

SPRING MEETING

April 13 and 14, 2005

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SPRING MEETING OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 13, 2005, 8:00 a.m.

PRESENT

Niels-Erik A Andreasen, Delbert W Baker, Harold W Baptiste, Bert B Beach, Matthew A Bediako, B Lyn Behrens, Jannie Bekker, Guillermo E Biaggi, Barry Black, Rodney G Brady, Jose Luis Campos, Dennis N Carlson, Douglas Clayville, Lowell C Cooper, James A Cress, Rajmund Dabrowski, Luka T Daniel, Marino F de Oliveira, C Garland Dulan, George O Egwakhe, Willmore D Eva, Larry R Evans, Laurie J Evans,

Mumtaz Fargo, Martin W Feldbush, Sergie B Ferrer, Ruthita Fike, Mark A Finley, Ronald M Flowers, Philip S Follett, Ulrich Frikart, Agustin Galicia, L James Gibson, Clifford Goldstein, Raul Gomez, John Graz, Alberto C Gulfan Jr, Patricia J Gustin, Bert Haloviak, Allan R Handysides, Ceazar J Hechanova, Eric Hepburn, Roscoe J Howard III, Eugene King Yi Hsu, C Lee Huff,

Daniel R Jackson, Michael R Jamieson, Johann E Johannsson, William G Johnsson, Michael F Kaminsky, Gerry D Karst, Dennis C Keith Sr, Donald G King, Robert J Kloosterhuis, Lorinda A Knowlton, Linda Mei Lin Koh, Gary David Krause, P Daniel Kunjachan, Peter R Kunze, Robert E Kyte, Kevin L Lang, Harold L Lee, Jairyong Lee, Israel Leito, Robert E Lemon, Jean-Luc Lezeau, Jose R Lizardo,

Gabriel Egon Maurer, Geoffrey G Mbwana, Alfred C McClure, Denzil McNeilus, Armando Miranda, R Martin Moores, Kalapala J Moses, Thomas J Mostert Jr, Baraka G Muganda, Pardon Mwansa, Ruy H Nagel, G T Ng, Stanley Ng Wai-Chun, James R Nix, John S Nixon, Don Noble, Barry D Oliver, Richard C Osborn, Orville D Parchment, Ruth E Parish, Vernon B Parmenter, Jere D Patzer, Jan Paulsen, Juan O Perla, Larry J Pitcher,

Juan R Prestol, Ted L Ramirez, Leo Ranzolin, Paul S Ratsara, Robert L Rawson, Gordon L Retzer, Donald E Robinson, Calvin B Rock, Angel Manuel Rodriguez, Steven G Rose, Blasious M Ruguri, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Claude A Sabot, Charles C Sandefur, Jr, Byron Scheuneman, Don C Schneider, Benjamin D Schoun, Ellas Simmsons, Delores E Slikkers, Heather-Dawn Small, Robert S Smith, Artur A Stele, Robert L Sweezey,

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Mack Tennyson, G Ralph Thompson, Halvard B Thomsen, Max A Trevino, Filiberto M Verduzco, Gilbert Wari, D Ronald Watts, Bertil A Wiklander, Jeffery K Wilson, Neal C Wilson, Ted N C Wilson, Edward E Wines, Harald Wollan, Kenneth H Wood, Walter L Wright, James W Zackrison, Joel Zukovski.

## DEVOTIONAL

The devotional message entitled “A Rumor of Angels” was presented by William Knott, Associate Editor of the *Adventist Review*. Scripture quotations for 2 Kings 6:8-17 are taken from the Revised Standard Version.

Early morning walks are fine things, I have decided. There is a sweet serenity about a world still glistening with dew, a world where warblers can still be heard above the sounds of semitrailers on the highway. Life seems somehow balanced at 6:00 a.m.

I remember clearly the early morning walks my father and I would take when the family went camping in East Texas. It was a special time my brothers did not share, still curled up in their sleeping bags. Those minutes treading down the cool evergreen paths to the shore of the lake had magic in them for a six year old. And when the walk was highlighted by the sight of ospreys swooping down to fish in the bright lake, I knew my day would be alright.

Yes, early morning walks are fine things, unless you run smack into the Syrian army. And that is just what Elisha’s servant did. He was probably ambling along, musing over the words to an early morning psalm, when out of the corner of his eye he caught the glint of something hard and metallic.

Now believe me, my friends, it is hard to continue your devotions when your pragmatic self is contemplating the hardness of spear points and sword tips. It is a little bit difficult to continue meditating when you discover that the Syrian archers are taking practice shots in the woods—and you are the target.

In a word, Elisha’s servant was terrified. I can imagine that the sleepy old gatekeeper at the walls of Dothan had never in his whole life seen anyone run up the steep path to the city in shorter time. It somehow increases your nimbleness to know that at any moment some casual Syrian archer may let fly at you with an arrow.

When his servant scrambled to the rooftop to look out over the walls, I am sure the servant’s heart beat even faster. It was not just a hunting party of Syrians he had met in the woods. No, an entire army of Syrian soldiers completely surrounded the city, drawn up in formation, with footmen and chariots and prancing horses and banners that snapped in the

morning breeze. Dothan, being the size it was, probably took several thousand soldiers to surround the city. It was enough to wreck a man's whole day.

Our passage tells us that the Syrians meant business. They had a grudge to settle with a certain resident of Dothan who had been spoiling all their plans. Whenever the king of Syria made plans to ambush the Israelite army or seize the Israelite king, he found that his prey had been forewarned and had already escaped. As all evil men eventually will, he grew suspicious of even his closest friends and advisers. There was a traitor in the palace, he said, and he would stop at nothing until he saw the informant's head upon a stake beneath his garden wall.

Perhaps fearing for their own heads, his advisers rushed to tell him who the traitor was—Elisha, the prophet, an unarmed, gentle civilian living in Dothan in neighboring Israel. So, heaping folly upon folly, Ben-hadad sent this huge task force to capture a single man.

The Syrians moved at will through the Israelite territory, it seems. Dothan was a mere twelve miles from the capital of the kingdom, Samaria, and we do not hear of any Israelite opposition to the raiding party. Now hundreds of spear points glistened in the sunlight; dozens of chariots rocked to and fro as horses grew impatient with the wait; and hundreds of skilled archers were staring down feathered shafts at the rooftops of Dothan.

I am fairly sure that Elisha must have tried hard to hide a smile as his terrified servant dragged him to the rooftop to see what peril they were in. I can imagine Elisha must have felt a bit flattered too. After all, what a compliment the forces of evil were paying to his power and influence. One well-armed determined soldier would have been enough to capture this quiet prophet in the hand-me-down camel's hair cloak. They sent several thousand! Did they really think he was that important?

But for the moment, the thing to do was to quiet this terror-stricken servant of his who was already imagining just how long it would take to bleed to death from Syrian stab wounds. With a wail of horror, his servant pointed to the enemy hosts beyond the wall and cried, "Alas, master what shall we do? What shall we do?"

Elisha might very well have argued with his fearful servant that he was foolish to be carrying on like that. Elisha might have easily recited to him the stories of God's deliverance at the Red Sea, at Jordan, and at Jericho. The servant undoubtedly already knew all of those stories, for every good Hebrew knew them well. He was still afraid. So Elisha did not chide him, he did not rebuke him, nor did he scold him. He waited a moment and said in a soft whisper, "Fear not, for those who are with us are more than those that are with them."—  
2 Kings 6:16

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Fear not? Oh, that was all very well and good for Elisha to say. After all, he would be a great prize for the Syrian king. He would probably end up with a good job offer working for the other side. But do you know what they did to servants? It was too awful to think about.

His master had said something else: “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” What kind of sense did that make? There were several thousand Syrians down there below the city walls, armed to the teeth and noted for nastiness. There were only two of them on a lonely housetop. Why, even if you rallied all the able-bodied men in Dothan, you would still have only fifty or sixty men. When you added everything up, now was not the time to be the servant of the man at the top of Syria’s most wanted list.

Somewhere in those moments of hesitation and fear, Elisha must have realized that the only way to calm this anxious young man was for him to see what the prophet already clearly saw. So Elisha prayed and said, “Lord, I pray thee; open his eyes that he may see.”—  
2 Kings 6:17

“The Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.”—2 Kings 6:17

There was nothing wrong with that young man’s vision as the world judges ordinary vision. For all we know, his eyesight was a perfect 20/20. When a man is looking at the swords that may eventually kill him, his eyesight is always remarkably keen. That servant was as alert and attentive and observant as any one of us is here today. But the vision required of him that day needed to be better than 20/20. To see the situation as it really was required a kind of vision which that young man did not yet possess. It required the eyes of faith—so Elisha prayed, “Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes.”

When the eyes of the servant were opened to see things as they really were, the difference was as dramatic as between sleeping and waking. Oh, yes there were still soldiers around the city, but what soldiers! Oh yes, there were still chariots drawn up around Dothan, but what chariots! Dazzling golden beings on fiery red horses, filling the air with speeding chariots that never made a sound! Hundreds and thousands of heavenly footmen crowding the skies, looking for a chance to do battle with the forces of darkness. This was a sight for sore eyes, for it was a sight that devoured fear. It was a vision that conquered despair. Who can be afraid when victory is certain? Who can quail when the hosts of heaven are always by your side?

The answers to those questions today, my friends, are that “We can,” and “We do.” We are the fearful men and women. We are the modern Christians. We are even the administrators and pastors and church leaders who have frequently allowed what can be seen to destroy our faith in what cannot be seen by human eyes. We are the men and women standing on the lonely rooftops of our lives and our careers and our churches and our conference offices, and we are looking out at the hosts of difficulties encamped around us. We are afraid, my

friends. We are frequently afraid that our little fortresses will crumble at the onslaught of the enemy.

If you do not believe me, then go visiting in the pastoral districts of any Seventh-day Adventist conference that you know. An afternoon's confidential talk with a pastor or two should convince you. Several hours at a staff meeting at one of our academies will make the point. An hour with any honest administrator will show you what I am talking about.

Look with me into the eyes that speak eloquently of anxiety and fear and pain. See the pastors in district after district who struggle to simply keep up with the mounting demands of church members on their time and on their energy. Listen to them tell you with tears in their eyes how much they would like to get away from it all—just for a while, just for a rest. See the leaders in our institutions who are discouraged by the mounds of “administrivia” they must deal with when all they really want to do is to grow the kingdom of God.

See the anxiety of the treasurer who lies awake at night considering cruel choices that should never have to be made in the church of God: cutting pastoral salaries or trimming evangelistic budgets. Notice the pastor's wife in the foyer who can barely hide her tears as she agonizes over a marriage in which her husband's work seems to have become his mistress.

Watch the departmental director who comes to work each morning with a heavy heart because his children are not even close to walking with the Lord. Feel the woundedness of the administrator whose motives and skills were attacked at the last committee or the last constituency meeting. In the words of the poet, “The world is too much with us.”

This present evil age crowds close about us as we stand on the rooftops of our lives and count the Syrian host. What is the Syrian host in your life? Is it financial problems at home that make you wonder if you really can afford to keep your children in Christian education? Is it the private sin in your life whose power seems so massive and so overwhelming that you fear you will never be free from it?

Is it that church colleague of yours who regularly belittles you or dismisses your best ideas? Is it that unconquered tongue of yours that destroys relationships with those you would most like to be your friends? What is your Syrian host? Is it the temptation to become bitter when you discover that even when you are a leader working for God's church, there are still injustices and inequities, and people still get hurt?

From a human point of view, my friends, when we consider the forces of discouragement arrayed against us, when we count the Syrian host, it is a wonder from a human point of view that we are ever free from fear. It is a time that could drive even the boldest administrator to tears. I am not going to speculate on which of you here is the boldest. The hard

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spear points of doubt and disillusionment glitter in the morning light, and we begin to make the subtle compromises that are the first signs of impending surrender.

If the story ended there, my friends, we would be, as the apostle Paul says, of all people most miserable. Defensive Christianity is hardly worth the effort; it is certainly not what Jesus intended. We serve neither God nor the world by retreating into our little citadels of faith and preparing ourselves for siege warfare. Kingdoms are not conquered from behind castle walls when the drawbridge is up.

The tyranny of what is immediately perceived by our senses can be broken. In the passage that we read this morning, we find that the earnest prayer of God's prophet opened the eyes of one who was a captive of fear and allowed him to see things as they really were, not as they seemed.

For that is the crux of the story. You have not seen all there is to see until you have counted God's army too. It is an illusion of the greatest magnitude to judge only by what appears to human sight. Unfortunately, it is an illusion that has captured the minds of many in this church today, including many administrators and pastors, as well as many church leaders. It is a trick of the enemy to cause you to see only the Syrian host spread out on the plain below, proud and strong in the morning light.

Until you have seen the hosts of God Almighty covering the sky in dazzling chariots of fire, ready to answer the feeblest prayer of the feeblest saint, you have seen only half the picture.

One ancient military leader, hearing that his men thought themselves too few to go into battle against a horde of the enemy, demanded of them, "How many men do you count me for?"

It is a question that demands an answer of God's people today—"How many do you count God for?" How many do you count His angels for? Do you think His power is not sufficient to more than match the forces of darkness crowding in about your life? Why then, you impugn His mighty arm—you call Him weak who spoke worlds into existence? Is God no bigger than your colleague? Is God no stronger than your temper? Is God not equal to that critical church deacon? Is God no match for the demon of bitterness and discouragement? Has God somehow surrendered His ownership of the cattle on a thousand hills?

The Word of God makes it abundantly clear that God is always "more." As the poet Annie Dilliard has reminded us, "There are angels in those fields," too. The fact that you have never seen an angel in the 21st century says nothing about their ultimate reality. The deaf man does not hear the thunder, the blind man does not see the flash of lightning, but they are real nonetheless.

The fact that we are fearful, anxious Christians and have not grasped the enormity of power available to us through prayer does not change the reality of angels moving continually between this planet and the throne of God. The horses and chariots of fire are still there, whether we see them or not.

We have become so used to seeing only what is plain to ordinary vision that we have rarely used those “eyes of faith.” But while the world insists that “seeing is believing,” our religion—the Christian religion, the Seventh-day Adventist faith, the testimony of the remnant—declares “believing is seeing.” Some things have to be believed in order to be seen.

Our daily prayer must be, “Lord, open our eyes that we may see.” We are not asking God to make something appear that was not there before. We are asking for the faith to see what has always been there—the shining hosts of the Lord Jesus surrounding every leader’s study and every church board room and every conference office and every division meeting room around this globe.

When you pray for God’s special help and power, I do not believe that He adds even one more angel to your company than was there before. Your prayer instead makes you conscious of their presence. It makes you certain of their invincible power because they are the servants of an invincible God. And you find courage when you pray, for you feel the brush of wings.

How many angels crowd around the praying pastor or administrator? Who knows? But certainly more than enough to say that it would be impossible to fear devils or wicked men if we could see them clearly. This is not a calculation the world could possibly include when it estimates the strengths of Christians.

Tell your psychiatrist that you see a host of shining angels encamped above the media towers of this building and he will keep you for what is politely known as “observation.” The world cannot understand the realm of faith: it calls angels “illusions.” It mocks the man or woman who claims to see more than appears to human sight.

Here we stand to great advantage. For with the second sight of faith, we can clearly understand both the kingdom and the world. We call the world’s belief in armor and muscle and tanks and guns and multi-national corporations “illusion.” We call the world’s trust in market indices and spreadsheets and IPOs (Initial Public Offering) a mirage. We pity the person who can see nothing more than what appears to human eyes.

Three hundred seventy-five years ago, the scholarly world still believed that the earth was the center of the solar system, that our sun and all planets orbited around this globe. I might add that was not the only time in three hundred and seventy-five years that the scholarly world

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has gotten it wrong. Then a man named Galileo pointed a telescope at the heavens and confounded the wisdom of the ages.

