedure to be followed in conducting the business meetings of a General Conference session.

C&BL85GCS/85GCS to DHB-GCO+GCC

234-85Gd PARLIAMENTARIAN FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSIONS

VOTED, To request the General Conference Committee to consider the possibility and practicability of appointing a parliamentarian for the business meetings of future General Conference sessions.

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C&BL85GCS/85GCS to DHB-GCO+GCC

234-85Ge DIVISION INSTITUTIONS--REPRESENTATION ON NOMINATING COMMITTEE

VOTED, To refer to the General Conference Committee consideration of the matter of representation from division institutions on General Conference session nominating committees.

85GCS to DHB-GCO+GCC

234-85Gf STANDING CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

VOTED, To request the General Conference Committee to name a standing Constitution and Bylaws Committee to function between regularly scheduled General Conference Sessions and to submit its recommendations to the General Conference Executive Committee and to the General Conference Session.

ONUP85SM/175-85GN/85SM/85GCS to NCW-GCO+88SM+89AC

175-85GNa ORDINATION OF WOMEN TO THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

VOTED, 1. To take no definitive action at this time regarding the ordination of women to the gospel ministry

2. To maintain the Church's present position on this matter

3. To prepare further Biblical and other studies on the question of ordaining women by assigning specific topics to scholars and theologians for research

4. To assign discussion of the documents growing out of such research to a special representative committee which will be scheduled to meet early in 1988, its findings to be presented in a report to the 1988 Spring Meeting of the General Conference Committee and subsequently to the 1989 Annual Council at which time the entire issue will be reviewed.

ONUP85SM/175-85NG/85SM/85GCS to NCW+GCO+85AC

175-85GNb WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN CHURCH WORK

VOTED, 1. To urge that "affirmative action" for the involvement of women in the work of the Church be a priority plan with church leadership, and to request leaders to use their executive influence to open to women all aspects of ministry in the Church which do not require ordination

2. To give special emphasis to the work of Bible Instructors, both women and men, and to urge that conference and field administrators restore this ministerial category to importance and accord it proper recognition in the work of the Church

3. To recognize the desirability of a pastor and his wife working together as a team and the spiritual strength which will result through such combined ministry, and to urge that this concept be studied together with the development of a financial plan and training program that would support its implementation wherever feasible

4. To recognize that a great need exists to educate our people regarding the major roles that women may fill in the Lord's work without ordination, and to request that specific plans to meet this need be developed and presented to the 1985 Annual Council.

ONUP85SM/175-85GN/85SM/85GCS to NCW-GCO

175-85GNc MINISTERIAL ORDINATION--REFORM OF PRACTICES

VOTED, To institute a reform in the Church's ordination practices for the purpose of limiting ministerial ordination only to those who perform direct pastoral, evangelistic, ecclesiastical, or other clearly ministerial-type duties.

ONUP85SM/175-85GN/85SM/85GCS to CEB+NADCOM+85AC

175-85GNd MINISTERIAL WORKER FUNCTIONS
IN NAD--CLARIFICATION

VOTED, To request the North American Division Committee to clarify the functions of ministerial workers who hold ministerial licenses, including how such functions relate to women who serve as pastors or associates in pastoral care, and to request that a complete proposal on roles and procedures be submitted by the North American Division to the 1985 Annual Council for consideration.

GCO/OUNP83AC/N83AC/230-83N/NADSec/ADCOM/N84AC/189-84N/GCO/
GCD085GCS/85GCS to NCW+DHB

133-85N ADVENTIST CHAPLAINCY MINISTRIES (ACM) OFFICE

VOTED, 1. To provide for setting up an office to be known as the Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM).

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2. To amend the General Conference Constitution to provide for the ACM and for its director to be an elected member of the General Conference staff.

ONUP84AC/G84AC/368-84G/GCO/SEC/GCO/ONUP85SM/85SM/186-85G/GCDO85GCS/85GCS
to DHB-GCC

207-85G UNION CONFERENCE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS MODEL

VOTED, To refer Union Conference Constitution and Bylaws Model to the General Conference Committee for future study requesting that after study by the General Conference/division/union/local committees, an appropriate action be taken by the General Conference Committee at an Annual Council.

ONUP84AC/G84AC/368-84G/GCO/SEC/GCO/ONUP85SM/85SM/186-85G/GCDO85GCS/85GCS
to DHB-GCC

208-85G LOCAL CONFERENCE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS MODEL

VOTED, To refer Local Conference Constitution and Bylaws Model to the General Conference Committee requesting that after study by the General Conference/division/union/local committees, an appropriate action be taken by the General Conference Committee at an Annual Council.

ChMan/GCO/ONUP85SM/85SM/GCDO85GCS/85GCS to CDW

203-85G THE NATURE OF MAN - CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT
DIRECTIVE

VOTED, To authorize the Church Manual Committee to make an editorial change in CM 34, par 7, The Nature of Man, so that it will read as follows:

7. The Nature of Man

Man and woman were made in the image of God with individuality, the power and freedom to think and to do. Though created free beings, each is an indivisible unity of body, mind, and spirit, dependent upon God for life and breath and all else.

Remainder of this paragraph remains unchanged.

85GCS to DHB

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VOTED, To refer all unfinished business to the General Conference Executive Committee.

NomCom/85GCS to GRT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #12

VOTED, To approve the following final report of the Nominating Committee:

General Conference

Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Director, Charles D Martin

Adventist Personnel Service Director, George R Ramsey

Communication Department:

Associate Directors, Shirley Burton
Victor H Cooper
Tulio R Haylock
Owen A Troy

Education Department:

Associate Directors, George P Babcock
Victor S Griffiths
Agripino C Segovia

Publishing Department:

Associate Directors, Rudi H Henning
Richard L McKee
Robert Smith

Trust Services:

Associate Director, Wyman Wager

Health and Temperance Department:

Associate Directors, E E Carman
Iris Hayden
Rudolf E Klimes
Raymond L Pelton
Stoy E Proctor
Elizabeth Sterndale
Gary B Swanson
Albert S Whiting
DeWitt S Williams

Ministerial Association:

Associate Directors, Carlos E Aeschlimann
J David Newman
Arturo E Schmidt
J Robert Spangler

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Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department:

Associates Directors, Gordon O Engen
Roland R Hegstad
Neville O Matthews
Gary M Ross
Mitchell A Tyner

Africa-Indian Ocean Division

Auditor, Wayne Vail
Publishing Department Director, Dale L Thomas

Eastern Africa Division

Treasurer, Ronald Lindsey

Far Eastern Division

Treasurer, Ian E Grice
Auditor, R Martin Moores
Church Ministries Director, Gilbert J Bertochini
Spirit of Prophecy Director, Larry R Colburn

North American Division

Church Ministries Department:
Associate Director, Samuel D Meyers

South Pacific Division

Church Ministries:
Associate Director, A Barry Gane
Trust Services Director, A W White

Southern Asia Division

Communication Department Director, D S Poddar

85GCS to GRT

257-85G RESOLUTION OF GRATITUDE

We, the delegates gathered together in New Orleans for the 54th Session of the General Conference, give thanks to God, the Father of us all, for His great goodness manifested toward the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He called this movement into being, raising it up out of obscurity and humble resources. He has guided and sustained it, and by His power has spread the message of the three angels of Revelation 14 to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. He has preserved the Church

during the assaults of the enemy. He has rolled back like the waters of the Red Sea the problems that threatened to overwhelm it. He has nurtured the Church as His own child, precious in His sight. Here, at this General Conference Session, we have seen the visible evidence of the marvels of His grace, as delegates representing more than 180 nations are one in faith, one in love, one in Christ our hope.

As we contemplate the wonders of what the Lord has done for us, we exclaim, "Great and marvelous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty!" In humble gratitude we give all praise to our God and commit ourselves by His grace to live for His glory and to complete the task of spreading the good news of Jesus to every person on this earth.

85GCS to GRT

CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAMS

VOTED, To thank the divisions and their subsidiary entities who sent telegrams of best wishes to the General Conference Session.

Adjourned

Neal C Wilson, Chairman
J W Bothe, Secretary
J W Bothe, Actions Editor
Betty Pierson, Recording Secretary

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54TH GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION
GENERAL CONFERENCE/DIVISION OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS
Elected/Appointed to Serve 1985-1990
(Consolidated Report)

GENERAL CONFERENCE

President: Neal C Wilson

General Vice-Presidents: Wallace O Coe,
Robert J Kloosterhuis, Kenneth J Mittleder, Enoch Oliveira
Calvin B Rock.

Vice-Presidents assigned to Divisions: Charles E Bradford,
George W Brown, Gerald J Christo, Ottis C Edwards, Bekele Heye, Edwin
Ludescher, Jacob J Nortey, Jan Paulsen, Walter R L Scragg, Joao Wolff

Secretary: G Ralph Thompson

Undersecretary: David H Baasch

Associate Secretaries: Maurice T Battle, B E Jacobs, D A Roth,
Fred G Thomas, Charles D Watson, Robert L Woodfork.

Treasurer: Donald F Gilbert

Undertreasurer: William L Murrill

Associate Treasurers: George H Crumley, Frank L Jones, Robert E
Osborn, Donald E Robinson, John F Wilkens.

General Field Secretaries: Warren S Banfield, Mathew A Bediako,
Lowell L Bock, Charles D Brooks, Joseph Espinosa, George W Reid.

Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Director, Charles D Martin

Adventist Personnel Service Director, George R Ramsey

Archives and Statistics Director: F Donald Yost

Auditing Service Director: David D Dennis

Associates: C Haupt, Daniel E Herzel, Eric A Korff,
Clarence M Laue, Thomas P Miller, Lloyd C Strickland.

Church Ministries Director: Delmer W Holbrook

Associates: T M Ashlock, Richard E Barron, Charles L Brooks,
Helen C Craig, Donald E Crane, Karen Flowers, Ronald Flowers, Betty
Holbrook, George E Knowles, J Lynn Martell, Samuel D Meyers, Samuel F
Monnier, Perry F Pedersen, Leslie H Pitton, Leo S Ranzolin, Paul G
Smith, Michael Stevenson, Leo R Van Dolson.

Communication Director: Robert W Nixon

Associates: Shirley Burton, Victor H Cooper, Tulio R Haylock,
Owen A Troy.

Education Director: George H Akers

Associates: George P Babcock, Victor S Griffiths, Marion
Hartlein, Agripino C Segovia, N Clifford Sorensen, Frederick R Stephan

Health and Temperance Director: G Gordon Hadley

Associates: E E Carman, Iris Hayden, Rudolf E Klimes, Raymond L
Pelton, Stoy E Proctor, Elizabeth Sterndale, Gary B Swanson, Albert S

Whiting, DeWitt S Williams.

Ministerial Association Secretary: W Floyd Bresee

Associates: Carlos E Aeschlimann, J David Newman, William C Scales, Jr., Arturo E Schmidt, J Robert Spangler.

NAD Office of Human Relations Director: Warren S Banfield

Associate: Eloy Martinez

Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director: Bert B Beach

Associates: Gordon O Engen, Roland R Hegstad, Neville O Matthews, Gary M Ross, Mitchell A Tyner.

Publishing Director: Ronald E Appenzeller

Associates: Rudi H Henning, Richard L McKee, Robert Smith

Trust Services Director: G Tom Carter

Associate: Wyman Wager

World Foods Service Director: Eric C Fehlberg

DIVISIONS

Africa-Indian Ocean

President: Jacob J Nortey

Secretary: Ted N C Wilson

Treasurer: Philemon E Onwere

Field Secretary: Ntwali Ruhaya

Auditor: Wayne Vail

Church Ministries Director: Herman Bauman

Associates: Stenio Gungadoo, Philip Samaan

Communication Director: James Fly

Education Director: Phenias Bahimba

Health and Temperance Director: Barry H Wecker

Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director: James B A Kio

Publishing Director: Dale L Thomas

Trust Services Director: Jacob J Nortey

Eastern Africa

President: Bekele Heye

Secretary: Ralph P Bailey

Treasurer: Ronald Lindsey

Field Secretaries: D W B Chalale, R R Ndhlovu, Clifford G Patterson

Auditor: Hans Sakul

Church Ministries Director: Eric Armer

Associates: Baraka Muganda, Solomon Wolde-Endreas

Communication Director: Frederick K Wangai

Education Director: T H Nkungula

Health and Temperance Director: A R Handysides

Ministerial Association Secretary: Harry A Cartwright

Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director: Frederick K Wangai

Publishing Director: L Masuku

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Euro-Africa

President: Edwin Ludescher
Secretary: Georges Steveny
Treasurer: Erich Amelung
Field Secretaries: Dumitru Popa, Lothar Reiche, Oldrich Sladek.

Auditor: Jean-Claude Halm
Church Ministries Director: Harald Knott
Associates: Pietro Copiz, John Graz, Johannes Mager.
Communication Director: John Graz
Education Director: Pietro Copiz
Health and Temperance Director: Herbert Stoeger
Ministerial Association Secretary: Johannes Mager
Religious Liberty Director: Gianfranco Rossi
Publishing Director: Karl Widmaier
Spirit of Prophecy Director: Georges Steveny
Trust Services Director: Erich Amelung
World Foods Service Director: Erich Amelung

Far Eastern

President: Ottis C Edwards
Secretary: Tong C Kim
Treasurer: Ian E Grice
Field Secretary: Larry R Colburn

Auditor: R Martin Moores
Church Ministries Director: Gilbert J Bertochini
Associates: Patricia Bailey, Bernardo U Donato, Minoru Inada.
Communication Director: G Ray James
Education Director: Amos Simorangkir
Health and Temperance Director: Everet E Witzel
Ministerial Association Secretary: James H Zachary
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director: G Ray James
Publishing Director:
Spirit of Prophecy Director: Larry R Colburn
World Foods Service Director: Masao Uruma

Inter-American

President: George W Brown
Secretary: Jose H Figueroa
Treasurer: Ramon H Maury
Field Secretary: C Dionisio Christian
Auditor: Eugene A Blackman
Church Ministries Director: Sergio Moctezuma
Associates: Israel Leito, Leslie McMillan
Communication Director: Israel Leito
Education Director: L Herbert Fletcher
Health and Temperance Director: Sievert Gustavsson
Ministerial Association Secretary:
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director: Lamartine J Honore

Publishing Director: Ricardo A Rodriguez
Spirit of Prophecy Director:
Trust Services Director: Leslie McMillan
World Foods Service Director: Sidney Cole

North American

President: Charles E Bradford
Secretary: Fred G Thomas
Associate: Robert L Woodfork
Treasurer: George H Crumley
Assistant: Frank L Jones
Field Secretaries: Warren S Banfield, Joseph Espinosa
Church Ministries Director: J Lynn Martell
Associates: Thomas M Ashlock, Samuel D Meyers, Leslie H Pitton
Communication Director: Owen A Troy
Education (K-12 Board) Executive Secretary: Frederick R Stephan
Board of Higher Education Executive Secretary: N Clifford Sorensen
Health and Temperance Director: Stoy E Proctor
Health and Temperance, Nursing: Elizabeth Sterndale
North American Missions Director: Joseph Espinosa
NAD Office of Human Relations Director: Warren S Banfield,
Associate: Eloy Martinez
Ministerial Association Secretary: William C Scales, Jr
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director: Gordon O Engen
Publishing Director: Ronald E Appenzeller

South American

President: Joao Wolff
Secretary: Mario Veloso
Treasurer: Ruy H Nagel
Auditor: Roald N Wensell
Church Ministries Director: Henrique Berg
Associates: Jorge S Mathias, Paulo Stabenow
Communication Director: Werner Mayr
Education Director: Nevil Gorski
Health-Temperance Director: Edwin Mayer
Ministerial Association Secretary: Amasias Justiniano
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director: Werner Mayr
Publishing Director: Nelci N Viegas
Trust Services Director: Werner Mayr
World Foods Service Director: Paulo Stabenow

South Pacific

President: Walter R L Scragg
Secretary: A H Tolhurst
Treasurer: W T Andrews
Field Secretary: Arthur J Ferch
Auditor: G J Bland
Church Ministries Director: A E Birch
Associates: A Barry Gane, R L Hodgkinson
Communication Director: R L Coombe

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Education Director: G F Clifford
Health and Temperance Director: Donald E Bain
Ministerial Association Secretary: A D C Currie
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director: R L Coombe
Publishing Director: J T Knopper
Spirit of Prophecy Director: A D C Currie
Trust Services Director: A W White
World Foods Service Director: D Cameron Myers

Southern Asia

President: Gerald J Christo
Secretary: R D Riches
Treasurer: Johnson Koilpillai
Auditor: Vedamuthu Benjamin
Church Ministries Director: Lowell C Cooper
Associates: C Pheirim, P D Kujur
Communication Director: D S Poddar
Education Director: John M Fowler
Health and Temperance Director: Ronald N Baird
Ministerial Association Secretary: John Willmott
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director: Maliakal E Cherian
Publishing Director: Thomas K Joseph
Trust Services Director: Johnson Koilpillai

Trans-European

President: Jan Paulsen
Secretary: Pekka T Pohjola
Treasurer: John Muderspach
Field Secretary: Heikki J Luukko
Auditor: Graham M Barham
ADRA Director: Heikki J Luukko
Church Ministries Director: Donald Lowe
Associates: Mark Finley, James M Huzzey
Communication Director: Raymond Dabrowski
Education Director: Orville Woolford
Ministerial Association Secretary: Mark Finley
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director: Raymond Dabrowski
Publishing Director: Kaj Pedersen
Spirit of Prophecy Director: Kaj Pedersen
Temperance Director: Orville Woolford
World Foods Service Director: John Muderspach

GCO/GCC/GCO/GCDO84AC/ONUP84AC/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/208-84GN to NCW-85GCS

140-85GN ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT

(403)

VOTED, To accept the full report of the Role and Function of
Denominational Organizations Commission as follows:

- I. Preserving the Unity of Church and Message
- II. Officers, Departments, and Executive Committees: Administrative
Roles, Functions, and Relationships
- III. The Role and Function of Lay Persons on the Various Levels of
Church Organization
- IV. The Role and Function of Departments and Services on the Various
Levels of Church Organization
- V. The Role and Function of the North American Division
- VI. Implementation of Recommendations Made by the Commission on Role
and Function of Denominational Organizations
- VII. Application at Local Church Level

I. PRESERVING THE UNITY OF CHURCH AND MESSAGE

A. The Unity of Denominational Organizations and Its Maintenance

In contrast to most other churches, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is a world church. Its structure permits both a centralized structure (an authoritative and effective world headquarters with division offices) and a decentralized sharing of administrative and promotional responsibilities with many individuals and organizations on four constituency levels in all parts of the world.

