

## ANNUAL COUNCIL

September 26 to October 1, 2000

## ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE

## GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 26, 2000, 6:30 p.m.

## PRESENT

Christian S M Aliddeki, Eliel Almonte, Lucio Altin, Carl-David Andreasen, Niels-Erik Andreasen, John R Andrianasoa, Radisa Antic, Delbert W Baker, Sergio E Balboa, Harold W Baptiste, Herman Bauman, Carlyle Bayne, Bert B Beach, Matthew A Bediako, Wesley M Beene, Guillermo E Biaggi, David Birkenstock, Violetto F Bocala, Adrian M Bocaneanu, Per W Bolling, Emmanuel Boma, Rodney G Brady, Mauro C Braga, Mario A Brito, Reinder Bruinsma, Youn-Shik Byun,

Martha Caceres, Jose L Campos, Izeas dos Santos Cardoso, Cauley, Allan R Chichester, Kandikatla Christopher, Pyung-Duk Chun, Larry R Colburn, Lowell C Cooper, Nevenka Cop, Roque M Crespo, James A Cress, Vasco Cubenda, A David C Currie, Rajmund Dabrowski, David Y Dambali, Luka T Daniel, Rousvelt Daniel, Marino F de Oliveira, Wandyr Mendes de Oliveira, Gary B DeBoer, Claritzo De Jimenez, Sandy Dee, Cesario Acevedo del Villar, Paterno M Diaz, Laurie J Evans, George W Fafale, Le Roy E Finck, Ronald M Flowers, Robert S Folkenberg, Philip S Follett, Daniel Fontaine, Ulrich Frikart,

Agustin Galicia, L James Gibson, Clifford Goldstein, Raul E Gomez, Malcolm D Gordon, Rodolpho Gorski, Leonardo Grant, Doris Gratz, John Graz, Eugene W Grosser, Rodney Grove, Alberto F Guaita, Alberto C Gulfan Jr, Sendra Gunawan, Stenio Gungadoo, Joseph E Gurubatham, Patricia J Gustin, Passmore Hachalinga, Bert B Haloviak, Allan R Handysides, Ceazar J Hechanova, Elie Henry, Eric Hepburn, Eugene Hsu, Yutaka Inada, Donald G Jacobsen, David Javier-Perez, Sven H Jensen, William G Johnsson, Theodore T Jones,

Michael F Kaminsky, Gerry D Karst, Dennis C Keith Sr, Ole B Kendel, Reinhold Kesaulya, Rena M Ketting, Ivan F Khiminets, Donald G King, Robert J Kloosterhuis, Lorinda Knowlton, G Henk Koning, Vladimir A Krupsky, P Daniel Kunjachan, Peter R Kunze, Robert E Kyte, Ilie S Leahu, Harold L Lee, Richard P Lehmann, Paulo Leitao, Israel Leito, Robert E Lemon, Nikola T Levterov, Willie J Lewis, Jean-Luc Lezeau, Bruno Liske, Jose R Lizardo,

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signed on page 00-296  
Bewit  
11/21/00

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Paminus M Machamire, Sadanand G Mahapure, Benford E Malopa, Japheth S Maranga, Dalbir Masih, Dragutin Matak, Benjamin C Maxson, Carlos R Mayer, Zoltan Mayor, Siegfried G Mayr, Geoffrey G Mbwana, Joseph W McCoy, Stephen L McPherson, Lyudmila N Melnik, Peter O Mensah, Armando Miranda, Eric P Monnier, R Martin Moores, Kalapala J Moses, Thomas J Mostert Jr, Jose G Moyano, Baraka G Muganda, R L Murphy, Pardon Mwansa,

Ruy H Nagel, Sikhumbuzo Ndlovu, G T Ng, Wai Chun (Stanley) Ng, August De Clerc B D Ngalamulume, James R Nix, Karel Nowak, Jethron Nsabiyaremye, Tony Y Nyirenda, Joseph A Ola, Barry D Oliver, William M Olson, Walter A Osako, Elizabeth E Ostring, Johnson O Othoo, Julio A Palacios, Orville D Parchment, Ruth E Parish, Vernon B Parmenter, Jere D Patzer, Jan Paulsen, Juan O Perla, Pablo Perla, Cecil R Perry, C Pheirim, Larry J Pitcher, Pekka T Pohjola, Wladyslaw Polok, Alex R Ponniah, Juan R Prestol, Donald G Pursley, Carlos Puyol,

Ted L Ramirez, Carlos A Ramos, Miguel Ramos, Leo Ranzolin, Humberto M Rasi, John Rathinaraj, Paul S Ratsara, Robert L Rawson, Nils Rechter, George W Reid, Gordon L Retzer, Robin D Riches, Donald E Robinson, Calvin B Rock, Bernardo Rodriguez-Triuino, Guy F Roger, Duane C Rollins, Denis P Rosat, Steven G Rose, Amon K Rugelinyange, Blasious M Ruguri, Reinhard Rupp, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan,

Claude Sabot, Donald R Sahly, Eliseo Sanchez, Tercio Sarli, Byron L Scheuneman, Gunther Schleifer, Don C Schneider, Benjamin D Schoun, Takashi Shiraishi, Alexander F Shvarts, H Roger C Silva, Pavel Simek, Ella S Simmons, Dolores E Slikkers, Robert S Smith, Virginia L Smith, Jae-Hyun Song, Chester G Stanley, Ken Stanton, Artur A Steele, Ardis D Stenbakken, Richard O Stenbakken, Wilson W Stephen, Vassili D Stoliar, Robert L Swezey, Mack Tennyson, G Ralph Thompson, Tor Tjeransen, Athal H Tolhurst, Tinsae Tollesa, Max A Trevino, Jansen E Trotman, Arnold Trujillo, Grigol G Tsamalashvili,

Gosta L Ulltjarn, Filiberto M Verduzco, Javier E Villegas, Daniel B Villosio, Velile S Wakaba, D Ronald Watts, Neil W Watts, Ralph S Watts Jr, Youke Welan, Leon Wellington, Bertil Wiklander, Juan Williams-Acosta, Jeffrey K Wilson, Neal C Wilson, Ted N C Wilson, Edward E Wines, David W Wolkwitz, Kenneth H Wood, Billy E Wright, F Martin Ytreberg, Moses Dayuan Yu, James W Zackrison, Valdis A Zilgalvis, Rita U Zirimwabagabo.

## OPENING

Mary Maxson, Director of Women's Ministries for the North American Division, and Benjamin C Maxson, Director of the Stewardship Department, led the song service.

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Carlyle Bayne, President of the West African Union Mission, opened the meeting with prayer.

Robert L Rawson, General Conference Treasurer, welcomed the attendees to the 2000 Annual Council. Larry R Colburn, Administrative Assistant to the General Conference President, introduced the following platform participants:

Jan Paulsen, Matthew A Bediako, Robert L Rawson, Lowell C Cooper, Eugene Hsu, Gerry D Karst, Armando Miranda, Leo Ranzolin, Calvin B Rock, Ted N C Wilson, Luka T Daniel, Pardon Mwansa, Ulrich Frikart, Artur A Steele, Israel Leito, Don C Schneider, Pyung-Duk Chun, Ruy H Nagel, Laurie J Evans, D Ronald Watts, Violetto F Bocala, Bertil A Wiklander, Velile S Wakaba.

The Scripture reading, taken from Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12, was read by Sharon Cress, Associate Secretary and Shepherdess Coordinator for the Ministerial Association.

The congregation sang "The Church Has One Foundation," followed by the pastoral prayer given by David Javier-Perez, President of the South Mexican Union Conference.

#### WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Worship in music was provided by Geri Mueller on her recorder, accompanied by her husband Ekkehardt Mueller at the piano. They played a Vivaldi Sonata.

#### CALL TO ORDER

Leo Ranzolin, General Vice President of the General Conference, welcomed the Annual Council attendees. We have come a long way since the first world Annual Council in 1912. At Ellen G White's last General Conference Session, which was held on the campus of Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland, Elder Spicer spoke a few words of good cheer and farewell and then turned to Ellen White. She opened the Bible and said, "Brothers and Sisters, I commend to you this book." It was her last spoken word in a world assembly of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It is appropriate that at this Annual Council we have as our theme "United by the Word of God."

Matthew A Bediako, Secretary of the General Conference, read Article XIII, Section 2. a. and Article XIII, Section 4. of the General Conference Bylaws which state the constitutional provisions for convening the Annual Council. All conditions had been met. Leo Ranzolin then declared the 2000 Annual Council open for the consideration of business.

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SEC/00AC to MAB

313-00G GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the General Conference Executive Committee, by adding members in the following categories:

1. One Pastor in Each Division

Andrianasoa, John R (AID)  
Ndlovu, Sikhumbuzo (EAD)  
Tsamalashvili, Grigol G (ESD)  
Simek, Pavel (EUD)  
Chichester, Allan R (IAD)  
Nixon, John S (NAD)  
Inada, Yutaka (NSD)  
Ramos, Carlos A (SAD)  
Fafale, George W (SPD)  
Welan, Youke (SSD)  
Masih, Dalbir (TED)

2. Additional Pastor or Other Front-Line Denominational Employee for every 500,000 members or major fraction thereof beyond the first 500,000 (figures based on Statistical Report of 12.31.99).

Boakye, K Kwanin (AID)  
Nsabiyaremye, Jethron (AID)  
Nyirenda, Tony Y (EAD)  
Rugemarila, Lucas (EAD)  
Grant, Leonardo (IAD)  
Villegas, Javier E (IAD)  
Williams-Acosta, Juan A (IAD)  
Ketting, Rena M (NAD)  
Crespo, Roque M (SAD)  
Sanchez, Eliseo (SAD)  
Parulan, Ephraim B (SSD)

3. Three Laypersons from Each Division

Matamba, Leonard (AID)  
Okwubunka, Salomey (AID)  
Zirimwabagabo, Rita U (AID)

Beene, Wesley M (EAD)  
Maranga, Japheth S (EAD)  
Osako, Walter A (EAD)

Melnik, Lyudmila N (ESD)  
Savchenko, Anna A (ESD)  
Sokolovskaya, Solvita (ESD)

Gratz, Doris (EUD)  
Moyano, Jose G (EUD)

Daniel, Rousvelt (IAD)  
De Jimenez, Claritzo (IAD)  
Hidalgo, Juan F (IAD)

Hepburn, Eric (NAD)  
Knowlton, Lorinda (NAD)

Byun, Youn-Shik (NSD)  
Song, Jae-Hyun (NSD)  
Yu, Moses Dayuan (NSD)

Braga, Mauro C (SAD)  
Caceres, Martha (SAD)  
Falcao, Nicodemos (SAD)

Dambali, David Y (SPD)  
Ostring, Elizabeth E (SPD)  
Stanton, Ken (SPD)

Denila, Belzezar (SSD)  
Gunawan, Sendra (SSD)  
Rajakumar, Alex (SSD)

Blazic, Nevenka (TED)  
Rechter, Nils (TED)  
Ulltjarn, Gosta L (TED)

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#### AGENDA NOTEBOOK DISTRIBUTION

Notebooks containing the program and agenda items for the 2000 Annual Council were distributed in the lobby prior to the meeting. These will also be available following the evening meeting and again in the morning.

00AC to MAB

#### DAILY PROGRAM

VOTED, To adopt the daily program for the 2000 Annual Council, as follows:

##### DAILY PROGRAM

September 27 to October 2, except Sabbath

7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.	Steering Committee
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Devotional Meeting
9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Council

##### Lunch

12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Committees
2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	Council

SEC/ADCOM/00AC to AHT

#### 306-00G ANNUAL COUNCIL - 2000—STANDING COMMITTEES

VOTED, To approve standing committees for the 2000 Annual Council, as follows:

##### ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL TO STANDING COMMITTEES

Ted N C Wilson, Chairman  
Vernon B Parmenter, Secretary

Members: Harold W Baptiste, Larry R Colburn, Dennis C Keith Sr

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### NOMINATING

Jan Paulsen, Chairman  
Matthew A Bediako, Secretary

Members: Niels-Erik Andreasen, John R Andrianasoa, Delbert W Baker, Harold W Baptiste, Wesley M Beene, B Lyn Behrens, David Birkenstock, Barry Black, Violeto F Bocala, Per W Bolling, Youn-Shik Byun, Martha Caceres, Allan R Chichester, Pyung Duk Chun, Lowell C Cooper, Luka T Daniel, Rousvelt Daniel, Marino F de Oliveira, Gary B DeBoer, Belzezar Denila, Laurie J Evans, Ulrich Frikart, Agustin Galicia, Malcolm D Gordon, John Graz, Joseph E Gurubatham, Allan R Handysides, Eugene Hsu, Theodore T Jones, Michael F Kaminsky, Gerry D Karst, Dennis C Keith Sr, Eric A Korff, P Daniel Kunjachan, Robert E Kyte, Israel Leito, Robert E Lemon, Bruno Liske, Dalbir Masih, Leonard Matamba, Benjamin C Maxson, Lyudmila N Melnik, Armando Miranda, Eric P Monnier, Baraka G Muganda, Pardon Mwansa, Ruy H Nagel, Wai-Chun (Stanley) Ng, Don Noble, Barry D Oliver, Elizabeth E Ostring, Vernon B Parmenter, Jere D Patzer, Larry J Pitcher, Juan R Prestol, Carlos Puyol, Leo Ranzolin, Humberto M Rasi, Robert L Rawson, Nils Rechter, Donald E Robinson, Calvin B Rock, Duane C Rollins, Steven G Rose, Reinhard Rupp, Claude Sabot, Donald R Sahly, Byron L Scheuneman, Don C Schneider, Robert S Smith, Artur A Stele, Athal H Tolhurst, Javier E Villegas, Velile S Wakaba, D Ronald Watts, Bertil Wiklander, Ted N C Wilson, James W Zackrison

### STEERING

Jan Paulsen, Chairman  
Athal H Tolhurst, Secretary

Members: Harold W Baptiste, Matthew A Bediako, Larry R Colburn, Lowell C Cooper, Rajmund Dabrowski, Gary B DeBoer, Linda M de Leon, Agustin Galicia, Eugene Hsu, Donald G Jacobsen, William G Johnsson, Theodore T Jones, Gerry D Karst, Howard T Karst, Dennis C Keith Sr, Robert E Lemon, Armando Miranda, Ruth E Parish, Vernon B Parmenter, Juan R Prestol, Leo Ranzolin, Robert L Rawson, George W Reid, Donald E Robinson, Elaine A Robinson, Calvin B Rock, Steven G Rose, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Claude Sabot, Donald R Sahly, Don C Schneider, Ralph S Watts Jr, Ted N C Wilson

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00AC to MAB

#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

VOTED, To adopt the agenda as listed in the agenda notebook.

TRE/00AC to DER

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION—STATEMENT OF ACCEPTANCE

All General Conference Executive Committee members were asked to read and sign the conflict of interest statement and return it at tomorrow's morning business session.

#### WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Joel Sarli, Associate Secretary of the Ministerial Association, sang "Victory in Jesus."

#### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Jan Paulsen, President of the General Conference, presented the keynote address.

The large challenges which faced the church of the first century were those of *mission* and *unity*. Having pondered and reflected for some time on where we are and where we are going as a Seventh-day Adventist Church at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, I am convinced beyond any shadow of doubt that the same two remain our most formidable challenges. And they can be addressed and dealt with successfully only if approached in a planned and deliberate manner. These two—*mission* and *unity*—do not come of themselves. They don't just happen, and they are not self-generative, nor are they byproducts of anything else we do. They ARE the very objectives we aim for—they are an integral part of the design and purpose of the Church herself as a living organism. If either or both of these are lost in the life and spent energies of the Church, the Church has failed, and eventually decay and disintegration set in. I do not want *mission* and *unity* simply to become something we duly acknowledge and then we move on to other important and pressing matters. They are, in my view, terribly important for the Seventh-day Adventist community today. It is right that the General Conference should be an instrument designed to focus on both of these and to use its resources to achieve them.



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If I seem to be returning to and laboring these two points heavily—and I accept that I do—it is simply because they arise out of my conviction of what the Lord expects of us as His chosen leaders sitting in council together. Fortunately, it is abundantly clear to me also that I am among converts who share these visions and convictions about what we must do in the immediate future. That makes it possible for us to move forward in a concerted manner. Whatever initiatives we embark on, they need to be seen initially and primarily as being there to assist us in achieving our mission and holding us together.

There are some items on the agenda of this council which reflect things we have talked about in some quarters. We have seen them coming towards us down the road of time. Now we need to agree on the best way of meeting them.

Let me first make a brief comment or two about Strategic Planning. The secular world has taught us that it makes good sense for any organization to plan strategically as it designs its own future. Any industry or business will do it in the production and marketing of their goods. Why should not the Church, whose “business” has importance beyond that of any other entity or activity, do so with utmost vigor? It is simply an intelligent way to spend our time, energies, and monies. Of course, we all believe that that is something the Church should do, and in our various assignments, institutions, and organizations we do it. My point is simply—so must the General Conference. The General Conference must identify the global issues which we, sitting together in council, consider important and critical and have them filtered into our Strategic Planning. We have already taken the first steps that will keep that process in motion. We will share regularly with this body phases of the Strategic Plan as it takes shape.

I expect that all departments and initiatives which service the world Church from this house will build into their plans a very intentional design which enhances unity, stimulates growth, and makes this Church a better spiritual home for all. So, I say to my colleagues, if that is not part of your present plans for the next five to ten years, go back and rethink and redevelop your plans! There is no virtue in simply being busy—in staying in perpetual motion and being able to spend one’s travel budget.

Next a word about Leadership Training. Whenever we have asked our world Church to define their most urgent needs, “leadership training” has emerged as the one needing special attention. To a large extent it is our growth which has created this need. In many parts of the world where we are having our strongest growth, we also have the most inadequate educational and training opportunities. Where do we expect our next generation of leaders to come from?

It goes without saying that leadership training teaches certain skills that will make leaders effective. They learn to work with modern equipment and to read financial data. They learn to think critically and to have understanding. They learn the value of listening, and they learn how

to treat people with kindness. All of this is important in order to be a good leader—and not just in the Church. But leadership training, from the perspective of our Church, is a very deliberate process of creating a particular type of mind-set. The mind-set of a Seventh-day Adventist leader is different. Yes, he or she will develop all of the above skills; but beyond that, the Seventh-day Adventist leader's mind-set is hallmarked by clearly marked spiritual values and a clearly defined mission. In addition, it is characterized by its ability to see the large picture—its ability to see the whole. Our various constituencies are only in a technical sense very local. In a much more comprehensive sense, our constituencies are universal and unlimited. It is necessary for a Seventh-day Adventist leader to understand that and to accept it. If you are a conference president and you define your responsibilities only toward the one-third of one percent of the total world membership who elected you to be their administrative leader, or if you are a union president and the world you see consists essentially of the two percent of the world membership who elected you and you are satisfied defining your leadership responsibilities as being, all in all, towards this thin segment of the Adventist world, something of greatest importance is missing. When that happens to me, my Adventist world becomes limited to persons I know by first name, and I become provincial and turf-protective. The Adventist world is much bigger than that.

I say again, Seventh-day Adventist leadership is hallmarked by its ability to see the whole—the much larger picture. The God-entrusted responsibility that I have as a union president towards the 98 percent of the world membership who did not take part in my election is understood and accepted. In addition to teaching skills, Adventist Leadership Training must deliberately go about creating that kind of mind-set. God's undivided commitment is to the whole world. My commitment to Him, as an elected leader, is similarly in the interest of the whole world.

With such a mind-set, leadership binds together rather than scatters, looks out rather than in, shares rather than hordes. Is not that, historically, an accurate description of how we have functioned in mission as a Church?

While we have set up a Leadership Training unit at the General Conference and shall, during these meetings, elect a Director who will have his defined creative functions, all of us, as we serve the world Church, are involved in modeling leadership—both by what we teach and by how we act, both by structured presentations and by comments loosely made. So I say to myself and to my colleagues, in any department or service of the General Conference, What sort of Adventist leadership mind-set am I encouraging?

You will find on the agenda a recommendation to set up a Council on Africa. Over the past 30 years, our work in Africa has gone through several structural changes. Some of them have come about in efforts to resolve local challenges. But on the whole, during the 1960's and 1970's, as nations in Africa emerged with their own selfhood, the Church also considered how to

best bring the administration and planning of our work in Africa to the African continent and, with that, a strengthened local sense of ownership in the life and activities of the Church. It has been established, and I think indisputably so, that there is a direct relationship between growth in a given area and the sense of local ownership which the Church in that area has of its own life and witness.

Some twenty years ago our work in Africa was administratively arranged in three divisions: the Africa-Indian Ocean Division, the Afro-Mideast Division, and the Trans-Africa Division. Two of those structures have ceased to be, for one reason or another. In the Africa-Indian Ocean Division there is today, twenty years later, cause to wonder whether the stated reason for its establishment—to develop and strengthen our work in the French-speaking parts of Africa—has succeeded or if it should be addressed differently.

Our Church in Africa is today experiencing rapid growth. During these two decades there has been a 500 percent increase in membership on the continent. The next 500 percent increase in membership in Africa is projected to take place in half of that time, i.e. in one decade. As we all well know, there are huge demands on infrastructures, institutions, pastorates, and leadership. So the time has come for us as a world body of leaders to ask if we have provided our best to care for the future of our church family in Africa. Humanity is by definition in a flux, especially among developing nations. Faith and doctrines may be fixed; structures and ways of doing things are much more adaptable and dextrous.

- Leadership in Africa is part of the challenge
- South Africa is part of the challenge
- Institutions (Higher Education, Healthcare, Publishing) are part of the challenge

The time has come, we believe, for us to take a fresh look at all of that.

I have also hoped that we might be ready to set up at this time an instrument to comprehensively review how we, as a world Church, arrive at our decisions and manage—dare I say “control”—our mushrooming institutions and programs in higher education. In some parts of the world these institutions are owned and operated by unions, but equally often they are division institutions. That means that the General Conference, through its various regional offices (divisions), is involved in these institutions without really being able to give acceptable guidance to the “whether and what” of the institutions and the programs they offer. My question is, Is that an acceptable arrangement for the future? We can validate, inspect, give guidance to, and have some control over perhaps fifty such institutions from this house. What about one hundred and fifty such units? The pressures, particularly in the developing countries of the world—pressures from the church constituencies as well as from governments who, it would seem, are ready to give an official charter to any institution run by the Church—are virtually irresistible. And

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before we know it we have been drawn into something that will tax our resources beyond what we can live with. What guidelines and governing structures can we as a world Church body offer to this development? Is just “wishing them well” good enough?