Galileo did not create the moons and planets that he saw through that lens: they had always been there, though hidden to the naked eye. Galileo's observations rocked the world and revolutionized the science of astronomy—all because one man found a second sight; one man found a longer view; one man gained a vision of things as they really are, and not as they seemed.

The vision of things as they really are will always disturb the world, for the world has made all of its calculations as though there were no God, as though there were no kingdom to come, as though there were no shining hosts in chariots of fire arrayed upon the mountainside.

The world counts only the Syrian host. It does not know and cannot know, the truth which makes each Christian heart beat strong with certainty—"For those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

I live with confidence, my friends, because I know the truth that sets me free. There are angels in these fields.

"For the angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him"—and what does He do? He delivers them!

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Jan Paulsen, Chairman, called to order the first session of the 2005 Spring Meeting.

Prayer was offered by Thomas J Zirkle, Associate Director of the Health Ministries Department of the General Conference.

#### 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.

## PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS

The Mission Statement defines our focus. This mission is the reason we meet in council. I would like to welcome everyone who is here today, including the members from the General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission who are invited to stay for the 2005 Spring Meeting.

Also, I would like to recognize Donald R Sahly who has just accepted a position to be the President of Home Study International—it is good to have you here today.

This morning, we will be receiving the Treasurer's Report along with the financial items that need to be considered by this body. This afternoon, we will take some time to hear the report from the General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission. Since the agenda is not very long, any remaining items should be completed by noon tomorrow when the 2005 Spring Meeting will be adjourned.

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO05SM/05SM to LRE

131-05G SPRING MEETING - 2005—STANDING COMMITTEES

VOTED, To approve standing committees for the 2005 Spring Meeting, as follows:

ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL TO STANDING COMMITTEES

Ted N C Wilson, Chairman  
Vernon B Parmenter, Secretary

Members: James A Cress, Roscoe J Howard III, Dennis C Keith Sr, Orville D Parchment.

NOMINATING

Jan Paulsen, Chairman  
Matthew A Bediako, Secretary

Members: Harold W Baptiste, B Lyn Behrens, Dennis N Carlson, Lowell C Cooper, Luka T Daniel, Larry R Evans, Laurie J Evans, Mumtaz Fargo, Mark A Finley, Ulrich Frikart, Agustin Galicia, Alberto C Gulfan Jr, Eric Hepburn, Roscoe J Howard III, Eugene Hsu, Daniel R Jackson, William G Johnsson, Gerry D Karst, Harold L Lee, Jairyong Lee, Lorinda Knowlton, Linda Koh,

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Israel Leito, Robert E Lemon, Geoffrey G Mbwana, Armando Miranda, Pardon Mwansa, Ruy H Nagel, John S Nixon, Juan R Prestol, Robert L Rawson, Steven G Rose, Claude Sabot, Charles C Sandefur Jr, Don C Schneider, Benjamin D Schoun, Dolores Slikkers, Robert S Smith, Artur A Stele, Heather-Dawn Small, D Ronald Watts, Bertil Wiklander, Ted N C Wilson, James W Zackrison.

### STEERING

Jan Paulsen, Chairman  
Larry R Evans, Secretary

Members: Harold W Baptiste, Matthew A Bediako, Jose L Campos, Douglas Clayville, Sherri Clemmer, Lowell C Cooper, Rajmund Dabrowski, C Garland Dulan, Mark A Finley, Agustin Galicia, Roscoe J Howard III, Eugene Hsu, William G Johnsson, Theodore T Jones, Gerry D Karst, Howard T Karst, Dennis C Keith Sr, Gary D Krause, Robert E Lemon, Jose R Lizardo,

Armando Miranda, James R Nix, Robert W Nixon, Orville D Parchment, Ruth E Parish, Vernon B Parmenter, Juan R Prestol, Donald E Robinson, Elaine A Robinson, Angel M Rodriguez, Steven G Rose, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Claude Sabot, Charles C Sandefur Jr, Don C Schneider, Benjamin D Schoun, Heather-Dawn Small, Robert L Sweezey, Ted N C Wilson.

### GLOBAL EVANGELISM REPORT

Mark A Finley, a General Field Secretary of the General Conference and Director of the Center for Global Evangelism, reported on Global Evangelism.

Witness, mission, and evangelism are the essence of what the Church is all about. The Church is in the business of saving people. God had only one Son and He was an evangelist. The Scripture states, "The Son of Man has come to seek and save that which was lost."—Luke 19:10

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has placed a primacy on mission. Our hearts beat with a desire to share Jesus with a lost world.

From the Council on Evangelism and Witness, to The Center for Global Evangelism, to the Office of Global Mission and Global Mission Pioneers, to divisions, unions, conferences, local churches and institutions, to departments, to *Sow 1 Billion* and *Go 1 Million*, the Church is on the move.

## Highlights

Peter Prime, Associate Secretary of the General Conference Ministerial Association, reports that in the *Year of Evangelism* (2004)

- 9,057 administrators were involved in some aspect of evangelistic outreach
- 30,124 pastors worldwide conducted some form of evangelistic outreach in 2004
- 3,965,000 lay people participated in evangelistic meetings worldwide
- 1,071,135 individuals were baptized; this is the highest total in fifteen years and the second highest ever

## Notable Examples

Southern Asia Division, India—D Ronald Watts, President of the Southern Asia Division, reports that early pioneers worked seven years for the first converts. On December 31, 1999 the division had a membership of 350,156. On December 31, 2004 the membership has grown to 919,782 members, an increase of 162 percent with over 550,000 baptized.

Inter-American Division, Peru—The country of Peru has 591,698 Seventh-day Adventists. Their method of evangelism is small groups. They have 12,740 small groups involving 250,000 plus members and plan to baptize 57,000 this year (2005).

Euro-Africa Division, Germany—Gabriel Maurer, Secretary of the Euro-Africa Division, reports “There is a new day in Germany. People seem to be more open. Enrollments in our Bible correspondence course are up and 400 lay people are preparing to hold their own evangelistic meetings.”

Trans-European Division—Bertil Wiklander, President of the Trans-European Division, reports on a large city evangelistic initiative in London including: small groups, meeting felt needs, one-to-one witnessing, and public evangelism called “Lights Across London,” part of the “Big 13 Cities” which will be recipients of the General Conference Session offering. This London evangelistic initiative has a goal of planting twenty to thirty new churches in the city during the coming quinquennium.

North American Division—The North American Division has just completed an evangelistic series via satellite from the General Conference Headquarters Auditorium with Doug Batchelor, Speaker/Director of Amazing Fact. Over 1,800 churches participated with tens of thousands viewing.

Euro-Asia Division—Arthur Stele, President of the Euro-Asia Division, reports “As a result of the satellite series held in Kiev, Ukraine by Mark A Finley, a General Field Secretary of the General Conference and Director of the Center for Global Evangelism, in March, 2005, our

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Lord has blessed our division with an initial harvest of over 3,100 souls. We prayed for 300 sites but in actuality had 1,300 with satellite dishes in our division and 200 outside the division, 25 Television channels picked up the signal as well as 10 prisons. Hundreds of thousands heard God's Word powerfully preached".

West Central Africa Division—*Go 1 Million and Sow 1 Million* is called *Go-Sow* in this division. Luka Daniel, President of the West-Central Africa Division, reports 3.1 million tracts have been distributed; 1,287,905 Bible studies have been given, and 48,171 new members have been baptized as a result of *Go-Sow*.

Youth are actively involved too!!

#### The Elijah Project

The Elijah Project is an attempt to involve youth between the ages of 15-30 in preaching God's Word. Under the able leadership of Baraka Muganda, Youth Director of the General Conference, his associates, sponsorship from Adventist-Layman's Services and Industries, and the Center for Global Evangelism, the youth are powerfully sharing Bible truth.

- 19,853 evangelistic meetings are being held by youth ages 15-30.
- 9,983 DVDs and 4,700 picture rolls have been sent from the General Conference Headquarters to local fields.
- \$1,320,000 has been allocated from the General Conference, Adventist-Layman's Services and Industries, and private donations for youth evangelism.
- 600,000 young people are involved.

One young man preached on baptism giving an appeal to come forward to those interested—No one came forward. He continued his appeal—No one came. He finally said, "Okay, since no one has come forward, I will come myself. You see, I have never been baptized and I have convinced myself." After making his commitment, others came forward to give their lives to the Lord.

Another teenager added, "I was never convinced the *Spirit of Prophecy* was true but when I studied the evangelistic sermon on *God's Gift of Prophecy*, I knew this was indeed a gift from God and now it is my favorite subject to preach."

Youth who preach God's Word stay in the Church as growing Christians and active witnesses.

There are still great challenges for the Church evangelistically: The Post Modern mind, the 10/40 Window, and non-Christian religions—even in these incredibly difficult places—the Spirit is at work. God’s Church is moving on.

## ORIENTATION TO NEW BADGE/BAR CODE SYSTEM

Larry R Evans, Undersecretary of the General Conference, and Rick Johnson, Senior Web Developer of Information System Services, presented information on the new badge/barcode system that will be used during the 2005 General Conference Session in St. Louis, Missouri. The new system is to be tested in these meetings. (A copy of the description of the procedure to be followed is filed with the official copy of the minutes.)

TRE/05SM to REL

## TREASURER’S REPORT

Robert E Lemon, Treasurer of the General Conference, thanked God for His many blessings in the past year. There was a 4.8 percent increase in tithe from the North American Division and worldwide tithe for 2004 increased by 9.4 percent. We praise the Lord for these increases! One of the challenges we will face in the new quinquennium will be determining how to adjust appropriations to strengthen the work, not only in areas where we already have work, but also to provide for the work in the 10/40 Window. May the Lord richly bless all of us as we work together to finish His work in all parts of the world.

We must remember that none of us are going home until we all go home and that means finishing the work in all parts of the world. “And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.”—Matt 24:14  
“He which testifieth these things saith Surely, I come quickly. Amen. Even so come, Lord Jesus.”—Rev 22:20

Materials covering the General Conference Annual Financial Statements and the Combined Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2004 were distributed for review with a formal action accepting the reports to be taken on April 14, 2005 at the morning session of the Spring Meeting. (See 130-04G, 04SM p 10. for Procedure Change – Audit Management Letter)

Lemon gave a PowerPoint presentation covering the Audited Financial Statements of the General Conference for the year ending December 31, 2004, and it was

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VOTED, To receive the Treasurer's Report as presented by Robert E Lemon.

(Copies of the Audited Financial Statement and Combined Financial Statements are filed with the official copy of the minutes.)

103-99Ga/FinPl&Bud00SM/00SM/103-00Ga/FinPl&Bud01SM/01SM/103-01Ga/  
 FinPl&Bud02SM/02SM/103-02G/FinPl&Bud03SM/03SM/103-03G/FinPl&Bud04SM/  
 04SM/103-04G/FinPl&Bud05SM/05SM to SGR

103-05G OPERATING EXPENSE CAP 2004 - REPORT

In fulfillment of the requirement for the General Conference to live within an operating expense cap of 2.0 percent of gross world tithe (see GCC 91-443, GCC 98-21, and GCC 00-23), it was

VOTED, To record the report for the Operating Expense Cap 2004, as follows:

Operating Expense Cap 2004

Total income basis .....\$1,317,731,414.00  
 Expense cap at 4/5 of distance between old and new calculation..... \$27,646,624.00  
 Expense for 2004 .....\$26,886,383.00  
 Expense as a percentage of cap..... 97.25%  
 Amount under the cap.....\$760,241.00

Operating Expense Cap Summary

YEAR	GROSS NAD TITHE	WORLD TITHE %	TOTAL	CAP	ACTUAL OPERATING EXPENSE	EXPENSE UNDER THE CAP	EXPENSE AS % OF CAP
4.85%*							
1992	446,977,202	2,616,378	449,593,580	21,805,289	19,152,695	2,652,594	87.84%
1993	454,792,764	2,685,069	457,477,833	22,187,675	21,083,033	1,104,642	95.02%
1994	480 730 812	2,902,438	483,633,250	23,456,213	21,918,901	1,527,312	93.45%
1995	491,795,455	3,226,237	495,021,692	24,008,552	22,098,370	1,910,182	92.04%
1996	507,406,829	2,912,685	510,319,514	24,750,496	23,073,972	1,676,524	93.23%

YEAR	GROSS NAD TITHE	WORLD TITHE %	TOTAL	CAP	ACTUAL OPERATING EXPENSE	EXPENSE UNDER THE CAP	EXPENSE AS % OF CAP
4.25%*							
1997	534,169,178	4,233,457	538,402,635	22,882,112	21,422,458	1,459,654	93.62%
1998	569,714,074	9,073,464	578,787 538	24,598,470	21,618,414	2,980,056	87.89%
1999	610,215,571	4,209,332	614,424,903	26,113,058	20,999,068	5,111,990	80.42%
2000	656,938,361	4,235,930	661,174,291	28,099,907	22,877,949	5,221,958	81.42%
2.00%**							
2001	685,051,305	429,500,692	1,114,551,997	27,913,439	23,862,558	4,044,881	85.51%
2002	707,805,149	434,912,910	1,142,718,059	27,342,516	24,879,758	2,462,758	90.99%
2003	727,180,606	475,704,684	1,202,885,290	26,922,403	26,172,840	749,563	97.22%
2004	762,318,491	555,412,923	1,317,731,414	27,646,624	26,886,383	760,241	97.25%

\*The following six cost centers were removed from the cap, reducing it from 4.85% to 4.25% (see GCC 98-21):

- 11050 Adventist World Radio
- 41215 Geoscience Research Center
- 41920 Ellen G White Estate
- 41935 Ellen G White Estate Research Centers
- 61175 Auditing Service
- 61794 TRIPS

\*\*Because of NAD's tithe percentage being phased down from 10.72% to 8.0% over 5 years, and the non-NAD divisions' tithe percentage being increased from 1% to 2% over 5 years, the CAP is also being phased in over the same 5-year period and is calculated as 2% of Gross World Tithe, as follows (see GCC 00-23):

- 2001 1/5 of distance between old and new calculation
- 2002 2/5 of distance between old and new calculation
- 2003 3/5 of distance between old and new calculation
- 2004 4/5 of distance between old and new calculation
- 2005 Full implementation of new calculation

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## COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITORS' REPORT

Steven G Rose, Undertreasurer of the General Conference, gave a PowerPoint presentation covering areas of particular interest in the Combined Financial Statements of the General Conference for the year ending December 31, 2004.

James E Nyquist, of Maner, Costerisan & Ellis, P.C., read the auditors' opinion for the combined financial statements and for the following unitized funds:

- Money Fund
- Bond Fund
- Income Fund
- Large Cap U.S. Equity Fund
- Small Cap U.S. Equity Fund
- International Fund
- Emerging Markets Fund
- Micro Cap & Private Equity Fund
- Pooled Life Income Fund

Materials were distributed and it was agreed that formal action accepting these reports will be taken to the April 14, 2005 morning session of the Spring Meeting.

Robert E Lemon read the Audit Management Letter received from the firm of Maner, Costerisan & Ellis, P.C. along with his letter of response.

TRE/05SM to REL

## GENERAL CONFERENCE FINANCIAL AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

Max A Trevino, Chairman of the General Conference Financial Audit Review Committee, expressed his appreciation for the work that was done by the Treasury Department.

Mack Tennyson, Secretary of the General Conference Financial Audit Review Committee, presented the General Conference Financial Audit Review Committee Report, a copy of which is filed with the official minutes. It was

VOTED, 1. To receive the report of the General Conference Financial Audit Review Committee.

2. To select the firm of Maner, Costerisan & Ellis C.P. to conduct the audit for the 2005 General Conference Financial Statements.

At 10:30 a.m. the meeting of the General Conference Executive Committee was recessed and a meeting of the General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists was called.