Unity, "that they all may be one" (John 17:21), is basic to the nature of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Ellen G White admonished, "God wants His people to counsel together, to be a united church, in Christ a perfect whole. . . . 'Press together, press together, press together.'" (2SM 374).

Such unity can be maintained through:

1. Adherence to a common Bible-based faith. This doctrinal faith is expressed through the "Statement of Fundamental Beliefs" approved and voted by the General Conference in session.
2. Following the counsel of the writings of Ellen G White, translating them into scores of languages, and distributing them widely. These writings are of vital importance to unity of belief, unity of standards (life style) and unity of working methods.

Contd
Revised 4-30-85fw

1 GCO/GCC/GCO/GCDO84AC/ONUP84AC/GCDOUP84AC/G84AC/208-84GN to NCW-85GCS

2
3 140-85GN ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL
4 ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT
5

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- 9 I. Preserving the Unity of Church and Message
10 II. Officers, Departments, and Executive Committees: Administrative
11 Roles, Functions, and Relationships
12 III. The Role and Function of Lay Persons on the Various Levels of
13 Church Organization
14 IV. The Role and Function of Departments and Services on the Various
15 Levels of Church Organization
16 V. The Role and Function of the North American Division
17 VI. Implementation of Recommendations Made by the Commission on Role
18 and Function of Denominational Organizations
19 VII. Application at Local Church Level
20

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22

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33 nature of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Ellen G White admonished,
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46 widely. These writings are of vital importance to unity of belief,
47 unity of standards (life style) and unity of working methods.
48
49
50
51
52

Contd
Revised 4-30-85fw

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3. Strong evangelistic proclamation of the Advent Message in its time-of-the-end setting.

4. Developing and strengthening a universal ethos that will characterize Adventists as a unique, worldwide, evangelistic, moral, healthy, happy, caring family.

5. Faithful obedience to the Church Manual, applicable throughout the world.

6. Constitutional structures. The General Conference Working Policy should contain model constitutions for Church organizations on the various levels. These are to be followed closely and adhered to in essence at the various levels of Church organization. When a constitution is adopted or revised by an organization, it should be with the counsel of the next higher organization and in harmony with the General Conference Working Policy.

7. Strong, effective leadership with the ability to achieve the mission of the Church.

8. Proper decentralization on various levels and within each level, thus making unity and belonging to the whole more desirable and functional by relating working leadership as closely as possible to local circumstances and to a responsible constituency. Remote control easily becomes a source of frustration and division.

9. Church leaders and organizations operating the Church in their area of responsibility in full harmony with the General Conference Working Policy. Thus unity of working methods and organization are maintained. (Church officials not able or not willing to do this should not be continued in leadership positions.)

10. One ordained ministry serving the worldwide Church.

11. One policy for the Church worldwide which recognizes spiritual gifts and provides for the setting apart of certain leaders for special responsibilities through the laying on of hands in response to God's call as it is recognized by the people of God.

B. Authority of the General Conference* in Maintaining Unity

*Where the term "General Conference" is used in this document, it refers to the General Conference in session or the General Conference Executive Committee between sessions.

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The Seventh-day Adventist Church stepped onto the stage of history at the call of prophecy.

The General Conference is the highest organization in the administration of the worldwide Church and derives its authority from God through the people of God led by the Holy Spirit. The authority of the General Conference is the authority of the entire Church, joining together to do the gospel work and maintaining the unity of faith in all the world (See GC B 12 15).

The General Conference is not an entity apart from the churches, conferences, and unions that comprise the world Seventh-day Adventist Church. The General Conference "is the sum of all these" (See GC B 12 15). It is the main manifestation of the worldwide nature of the Church. The General Conference helps to maintain unity through:

1. Defining and upholding the faith of the Church.
2. Administrative leadership and influence.
3. Encouraging all entities and members to share responsibility for support of the world Church and finishing the work.
4. Creating policies at Annual Councils for the worldwide Church.
5. Upholding the tie-in between the levels of denominational structures.
6. Visits, counsel, promotion throughout the world by its staff.

C. General Conference Delegated Powers

The General Conference conducts much of its work through its division sections, which embrace local and union conferences/missions in large areas of the world. The divisions are the General Conference in their respective territories, and actions of the division committees are considered final, provided they are in harmony with the plans and policies of the General Conference as set forth in its Constitution, Bylaws, and Annual Councils.

The Church has delegated to the General Conference certain authority and areas of responsibility:

1. Church doctrine
2. Church Manual

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3

- 4 3. Church polity and world Working Policy
- 5
- 6 4. Issues that have interdivisional aspects or consequences
- 7
- 8 5. Election of world/division staffs
- 9
- 10 6. The worldwide designation and sharing of financial
- 11 resources as expressed in the General Conference budget, including world
- 12 mission offerings
- 13
- 14 7. The acceptance of unions into the sisterhood of unions
- 15
- 16 8. The operation of certain institutions of vital importance
- 17 to the Church as a whole
- 18
- 19 9. Publishing certain journals of worldwide significance to
- 20 the Church
- 21
- 22 10. Preparing the various Sabbath School lessons.
- 23

24 D. Relationships Between Church Organizations

25
26 It is important for the unified operation of the Church that the
27 basic levels of structure (church, conference/mission, union, General
28 Conference/division) be maintained and kept in creative, pragmatic, and
29 balanced relationship. The recent study, including field interviews, by
30 the Commission on the Role and Function of Denominational Organizations
31 clearly confirms this.
32

33 Fundamental to church unity is the local church, the organized
34 fellowship of individual believers in each place. The conference/
35 mission unites organizationally the churches in a specific geographic
36 area. The union represents a united body of conferences/missions within
37 a larger territory. The General Conference embraces all unions and
38 churches in all parts of the world and joins together the whole
39 worldwide fellowship of believers into a united body.
40

41 The division is an administrative unit of the General Conference,
42 with commensurate authority to carry out responsibilities in the
43 territory assigned to it. It is not a separate constituent level of
44 organization. As its name "division" implies, it is a section of the
45 General Conference, not an "association" or "joining" of church
46 organizations, as is the case for unions or conferences.
47

48 The various levels of denominational organization provide ascending
49 previews and reviews of leadership. Thus elected or appointed
50 representatives can function freely, in a balanced relationship, and
51 handle aspects of administration, coordination, and promotion that need
52 to go no higher. This eliminates inefficiency or even failure that

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comes from distant control and lack of firsthand information and direct involvement.

Inter-organizational relationships are based on mutual cooperation, counsel and trust. This means that each level or organization must have the authority and ability to carry out, in harmony with the Church Manual and overall Church policy, its assigned tasks and responsibilities, without duplication on, or stifling control from, other levels.

The basic constituent blocks of the world Church are the unions. The constituent units of unions are conferences/missions. The unions perform several vital functions:

1. Coordinate and preserve unity in beliefs, plans, policies and focus for the preaching of the gospel in the territory of a group of conferences/missions. To do this effectively, the territory and number of conferences/missions must not be unreasonably large.

2. Provide closer and more frequent contact with local conferences/missions than the General Conference/division is able to maintain.

3. Speak on behalf of the General Conference/division to the conferences/missions and their churches, reflecting the actions and recommendations of the General Conference, thus uniting the local organizations behind the world program of the Church.

4. Provide training, counsel and guidance for the personnel of the local conferences/missions and serve as a resource center.

5. Operate certain institutions (e.g., colleges) on behalf of the local conferences/missions, keeping the administration of these institutions responsive to the needs and wishes of the local organizations.

6. Represent the Church officially to government, other churches and organizations, especially where several conferences in the same country or state could not do this.

7. Reflect the needs, wishes and concerns of the local conferences/missions to the General Conference in two ways:

- a. The union presidents are constitutionally members of the General Conference/division committees.

- b. The union conference/mission is the constituent body of the General Conference, and its delegates help elect the Committee,

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3

4 officers and department directors of the General Conference/divisions.
5

6 8. Provide back-up levels of administration and appeal.
7

8 E. Unity Between the General Conference and the North American
9 Division
10

11 Traditionally, the North American Division has been an integral
12 part of the General Conference and administered by the General
13 Conference. There are, of course, significant reasons for the "special
14 relationship."
15

16 In view of past history, current administrative and pragmatic
17 realities, and expected future prophetic development (e.g., role of the
18 United States in the final prophetic events), it is unwise to plan for
19 North America's becoming a division "like all other divisions." North
20 America, in the Seventh-day Adventist setting, is unique. There needs
21 to be a close and continuous relationship between the General Conference
22 and North America. While it is advantageous for North America to have
23 and be perceived to have its own identity, leadership, planning and
24 coordinated evangelism, this role and function must be exercised in
25 close cooperation with, and within, the General Conference. The North
26 American Division-General Conference relationship must be more than ever
27 one of cooperation and unity.
28

29 F. World Vision as a Unifying Force on All Levels
30

31 A vision of the world task of the Church is a potent and necessary
32 force for unity. Where a church lacks this unifying and motivating
33 vision, church unity will eventually perish. It is thus important to
34 hold before the membership the world Church concept, "from everywhere to
35 everywhere," through:
36

37 1. Continued weekly emphasis on Sabbath School world
38 mission.
39

40 2. Exchange of workers and calls from everywhere to
41 everywhere.
42

43 3. Volunteer service in other countries.
44

45 4. The Adventist Review, division and union papers, and
46 other such publications.
47

48 5. General Conference and division visitation in the field.
49

50 6. Internationalization of General Conference and division
51 staffs.
52

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7. Regular promotion of world mission offerings,
Ingathering, etc.