I understand that you have looked at this while you have been together, but that you would like to think about it for a while. And that may be fine. It is a “big” one, and probably complicated. So I can well understand the hesitancy. Help us not to lose sight of it for we shall meet it again.

I am pleased to have received the report of the first meeting of the Council on Evangelism and Witness. I would have loved to have been there, but it was not to be. Let the world Church family know that the General Conference is involved in and actively pursuing evangelistic thinking and planning, and that we confess this to be our first task as God’s people in these last days. Let them sense how strongly we are committed to that. Too many out there tend to view us as bureaucrats, and not as what we really are—mission-driven servants of our Lord.

And I want to say a word specifically to those of you who do not work here at the world headquarters: Help those of us who do work here to create services and initiatives that fit into the life of the church as you know it from your various corners of the globe. It is not as though we have everything pre-defined, cooked, and canned at this place. We may sound like it at times, but really we do not. I have sat where you sit, and I have walked away from meetings such as these with feelings of frustration and resignation as though it does not make any difference what I say. I know how destructive that can be. I pray that I and my colleagues will be “young” enough in mind to be ready to listen and learn. So please talk to us and help us with that process, and keep us close to the life that you are experiencing in your churches.

In closing let us read from the Psalms, “How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you. . . . Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”—Psalm 139:17, 18, 23, 24, NIV

Alexander F Shvarts, President of the Southern Union Conference, Euro-Asia Division, offered the benediction.

Leo Ranzolin, Chairman  
Matthew A Bediako, Secretary  
Athol H Tolhurst, Editorial Secretary  
Carol E Rasmussen, Recording Secretary

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE  
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September 27, 2000, 8:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

The devotional message entitled "The Unity of the Word of God" was presented by Alberto R Timm, Professor of Historical Theology at Brazil Adventist College in Coelho, Brazil, and Director of the Ellen G White Research Center.

The Christian religion was originally built upon the platform of the Word of God. Christ and His apostles regarded the Scriptures as an accurate revelation of God, with an "underlying unity" among its various teachings (cf. Matt 5:17-20, Luke 24:27, 44, 45, John 5:39). Many church fathers and great reformers of the sixteenth century continued to uphold the unity of the Scriptures. As stated by Gerhard Maier, "the more that the Reformation took *sola scriptura* as its basis, the stronger its interest in the unity of Scripture had to be."<sup>1</sup>

But, unfortunately, the concept of the unity of God's Word was eventually rejected by several Christian denominations of the post-Reformation era. Under the strong influence of the historical criticism of the eighteenth-century Enlightenment, the Bible began to be reread as a mere product of the ancient cultures in which it was conceived. Consequently, the Bible was no longer seen as a book consistent and harmonious in its various teachings, but rather as a complex collection of different sources in disagreement each with the others. An additional blow on that unity appeared in the second half of the twentieth century through the reader-oriented criticism of post-modernism. The new emphasis was no longer on the actual meaning of Scriptures, but on the various pluralistic meanings attributed to it by its readers.

The forefathers of Seventh-day Adventism saw themselves as a people commissioned by God to the end-time eschatological restoration of the unity of the Scriptures. William Miller, the founder and main leader of Millerism, realized that the Bible could be "its own interpreter"<sup>2</sup> only for those who recognized that it has "a general connection through the whole"<sup>3</sup> and that "all its parts" can be harmonized.<sup>4</sup> This view of the Scriptures shaped not only Millerism itself, but also

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<sup>1</sup>Gerhard Maier, *Biblical Hermeneutics* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1994), 188.

<sup>2</sup>William Miller, *Apology and Defense* (Boston: Joshua V Himes, 1845), 6.

<sup>3</sup>William Miller, *Evidence from Scripture and History of the Second Coming of Christ, about the Year 1843* (Troy, NY: Kemble & Hooper, 1836) 5.

<sup>4</sup>Miller, *Apology and Defense*, 5, 6.

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the post-1844 Sabbatarian branch that would be eventually organized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The founders of Seventh-day Adventism perceived the overall unity of the Word of God, and even set it as the hermeneutical foundation upon which they built their doctrinal system.<sup>5</sup> Major Seventh-day Adventist doctrinal expositions continue to emphasize the unity of the Word of God. But such emphasis has been more openly challenged since 1970 by some explicit appeals for culturally-conditioned rereadings of the Scriptures.

If we, as Seventh-day Adventists, want to keep our confidence in the unity of the Word of God, we need to address honestly the following four questions: What basis do we have to speak of agreement within the Scriptures? How do we deal with some major problem areas in which that agreement is not always evident? In which way did the miracle of inspiration safeguard the unity of the Word of God? And what is the role of the Holy Spirit in helping us to recognize that unity?

At this opportunity I would like to share with you a few insights on basic issues involved in each one of these questions.

#### 1. Agreement of Scripture

There are at least two foundational issues that have to be addressed by those interested in understanding the unity of the Scriptures. The first one is the relationship between the Word of God and the contemporary cultures in which the Word was originally delivered. By studying the Scriptures, one can easily perceive a constant dialogue between universal principles and specific applications of those principles within a particular cultural setting. Although the language and other components of some ancient cultures are taken into consideration, such applications of the principles cannot be considered as cultural conditionings that distort the underlying unity of the Word of God. Behind those specific applications are universal principles that transcend any specific culture.

There are several instances in the Scriptures in which God tolerated some kind of human departure from His original plans, as in the cases of polygamy (see Gen 16:1-15; 29:15-30; Genesis 24, etc) and divorce (see Matt 19:3-12; Mark 10:2-12). There are also other cases in which early Christians were counseled to respect some specific cultural elements, as in regard to women wearing a veil while praying or prophesying (1 Cor 11:2-16) and women being silent in

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<sup>5</sup>See P Gerhard Damsteegt, *Foundations of the Seventh-day Adventist Message and Mission* (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm B Eerdmans, 1977); Alberto R Timm, "The Sanctuary and the Three Angels' Messages, 1844-1863: Integrating Factors in the Development of the Seventh-day Adventist Doctrines" (PhD dissertation, Andrews University, 1995).

the church (1 Cor 14:34, 35). But the overall tenor of the Scriptures is that its religion was directly "against its environment."<sup>6</sup>

G Ernest Wright explains that "the Old Testament bears eloquent witness to the fact that Canaanite religion was the most dangerous and disintegrative factor which the faith of Israel had to face" (cf Deut 7:1-6).<sup>7</sup> Floyd V Filson adds that, in the first century AD, the Jews and later the Judaizers "sensed the fact that the Gospel was a different thing from the religious messages which they had known" and that "it was breaking the limits of current Judaism" (cf. Matt 5:20).<sup>8</sup> Thus, it is very important to understand clearly the relationship between the Word of God and the contemporary cultures in which that Word was originally delivered.

The second foundational issue that has to be addressed by those interested in understanding the unity of the Scriptures is the methodological perspective from which one looks into the Scriptures. From the self-testimony of the Scriptures, one can see that the Bible is much closer to the Eastern world, a more systematic and integrative view of reality, than to the Western world, a more analytical and compartmentalized perspective. This is an important hint to be taken into consideration in the process of defining our methodological approach to the Scriptures.

If one starts looking inductively for discrepancies within the Scriptures, he or she will end up "finding differences rather than agreement and unity."<sup>9</sup> As a matter of fact, according to Ellen White, "all who look for hooks to hang their doubts upon will find them" (GC 527). But if, on the other hand, one starts looking deductively for the self-testimony of Scripture, he or she will discover an underlying unity capable of binding together its various parts. Many apparent inconsistencies might be harmonized by moving from the broad thematic frameworks of the Scriptures into their smaller details, rather than by starting already with those details without understanding the basic frameworks to which they belong.

## 2. Problem Areas

There are, however, some major areas of alleged internal "inconsistencies" of the Bible that people use oftentimes to undermine the concept of an underlying unity of the Scriptures.

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<sup>6</sup>See G Ernest Wright, *The Old Testament Against Its Environment*, Studies in Biblical Theology, [No 2] (Chicago: Henry Regnery Co, 1950); Floyd V Filson, *The New Testament Against Its Environment*, Studies in Biblical Theology, No 3 (London: SCM Press, 1950).

<sup>7</sup>Wright, 13.

<sup>8</sup>Filson, 96.

<sup>9</sup>Ekkehardt Mueller, "The Revelation, Inspiration, and Authority of Scripture," *Ministry*, April 2000, 22-23.

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There is not enough time to go into details on this matter, but I would like at least to point out five of these areas and to indicate how those problems might be solved.

a. Tensions between the Old and the New Testaments. Some people speak of several dichotomous tensions between the Old and the New Testaments by referring usually to such subjects as the justice of God versus the love of God and obedience to the law versus salvation by grace. Those tensions can be solved if we recognize clearly the typological relationship between both Testaments and if we acknowledge that justice and love, and law and grace, are concepts developed throughout both Testaments.

b. Imprecatory Psalms. There are those who see the imprecatory Psalms, with their prayers of vengeance and curse for the wicked (see Psalms 35, 58, 69, 109, 137, etc) as directly opposed to the lovely prayers of Christ and Stephen in favor of their own enemies (Luke 23:34, Acts 7:60). In trying to solve this problem, we should not forget that the New Testament quotes the imprecatory Psalms as inspired and authoritative, and that in the Old Testament the enemies of God's covenant people were considered as enemies of God Himself. It seems, therefore, quite evident that those Psalms have to be understood within the same theological framework of the holy-war motif of the Old Testament.

c. Synoptic Problem. Probably no other area has been so controversially discussed in regard to the unity of God's Word as the so-called synoptic problem. We will never be able to fully explain how the first three Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) were written, what has really been their indebtedness to one another, and how to harmonize some minor discrepancies in parallel accounts. Yet, Robert K McIver states in his book titled *The Four Faces of Jesus* that there is no reason to suppose that the data brought out by a careful investigation of the synoptic problem provides any basis for doubting the basic historicity of the events reported by the Gospels. In fact, it probably does quite the opposite. Rather, it is evidence of their reliability.<sup>10</sup>

d. Paul and James on Justification. Another problem area that has not always been clearly understood by some people (including Martin Luther) is the classic tension between Paul's statement that "a man is justified by faith apart from works of the law" (Rom 3:28, RSV) and James' words that "a man is justified by works and not by faith alone" (James 2:24, RSV). But serious studies have shown that this tension can be solved if one keeps in mind that while Paul is responding to the legalistic use of the "works of the law" as a means to be saved (Rom 3:20, RSV; cf. 3:31, 7:12), James is criticizing the antinomian profession of a "dead" faith which is as fruitless as the uncommitted faith of the demons (James 2:17, 19).

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<sup>10</sup>Robert K McIver, *The Four Faces of Jesus: Four Gospel Writers, Four Unique Perspectives, Four Personal Encounters, One Complete Picture* (Nampa, ID: Pacific Press, 2000), 220; see also 183-221.



e. Factual Errors. There are also those who deny the underlying unity of the Word of God under the allegation that it contains a large amount of so-called "factual errors." There is no doubt that many of those alleged errors are not actual errors, but only misunderstandings of the real issues involved. A classic example of this is the way Edwin R Thiele demonstrated in the 1940's that many of the alleged gaps and discrepancies in the biblical chronology of the kings of Israel and Judah could be well synchronized. But, on the other hand, we have to realize that we are unable to solve all the difficulties of the Scriptures.

According to Ellen White: "Men of ability have devoted a lifetime of study and prayer to the search of the Scriptures, and yet there are many portions of the Bible that have not been fully explored. Some passages of Scripture will never be perfectly comprehended until in the future life Christ shall explain them. There are mysteries to be unraveled, statements that human minds cannot harmonize. And the enemy will seek to arouse arguments upon these points, which might better remain undiscussed."—GW 312

Despite the existence of some inaccuracies in minor details, I believe that there are enough evidences to assume that those inaccuracies do not distort the basic concept conveyed by the text in which they appear, and they do not break the underlying unity of the Word of God.

After discovering such major problem areas as the ones we just mentioned, some people might ask: Why did God allow these kinds of problems to remain in the Scriptures? Could He not have straightened some of them out so that our task of interpretation would be much easier? If He could, why then did He not do it? Those are not easy questions to be answered, but I think that there are some important reasons behind God's decision not to straighten out such problem areas Himself.

We have to realize, first of all, that the heavenly message was entrusted by God to "earthen vessels" (2 Cor 4:7, KJV) and communicated to human beings in their imperfect language (1SM 20, 26). Besides this, the Word of God was intended to serve as a light for the path (Ps 119:105) of all human beings of all ages and of all places. As the spiritual bread (Matt 4:4) that testifies of "the living bread which came down from heaven (John 6:51), the Bible had to speak to both rich and poor, learned and unlearned.

If the Bible were a monotonously uniform book, people would read it once or twice and then put it aside as we do with old newspapers. But the Bible has a deep and rich and colorful diversity of harmonious testimonies of rare and distinct beauty that make it so attractive. Although its basic message is perfectly understandable even for common people, the Bible has such a depth of thought that all those scholars and simple people who studied it throughout the ages were not able to exhaust its meaning and to solve all its difficulties. Yet, the existence of

such difficulties was regarded by Ellen White, not as “an argument against the Bible,” but as “a strong evidence of its divine inspiration” (SC 107).

### 3. Miracle of Inspiration

But in which way did the miracle of inspiration safeguard the unity of the Word of God? To what extent might we expect agreement within the Scriptures? Should we assume, as some people do, that the Bible is trustworthy only in matters of salvation?

In the August 1999 issue of *Ministry* I pointed out that “crucial in this discussion is the interrelationship between the content of the inspired writings and their ultimate purpose. There is no doubt that salvation is the major purpose of Scripture (John 5:39). But the real question is: Can we isolate some chronological, historical, and scientific portions of Scripture from its overall salvific purpose? If we were to develop a soteriological-inspiration canon within the general biblical canon, would such an approach not break the unity of God’s Word?

“The Bible claims for itself that it is wholistic in nature, forming an indivisible unity (Matt 4:4; Rev 22:18, 19) and pointing to salvation as its objective (John 20:31; 1 Cor 10:11). Furthermore, Scripture portrays salvation as a broad historical reality, related to all other biblical themes. And it is precisely this overall thematic interrelationship that makes it almost impossible for someone to speak of the Bible, in dichotomous terms, as being reliable in some topics and not in others.

“Because the primary purpose of the Bible is to build up faith for salvation (John 20:31), its historical, biographical, and scientific sections often provide only the specific information needed to achieve this goal (John 20:30; 21:25). In spite of its selectiveness in some areas of human knowledge, it does not mean that the Scriptures are untrustworthy in those areas. ‘All Scripture is given by inspiration of God’ (2 Tim 3:16) and our understanding of inspiration should always uphold this wholistic, all-encompassing scope.”<sup>11</sup>

If we look through the various statements of Fundamental Beliefs produced by Seventh-day Adventists over the years, we will notice that the Scriptures have been qualified in those statements as the only “infallible” (1872, 1889, and 1897),<sup>12</sup> “inerrant” (1897)<sup>13</sup> and “unerring”

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<sup>11</sup> Alberto R Timm, “Understanding Inspiration: The Symphonic and Wholistic Nature of Scripture,” *Ministry*, August 1999, 14.

<sup>12</sup> *A Declaration of Fundamental Principles Taught and Practiced by the Seventh-day Adventist* (Battle Creek, MI: Steam Press of the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association, 1872), 5; “Fundamental Principles of Seventh-day Adventists,” in *Seventh-day Adventist Year Book of Statistics for 1889* (Battle Creek, MI: Review & Herald, 1889), 148; “Fundamental Principles of Seventh-day Adventists,” *Words of Truth Series* (Battle Creek, MI:

(1931)<sup>14</sup> “rule of faith and practice,” and, more recently (1980), as “the trustworthy record of God’s acts in history.”<sup>15</sup>

Without subscribing to Calvinistic inerrancy, I think that we have enough reasons to believe that the Bible is both infallible in its salvific purpose and trustworthy in its whole thematic interrelationship. According to T H Jemison, in the Scriptures “there is unity in its theme—Jesus Christ, His cross and His crown. There is complete harmony of teaching—the doctrines of the Old Testament and those of the New are the same. There is unity of development—a steady progression from the creation to the fall and on to the redemption and the final restoration. There is unity in the co-ordination of the prophecies.”<sup>16</sup>

#### 4. Role of the Holy Spirit

The underlying unity of the Word of God was brought about by the direct role of the Holy Spirit in the production of the Scriptures. Paul says in 2 Timothy 3:16 (RSV) that “all scripture is inspired by God.” Peter adds in 2 Peter 1:20, 21 (NKJV) that “no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”

Since it was the Holy Spirit who generated the unity of the Word of God, only He can enlighten our minds so that we might perceive the wonderful unity that lies beneath the surface of the Bible. Christ promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit would come to guide them “into all the truth” (John 16:13, RSV). Paul explains in 1 Corinthians 2:13 (NKJV) that “the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.” Ellen White adds that “God can teach you more in one moment by His Holy Spirit than you could learn from the great men of the earth.—TM 119

Ellen White touches the core of the problem of agreement versus disagreement within the Scriptures in the following two statements:

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Review & Herald), No 5 - Extra, July 1897, 3-4.

<sup>13</sup>Fundamental Principles of Seventh-day Adventists,” *Words of Truth Series*, 3-4.

<sup>14</sup>“Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists,” in *1931 Year Book of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination*, (Washington, DC: Review and Herald, 1931), 377.

<sup>15</sup>“Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists - *Church Manual Revision*,” *Adventist Review*, May 1, 1980, 23.

<sup>16</sup>T H Jemison, *Christian Beliefs: Fundamental Biblical Teachings for Seventh-day Adventist College Classes* (Boise, ID: Pacific Press, 1959), 17.

“There are many things apparently difficult or obscure, which God will make plain and simple to those who thus seek an understanding of them. But without the guidance of the Holy Spirit we shall be continually liable to wrest the Scriptures or to misinterpret them. There is much reading of the Bible that is without profit and in many cases a positive injury. When the word of God is opened without reverence and without prayer; when the thoughts and affections are not fixed upon God, or in harmony with His will, the mind is clouded with doubts; and in the very study of the Bible, skepticism strengthens. The enemy takes control of the thoughts, and he suggests interpretations that are not correct. Whenever men are not in word and deed seeking to be in harmony with God, then, however learned they may be, they are liable to err in their understanding of Scripture, and it is not safe to trust to their explanations. Those who look to the Scriptures to find discrepancies, have not spiritual insight. With distorted vision they will see many causes for doubt and unbelief in things that are really plain and simple.”—SC 110, 111

“There is not always perfect order or apparent unity in the Scriptures. The miracles of Christ are not given in exact order, but are given just as the circumstances occurred, which called for this divine revealing of the power of Christ. The truths of the Bible are as pearls hidden. They must be searched, dug out by painstaking effort. Those who take only a surface view of the Scriptures will, with their superficial knowledge, which they think is very deep, talk of the contradictions of the Bible, and question the authority of the Scriptures. But those whose hearts are in harmony with truth and duty will search the Scriptures with a heart prepared to receive divine impressions. The illuminated soul sees a spiritual unity, one great golden thread running through the whole, but it requires patience, thought, and prayer to trace out the precious golden thread.”—1SM 20

### Summary and Conclusion

Today, unfortunately, “the notion is widely prevalent that biblical revelation exhibits no unity.”<sup>17</sup> The strong waves of the historical criticism of the Enlightenment and of the reader-oriented criticism of post-modernism are trying to undermine the *sola scriptura* principle. Many Christians today have lost their confidence in the Bible, and are rereading it from the perspective of their own human traditions (traditionalists), or human reason (rationalists), or personal experience (existentialists), or even modern culture (culturalists). Tired of the dryness of such human ideologies, many people are looking for a safer ground on which to anchor their faith.

God has raised up the Seventh-day Adventist Church, within the challenges of these “last days” (1 Tim 3:1), to restore the unity and the normative authority of His Word (see GC 593-602). The mission of this Church is well described in the prophetic statement that in the last days

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<sup>17</sup>Maier, 187

God would "have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms."—GC 595

There is no doubt that God has entrusted us with the mission of showing to the world (1) that there is agreement within the Scriptures; (2) that there are honest solutions to those major problem areas in which that agreement is not always evident; (3) that the miracle of inspiration safeguarded the underlying unity of the Word of God; and (4) that the Holy Spirit who generated that unity can also enlighten our minds to recognize it.

This end-time restoration task is the very core of our Adventist identity and the platform upon which our doctrinal system of "present truth" was built. There is no way of replacing our prophetic hermeneutical foundation without disintegrating our system of beliefs. Therefore, our understanding of the Scriptures cannot be subserviently exposed to the drying winds of human theories (Eph 4:14), but it has to be grounded on and protected by the immovable Word of God. According to the prophet Isaiah, "The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever."—Isa 40:8, RSV

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Calvin B Rock called the second business session of the 2000 Annual Council to order.

Leon Wellington, President of the West Indies Union Conference, opened the business session with prayer.

SEC/00AC to CBR(DIV)

323-00G THEMES FOR THE 2000 TO 2005 QUINQUENNIAL

VOTED, To approve themes for the 2000 to 2005 quinquennium. Each theme will be presented at the time of Annual Council with the recommendation that divisions, unions, conferences, and fields continue the emphasis. The schedule shall be as follows:

2000 - 2001	United by the Word of God
2001 - 2002	United in Worship of God
2002 - 2003	United in Wonder of His Grace
2003 - 2004	United in Warmth of Fellowship
2004 - 2005	United in Witness of Truth

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## MISSION STATEMENT OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

The Mission Statement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was read by the Secretary of the business session.

00AC to MAB

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Matthew A Bediako, Secretary of the General Conference, presented the Secretary's Report, as follows:

I would like to take this opportunity once more to welcome all who are attending this Annual Council. We thank the Almighty Father who has brought us safely to this place.