At 10:57 a.m. the meeting of the General Conference Executive Committee was reconvened.

TRE/ADCOM/GCDO05SM/05SM to REL

130-05G SOUTHERN AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN DIVISION  
(SID)—HEADQUARTERS RELOCATION

VOTED, 1. To approve the relocation of the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division (SID) office in the Route 21 Corporate Park property approximately twenty miles north of the Johannesburg Airport in South Africa with staff to be located across Route 21 in the Irene Farm Villages development.

2. To approve funding for the project (costs of land, construction and moving from Harare, Zimbabwe) as follows:

a. From the General Conference—up to Rand 47,000,000 (approximately US\$7,700,000). The source of the funding from the General Conference to be US\$ 2,000,000 from the 2004 Supplemental Budget with the balance coming from Working Capital.

b. From the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division (SID)—Rand 9,150,000 (approximately US\$1,500,000). The funds to come from the allocated function already set aside by the division for a new office.

3. To record that all proceeds from future sale, lease or rental of the current office buildings and staff housing in Harare, Zimbabwe will accrue to the General Conference to offset its contribution to the cost of establishing the new office in South Africa. The General Conference shall approve any sale, lease or other use of the buildings and property in Zimbabwe that were used for the division headquarters and headquarters staffing.

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FinPl&Bud05SM/05SM to SGR

143-05G SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET, 2004

VOTED, To approve the 2004 Supplemental Budget, as follows:

Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division Headquarters And Housing Construction	2,000,000
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Divisions

East-Central Africa Division	150,000
Euro-Africa Division	225,000
Euro-Asia Division	150,000
Inter-American Division	170,000
North American Division	150,000
Northern Asia-Pacific Division	230,000
South American Division	210,000
South Pacific Division	245,000
Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division	155,000
Southern Asia Division	150,000
Southern Asia-Pacific Division	195,000
Trans-European Division	220,000
West-Central Africa Division	250,000
Total	2,500,000
Adventist Television Network	150,000
Adventist World Initiative	150,000
Total Supplemental Budget	4,800,000

SS&PM/FinPl&Bud03AC/03AC/101-03Gf/101-04Gd/FinPl&Bud05SM/05SM to SGR(DIV)

101-05Gb CALENDAR OF SPECIAL OFFERINGS—WORLD 2006

VOTED, To revise the Calendar of Special Offerings—World 2006, to read as follows:

January

7 Outreach/Church Budget  
14 Division  
21 Church Budget  
28 Conference/Union

February

4 Outreach/Church Budget  
11 Division  
18 Church Budget  
25 Conference/Union

March

4 Outreach/Church Budget  
11\*+ Adventist World Radio  
18 Church Budget  
25 Conference/Union

April

1 Outreach/Church Budget  
8\*+ World Mission Budget  
15 Church Budget  
22 Conference/Union  
29 Church Budget

May

6 Outreach/Church Budget  
13\*+ Disaster and Famine Relief (Program provided for NAD only)  
20 Church Budget  
27 Conference/Union

June

3 Outreach/Church Budget  
10 Division  
17 Church Budget  
24 Conference/Union

July

1 Outreach/Church Budget  
8+ World Mission Budget  
15 Church Budget  
22 Conference/Union

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29 Church Budget

August

5 Outreach/Church Budget  
12 Division  
19 Church Budget  
26 Conference/Union

September

2 Outreach/Church Budget  
9+ World Mission Budget (Unusual Opportunities)  
16 Church Budget  
23 Conference/Union  
30 Church Budget

October

7 Outreach/Church Budget  
14 Division  
21 Church Budget  
28 Conference/Union

November

4 Outreach/Church Budget  
11\*+ Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)  
18 Church Budget  
25 Conference/Union

December

2 Outreach/Church Budget  
9 Division  
16 Church Budget  
23 Conference/Union  
30 Church Budget

Summary of Offerings

General Conference 6  
Division 6  
Conference/Union 12  
Church 28

Total 52

\*Program provided by the General Conference  
+Worldwide offering

TRE/FinPl&Bud04AC/04AC/101-04Gf/FinPl&Bud05SM/05SM to SGR(DIV)

101-05Gd CALENDAR OF SPECIAL OFFERINGS—WORLD 2007

VOTED, To adopt the Calendar of Special Offerings—World 2007, which reads as follows:

January

6	Outreach/Church Budget
13	Division
20	Church Budget
27	Conference/Union

February

3	Outreach/Church Budget
10	Division
17	Church Budget
24	Conference/Union

March

3	Outreach/Church Budget
10*+	Adventist World Radio
17	Church Budget
24	Conference/Union
31	Church Budget

April

7	Outreach/Church Budget
14*+	World Mission Budget
21	Church Budget
28	Conference/Union

May

5	Outreach/Church Budget
12*+	Disaster and Famine Relief (Program provided for NAD only)
19	Church Budget
26	Conference/Union

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June

2 Outreach/Church Budget  
9 Division  
16 Church Budget  
23 Conference/Union  
30 Church Budget

July

7 Outreach/Church Budget  
14+ World Mission Budget  
21 Church Budget  
28 Conference/Union

August

4 Outreach/Church Budget  
11 Division  
18 Church Budget  
25 Conference/Union

September

1 Outreach/Church Budget  
8+ World Mission Budget (Unusual Opportunities)  
15 Church Budget  
22 Conference/Union  
29 Church Budget

October

6 Outreach/Church Budget  
13 Division  
20 Church Budget  
27 Conference/Union

November

3 Outreach/Church Budget  
10\*+ Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)  
17 Church Budget  
24 Conference/Union

December

1	Outreach/Church Budget
8	Division
15	Church Budget
22	Conference/Union
29	Church Budget

Summary of Offerings

General Conference	6
Division	6
Conference/Union	12
Church	28
Total	52

\*Program provided by the General Conference  
+Worldwide offering

TRE/GCDO05SM/05SM to SGR

135-05G DUPLICATE HOUSING EXPENSE POLICY  
APPLICATION

The North American Division *Working Policy*, X 20 06, paragraph 6., Duplicate Housing Expense—Purchase of Employee Home reads as follows:

If, in the course of transitioning an employee from one location to another, the employing organizations decides that it is in its best interest to acquire the home where the employee currently lives in order to facilitate the relocation of the individual to the new job assignment, the employing organization may exercise that option with the approval of the governing committee and, where applicable, the association or corporation. The home shall be appraised by a third party and the price will be set, excluding realtor fees.

VOTED, 1. To approve of the application by the General Conference of the North American Division *Working Policy*, X 20 06, paragraph 6., Duplicate Housing Expense—Purchase of Employee Home, for individuals transferring to the General Conference from within the North American Division to positions with a salary percentage maximum of 108 percent or greater.

2. To authorize the General Conference Administrative Committee to approve the guidelines to be used in applying this North American Division policy.

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NADUnTre/TreC/GCDO05SM/05SM to SGR

133-05G TRAVEL ALLOWANCE FOR SPOUSE/DEPENDENT  
CHILDREN

VOTED, To approve Travel Allowance for Spouse/Dependent Children, which reads as follows:

Eligibility

1. An employee who has a travel budget of 50 percent or more of the travel budget factor is entitled to spouse travel. Those entitled to spouse travel may request assistance equivalent to 40 percent\* of the North American Division base wage factor per year on airfare for his/her spouse or dependent children through academy age, to accompany the employee on authorized itineraries.

2. Unused amounts may carry forward from year to year and may accumulate to more than three years worth, but no more than the equivalent of three times the current year's accrual may be used in any single year. Costs for any trip that exceed the available allowance will be at personal expense. Borrowing from future years accruals is not permitted.

3. The accumulated allowance may be used to cover spouse travel according to the guidelines:

a. Authorized itineraries within or outside the North American Division or for a second trip within the North American Division.

b. Per diem and fees for attending a seminar.

c. Per diem and taxes if a free ticket is used.

d. When flying, round-trip fare at the most economical rate available including special discounts, super-savers, etc., plus per diem allowance. (In cases where both spouses have travel budgets of 50 percent or more of the travel budget factor, this assistance shall be limited to one per couple per year.)

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\* In the year of a General Conference Session, an appropriate amount based on the location of the session may be added for that specific year.

e. When driving, regular denominational mileage rates up to the equivalent of round-trip air fares for the employee and spouse at the most economical rate available including the cost of a rental car, if it would normally be needed at the destination.

f. Actual lodging expense and per diem during time of business itinerary.

g. Applicable airport taxes, taxi or airport transportation, visa fees, and passport renewal fees are reimbursable expenses.

4. Per diem shall be at the employee and spouse rate and charged to the travel budget of the traveling employee.

5. Financial Assistance for Use of Personal Time - An employee whose travel budget is 50 percent or more may take his/her spouse on authorized spouse travel without the spouse's loss of salary for up to three days annually. The following applies:

a. Hourly spouses who are employed by the General Conference will have their time calculated on an hourly basis, not to exceed 25.5 hours annually. The equivalent time will be placed into the spouse's paid leave bank and the amount will be charged to the employee's current travel budget.

b. Salaried spouses who are employed by the General Conference will have their time calculated on a daily basis, not to exceed three days annually. Spouses and their supervisor will be informed of this additional available vacation time. The traveling employee's current travel budget will be charged for the amount of additional vacation time.

c. Spouses who are employed by non-General Conference employers will receive a daily loss of income assistance of up to \$250 per day, not to exceed three days annually. Payment will be made directly to the spouse and the traveling employee's current travel budget will be charged for the income assistance.

d. No roll-over provision is provided; any portion of the three days that is not used during current calendar year will be automatically forfeited on December 31.

e. Any portion of the three-day assistance that is not used for spouse travel purposes may not be added to standard vacation, furlough or optional annual leave time, nor used for any other leave or work related absence.

6. Taxable Income - The assistance that is granted for spouse travel is reported as taxable income. (North American Division *Working Policy X26.*)

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FinPl&Bud05SM/05SM to SGR

141-05G INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL PROFESSIONAL  
LIABILITY (HPL) EXCESS INSURANCE

In the past, the General Conference maintained both International Hospital Professional Liability (HPL) and General Liability Insurance coverage on a worldwide basis for a total of \$100,000,000 each. Because of recent changes in the insurance market and the corresponding increases in premiums, a review of these coverages was done and the renewals were made as follows as of July 2003:

International Hospital Professional Liability (HPL):	\$10,000,000
General Liability:	\$75,000,000

It was agreed at the time of the 2003 Annual Council that the divisions/hospitals would share in the premium for this coverage for the first \$4,000,000 excess of \$1,000,000 and the General Conference would be responsible for the premium for the \$5,000,000 excess of \$5,000,000. Divisions were able to make alternative insurance arrangements subject to criteria being met. The cost sharing arrangements of the HPL policy has created a significant expense for hospitals as well as reduced coverage overall. It was

VOTED, To approve that for the policy period July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006, International HPL Excess Insurance beyond the initial one million dollar layer will be purchased by the General Conference as group coverage for those hospitals wishing to participate. For those hospitals, not wishing to participate, notice must be sent to General Conference Treasury no later than April 30, 2005. (The General Conference is not involved with purchase of HPL coverage within the North American Division as that is cared by the hospital systems with coverage at levels outlined in policy).

The intent is to encourage the hospitals to stay together in group coverage, however, if, in the future, hospitals choose not to participate in the group coverage, notice must be given to the General Conference Treasury no later than February 1 prior to the July 1 renewal. Updates on the coverage will be discussed at the time of the General Conference and Division Treasurers Committee at the Annual Council to discuss whether the General Conference will seek group coverage based on the anticipated participating hospitals for the subsequent renewal period.

The following will be the criteria for implementing this action.

1. No later than the end of 2006\* each division shall review and where necessary, change the corporate structure of all hospitals within its territory, with a view to:

\*Extensions to this deadline in extenuating circumstances may be granted as individually voted by the General Conference Administrative Committee.

a. Transferring and conducting hospital activities by a separate legal structure.

b. Transferring hospitals currently registered in the name of the General Conference Corporation to an alternative legal structure including changing title where feasible.

2. Each division must ensure that each hospital in its territory maintains a primary layer of HPL Coverage at not less than levels set out in General Conference *Working Policy*.

3. Divisions who do not wish to participate in the HPL Excess Group Coverage will review the HPL Insurance for its hospitals and take the following steps:

a. Purchase insurance coverage from financially sound providers who, as closely as possible, carry ratings that meet the requirements of General Conference *Working Policy*. When purchasing insurance, care must always be taken to ensure that there is sufficient retrospective cover.

b. If the hospital is not separately incorporated, the General Conference Corporation must be an additional named insured party. Levels of insurance coverage purchased must at least meet the minimum coverage as required by the General Conference *Working Policy*. If the General Conference is not satisfied with the adequacy of the coverage or insurer, it may require an additional indemnity from the division itself. If indemnity is required, it must be voted annually by the division/union/hospital executive committee/governing board.

c. The General Conference will require non-North American Division hospitals registered in the name of the General Conference Corporation to purchase HPL Excess Insurance with the General Conference being named as an additional insured party and the policy must be able to cover any claims made in the United States of America. Coverage will be at the minimum limits as required by General Conference *Working Policy*.

d. As an alternative to purchasing insurance and subject to division executive committee approval, hospitals that are separately incorporated and for which it can reasonably be expected that claims will find jurisdiction only in the country where the hospital is located may self fund potential claims beyond the primary coverage required by policy but are still

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encouraged to carry some level of excess HPL coverage. The following is the criteria for this option:

1) If a division/institution is considering this option, as per General Conference *Working Policy*, funding of the expected loss projections should be based on normal actuarial assumptions and calculation methods.

2) The funding for any portion that is self funded, must be fully backed by cash/secure investments with the commitment to maintaining and increasing this fund for a time period beyond the years of coverage due to the tail of claims that may surface in future years until all applicable statutes of limitations have been exhausted.

3) The request for this option must be processed through the General Conference Treasury with subsequent representation by the General Conference Treasurer and/or his designee/s at the division executive committee to fully discuss exposures taken by the committee prior to any requests voted by the division executive committee to General Conference Administrative Committee and the eventual implementation.

4. General Conference Treasury shall annually report to the General Conference Executive Committee each division's insurance and indemnification arrangements and status of hospital corporate restructuring so as to ensure that they comply with General Conference *Working Policy* and provide adequate protection to the Church.

5. The General Conference will either carry the cost of the premium for the group coverage of \$5,000,000 excess of \$5,000,000 or may at its option self fund this level to cover potential suits that might be brought against the General Conference. In a self-funded arrangement, it does not cover any suits that are brought against the hospital or division or any other church entity; it is solely a protection against any exposure to the General Conference. Any claims made against the General Conference for less than \$5,000,000 will be covered by the arrangements in place by the division/hospital. Hospitals not taking coverage under the General Conference Group policy will be required to obtain the full coverage as per policy at their own expense.

SEC/ADCOM/05SM to LRE

132-05G COMPENSATION REVIEW COMMITTEE—2005  
SPRING MEETING - APPOINTMENT

VOTED, To appoint the Compensation Review Committee for the 2005 Spring Meeting, as follows:

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MEMBERS

Presidential

ANDREASEN, NIELS-ERIK A, Chairman  
Baptiste, Harold W  
Cooper, Lowell C  
Daniel, Luka T  
Evans, Laurie J  
Frikart, Ulrich  
Gulfan, Alberto C Jr  
Hsu, Eugene  
Karst, Gerry D  
Lee, Jairyong  
Leito, Israel  
Mbwana, Geoffrey G  
Miranda, Armando  
Mwansa, Pardon  
Nagel, Ruy H  
Ryan, Michael L  
Paulsen, Jan  
Schneider, Don C  
Stele, Artur A  
Watts, D Ronald  
Wiklander, Bertil  
Wilson, Ted N C

Secretariat

Bediako, Matthew A  
Evans, Larry R  
Howard, Roscoe J III

Treasury

Lemon, Robert E, Secretary  
Prestol, Juan R  
Rose, Steven G  
Ryan, Roy E

Institutional Administrators

Smith, Robert S

Laypersons

Fargo, Mumtaz  
Hepburn, Eric  
Knowlton, Lorinda  
McNeilus, Denzil  
Noble, Don  
Ramirez, Ted L  
Slikkers, Dolores E  
Tennyson, Mack

Pastor

Nixon, John S

Union Presidents

Carlson, Dennis N  
Jackson, Daniel R  
King, Donald G  
Lee, Harold L  
Mostert, Thomas J Jr  
Patzner, Jere D  
Retzer, Gordon L  
Trevino, Max A  
Wright, Walter L

Departments and Services

Feldbush, Martin W  
Handysides, Allan R

Jan Paulsen, Chairman  
Vernon B Parmenter, Secretary  
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary  
Janet C Upson, Recording Secretary

SPRING MEETING OF THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 13, 2005, 2:00 p.m.