8. Invitation to selected union, conference and
institutional leadership and pastors to visit other divisions to become
acquainted with the life and needs of the world Church.

II. OFFICERS, DEPARTMENTS, AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES, FUNCTIONS, AND RELATIONSHIPS

A. Committee System of Governance

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has a representative form of
church government and functions between sessions of the constituency on
what can be called the "committee system," administrative authority on
all levels being vested in the executive committee. The committee has
legislative, executive and oversight functions. The committee system is
based on Biblical models and the need for a multitude of counselors
(Prov. 11:14). The Ellen G. White counsel is clear regarding the
sharing of responsibility.

Historically, the imitation of secular forms of government and
organization has been an ever-present, but dangerous, attraction to the
church. Today, government, business and academic structural forms in
various countries are having an influence upon Seventh-day Adventist
Church governance. In some countries it is easy for church members to
think of the Church as a presidential system* with all other officers
subordinated to the president. However, there are ecclesiological
dangers in following such a system based on secular models of
government, business, corporation, or academe. The Biblical advice is,
"It shall not be so among you." (Matt. 20:26). The Spirit of Prophecy
counsels us to avoid "kingly power" (8T 232-233), which is the misuse of
administrative authority within the Church (Matt. 20:26).

B. Authority of Officers

*In the context of the Seventh-day Adventist Church governance, the
presidential system is defined as any constitutional or organizational
provision that would center authority in one person to whom the
secretary and treasurer would be responsible; as compared to the
committee system in which authority is shared and exercised by elected
officers who are accountable to the executive committee, which in turn
derives its authority from the constituency.

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3

4 The president is the first officer and chairman of the executive
5 committee. The secretary and treasurer derive their constitutional
6 authority from the constitution and are elected by the same constituency
7 that elected the president, and with the president work under the
8 authority of the committee. The president has been elected to lead.
9 His co-officers must acknowledge his leadership and work in close
10 counsel with him, and vice versa. The concept of making the secretary
11 or treasurer vice-presidents, runs counter to the basic Adventist model
12 of Church government with its inbuilt distributed responsibility.
13

14 The authority of the officers as a group is the combined authority
15 of the offices of the president, secretary, and treasurer. While their
16 collegial authority does not grant the officers additional authority
17 beyond the constitutional authority of their offices, yet it does
18 increase their practical management.
19

20 The officers are not a substitute for the committee, but they do
21 have important functions in directing the work of the committee and
22 supervising executive implementation of its actions. Their
23 responsibilities include bringing recommendations or options to the
24 committee.
25

26 The officers function as management and execute the actions of the
27 committee.
28

29 C. Role and Function of Departments
30

31 Departmental leaders are the facilitators of the mission of the
32 Church.
33

34 The duties of departmental leaders are generally not along
35 executive lines, but lie primarily in giving leadership to program
36 planning and promotion. Furthermore, departments vary in their
37 activities and responsibilities. Some departments are more
38 "promotional" while others are more "administrative." Some departments
39 are more involved in "problem solving" while others are more "service"
40 oriented.
41

42 The departmental directors are elected by the constituency and
43 therefore work under the direction of the executive committee. However,
44 operationally and administratively they are responsible to the
45 president, and assist him and the other officers in promoting plans and
46 work outlined by the committee.
47
48

49 III. THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF LAY PERSONS ON THE VARIOUS LEVELS OF
50 CHURCH ORGANIZATION
51

52 A. Introduction

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Our Lord established the Church by giving to all of its members the responsibility of ministry and witness. He provides through the Holy Spirit gifts and skills to meet the responsibility of gospel proclamation.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church began as a lay movement, and the Spirit of Prophecy highlights the key role of the Church membership as a whole in finishing the work. The governance of the Church is the responsibility of the total membership. The trend toward increased participation of lay persons in witnessing and Church governance is a positive development. Broadbased and active participation by church members will improve the decision-making process by bringing in various viewpoints. Increased participation will improve communication within the Church and will provide a greater sense of belonging and understanding among all segments of the Church.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Active membership participation in church planning and decision-making needs to be maximized.

2. Conference and union committees should have elected lay representation to meaningfully involve the resources of the Church membership. Elected representation on the General Conference and division committees is also important.

3. Divisions should endeavor to give counsel and direction to their subsidiary organizations regarding the proper proportion of lay representation appropriate for their executive committees and institutional boards. They should take into consideration that local conferences/missions which have direct contact with churches and congregations may have a higher proportion of lay representation than General Conference/division and union or institutional organizations, which have relatively less direct contact with those levels of Church organization.

4. In order to ensure quality participation:

a. Persons selected to participate in committees should be representative of the Church in stewardship, life style and witness and have given evidence of active support of the local church's mission in proclaiming the gospel.

b. Church organizations should provide training materials to equip individuals in more effective Seventh-day Adventist committee work.

c. Church members should be educated by the Church's

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3

4 communication media in the history and philosophy of Church
5 organization. An information leaflet should be provided for their
6 orientation.
7

8
9 IV. THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES ON THE VARIOUS
10 LEVELS OF CHURCH ORGANIZATION
11

12 A. Introduction
13

14 The departments and services have contributed substantially to the
15 growth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a worldwide body of
16 believers. The varied activities fostered by the departments are
17 incorporated into the conference/mission and local church programs and
18 are a characteristic of the Church at present. This fact reveals the
19 value which the Church has attached to its departments over many years.
20

21 The following recommendations do not diminish the value of the
22 departments and services but will hopefully correct some problems which
23 are perceived throughout the worldwide field as jeopardizing the
24 importance of the functions which they foster.
25

26 Many around the world believe that the number of departmental
27 personnel should be reduced on every organizational level. Responding
28 to these concerns, this report outlines certain changes on all levels.
29 It has been felt that duplication of functions should be eliminated on
30 the various levels with conferences/missions being primarily program-
31 and planning-oriented, while those on the other levels would be more
32 resource- and concept-oriented, thus shifting the emphasis which seems
33 to have predominated in more recent years.**
34

35 B. Guidelines for Departments of the General Conference
36

37 1. Role
38

39 a. To develop concepts, provide expertise, produce
40 resources, and prepare materials and publications necessary to preserve
41 the worldwide unity of the Church, and which cannot be produced as
42 economically and effectively in a division office (or by a union in the
43 North American Division).
44

45 b. To coordinate, evaluate, and monitor the resources
46 and materials produced by the division offices.
47

48
49
50 **The term "department" is at times used in this document to refer
51 not only to departments, but also to "services" and "agencies" for the
52 purpose of convenience.

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4

5 c. To evaluate the functions and effectiveness of
6 departmental projects on lower levels, counsel with directors of those
7 departments, and advise administration on progress.
8

9 d. To give leadership and coordination to those
10 programs which the Church body, through its general councils, may decide
11 should be given unified support around the world and may assign to a
12 specified department as its responsibility.
13

14 2. Organization
15

16 a. Ministerial Association
17

18 b. Department of Church Ministries, the functions of
19 the following departments to be incorporated:
20

- 21 1) Lay Activities
22 2) Sabbath School
23 3) Stewardship and Development
24 4) Youth
25

26 c. Communication Department, a service-related
27 organization which serves the administration and all the departments.
28

29 d. Education Department
30

31 e. Health and Temperance Department
32

33 f. Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department
34

35 g. Publishing Department
36

37 h. Services, agencies and organizations that serve the
38 world Church.
39

40 3. General Suggestions
41

42 a. Regular meetings (not less than quarterly) for the
43 planning and evaluation of the overall program and administration of the
44 Church should be held. On the General Conference level these would
45 include officer representation and department heads. Parallel meetings
46 should also take place on a regular basis on the other levels of Church
47 structure.
48

49 b. When filling a departmental vacancy, administrators
50 are expected to counsel with the departmental director on the next
51 higher level of the organization.
52

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3
4

5 C. Guidelines for Departments and Services in the Divisions of
6 the General Conference
7

8 1. The same guidelines and groupings should be used as those
9 outlined for the General Conference headquarters office, except the term
10 "unions" should be used to replace the term "divisions."
11

12 2. It is possible that in some divisions not every
13 department/service will be separately staffed. Flexibility must be
14 allowed to cover these cases.
15

16 D. Guidelines for Departments and Services on the Union
17 Conference/Mission Level
18

19 1. Role
20

21 a. To assist the union president and the committee in
22 coordinating departmental activities in the territory of a group of
23 conferences/missions.
24

25 b. To serve as resource people and consultants to the
26 departments in the local conferences/missions of the union.
27

28 c. To facilitate communication by the General
29 Conference/division with the departments on the local conference/mission
30 level.
31

32 d. To assist local conferences/missions in the finding
33 of expertise and resources and, where necessary, in planning and
34 promoting programs.
35

36 e. To help in adapting resources and materials to the
37 needs of local areas.
38

39 2. Organization
40

41 a. Department of Church Ministries with one director,
42 unless after study and counsel with the division it is felt desirable in
43 certain unions to have one or more associate directors
44

45 b. Other departments/services as needed
46

47 c. The Departments of Communication, Health and
48 Temperance, and Public Affairs and Religious Liberty would normally
49 operate on the union level rather than on the conference/mission level.
50

51 d. It is the intent of the proposed organization to
52

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reduce the number of personnel in all the areas.