Our special welcome goes to the division lay representatives. We are glad to see that many of you managed to get here. Because of the short time we had between the actions of the divisions by which you were selected and the opening of this Annual Council, we were not sure that you would receive the invitation in time to secure visas to travel. We had to rely on the telephone, e-mail, and faxes instead of the normal mail to contact some of you.

Since we have your addresses now, we believe we will be able to reach you much faster in the future. Please remember to inform us whenever there is a change of address. We know changes take place on the union level after a General Conference Session. Again, we appeal to the division administration to inform us if there are changes.

While some of you are General Conference Executive Committee members by reappointment, many are attending Annual Council for the first time. There is a plan to have an orientation session for all new committee members. This will take place today in the General Conference cafeteria at 5:30 p.m. We are determined to make you feel at home and to assist you in discharging your responsibilities as members of the Executive Committee.

At the last General Conference Session it was a real embarrassment to all of us when fewer than 30 percent of the delegates were present during the business sessions. We want to encourage all members of the Executive Committee to attend all these meetings. The Church has placed great confidence in you as a representative who will speak on her behalf at these meetings. A lot of expenses are incurred for you to be here. We appeal to you all to arrive promptly and stay throughout these meetings.

We were all blessed by the Lord at the recent General Conference Session in Toronto. On behalf of the administration, we want to thank all of you who worked so hard to make it a success. I received a letter from a friend which stated:

“The General Conference Session is now a memory. In many ways the results are positive and hopeful. Now is the time for the real planning, work, and implementation. What we do every moment now at our post of duty will affect Adventist identity for years to come and maybe forever. What a frightening thought! People in and outside of the church watch and discern the times and pray for us. God watches and provides His grace for the tasks ahead so we can face the unknown with confidence.”

The theme for this Annual Council, as you have noticed, is “United by the Word of God.” Since our president was elected in 1999, he has identified “unity” as the greatest challenge facing our Church. You have heard him state this in all his public statements and his sermons. This quinquennium unity will be our first priority. We will talk about it, work for it, and pray for it.

There will be five devotional presentations this week dealing with:

1. The Unity of the Word of God
2. The Meaning of Unity in the Word of God
3. The Word of God and Unity of Doctrine
4. The Word of God and Unity of Decision
5. The Word of God and Unity in Diversity

I invite you to be present for every one of these devotional messages.

#### Tribute and Introduction of Secretariat Staff

During the last General Conference Session several changes took place within both the General Conference and Division Secretariats. Before I introduce our new staff, I would like to take the opportunity to pay special tribute to those who are no longer working in Secretariat.

1. G Ralph Thompson. An outstanding statesman and spiritual leader, he served for 20 years as Secretary of the General Conference. During those years he built a strong Secretariat team, to the point that it became the favorite place for Presidential to recruit its staff. Thank you, Elder Thompson, for your dedication and hard work. As I mentioned at the Session, the shoes you have left behind are still too big for me.

2. Maurice T Battle. How can we get along in Secretariat without the “duty officer,” as he was affectionately called by Secretariat? He spent 52½ years of his life working for the

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Church, serving as a missionary in Africa, the Middle East, and England, and then as an Associate Secretary of the General Conference for the last 22 years. Elder Battle will retire next month.

3. Mario Veloso. Before coming to the General Conference, he served as Secretary in the South American Division. In 1990 he was elected as an Associate Secretary at the General Conference Session. He will be remembered for the work he did on the *Church Manual*. He was never satisfied until the final product came off the press. Dr Veloso has accepted a call to the Euro-Asia Division as the Vice President for Institutions and Education.

4. Larry R Colburn. He has not left the General Conference, but he was drafted by Presidential to serve as Administrative Assistant to the President. Elder Colburn was responsible for the Northern Asia-Pacific and Southern Asia-Pacific Divisions. He was also responsible for arranging committee meetings during Spring Meeting and Annual Council.

Some of our colleagues on the division level either retired or accepted different assignments. Please convey our appreciation to these individuals for their contribution to the cause of God and especially to Secretariat.

Now I have the privilege to introduce to you our elected and appointed staff at the General Conference Secretariat, with a reference to some of their responsibilities:

Athal H Tolhurst, Undersecretary - South Pacific Division, General Conference *Working Policy*, Institute of World Mission Coordinator

Harold W Baptiste, Associate Secretary - Secretary of the North American Division, Credentials and Licenses, Authorized Meetings

Agustin Galicia, Associate Secretary - Inter-American Division, South American Division, Aviation

Theodore T Jones, Associate Secretary - Eastern Africa Division, Southern Asia Division

Vernon B Parmenter, Associate Secretary - Adventist Volunteer Center, Mission Emphasis, *Church Manual*

Claude Sabot, Associate Secretary - Africa-Indian Ocean Division, Euro-Asia Division, Trans-European Division



Donald R Sahly, Associate Secretary - Euro-Africa Division, Northern Asia-Pacific Division, Southern Asia-Pacific Division, Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies

Elaine A Robinson, Assistant Secretary - Interdivision Personnel Records and Statistics  
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)

In 1999 ADRA was active in more than 120 countries and benefitted 19,310,324 people. More than 2,000 projects were implemented, with about \$160,000,000 of aid or assistance given. Over \$38,000,000 worth of food and commodities were distributed.

ADRA joined seven other American humanitarian and development agencies in 1999 to undertake a pilot initiative to boost potato production and improve food security in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. ADRA is also playing a large part in organizing food-for-work activities there.

At the request of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, ADRA Switzerland is sponsoring a project to build and install solar kitchens for cooking. The kitchens are being installed in various children's institutions, including orphanages, hospitals, and daycare centers.

ADRA continues to provide shelter, food, water, and other items to those still coping with the effects of the series of earthquakes and after shocks that rocked Turkey and left thousands homeless.

#### Adventist World Radio (AWR)

The past year has been a time of unprecedented growth for Adventist World Radio, the international radio ministry of the Church. In one Southeast Asia country, a group of more than 20,000 people, along with 114 of their pastors, have begun keeping the Sabbath and have stated their desire to become members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Their only contact with the Church thus far has been through AWR programs which are broadcast daily into their country. On October 23 church leaders will meet with the leaders of these people to discuss how this large group of individuals can become members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Responding to the government's desire for assurance that large antennas will not adversely affect bird migration patterns in the region, final discussions continue between AWR's attorneys and government officials in Argentina, Italy. This is an unexpected delay in the implementation of the agreement reached in July 2000. The Euro-Africa Division and the Italian Union continue to provide strong assistance. We anticipate that satisfactory terms for this new

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provision of the agreement will be in place within the next few weeks and construction can begin.

This new station will reach a total of 47 countries and allow programs to be broadcast in 15 new languages, bringing the list of broadcast languages to nearly 75. The Argenta station footprint reaches into the heart of the 10/40 window. One out of every three people on the globe will be able to hear the new station.

#### Global Mission

In the past 10 years over 33,000 new churches and congregations have been established. Of this number, Global Mission Pioneers have established more than 22,000. There are more than 27,000 Global Mission Pioneers planting churches around the world. By the end of 2002, it is hoped that there will be more than 40,000 pioneers.

On September 11, 2000, a contractor with Maranatha Volunteers International entered Afghanistan to supervise construction of a Loma Linda University Center, located in the heart of Kabul University Medical School. He will also construct housing for Loma Linda personnel who will teach in the medical school, hold clinics, provide humanitarian programs, and teach English. The construction is expected to be completed early next year.

Global Mission reports, "Thousands of places around the world now have Seventh-day Adventist worshipers where previously there were none. We have just begun. There are millions more to be reached by the gospel. Who can estimate the challenges and opportunities of the 10/40 window? However, we have nothing to fear as we have ample evidence that God is blessing our Global Mission program. This we do know, as long as we have been willing to go, God has provided the people, the method, and the means. He will not fail us because it is His work."

#### Impact Toronto 2000

Representing more than 35 countries, 250 young adults from all the divisions of the world participated in Impact Toronto 2000, a young adult evangelism training event which was held during the General Conference Session. There were two main goals for this event:

1. To train young adults in ministry.
2. To inspire young adults to continue their ministry at home.

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For ten days these young adults learned street evangelism skills in 17 different ministries. Training took place in the morning, and in the afternoon they put into practice what they had learned. In the evening the young adults participated in two evangelistic meetings. From these meetings, as well as the door-to-door and prayer ministry, more than 90 people requested Bible study and baptism.

At the youth rally on July 8, youth and young adults contributed more than C\$4,500 in order to retain two individuals to do a follow-up.

### Evangelistic Activities

Mark A Finley and his team continue to hold the ACTS 2000 series. So far the series has been held in the Philippines, Ghana, Brazil, Romania, Chile, India, and in Los Angeles, California, in the United States of America. Over 1.25 million people have attended these meetings, and about 125,000 of them have been baptized. The current ACTS 2000 series is being held in the Republic of Korea.

Net New York '99 featured Doug Batchelor of *Amazing Facts*, and there have been other satellite evangelistic meetings in other divisions.

The explosion of interest in evangelism has not been limited to satellite series alone. There is rekindled interest in evangelism among pastors and members throughout the world. Pastors are holding meetings in local churches. Full-time evangelists are working in cities. Tent meetings are being conducted by workers and laypersons. Schools and colleges are leading their students to Christ. People are engaged in door-to-door visitation and Bible studies. The two African divisions report very successful women's ministries campaigns.

The North American Division had a good harvest of souls. More than 40,700 people joined the Church during 1999.

The gospel is going to more people and more places than ever before, and the result is a growing Church.

### World Membership—1999

"The time has come when through God's messengers the scroll is being unrolled to the world. The truth contained in the first, second, and third angels' messages must go to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people; it must lighten the darkness of every continent, and extend to the islands of the sea. There must be no delay in this work.

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“Our watchword is to be, Onward, ever onward! Angels of heaven will go before us to prepare the way. Our burden for the regions beyond can never be laid down till the whole earth is lightened with the glory of the Lord.”—GW 470

Seventh-day Adventists have taken this challenge seriously and have claimed the promises of God. As a result of the combined efforts of ministers and laity, men and women, young and old, the Lord has blessed us in a wonderful way. The report given to me indicates that world Church membership as of December 31, 1999 was 10,939,182. Total accessions for the year—baptisms and professions of faith—were 1,090,848, giving us 2,988.62 souls added to the Church each day.

Membership—July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000

As of June 30, 2000, total world membership was 11,336,026. Baptisms and professions of faith for the past four quarters were 1,160,065. This means that on the average 3,176 people joined the remnant Church each day.

Last year at Annual Council it was reported that there was one Seventh-day Adventist for every 570 people in the world. Currently, there is one Seventh-day Adventist for every 535 people now living.

While we praise God for leading His Church to this achievement, we should be mindful that over 182,000 individuals were dropped or reported missing. We need to pray for them, love them, and encourage them to come back.

While we rejoice in the growth of the Church, we need to be reminded that growth is happening in many regions which are considered Christian regions. We are yet to have any meaningful impact in the 10/40 window. The work among these people groups and other religions does not belong to any particular division. It is the challenge of the world Church. Our mission is not accomplished until the 10/40 window is saturated with the gospel. It calls for a united effort of the world Church in personnel and resources to achieve this noble objective.

The Inter-American Division has already surpassed the two million member mark. It is hoped that the Eastern Africa Division will reach the two million member mark this month. Brazil continues to have the largest number of Seventh-day Adventists within any country, with a membership of 936,575 at the end of 1999.

## Interdivision Personnel Departures

In your agenda book you will find the statistics to which I now refer regarding interdivision employees, appointees, and volunteers.

- Current calls as of August 31, 2000 add up to a total of 100 for employees and 226 for volunteers.
- Departures for Interdivision Service Around the World—1999. Out of the total of 415 interdivision employees, 149 are new and 266 are returning.
- Interdivision Departures—December 31, 1999. The summary of Interdivision Personnel Departures includes both interdivision and intradivision employees, as well as those working for Adventist Volunteer Service. There were 149 new appointees and 266 furlougees. In addition, there were 1,355 volunteers. This makes a grand total of 1,770 departures.
- Current Interdivision Employees from NAD. There were a total of 533 interdivision employees from the North American Division as of December 31, 1999.
- Current Employees from Divisions Other than NAD. There were a total of 554 interdivision employees from other divisions as of December 31, 1999. These statistics are a healthy sign for the world Church—people going from everywhere to everywhere.

## Adventist Volunteer Center

The General Conference Adventist Volunteer Center has seen steady growth over the last three years. It processed 1,355 interdivision volunteers in 1999, a 31 percent increase over 1998 and nearly double the increase seen in the previous year. The North American Division and the South Pacific Division stand out as leaders sharing the bulk of these figures. It is interesting to note that the North American Division sent more volunteers overseas in 1999 than in any other year on record.

It is encouraging to see that a number of the other divisions such as the Euro-Africa Division, Trans-European Division, and Eastern Africa Division, as well as the Southern Africa Union Conference, are beginning to send significant numbers of volunteers overseas to serve. Future reports will include statistics showing the total number of volunteers serving in any one year. Present statistics do not include volunteers choosing to extend their period of service for an additional year.

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Current challenges include the need for some divisions to see the value of using volunteers and to submit requests for their services; and, at the same time, for churches to sponsor the expenses of those willing to serve so that the financial burden is shifted from the host division to the home division. The former is probably dependent upon the latter. The volunteer program will most definitely grow when divisions appoint individuals who have more time to devote to its promotion.

In conclusion, Matthew A Bediako introduced the following Division Secretaries and asked them a few questions concerning their previous and current responsibilities.

Paul S Ratsara	Africa-Indian Ocean Division
Blasious M Ruguri	Eastern Africa Division
Carlos Puyol	Euro-Africa Division
Michael F Kaminsky	Euro-Asia Division
Juan O Perla	Inter-American Division
Stanley Ng	Northern Asia-Pacific Division
Raul E Gomez	South American Division
Barry D Oliver	South Pacific Division
K J Moses	Southern Asia Division
G T Ng	Southern Asia-Pacific Division
Reinder Bruinsma	Trans-European Division

VOTED, To accept the Secretary's Report.

00AC to MAB

## STATISTICAL REPORT

Bert B Haloviak, Director of the Office of Archives and Statistics, presented the Statistical Report.

The rate of baptisms and professions of faith for the past four quarters was 11.06 percent. That means that for every 100 members in the Church at the beginning of the four quarters, 11 new believers joined. The last time there was such a high accession rate was in 1933 when the rate was 11.31 percent.

It is significant that the 1930 Autumn Council had consciously acted to foster evangelism. It passed a six-page statement and included the following: "God has raised up a people and commissioned them to herald this truth to men everywhere. . . . Our chief work, consequently, is

the work of evangelism. . . . Such a work of aggressive evangelism which brings souls to Christ and enlarges the church, is altogether indispensable at this time, if God's purpose for this message is to be realized."

Delegates to the 1931 Autumn Council made this observation and passed another resolution: "Whereas, since the launching of the movement for greater evangelism two years ago, unprecedented gains have been made in our church membership in all the world . . . . We recommend, That during 1933 the movement for larger evangelism be pressed forward with all possible energy and determination."

In 1933 there was one Seventh-day Adventist for every 5,896 people in the world. Today there is one member for every 535 people. Current statistics seem to confirm our belief that God is indeed leading a movement commissioned with a message with end-time urgency. The Church growth percentage of 8.04 is the highest since the 1920's.

Evidence abounds that God's Spirit today, as on the day of Pentecost, and as in 1933, convinces Seventh-day Adventists to share the good news of salvation with people throughout the world. And the results of that sharing continue to amaze us.

VOTED, To accept the Statistical Report.

## TREASURY INTRODUCTIONS

Robert L Rawson, Treasurer of the General Conference, introduced the Undertreasurer, Associate Treasurers, Assistant Treasurers, Controller, and Special Assistant to the Treasurer, as well as the Division Treasurers.

TRE/00AC to REL

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT—AUGUST 2000

Robert E Lemon, Undertreasurer, pointed out items of interest in the interim year-to-date Financial Statement for August 2000

VOTED, To record receipt of the Financial Statement for August 2000.

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00AC to RLR

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Robert L. Rawson, Treasurer of the General Conference, presented the Treasurer's Report, as follows:

As we begin a new quinquennium it is a time to focus on directions for the future. A major focus for the next five years will be the development of a strategic planning process that integrates the planning process with the administrative practices of the Church, a process that assures the resources of the Church are focused on those issues identified as central to the achievement of the mission of the Church. During this quinquennium the resource allocation system of the Church must be driven by the desired outcomes of the strategic planning process. Attention must be given to the issues of planning, efficiency, and accountability.

If the blessing of the Holy Spirit during the past five years is any indication of the future, then by 2005 this Church will be a Church of ever more exceptional diversity made up of more than 16 million members located on every continent and representing nearly every nation on earth. A major concern will be the recruitment, preparation, remuneration, and retention of leadership capable of creating, articulating, and implementing the worldwide vision called for by Matthew 28:19, 20, within the moral and ethical framework of the Bible.

The following words will be as true for the next five years as when they were originally penned. "The greatest want of the world is the want of men—men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall."—Ed 57

Issues of concern that will require focus for the next five years are the need to:

1. Develop systems and policies that ensure that resource allocation is mission driven. All strategies, initiatives, plans, goals, and objectives are to be held accountable to the mission.
2. Develop appropriate and clear communication channels to share accurate and easily understood financial information with all groups.
3. Develop initiatives, processes, and programs that will recruit, train, and retain adequate numbers of qualified personnel, including treasury personnel, with suitable levels of remuneration.



4. Develop systems, procedures, and policies that lay a foundation for recognizing and responding with clarity and consistency to issues of ethics and integrity.
5. Develop a wage scale philosophy that is in accordance with the biblical injunctions of simplicity and sacrifice and yet is sensitive to the issues of fairness and market and economic realities.
6. Develop financial systems and administrative structures that are efficient, effective, and responsive to a rapidly changing world environment.

As we move into this quinquennium, we do so from a strong financial base. As reported during the recent General Conference Session in Toronto, the Church has much for which to be thankful. Tithe and offerings have continued to show increases and the current year 2000 is no exception, as just reported by Robert E Lemon.

The future requires that current methods of allocating resources become responsive to the outcomes of the strategic planning process. All budgets and the release of funding must be developed and directed by the strategic plan. We can no longer afford budget development and resource allocation based on the slogan of the moment or the idea of the day. Good stewardship requires that the resources of the Church be focused in those areas identified as desired outcomes of the strategic planning process.

VOTED, To accept the Treasurer's Report.

FinPl&Bud00AC/00AC to REL(DIV)

GENERAL CONFERENCE BUDGET - 2001

VOTED, To approve the 2001 General Conference Budget as presented. (See pages 102-118.)

Calvin B Rock, Chairman  
Agustin Galicia, Secretary  
Athol H Tolhurst, Editorial Secretary  
Carol E Rasmussen, Recording Secretary

## General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists 2001 Appropriations Budget

### Summary:

		2000			2001		
Income		Tithe	Non-Tithe	Total	Tithe	Non-Tithe	Total
	Unallocated	0	0	0	0	0	0
S-62	Ingathering	0	0	0	0	0	0
S-70	Tithe	65,887,440	0	65,887,440	66,365,812	0	66,365,812
S-73	Unrestricted Offerings	0	40,270,000	40,270,000	0	41,355,000	41,355,000
S-74	Unrestricted Donations	0	592,500	592,500	0	500,000	500,000
S-76	Unrestrict Invest Earn	0	3,685,000	3,685,000	0	3,225,000	3,225,000
S-77	Endowments	0	0	0	0	0	0
S-79	Miscellaneous Income	0	213,200	213,200	0	73,200	73,200
		<u>65,887,440</u>	<u>44,760,700</u>	<u>110,648,140</u>	<u>66,365,812</u>	<u>45,153,200</u>	<u>111,519,012</u>
S-71	Additional Tithe	25,000,000	(25,000,000)	0	25,000,000	(25,000,000)	0
S-95	Trfs fr Other Functions	(4,477,450)	4,477,450	0	(4,389,310)	4,389,310	0
S-96	Trfs From Other Funds	0	500,000	500,000	0	500,000	500,000
		<u>86,409,990</u>	<u>24,738,150</u>	<u>111,148,140</u>	<u>86,976,502</u>	<u>25,042,510</u>	<u>112,019,012</u>
<b>Expense</b>							
I.	GC Operations	24,422,355	0	24,422,355	24,981,031	0	24,981,031
II.	GC Administered Funds	4,503,000	1,128,264	5,631,264	4,021,708	1,174,784	5,196,492
III.	IDE Funding	19,239,823	0	19,239,823	19,239,823	0	19,239,823
IV.	Appropriations	38,044,812	21,908,386	59,953,198	38,733,940	22,096,226	60,830,166
V.	Special Funding	0	1,901,500	1,901,500	0	1,771,500	1,771,500
VI.	Ingathering Appropriations	0	0	0	0	0	0
		<u>86,209,990</u>	<u>24,938,150</u>	<u>111,148,140</u>	<u>86,976,502</u>	<u>25,042,510</u>	<u>112,019,012</u>

**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
2001 Appropriations Budget  
Tithe**

<b>Unallocated Income</b>	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
<b>Schedule 70 - Tithe</b>			
Tithe - Divisions	4,150,341	4,100,000	4,980,000
Tithe - Division-Blocked	(975,364)	(1,235,000)	(982,500)
Tithe - Recovery of Blocked	1,034,355	1,350,000	1,000,000
Tithe - IDE	714,648	750,000	708,000
Tithe - So Africa Special	380,373	360,000	380,000
Tithe - NSD (Auditing Adjustment)	0	331,440	444,732
Tithe from NAD (1999/2000 - 10.72% & 2001 - 10.0%)	65,415,109	61,050,000	61,021,000
Less Retirement Adjustment (1999 - .10% & 2000 - .15% & 2001 - .20%)	(610,216)	(854,000)	(1,220,420)
Tithe Miscellaneous	<u>43,448</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>
	<u>70,152,694</u>	<u>65,887,440</u>	<u>66,365,812</u>

**Schedule 71 - Additional Funds**

Additional Tithe to GC	24,754,522	25,000,000	25,000,000
Non-Tithe Appropriations	<u>(24,754,522)</u>	<u>(25,000,000)</u>	<u>(25,000,000)</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