Jan Paulsen, Chairman, called to order the second session of the 2005 Spring Meeting.

Prayer was offered by Don Noble, President of Maranatha International.

PRE/GCDO05SM/05SM to LCC-ADCOM

138-05G INTERDIVISION EMPLOYEE PROGRAM TRANSITION  
TO INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYEE PROGRAM—  
APPOINTMENT OF STUDY COMMITTEE

VOTED, To authorize the General Conference Administrative Committee to appoint a committee whose responsibility shall be to propose a design and policy framework for transitioning from the current interdivision employee program to an international employee program.

CITATION FROM GOVERNOR

Elisha B Pulivarti, Executive Director, Governor's Office on Asian Pacific American Affairs for the State of Maryland, presented Jan Paulsen with a citation from the Governor of Maryland, Robert L Ehrlich Jr, which reads as follows:

Be it known: That on behalf of the citizens of this State, in recognition of the positive contribution the Seventh-day Adventist Church has made to the State of Maryland through its churches, its schools, its hospitals, its community services network, its religious liberty advocacy, its publishing house, and by choosing to locate the Seventh-day Adventist Church's world headquarters in our State; and as our citizens join in expressing our high regard, admiration and gratitude, we are pleased to confer upon you this Governor's Citation.

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PRE/PreC/SecC/GCDO04AC/04AC/154-04G/GCDO05SM/05SM to HWB

134-05Ga GENERAL CONFERENCE MINISTRIES AND SERVICES  
REVIEW COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS - PART A

VOTED, To record that the following report of the General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission - Part A, was presented and received.

General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission  
Recommendations - Part A

In view of the rapid growth or lack thereof and the ongoing changes relating to the mission and organization of the Church, the challenge of the 10/40 Window, the difficulties in bringing the benefits provided by the ministries and services of the Church to the life, and the witness of the local church, the Commission adopted the following statement as the rationale for its work.

The Challenge of Change

The Seventh-day Adventist Church today is a global faith community of more than 20 million people in over 200 countries. It is fast-growing in a fast-changing world, which necessitates an ongoing preparation to meet new challenges and calls for monitored and intentional change in order to keep it mission-focused, efficient, and wise in using available financial and personnel resources.

In times of great and rapid change, it is important to keep in mind the identity and mission of the Church. Through the Spirit of Prophecy, Ellen G White wrote:

“The church is God’s appointed agency for the salvation of men. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world.”—*Acts of the Apostles*, page 9

The decision-makers in the Church are here reminded of the Church’s identity and primary goal. The Church was appointed by God for the salvation of men and organized for service with the mission to carry the gospel to the world.

Reflecting upon how the Lord has led us in the past, we see that, as the Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized in 1863, it was organized for effective mission. Careful study of the reorganization of the Church in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century has resulted in the clear understanding that:

“Ellen White’s primary concern was for an organization that was functional in

accomplishing the mission of the denomination. Functional efficiency was the important element to her, rather than any particular structure. From her perspective, structure was not an end in itself. Rather, it was a means to accomplishing Adventism's worldwide mission. As a basic principle undergirding her counsel on reorganization is that, organizational structures need to be changed and/or modified whenever conditions deem such change to be advisable."—George Knight, *Meeting Ellen White*, 1996, p. 70

The primary purpose of our organization, therefore, is God's mission. And the efficiency of our organization needs to be evaluated in terms of how well it fulfills this mission as God's appointed agency for the salvation of men.

It is, therefore, important for the World Church to seriously ask—Are we accomplishing our mission? Are we efficient? Is our organization effective? Are there better ways to do it?

These questions assume particular importance in a situation where rapid changes affect the very core of local church life and witness.

1. Global church growth today creates needs for educating the many new members in a diversified and contextualized way. On the other hand, where there is lack of growth there is also a need for making the life of the Church and its form of mission more contextualized in order to reach the unreached. In both situations, the need is now felt in the World Church for services and ministries that are initiated and developed in close relation to the life, nurture, and witness of the local church. This is more efficient, less costly, simpler, and gives a product that is adapted to the needs of people.

2. Another factor of change felt in many local churches is a new kind of thinking in some parts of the world, associated with what is termed "post-modern thought." Growing numbers of church members today prefer working in a mode that is considered to be more effective. They believe in networks, not formal institutions. They believe in relationships, not hierarchical authority. They believe in wholeness, not compartmentalization. Therefore, there is a need for the local church and other levels of organization to organize more flexible and all-round services and ministries that meet local needs.

3. The strategic use of financial and human resources in the World Church is becoming a growing concern for the fulfilment of the Church's mission. Resources need to be moved from areas where the Church is strong to the 10/40 Window, where the church members are less than 0.001 percent of the population. The Church's services and ministries in these vast areas do not match the structure of ministries and services at the General Conference. There is an enormous need for well-educated, front-line mission workers who are committed to contextualization. The Church needs resources to cater for these specialized needs.

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4. While the quality of work provided by the ministries and services of the General Conference is excellent, other levels of the Church cannot afford comparable staffing levels. Thus, the imbalance of the current organization of General Conference ministries and services with other levels of the Church has the effect that many programs and resources do not reach the local church or have any impact on it. Several factors contribute to this:

a. Despite comparatively strong ministries and service structures at General Conference level, the products delivered have minimal impact in the local church, which is the primary focus in the context of church growth. At the same time, the local church has an enormous need for nurture and equipping for ministry, which must be satisfied in new ways. It is believed that this challenge may be met by strengthening the ministries and services at levels closer to the local church, allowing these to be more focused on contextualized resource production for local church needs, and developing strong networking relations within the regional as well as the World Church structure.

b. The growth of the Church means a growth in the number of local churches. The standard pattern, both in the Western World and the Majority World, is that local churches as well as conferences and some unions cannot afford a fully developed ministries and services structure, filling each of the functions of the sixteen ministries and services. Limited finances are a serious reality. Many divisions, therefore, can no longer afford representation for every ministry and service and must seek new and more flexible and efficient ways of doing the work of training and resourcing the churches.

c. There is duplication of work performed by General Conference ministries and services at division levels, which is unnecessary. Instead, since new communication technology facilitates global contacts and an expeditious sharing of material, there is value in fostering a culture of networking and sharing among divisions.

d. Thanks to a good education system in our Church, we recognize that divisions have individuals with more expertise than before who are able to care for the needs of training and resourcing the unions. The challenge is not a lack of people but a lack of finances to staff church offices sufficiently in some places.

5. Unity is a divine value for the Church. The World Church, therefore, has made unity one of its current strategic values. The unity of our Church is under threat today and we must act wisely in order to protect it. One form of threat to unity is our rapid global growth. If we are not able to adapt our structures to this situation and the changes briefly outlined above, this will in itself constitute a threat to unity. We need to bear in mind that unity in the Church consists of many elements.

a. It is a spiritual gift that comes from God, being based on the experience of

salvation and the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

b. It involves sharing the same faith, and therefore it is an important duty of local pastors and elders to teach congregations the biblical teachings of our Church. The Adult Bible Study Guide is another way in which the Church seeks to safeguard its theological unity.

c. In terms of structures and methods, there are certainly many important unifying elements, particularly in the way the Church is organized. There is and will always be significant diversity and delegation of responsibility. The proposal made here is not a threat to unity, but safeguards unity by allowing for a more efficient and contextualized form of services and ministries which is more flexible and adaptable to the needs of regions, conferences and local churches.

These are, then, some of the factors that make up the context for our work. It is marked by significant and rapid changes that affect the very core of local church life and witness.

PRE/PreC/SecC/GCDO04AC/04AC/154-04G/GCDO05SM/05SM to HWB

134-05Gb GENERAL CONFERENCE MINISTRIES AND SERVICES  
REVIEW COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS - PART B

VOTED, To record that the following report of the General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission - Part B, was presented and received.

General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission  
Recommendations - Part B

To set up early in the new quinquennium, a special Commission to:

1. Review the role and function of the General Conference and its divisions.
2. Initiate a detailed study of the resources, organization, and governance structure of the Church, with a view to releasing resources for the mission, rapid growth, and emerging opportunities of the Church in the future.

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PRE/PreC/SecC/GCDO04AC/04AC/154-04G/GCDO05SM/05SM to HWB

134-05Gc GENERAL CONFERENCE MINISTRIES AND SERVICES  
REVIEW COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS - PART C

VOTED, To record that the following report of the General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission - Part C, was presented and received.

General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission  
Recommendations - Part C

To approve that savings achieved by the implementation of the proposal be designated for the 10/40 Window and financially challenged divisions for the purpose of enhancing their ministries and services to the local church.

The 2004 General Conference Annual Council Executive Committee voted to establish a General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission. This Commission consisted of a broad representation of individuals from around the world who seriously and carefully examined the ministries and services provided by the General Conference to determine the best and most effective way to serve the needs of a rapidly expanding global Church.

Rationale

The Seventh-day Adventist Church today is a global faith community of more than 20 million people in over 200 countries. It is fast-growing in a fast-changing world, which necessitates an ongoing preparation to meet new challenges and calls for monitored and intentional change in order to keep it mission-focused, efficient, and wise in using available financial and personnel resources.

In times of great and rapid change, it is important to keep in mind the identity and mission of the Church. Through the Spirit of Prophecy, Ellen G White wrote:

“The church is God’s appointed agency for the salvation of men. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world.”—*Acts of the Apostles*, page 9

The decision-makers in the Church are here reminded of the Church’s identity and primary goal. The Church is appointed by God for the salvation of men and organized for service with the mission to carry the gospel to the world.

Reflecting upon how the Lord has led us in the past, we see that, as the Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized in 1863, it was organized for effective mission. Careful study

of the reorganization of the Church in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century has resulted in the clear understanding that:

“Ellen White’s primary concern was for an organization that was functional in accomplishing the mission of the denomination. Functional efficiency was the important element to her, rather than any particular structure. From her perspective, structure was not an end in itself. Rather, it was a means to accomplishing Adventism’s worldwide mission. As a basic principle undergirding her counsel on reorganization is that, organizational structures need to be changed and/or modified whenever conditions deem such change to be advisable.”—George Knight, *Meeting Ellen White*, 1996, p. 70

The primary purpose of our organization, therefore, is God’s mission. And the efficiency of our organization needs to be evaluated in terms of how well it fulfils this mission as God’s appointed agency for the salvation of men.

It is therefore important for the World Church to seriously ask—Are we accomplishing our mission? Are we efficient? Is our organization effective? Are there better ways to do it?

The task given by the Annual Council, 2004, to the General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission is essentially to “review all the ministries and services of the General Conference to determine the most effective means of assisting the World Church to fulfil her mission.”

The context in which this report should be read is the mission of the Church and the rapid changes occurring both in the Church itself and in the world we seek to reach. The purpose of the report is to strengthen the work of the Church by maximizing the financial resources, by facilitating contextualized services to the local church, and stimulating networking.

It is important to make some comments on the significant and rapid changes that affect the very core of local church life and witness.

1. Global church growth today creates needs for educating the many new members in a diversified and contextualized way. On the other hand, where there is lack of growth there is also a need for making the life of the Church and its form of mission more contextualized in order to reach the unreached. In both situations, the need is now felt in the World Church for services and ministries that are initiated and developed in close relationship to the life, nurture, and witness of the local church. This is more efficient, less costly, simpler, and provides a product that is adapted to the needs of people.

2. Another factor of change felt in many local churches is a new kind of thinking in some parts of the world, associated with what is termed as “post-modern thought”. Growing

numbers of church members today prefer working in a mode that is considered to be more effective. They are moving away from departmentalism, not only because of a desire for efficiency, but because they don't believe in formal institutions but networks. They do not believe in hierarchical authority but relationships. They do not believe in compartmentalization but wholeness. Therefore, there is a need for the local church and other levels of organization to organize more flexible and all-round services and ministries that meet local needs.

3. The strategic use of financial and human resources in the World Church is becoming a growing concern for the fulfilment of the Church's mission. Resources need to be moved from areas where the Church is strong to the 10/40 Window, where church members are 0.001 percent of the population. The Church's services and ministries in these vast areas do not match the structure of ministries and services at the General Conference. There is an enormous need for well-educated, front-line mission workers who are committed to contextualization. The Church needs resources to cater for these specialized needs.

4. While the quality of work provided by General Conference ministries and services is excellent, other levels of the Church cannot afford comparable staffing levels. Thus, the imbalance of the current organization of General Conference ministries and services with other levels of the Church has the effect that many programs and resources do not reach the local church or have any impact upon it. Several factors contribute to this:

a. Despite comparatively strong General Conference ministries and service structures at General Conference level, the products delivered have little impact on the local church, which is the primary focus in the context of church growth. At the same time, the local church has an enormous need for nurture and equipping for ministry, which must be satisfied in new ways. It is believed that this challenge may be met by strengthening the ministries and services at levels closer to the local church, allowing these to be more focused on contextualized resource production for local church needs, and developing strong networking relationships within regional and World Church structure.

b. The growth of the Church means a growth in the number of local churches. The standard pattern, both in the Western World and the Majority World, is that local churches as well as conferences and some unions cannot afford a fully developed ministries and services structure, filling each of the functions of sixteen departments. Limited finances are a serious reality. Many divisions, therefore, can no longer afford departmental representation for every ministry and service and must seek new and more flexible and efficient ways of doing the work of training and resourcing the churches.

c. There is duplication of General Conference ministries and services work, in some respects, at division levels, which is unnecessary. Instead, since new communication technology facilitates global contacts and expeditious sharing of material, there is value in

fostering a culture of networking and sharing among divisions.

d. Thanks to a good education system in our Church, we recognize that divisions have individuals with more expertise than before who are able to care for the needs of training and resourcing the unions. The challenge is not a lack of people but a lack of finances to staff church offices sufficiently in some places.

5. Unity is a divine value for the Church. The World Church, therefore, has made unity one of its current strategic values. The unity of our Church is under threat today and we must act wisely in order to protect it. One form of threat to unity is our rapid global growth. If we are not able to adapt our structures to this situation and the changes briefly outlined above, this will in itself constitute a threat to unity. We need to bear in mind that unity in the Church consists of many elements.

a. It is a spiritual gift that comes from God, being based on the experience of salvation and the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

b. It involves sharing the same faith, and therefore it is an important duty of local pastors and elders to teach congregations the biblical teachings of our Church. The Adult Bible Study Guide is another way in which the Church seeks to safeguard its theological unity.

c. In terms of structures and methods, there are certainly many important unifying elements, particularly the way the Church is organized. There is and will always be significant diversity and delegation of responsibility. The proposal made here is not a threat to unity, but safeguards unity by allowing for a more efficient and contextualized form of services and ministries which is more flexible and adaptable to the needs of regions, conferences and local churches.

These are, then, some of the factors that make up the context for this report. The Church is affected by significant and rapid changes that affect the very core of local church life and witness. Thus, the proposal brought here is in no way about the performance of the General Conference ministries and services directors, but about efficiency and organization. It is about moving the Church's resources closer to where the actual services and ministries are implemented in the life and witness of the church.