E. Guidelines for Departments and Services on the
Conference/Mission Level

1. Role

a. To work with the local churches in planning,
creating and implementing programs as may be deemed wise and necessary.

b. To provide, where requested, appropriate support to
programs in the local churches.

c. To coordinate and adapt resources prepared at the
higher levels of the organization.

d. To coordinate those programs that general Church
councils have determined as necessary for implementation throughout the
unified world Church.

e. To hold workshops and seminars for the training of
pastors and lay persons, using available expertise in counsel with the
union.

2. Organization

a. Department of Church Ministries with a director and
associates as may be needed.

b. Departments/services as may be needed, but not
necessarily duplicating the departments/services in the union. (Please
refer back to the union section.)

F. Guidelines Governing the Relationship of the Departments in
the General Conference with the North American Division

1. When the General Conference produces materials and
publications for other divisions which it expects will be used in North
America, it should cooperate with the North American Division in those
materials in order to reduce duplication.

2. The North American Division departments may produce
resources and materials which are especially suitable and adapted to the
North American field.

3. The North American Division should not produce materials
or publications for divisions outside North America unless specifically
requested to do so by the General Conference department concerned and

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with the input and cooperation of the divisions and the General Conference department.

4. The departmental associate(s) for the North American Division should engage in regular consultation with and briefing of the General Conference departmental director with reference to the activities of the associate(s).

5. There should be no change in major departmental policies and procedures without consultation with directors of the General Conference departments/services.

6. Because the General Conference is located in the United States and because the nature of major public issues demands that the Church speak with one voice, the North American Division personnel in the Departments of Communication, and Public Affairs/Religious Liberty shall rely on and work closely with the professional staff at the General Conference level of organization in order to deal effectively in a unified manner with major national public affairs and communication issues.

V. THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION (See also addendum, "The Rationale for Special Relationship," page 84----, Addendum.

The role and function of the North American Division is as follows:

A. To maintain the special relationship which has existed historically between the General Conference and the North American Division.

B. To continue operating the General Conference and North American Division headquarters offices in the same complex but with facilities arranged so as to provide visible and functional unity and identity for the North American Division and its assigned staff.

C. To define more specifically the role and responsibilities assigned to the North American Division and to the General Conference staff members assigned to the North American Division.

D. To rename the North American Division Committee on Administration (NADCA), North American Division Committee (NADCOM).

E. To revise as necessary the terms of reference for the North American Division Committee on Administration (See NAD C 10 and C 50) to describe the larger role which will be assigned to the North American

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Division Committee (NADCOM).

F. To include in the terms of reference of the North American Division Committee (now NADCA) the authority to appoint standing and ad hoc study groups/task forces and commissions that deal mainly with North American Division, unions, conferences, and institutions.

G. To delineate the responsibilities and authority delegated to the North American Division Officers (NADO).

1. To include in the terms of reference of the North American Division Officers the authority to administer those areas which affect mainly the North American Division, its staff, and its subsidiary organizations.

2. To include in the terms of reference of the North American Division Officers the responsibility for recommending support personnel and assignments of staff serving the North American Division.

H. To designate the vice president of the General Conference for the North American Division also as the president of the North American Division and chairman of the North American Division Committee. He will be responsible to the General Conference Committee as provided by the General Conference Bylaws, Article III, Vice-presidents.

I. To elect those who are to be the officers and departmental directors of the North American Division to positions as assistant treasurers, associate secretaries, and associate departmental directors of the General Conference, with the additional titles reflecting their respective positions in the North American Division (i.e. Secretary, North American Division; Treasurer, North American Division; Director, Education Department, North American Division; etc).

J. To request the General Conference Treasurer to follow a new approach in making appropriations to the North American Division by allocating the total general budget for the Division as a single total instead of assigning appropriations to specific purposes as in the past.

K. To ask the treasury to prepare an annual estimate of the cost of operating the North American Division.

L. To make no immediate amendments to the General Conference Constitution incorporating the changes recommended in this report, but rather to administer on a trial basis during the next quinquennium (1985-1990) those recommendations relating to the General Conference/North American Division relationship which may be approved by an Annual Council.

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VI. IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMISSION ON ROLE
AND FUNCTION OF DENOMINATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

It is realized that the implementation of recommendations made by
the RFDOC will take some time. It is suggested:

A. That these 1984 Annual Council recommendations be submitted to
the 1985 General Conference Session for approval and for authorization
needed for implementation on a trial basis between 1985 and 1990.

B. That changes within the General Conference and division
headquarters staff and organization, based on these actions, be
implemented at the 1985 General Conference Session.

C. That changes at the union and local conference/mission levels
be implemented not later than the first constituency meeting after the
1985 Annual Council.

D. That a report be presented to the 1990 General Conference
Session concerning the effectiveness of the new program.

VII. APPLICATION AT LOCAL CHURCH LEVEL

The recommendations of the Role and Function of Denominational
Organizations Commission relating to the organization of a Church
Ministries Department, are intended to give emphasis and focus to four
important functions within the Seventh-day Adventist Church: Lay
Activities, Sabbath School, Stewardship and Development, and Youth
Ministries.

The new Church Ministries Department will have as its primary
purpose the giving of optimum support to the local church pastor and
leaders in those areas of activity which take place in the local church
on a weekly basis, will seek to give overall leadership in the four
major areas assigned to it, and will coordinate the production of
materials for teaching, training and inspiring church members of all
ages for effective nurture and soul-winning outreach.

It has been noted that true lay activity is done at the local
church level, Sabbath Schools as such exist only on the local church
level, Youth societies and Pathfinder Clubs, etc., all operate only on
the local church level, Stewardship is learned and practiced by
individuals on the local church level on a weekly basis. Therefore,
although a single Church Ministries Department is being provided for at
the conference, union and General Conference/Division levels, the plan
also provides that on the local church level all former ministries are

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3

4 to continue to function. Their activities, however, could be
5 coordinated through a local Church Ministries Council.
6
7

8
9 ADDENDUM: THE RATIONALE FOR A "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP"*
10

11 Historical Background
12

13 The relationship between the General Conference and its North
14 American section (division) must be seen and understood in light of the
15 historical development of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is our
16 belief that the Advent Movement came into existence as the direct result
17 of God's plan and His own prophetic timetable; and that the Lord, by
18 divine design and providence, selected the place for the Advent Movement
19 to be born and anchored. We also believe that God specified the mission
20 and the message that should be taken to the world as a final appeal.
21 Then to make sure that the Seventh-day Adventist Church would accomplish
22 its mission in proclaiming the gospel to all the world, we believe that
23 the hand of God was visible in the establishment of an organization and
24 structure to achieve His purpose and eternal design of preparing a
25 "people" for the second coming of Christ.
26

27 The Lord does not leave anything to chance. Only God, who knows
28 the end from the beginning, could have foreseen the dramatic develop-
29 ments on the North American Continent. It was from this new continent,
30 the home of two young nations, Canada and the United States, and each
31 composed of diverse peoples from many countries, that heaven's final
32 global mission was to be launched. It must be remembered that the
33 United States of America was a land of religious liberty, a land of
34 freedom of conscience, a land of opportunity; a land where slavery was
35 denounced and a Civil War was fought to establish the value of each
36 person; a land of uncalculated natural resources; a land of enormous
37 financial strength--a land of world influence.
38

39 As Elder Bradford so strikingly stated in a recent article entitled
40 "North America at Midpoint," "Something altogether new was happening on
41 this virgin continent toward the end of the 1260 days of the Church's
42 wilderness journeyings. The way was being prepared for God's final
43 movements on earth. His last appeal to the human family. The end-time
44 message must be cradled, nurtured, and brought to term. If the new
45 nation was conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that
46
47

48
49 *The Council voted to include this document by Neal C Wilson in its
50 minutes as an addendum to the report of the Role and Function of
51 Denominational Organizations Commission.
52

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2 ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT - 18
3
4

5 all men are created equal,' it was for the purpose of providing fertile
6 soil where the plant of the final message and mission might quickly take
7 root. Seventh-day Adventists have always felt this way, whatever their
8 citizenship or national origin. They have felt that God worked a
9 miracle in bringing about the perfect environment for the "woman" to
10 emerge from the wilderness to speak to the last generation of earth's
11 history (See Rev 12). . . . The rest of the story is well known.
12 Sturdy New England farmers, learned clergymen, and ordinary citizens
13 joined in intensive Bible study and came under the unshakable conviction
14 that the hour had struck. The word must be given. . . . Audacious,
15 daring, bold, they did exploits for God. They believed in the divine
16 mandate and claimed the whole land for the kingdom of God."--The
17 Adventist Review, August 9, 1984.
18

19 Controversy Over Formal Organization
20

21 A series of unusual events led up to the historic and prophetic
22 date of 1844--a resurgence of Bible study, an interest in prophecy, the
23 "Millerite" movement, the great Advent awakening, and a recognition of
24 the beginning of the hour of God's investigative judgment. As a result
25 companies and groups of Seventh-day Adventists merged and then came the
26 organized churches. Because the pioneers were afraid of falling into
27 the pattern of formalism, spiritual weakness, loss of sense of mission,
28 as seen in the established and organized churches of their day, it was
29 some time before they were willing to organize their churches and
30 companies into conferences.
31