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<b>Unallocated Income</b>	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
<b>Schedule 73 - Unrestricted Offerings</b>			
World Mission Fund - OS	25,908,828	26,500,000	25,900,000
World Mission Fund - OS Blocked	(5,236,889)	(6,600,000)	(5,250,000)
World Mission Fund - Sweden SS	0	0	0
World Mission Fd - Recovery Blocked	6,592,446	3,950,000	4,325,000
WMF - OS - Trf to 13th Sabbath	(947,012)	(900,000)	(950,000)
WMF - OS - Investment	(472,884)	(490,000)	(475,000)
WMF - OS - Trf to GM Ann Sac	(1,799,008)	(1,800,000)	(1,800,000)
	<u>24,045,481</u>	<u>20,660,000</u>	<u>21,750,000</u>
 World Mission Fund - NA	 21,934,085	 22,000,000	 21,900,000
WMF - NA - Trf to 13th Sabbath	(902,964)	(900,000)	(905,000)
WMF - NA - Trf to SS Invest	(484,358)	(490,000)	(490,000)
WMF - Ann Sacrifice	(861,264)	(1,000,000)	(900,000)
	<u>19,685,499</u>	<u>19,610,000</u>	<u>19,605,000</u>
	<u>43,730,980</u>	<u>40,270,000</u>	<u>41,355,000</u>
<b>Schedule 74 - Unrestricted Donations</b>			
Donations, Miscellaneous	632,792	592,500	500,000
Donations, Unspecified	<u>684,581</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>1,317,373</u>	<u>592,500</u>	<u>500,000</u>

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Non-Tithe**

<b>Unallocated Income</b>	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
<b>Schedule 76 - Unrestrict Invest Earnings</b>			
Investment Earnings	2,460,490	2,685,000	2,225,000
Capital Gains	2,058,699	1,000,000	1,000,000
Recognized Unreal Apprec of Investments	<u>(1,240,729)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>3,278,460</u>	<u>3,685,000</u>	<u>3,225,000</u>
<b>Schedule 77 - Endowments</b>			
Endowments - Non-Tithe	<u>23,677</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Schedule 79 - Miscellaneous Income</b>			
Lease Inc - SW Bell Antenna	13,200	13,200	13,200
Miscellaneous	6,423	0	0
Royalties	<u>210,782</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
	<u>230,405</u>	<u>213,200</u>	<u>73,200</u>

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<b>Unallocated Income</b>	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
<b>Schedule 95 - Trfs to/fr Other Functions</b>			
Offerings for Exchange - From Other Functions	(3,444,263)	(4,477,450)	(4,389,310)
Offerings Exchanged - To Other Functions	3,444,263	4,477,450	4,389,310
Securities Fluctuation Fund	<u>2,052,549</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>5,496,812</u>	<u>4,477,450</u>	<u>4,389,310</u>
	<u>2,052,549</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Schedule 96 - Transfers from Other Funds</b>			
Annuity Fund	36,290	0	0
Matured Trusts and Wills (Estates Fnd)	<u>961,781</u>	<u>500,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>
	<u>998,071</u>	<u>500,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>

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Tithe**

	Actual 1999	Budget 2000	Budget 2001
<b>I. Office Operating</b>			
[Cap: 4.25% of world tithe]	0	24,422,355	24,981,031
Less Adjustments	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Available for Operations	<u>0</u>	<u>24,422,355</u>	<u>24,981,031</u>
<b>II. GC Administered Funds</b>			
PRE OMA SS Offering Promotion	200,000	200,000	200,000
COMSTRAT	5,820	0	0
White Research Centers	100,000	100,000	0
Blocked Currency Expanded	2,802	0	0
Elmshaven Repairs & Renovations	20,000	20,000	20,000
Elmshaven Supervision Assistance	8,000	8,000	8,000
World Dept. Special Projects	346,782	200,000	400,000
Annual Council	103,005	100,000	110,000
Annual Council Travel	449,468	500,000	500,000
Council on Evangelism	0	0	25,000
Leadership Training	0	0	15,000
Strategic Planning	0	0	15,000
Commissions/Councils/Taskforces	0	0	120,000
Exchange, Monetary	(512,488)	100,000	100,000
GC Session	2,800,000	2,000,000	1,000,000
GC Session 2000	0	0	0
Offerings Promotion - General	(33,689)	100,000	100,000
Pre Media Opportunity	200,000	200,000	200,000
Pre Video Production	600,000	600,000	833,708
Spring Meeting	(105,818)	100,000	100,000
Satellite Television (WHAAT)	275,000	275,000	275,000
Required Working CAP	<u>10,092,521</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total GC Admin Funds - Tithe</b>	<u>14,551,403</u>	<u>4,503,000</u>	<u>4,021,708</u>

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<b>II. GC Administered Funds</b>	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
GRI Specials	32,560	0	0
Contingencies:			
General	1,038,595	778,264	724,784
Crisis/Security	3,762	50,000	50,000
Legal	<u>1,910</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
	1,044,267	928,264	874,784
Blocked Currency Expenditures	1,769,824	0	0
OGC Spcl Counsel & Litigation	213,459	200,000	300,000
Required Working Capital	(6,094,488)	0	0
Other Assets/Loans	<u>1,662,240</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total GC Adm Fnds Non-Tithe</b>	<u>(1,372,138)</u>	<u>1,128,264</u>	<u>1,174,784</u>
<b>Total GC Administered Funds</b>	<u>13,179,265</u>	<u>5,631,264</u>	<u>5,196,492</u>



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<b>III. IDE Funding</b>	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
IDE Costs	14,694,975	17,721,279	17,577,405
IDE Trips - East	318,191	410,759	425,933
IDE Trips - West	266,062	302,506	313,385
IDE Administration	<u>796,221</u>	<u>805,279</u>	<u>923,100</u>
<b>TOTAL IDE Funding</b>	<b><u>16,075,449</u></b>	<b><u>19,239,823</u></b>	<b><u>19,239,823</u></b>

**IV. Appropriations**

**Separate Board Units-Tithe**

ADRA Audits	0	160,000	0
Adventist World Radio	244,739	264,318	274,890
Geoscience Research Institute	635,371	669,664	669,664
GRI Contingency	0	0	21,325
White Estate	866,757	938,551	938,551
White Estate Contingency	0	0	51,813
White Estate Branches	256,263	274,054	383,217
Auditing Services	650,000	650,000	650,000
Auditing Service Divisions	<u>0</u>	<u>3,123,922</u>	<u>3,794,126</u>
<b>Sub-total Separate Brd Units-Tithe</b>	<b>2,653,130</b>	<b>6,080,509</b>	<b>6,783,586</b>

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<b>IV. Appropriations: (Cont'd)</b>	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
<b>Divisions - Tithe</b>			
Appropriations, Tithe Operating:			
Africa-Indian Ocean Division	2,723,799	2,536,265	2,536,265
Eastern Africa Division	2,900,426	2,711,762	2,667,426
Euro-Africa Division - Gen	2,766,936	2,569,817	2,518,421
ESD Affairs Committee	907,013	955,187	1,002,946
Inter-America Division	1,478,897	916,402	843,194
Northern Asia Pacific Division	1,262,697	1,339,090	1,406,045
South American Division	2,065,883	1,669,086	1,669,086
South Pacific Division	1,349,000	960,974	960,974
Southern Asia Division	1,638,802	1,556,034	1,587,155
Southern Asia Pacific Division	2,360,935	1,967,965	1,928,606
Trans-European Division - Gen	2,743,527	2,522,216	2,597,882
Southern Africa Union Conf	633,471	575,225	575,225
	<u>22,831,386</u>	<u>20,280,023</u>	<u>20,293,225</u>
Southern Africa Affairs Committee	380,373	360,000	380,000
TED Special	1,150,000	1,150,000	1,050,000
Excess Aviation & Liability Ins	873,037	880,000	900,000
	<u>25,234,796</u>	<u>22,670,023</u>	<u>22,623,225</u>
<b>Sub-total Divisions - Tithe</b>	<b>25,234,796</b>	<b>22,670,023</b>	<b>22,623,225</b>

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**IV. Appropriations: (Cont'd)**

	<u>Actual 1999</u>	<u>Budget 2000</u>	<u>Budget 2001</u>
<b>General Church Programs</b>			
Evangelism	100,000	100,000	100,000
Graduate Scholarships	180,000	180,000	100,000
Global Mission (Const. Oversight)	100,000	100,000	100,000
Hope 2000 Project	<u>100,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Sub-total General Church Programs	480,000	380,000	300,000
<b>Publishing Programs</b>			
AR Monthly Edition Subsidy	239,133	248,214	257,734
AR World Edition	50,000	50,000	50,000
Ministry Magazine	84,000	84,000	84,000
Ministry Magazine Subsidy	0	0	66,314
YTH AMICUS	89,000	95,266	102,252
Jrnl Of Adventist Educ - English Edition	100,000	100,000	100,000
Jrnl Adv Educ - International Edition	20,000	20,000	20,000
S.D.A. Periodical Index	5,500	5,500	5,500
Commentary Volume 11	49,725	0	0
SOP Bks Subsidy for Transl/Print	350,000	350,000	350,000
PARL Liberty Magazine	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
Sub-total Publishing Programs	1,087,358	1,052,980	1,135,800

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<b>IV. Approp: (Cont'd)</b>	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
<b>Institutions</b>			
ADRA - Administration	186,933	126,027	151,216
AIAS Operating	400,050	400,050	400,050
Adventist World Radio - Gen	1,590,000	1,350,000	1,350,000
AU Operating Approp:			
Seminary:			
Regular	1,121,536	1,132,751	1,132,751
Fac Replace-Seminary	71,240	71,952	71,952
Aviation Center	30,576	30,888	30,888
Mission Orientation	150,000	151,500	151,500
Extension School	30,992	31,302	31,302
Inst for Prevent of Drug Addict	115,000	121,000	125,840
	<u>1,519,344</u>	<u>1,539,393</u>	<u>1,544,233</u>
HSI Operating Approp	60,000	60,600	60,600
LLU Operating Approp	2,723,000	2,750,230	2,750,230
CRS	0	0	0
Int'l Health Food Assn	35,000	35,000	35,000
AGCN - Satellite	<u>1,600,000</u>	<u>1,600,000</u>	<u>1,600,000</u>
Sub-total Institutions	<u>8,114,327</u>	<u>7,861,300</u>	<u>7,891,329</u>
<b>Total Approp - Tithe</b>	<u><u>37,569,611</u></u>	<u><u>38,044,812</u></u>	<u><u>38,733,940</u></u>

**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
2001 Appropriations Budget  
Non-Tithe**

<b>IV. Appropriations: (Cont'd)</b>	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
<b>Divisions Non-Tithe</b>			
Appropriations, Non-Tithe Operating:			
Africa Indian Ocean Division	1,873,870	1,892,609	1,892,609
Eastern Africa Division	1,450,508	1,465,013	1,465,013
Euro-Africa Division	737,764	730,239	715,634
ESD Affairs Committee	223,527	237,050	248,903
Inter-American Division	966,280	975,943	975,943
Northern Asia Pacific Division	148,267	157,237	165,099
South American Division	948,600	958,086	958,086
South Pacific Division	735,400	742,754	742,754
Southern Asia Division	853,438	861,972	879,211
Southern Asia Pacific Division	1,121,569	1,110,129	1,087,926
Trans-European Division	896,057	923,118	950,812
Southern Africa Union Conference	181,001	184,639	184,639
Sub-total Divisions Non-Tithe	10,136,281	10,238,789	10,266,629
<b>Donations Non-Tithe:</b>			
51140 Donations	54,050	60,000	60,000

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<b>IV. Appropriations: (Cont'd)</b>	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
<b>General Church Programs</b>			
Maranatha Type Projects-Travel	<u>1,825</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
<b>Sub-total Church Programs</b>	1,825	6,000	6,000
<b>Institutions</b>			
ADRA Rent	0	100,000	260,000
AIAS Operating	165,315	370,315	370,315
AU Op Approp			
Graduate School	2,207,296	2,229,369	2,229,369
HSI Operating	190,000	191,900	191,900
LLU Operating:			
General	7,252,356	7,324,889	7,324,889
Graduate Biology	300,000	300,000	300,000
LLU Special	100,000	0	0
OC Operating Approp	<u>1,076,360</u>	<u>1,087,124</u>	<u>1,087,124</u>
<b>Sub-total Institutions</b>	<u>11,291,327</u>	<u>11,603,597</u>	<u>11,763,597</u>
<b>Total Approp Non-Tithe</b>	<u><u>21,483,483</u></u>	<u><u>21,908,386</u></u>	<u><u>22,096,226</u></u>

**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
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Non-Tithe**

**V. Special Funding**

Special Funding	Actual 1999		Budget 2000		Budget 2001	
Division Programs						
Appropriations, Special:						
Africa-Indian Ocean Division		70,000		70,000		70,000
Eastern Africa Division		90,000		90,000		90,000
Euro-Africa Division		70,000		70,000		70,000
ESD Affairs Committee		90,000		90,000		90,000
Inter American Division		600,000		75,000		75,000
North American Division		300,000		0		0
Northern Asia Pacific Division	50,000		50,000		50,000	
East Asia Comm HK (NSD)	<u>45,000</u>	95,000	<u>45,000</u>	95,000	<u>45,000</u>	95,000
South American Division		70,000		70,000		70,000
South Pacific Division		50,000		50,000		50,000
Southern Asia Pacific Division		50,000		50,000		50,000
Southern Asia Div (SERVSDA)						
General		95,000		95,000		95,000
Trans-European Division:						
General	170,000		170,000		170,000	
Retirement Fund Rescue	<u>100,000</u>	270,000	<u>0</u>	170,000	<u>0</u>	170,000
Eclipse" Appropriation		<u>706,117</u>		<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
Total Appropriations, Special		2,556,117		925,000		925,000
Southern African Affairs Comm (52740):						
General	60,000		60,000		60,000	
Church Unification	<u>100,000</u>	<u>160,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>160,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>160,000</u>
Total Divisions Programs		2,716,117		1,085,000		1,085,000

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**V. Special Funding (Cont'd)**

	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
<b>Institutional Programs</b>			
Servicemen's Center - Korea	35,000	35,000	35,000
AliAS - General	20,000	10,000	30,000
- Library Books	15,000	0	0
- Library Automation	<u>56,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	91,000	10,000	30,000
AWR - General	300,000	120,000	120,000
AU Specials:			
General	50,000	50,000	50,000
Grad School & Sem Libr Bks	<u>125,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>
	175,000	175,000	175,000
HSI Specials:			
General	0	60,000	20,000
Griggs University Programs - OS	0	90,000	0
Computer System/Spanish Trans	<u>220,000</u>	<u>86,500</u>	<u>216,500</u>
	220,000	236,500	236,500
LLU Specials:			
Dental Building Financing	0	0	0
Working Capital	<u>200,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>0</u>
	200,000	150,000	0
WHAAT	90,000	90,000	60,000
AGCN	0	0	30,000
Adventist Historic Properties	<u>100,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	100,000	0	0
Sub-total Institutional Programs	<u>1,211,000</u>	<u>816,500</u>	<u>686,500</u>
<b>Total Special Funding</b>	<u><u>3,927,117</u></u>	<u><u>1,901,500</u></u>	<u><u>1,771,500</u></u>



**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
2001 Appropriations Budget  
Non-Tithe**

Divisions:	Base Appropriations			Special Appropriations	GC Administered		Total
	Tithe	Non-Tithe	Total		IDE Tithe	Auditing Non-Tithe	
Africa-Indian Ocean	2,536,265	1,892,609	4,428,874	70,000		229,992	4,728,866
Eastern Africa	2,667,426	1,465,013	4,132,439	90,000		315,644	4,538,083
Euro-Africa	2,518,421	715,634	3,234,055	70,000		191,297	3,495,352
ESD Affairs Comm	1,002,946	248,903	1,251,849	90,000		23,284	1,365,133
Inter-America	843,194	975,943	1,819,137	75,000		676,339	2,570,476
Northern Asia Pacific	1,406,045	165,099	1,571,144	95,000		444,732	2,110,876
South American	1,669,086	958,086	2,627,172	70,000		459,140	3,156,312
South Pacific	960,974	742,754	1,703,728	50,000		425,490	2,179,218
Southern Asia	1,567,155	879,211	2,466,366	95,000		118,620	2,679,986
Southern Asia Pacific	1,928,606	1,087,926	3,016,532	50,000		472,534	3,539,066
Trans-European	2,597,882	950,812	3,548,694	170,000		354,824	4,073,518
TED Special	1,050,000	0	1,050,000	0		0	1,050,000
Southern Africa Union	575,225	184,639	759,864	160,000		82,230	1,002,094
	<u>21,343,225</u>	<u>10,266,629</u>	<u>31,609,854</u>	<u>1,085,000</u>		<u>3,794,126</u>	<u>36,488,980</u>
<b>Others:</b>							
ADRA	151,216	260,000	411,216	0			411,216
Advent World Radio	1,624,890	0	1,624,890	120,000			1,744,890
AGCN - Satellite	1,600,000	0	1,600,000	30,000			1,630,000
AIAS	400,050	370,315	770,365	30,000			800,365
Andrews University	1,544,233	2,229,369	3,773,602	175,000			3,948,602
Auditing	650,000	0	650,000	0			650,000
GRI	690,989	0	690,989	0			690,989
Home Study Int'l	35,000	191,900	226,900	236,500			463,400
Int'l Health Food Assn	60,600	0	60,600	0			60,600
Loma Linda Univ	2,750,230	7,624,889	10,375,119	0			10,375,119
Oakwood College	0	1,087,124	1,087,124	0			1,087,124
Servicemen's Cntr-Korea	0	0	0	35,000			35,000
WHAAT	275,000	0	275,000	60,000			335,000
White Estate	1,373,581	0	1,373,581	0			1,373,581
	<u>11,155,789</u>	<u>11,763,597</u>	<u>22,919,386</u>	<u>686,500</u>			<u>23,605,886</u>

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**IV. Appropriations:**

	<b>Actual 1999</b>	<b>Budget 2000</b>	<b>Budget 2001</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Approp, Investment-Outreach:			
Africa-Indian Ocean Div	135,359	124,777	131,881
Eastern Africa Division	128,095	117,675	123,054
Euro-Africa Division	103,181	92,975	96,302
ESD Affairs Committee	33,284	33,590	37,277
Inter-American Division	71,988	53,314	54,170
Northern Asia Pacific Div	41,540	42,157	46,785
South American Division	88,749	70,413	78,231
South Pacific Division	61,366	41,779	50,733
Southern Asia Division	73,374	68,124	73,443
Southern Asia Pacific Div	102,528	86,721	89,825
Trans-European Division	107,152	97,068	105,672
Southern Africa Union Conf	<u>23,979</u>	<u>21,408</u>	<u>22,627</u>
	970,594	850,000	910,000
GM Approp - Ann Sac	4,155,000	0	0
13th Sabbath Special Project	<u>1,800,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Restricted Funds	<u>6,925,594</u>	<u>850,000</u>	<u>910,000</u>

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 27, 2000, 2:30 p.m.

Gerry D Karst called the third business session of the 2000 Annual Council to order.

William M Olson, Treasurer of the Trans-European Division, opened the business session with prayer.

A presentation began on the Supplemental Budget—2000. At 3:00 p.m. the business session was recessed.

ADVENTIST WORLD RADIO—LEGAL MEETING

At 3:00 p.m. a legal meeting of Adventist World Radio was held.

At 3:35 p.m. the business session was reconvened.

FinPlan&Bud00AC/00AC to REL

322-00G SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET—2000

VOTED, To approve the Supplemental Budget—2000, as follows:

Supplemental Budget—2000

Africa-Indian Ocean Division

Retirement fund recovery	\$ 25,000
Burundi Association Capital Development	120,000
University Development Capital:	
Babcock University	140,000
Universite Adventiste - Rwanda	140,000
Universite Adventiste - Consendai	<u>140,000</u>
Total	<u>\$565,000</u>

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Eastern Africa Division

Phase in audit adjustment for 2001	\$ 45,000
School project in North Botswana Field	95,000
Guest flats and ABC office in Malawi Union	85,000
Academic building in University of Eastern Africa Baraton	185,000
Conference hall and hostels in Zambia Union	90,000
Tanzania church	<u>65,000</u>
Total	<u>\$565,000</u>

Euro-Asia Division

Train 100 new pastors	\$300,000
Build 30 new churches	<u>300,000</u>
Total	<u>\$600,000</u>

Euro-Africa Division

Purchase of land for new radio/TV center - Germany	\$320,000
Special evangelistic projects - Moslem countries	100,000
Special evangelistic projects - Christian countries	<u>80,000</u>
Total	<u>\$500,000</u>

Inter-American Division

Phase in audit adjustment for 2001	\$ 73,000
Antillian Adventist University	105,000
Central American University	105,000
Dominican University	105,000
Venezuela-Antillian Union Theological School	90,000
Colegio del Pacifico-College Section	<u>22,000</u>
Total	<u>\$500,000</u>

North American Division

Total	<u>---</u>
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Northern Asia-Pacific Division

Church construction in China	\$300,000
Vocational Training Center construction in northeast China	<u>200,000</u>
Total (As much as possible to come from blocked currency)	<u>\$500,000</u>

Southern Africa Union Conference

Evangelism	\$ 50,000
Church buildings	20,000
Bethel College	
Computers for School of Business	30,000
Completion of lecture halls	60,000
Helderberg College - Married student housing	<u>90,000</u>
Total	<u>\$250,000</u>

South American Division

Evangelism - preparation of materials	<u>\$500,000</u>
Total	<u>\$500,000</u>

South Pacific Division

Avondale College - Major structural repairs college auditorium	\$250,000
Pacific Adventist University - church building	100,000
Emergency funding - Solomon Islands	<u>150,000</u>
Total	<u>\$500,000</u>

Southern Asia-Pacific Division

Adventist University and Seminary of Bangladesh	\$150,000
Division-wide strategic plan	100,000
Guam Micronesia Mission - Guam Adventist Academy	
facilities development	50,000
Division-wide new chapels	<u>200,000</u>
Total	<u>\$500,000</u>

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Southern Asia Division

Purchase of church properties	<u>\$500,000</u>
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Total	<u>\$500,000</u>
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Trans-European Division

Middle East Union Media Center	\$120,000
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Newbold College new church	150,000
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Danish Union retirement (Skodsborg-Nutana)	77,000
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Adriatic Union office	150,000
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Trans-European Division office property renovation Phase 2	<u>123,000</u>
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Total	<u>\$620,000</u>
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Loma Linda University

Loan repayments	<u>\$400,000</u>
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Total	<u>\$400,000</u>
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Andrews University

Infrastructure for seminary building renovation	<u>\$400,000</u>
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Total	<u>\$400,000</u>
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Oakwood College

Bradford Cleveland Institute for Continuing Education	<u>\$250,000</u>
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Total	<u>\$250,000</u>
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Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies

Student housing apartment block	\$350,000
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Distance Learning Centers improvements*	_____
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Total	<u>\$350,000</u>
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General Conference Administered Funds

Council on Evangelism and Witness	\$ 500,000
Global Leadership Training Endowment - endowment matching funds	300,000
Global Leadership Training - startup costs	<u>200,000</u>
Total	<u>\$1,000,000</u>
Total Distributed	\$8,500,000

\*Leftover funds from student housing can be used for Distance Learning Centers improvements

PRE/GCDO99AC/ADCOM/99AC/267-99G/00GCS/Con&By00GCS/00GCS/00AC to LCC

114-00G GENERAL CONFERENCE AUDITING SERVICE—  
STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

Lowell C Cooper, Vice President, reported on the action taken by the 2000-General Conference Session which authorized the 2000 Annual Council to elect members of the General Conference Auditing Service Board other than the ex officio members elected by the session itself.