#### Process

The Church at large has reviewed similar issues for a number of years. In the last twenty years, we have seen the introduction of Church Ministries. Prior to 1990, there was a further study that recommended the elimination of numerous budgets following the General Conference Session of 1990. During the years 1997-1999 further study was given to the subject which again

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included input from the world divisions.

The Commission met as a body on three occasions, October 14, 2004, January 10 and 11, 2005, and April, 6 and 7, 2005. In its first meeting, on October 14, the Commission initiated a process to develop an instrument for conducting a survey as part of its method of operation. It also asked for a review of, and copies of past surveys and studies that were relevant. After studying these reports on January 10-11, the Commission decided that the information provided by these past studies and surveys were adequate for the current review. It therefore decided to proceed with the task as outlined in the terms of reference. The material used at this meeting was discussed at length. We have listed these documents here, marking with an asterisk (\*) those that were sent out in advance for private reading:

1. \*The General Conference—Functional Relationships Between the World Headquarters and its Divisions With Particular Reference to ‘Departments’—Jan Paulsen, March 1998
2. \*Reflections on Democracy—Jan Paulsen, September 1993
3. \*A Modest Proposal for Structural Change in the Adventist Church—George R Knight
4. \*General Conference Mission Statement
5. \*General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists 2003 Actual Expenses Budget
6. \*General Conference Ministries and Services Minutes of October 14, 2004
7. General Conference Administration, Departments, Service Units—Report of the Structural Consultation Committee on the opinion survey of June 1999
8. Divisions who Responded to the Survey of World Services of the General Conference Departments/Services—Kloosterhuis File
9. Services to the World Church—March 11, 1997
10. General Conference Leadership Council—Purpose, Outcomes, and Action Plans For Selected Cost Centers—Report to 1998 Annual Council
11. Draft Survey prepared by the Commission Sub Committee appointed October 14, 2004

The Commission met in Orlando, Florida on January 10 and 11, 2005 and developed an interim report which was distributed and discussed with the General Conference Ministries and Services Directors. The Commission subcommittee listened to verbal responses from ministries and services personnel in a special General Conference Leadership Council (GCLC) meeting on January 25, 2005, where the Interim Commission Report was presented. Opportunity was given the next day, January 26, 2005, for ministries and services directors to meet with the subcommittee on an individual basis to share their concerns. The Commission subcommittee further gave attention to written submissions by General Conference ministries and services directors and provided an opportunity for selected personnel to speak on behalf of currently elected personnel before the full Commission on April 6, 2005.

Division presidents serving on the Commission also discussed the report with their respective division and union administrators and ministries and services directors. Each division submitted a written response for the Commission to consider.

#### TERMS OF REFERENCE:

The following terms of reference were assigned to the Commission by the 2004 Annual Council.

#### TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Review all the ministries and services of the General Conference in consultation with the Strategic Planning Office and world divisions to determine the most effective means of assisting the World Church to fulfill her mission. | 1. Power to act.  |
| 2. Conduct surveys, gather information, and collect data as necessary, regarding the Church's ministries and services.   | 2. Power to act.  |
| 3. Report on findings with accompanying recommendations to the 2005 Spring Meeting of the General Conference Executive Committee.  | 3. Recommend to the General Conference Executive Committee through General Conference Administrative Committee. |

### Guiding Principles

After study of the documents and careful discussion, the Commission developed the following principles to serve as a guide for determining the location of ministries and services:

1. Those services which essentially address the life, nurture, and witness of the local congregation, be delegated to the division offices.
2. Those resources and services which are essentially trans-divisional and relate broadly similarly to the World Church, be provided at World Headquarters.
3. Those services which are vital to the World Headquarters' world functions and unity, be provided at World Headquarters.
4. Those services which essentially support the infrastructure of large groups of church employees (pastors, teachers, healthcare workers) which are involved with credentialing, licensing and accreditation, be provided and cared for from the World Headquarters.
5. Ministries and services, delegated to the divisions, be coordinated by the World Headquarters and that networking be fostered between division offices.
6. Those services which are legally incorporated and governed by their own boards should not be included in this study.

The following organizations are understood to be legally incorporated and governed by their own boards in accordance with Guiding Principle, paragraph 6. above, and were considered by the Commission to be outside of this study:

Adventist Development and Relief Agency  
Adventist Risk Management  
Adventist World Radio  
Ellen G White Estate  
Home Study International

The Commission endorses and appreciates the value to the World Church of all the ministries and services currently offered at all levels. It is not the intention that any ministry or service be eliminated. Rather, the Commission seeks to strengthen all ministries and services by locating leadership at the most effective and efficient level. It should be acknowledged that most divisions have reached a maturity that enables them to take on leadership roles not previously assigned to them. It is appropriate therefore that additional responsibilities be delegated to the divisions of the General Conference.

It should never be lost sight of that the thirteen divisions of the World Church are in fact divisions of the General Conference which are assigned to carry out the work of the Church under the leadership of the General Conference and that they perform the work of the General Conference in their respective geographical regions. The Commission understands clearly that its role is to determine what structures will enhance the efficiency of a rapidly growing church in these regions and in doing so may achieve some savings but alternatively may in fact incur some extra costs.

### Ministries and Services Role

#### World Headquarters

The Commission recommends that the role of all ministries and services, which are to be retained at the World Headquarters, be refocused as follows:

1. Serve as coordinators between division offices.
2. Prepare and catalogue resources produced by division offices and other entities.
3. Foster networking between division offices.
4. Primarily train division office counterparts—all other training delegated to division offices.
5. Provide and enable visioning for the world field, in association with division offices, and foster cross cultural discussions on core issues.
6. Provide certification where needed.
7. Respond to division requests to participate in significant and large events.
8. Focus on underdeveloped areas such as the 10/40 window and large urban areas.
9. Organize worldwide and regional advisories as approved.

#### Divisions

The Commission recommends that the role of all ministries and services of all divisions be refocused as follows:

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1. Prepare contextualized resources for the territories of their own division with copies to the World Headquarters coordinator for cataloguing.
2. Communicate with counterparts in all divisions, responding to service requests for significant and large events.
3. Train counterparts.
4. Participate in worldwide and regional advisories as approved.
5. Provide and enable visioning for the division in association with union offices.
6. Provide certification where needed.

Based on the Guiding Principles, the Commission recommends that the Church's Ministries and Services be placed as follows:

Ministries and services to be retained at the World Headquarters:

1. Adventist Review
2. Adventist Television Network
3. AMICUS
4. Biblical Research Institute
5. Communication
6. Education
7. General Conference Auditing Service
8. Geo-Science Research Institute
9. Global Mission
10. Health Ministries
11. Human Resources

12. Information Systems Services
13. Ministerial Association
14. Office of General Counsel
15. Office of Mission Awareness
16. Public Affairs and Religious Liberty
17. Sabbath School Bible Study Guides—including the curriculum and preparation of adult, youth and children’s divisions Bible study guides. Currently achieved by two separate cost centers, it is proposed that they work together in one cost center.
18. Trust Services

The following ministries and services are to be studied with the purpose of securing further efficiencies of operation:

1. Communication
2. Health Ministries
3. Adventist Review
4. General Conference Auditing Service

On the other hand it is recommended that Adventist Television Network (ATN) be studied with the intention of expanding its operation to ensure that its programs are relevant, professional, and appealing to its intended audiences. It is also recommended that the Education Department be considered with the view to determining staffing levels and appropriate delegation of responsibilities.

Ministries and services to be shared by the World Headquarters and division offices:

Ministerial Association—The development of evangelism resources and sermons, training of elders and pastors, conducting of field schools of evangelism, and the production of church growth resources, be delegated to division offices, thereby reducing the elected staff at World Headquarters by two individuals. The reduction of support staff will be the responsibility of General Conference administration. *Ministry* is to be retained at the World Headquarters.

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Ministries and services to be delegated to division offices:

1. Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries
2. Children's Ministries
3. Family Ministries
4. International Health Food Association
5. Publishing
6. Sabbath School/Personal Ministries—Excluding the curriculum and preparation of Bible Study Guides for adult, youth, and children's divisions.
7. Stewardship
8. Women's Ministries
9. Youth

Specific Recommendations:

1. Vice President Assignment—that the General Conference President assign a Vice President/s at World Headquarters to be responsible for coordination, advocacy, and the identification of network resources for ministries and services which are to be located at the division office level as well as other levels.
2. In the election of General Vice Presidents serving at the World Headquarters at least one should be a woman.
3. Ministries/Services Retained at World Headquarters—that the General Conference administration review the role and function, job description, and level of staffing for each ministry and service, including support staff, that will be located at the World Headquarters with a view to determining what elements may be retained at World Headquarters and which ones might be delegated to the division offices.
4. *Ministry*—to refer *Ministry* to the Ministerial Association for further study to ensure its global relevance noting concerns for inclusion of wider editorial submissions and contextualization of materials.

5. Biblical Research Institute—that General Conference administration establish a process that will allow for input from the divisions when associate directors of the Biblical Research Institute are appointed.

6. Advisories—that World Headquarters administration give study to the need for more regular advisories and determine which ministries and services may need to convene on a more frequent basis than once per quinquennium.

7. Evaluation—that an instrument be developed, based on outcomes assessment, to evaluate all ministries and services of the General Conference both mid term and at the conclusion of the term.

The Commission affirms the value of all the ministries and services studied. No ministry or service is being eliminated. Rather, the Commission seeks to locate leadership at the most effective and efficient level. It used guiding principles and criteria to determine the most effective ways to serve the needs of a rapidly growing global Church in order to release resources for target evangelism and ministry such as in the 10/40 Window. The proposed organizational structure is designed to be responsive to worldwide needs while still maintaining unity of purpose and vision.

05SM to HWB-GCC(St Louis)

134-05Gd MINISTRIES, SERVICES, AND STRUCTURE  
COMMITTEE (GCC-S)—APPOINTMENT

VOTED, 1. To appoint a Ministries, Services, and Structure Committee (MinServ&StructureC) (GCC-S).

2. To refer the terms of reference and membership of the Ministries, Services, and Structure Committee to the next full Executive Committee of the General Conference to be held on June 27 and 28, 2005 in St. Louis, Missouri.

05SM to HWB-MinServ&StructureC

134-05Ge GENERAL CONFERENCE MINISTRIES AND SERVICES  
REVIEW COMMISSION REPORT - REFERRAL

VOTED, To refer the report of the General Conference Ministries and Services Review Commission, without prejudice, to the Ministries, Services, and Structure Committee (GCC-S).

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Gerry Karst, Chairman  
Agustin Galicia, Secretary  
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary  
Lissy Park, Recording Secretary

SPRING MEETING OF THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 14, 2005, 8:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONAL

The devotional message entitled “The Boneyard Revival” was presented by Ivan Leigh Warden, Associate Director, Ellen G White Estate.

This is the tenth Spring Meeting to be held in the same year of the General Conference Session. This is also the seventy-seventh Spring Meeting. From the President of the General Conference to the presidents, officers, clergy, staff, and others who are here from divisions, unions, or any institution or levels within the organizational structure of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, we have come from around the world. We are gathered between the stone of Daniel 2:34 and Revelation 21, the New Jerusalem. We are gathered between the sixth and seventh seal of Revelation 6 and the sixth and seventh trumpets; here we are between the Laodicean, lukewarm church of Revelation 3:14, and the throne of God in Revelation 22.

Never before has there been such a time of global turmoil in the ecological systems of the world, in the political, social, economic, and ecclesiastical structures of our world. This turmoil is shaking any and everything that can be moved. So devastating is this turmoil that people are asking, “What is going on?” “Is there any hope for the world?” It is into this hopeless situation that the Lord led Ezekiel. When you hear the word “yard,” what do you think of—a paved area open to the sky and adjacent to a building; the grounds immediately surrounding a house that are usually covered with grass; an area with its buildings and facilities set aside for a particular business or activity; an assembly or storage area? Perhaps, when you hear the word you think of a front yard, or a backyard, or a ship yard—or maybe even a junk yard. I want you to imagine a boneyard.

You remember Ezekiel. We are told that the sole source of information concerning Ezekiel is his own prophecy. His name or ministry is not mentioned in the historical books. Ezekiel chapter one, verse three, tells us he was a member of the tribe of Levi and he was called “the priest.” Ezekiel was born close to the beginning of Jeremiah’s ministry in about 625 B.C. The doom of exile fell upon the prophet in early life. He was called to the sacred prophetic office at the age of thirty during the fifth year of the captivity. Like some of the early pioneers of our Church, Ezekiel was twenty-five years old when he said good-bye to his native land. It has been suggested that he remained in the same place throughout the twenty-two years of his ministry. Ezekiel was thirty years old when he received his first vision. From Tel-Abib, by the River Chebar, to Babylon, is an estimated fifty miles. It has been said that Ezekiel made frequent visits to the palace to see his friend, Daniel.

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Like the prophet Hosea, Ezekiel's personal fate was impressively interwoven into the prophetic fabric of his service. You remember in the prime of life, at the age of thirty-four, his wife died. He was told not to mourn nor weep. Ezekiel was a home missionary sent to his own people in slavery (Ezek 3:5, 11). It may be of interest to some that Ezekiel was taken into slavery about nine years after Daniel had been taken to Babylon; they were about the same age and both probably studied under Jeremiah. (Jeremiah had already ministered for more than thirty years.)

Ezekiel was richly endowed by nature with a high intellectual capacity, a clear spiritual perception, a lively imagination, and the gift of eloquence and spell-binding speech. He knew Hebrew culture and was well educated. Ezekiel stands tall when placed next to his contemporaries—Jeremiah in Jerusalem and Daniel in Babylon.

For more than one hundred years the northern kingdom of Israel's history had ended. The demise of Judah, her southern "sister" was speeding to an end. Almost thirty years before the birth of Ezekiel, Jeremiah had been invested with the prophetic dignity by the clear insightful language of Jehovah:

"I have this day set thee over nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant."—Jer 1:10

During these years, Zephaniah had been called to the prophetic office and had given his message of warning and rebuke to Judah. Not even the first captivity in Jehoiakim's reign, or the second captivity in Jehoiachin's reign made the people repent. "Through the visions given to Ezekiel of the city of Jerusalem it may be seen how totally corrupt the people had become in their determined and permanent revolt from Jehovah and their complete saturation with idolatry, immorality, and infidelity."—Paul E Quimby, *The Prophets Still Speak*, pp 156-158

In both centers of Jewish life, in Jerusalem and Babylon, a false and delusive hope of a speedy deliverance from exile filtered among the slaves. This unconfirmed notion of liberation from the mouth of pulpit pimps, parasites, and prophets in Jerusalem and Babylon, was being fed by a sick conviction that God would be proved unfaithful to His chosen city and people.