32 Those who opposed organization or "order" argued that it would
33 trespass upon the believer's individual Christian liberty and some even
34 said that such a church organization would immediately become Babylon.
35 Those who set forth the benefits of organization pointed out that it
36 would (a) prevent confusion, (b) control fanaticism, (c) unify the
37 standards for acceptance into the gospel ministry, (d) facilitate the
38 holding of property and (e) make provision for the support of the work.
39

40 Ellen White, as early as 1853, urged the establishing of the Church
41 upon "gospel order." After almost a decade of lively discussion, the
42 Michigan Conference, the first of the state conferences, was organized
43 October 6, 1861. In 1862 four other conferences were organized--North
44 and South Iowa, Wisconsin/Illinois, and New York. In January of 1863,
45 Iowa was combined into a single conference and Ohio and Minnesota were
46 also added to the sisterhood of conferences.
47

48 Significance of 1863
49

50 The General Conference was organized on May 21, 1863 in Battle
51 Creek, Michigan. Delegates from six state conferences gathered for this
52

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2 ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT - 19
3

4 historic meeting--Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, New York, Ohio,
5 Minnesota. The constitution, after being discussed item by item, was
6 adopted in its entirety. The introduction and the first Article read as
7 follows: "For the purpose of securing unity and efficiency in labor and
8 promoting the general interest of the cause of present truth, and of
9 perfecting the organization of the Seventh-day Adventists, we, the
10 delegates from the several State Conferences, hereby proceed to organize
11 a General Conference and adopt the following constitution for the
12 government thereof:
13

14 "Article I. This Conference shall be called the General Conference
15 of Seventh-day Adventists."
16

17 As one reads the constitution it becomes clear that it was an
18 unincorporated body brought into existence to administer the general
19 affairs of the Church and especially to pursue its evangelistic aim,
20 "to teach all nations the everlasting gospel of our Lord and Saviour,
21 Jesus Christ, and the commandments of God." This body was to
22 coordinate, to guide and to administer the work of the conferences in
23 the North American Division in order to achieve the objectives of
24 carrying the gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. (See
25 Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, Vol 10, p 495.)
26

27 Formation of Unions and Division
28

29 The North American Church and the General Conference have enjoyed a
30 mutuality and a close partnership that has continued for 120 years. The
31 General Conference had an exclusive and direct operational relationship
32 with the conferences of North America for almost forty years. Then in
33 1901 unions were introduced to assist the General Conference in adminis-
34 tering the growing world work. Finally in 1919 there is reference to
35 the North American Division, even though nothing had been formally
36 organized.
37

38 Unions are accepted and voted into existence by the General
39 Conference in session. They do not create themselves as independent,
40 free-standing entities of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The General
41 Conference decides how it will relate to, and coordinate, the activities
42 of unions, which are a part of the General Conference world family of
43 unions and which form the basis and constituency upon which the General
44 Conference itself exists. At no time must any other organizational
45 structure "short-circuit" the relationship between the General
46 Conference/Divisions and the unions upon which the General
47 Conference/Divisions constituency is built.
48

49 In the development of the world Church and growing out of the 1901
50 reorganization, it was clearly recognized that a "special relationship"
51 should continue to exist between the General Conference and its North
52

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3

4 American Division. There was an interesting experiment with a North
5 American Division Conference between 1913 and 1918. It soon became
6 evident, however, that this was an unworkable arrangement. In 1922 the
7 General Conference Session finally established what appears to be God's
8 leading and providence in connection with the relationship between the
9 General Conference and its divisions.

10
11 Uniqueness of the North American Division
12

13 At this time the General Conference decided to oversee and
14 administer the work in the North American Division and established what
15 has come to be known as a "special relationship."
16

17 Quoting once more from Elder Bradford's article: "He planted His
18 last-day movement in North American soil. The work developed
19 progressively--first there were churches, congregations, little flocks
20 scattered here and there. Then there were districts and state
21 conferences, groupings, sisterhoods of churches. At the same time
22 institutions--publishing houses and sanitariums--were developing and
23 organization was growing. The time came when organization must be
24 further perfected, and there was the General Conference, a marvelous
25 organization that brought the branches together in a united whole. The
26 branches of the great tree that first flourished in North America soon
27 spread to other parts of the globe, penetrating its land masses and
28 island communities. But always the North American Church provided
29 resources--both personnel and material--until now we see ten great world
30 divisions, all of them sections of the one General Conference."--Ibid.
31

32 The relationship that exists between the General Conference and its
33 North American Division is not one that is shared by any other
34 divisions. In a sense, it is a privileged relationship and one that has
35 served this Church well. For that reason, it seems unwise to alter this
36 arrangement. For the reasons already expressed and for others that are
37 yet to be shared, we feel that "the special relationship" should be
38 maintained and strengthened and that we should not "regularize" the
39 North American Division. To one who is willing to carefully review the
40 historical background, it must be evident that the North American
41 phenomena is unique and cannot be equated with any other section/
42 division of the General Conference.
43

44 If the General Conference, with headquarters physically located in
45 North America, wishes to relate to the North American unions in a way
46 that differs slightly from unions in other parts of the world, it should
47 not be considered strange. It should be admitted, as a statement of
48 fact, that the General Conference needs North America! The resources in
49 terms of manpower, finance, and leadership influence are important in
50 carrying on a world program. The General Conference needs a base of
51 strength in order to adequately perform its function of holding together
52

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2 ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT - 21
3

4 a world organization and structure which is being attacked from within
5 and from without.
6

7 And so, it seems to follow that the General Conference should take
8 the responsibility and initiative in working out how it will relate to
9 the unions and the activities in the North American Division. This
10 decision should not be determined by popular opinion or plebiscite.
11

12 Ultimately, relational decisions must be based on what is perceived
13 to be the best approach in order to fulfill our world mission. Our
14 fathers and predecessors in denominational leadership showed great
15 wisdom when they recommended this "special relationship." As they
16 sought divine guidance, the conviction developed that the General
17 Conference could not give successful and harmonious leadership to the
18 world Church if, in a given division territory, there were two centers
19 of final appeal and authority. The present consensus seems to indicate
20 that time has not changed this basic principle. This is especially true
21 when it comes to the North American Division, but would also obtain if
22 the General Conference world headquarters had been located in the
23 territory of one of the other General Conference division territories.
24

25 There are a number of factors that constitute valid and logical
26 reasons as to why a "special relationship" exists. To illustrate, let
27 me identify the following items:
28

- 29 1. The office building is shared.
- 30
- 31 2. The North American Division staff is a part of the General
32 Conference staff and not separate from it.
33
- 34 3. The operation is with a combined budget.
- 35
- 36 4. The retirement fund is mutually administered.
- 37
- 38 5. The financial and record keeping systems are unified.
- 39
- 40 6. The General Conference operates certain major institutions
41 only in the North American Division.
42
- 43 7. The General Conference needs, and has always had, direct
44 access to the manpower pool and human resources in the North American
45 Division. This is vital in order to recruit an adequate number of
46 missionary appointees.
47
- 48 8. The North American Division Board of Higher Education serves
49 as a coordinating body for General Conference institutions of higher
50 education.
51
52

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2 ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT - 22
3

4 9. The North American Division Publishing Council gives
5 coordination to General Conference publishing houses.
6

7 10. The North American Division Adventist Health System/US offers
8 help and guidance to health care institutions operated by the General
9 Conference.
10

11 It is obvious that we are interlocked in a "special relation-
12 ship." The fact that the world headquarters of the Church is located in
13 the North American Division territory and has been here from its
14 inception, makes it impossible for the world headquarters to be silent
15 on issues that exist or arise within the Church or in the public
16 arena. Public authorities and Church leaders expect the General
17 Conference to take positions on matters of current interest and
18 controversy. People expect the General Conference to have the last word
19 and to speak for the Church with ultimate authority. This demands a
20 close working relationship between those in the General Conference
21 (world headquarters) and those assigned to give leadership to the North
22 American Division.
23

24 Conclusion
25

26 The General Conference is the highest authority and the sum of all
27 the parts, not only philosophically, but also (1) organizationally, (2)
28 legislatively, (3) administratively, (4) judicially, (5) in terms of
29 policy and (6) Church standards. This being the case, it seems that it
30 should be the desire of the conferences, unions, and any other
31 organizations to do everything possible to weld the whole family
32 together and strengthen the hands of the General Conference. It is
33 reassuring to note that in the interviews conducted by teams sent out by
34 the Role and Function Commission to all parts of the world, there was a
35 theme which was universally endorsed--keep the General Conference
36 strong!
37

38 It would be folly to do anything or say anything that would in any
39 way weaken the influence and limit the leadership capabilities of the
40 General Conference. If the nature of our structure is changed, it could
41 very easily fragment the Seventh-day Adventist movement and lead towards
42 regional or national churches. This human, and rather natural, tendency
43 must be avoided. To do anything that would encourage congregational
44 government would be a move in the direction of disintegration, and the
45 inability to achieve our divine mission.
46

47 The General Conference is not something isolated from adminis-
48 tration and leadership. It must not become just a "United Nations
49 General Assembly" or a Council of Seventh-day Adventist Churches. It
50 must have the ability to influence and motivate and also require
51 accountability. The Church must remain united, and this requires
52

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2 ORGANIZATIONS--COMMISSION REPORT - 23
3