NomCom00AC/00AC to MAB

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #1

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

GENERAL CONFERENCE AUDITING SERVICE BOARD

KROGSTAD, JACK L,\* Chairperson  
Cooper, Lowell C, Vice-chairperson  
Korff, Eric A, Secretary

Paulsen, Jan  
Bediako, Matthew A  
Rawson, Robert L

President, General Conference  
Secretary, General Conference  
Treasurer, General Conference

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Laypersons

Barbosa-Filho, Scilas	South American Division
Beene, Wesley M	Eastern Africa Division
Gittens, Hyden	Inter-American Division
Manu-Debrah, Kwame	Africa Indian-Ocean Division
Moyano, Jose G	Euro-Africa Division
Osin, Timur	Euro-Asia Division
Rechter, Nils	Trans-European Division
Song, Jae-Hyun	Northern Asia-Pacific Division
Stanley, John	Southern Asia Division
Stanton, Ken	South Pacific Division
Teston-Faigao, Maria Mutya	Southern Asia-Pacific Division

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\*Layperson from North American Division

At 4:00 p.m. the business session was recessed for legal and constituency meetings.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION—  
LEGAL MEETING

At 4:00 p.m. a legal meeting of the International Health and Temperance Association was held.

HOME STUDY INTERNATIONAL/GRIGGS UNIVERSITY—  
CONSTITUENCY MEETING

At 4:15 p.m. a constituency meeting for Home Study International/Griggs University was held.

At 4:45 p.m. the business session was reconvened.



GM/00AC to AHT

GLOBAL MISSION - REPORT

Michael L Ryan, Director of Global Mission, introduced Harold Butler, an oral surgeon who previously served as an interdivision employee and who worked for Global Mission before going into private practice a few years ago. Butler had been asked to conduct a survey of Global Mission activities and he had prepared two handouts. The first handout was a report on the implementation by the divisions and the General Conference of the Global Mission strategy as initially voted by the 1990 General Conference Session. The second handout was a ten-question survey on Global Mission and its effectiveness which had been completed by a representative group of laypersons, church employees, pastors, and departmental/institutional leaders.

VOTED, To accept the report and evaluation of Global Mission which provide accountability to its existence and function.

SEC/00AC to MAB

DEVNICH, D DOUGLAS—ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DEPARTMENT -  
ELECTION DECLINED

VOTED, To record that D Douglas Devnich declined his election as Associate Director of the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department.

SEC/00AC to MAB

GUNGADOO, STENIO—ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, STEWARDSHIP  
DEPARTMENT - ELECTION DECLINED

VOTED, To record that Stenio Gungadoo declined his election as Associate Director of the Stewardship Department.

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SEC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO00AC/00AC to AHT

309-00G GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES -  
RENUMBERING

VOTED, To renumber GC B, General Administrative Policies, wherever the numbers appear in the *Working Policy*, as follows

B 35 becomes B 40

B 40 becomes B 45

B 45 becomes B 50

B 50 becomes B 55

B 55 becomes B 60

B 60 becomes B 65

B 65 becomes B 70

B 70 becomes B 75

B 75 becomes B 80

B 80 becomes B 85

B 85 becomes B 90

B 90 becomes B 95

B 95 becomes B 100

B 100 becomes B 105

B 105 becomes B 110

B 110 becomes B 115

B 115 becomes B 120

B 120 becomes B 125

B 125 becomes B 130

B 130 becomes B 135

B 135 becomes B 140

B 140 becomes B 145

B 145 becomes B 150

B 150 becomes B 155

B 155 becomes B 160

SEC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO00AC/00AC to AHT(DIV)

251-00G ORGANIZING NEW CONFERENCES (ORGANIZING NEW  
MISSIONS/CONFERENCES/UNIONS) - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC B 30 15, Organizing New Conferences, to read as follows:

B 30 15 Organizing New Conferences—1. If it is proposed - No change

2. If the union favors the proposal, it shall request the conference/mission to call a constituency meeting to consider the proposal. In the event of a positive decision by the constituency, the union shall assign to its ~~Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee~~ committee(s) for strategic and financial planning the task of preparing specific detailed plans for the conference status of the proposed organization.

3. A team appointed by the union executive - No change

4. When the union is satisfied - No change

5. A survey team appointed by the division executive committee, comprised of union and division personnel, shall make an on-site evaluation. If, after consultation with the ~~division~~

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~~Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee~~, committee(s) set up at division level for strategic and financial planning, the survey team is satisfied that the request is appropriate, it shall recommend conference status for the new organization to the division executive committee. In the event the organization is not ready for conference status at the time of the division's evaluation, recommendations will be ~~made~~, made and, after a suitable passage of time, a further evaluation conducted.

6. Upon the recommendation of the survey team - No change
7. Upon the approval of the division - No change
8. When a new conference has been organized - No change

SEC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO00AC/00AC to AHT(DIV)

252-00G ORGANIZING NEW UNION CONFERENCES (ORGANIZING  
NEW MISSIONS/CONFERENCES/UNIONS) - POLICY  
AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC B 30 25, Organizing New Union Conferences, to read as follows:

- B 30 25 Organizing New Union Conferences—1. If it is proposed - No change
2. If the division favors the proposal, it shall request the union to call a constituency meeting to consider the proposal. In the event of a positive action by the constituency, the division shall assign to its ~~Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee~~ committee(s) set up for strategic and financial planning the task of preparing specific detailed plans for the union conference status of the proposed organization.
  3. A team appointed by the division - No change
  4. When the division is satisfied - No change
  5. A survey team appointed by the General Conference Executive Committee, comprised of division and General Conference personnel, shall make an on-site evaluation. If, after consultation with the General Conference ~~Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee~~, Strategic Planning Committee and Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee, the survey team is satisfied that the request is appropriate, it shall recommend union conference status for

the new organization to the General Conference Executive Committee. In the event the organization is not ready for union conference status at the time of the General Conference's evaluation, recommendations will be ~~made~~, made and, after suitable passage of time, a further evaluation conducted.

6. Upon the recommendation of the survey team - No change
7. Upon the approval of the General Conference - No change
8. If organization of a new union conference - No change

SEC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO00AC/00AC to AHT(DIV)

#### 253-00G ORGANIZING NEW DIVISIONS - NEW POLICY

VOTED, To adopt a new policy, GC B 35, Organizing New Divisions, to read as follows:

#### B 35 Organizing New Divisions

B 35 05 Organizing New Divisions—1. If it is proposed to organize a new division, or divisions, the proposal shall be considered by the General Conference Executive Committee at an Annual Council when a full representation of the unions and institutions involved is present. Such proposals may be initiated by the division(s) or by the General Conference.

2. If the General Conference Executive Committee favors the proposal, it shall request the division(s) involved to call a full meeting of the division executive committee(s) to consider the proposal. The General Conference shall assign to its Strategic Planning Committee and Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee the task of preparing specific detailed plans for the division status of the proposed organization(s).

3. A survey team, appointed by the General Conference Executive Committee, comprised of General Conference and division personnel shall make an on-site evaluation. If, after consultation with the General Conference Strategic Planning Committee and Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee, the survey team is satisfied that the request is appropriate, it shall make its recommendations to the General Conference Executive Committee.

4. Upon recommendation of the survey team, the General Conference Executive Committee, at an Annual Council, shall determine whether or not to grant division status to the new organization(s).

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5. In the event that the General Conference Executive Committee votes to establish a new division(s) it shall also, at that meeting, elect the officers to serve the new division(s). As soon as possible, the General Conference shall call a meeting of representatives of the unions, conferences, and institutions within the territory of the new division(s), under the leadership of the newly elected division officers, to elect department directors/secretaries and members of the executive committee(s).

6. Any new division(s) organized during the quinquennium shall be formally introduced to the world Church at the next General Conference Session by the General Conference Secretary.

SEC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCD00AC/00AC to AHT(DIV)

254-00G LOCAL CONFERENCE STATUS—PROCEDURE  
(ORGANIZING MISSIONS/FIELDS INTO CONFERENCES) -  
POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC B 50 10, Local Conference Status—Procedure, to read as follows:

~~B-50-10~~ B 55 10 Local Conference Status—Procedure—Local missions/fields desiring local conference status shall proceed as follows:

1. The local mission/field shall request its ~~Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee~~ committee(s) for strategic and financial planning to prepare specific detailed incremental plans for moving the mission/field toward conference status.

2. At the request of the local mission/field - No change

3. The local mission/field executive committee - No change

4. If the union executive committee, in consultation with the union ~~Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee~~, committee(s) for strategic and financial planning, finds the local mission/field request to have merit, it shall ask the division to appoint a survey team comprised of division, ~~union~~ union, and local mission/field representatives.

5. The survey team shall conduct - No change

6. The union executive committee shall study - No change

7. The division executive committee - No change
8. Upon the approval of the division executive - No change
9. Where there has been a change of status - No change

SEC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO00AC/00AC to AHT(DIV)

255-00G UNION CONFERENCE STATUS—PROCEDURE  
(ORGANIZING UNION MISSIONS INTO UNION  
CONFERENCES) - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC B 55 10, Union Conference Status—Procedure, to read as follows:

~~B-55-10~~ B 60 10 Union Conference Status—Procedure—Union missions desiring union conference status shall proceed as follows:

1. The union mission shall request its ~~Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee~~ committee(s) for strategic and financial planning to prepare specific, detailed incremental plans for moving the union mission toward union conference status.
2. At the request of the union mission, the division shall assist the union administration to complete a self-evaluation form, based on the Criteria for Union Conference Status outlined in ~~B-55-05~~, B 60 05, and to prepare for the responsibilities that rest upon a union conference.
3. The union mission executive committee - No change
4. If the division executive committee, in consultation with the division ~~Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee~~, committee(s) for strategic and financial planning, finds the union mission request to have merit, it shall ask the General Conference to appoint a survey team comprised of General Conference, ~~division~~ division, and union representation.
5. The survey team shall conduct - No change
6. The division executive committee - No change
7. The General Conference Executive Committee - No change

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8. Upon the approval of the General Conference - No change
9. Where there has been a change of status - No change

#### APPOINTMENT OF BOARD

The following board was elected by a constituency meeting.

#### HOME STUDY INTERNATIONAL/GRIGGS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hsu, Eugene, Chairperson

Cooper, Lowell C, Vice-chairperson

HSI/GU President, Secretary (appointed by the Board)

Bocala, Violetto F

Byun, Youn-Shik

Carguill, Diana

Daniel, Luka T

Evans, Laurie J

Keith, Dennis C Sr

Lee, Erma J

Nagel, Ruy H

Osborn, Richard C

Ostring, Elizabeth E

Prestol, Juan R

Rasi, Humberto M

Sahly, Donald R

Schneider, Don C

Slikkers, Dolores E

Stele, Artur A

Suelzle, Pattye

Wakaba, Velile S

Wiklander, Bertil

Wilson, Neal C

Gerry D Karst, Chairman

Harold W Baptiste, Secretary

Athal H Tolhurst, Editor

Rowena J Moore, Recording Secretary



ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 28, 2000, 8:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

The devotional message entitled "The Meaning of Unity in the Word of God" was presented by Beatrice S Neall.

We live in enemy territory. The primary strategy of the enemy is to divide, separate, split.

He split the angels into two camps.

He split earth off from heaven.

He split the first couple apart from each other.

He splits nations and tribes into warring factions.

He splits denominations.

He splits congregations.

He splits marriages.

He even splits my own personality so that I am at war with myself.

Jesus came to restore oneness and unity, to make His universe whole—

He came to make our world whole,

our denomination whole

our congregations whole

our marriages whole

our personalities whole

What He did is described magnificently in the book of Ephesians. The glory in Ephesians is so dazzling you almost have to wear sunglasses when you read it! Open your Bibles to this marvelous book.

1. He came to unite heaven and earth (Eph 1:10). He came to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ. He did that by descending to the lowest regions of our earth and then ascending back to God (Eph 2:9).

Recently our attention has been riveted to our TV screens as we watched the Russians struggle to rescue the pride of their submarine fleet, the Kursk. The Russian submarine had 118 men aboard. Suddenly an explosion rips through the vessel, a missile has exploded, half the ship is flooded, the vessel sinks to the bottom of the Barents Sea. In the rear of the vessel living men are imprisoned. The Russians send down divers and make contact with the sunken ship. They hear knocking, telling them that live men are inside. These men are thinking of their families,

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afraid to move lest they use up the dwindling oxygen supply, buried alive, doomed to die unless help comes.

A week after the vessel goes down, Norwegian divers open the rear hatch of the Kursk and find it flooded. On the tenth day deep-sea divers open the rear escape hatches and find the entire vessel flooded. All 118 crew members are dead, buried alive.

Thousands of years ago a world was ripped apart by the explosion of sin. It sank into the black depths of despair and death. A whole race was doomed to perish. Did anyone hear them? Did anyone care?

The Creator Himself went down into the murky depths of sin. He descended to the depths of the earth. He made contact, came aboard, brought life-giving oxygen, fresh air, and the bread of life. He opened up contact with heaven. He united the family of earth and heaven.

Ephesians 3:15 talks about the whole family in heaven and on earth deriving its name from the Father. The family of God includes heaven and earth all united under the Father—"one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in you all."—Eph 4:6, KJV

## 2. He came to unite Himself with the Church.

How did Jesus become one with us and make us one with Him? He did this through the incomparably great power of God working in two places—in us and in Christ (Eph 1:19). He not only descended down to the lower regions of the earth (Eph 4:6), He died and entered the tomb.

But God, through His mighty power, raised Christ from the dead, lifted Him up to heaven, seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and gave Him a name that is named not only in the present age but also in the one to come, placed all things under His feet, and appointed Him to be head over everything. (See Eph 1:19-23.)

Why? For the benefit of His Church, His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.

The Church is His body, the fullness of Him, the completion of Him who fills all things. The Church completes Him. That is, the Church is full of Him. This is a bold figure—Christ the head, the Church the body of God. Does Christ need anything besides Himself? Is He really unfulfilled, incomplete, without His body?

Can the Head be in heavenly places and the body be somewhere else? If Christ is exalted, sitting on the throne of the universe above all dominion and power, where is His body? (See Eph 1:20, 21; 2:6.) The Church is seated in heavenly places with Christ Jesus!

How did Christ lift His Church up so high? First, how deep down were we when Christ found us? (See Eph 2:1-3.) We were all dead in sin, dominated by drives of our passions and lusts. We were without hope, without God in the world. But God used the same resurrection power with which He raised Christ from the dead. He raised us up from the dead, made us ascend with Christ, and enthroned us at His right hand.

How do you explain the marvelous transformation? “By grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast” (Eph 2:8, NKJV).

What is the purpose of our being seated with Christ Jesus in heavenly places?

- We are the fullness of Jesus who fills all things (Eph 1:23).
- Through the Church the wisdom of God is made known to the rulers and authorities of heavenly realms (Eph 3:10). We are filling the universe with the knowledge of the amazing grace of God.

How do you dwell in heaven when you are on the firing lines here on earth? Paul was in prison when he wrote this epistle. But if you had gone there you would have found a VACANCY sign over his cell. Paul was not in prison—he was in heavenly places! (See Eph 1:3.)

What does it mean to be in heavenly places? Ephesians 1:3-14 gives the answer. It means to be blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ. We are all chosen, predestined, adopted, immersed in God’s grace, laden with gifts He has lavished on us: forgiveness, redemption, wisdom, understanding.

By being the body of Jesus, the Church is magnificent, glorious, exalted. If we have a low opinion of the Church, if we are cynical about it and critical of it, if we think we can get along without it, we need to recapture Paul’s vision of the glory of the Church.

3. He came to unite factions within the Church (Eph 2:11-18).

Out of many nations, tribes, tongues, ethnicities—He came to make one new man. Twelve years ago the world was broken into several major blocks. One could look across the Berlin wall and no-man’s land where each side was capable of destroying the other.

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Now the world has fractured apart into splinters of tribes—Hutus and Tutsis; ethnic groups—Serbs, Croats, Bosnians, Kosovos, Albanians; religions—Jews, Christians, Muslims, Hindus. Our country is torn by racial and class divisions. The people of this world are separated by middle walls of hostility.

The Church too is often divided by politics, dominance, and desire to control. Jesus came to make in Himself one new person out of two, one new person out of a hundred!

Paul had the difficult task of uniting two groups that were prejudiced against each other. There was much hostility between the Jews and Gentiles. How in the world could they ever worship together as one?

How does Jesus make us one?

- He brings us into Himself to create in Himself one new person instead of two. It is by being in Christ, in His body, that we are united.
- He breaks down the walls of hostility.
- He makes us one through His own blood (Eph 2:13) and through the cross by which He puts to death our hostility (Eph 2:16).
- He is our peace (Eph 2:14). He preached peace to both sides of the conflict (Eph 2:17).
- He gives us access to the Father by one Spirit (Eph 2:18).

Dave and Margaret had been married for eight years. Both were busy at their jobs. Margaret was stressed from working full time, shopping, cooking, doing the laundry and cleaning, and taking care of six-year-old Danny. There was not much time for Dave in her life. He began to feel left out. Somehow the love between them grew cold.

Then Carol at the office began being friendly with Dave. Dave confided in her how irritable Margaret was. Carol soothed Dave's raw nerves. They ate lunch together at the office. One day they ate lunch at the park and had a delightful time. Warning beeps went off in Dave's mind, but he ignored them. Margaret seemed less and less attractive to him.

One night Dave did not come home until 2:00 a.m. Margaret waited up for him and was furious. He said there was extra work at the office. She got suspicious and discovered what was going on. She confronted Dave. He blew up and moved out—to Carol's apartment.

Margaret was devastated. Rejection was more bitter than death. Dave had a life—a woman who loved him. She had nothing but little Danny. She concentrated all her love on Danny. He did not understand what was going on as he spent the weekdays with Mommy and the weekends with Daddy and Carol.

One day Danny was riding his little bicycle. He wobbled out into the street in front of a speeding car. An ambulance took his bleeding body to the hospital. The doctors worked hard, but Danny died. His little body was buried in the cemetery on the hillside just outside of town.

The light went out of Margaret's life. She was twice bereaved. She was rejected by her husband and bereaved of her son. In anguish she went to the cemetery one evening and threw herself on the fresh sod over Danny's grave. She clutched the cold grass and sobbed. The sun went down, the dew fell. She did not notice.

Then she felt a hand on her back. She looked up and there was Dave. He had come to the grave to grieve. He had been watching her for quite a while. Suddenly he understood the pain, the loss, the hopelessness of her life. He realized what he had done to her. He remembered the early years of their love. He longed to comfort her, to make things right.

There, over the grave of their dead son, Dave broke down and confessed the evil he had done. Dave and Margaret were reconciled over the grave of their son.

What did Jesus do to bring peace? The blood of Christ brings the "outsiders" near (Eph 2:13). How?

- The blood redeems. This is the language of the slave market, of freeing hostages. It took the very life of God to buy our freedom.
- The blood atones for our guilt. Sin caused a separation between us and God. The blood removes the separation caused by sin.
- The blood gives us access to fellowship with the covenant God and His people. "This is my blood of the covenant which is shed for you."
- The cross "kills" the hostility. How?

Jesus steps into the hostility of earth against heaven, sinners against God, sinners against sinners, religious leaders against Himself. The cross is a lightning rod on a hill, set against a black, angry sky, charged with fury. All the wrath of God against sin, all the wrath of sinners

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against God, all the wrath of sinners against sinners, and all the wrath of devils and demons is discharged on Jesus.

It tears open His body, and from His torn side a river flows, a river of blood and water, a river of love that heals the wounds of sin and hatred. The sight of that torn body melts away opposition and brings people together.

He preached peace to those far away and those who are near. A mediator has to speak to both sides and show them the advantages of peace. We have access to the Father through the one Spirit.

4. He came to unite the belief system of the Church—one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all. The gifts were to promote unity of doctrine: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers. They are all proclaimers of the message. They create unity in the faith and knowledge of the Son of God, so we will not be tossed about by every wind of doctrine.

Today the Church of God is threatened by many divisions of doctrine—old theology, new theology, sanctuary doctrine, interpretation of prophecy, creation (long or short chronology), roles of men and women, and the meaning of *remnant*.

How can the Church ever become united in belief when there are so many conflicting ideas?

- Be humble and gentle about our opinions (Eph 4:2), bearing with one another's ideas.
- Try to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. Jesus is our peace. Hang on to it.
- Use the gifts God gave us to keep us in line—apostles and prophets, the writers of Scripture. We have the gift of prophecy, a tremendous help.

The first three chapters of Ephesians have a cosmic aspect—heaven and earth, principalities and powers.