"Ezekiel is led into this 'boneyard'. The prophet is confronted with a scent of total death. He is led . . . back and forth, over the piles of bones (Ezek 37:2); there must be no question of his having missed some flicker of life among the bones through having made merely a superficial inspection. Ezekiel's examination is thorough, his conclusions irrefutable: the situation is inimical to life. The valley is filled not merely with slain corpses, but with skeleton remains, and dry skeleton remains at that."—Igin M Duguid, *The NIV Application on Ezekiel*, p 426

"Who among us has not stood at some time or other by the grave of his or her hopes? Who has not faced a situation in which any possibility of recovery seemed to be ruled out in

advance? At such times we can appreciate the message of this vision. It speaks to us of a God who can achieve the impossible.”—*The Interpreter’s Bible*, vol 6, p 267

Reformed and renewed, revival and reformation must happen in order for the people to be fully restored. This boneyard experience is about Israel’s restoration. “Life can only come from God’s Spirit.”—*The Pulpit Commentary on Ezekiel*, pp 269, 270

Ezekiel, like Jeremiah before him, understood that a real change in the life of a person or a people had to begin at the motive center of personality. Note Ezekiel 36:26. “A new heart. . . .”—*The Layman’s Bible Commentary*, vol 13, p 72

“Ezekiel, can these bones live?” “O Lord God, thou knowest.” (v.3) “Say to the dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.” (v.4) Notice the boneyard revival movement in verse five, Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; “Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: (v.6) And I will lay sinews upon you, and I will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.”—Ezek 37:3-6

Follow me, think with me, as we check out verses seven through ten. In verse seven there is a description of movement. Not science fiction, not Hollywood, not Walt Disney’s animation, but the bones started to come together: the phalanges came together to the metatarsals, which came together with the cuneiform and cuboids bones, which came together to the talus and calcaneus—and imagine that is all in the foot! We did not even cover all of them! Keeping it simple, the toe bone connected to the foot bone, and the foot bone connected to the ankle bone, and the ankle bone connected to the leg bone, and the leg bone connected to the knee bone, and the knee bone connected to the thigh bone, and the thigh bone connected to the hip bone, and the hip bone connected to the back bone, and the back bone connected to the shoulder bone, and the shoulder bone connected to the neck bone, and the neck bone connected to the head. Now hear the words of the Lord, “Bones, them dry bones. . . .”

“According to the United Nations, a poor, remote province in Afghanistan has the world’s highest maternal mortality rate, with one mother dying in every fifteen births.”—*Star Newspaper*, South Africa, February 23, 2005

Can those bones live again? Is there hope for those families and friends?

If you are faced with situations that seem to suggest no hope, remember the boneyard experience.

“One in twelve of the world’s children are involved in the worst forms of forced labor, sexual exploitation, or enforced military conscription, according to the United Nations Children’s Agency, published February 21, 2005.

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Can those bones live again? Is there any hope for those children?

“Around 97 percent of child laborers work in developing countries.”—*The Star*, South Africa, February 22, 2005.

“Millions of children are left orphaned and vulnerable by the HIV/AIDS epidemic.”—*Ibid.*

“In some countries, almost half of under fourteen year olds work.”—*Ibid.*

“Around 180 million young people under eighteen are involved in the worst forms of child labor.”—*Ibid.*

“David Bull, executive director of UNICEF in Britain said, ‘The scale of the problem is staggering.’”—*Ibid.*

“The report found that in some countries children as young as eleven were being forced into prostitution to support younger siblings because both their parents had died of AIDS.”—*Ibid.*

“One billion children around the world are still living in poverty.”—*Ibid.*

“In countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, forty-one percent of children aged four to ten are involved in the worst forms of child labor.”—*Ibid.*

“In Asia, one in five children under fourteen are working, although the huge population means they make up sixty percent of the total child labor market.”—*Ibid.*

Is there a balm in Gilead? Is there any hope?

Can clearer, sharper and healthier Seventh-day Adventist kingdom values be noted in our K-12 institutions, our colleges and universities?

Can the bones of intentional and unapologetic kingdom values, rise again throughout our Church?

Can the bones of literature ministry rise again?

Can the bones of urban centers around the world be reached with the three angels' messages?

From these bones of ugliness, of pride, of arrogance, of classism, of racism, of sexism, rise a people of beauty, of altruistic spirit, of humility, of unity, of civility?

I say yes! Ellen G White wrote years ago, “A revival and a reformation must take place, under the ministration of the Holy Spirit. Revival and reformation are two different things. Revival signifies a renewal of spiritual life, a quickening of the powers of mind and heart, a resurrection from spiritual death. Reformation signifies a reorganization, a change in ideas and theories, habits and practices. Reformation will not bring forth the good fruit of righteousness unless it is connected with the revival of the Spirit. Revival and reformation are to do their appointed work, and in doing this work they must blend.”—The *Review and Herald*, February 25, 1902, par 8

What would happen to us and to our Church if we went ‘all out’ to immediately implement these principles—on every level of church organization, in every institution, and in every home, and it is as Charles Bradford would say, “Is it ‘doable’”? It is doable! As long as God is breathing we have a reason to hope. Remember “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand forever. . . . I go to prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.”—Isaiah 40:8, John 14: 2, 3

We are going home, in a little while we are going home. No more pain, no more disappointment, no more divorce, no more cancer. No need for a boneyard revival. We are going home.

John Donne’s poem—“No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, part of the main.”—John Donne, *Meditation XVII*

The musical rendition of this poem expresses “No man is an island. No man stands alone. Each man’s joy is joy to me, each man’s grief is my own.”

We are all interconnected. Let me cite one example: The *USA Today* Newspaper had a front page article, the heading, “Air pollution from other countries drifts into USA.” It stated that emissions that cross borders could cancel out United States improvements. Mercury from China, dust from Africa, smog from Mexico, all drift freely across United States borders and contaminates the air millions of Americans breathe, according to recent research from Harvard University, the University of Washington and many others.

Here are other quotes from that same newspaper article: “Mercury emitted by power plants and factories in China, Korea, and other parts of Asia wafts over to the United States of America and settles into the nation’s lakes and streams, where it contributes to pollution that makes fish unsafe to eat.”

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Dust from Africa's Sahara Desert blows west across the Atlantic Ocean and helps raise particle levels above federal health limits in Miami and other southern cities."

"In 1998, a plume of smoke drifted north from fires that had been set by farmers in Central America to clear fields. It blanketed cities from Austin to Altoona, Pennsylvania and 'undoubtedly increased mortality' there," says John Bachman, a science and policy director for the EPA. "The plume was so thick, it caused partial closure of an airport in St. Louis."

There are other pollutants besides air pollution that leaves the United States borders and enters other countries. Gangster rap, violent movies made by Hollywood, etc. . . .

No man is an island.

In the Northern Hemisphere the one heavenly star that remains in its place is the North Star. Every other star, sun and moon, move—but this North Star does not move. You can steer your course by this star. The God of our creation is still breathing. "Resurrection 1" will happen! Our hope is strong!

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Jan Paulsen, Chairman, called to order the third session of the 2005 Spring Meeting.

Prayer was offered by Dolores E Slikkers, Layperson from the North American Division.

TRE/05SM to REL

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2004

VOTED, To accept the 2004 Combined Financial Statements of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the period ending December 31, 2004 (which include the Operating Funds, The Plant Fund, and Other Funds) and the auditor's opinions for the following unitized funds:

Money Fund  
Bond Fund  
Income Fund  
Large Cap U.S. Equity Fund  
Small Cap U.S. Equity Fund

International Fund  
Emerging Markets Fund  
Micro Cap & Private Equity Fund  
Pooled Life Income Fund

05SM to REL

AUDIT MANAGEMENT LETTER, POLICY COMPLIANCE  
REPORT AND RESPONSE

VOTED, To accept the 2004 Audit Management Letter, Policy Compliance Report and General Conference Management Letter Response.

(The Financial Statements are filed with the official copy of the minutes.)

TRE/GCDO05SM/05SM to REL&JRL

136-05G PHYSICIANS AND DENTISTS REMUNERATION  
PLAN - AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend the Physicians and Dentists Remuneration Scale for the General Conference headquarters, under the Alternative Remuneration Plans provision of General Conference *Working Policy* Y 05 05, paragraph 6. c., as follows:

2004		2005		
Percentage	Percentage			
<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Max</u>	
Physicians and Dentists*				
172	192	120	<del>140</del> <u>159</u>	Department Director
170	190	118	<del>138</del> <u>156</u>	Associate Department Director

\*Physicians and dentists called to serve in positions requiring such training and credentials in the Health Ministries Department shall be remunerated at this level.

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TRE/GCDO05SM/05SM to REL&JRL

137-05G OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL REMUNERATION  
PLAN - AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend the Office of General Counsel Remuneration Scale for the General Conference headquarters, under the Alternative Remuneration Plans provision of General Conference *Working Policy* Y 05 05, paragraph 6. c., as follows:

1. Maximum for Director of the Office of General Counsel is to be ~~90 percent~~ 100 percent (159 percent on Wage Scale) of maximum allowed under Alternate Remuneration Plan. (Maximum allowed under Alternate Remuneration Plan is 156.25 percent of maximum remuneration level for an ordained pastor in that locale.)

2. Maximum for Associate Director of the Office of General Counsel is to be ~~88 percent~~ 98 percent (156 percent on Wage Scale) of maximum allowed under Alternate Remuneration Plan.

PREXAD03/PreC03/GCDO03AC/PREXAD04/Con&By/ADCOM/PreC04AC/GCDO04AC/  
04AC/533-04GS/Con&By/ADCOM/05SM to LRE-Con&By+05GCS

201-05GS GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS - CONSTITUTION  
AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

VOTED, To refer General Conference Session - Constitution and Bylaws Amendment back to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

TRE/Con&By/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO04AC/04AC/605-04GS/Con&By/ADCOM/05SM to LRE-  
05GCS

207-05GS FUNDS - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article XVII—Funds, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XVII—FUNDS

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

a. ~~A title percentage of the tithes receipts of the union conferences and union missions, unions of churches, and of the local conferences and missions not included in union conferences and union missions.~~ of the local conference/mission/field shall be forwarded through the union and division in accordance with the General Conference *Working Policy*.

b. Regular mission offerings.

c. ~~Special gifts and proceeds gifts.~~ Proceeds from the maturities of planned giving, giving designated for the General Conference.

d. ~~A percentage of the tithes of the local conferences and missions of attached unions as determined by the General Conference Executive Committee or, in the case of North America, the General Conference Executive Committee meeting with the conference presidents.~~

e. ~~Appropriations from publishing houses, health care institutions, and other institutions that are under the control of the General Conference which, because of the character of their work, have more than local influence and responsibility, as may be arranged by joint counsel of the Executive Committee and the board of management of each institution.~~

PREXAD/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO04AC/04AC/145-04G/DivPre/GCDO05SM/05SM to TNCW

123-05G CONNECTING WITH JESUS—A SPIRIT OF PROPHECY  
GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION PROJECT

VOTED, To approve the document Connecting With Jesus—A Spirit of Prophecy Global Distribution Project, which reads as follows:

Connecting With Jesus  
A Spirit of Prophecy Global Distribution Project

Plans and Objectives

The Need:

1. Projections suggest that by 2020 the Seventh-day Adventist community will number 50 million adherents.
2. Only 12.5 percent of those individuals will have been Seventh-day Adventists in 2000.
3. Recent surveys show a decline in readership of the Spirit of Prophecy.

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4. However, the same surveys indicate that most members still believe that the Spirit of Prophecy is an authority for the Seventh-day Adventist Church today.

5. Other surveys demonstrate that participation by church members in several areas of the spiritual life and mission of the Church can be measured in direct relation to whether they regularly read the Spirit of Prophecy.

6. It is also widely acknowledged, both within and outside of Adventism, that the Spirit of Prophecy has been—and continues to be—primarily responsible for the Church's remarkable theological and administrative unity worldwide. The Church needs to nurture this historical and ongoing spiritual influence.

The Goal:

To develop a plan that will encourage the reading of Ellen G White's writings among church members worldwide, with the following results anticipated:

1. Nurture spirituality among members, including strengthening the member's relationship with Jesus and trust in the written Word, becoming like Him in character and purpose, transforming lifestyle, and increasing involvement with the life and mission of the Church, all through the power and leading of the Holy Spirit.

2. Enhance Adventist identity; a return to the Church's prophetic roots as a movement (reinforcing the belief that the Seventh-day Adventist movement is the remnant described in Revelation 12).

3. Challenge every member to recapture his or her own personal vision for helping Adventism fulfill its prophetic mission.

The Plan:

1. Due to differing needs, each division will prepare its own division project plan based on the information that follows in this document. The division project plan is to be returned as soon as possible to the General Conference Spirit of Prophecy Global Distribution Project Committee (Attention: James R Nix/Ted N C Wilson).

2. The goal of the project is to distribute the following ten Spirit of Prophecy books that have generally been translated into major languages of literate church members worldwide: *Acts of the Apostles*; *Christian Service*; *Counsels for the Church* (this special comprehensive compilation is a collection of Spirit of Prophecy writings grouped in 66 chapters covering various topics, including spiritual subjects on Christ and Christian beliefs, Christian missionary activities, publications of the church, the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, marriage and family,

child rearing, choices of music and reading and dress, Christian education, temperate living, health reform and activities, church organization, the Sabbath, Christian stewardship, Christian obligation to the suffering and the needy, the medical work, Satan's deceptive work, false science, the crisis of the final days of earth's history, Christ as our High Priest, and the Second coming of Christ); *Counsels on Stewardship*; *Desire of Ages*; *Great Controversy*; *Ministry of Healing*; *Patriarchs and Prophets*; *Prophets and Kings*; and *Steps to Christ*. These books could be bound in compact volumes, with several of the books being combined, or some other economical arrangement. Each division will develop the most appropriate printed or electronic format for its context.

3. The overall goal of the project involving each division will be to distribute a total of approximately two million sets of the ten books, sufficient to supply a large number of active Adventist families worldwide. A modest charge for the set of books is suggested, but it should be affordable and appropriate for members in each country of the world. In other words, the cost of the sets of books must not be so high as to be an impediment to their being purchased by the majority of church members.

4. The General Conference will provide a maximum subsidy of US\$ 2.00 for each set, for up to a total of two million sets worldwide. (In cases where the "Conflict of the Ages" series is not going to be included due to previous strong distribution of the set in a division, a lesser prorated per volume formula will be used.) A more limited subsidy could be provided for CD or audio versions instead of printed materials if requested in the division project plan and approved by the General Conference Spirit of Prophecy Global Distribution Project Committee. Based on a "church member to number of books printed" ratio formula for each division, a ceiling will be established for the number of sets per division that will be subsidized by the General Conference.

5. The division project plan should include the funding plan for the division's and unions' portions of the project costs.

6. The Ellen G White Estate will develop and provide in electronic format the study guides and other resources for the ten books for use by individual lay members in personal, family, and group settings; for use by pastors in prayer meetings and other church meetings; for use by student and youth groups; for use by women's ministries, etc. These materials will include the study guide for each book; a brief biography of Ellen G White in the first book of the series with a smaller summary in each of the following books; principles for studying the Spirit of Prophecy in each book; a list of the Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Beliefs in each book; and a yearly Bible reading plan in each book.

7. Having the books and study guides in printed format for reader use is of prime importance since it offers actual materials in hand which can be studied in a group setting. If only electronic formats, such as CD or Internet, are used, every effort should be made to make

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sure that the electronic format of the books and the study guides is available for study in a group setting or that printed study guides are available.

8. Printing will be the responsibility of each division unless some divisions wish to combine printing of languages used in common. If requested, the General Conference could assist in coordinating combined printing. Each division is to indicate in its division project plan whether it wishes to be involved in combined printing and in which languages. Divisions are encouraged to involve Seventh-day Adventist publishing houses in this special project. It is important to understand that this spiritual and educational project is not designed to be a profit maker for any church entity, nor a money loser. The precise standard of book quality, utilizing paper covers and easily readable print size, will be the responsibility of each division with the goal of massive, economical distribution of the maximum number of sets possible.

9. The Ellen G White Estate, in conjunction with other assisting entities, will provide for the electronic format in English for the ten books and study guides as well as the availability of the material on internet websites for downloading. As additional languages become available in electronic form, they could be added to the websites.

10. Working in cooperation with the General Conference, each division will decide on the translation needs for its territory, keeping in mind the need to limit the number of languages in order to maximize the print run efficiencies. All requests for translation subsidies for this project will go to the regular General Conference Spirit of Prophecy Committee. Translation coordination will be the responsibility of each division.