4 strong, centralized authority derived from all of its parts.
5

6 When I visited the spiritual and tribal leader of the Ashanti
7 people in Kumasi, Ghana, I learned much from the philosophy shared by
8 this great statesman. As I left the palace, he gave me a very
9 interesting memento to take with me. It was a carving made from the
10 heart of a tree that grows in the Ashanti forests. His Highness the
11 Asanthene, Nana Opoku Ware II, told me the significance of this
12 carving. It depicts the five fingers of a human hand securely holding
13 an egg. The moral of this is that one who is in authority must hold the
14 egg securely enough so that it does not fall to the ground and be
15 destroyed, but at the same time not hold it so tightly or carelessly
16 that the egg might be crushed within the hand of the holder. This, I
17 think, represents the type of protective authority which the General
18 Conference needs to exercise, and it also cautions against being over
19 authoritarian.
20

21 At the very foundation of Adventism is unity, cohesion and
22 oneness. We feel that the "special relationship" which exists between
23 the General Conference and its North American Division is vital to
24 maintaining world unity.
25

26 We believe that the message, the mission, and the organization go
27 hand in hand. To remove any one of these three items would seriously
28 threaten the redemptive effectiveness of the Seventh-day Adventist
29 Church in fulfilling the destiny of God's global prophetic movement.
30 The counsel of the Lord is that we should "Press together, press
31 together, press together."
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1 84AC/208-84GNa/GCO/GCO/ONUP85SM/85SM/GCO to FWW-85GCS

2
3 140-85GNa GC DEPARTMENTAL REALIGNMENT--CHURCH
4 MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

(404)

5
6 A report was presented regarding a proposed model for the new
7 General Conference Department of Church Ministries. The model
8 illustrates the organization and function of a single department as
9 mandated by 84AC with three subcommittees and one service all of which
10 would operate within the Department under the direction of a Church
11 Ministries Council. (See diagram of the Church Ministries Department
12 model attached.)
13

14 RECOMMENDED, 1. To approve the model for the General Conference
15 Church Ministries Department as presented in the report entitled "Church
16 Ministries Department of the General Conference" and presented below.
17

18 2. To direct that a similar model be followed by all divisions of
19 the General Conference.
20

21
22 CHURCH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT
23

24 The primary responsibility of the Department of Church Ministries
25 is soul winning--soul winning in the home, in the church, and in the
26 community. To accomplish this objective the Department of Church
27 Ministries will serve the above three target areas in the following
28 ways:
29

30 1. Work to improve spiritual growth and development (Nurture*).

31
32 2. Help members to commit their lives and resources to the Lord
33 (Stewardship**).
34

35 3. Promote evangelistic activities in the community and
36 throughout the world (Outreach***).
37

38 The Church Ministries Department shares the responsibility for
39 developing a global evangelistic strategy in consultation and harmony
40 with administration and other departments of the church. It will
41 challenge the world church with objectives, goals and plans to take the
42 gospel to all the world. All of its activities will be coordinated into
43 a holistic master strategy for soul winning.
44

45 Even though the master plan developed by the General Conference
46 Church Ministries Department offers a coordinated strategy for soul
47 winning, it recognizes that:
48
49
50
51
52

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1 140-85GNa GC DEPARTMENTAL REALIGNMENT--CHURCH
2 MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT - 2
3

4 1. It is a support ministry to the church.
5

6 2. This support is developed primarily through leadership
7 training, the production of resource materials and consultant services.
8

9 3. Its assignment is to integrate and coordinate the necessary
10 functions comprehended in the former departments and services, i.e.,
11 Home and Family, Lay Activities, Sabbath School, Stewardship and
12 Development, and Youth.
13

14 4. The responsibility to foster a holistic ministry involves
15 nurture, outreach, and stewardship in order to provide a coordinated
16 emphasis for the local church.
17

18 Through the development of plans, educational and resource
19 materials, training programs and consultant services, it will assist the
20 church in maintaining unity in theology and policy.
21

22 The Church Ministries Department will continually ask itself, "What
23 can we do to help the world field advance the gospel? What are the
24 needs of the local churches, conferences, unions and division?" It will
25 endeavor to identify and meet these needs.
26

27 The Department will follow the directive of the 1984 Annual Council
28 and provide resources and support essential to ensure the fulfillment of
29 AC84, General Actions, pages 21 and 22, "Application at Local Church
30 Level."
31

32 #####
33

34 Definitions:
35

36 *Nurture involves soul winning and retaining within the church itself;
37 it means making sure every effort is put forth to foster spiritual
38 growth and development. Proper nurturing will help build quality
39 members. Carefully integrating members into church family life will
40 help insure that members have a faith and experience to share.
41

42 **Stewardship involves principles which guide in the wise and unselfish
43 use of life, making available resources such as time, talent, financial
44 and material possession, and influence for Nurture and Outreach.
45

46 ***Outreach involves sharing one's faith and experience. This is a
47 natural outgrowth of Nurture. Those who have a relationship with Christ
48 in salvation have something to share. Nurture and Stewardship
49 facilitate this process. The result of Outreach is a caring and growing
50 church.
51
52

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2 MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT - 3
3

4 DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTOR
5

6 The Director must understand and accept the Church Ministries
7 Department role as outlined in the preceding description under Church
8 Ministries Department and will be the catalyst for coordinating all
9 these potential soul-winning activities within the staff. Consequently
10 it will be imperative for the Director to remain in the office as much
11 as possible rather than travel as most other departmental directors do.
12

13 He will chair the Church Ministries Council or designate someone to
14 do so and will maintain continuous contact with committee chairmen
15 within the department. Under the Director's supervision, through the
16 Office Management Committee, the departmental budget will be properly
17 allocated, travel budgets will be assigned and staff functions will be
18 coordinated in an efficient and productive manner.
19

20 The Director will represent and serve as advocate for departmental
21 goals, programs and activities to the administrative bodies of the
22 church and will represent administrative viewpoints to the departmental
23 staff. He will also serve as liaison between the other General
24 Conference departments and the Church Ministries Department.
25

26 CHURCH MINISTRIES COUNCIL
27

- 28 1. Is chaired by the Church Ministries Director or designee.
29
- 30 2. Is composed of all elected associate directors and appointed
31 assistant directors.
32
- 33 3. Meets regularly to integrate and coordinate all departmental
34 activities.
35
- 36 4. Coordinates its work to insure that the department is
37 functioning in an efficient and productive manner to meet the needs of
38 the world church.
39
- 40 5. Is responsible for long-range goals, plans, schedules and
41 implementation.
42
- 43 6. Coordinates the development of curricula that will introduce
44 individuals to all church beliefs and practices at appropriate times.
45
- 46 7. Establishes and maintains an Editorial Coordinating Committee.
47
- 48 8. Helps assure coordination by making all staff members
49 available for resource input to each committee.
50
- 51 9. Appoints the members of the Office Management Committee and
52

1 140-85GNa GC DEPARTMENTAL REALIGNMENT--CHURCH
2 MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT - 4
3

4 approves the allocation of the budget.
5

6 10. Approves staff travel requests.
7

8 COMMITTEE FOR THE HOME
9

10 1. The committee functions within the spirit and philosophy
11 outlined in the description of the Church Ministries Department. It
12 does not function independently of the other committees within the
13 department but rather cooperates in developing a coordinated approach to
14 spiritual growth and soul winning.
15

16 2. The committee develops activities, plans and supporting
17 programs in response to the needs of its member organizations that are
18 designed to enhance the holistic growth and development of each
19 individual member and to strengthen intrafamily relationships.
20

21 a. It endeavors to make of the home a discipling center
22 where family members by their relationships with each other are
23 encouraged in their relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. The
24 focus is on relationship enhancement in the following areas:
25

26 Marriage, Parenting, Single-parenting and Blended Families,
27 Singles.
28

29 b. A special emphasis is given to meeting the needs of and
30 providing spiritual resources for the youth. The purpose of this
31 ministry to youth is to support parents and others in leading youth into
32 a growing, redemptive relationship with God; to build responsible,
33 mature individuals; and to involve them in active, selfless service. In
34 this way our youth can grow in the proper stages of development to
35 become mature Christians--socially, physically, mentally and
36 spiritually. The major objectives of youth ministry are: Commitment,
37 Training, Mission, Nurture.
38

39 3. The committee plans and develops curricula as necessary. All
40 curricula are coordinated by the Church Ministries Council.
41

42 4. New materials developed by this committee are channeled
43 through the Church Ministries Council and Editorial Committee in order
44 to eliminate duplication and to receive final approval.
45

46 5. The committee oversees the church ministry functions assigned
47 by the Church Ministries Council as best fitting its particular area of
48 expertise and emphasis.
49
50
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52

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MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT - 5

COMMITTEE FOR THE CHURCH

1. The committee functions within the spirit and philosophy outlined in the description of the Church Ministries Department. It does not function independently of the other committees within the department but rather cooperates in developing a coordinated approach to spiritual growth and soul winning.

2. The committee develops activities, plans and supporting programs in response to the needs of its member organizations that are designed to nurture individual church members and to enhance their capacity to serve their local congregations. Specific areas of responsibility include:

a. Fostering a growing understanding of God's will through study of His Word.

b. Training for service in the church and fostering participation in Sabbath School, church worship services, youth meetings, prayer meetings, ordinances and other related church services and programs.

c. Fostering church fellowship.

d. Facilitating church growth and self-reliance through holistic stewardship education and the coordination of spiritual and material resources and training. Providing technical information and resources for members, pastors and administrators to encourage greater faithfulness and generosity in tithe and offerings in the local church, local conference and world church.

e. Enlisting church members to help restore inactive members to fellowship.