The second part comes down to earth. Paul deals with two kinds of people—the *insiders*, the Jews, the ones who hold the power in the church; and the *outsiders*, the Gentiles, those who are eager to get in and hold their share of power.

Power struggles are a great evil that destroy. The first sin that introduced all the misery of history was a power struggle. It was fired by another great sin—jealously. Brothers and sisters, there is no room for power struggles in the body of Christ, whether on the congregational level or on the ascending conference levels.

We are so human, so sinful. “We all have feet of clay up to our armpits” said Jack Provonsha.

I recently read an article about my home conference. Many ethnic groups, many “families of God” are there. There are great challenges as to how to reach each group. There are great struggles as to how to divide and apportion the leadership positions.

What should you do if you are on the outside wanting to get in? What should you do if you want your share of the power and perks of position?

Let us learn a lesson from karate. If you want to split a brick in two with your hand, do not focus on the brick, do not aim to hit the brick, or you will break your bones. Focus on six inches beyond the brick. Aim to hit that spot, and you will break the brick in the process.

If our goal is personal fulfillment and power, we will end up deformed human beings with deformed characters. If our goal is to do our utmost to bring fallen human beings to Christ, we will grow up into the measure of the fullness of Christ. We will reach all the goals of personal fulfillment and much more. There is nothing like throwing ourselves into a cause greater than we are to develop every potential, every gift we have. But beyond that, we will reach the satisfaction of experiencing life’s ultimate joy.

So what if you are “disenfranchised”—outside the power structure of the Church, looking in. If you know God has called you, that is enough. Work for Him, if necessary earning your own expenses as did Paul. Paul did not ask for all the perks. Your gifts will be recognized in time.

What if you are on the inside? You have the power, though you may want to climb higher on the corporate ladder. Remember to focus on the goal to bring fallen human beings to Christ. As leaders your goal is to empower other people, to recognize the talents of others, to foster their growth and development, to place them where they can best serve, and not to hold them down! We need to recognize spiritual gifts wherever they might appear—in people of other races, in women, in people with disabilities.

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If God can use donkeys and stones to speak for Him, He can use any human being consecrated to Him. The goal should be to help each person reach the maximum in development, the measure of the fullness of Christ.

Suppose someone comes along with gifts superior to your own? Would you get jealous and try to hold that person down? Or would you have the spirit of John the Baptist and say, "He must increase, but I must decrease?" Would you even be willing to step down and let someone else take your position? Could you not ask, What is best for me? but What is best for God's work?

Our only safety is to keep our eyes on Jesus, the one who emptied Himself and made Himself of no reputation, and took on Him the form of a servant. Could we come down the ladder instead of trying to climb it? Could we humble ourselves instead of exalting ourselves?

We need to be consumed by the vision of Paul's magnificent prayer as found in Ephesians 3:14-21: "For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

I wish for you the ability to know the love that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

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Eugene Hsu called the fourth business session of the 2000 Annual Council to order.

Moses Dayuan Yu, a Layperson from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, opened the business session with prayer.



GENERAL CONFERENCE AUDITING SERVICE BOARD—  
INTRODUCTION

Lowell C Cooper introduced the five laymembers appointed to the General Conference Auditing Service Board who are also members of the General Conference Executive Committee. Jack K Krogstad, Professor and Associate Dean for Graduate Programs at Craighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, was introduced as the newly elected chairman of the Board.

At 9:20 a.m. the business session of the Annual Council was recessed and various legal and constituency meetings were held.

INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS LIBERTY ASSOCIATION—LEGAL  
MEETING

At 9:20 a.m. a legal meeting of the International Religious Liberty Association was held.

ADVENTIST WORLD RADIO—CONSTITUENCY MEETING

At 9:50 a.m. an Adventist World Radio constituency meeting was held.

CHRISTIAN RECORD SERVICES—CONSTITUENCY MEETING

At 10:00 a.m. a Christian Record Services constituency meeting was held.

ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY—  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

At 11:00 a.m. an Adventist Development and Relief Agency membership meeting was held.

GEOANA, MIRCEA DAN—AMBASSADOR OF ROMANIA TO THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Jan Paulsen and John Graz introduced Mercea Dan Geoana, Ambassador of Romania to the United States of America. There are 120,000 Seventh-day Adventists living in Romania and

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both the president and the government have a strong commitment to religious liberty. Geoana remarked that after so many years of hardship and persecution and lack of religious freedom, his country needs help to heal the hearts and souls of the nation. In the last 10 years the number of Seventh-day Adventist churches in Romania has doubled to more than 1,000. "Your Church has a duty to help the human spirit reach the level the good Lord intended," he said.

#### ADVENTIST INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES—CONSTITUENCY MEETING

At 11:30 a.m. an Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies constituency meeting was held.

#### APPOINTMENT OF BOARDS

The following boards were appointed by their respective constituency meetings:

##### INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS LIBERTY ASSOCIATION BOARD

##### MEMBERS

Beach, Bert B  
Bediako, Matthew A  
Boothby, Lee  
Bruinsma, Reinder  
Coombe, Ray L  
Dabrowski, Rajmund  
Durham, W Cole Jr  
Gallagher, Jonathan  
Hodges, Clarence  
Hsu, Eugene

Krasikov, Anatoly  
Krushenitsky, Victor P  
Lotz, Denton  
Minnerath, Roland  
Nino, Mario  
Nixon, Robert W  
Paulsen, Jan  
Robinson, Donald E  
Stalsett, Gunnar

##### CHRISTIAN RECORD SERVICES BOARD

##### MEMBERS

RANZOLIN, LEO, Chairman  
Sandefur, Charles C Jr, Vice-chairman

Miranda, Armando, Vice-chairman  
Pitcher, Larry J, Secretary

Ang'awa, Mary  
Banks, R T  
Burton, Shirley A  
Carner, V L  
Castillo, R E  
Evans, G Thomas  
Gordon, Malcolm D  
Hamblin, Madlyn  
Hoehn, Jim R  
Houghton, Dan  
Lang, J S

Leito, Israel  
McArthur, A J  
Miles, Norman  
Nies, Clifford  
Parchment, Orville D  
Robinson, Donald E  
Smith, Robert S  
Tejada, Bolivar  
Wilson, R A  
Woolford, B

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Paulsen, Jan  
Bediako, Matthew A  
Rawson, Robert L  
Schneider, Don C  
Baptiste, Harold W  
Prestol, Juan R

INVITEES

Gilbert, C D  
Hawkins, L V  
Page, P L

ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY BOARD

OFFICERS

COOPER, LOWELL C, Chairman\*  
Rawson, Robert L, Vice-chairman\*  
Hsu, Eugene, Vice-chairman\*  
Watts, Ralph S Jr, Secretary\*  
Ochoa, Mario H, Assistant Secretary\*  
Scheuneman, Byron, Assistant Secretary\*

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### MEMBERS

Batchelor, F Coralie  
Bediako, Matthew A\*  
Bocala, Violetto F  
Cabrera, Vilma  
Chun, Pyung-Duk  
Colburn, Larry R\*  
Daniel, Luka T  
De Santa Cruz, Elizabeth  
Handia-Ben, Priscilla  
Hardy, Cyril G\*  
Jorgensen, Doris  
Kunze, Peter  
Lemon, Robert E\*  
Maury, Ramon  
Mwanza, Pardon  
Nagel, Ruy H

Nunez, Elizabeth  
Oliver, Barry D  
Paulsen, Jan\*  
Rasi, Humberto M\*  
Rugomboka, Liliane  
Sahly, Donald R\*  
Sailo, Malsomi  
Schneider, Don C\*  
Suddarth, Doris\*  
Stele, Artur A  
Turkova, Irina  
Watts, D Ronald  
Wiklander, Bertil  
Williams, Gail  
Wong, Denise  
Zucca, Franca

### ADVISORS TO THE BOARD

Division presidents who are not board chairmen of their division ADRA boards.

President of Andrews University

President of Loma Linda University

\*Executive Committee

### ADVENTIST WORLD RADIO BOARD

#### MEMBERS

PAULSEN, JAN (or designee), Chairman  
Wilson, Ted N C, Vice-chairman  
Miranda, Armando, Vice-chairman  
President AWR, Secretary

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Afonso, Milton  
Bediako, Matthew A  
Dabrowski, Rajmund  
Keith, Dennis C Sr  
Lemon, Robert E

Pelley, Paul  
Rawson, Robert L  
Ryan, Michael L (or designee)  
Sines, Al

Division Presidents  
Five additional laymembers

Eugene Hsu, Chairman  
Theodore T Jones, Secretary  
Athal H Tolhurst, Editorial Secretary  
Carol E Rasmussen, Recording Secretary

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 29, 2000, 8:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

The devotional message entitled “The Word of God and Unity of Doctrine” was presented by Orville Woolford, Director of the Chaplaincy Ministries, Education, and Health Ministries Departments of the Trans-European Division.

This morning I thank God for the opportunity to join with you in an exploration of this very important issue of the role of the Word of God in keeping believers united in matters of doctrine. In doing so, I am conscious of the fact that I am speaking with the leadership of the entire Seventh-day Adventist Church, this movement of destiny, standing as it were at the very portals of the Promised Land. What an awesome responsibility it is to be leading God’s people at this critical hour! Under God it must be that we can make a difference in the direction in which the Church moves. And I am delighted that we have chosen to revive the focus of our people to a spiritually enlightened appreciation of the role of the Word in our corporate and individual daily life.

I would be somewhat pretentious if I believed that I could adequately answer all the questions that surround this topic. So, at the outset, I wish to state that I am regarding this as only an attempt at a partial exploration and any significance of what I present will lie in the resources that I shall draw into the presentation and the suggestions I shall make for future consideration.

Now with regard to the word *doctrine* in the topic—I intend to understand its meaning to be “what a church teaches as truth.” The question that I wish to address immediately is, “What indeed is the Church teaching as truth today, and what is the role of the Word in the teachings?” Now if by *church* we mean the Christian church at large, it is abundantly clear that there is no real unity of doctrine across the array of Christian churches. Christians in general are divided into various schools of thought on practically every doctrine of the Bible. The position of our Church is that even though practically all of our beliefs are held by one or more Christian groups, we do not accept certain doctrines they hold because we feel they are not based on the Word of God. And, inevitably, a few of our doctrines are decidedly distinctive to us. So even among Protestant churches, who all profess to derive their doctrines from the Bible, there is division into numerous groups on the basis of doctrine.

Ellen G White, commenting on this, says: “The unity for which Christ prayed does not exist. Instead of one Lord, one faith, one baptism, there are numberless conflicting creeds and

theories. Religious faith appears so confused and discordant that the world knows not what to believe as truth. God is not in all this; it is the work of man,—the work of Satan.”—4SP 233

The World Council of Churches has been seeking for years to change this state of disarray. It has accepted a definition for the unity that it seeks. It speaks of “one fully committed fellowship, holding the one apostolic faith, preaching the one gospel, breaking the one bread, and enjoying a corporate life of prayer, witness and service.”—*The New Delhi Report* (SCM, 1962), 116

On that basis its efforts have continued but, as of today, ecumenism still remains an elusive goal for Christianity at large. I venture to suggest that one of the greatest obstacles to the unity they seek has been failure of the churches to distinguish between Scripture and tradition. Jesus himself drew a clear distinction between written Scripture and tradition, and He went so far as to reject tradition as “the words of men” in order that Scripture as the Word of God might have the supremacy (see Mark 7:5-13). So while there may be ways in which we may cooperate with them in their pursuit of unity, we need to be committed to upholding that very same distinction between Scripture and tradition, as well as being resolute in not sacrificing any word of truth upon the altar of ecumenism.

If next we take the word *church* to mean the Seventh-day Adventist Church, let us again confront the same question. “What are we teaching as truth, and what is the role of the Word in what we teach?” Well, indeed, we do have the truth plainly stated in print as 27 Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists. So some valid questions could be, “How deeply are we corporately committed to these 27 as representing our core beliefs?” and, “How strongly united are we in upholding and teaching them?” Or, equally important is another question, “How convinced are our members that these 27 fundamental beliefs are based on the Word and as such are binding on us all?” Others have even been known to ask some different questions; for instance, “Is such doctrinal unity really necessary? And, if it is, then how exactly is it to be pursued?” To that last line of questions let me interject that if we accept the idea that doctrine is not important or necessary, and can therefore be dispensed with, then what would be the biblical specific means by which conduct may be measured and confidence may be derived for concluding “I have kept the faith?”

I hasten to add, I emphatically do not mean that the emphasis of our Church should be on “keeping doctrines;” instead, I am proposing that the emphasis should shift to “studying the Word.” By this I mean the kind of study experience that makes connection with divine realities which empower the believer and lead him into clear doctrinal thinking.

With such in mind, it may be helpful to begin by looking at the position of our early Church as outlined by Ellen G White: “If God’s professed people would receive the light as it

shines upon them from His word, they would reach that unity for which Christ prayed.”—GC 379 She went on to say that we are one in faith in the fundamental truths of God’s word<sup>1</sup> and that as we function as a church, harmony and cooperation must be maintained without compromising one principle of truth. Indeed, a further point made is that “if hearts are teachable, there will be no divisions among us. Some are inclined to be disorderly, and are drifting away from the great landmarks of the faith; but God is moving upon His ministers to be one in doctrine and in spirit.”—CET 203

That was the status of things then, and I submit that it is the same now. We do have fundamental doctrines, and drifting from them remains always a possible danger. Indeed, given the recent rapid growth of our Church—its global spread, the increasing number of locations where theology is being studied and taught, and the growth of an increasingly educated laity with post modern thinking and attitudes to authority—the danger of drifting into “new and conflicting opinions” is greatly increased. Hence, if the desired unity is to be a reality, the Church has an increasing responsibility to find appropriately persuasive ways to ensure that what corporately we wish to be taught as truth is transparently biblical and accessible to all members through the same process that generated the doctrines in the first place. There is no unifying power in merely seeking to preserve the teachings of the past by legislation. Rather it is more likely that through personal rediscovery of truth in the Word of God, believers will find the understandings needed to ground them doctrinally. To fail in this task is to run the risk of drifting into the fatal sequence of pluralism, then fragmentation, and ultimately disintegration.

### Problems of Pluralism

Christ considered unity important and promoted it. The apostle Paul, in promoting it, urged the importance of unity of doctrines in his letters. The Spirit of Prophecy writings contain numerous statements on this matter. Yet, the doctrines of Christianity, as well as those that are emphasized in our Church, may at times appear to vary significantly from place to place. The book *Whose Gospel?* by Martin Weber<sup>2</sup> is but one example which can be used to illustrate this point. Why is this the case? Is it that the Scriptures are vague and inconsistent? Is there any real foundation for the conflicting opinions and various sentiments and doctrines that find acceptance in our Church and in the religious world? If there is indeed any valid foundation, then it may be equally valid to entertain doubts as to the divine origin of Scripture; for it does not seem right that the inspiration of God would lead people to come to diverse opinions.

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<sup>1</sup>“We are one in faith in the fundamental truths of God’s word. And one object must be kept in view constantly; that is, harmony and co-operation must be maintained without compromising one principle of truth. And while constantly digging for the truth as for hidden treasure, be careful how you open new and conflicting opinions. We have a world-wide message.”—CW 79

<sup>2</sup>*Who’s Got the Truth* by Martin Weber (1994) Home Study International Press, Maryland.



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Ellen White's explanation of this is that "Those who undertake to interpret the Bible, have corrupted the word of God and wrested the Scripture from its true meaning, by seeking to harmonize the truth of God with the inventions and doctrines of men. The Scriptures are perverted and misapplied, and the gems of truth are set in the framework of error. These teachers are blinded, and cannot clearly discern what is the true meaning of the Scriptures." —ST, June 4, 1894

If that is the case, then pluralism has to be rejected as a possible option for Adventist Christians. By that I am referring to pluralism that is "a situation where individuals differ on theological issues but maintain an interaction which complements each other and respects each other's beliefs, as they all pursue a common goal." Such a stance would cause us to pay too high a price. It would confuse our witness to the world and, with regard to our Church members, they would see that there are differences of opinion among the leading men, and they themselves would then enter into controversy regarding the subjects under dispute. So Christ's call for unity must again be invoked here, and the pen of inspiration reinforces the call with the statement, "I urge those who claim to believe the truth, to walk in unity with their brethren. Do not seek to give to the world occasion to say that we are extremists, that we are disunited, that one teaches one thing, and one another. Avoid dissension."—TM 57

What then is to be done about the "differences in opinions"? I offer the inspired counsel again<sup>3</sup>, "If there is a point of truth that you do not understand, upon which you do not agree, investigate, compare scripture with scripture, sink the shaft of truth down deep into the mine of God's Word. You must lay yourselves and your opinions on the altar of God, put away your preconceived ideas, and let the Spirit of Heaven guide into all truth."—TM 476

### Bridging the Scholarship Gap

Avoiding dissension however may still not be that easy for some, especially scholars, who would wish to be true to the dictates and conviction of their mind. The challenging question thus becomes, "How do we nurture thinking which is shaped by, and true to, the truths of historic, biblical Christianity, but is also acquainted with the realities of the contemporary world and with the issues of scholarship?" I must first freely confess that in affirming the inspiration and authority of Scripture, I am not denying that there are problems. Yes, Scripture is inspired and it is the authority to settle all matters. However, it is also well known that there are textual, literary, historical, scientific, philosophical, cultural, theological, and moral problems with the

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<sup>3</sup>"There are a thousand temptations in disguise prepared for those who have the light of truth, and the only safety for any of us is in receiving no new doctrine, no new interpretation of the Scriptures, without first submitting it to brethren of experience. Lay it before them in a humble, teachable spirit, with earnest prayer, and if they see no light in it, yield to their judgment, for 'in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.'"—LDE 91

text. The observable phenomena of Scripture which we see inductively sometimes seem to conflict with our doctrine of Scripture which we hold deductively as we infer it from the attitude and teaching of Jesus. What should we do with problems like these? Can we handle them with integrity?

Also, I readily acknowledge that virtually every Christian doctrine raises problems. This includes even the central doctrines. For instance, the doctrine of God raises questions about His being, creation, sovereignty, providence, and justice. The doctrine of Jesus Christ gives rise to questions about His one person in two natures, His work of atonement, His bodily resurrection, present reign, and future return. And the doctrine of the Holy Spirit poses questions about His activity in the Church and in the world. Or, to take another example, consider the love of God. It is a fundamental Christian doctrine. Every Christian, without exception, would normally believe that God is love; yet the problems surrounding this belief are enormous: for example, the origin and spread of evil, the suffering of the innocent, the “silences” of God, and the so-called “acts” of God.

The theologian, John Stott<sup>4</sup> describes this difficulty and suggests that the way of intellectual integrity is to determine to retain our conviction about God’s love, in spite of the residual difficulties, because Jesus our Lord himself taught and exhibited God’s love. And he argues further that to believe a Christian doctrine in spite of its problems, because of the acknowledged lordship of Jesus Christ, is not preferring darkness to light. It is trusting in Him who said “I am the light of the world.” In this way, we do not have to suspend our belief in the truth of the Scriptures until we have solved the problem; nor do we sweep the problem under the proverbial carpet. We continue in faith to struggle conscientiously with the problem in thought, discussion, fasting, and prayer. As we do so, ultimately, some difficulties will be either wholly or partly clarified. And then, in spite of difficulties which remain, we must continue to retain our belief in Scripture on the ground that Jesus himself taught and exemplified such belief.

### The Role of The Word of God

What then is the role of the Word of God in the matter of unity of doctrine? Firstly, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”—2 Tim 3:16, 17, KJV And from inspiration we read, “In his Word, God has committed to men the knowledge necessary for salvation. The Holy Scriptures are to be accepted as an authoritative, infallible revelation of his will. They are the standard of character, the revealer of doctrines, and the test of experience.”—GC vii

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<sup>4</sup>John Stott, *The Contemporary Christian*, (Leicester: Inter-Varsity Press, 1992), pp 178-183.

However, referring to those who are now living upon the earth, Paul declared: "The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."—2 Tim 4:3, 4 In view of this, he gave some significant soul-stirring advice to ministers, "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom: Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine."—2 Tim 4:1, 2

The approach to unity thus begins with submission to the supremacy of the Word of God. Although our doctrines are based on the Word, we need to acknowledge that they were arrived at by a process<sup>5</sup>, and that they are thus human constructs based upon our understanding of the Word. I therefore reiterate that our call for submission should be to the primacy of the Word, and *not* to the interpretation of the Word. We must exalt the Word of God and allow it supremacy over all human constructs. Accordingly then, the Word must be allowed to reform and renew the Church. By preaching the Word and teaching the kind of study of the Word that empowers and leads to clear doctrinal thinking<sup>6</sup>, we would take an immense immediate leap forward in

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<sup>5</sup>My husband, with Elders Joseph Bates, Stephen Pierce, Hiram Edson, and others who were keen, noble, and true, was among those who, after the passing of the time in 1844, searched for the truth as for hidden treasure.

We would come together burdened in soul, praying that we might be one in faith and doctrine; for we knew that Christ is not divided. One point at a time was made the subject of investigation. The Scriptures were opened with a sense of awe. Often we fasted, that we might be better fitted to understand the truth. After earnest prayer, if any point was not understood, it was discussed and each one expressed his opinion freely; then we would again bow in prayer, and earnest supplications went up to heaven that God would help us to see eye to eye, that we might be one, as Christ and the Father are one. Many tears were shed.

We spent many hours in this way. Sometimes the entire night was spent in solemn investigation of the Scriptures, *that we might understand the truth for our time*. On some occasions the Spirit of God would come upon me, and difficult portions were made clear through God's appointed way, and then there was perfect harmony. We were all of one mind and one spirit.

We sought most earnestly that the Scriptures should not be wrested to suit any man's opinions. We tried to make our differences as slight as possible by not dwelling on points that were of minor importance, upon which there were varying opinions. But the burden of every soul was to bring about a condition among the brethren which would answer the prayer of Christ that His disciples might be one as He and the Father are one.