11. Divisions will be responsible for the distribution plans and distribution costs of the sets to churches and church members and should include the distribution plan in the division project plan sent to the General Conference. Divisions are encouraged to consider the most economical and efficient process of direct distribution from the printing site to churches or members. Division and union church-based service/business organizations (health systems, health food organizations, etc.) are to be encouraged to assist in the distribution costs.

12. Divisions will provide overall supervision and coordination to the unions and local conferences/missions/local fields for the study plans of each church or small group using the study guides in each book. Pastors and lay leaders will be trained and encouraged by conferences/missions/local fields to lead in the study of each volume. Instruction and training information will be provided through communication avenues including the *Adventist Review*, *Ministry* magazine, the *Hope Channel*, and other communication entities.

13. Since this is a special faith project, all expenditures for the project by the various organizations will be dependent on income arranged for and received.

## The Timetable:

October 2004	Conceptual plan voted at Annual Council
November 2004	Division year-end meetings reviewed plan and provided feedback
January 2005	Updated plan discussed at GC PREXAD which included division presidents
April 2005	Full plan presented at Spring Meeting for final vote
2005-2010	Plans to be implemented:
2005	Divisions develop/submit division project plans to GC and arrange for various translations of books and study guides
2006	Divisions arrange for printing
2006	(August) Beginning of project financial assistance from General Conference
2007-2010	Continuation of printing/funding arrangements and intensive study guide usage throughout each division

PRE/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

## ANNUAL COUNCIL 2007 - MEETING DATES

VOTED, To approve the dates for the 2007 Annual Council in Kiev, Ukraine to be as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2007</u>			
8	Mon	Division Officers Interviews	Kiev UKRAINE
9	Tue	Presidents Council	Kiev UKRAINE
9	Tue	Secretaries Council	Kiev UKRAINE
9	Tue	Treasurers Council	Kiev UKRAINE
10	Wed	GC Division Officers	Kiev UKRAINE
11	Thu	Financial Planning & Budgeting Committee	Kiev UKRAINE
12(eve)-17	Fri	Annual Council	Kiev UKRAINE

PRE/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

COUNCIL ON EVANGELISM AND WITNESS (GCC-S)—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the Council on Evangelism and Witness (GCC-S), as follows:

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Add	Brauer, Jonathan Campos, Jose L Johnson, Rick Lamoreaux, Nancy A Nix, James R Taylor, Tom D
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TRE/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

FINANCIAL PLANNING AND BUDGETING COMMITTEE (GCC-S)—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee (GCC-S), as follows:

Delete	Maxson, Benjamin C Stenbakken, Ardis D
Add	Koh, Linda Lezeau, Jean-Luc

TRE/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

GENERAL CONFERENCE, SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION COMMITTEE  
(GCC-S)—MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the General Conference, Southern Asia Division Committee (GCC-S), as follows:

Add	Kunjachan, P Daniel Moses, Kalapala J Watts, D Ronald
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SEC/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

GENERAL CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE  
(GCC-S)—MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the General Conference Administrative Committee (GCC-S), in the category of Invitees, as follows:

Delete	Stenbakken, Ardis D
Add	Small, Heather-Dawn

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

GENERAL CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE  
(GCC-S)—INVITEE

VOTED, To record that the President of Adventist Risk Management is a regular invitee to the Administrative Committee.

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to MAB

GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2005—DELEGATES AT  
LARGE (ARTICLE V, SECTION 7. c.)

VOTED, To approve delegates at large for the 2005 General Conference Session, under the provisions of Article V, Section 7.c. (quota 20), as follows:

1. Adams, Roy
2. Beagles, Kathleen Ann
3. Burrow, Lisa
4. Carson, Walter E
5. Donkor, Kwabena
6. Erntson, Verland
7. Fagal, William Alan
8. Knott, William
9. Krause, Bettina
10. Mueller, Ekkehardt
11. Nixon, Robert W
12. Orion, Daisy J Flores

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13. Pfandl, Gerhard
14. Rasmussen, Kenneth E
15. Swanson, Gary B
16. Trimarchi, John P
17. Tutsch, Cindy
18. Upson, Don
19. Warden, Ivan Leigh
20. Yingling, Lori

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to MAB

GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2005—ADDITIONAL REQUESTS  
FOR SPECIAL GUESTS

VOTED, To approve the request for additional Special Guests to the 2005 General Conference Session, as follows:

East-Central Africa Division (ECD)	10
Euro-Asia Division (ESD)	1
General Conference Administrative Committee (ADCOM)	7

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to MAB

GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2005—DELEGATES  
AT LARGE (ARTICLE V, SECTION 7.e.)

VOTED, To approve the list of delegates at large for the 2005 General Conference Session, under the provisions of Article V, Section 7.e. (quota 27), as follows:

1. Afonso, Milton
2. Arina, Aira
3. Bana, Able Anak Johnny
4. Batchelor, Douglas E
5. Busl, Kim
6. Chan, Tom
7. Colburn, Larry R
8. Fordham, Sari
9. Gibson, Ty
10. Jacobsen, Donald G
11. Johnson, Neal

12. Krogstad, Jack
13. Magana, Guillermo
14. McKee, Elsworth
15. McNeilus, Garwin
16. Morgan, Clyde
17. Osei, Jessica
18. Patterson, Andrew
19. Reid, George W
20. Roth, Don
21. Shelton, Dan
22. Sosa, Edith Varela
23. Tucker, Bill
24. Wahlen, Ray
25. Watts, Ralph S
26. Young, Deborah
27. Zapara, Tom

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to MAB

GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2005—ADDITIONAL  
REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL GUESTS

VOTED, To approve the request for additional Special Guests to the 2005 General Conference Session, as follows:

Euro-Africa Division (EUD)	1
North American Division (NAD)	6
Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division (SID)	2

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (GCC-S)—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the General Conference Executive Committee (GCC-S), in the category of one pastor from each division, as follows:

Delete	Simek, Pavel (EUD)
Add	Nowak, Karel (EUD)

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SEC/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

GLOBAL MISSION OPERATIONS COMMITTEE (GCC-S)—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the Global Mission Operations Committee (GCC-S), as follows:

Delete	Stenbakken, Ardis D Stenbakken, Richard O
Add	Feldbush, Martin W Small, Heather-Dawn

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

OFFICE OF MISSION AWARENESS (GCC-S)—MEMBERSHIP  
ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the Office of Mission Awareness (GCC-S), as follows:

Delete	Maxson, Benjamin C Netteburg, Kermit L
Add	Eva, Willmore D Finley, Mark A Kinsey, Frederick Lezeau, Jean-Luc

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

GENERAL CONFERENCE, SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION COMMITTEE  
(GCC-S)—MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the General Conference Southern Asia Division Committee (GCC-S), as follows:

Delete	Gurubatham, Joseph E
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Add Ponniah, Stanley H

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to LRE

GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2005—STEERING COMMITTEE

VOTED, To approve the 2005 General Conference Session Steering Committee, as follows:

STEERING

Jan Paulsen, Chairman  
Larry R Evans, Secretary

Members: Harold W Baptiste, Matthew A Bediako, Jose L Campos, Walter E Carson, Douglas Clayville, Sherri Clemmer, Lowell C Cooper, Rajmund Dabrowski, Linda M de Leon, C Garland Dulan, Mark A Finley, Agustin Galicia, Roscoe J Howard III, Eugene Hsu, William G Johnsson, Theodore T Jones, Gerry D Karst, Howard T Karst, Dennis C Keith Sr, Gary D Krause, Robert E Lemon, Jose R Lizardo,

Armando Miranda, James R Nix, Robert W Nixon, Orville D Parchment, Ruth E Parish, Vernon B Parmenter, Juan R Prestol, Donald E Robinson, Elaine A Robinson, Angel M Rodriguez, Steven G Rose, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Claude Sabot, Charles C Sandefur Jr, Don C Schneider, Benjamin D Schoun, Heather-Dawn Small, Robert L Swezey, Ted N C Wilson.

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO03SM/03SM/SEC/ADCOM/GCDO03AC/03AC/102-03Gc/SEC/  
ADCOM/GCDO04SM/04SM/ADCOM/GCDO04AC/ADCOM/04AC/102-04Gb/SEC/  
ADCOM/GCDO05SM/05SM to RJH(DIV)

102-05Ga AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2005

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2005 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>April 2005</u>			
13,14(am)	Wed	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
13(eve)	Wed	International HIV/AIDS Study Commission	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
13(eve)	Wed	HSI/Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>April 2005 contd</u>			
14	Thu	GC PARL World Affairs Com & IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
14(eve)-17	Thu	ADRA Board Retreat	Gaithersburg MD
18,19	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI
22	Fri	Adventist Heritage Ministry Finance Committee	Battle Creek MI
24,25	Sun	Adventist Heritage Ministry Board	Battle Creek MI
24,25	Sun	Oakwood College Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL
26(eve)	Tue	R&H Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
27(am)	Wed	R&H Board	Hagerstown MD
<u>May 2005</u>			
12(pm)	Thu	Andrews University Executive Committee	Berrien Springs MI
17	Tue	Loma Linda Boards—Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
18	Wed	Loma Linda Boards	Loma Linda CA
19	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>June 2005</u>			
1	Wed	North American Division Committee	Silver Spring MD
1-10	Wed	GC Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
2	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
6-25	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Berrien Springs MI
8	Wed	GC Staff Day	Gaithersburg MD
9	Tue	R&H Board Executive & Finance Committees	Silver Spring MD
22-27	Wed	HIV/AIDS & SEEDS PLUS Intern'l Conference	Berrien Springs MI
24	Fri	Presidents Council	St Louis MO
24	Fri	Secretaries Council	St Louis MO
24	Fri	Treasurers Council	St Louis MO
26	Sun	GC & Division Officers	St Louis MO
26(eve)-28	Sun	International Risk Management Conference	St Louis MO
27,28	Mon	Division Officer Interviews	St Louis MO
28(pm),29(am)	Tue	General Conference Executive Committee	St Louis MO
29-July 9	Wed	General Conference Session	St Louis MO
<u>July 2005</u>			
5	Tue	Ellen G White Estate Board	St Louis MO
12-17	Tue	Institute of World Mission Re-entry Program	Berrien Springs MI
25-Aug 13	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Newbold ENGLAND
29-Aug 2	Fri	Biblical Research Institute Science Council	NORTH AMERICA

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>August 2005</u>			
10(eve)	Wed	PPPA Finance Committee	Nampa ID
11	Thu	PPPA Board & Constituency Session	Nampa ID
15	Mon	Christian Record Services	Lincoln NE
16,17	Tue	Adventist Risk Management Board	Woodstock VT
22	Mon	Loma Linda Boards—Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
23	Tue	Loma Linda Boards	Loma Linda CA
26	Fri	Adventist Heritage Ministry Finance Committee	Port Gibson NY
28,29	Sun	Adventist Heritage Ministry Board	Port Gibson NY
<u>September 2005</u>			
6(eve)	Tue	R&H Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
7(am)	Wed	R&H Board	Hagerstown MD
8	Thu	PREXAD	
11-15	Sun	Adventist Risk Management Conference	Anchorage AK
15	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
19-23	Mon	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
28,29	Wed	Use of Tithe Study Commission	Silver Spring MD
<u>October 2005</u>			
2	Sun	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Silver Spring MD
3(am)	Mon	Africa HIV-AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD
3(am)	Mon	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
3	Mon	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
3(pm)	Mon	10/40 Window Committee	Silver Spring MD
4	Tue	GC PARL World Affairs Com & IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
4	Tue	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
4	Tue	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
4	Tue	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
4(pm)	Tue	Adventist Television Network Operating Com	Silver Spring MD
5	Wed	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
5(eve)	Wed	Global Mission Operations Committee	Silver Spring MD
6(am)	Thu	ADRA Board	Silver Spring MD
6	Thu	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
6(pm)	Thu	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Col, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
6(pm)	Thu	International Board of Min & Theo Educ	Silver Spring MD
7(am)	Fri	Financial Planning & Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
7(pm)	Fri	AIAS Board	Silver Spring MD
7(pm)	Fri	International HIV/AIDS Study Commission	Silver Spring MD
7(eve)-13(am)	Fri	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2005 contd</u>			
9(eve)	Sun	Financial Statement Audit Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
10(pm)	Mon	GCAS Board	Silver Spring MD
10(eve)	Mon	Adventist Health Intl Corp Membership Mtg	Silver Spring MD
10(eve)	Mon	HSI/Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
11(eve)	Tue	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
14(am)	Fri	Andrews University Board Finance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
16	Sun	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
16(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
17	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
17,18	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
17-Nov5	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Berrien Springs MI
18	Tue	Loma Linda Boards—Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
19(eve)	Wed	Institute of World Mission Council	Berrien Springs MI
23,24	Sun	Oakwood College Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL
28(eve)-Nov 1	Fri	NAD Yearend Meeting	Silver Spring MD
<u>November 2005</u>			
17	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>December 2005</u>			
1	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
5	Mon	Inst for Prevention of Addictions Board	Berrien Springs MI
6	Tue	Loma Linda Boards—Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
7	Wed	Loma Linda Boards	Loma Linda CA
12	Mon	ADRA Executive Committee	Silver Spring MD
15	Thu	R&H Executive & Finance Committees	Silver Spring MD

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO04SM/04SM/GCDO04AC/ADCOM/04AC/102-04Gc/SEC/ADCOM/  
 GCDO05SM/05SM to RJH(DIV)