The chief objective is to prepare church members "for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come." (Education, p 13.)

3. The committee plans and develops curricula as necessary. All curricula are coordinated by the Church Ministries Council.

4. New materials developed by this committee are channeled through the Church Ministries Council and Editorial Committee in order to eliminate duplication and to receive final approval.

5. The committee oversees the church ministry functions assigned by the Church Ministries Council as best fitting its particular area of expertise and emphasis.

1 140-85GNa GC DEPARTMENTAL REALIGNMENT--CHURCH
2 MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT - 6
3

4 COMMITTEE FOR THE COMMUNITY
5

6 1. The committee functions within the spirit and philosophy
7 outlined in the description of the Church Ministries Department. It
8 does not function independently of the other committees within the
9 department but rather cooperates in developing a coordinated approach to
10 spiritual growth and soul winning.
11

12 2. The committee develops activities, plans and supporting
13 programs in response to the needs of its member organizations that are
14 designed to lead nonmembers to accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and to
15 assist them in becoming acquainted with all church beliefs and
16 practices. This includes the fostering of personal and public
17 evangelism and other forms of community service and the training of
18 individual church members in such outreach ministries.
19

20 3. The committee plans and develops curricula as necessary. All
21 curricula are coordinated by the Church Ministries Council.
22

23 4. New materials developed by this committee are channeled
24 through the Church Ministries Council and Editorial Committee in order
25 to eliminate duplication and to receive final approval.
26

27 5. The Committee oversees those church ministry functions
28 assigned by the Church Ministries Council as best fitting its particular
29 area of expertise and emphasis.
30

31 EDITORIAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
32

33 1. The Editorial Coordinating Committee oversees the editing of
34 all Church Ministries materials and publications to insure that the
35 department is speaking with one voice and represents the church
36 theologically and in policy.
37

38 2. It works with each respective committee to suggest any
39 necessary changes.
40

41 3. Before publication the material to be published must receive
42 approval from both the Church Ministries Council and the Editorial
43 Coordinating Committee.
44

45 4. This committee does not ordinarily translate materials but
46 gives guidance and arranges for the translation of materials as needed.
47

48 5. It produces a (monthly/quarterly) Church Ministries journal.
49

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1 140-85GNa GC DEPARTMENTAL REALIGNMENT--CHURCH
2 MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT - 7
3

4 OFFICE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
5

6 1. The Office Management Committee is a subcommittee of and
7 reports to the Church Ministries Council.
8

9 2. The committee is chaired by the departmental director.
10

11 3. Responsibilities:
12

13 a. Oversees the departmental budget and finances.
14

15 b. Recommends to the Church Ministries Council the
16 allocations for travel budgets.
17

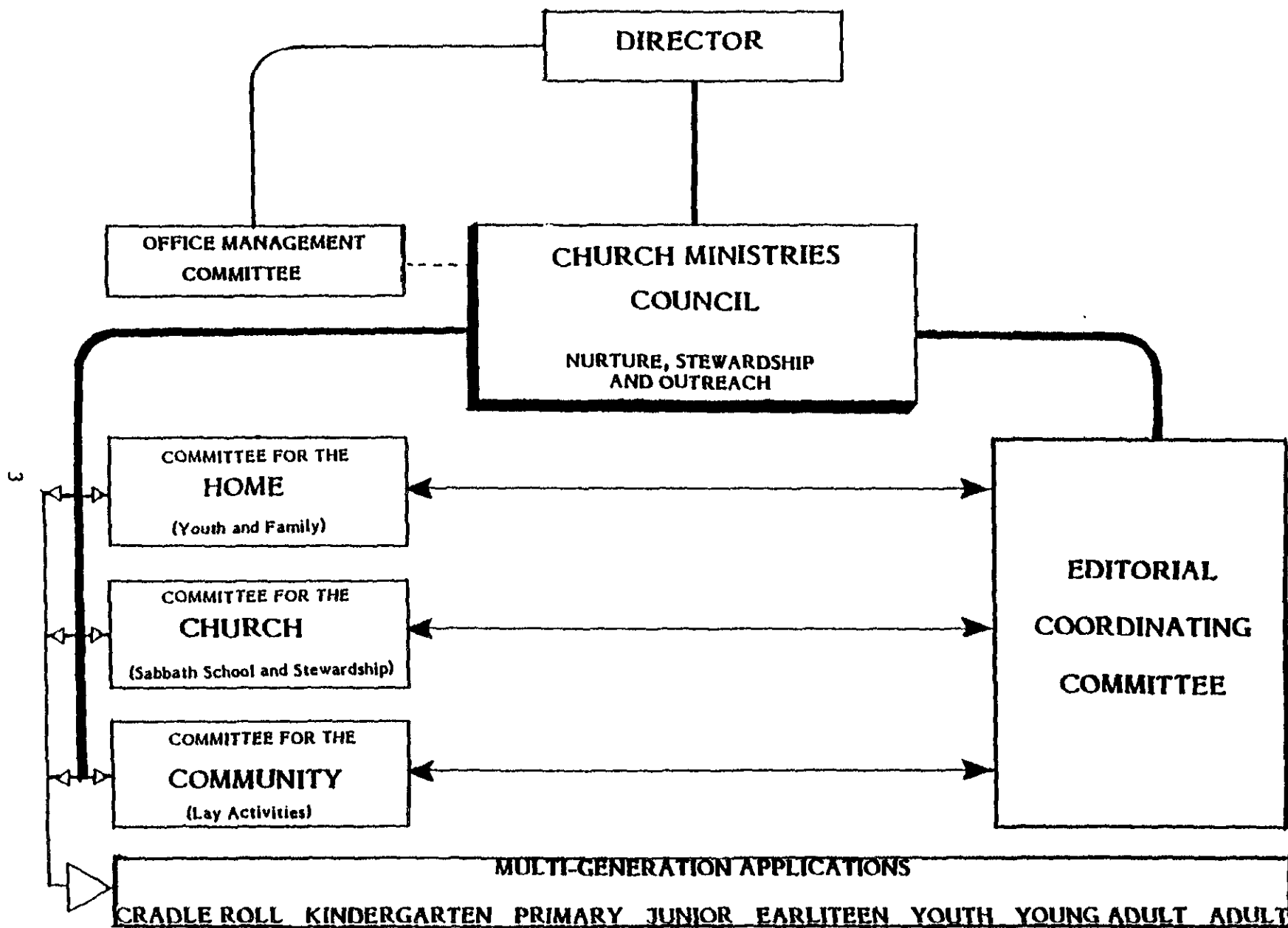
18 c. Monitors travel budgets.
19

20 d. Supervises staffing of the department.
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22 e. Directs collection and analysis of statistics and reports
23 to the field.
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GENERAL CONFERENCE DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH MINISTRIES

ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTION



GENERAL CONFERENCE CHURCH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

DIRECTOR....

COMMITTEE FOR
OFFICE
MANAGEMENT

CHURCH MINISTRIES
DEPARTMENT COUNCIL
NURTURE, STEWARDSHIP AND
OUTREACH

COMMITTEE FOR THE
HOME

- * MARRIAGE MINISTRIES
- * FAMILY SYSTEMS
PARENT CHILD RELATIONSHIPS
- * SINGLE LIFE MINISTRIES
- * AY SOCIETY/SENIOR YOUTH
MINISTRY
- * PATHFINDERS/CAMPING

COMMITTEE FOR THE
CHURCH

- * LOCAL CHURCH STEWARDSHIP
IMPLEMENTATION
- * FINANCIAL SELF SUPPORT
- * CONFERENCE DEVELOPMENT ADVANCE
- * MONEY MANAGEMENT SEMINARS
- * STEWARDSHIP TRAINING AND
MATERIALS RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
- * SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS
- * MISSION OFFERINGS
- * LEADERSHIP TEACHER TRAINING
- * CAMPMEETING

COMMITTEE FOR THE
COMMUNITY

- * LEADERSHIP TRAINING
- * COMMUNITY SERVICES
- * LITERATURE, INGATHERING AND
PRISON MINISTRIES
- * BIBLE EVANGELISM - PERSONAL/PUBLIC
BRANCH SABBATH SCHOOL
VOICE OF YOUTH
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
- * BAPTISMAL CLASS
- * ADVENTIST YOUTH VOLUNTEER
SERVICE CORPS

COMMITTEE FOR COORDINATING
EDITORIAL

- * COORDINATING TRANSLATION
- * YOUTH PUBLICATIONS
- * PATHFINDER PUBLICATIONS
- * SABBATH SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS
- * WITNESSING/EVANGELISM
PUBLICATIONS
- * STEWARDSHIP MATERIALS
PUBLICATIONS
- * H/F MATERIALS AND PUBLICATIONS
- * LEADERSHIP TRAINING MATERIALS
- * AUDIO VISUAL MATERIALS
- * PRODUCTION AND MARKETING
- * CHURCH MINISTRIES JOURNAL

MULTI-GENERATION APPLICATIONS

1 N84AC/208-84NGXb to NCW+CEB-85GCS

2

3 140-85NGXb ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN
4 DIVISION--IMPLEMENTATION

(405)

5

6 VOTED, To authorize the North American Division to proceed with
7 the implementation of The Role and Function of Denominational
8 Organizations Commission report, Section V, "The Role and Function of
9 the North American Division."

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Revised 1-7-85