Sometimes one or two of the brethren would stubbornly set themselves against the view presented, and would act out the natural feelings of the heart; but *when this disposition appeared, we suspended our investigations and adjourned our meeting, that each one might have an opportunity to go to God in prayer, and without conversation with others, study the point of difference, asking light from heaven*. With expressions of friendliness we parted, to meet again as soon as possible for further investigation. At times the power of God came upon us in a marked manner, and when clear light revealed the points of truth, we would weep and rejoice together. We loved Jesus; we loved one another."—CET 192-195 (italics supplied)

<sup>6</sup> "I have words to speak to the young men who have been teaching the truth: Preach the Word. . . . Let those who are tempted to indulge in fanciful, imaginary doctrines sink the shaft deep into the quarries of heavenly truth and secure the treasure which means life eternal to the receiver. In the Word there are the most precious ideas.

revitalizing the Church for our time. Consider this statement from the Spirit of Prophecy, "When absolute homage is paid to the Word of God in matters of doctrine and principle, there will be no easy fellowship with the world. There will be no slipshod religion. When the Bible and the Bible alone is the rule of our faith and practice, the influence of our lives will have a telling power on the world."—Ms 177, 1899, p 11.

Obviously the amazing potential for the manifestation of God's power in this Church is yet to be seen; but it is not beyond our reach if we revive the true role of the Word in the life of believers. Our greatest need today, therefore, is for a deeper love for God's Word, for deeper contemplation of the Word, woven into the core activities of spiritual life—Bible study, meditation, prayer, and maintenance of a sense of the abiding presence of God.

### Role of the Spirit of Prophecy

Let us consider next the role of the Spirit of Prophecy in the matter of our doctrines. A remark made by S N Haskell concerning the relation of the Spirit of Prophecy to the doctrines of the Church provides the insight we seek. In answering a question raised in one of his meetings, he referred to the Scripture argument and then read some extracts from the Spirit of Prophecy which threw light upon the subject. Alluding to the use of that which had been given to the Church by the Spirit of Prophecy, he said he never attempted to establish doctrine from the testimonies. "The testimonies have not been given to establish new doctrine. The doctrine is established by the Word of God, and the Spirit of Prophecy comes in to bring out the light, revealing new beauties in it, and bringing out here and there details which help in the understanding of the Word of God."—4BIO 68

This position is confirmed repeatedly<sup>7</sup> throughout the writings of Ellen White. First and foremost, doctrines must be rooted in the Word, then the Spirit of Prophecy writings may be used to play a helpful and supportive role.

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These will be secured by those who study with earnestness; for heavenly angels will direct the search; but the angels never lead the mind to dwell upon cheap nonsense, as though it were the word of God."—3MR 276

<sup>7</sup>"The Word of God clearly reveals that this prophetic gift will be manifested in the remnant church and will constitute one of its distinguishing features. Rev. 12-17; 19:10. The proof of this gift in the church, as manifested through the work of Mrs. E. G. White, has been found in the harmony of her teachings with the Holy Scriptures. Her work has ever been to point the church of Christ to the Bible as the foundation of faith and to the Lord Jesus Christ as the one and all-sufficient Saviour. The same spirit that inspired the prophets of old has been manifest in her work for the church. While the Scriptures constitute the basis of all faith and doctrine, they at the same time plainly teach the existence of the gift of prophecy in the remnant church."—Our church doctrines set by the pioneers were thus 'soundly founded on the Word of God; major positions confirmed by messages from heaven through the Spirit of Prophecy in their midst.'"—2BIO 312

## Role of the Holy Spirit

In the case of the Holy Spirit, however, without the enlightenment that He gives, we shall not be able to discern truth from error and shall fall under the masterful temptations and deceptions of Satan<sup>8</sup>. Jesus promised His disciples, "The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."—John 14:26 "When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth . . . and he will shew you things to come."—John 16:13 Scripture plainly teaches, therefore, that these promises were not limited only to apostolic days, but that they extend to the Church of Christ today. Indeed, Paul *affirms* that the gifts and manifestations of the Spirit were given in the church "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."—Eph 4:12, 13

It is critical, therefore, that the Holy Spirit be allowed to fulfill His role in the spiritual life of believers. Ellen White repeatedly affirms this<sup>9</sup>, and it is so important that we see Paul praying for the believers at Ephesus, "That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, . . . And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe."—Eph 1:17-19

Ellen White's comment on this is that, "The ministry of the divine Spirit in enlightening the understanding and opening to the mind the deep things of God's holy Word, was the blessing which Paul thus besought for the Ephesian church."—GC ix This is our prayer for our members around the world Church. Holy Spirit enlightenment of the understanding that edifies the body of Christ so that no longer would we be like "children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine"—Eph 4:14

So in conclusion, as much as doctrine is important, it is crucial to note that the apostle Paul's first words to Timothy are about unity and the issue was about "fables and endless

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<sup>8</sup>"In harmony with the Word of God, His Spirit was to continue its work throughout the entire period of the gospel dispensation. During the ages while the Scriptures of both the Old and the New Testament were being given, the Holy Spirit did not cease to communicate light to individual minds, apart from the revelations to be embodied in the sacred canon. . . . In like manner, after the close of the canon of Scripture, the Holy Spirit was still to continue its work, to enlighten, warn, and comfort the children of God."—GC viii

<sup>9</sup>"The fact that God has revealed his will to men through His word, has not rendered needless the continued presence and guiding of the Holy Spirit. On the contrary, the Spirit was promised by our Saviour, to open the word to His servants, to illuminate and apply its teachings. And since it was the Spirit of God that inspired the Bible, it is impossible that the teaching of the Spirit should ever be contrary to that of the word."—GC vii

genealogies.” There were obviously those who were placing emphasis on aspects of doctrine which in Paul’s judgment, “minister questions, rather than godly edifying.” Ellen White also raises a note of caution when she said that there is a danger in placing too much emphasis on doctrines rather than on practical godliness.

Accordingly, I present the example of Enoch to underline the need for this balance. Those who would think God’s thoughts after Him must draw near to Him, keeping the eyes of faith fixed on Him who is the way, the truth, and the life<sup>10</sup>. “We need to hide in the cleft of the Rock, and view the character of God. Enoch walked with God 300 years. He reflected upon God, he contemplated his character, and his life was well-pleasing in the sight of God. And on the part of His children today there should be just such a meditation upon the Word of God. It should not only be read, but carefully studied; for it furnishes the only safe standard and guide in the formation of moral character, and the only sure road to intellectual culture.”—4MR 411

The times require the people of God to be steadfast, anchored and united in the Word of God and in His doctrine. We must resist all pressures—intellectual and moral—to conform to that which is not scriptural. We are not to allow ourselves to slip or slide into the mud of religious relativity, or be torn from our moorings. Let us be a people who are united by the Word and steadfast in preserving Biblical truths as a sacred body of doctrine.

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Don C Schneider called the fifth business session of the 2000 Annual Council to order.

Dolores Slikkers, a Layperson from the North American Division, opened the business session with prayer.

PRE/GCDO00AC/00AC to GDK

326-00G OFFICE OF GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING—  
ESTABLISHMENT

VOTED, To establish an office of Global Leadership Training at the General Conference.

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<sup>10</sup>Cousins, Ewert H; 1992; *Christ of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*; Element Books Limited, Dorset, UK

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PRE/GCDO00AC/00AC to GDK

## 315-00Ga GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING INITIATIVES AND INTER-RELATIONSHIPS

### Background

A number of years ago, the church in North America sensed the need for leadership training and this led to the development of the Christian Leadership Training Seminars in the 1970's. These seminars were well received and provided training for pastors and conference leaders. In the 1980's an office of leadership was established by the General Conference and administered from an off-site location. Then in the 1990's the Center for Global Leadership was established at the General Conference headquarters which conducted leadership training for the world Church. In recent years this has been inactive.

### The Need

At almost every pre-Annual Council interview with division officers during the past two years, the need for leadership training has been emphasized. Many areas of the world field are experiencing unprecedented membership growth, thus creating the need for trained leaders. This membership growth often occurs in parts of the world where education and training are limited.

### The Challenge

How does the world Church provide leadership training for an exploding membership in places where economies are weak and training opportunities are virtually non-existent, and yet where the need for trained leadership is the most acute? Where do we find the resources, both human and financial, to deliver the kind of training needed to support and sustain an ongoing, vibrant missionary thrust on the front lines, while making provision for the logistic and management requirements of a stable organization? The organization has become too large to expect someone from the headquarters office to actually do the hands-on training of leadership for the world Church. As the Church continues to grow, the need for training will only increase.

VOTED, To approve the following proposal regarding Global Leadership Training Initiatives and Inter-relationships:

## The Proposal

Degree programs in leadership and various other leadership courses are being offered by a number of colleges and universities around the world. A plan should be established to coordinate the resources present within these institutions with the needs in the various divisions of the world field. Other nonacademic resources will also be identified.

Some of the immediate needs are to:

- Elect a General Conference Director of Global Leadership Training who will provide consultation, coordination, and input into the curriculum development of programs and courses in leadership at the institutional level, as well as consultation with the divisions to determine the nature of and the level of training needed in the various fields.
- Establish a Global Leadership Training Advisory Board composed of academics and other professionals involved in leadership training, field representatives from areas where the needs are present, and representation from General Conference administration. It is envisioned that this board will be chaired by a vice president, with the director of the General Conference Global Leadership Training serving as the secretary.
- Request the Director of the General Conference Global Leadership Training office and the chairman of the board to study the needs of the field by holding consultations with the division administrations in their territory and/or at times when other meetings bring the group together. Programs will be implemented only with the approval of division leadership.
- In cooperation with strategic planning, anticipate the needs of rapidly growing areas and make provision for adequate leadership training before the need reaches crisis proportions. Attention should be given to preemptive training rather than crisis management training.
- Give consideration to multiple levels of training which are designed to meet the needs of the field. Some individuals will need basic skills to get started. Others will be in a category where continuing education units (CEU's) could be granted following a prescribed course of study. Still others will be enrolled in accredited degree programs, either on a college/university campus or through extension programs.
- Give study to the delivery of distance learning programs via such delivery systems as video conferencing, satellite transmission, and the Internet.



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- Establish a model for internships which would be individually designed to meet specific needs. Such internships may best be offered at locations other than the intern's field of service.
- In order to accomplish these global objectives, develop a budget to cover such expenses as:
  - Basic research
  - Development of materials
  - Delivery costs of getting programs to the field (including phone line costs for video conferencing and satellite costs for the downlink delivery of training programs)
  - Travel, per diem, and other costs for sending trainers to overseas locations
- Give attention to coordinating training events in cooperation with other departments in an effort to synchronize and economize the gathering of people for such events.
- Encourage divisions to establish a leadership training function at their levels.

PRE/GCDO00AC/00AC to GDK-ADCOM

315-00Gb GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING ADVISORY BOARD  
(ADCOM-S)—APPOINTMENT

RECOMMENDED, To appoint a Global Leadership Training Advisory Board (ADCOM-S), with terms of reference and membership as follows:

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Evaluate and review needs for leadership training through the world field.
2. Anticipate trends and address needs which result from changing membership growth patterns.

AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

1. Power to act in consultation with divisions
2. Power to act in consultation with divisions.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 3. Establish leadership training programs which coordinate resources with needs in the world field. | 3. Power to act in consultation with divisions.             |
| 4. Provide for delivery systems which maximize both technology and personal involvement.            | 4. Power to act.  |
| 5. Develop multi-level curricula designed to meet the academic and practical needs of participants. | 5. Power to act.  |
| 6. Meet at least once each year at the time of Annual Council.                                      | 6. Power to act.  |
| 7. Prepare and monitor a budget designed to meet the needs of leadership training.                  | 7. Recommend to Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee. |
| 8. Interact and consult with the Strategic Planning Committee.                                      | 8. Power to act.  |
| 9. Promote leadership training as a core responsibility of all church leaders worldwide.            | 9. Power to act.  |

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Sahly, Donald R, Secretary

Division presidents, or designees  
Ministerial Association Director of Continuing Education  
Two conference presidents  
Two union presidents  
Up to six academics, with previous leadership experience, involved in leadership training  
Two laypersons with direct leadership experience  
Department of Education Director

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EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Paulsen, Jan  
Bediako, Matthew A  
Rawson, Robert L

NomCom00AC/00AC to MAB

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #2

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

ARCHIVES AND STATISTICS

Director, Bert B Haloviak

BIBLICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Director, George W Reid

Associate Directors

Ekkehardt Mueller  
Gerhard Pfandl  
Angel M Rodriguez

GLOBAL MISSION

Director, Michael L Ryan

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Director, Eugene W Grosser

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Director, Robert W Nixon

STEWARDSHIP DEPARTMENT

Associate Director, Jean-Luc Lezeau

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Associate Editors

Roy Adams

William M Knott

MINISTRY

Editor, Willmore D Eva

DIALOGUE

Editor in Chief, Humberto M Rasi

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Associate Editors

Alfredo A Garcia-Marenko

Richard O Stenbakken

ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

Editor, Clifford Goldstein

Associate Editor, Lyndelle Chiomenti

COLLEGIATE QUARTERLY

Editor, Gary B Swanson

CORNERSTONE CONNECTIONS

Editor, Gary B Swanson

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BEGINNERS, KINDERGARTEN, PRIMARY SABBATH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY GUIDES

Editor, Patricia A Habada

LIBERTY

Editor, Lincoln E Steed

JOURNAL OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION

Editor, Beverly J Rumble

Associate Editor, Enrique Becerra

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Director, Donald R Sahly

GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Director, L James Gibson

GENERAL FIELD SECRETARIES

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George W Reid  
Michael L Ryan  
Donald R Sahly  
Ralph S Watts Jr

ADVENTIST GLOBAL COMMUNICATION NETWORK

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Gustin, Patricia A

Carlson, Richard  
Kwesi, Ifeoma  
Martin, Carlos G  
Remmers, Rick  
Rodriguez, Angel M  
Schoonard, Duane

\*Executive Committee

Department of Education Associate Director\*  
Ministerial Association Associate Secretary\*

Presidents/Deans of seminaries and universities  
offering denominationally recognized  
doctoral programs in ministerial formation

Two deans of graduate programs in ministerial and  
and religious formation

Two chairmen of undergraduate programs in  
ministerial and religious formation

Four faculty from institutions offering programs in  
ministerial and religious formation

Six persons experienced and active in ministerial  
formation (Pastors, Chaplains, Bible  
Instructors, etc)

#### GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE BOARD

COOPER, LOWELL C, Chairman  
Wilson, Ted N C, Vice-chairman  
Gibson, L James, Secretary

Bediako, Matthew A  
Behrens, B Lyn  
Eva, Willmore D



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Karlow, Edwin A  
Lemon, Robert E  
McVay, John K  
Mostert, Thomas J Jr  
Mundy, William C  
Nelson, W G  
Paulsen, Jan  
Pfandl, Gerhard  
Rasi, Humberto M  
Rawson, Robert L  
Reid, George W  
Sandefur, Charles C Jr  
Schneider, Don C  
Stout, John F  
Warren, Mervyn  
Weiss, Brenda  
Wilson, Neal C

#### INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION

##### OFFICERS

RANZOLIN, LEO, President  
Handysides, Allan R, Vice President  
Landless, Peter N, Executive Secretary  
Proctor, Stoy E, Associate Secretary

##### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

RANZOLIN, LEO, Chairman  
Handysides, Allan R, Vice-chairman  
Landless, Peter N, Executive Secretary  
Baber, Edward E, Treasurer

Crawford, James M  
David, Elwin B  
Foster, Gwendolyn  
Garcia-Marenko, Alfredo A  
Karst, Verna L  
Kumalae, LuWana

Kuntaraf, Kathleen  
Otis, Rose M  
Prestol, Juan R  
Proctor, Stoy E  
Rasi, Humberto M  
Swanson, Gary B  
Williams, DeWitt S

At 10:05 a.m. the business session of the Annual Council was recessed.

ADVENTIST INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED  
STUDIES—CONSTITUENCY MEETING

At 10:05 a.m. a constituency meeting of the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies was held.

At 10:25 a.m. the business session of the Annual Council was reconvened.

ACTS 2000 MEETINGS IN SEOUL, KOREA - REPORT

Pyung-Duk Chun, President of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, reported on the ACTS 2000 meetings which Mark A Finley is currently holding in Seoul, Korea on the campus of Sahmyook University. Every seat was filled in the 3,000 seat college auditorium and the 800 seat high school auditorium. There are 77 local churches participating and an additional 500 churches are participating via satellite throughout Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Thailand, China, Russia, and Mongolia.

PRE/ADCOM/GCDO99AC/00SM/00AC to CBR

231-00G ADVENTIST HEALTH INTERNATIONAL—  
INCORPORATION

VOTED, 1. To authorize incorporation of Adventist Health International.

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2. To record the Statement of Purpose for Adventist Health International, Incorporated, as follows:

Adventist Health International  
Statement of Purpose

Adventist Health International, Incorporated (AHI) is a multinational, nonprofit corporation membered by the appropriate church entities with headquarters at Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California, USA. It has been established to provide coordination, consultation, management, and technical assistance to hospitals and health care services operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, particularly in developing countries. AHI is not a funding agency and depends on various organizations, foundations, governments, and individuals to provide financial assistance when needed.

Participation in AHI is voluntary and must be requested by a local hospital governing board and its respective church governing bodies, including the union and division committees, before being evaluated by the Board of Directors. When a request has been approved by the union, division, and AHI board, a new corporation will be established in that respective country with these three entities usually constituting its corporate members. A new local governing board will be selected following the AHI sample bylaws with local adaptation as necessary. Actual ownership of each physical facility will usually remain with the local church organization.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has a traditional commitment to the value of every individual and their spiritual, mental, physical, and social development. AHI deliberately accepts this obligation to wholeness in each country and institution where it serves. AHI believes that every health care institution must be firmly rooted in its community with concern for all aspects of development, and will pursue policies and programs which accomplish this aim. Usually this will require AHI to assume responsibility for all Seventh-day Adventist operated health care services in each country where it operates with the intent to develop an integrated delivery network of primary and secondary health care. To help accomplish these objectives, AHI is committed to the education of local health care professionals and will encourage the establishment and/or retention of professional training programs whenever appropriate.

PRE/GCDO00AC/00AC to LCC(DIV)

316-00G COMMISSION ON AFRICA—APPOINTMENT

VOTED, To appoint a Commission on Africa (GCC-S), with terms of reference and membership as follows:

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Assess and project trends in church growth and development on the African continent, as well as in adjacent territories which are served by denominational offices based in Africa.
2. Identify organizational and structural factors which could facilitate stronger growth and stability for the Church in this region of the world.
3. Design, for the African continent as well as for adjacent territories which are served by denominational offices based in Africa, a model for:
  - a. Fostering further church growth/development,
  - b. Configuring division territories,
  - c. Aligning countries within divisions,
  - d. Providing an adequate leadership training system,
  - e. Ensuring viable denominational infrastructure.

AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

1. Power to act.
2. Power to act.
3. Recommend to GCC through ADCOM.

MEMBERS

COOPER, LOWELL C, Chairman  
Wilson, Ted N C, Vice-chairman  
Sabot, Claude, Secretary

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In-house working group: Ang'awa, Mary Atiena  
Fowler, John M  
Miranda, Armando  
Muganda, Baraka G  
Rose, Steven G  
Ryan, Michael L

Division representatives: Division officers from AID, EAD, EUD, TED.  
President, Southern Africa Union Conference.  
Laypersons and pastors representing AID, EAD, EUD, TED,  
from African territories, who serve as members of the GC  
Executive Committee. In the event that EUD and/or TED  
do not have at least one layperson and one pastor, from  
African territories, serving on the GC Executive Committee  
the division shall be entitled to select a person to fill any  
unfilled category (one layperson and/or one pastor).  
One layperson and one pastor from the Southern Africa Union  
Conference.

Consultants/Invitees: DeBoer, Gary B  
Jones, Theodore T  
Keith, Dennis C Sr  
Lemon, Robert E  
Robinson, Donald E  
Watts, Ralph S Jr  
Directors, General Conference Departments  
Union presidents within the territories concerned

#### EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Paulsen, Jan  
Bediako, Matthew A  
Rawson, Robert L

TRE/00AC to AHT-ADCOM+01SM+01AC

328-00G REMUNERATION STUDY COMMISSION—REQUEST TO  
APPOINT

Robert L Rawson reiterated two of the concerns which he expressed in the Treasurer's Report that need to be addressed in the next five years: (1) Develop initiatives, processes, and

programs that will recruit, train, and retain adequate numbers of qualified personnel, including treasury personnel, with suitable levels of remuneration; and (2) Develop a wage scale philosophy that is in accordance with the biblical injunctions of simplicity and sacrifice and yet is sensitive to the issues of fairness and market and economic realities. Following considerable discussion, it was

VOTED, 1. To request the Ellen G White Estate to research the counsel given on the subject of remuneration for church employees.

2. To request the Administrative Committee to appoint a Remuneration Study Commission whose function will be to address issues of remuneration for the world Church, in the context of inspired counsel; and to bring progress reports, and eventually recommendations, to Spring Meeting and/or Annual Council.

HM/00AC to LR

#### WALK AROUND THE WORLD - FINAL REPORT

The Walk Around the World which began in Utrecht, The Netherlands at the time of the 1995 General Conference Session was concluded in Toronto, Canada at the 2000 General Conference Session. During those five years, tens of thousands of young people and older ones participated in the programs in support of drug awareness and abstinence.

PRE/GCO&DivPre&Tre00SM/00SM/GCDO00AC/00AC to JP

#### 234-00Gb VENUE OF FUTURE ANNUAL COUNCILS

VOTED, To hold all Annual Councils during the current quinquennium at the General Conference headquarters.

PRE/00AC to JP-ADCOM+01AC

#### 327-00G GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Jan Paulsen expressed concerns related to the recent General Conference Session. There were major periods of time during the business sessions when only 25 percent of the delegates were present. It is important that there be more than a token presence of delegates when

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Revised

significant items which will affect the world field are being discussed. Should there be commercial booths at Session, or only booths for official church entities; and should the booths be open during business sessions?