102-05Gb AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2006

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2006 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 2006</u>			
4-7	Wed	Institute of World Mission Re-entry Program	Avondale AUSTRALIA
6-8	Fri	Ellen G White Estate Consultation	Williamsburg VA
11-14	Wed	PREXAD	Miami FL
13-28	Fri	Institute of World Mission	Avondale AUSTRALIA
25	Wed	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>February 2006</u>			
16	Thu	Institute for the Prevention of Addictions Board	Loma Linda CA
17-21	Fri	PPPA, R&H, ABC Marketing Seminar	East Coast
20	Mon	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
27	Mon	Loma Linda Boards—Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
28	Tue	Loma Linda Boards	Loma Linda CA
<u>March 2006</u>			
1(am)	Wed	Geoscience Research Institute Board	Loma Linda CA
2	Thu	AIAS Board	Silang PHILIPPINES
2(pm)	Thu	IWM Administrative Council	Berrien Springs MI
3(am)	Fri	Andrews University Board Finance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
5	Sun	Andrews University Board Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
5(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
6	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
6-10	Sun	World Health Advisory	
6-11	Mon	GC Spiritual Emphasis Wk & Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
9	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
12-15	Sun	Publishing Department World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
12-16	Sun	E G White Estate World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
13-16	Mon	GC PARL Department World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
13-17	Mon	Children's Ministries Department World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
13-17	Mon	Health Ministries Department World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
13-17	Mon	Stewardship Department World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
13-19	Mon	Ministerial Association World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
13-Apr 1	Mon	Institute of World Mission	
16	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
19-23	Sun	Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
19-23	Sun	Family Ministries World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
19-24	Sun	Communication Department World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
20-24	Mon	Global Mission World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
20-24	Mon	Trust Services World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
20-24	Mon	Sabbath School/Personal Ministries World Advisory	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>March 2006 contd</u>			
26-31	Sun	AVS World Advisory/HisHands Training	Silver Spring MD
27-31	Mon	Education Department World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
27-31	Mon	Youth Ministries World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
27-31	Mon	World Sabbath School Curriculum Advisory	Silver Spring MD
27-Apr 1	Mon	Women's Ministries World Advisory	Silver Spring MD
29(eve)	Wed	PPPA Board Finance Committee	Nampa ID
30	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
31-Apr 2	Fri	Use of Tithe Study Commission	Loma Linda CA
<u>April 2006</u>			
3,4	Mon	Global Mission Issues Committee	Loma Linda CA
4(am)	Tue	International Board of Education	Loma Linda CA
4	Tue	10/40 Window Committee	Loma Linda CA
4(pm)	Tue	Global Mission Operations Committee	Loma Linda CA
5,6	Wed	Division Officer Interviews	Loma Linda CA
5(pm)	Wed	HIV/AIDS Office Board	Loma Linda CA
6(am)	Thu	Accrediting Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Loma Linda CA
6(pm)	Thu	Adventist Television Network Operating Com	Loma Linda CA
7	Fri	Presidents Council	Loma Linda CA
7	Fri	Secretaries Council	Loma Linda CA
7	Fri	Treasurers Council	Loma Linda CA
7(eve),8	Fri	Loma Linda Centennial & Worship Events	Loma Linda CA
9(am)	Sun	Financial Planning & Budgeting Committee	Loma Linda CA
9	Sun	LLUAHSC Constituency & Loma Linda Bds	Loma Linda CA
9(eve)	Sun	Loma Linda Centennial Event	Loma Linda CA
10(am)	Mon	GC & Division Officers	Loma Linda CA
10(pm)	Mon	Adventist World Radio Board	Loma Linda CA
11	Tue	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Loma Linda CA
11(am)	Tue	ADRA Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
11(pm)	Tue	ICPA Board	Loma Linda CA
12,13(am)	Wed	Spring Meeting	Loma Linda CA
12(eve)	Wed	HSI/Griggs University Board	Loma Linda CA
12(eve)	Wed	International HIV/AIDS Study Commission	Loma Linda CA
13	Thu	GC PARL World Affairs Com & IRLA Board	Loma Linda CA
17,18	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI
18-20	Tue	World Council of Editors	Silver Spring MD
21	Fri	Adventist Heritage Ministry Finance Committee	_____
21,22	Fri	Adventist Heritage Ministry Board	_____
23,24	Sun	Oakwood College Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>April 2006 contd</u>			
26(pm)	Wed	R&H Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
27	Thu	R&H Constituency Meeting	Hagerstown MD
<u>May 2006</u>			
11(pm)	Thu	Andrews University Executive Committee	Berrien Springs MI
18	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
23	Tue	Loma Linda Boards-Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
24	Wed	Loma Linda Boards	Loma Linda CA
24,25	Wed	IRLA International Congress	
27	Sat	Religious Liberty Festival	
31-June 1	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	Burlington VT
<u>June 2006</u>			
12-15	Mon	PREXAD	
12-July 1	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Berrien Springs MI
14	Wed	GC Staff Day	Gaithersburg MD
20	Tue	R&H Board Exec/Finance Committee	Silver Spring MD
<u>July 2006</u>			
7-17	Fri	International Bible Conference	Izmir TURKEY
11-16	Tue	Institute of World Mission Re-entry Program	Berrien Springs MI
20	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
24-Aug 12	Mon	Institute of World Mission	
28-Aug 1	Fri	Biblical Research Institute Science Council	
<u>August 2006</u>			
9(eve)	Wed	PPPA Board Finance Committee	Nampa ID
10	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
17	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
21	Mon	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
21-31	Mon	Geoscience Research Institute Field Conf	Denver CO
28	Mon	Loma Linda Boards-Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
29	Tue	Loma Linda Boards	Loma Linda CA
<u>September 2006</u>			
10-14	Sun	Adventist Risk Management Conference	
12-22	Tue	GC Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
14	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
15	Fri	Adventist Heritage Ministry Finance Committee	Battle Creek MI

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>September 2006 contd</u>			
17,18	Sun	Adventist Heritage Ministry Committee	Battle Creek MI
26(eve)	Tue	R&H Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
27(am)	Wed	R&H Board	Hagerstown MD
27,28	Wed	Use of Tithe Study Commission	Silver Spring MD
<u>October 2006</u>			
1	Sun	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Silver Spring MD
2	Mon	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
2(pm)	Mon	Adventist Television Network Oper Com	Silver Spring MD
2(pm)	Mon	10/40 Window Committee	Silver Spring MD
3(am)	Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
3	Tue	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
3	Tue	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
3	Tue	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
3(pm)	Tue	Adventist Television Network Operating Com	Silver Spring MD
3(pm)	Tue	GC PARL World Affairs Com & IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
4	Wed	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
4(eve)	Wed	Global Mission Operations Committee	Silver Spring MD
5(am)	Thu	Accrediting Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
5(am)	Thu	ADRA Board	Silver Spring MD
5(am)	Thu	Church Manual Committee	Silver Spring MD
5	Thu	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
5(pm)	Thu	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
6(am)	Fri	Financial Planning & Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
6(pm)	Fri	Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD
6(pm)	Fri	AIAS Board	Silver Spring MD
6(pm)	Fri	International Board of Min & Theo Educ	Silver Spring MD
6(eve)-12	Fri	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
8(eve)	Sun	Financial Statement Audit Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
9(pm)	Mon	GCAS Board	Silver Spring MD
9(eve)	Mon	HSI/Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
9(eve)	Mon	International HIV/AIDS Study Commission	Silver Spring MD
13(am)	Fri	Andrews University Board Finance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
15	Sun	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
15(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
16	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
16,17	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
16-Nov 4	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Berrien Springs MI
17	Tue	Loma Linda Boards—Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2006 contd</u>			
22,23	Sun	Oakwood College Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL
27-31	Fri	NAD Yearend Meeting	Silver Spring MD
<u>November 2006</u>			
16	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>December 2006</u>			
7	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
11	Mon	ADRA Executive Committee	Silver Spring MD
12	Tue	Loma Linda Boards—Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
13	Wed	Loma Linda Boards	Loma Linda CA
19	Tue	R&H Executive & Finance Committees	Silver Spring MD

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO05SM/05SM to RJH-05AC(DIV)

#### 102-05Gc AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2007

VOTED, To approve the list of Authorized Meetings 2007 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 2007</u>			
<u>February 2007</u>			
23(eve)-26(am)	Fri	LLUAHSC Board Retreat	CALIFORNIA
26(pm)	Mon	Loma Linda Boards-Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
27	Tue	Loma Linda Boards	Loma Linda CA
28(am)	Wed	Geoscience Institute Board	Loma Linda CA
<u>March 2007</u>			
8	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
20	Tue	Loma Linda Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
28(eve)	Wed	PPPA Board Finance Committee	Nampa ID
29	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>April 2007</u>			
8(pm)	Sun	Africa HIV-AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD
9,10	Mon	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
10(am)	Tue	ADRA Executive Committee	Silver Spring MD
11,12	Wed	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
24(pm)	Tue	R&H HHES Board	Hagerstown MD
24(eve)	Tue	R&H Finance Board	Hagerstown MD
25(am)	Wed	R&H Board	Hagerstown MD
<u>May 2007</u>			
22	Tue	Loma Linda Boards-Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
23	Wed	Loma Linda Boards	Loma Linda CA
<u>June 2007</u>			
5,6	Tue	Adventist Risk Management Board	VERMONT
13	Wed	GC Staff Day	Gaithersburg MD
14	Thu	R&H Executive/Finance Board Committee	Silver Spring MD
<u>July 2007</u>			
<u>August 2007</u>			
8(eve)	Wed	PPPA Board Finance Committee	Nampa ID
9	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
16	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
27	Mon	Loma Linda Boards-Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
28	Tue	Loma Linda boards	Loma Linda CA
<u>September 2007</u>			
4(eve)	Tue	R&H Finance Board Committee	Hagerstown MD
5(am)	Wed	R&H Board	Hagerstown MD
9-13	Sun	Adventist Risk Management Conference	
30	Sun	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Kiev UKRAINE
<u>October 2007</u>			
1(pm)	Mon	10/40 Window Committee	Kiev UKRAINE
2(am)	Tue	International Board of Education	Kiev UKRAINE
2(pm)	Tue	Adventist Television Network Oper Com	Kiev UKRAINE
2(pm)	Tue	GC PARL World Affairs & IRLA Board	Kiev UKRAINE
3(eve)	Wed	Global Mission Operations Committee	Kiev UKRAINE
4(am)	Thu	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll & Univ	Kiev UKRAINE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2007</u> contd			
4(am)	Thu	ADRA Board	Kiev UKRAINE
4(am)	Thu	Church Manual Committee	Kiev UKRAINE
4(pm)	Thu	Adventist World Radio Board	Kiev UKRAINE
5(pm)	Fri	Africa HIV-AIDS Office Board	Kiev UKRAINE
8	Mon	Division Officers Interviews	Kiev UKRAINE
9	Tue	Presidents Council	Kiev UKRAINE
9	Tue	Secretaries Council	Kiev UKRAINE
9	Tue	Treasurers Council	Kiev UKRAINE
10	Wed	GC Division Officers	Kiev UKRAINE
11	Thu	Financial Planning & Budgeting Com	Kiev UKRAINE
12(eve)-17	Fri	Annual Council	Kiev UKRAINE
19-22	Fri	Andrews University Board & Committees	Berrien Springs MI
23	Tue	Loma Linda Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
<u>November 2007</u>			
15	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>December 2007</u>			
6	Thu	ARM Board	Silver Spring MD
10	Mon	ADRA Executive Committee	Silver Spring MD
11	Tue	Loma Linda Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
12	Wed	Loma Linda Boards	Loma Linda CA
18	Tue	R&H Board Executive/Finance Com	Silver Spring MD

ESD/SEC/ADCOM/05SM to AG

#### 144-05G EAST RUSSIAN UNION MISSION—TERRITORIAL ADJUSTMENT

Whereas, the East Russian Union Mission (ERUM) is geographically the largest union in the world, with eight different time zones,

Whereas, to divide the East Russian Union Mission (ERUM) is not financially feasible at this time,

Whereas, the Far Eastern Mission (FEM), within the Federal Region, is not easily accessible from Novosibirsk, to the East Russian Union Mission (ERUM) headquarters,

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Whereas, the air travel is more expensive from Novosibirsk to Khabarovsk than from Moscow to Khabarovsk,

Whereas, the Far Eastern Mission (FEM) has the potential for a union status in the future,

Whereas, the Euro-Asia Division is willing and able to care for the Far Eastern Mission (FEM) and because it is cheaper and easier for them to access the Far Eastern Mission (FEM), it is

VOTED, 1. To recognize and record the reorganization of the East Russian Union Mission, comprised of the Baikal Mission, Central Siberian Mission, Far Eastern Mission, West Siberian Mission and Yenicey Mission, by detaching from the Union the Far Eastern Mission serving the Magadan region, Kamchatka region, Sakhalin areas, Primorsk region, Chukotka, and Yakutia.

2. To record that the Far Eastern Mission be an attached field to the Euro-Asia Division effective June 1, 2005.

NAD/ChManSub/ChMan/GCDO04AC/04AC/458GNd/ADCOM/05SM to AM

449-05GN SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES - *CHURCH MANUAL*  
NOTES AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend the section, Small Group Ministries, to the Notes section of the *Church Manual*, page 63, to read as follows:

#### Small Group Ministries

2. Small Group Ministries—Moses organized Israel into groups of ten (Ex. 18). Jesus chose a group of twelve and spent most of His ministry with them. He often taught in private homes (Matt. 13:36, 17:25; Mark 9:33, 10:10). The New Testament church centered its activities on small groups, in fellowship, study, sharing, praying, and eating together (Acts 2:42, 46).

In North America and many other parts of the world, the Seventh-day Adventist Church began with local churches that were small, informal groups and met in homes. Ellen G White emphasizes, “The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort is a plan that has been presented before me by One who cannot err. If there is a large number in the church, let the members be formed into small companies, to work not only for the church members but for unbelievers also” (*Evangelism*, p 115).

As early as 1871 she wrote specific instructions on “How to Conduct Meetings,” that were the same in purpose and procedure as small group ministries today. (See *Review and Herald*, May 30, 1871: reprinted in *Testimonies*, vol. 2, pp. 577-582.)

The life of the body is in its cells. If the cell dies, the body eventually dies. If the cells are healthy, the body is healthy. When the cells multiply, the body grows. A study of church movements shows that every major revival has been influenced by a ready access to the Bible and the gathering of believers in small, intimate groups.

### Bible Study Fellowships

**Purpose**—Bible study fellowships aim to both revive members and attract nonmembers. They provide an excellent means of reconnecting with inactive members. A strong emphasis of such groups is fellowship. Both the small size and the informal setting are more conducive to fellowship than the regular church setting. Even individuals not ready to identify with the Church feel comfortable in the nonthreatening atmosphere of a small group.

**Format**—Groups should be no smaller than four or larger than fifteen. They should meet regularly—weekly, bi-weekly or at least monthly. They may meet in homes, at a workplace or meeting rooms in the community. Meetings normally last an hour or two and typically include ~~three~~ four parts:

1. **Sharing:** The group should schedule their sharing time at the beginning of each meeting. The sharing of joys, blessings, and disappointments is a natural way to begin a meeting. It relieves tensions, provides honest affirmation, and creates a warm spirit. Dialogue is the key to success. No one must be allowed to dominate the group.

2. **Bible study:** The group may choose a book of the Bible or use a study guide for Bible study. Members study agreed sections of the material during the week, and discuss it with the group at the meetings. The leader probes for answers to such questions as “What does the author say in this text?” and “What does God say to me through this passage?”

3. **Prayer:** The group compiles a list of prayer topics, including requests and praises. It is important that they pray for one another, as well as specific projects that the group may be involved or interested in. Time should be allowed for short prayers by each person who wishes to participate.

4. **Witnessing:** The group spends time discussing witnessing opportunities, selecting programs in which they might become engaged. Plans are developed for implementation of the program/s and ensuing meetings allow opportunity for sharing of witnessing results and experiences. Time should also be allowed for training group members in methods of effective

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witness. In groups where inactive church members and/or non members regularly attend, the focus should be on introducing them to Jesus Christ.

### Ministry Groups

Small groups may meet at the church and be made up of individuals with special interests. Example groups include but are not limited to persons interested in—family life, parenting, coping with life, and Bible study classes covering physical, mental, and spiritual health. Classes may also be established in the Sabbath School as support groups for individuals with specific needs as well as activity groups.

### Mission Groups

Small groups may be sponsored by a local church as the first step in beginning work in a previously unentered community in the same way that branch Sabbath Schools and cottage meetings have been used by Seventh-day Adventists since the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

A small group which gathers in a home for Bible study, fellowship and worship requires little if any funding, and removes the barrier of cost from advancing the mission of the Church. Where the conference cannot afford to fund additional pastors, mission groups throughout a metropolitan area or rural region can continue to be affiliated with an established church. Small group leaders function under supervision of the district pastor.

### How to Begin

The Personal Ministries Council normally initiates small group ministries and the church board gives final approval to the program and the appointment of leaders. This is a safeguard against the development of offshoot groups.

The pastor does not need to be a permanent member of any group. However, the pastor should have general oversight of all groups. The pastor's greatest contribution is in recruiting and training leaders from among church members. These lay leaders invite friends, acquaintances, and neighbors to join their groups.

At the first meeting there should be a written statement or group agreement which explains the goals of the group and the ground rules. The group should be asked to help shape this brief, concise document (usually not more than one page). It would typically include an agreement to meet weekly for a specified number of weeks (6, 10, 13 or 26, for example), attend every meeting unless ill or out of town, read the assigned material between meetings, protect confidences, refrain from negative statements about other people or organizations, and invite others into the group. Those unable to support the agreement should be allowed to withdraw gracefully.

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Matthew Bediako, Secretary of the General Conference, made an announcement regarding the delegates to the upcoming General Conference Session.

#### PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS

I want to express my appreciation to the group for their attendance, participation and good spirit; to William Knott, Associate Editor of the *Adventist Review* and Ivan Leigh Warden, Associate Director of the Ellen G White Estate for their inspiring devotional messages; and to Secretariat staff for all the hard work they have done to ensure the success of the Spring Meeting.

#### PRAYER

Closing prayer was offered by Mumtaz Fargo, Layperson from the North American Division.

Adjourned.

Jan Paulsen, Chairman  
Roscoe J Howard III, Secretary  
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary  
Janet C Upson, Recording Secretary