The Session Nominating Committee is another area of concern. This committee needs more information about people in order to make intelligent and informed decisions. It would be helpful if the members of this committee were provided with evaluations of incumbents. While administration cannot serve on the Nominating Committee, it would be useful to have its input on the election of senior leadership. The time constraints on the Nominating Committee also make its work difficult. Due to concern for these and other issues, it was

VOTED, To request the Administrative Committee to initiate a process, with due consultation and input from around the world, to determine methods for more expeditiously and efficiently conducting the business of the General Conference Session, and to bring a report and recommendations back to a future Annual Council.

SEC/00AC to AHT

317-00G ACCREDITING ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTIST SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES—  
REAPPOINTMENT

VOTED, To reappoint the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities, with membership as follows:

MEMBERS

RASI, HUMBERTO M, Chairman\*  
Dulan, C Garland, Executive Secretary\*

Archbold, Carlos\*  
Badenas, Roberto\*  
Beardsley, Lisa  
Becerra, Enrique\*  
Burnham, Gil  
Cantu, Carol  
Contreras, Myrna Colon  
de Azebedo, Roberto C\*

Devine, Lester D\*  
Fowler, John M\*  
Garcia-Marenko, Emilio  
Graham, Karen  
Guptill, Stephen R\*  
Ikonne, Chiemela\*  
John, M C\*  
Kiubbuka, Hudson E\*

Lekic, Mike M  
Lindsay, Ronald  
Osborn, Richard C\*  
Peters, Percy\*  
Rock, Calvin B\*  
Rodriguez, Angel M  
Ryan, Roy E  
Sahly, Donald R

Schoun, Benjamin D  
Smith, Doris J  
Temple, Gary  
Uyeda, Masaji\*  
Woolford, Orville\*

ESD Department of Education Director\*

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Paulsen, Jan  
Bediako, Matthew A  
Rawson, Robert L

\*Executive Committee

SEC/00AC to AHT

318-00G COMMITTEE ON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST HEALTH  
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (GCC-S)—REAPPOINTMENT

VOTED, To reappoint the Committee on Seventh-day Adventist Health Professional Education (GCC-S), with terms of reference and membership as follows:

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Establish, recommend, and monitor educational standards in health professional programs such as medicine, nursing, and public health, considering international needs and resources.
2. Evaluate, screen, and endorse, for the International Board of Education, proposed new programs in health professional fields.

AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

1. Power to act.
2. Power to act.



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- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 3. Assist the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities in appointing accrediting teams, which will include health specialists, to conduct evaluations of health professional programs at colleges, universities, and hospitals. | 3. Power to act. |
|---|------------------|

MEMBERS

HANDYSIDES, ALLAN R, Chairman  
Dulan, C Garland, Secretary

Associate Directors in Health Ministries Department  
Jones, Patricia S  
Landless, Peter N

Deans of Adventist Schools of Medicine  
Bull, Brian  
Gil, Alejandro  
Tabuenca, Pedro D

Deans of Adventist Schools of Nursing  
Allen, Karen A  
Ellacer, Gerundio U

Deans of Adventist Schools of Public Health  
Hart, Richard  
Salamante, Ricardo G

Dean of Adventist School of Allied Health  
Hopp, Joyce

Dean of Adventist School of Dentistry  
Goodacre, Charles

Dean of Graduate School of Dentistry  
Rippon, W Barton

SEC/00AC to AHT

319-00G GLOBAL MISSION OPERATIONS COMMITTEE (GCC-S)—  
REAPPOINTMENT

VOTED, To reappoint the Global Mission Operations Committee (GCC-S), with terms of reference and membership as follows:

TERMS OF REFERENCE

AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Prepare a budget to accommodate the requests for special appropriations for Global Mission projects submitted by divisions.    | 1. Recommend to Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee. |
| 2. Approve the funding of division Global Mission projects in accordance with Global Mission criteria.                            | 2. Power to act.  |
| 3. Approve the release of special appropriations to divisions in harmony with Global Mission guidelines for the release of funds. | 3. Power to act.  |
| 4. Prepare an in-house operating budget.  | 4. Recommend to Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee. |
| 5. Cooperate with divisions regarding project objectives, financing, and development.   | 5. Power to act.  |
| 6. Require reports from division coordinators for Global Mission on project progress and accomplishments.                         | 6. Power to act.  |
| 7. Report to the Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee on project progress and accomplishments.                              | 7. Power to act.  |

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- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 8. Supervise Religious Study Centers.  | 8. Power to act.  |
| 9. Supervise the Center for<br><i>International Relations</i> .  | 9. Power to act.  |
| 10. In consultation with the General<br>Conference President, manage and<br>distribute to divisions the money in<br>the President's Evangelism Fund. | 10. Power to act. |

### MEMBERS

MIRANDA, ARMANDO, Chairman

Ryan, Michael L, Secretary

Bediako, Matthew A  
Campos, Jose L  
Cooper, Lowell C  
Cress, James A  
Dabrowski, Rajmund  
Flowers, Ronald E  
Folkenberg, Donald L  
Galicia, Agustin  
Goddard, Kathy  
Graz, John  
Haloviak, Bert  
Handysides, Allan R  
Hsu, Eugene  
Jacobsen, Donald G  
Karst, Gerry D  
Krause, Gary D  
Lemon, Robert E  
Maxson, Benjamin C

Muganda, Baraka  
Orion-Flores, Daisy J  
Parmenter, Vernon B  
Paulsen, Jan  
Ranzolin, Leo  
Rasi, Humberto M  
Rawson, Robert L  
Rock, Calvin B  
Rose, Steven G  
Schneider, Don C  
Smith, Virginia L  
Stenbakken, Ardis D  
Stenbakken, Richard O  
Tolhurst, Athal H  
Watts, Ralph S Jr  
Wilson, Jeffrey K  
Wilson, Ted N C  
Zackrison, James W

Presidents of divisions and attached union

SEC/ADCOM/GCO&DivPre98SM/98SM/ADCOM/GCDO98AC/98AC/102-98Gc/ADCOM/  
GCC/SEC/ADCOM/SEC/ADCOM/ADCOM/GCDO99AC/99AC/102-99Gb/SEC/ADCOM/  
GCO&DivPre&Tre00SM/00SM/SEC/SEC/ADCOM/GCDO00GCS/ADCOM/GCDO00AC/  
00AC to HWB(DIV)

102-00Ga AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2000

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2000 with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2000</u>			
1(eve)	Sun	GC PARL World Affairs	Silver Spring MD
5	Thu	Andrews University Board Constituency	Berrien Springs MI
5-21	Thu	Institute of World Mission	Berrien Springs MI
6(am)	Fri	Andrews University Board Finance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
8	Sun	Andrews University Board Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
8(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
9	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
15,16	Sun	Oakwood College Board	Huntsville AL
22	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
23	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
24(am)	Tue	LLUAHSC Board Committees & Board	Loma Linda CA
24(pm)	Tue	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
25	Wed	LLUMC Board & LLUAHSC Board	Loma Linda CA
29(eve)-Nov 2	Sun	NAD Yearend Meeting	Silver Spring MD
<u>November 2000</u>			
15	Wed	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Nashville TN
29	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>December 2000</u>			
3-15	Sun	27 <sup>th</sup> Faith & Learning Seminar	Muak Lek THAILAND
12(am)	Tue	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
12(pm)	Tue	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
13(am)	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
14(am)	Thu	R&H Executive & Finance Committees	Silver Spring MD

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SEC/ADCOM/GCC/SEC/ADCOM/SEC/ADCOM/ADCOM/GCDO99AC/99AC/102-99Gc/  
SEC/ADCOM/GCO&DivPre&Tre00SM/00SM/SEC/SEC/ADCOM/GCDO00GCS/ADCOM/  
GCDO00AC/00AC to HWB(DIV)

102-00Gb AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2001

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2001 with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>January 2001</u>			
4-19	Thu	Institute of World Mission	Avondale AUSTRALIA
4-21	Thu	Institute of World Mission	Loma Linda CA
20-23	Sab	IWM Welcome Home Seminar (SPD Families)	Sydney AUSTRALIA
31	Wed	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>February 2001</u>			
4	Sun	LLUAHSC Constituency Meeting	Loma Linda CA
5	Mon	LLUAHSC Board	Loma Linda CA
6	Tue	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
7	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
8(am)	Thu	Geoscience Research Institute Board	Loma Linda CA
8,9	Thu	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
21	Wed	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
23-27	Fri	PPPA & R&H ABC Marketing Seminar	East Coast
<u>March 2001</u>			
1	Thu	Institute of World Mission Admin Council	Berrien Springs MI
1	Thu	AIIAS Board	PHILIPPINES
2(am)	Fri	Andrews University Board Finance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
4	Sun	Andrews University Board Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
4(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
5	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
8	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
8-24	Thu	Institute of World Mission	Abidjan IVORY COAST
15(am)	Thu	LLUMC Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
15-18	Thu	International Conference on Religious Liberty	BERMUDA
15(pm)	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>March 2001</u> contd			
19-23	Mon	Family Ministries Advisory	Silver Spring MD
19-23	Mon	Publishing Advisory	Silver Spring MD
19-23	Mon	Trust Services Advisory	Silver Spring MD
19-23	Mon	Sabbath School & Personal Ministries Advisory	Silver Spring MD
22-Apr 1	Thu	International Youth Leadership Conference	Sao Paulo BRAZIL
25-30	Sun	World Sabbath School Curriculum Committee	Silver Spring MD
25-31	Sun	Ministerial Association Advisory	Silver Spring MD
26-30	Mon	Health Ministries Advisory	Silver Spring MD
26-30	Mon	Public Affairs & Religious Liberty Advisory	Silver Spring MD
26-30	Mon	Women's Ministries Advisory	Silver Spring MD
29	Thu	GC Treasurers Council	Victoria BC CANADA
<u>April 2001</u>			
1-3	Sun	GC & NAD Union Secretaries Council	Victoria BC CANADA
1-3	Mon	GC & NAD Union & Local Treasurers Council	Victoria BC CANADA
2(eve)	Mon	R&H Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
2-6	Mon	Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Advisory	Silver Spring MD
2-6	Mon	Children's Ministries Advisory	Hagerstown MD
2-6	Mon	Communication Advisory	Silver Spring MD
2-6	Mon	Education Advisory	Silver Spring MD
3	Tue	R&H Constituency and Board	Hagerstown MD
3	Tue	Ministry Professional Growth Seminar	Huntsville AL
5	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
6-10	Fri	World Stewardship Summit	Columbia MD
7-9	Sat	Conf on Adventist Philosophy of Education	Berrien Springs MI
10(pm/eve)	Tue	AGCN Operating Committee	Silver Spring MD
10(pm/eve)	Tue	WHAST Operating Committee	Silver Spring MD
11	Wed	Andrews University Executive Committee	Berrien Springs MI
11,12	Wed	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
11,12	Wed	GC Officers & Div Presidents Interviews	Silver Spring MD
11-13	Wed	Stewardship Advisory	Silver Spring MD
11-13	Wed	Adventist Volunteer Center Advisory	Silver Spring MD
13	Fri	GC & Division Presidents	Silver Spring MD
15	Sun	Financial Planning & Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
16	Mon	GC Officers & Division Presidents	Silver Spring MD
16	Mon	GC PARL World Affairs	Silver Spring MD
17(am)	Tue	ADRA Board	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>April 2001 contd</u>			
17(pm)	Tue	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
18,19(am)	Wed	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
18(eve)	Wed	HSI/Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
25-27	Wed	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI
29,30	Sun	Oakwood College Board	Huntsville AL
30-May 18	Mon	SS&PM Curriculum Subcommittee (CR&KG)	Silver Spring MD
<u>May 2001</u>			
7-12	Mon	GC Colloquium & Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
17(pm)	Thu	Andrews University Executive Committee	Berrien Springs MI
18-20	Fri	LLU, LLUMC & LLUAHSC Board Retreats	Loma Linda CA
21(pm)	Mon	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
22(am)	Tue	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
22(pm)	Tue	LLUAHSC Finance & Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
23(am)	Wed	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
23(pm)	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
27	Sun	Oakwood College Constituency Meeting	Huntsville AL
30	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>June 2001</u>			
7(am)	Thu	R&H Executive & Finance Committees	Silver Spring MD
13	Wed	GC Staff Day	Gaithersburg MD
14-30	Thu	Institute of World Mission	Berrien Springs MI
17-22	Sun	ADRA Pan-Africa Consultation	
17-29	Sun	28 <sup>th</sup> Faith & Learning Seminar	Ikeja NIGERIA
21(am)	Thu	LLUMC Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
21(pm)	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
<u>July 2001</u>			
3-8	Tue	IWM Welcome Home Seminar (Family & Teen)	Berrien Springs MI
8-20	Fri	GRI Field Conference	USA
9	Mon	Assoc of Adv Family Life Prof Board	Berrien Springs MI
9-27	Mon	SS&PM Curriculum Subcommittee (Primary)	Silver Spring MD
19-Aug 4	Thu	Institute of World Mission	Bracknell ENGLAND
22-25	Sun	Seminar for Coll & Univ Fin VPs & Managers	Silver Spring MD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>August 2001</u>			
1-15	Wed	BRISCO Field Conference	Jerusalem ISRAEL
12	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
13	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
14(am)	Tue	LLUAHSC Finance & Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
14(pm)	Tue	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
15	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
16	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
22	Wed	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
22,23	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	Burlington VT
<u>September 2001</u>			
4-14	Tue	GC Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
10	Mon	Inst for the Prevention of Addictions Board	Silver Spring MD
10-12	Mon	Adventist Risk Management Conference	
10(eve)	Mon	R&H Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
11(am)	Tue	R&H Board	Hagerstown MD
13(am)	Thu	LLUMC Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
13	Thu	Human Resources Workshop	
13(pm)	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
17,18	Mon	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Silver Spring MD
18,19	Tue	GC & Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
19(pm)	Wed	AGCN Operating Committee	Silver Spring MD
19(pm)	Wed	WHAST Operating Committee	Silver Spring MD
20	Thu	GC & Division Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
20	Thu	GC & Division Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
20	Thu	GC & Division Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
21,23	Fri	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
24(am)	Mon	ADRA Board	Silver Spring MD
24(pm)	Mon	AIIAS Board	Silver Spring MD
24(pm)	Mon	Crisis Management Seminar	Silver Spring MD
24(eve)	Mon	Financial Statement Audit Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
25(am)	Tue	Financial Planning & Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
25(pm)	Tue	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
25(eve)-30	Tue	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
26(eve)	Wed	HSI/Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
27(eve)	Thu	GC PARL World Affairs & IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD



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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2001</u>			
2,3	Tue	Adventist Risk Management Conference	Silver Spring MD
4-20	Thu	Institute of World Mission	Berrien Springs MI
5(am)	Fri	Andrews University Board Finance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
7	Sun	Andrews University Board Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
7(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
8	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
12-15	Fri	Oakwood College Board	Orange Beach AL
21	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
22	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
23(am)	Tue	LLUAHSC Board Committees & Board	Loma Linda CA
23(pm)	Tue	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
24	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
28(eve)-31	Sun	NAD Yearend Meeting	Silver Spring MD
<u>November 2001</u>			
19-21	Mon	International Congress on Religious Liberty	Lima PERU
<u>December 2001</u>			
5	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
11(am)	Tue	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
11(pm)	Tue	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
12	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
13(am)	Thu	R&H Executive & Finance Committees	Silver Spring MD

SEC/SEC/ADCOM/GCO&DivPre&Tre00SM/00SM/SEC/ADCOM/GCDO00GCS/ADCOM/  
GCDO00AC/00AC to HWB(DIV)

102-00Gc AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2002

VOTED, To approve the list of Authorized Meetings 2002 with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>January 2002</u>			
7	Mon	Adventist Accrediting Association	Silver Spring MD
15-17	Tue	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
30	Wed	IRLA Board	
<u>February 2002</u>			
3	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
4	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
5(am)	Tue	LLUAHSC Financial Committee & Ex Board	Loma Linda CA
5(pm)	Tue	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
6	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
7,8	Thu	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
18-Mar 8	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Loma Linda CA
20	Wed	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
22-26	Fri	PPPA & R&H ABC Marketing Seminar	East Coast
28	Thu	AIIAS Board	PHILIPPINES
28(pm)	Thu	IWM Administrative Council	Berrien Springs MI
<u>March 2002</u>			
1(am)	Fri	Andrews University Board Finance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
3	Sun	Andrews University Board Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
3-8	Sun	ADRA Pan-Asia Consultation	
3(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
4	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
7	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
14(am)	Thu	LLUMC Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
14(pm)	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
25-29	Mon	GC Colloquium & Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
<u>April 2002</u>			
1(eve)	Mon	R&H Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
2	Tue	R&H Board	Hagerstown MD
4	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
8, 9	Mon	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
10,11	Wed	GC Officers & Div Presidents Interviews	Silver Spring MD
11(pm)	Thu	AGCN Operating Committee	Silver Spring MD
11(pm)	Thu	WHAAT Operating Committee	Silver Spring MD
12	Fri	GC & Division Presidents	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>April 2002</u> contd			
14	Sun	Financial Planning & Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
15	Mon	GC Officers & Division Presidents	Silver Spring MD
16(am)	Tue	ADRA Board	Silver Spring MD
16(pm)	Tue	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
17,18(am)	Wed	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
17(eve)	Wed	HSI/Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
18	Thur	GC PARL World Affairs	Silver Spring MD
24-26	Wed	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI
28,29	Sun	Oakwood College Board	Huntsville AL
29-May 17	Mon	SS&PM Curriculum Subcommittee (CR&KG)	Silver Spring MD
<u>May 2002</u>			
16(pm)	Thu	Andrews University Executive Committee	Berrien Springs MI
19	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
20	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
21(am)	Tue	LLUAHSC Finance & Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
21(pm)	Tue	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
22	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
29	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>June 2002</u>			
6(am)	Thu	R&H Executive & Finance Committee	Silver Spring MD
11-14	Tue	IRLA World Congress	Manila PHILIPPINES
12	Wed	GC Staff Day	Gaithersburg MD
13-28	Thu	Institute of World Mission	Berrien Springs MI
16-21	Sun	ADRA Pan-Europe Consultation	
20(am)	Thu	LLUMC Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
20(pm)	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
<u>July 2002</u>			
8	Mon	Assoc of Adv Family Life Prof Board	Berrien Springs MI
8-26	Mon	SS&PM Curriculum Subcommittee (Primary)	Silver Spring MD
<u>August 2002</u>			
2-6	Fri	Biblical Research Institute Science Council	
11	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
12	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>August 2002</u> contd			
13(am)	Tue	LLU Finance & Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
13(pm)	Tue	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
14	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
15	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
21	Wed	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
21,22	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	Burlington VT
<u>September 2002</u>			
3-13	Tue	GC Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
9	Mon	Inst for the Prevention of Addictions Board	Silver Spring MD
9-11	Mon	Adventist Risk Management Conference	
9(eve)	Mon	R&H Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
10(am)	Tue	R&H Board	Hagerstown MD
12(am)	Thu	LLUMC Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
12	Thu	Human Resources Workshop	Silver Spring MD
12(pm)	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
16,17	Mon	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Silver Spring MD
17,18	Tue	GC & Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
18(pm)	Wed	AGCN Operating Committee	Silver Spring MD
18(pm)	Wed	WHAST Operating Committee	Silver Spring MD
19	Thu	GC & Division Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
19	Thu	GC & Division Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
19	Thu	GC & Division Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
20,22	Fri	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
23(am)	Mon	ADRA Board	Silver Spring MD
23(pm)	Mon	AIIAS Board	Silver Spring MD
23(eve)	Mon	Financial Statement Audit Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
24(am)	Tue	Financial Planning & Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
24(pm)	Tue	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
24(eve)-29	Tue	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
25(eve)	Wed	HSI/Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
26(eve)	Thu	GC PARL World Affairs & IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>October 2002</u>			
4(am)	Fri	Andrews University Board Finance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
6	Sun	Andrews University Board Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
6(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2002</u> contd			
7	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
10-25	Thu	Institute of World Mission	Berrien Springs MI
11-14	Fri	Oakwood College Board	Orange Beach AL
18	Fri	LLU Budget & Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
20	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
21	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
22(am)	Tue	LLUAHSC Board Committees & Board	Loma Linda CA
22(pm)	Tue	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
23	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
27(eve)-30	Sun	NAD Yearend Meeting	Silver Spring MD

November 2002

December 2002

4	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
10(am)	Tue	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
10(pm)	Tue	LLUMC Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
11	Wed	LLUMC Board	Loma Linda CA
12(am)	Thu	R&H Executive & Finance Committee	Silver Spring MD

APPOINTMENT OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES

The following boards/committees were appointed by their respective constituency meetings.

ADVENTIST INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

HSU, EUGENE, Chairman  
Chun, Pyung-Duk, Vice-chairman  
Bocala, Violete F, Vice-chairman  
Miranda, Armando, Vice-chairman  
Birkenstock, David, Secretary

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Byun, Youn-Shik  
Dee, Sandy  
Diaz, Paterno M  
Diokno, Gloria  
Doroe, John  
Fowler, John M  
Gulfan, Alberto C Jr  
Gunawan, Sendra  
Hendriks, Alex  
Kesaulya, Reinhold  
Lemon, Robert E  
Moores, R Martin  
Ng, G T  
Rasi, Humberto M

Riches, Robin  
Sahly, Donald R  
Shin, Kei Hoon  
Shiraishi, Takashi  
Stele, Artur A  
Uyeda, Masaji  
Villoso, Daniel B  
Watts, D Ronald  
Wiklander, Bertil  
Yu, Moses Dayuan

Bangladesh Union Mission President  
Chinese Union Mission President

ADVENTIST INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES BOARD

MEMBERS

HSU, EUGENE, Chairman  
Bocala, Violetto F, Vice-chairman  
Chun, Pyung Duk, Vice-chairman  
Villoso, Daniel B, Secretary

Birkenstock, David  
Diaz, Paterno M  
Diokno, Gloria  
Gulfan, Alberto C Jr  
Rasi, Humberto M

ADVENTIST INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES  
BYLAWS REVIEW COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

BEDIAKO, MATTHEW A, Chairman  
Birkenstock, David, Secretary

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Bocala, Violetto F

Chun, Pyung-Duk

Ng, G T

Ng, Wai Chun (Stanley)

Rasi, Humberto M

Villoso, Daniel B

Don C Schneider, Chairman

Claude Sabot, Secretary

Athal H Tolhurst, Editorial Secretary

Carol E Rasmussen, Recording Secretary