

ANNUAL COUNCIL

October 10 to 15, 2008

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 10, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Cesario Acevedo del Villar, Milton Soldani Afonso, Harrington S Akombwa, Bolivar Alaña, Josias Cesar Almeida, Willem Altink, Niels-Erik A Andreasen, Miriam Andres, Jose Alfredo Argueta, Leonardo Asoy, Danilo Asunsion, Esaie Auguste, Kjell Aune, Ruel Baculanta, Daniel Baidya, Delbert W Baker, Levi Baliton, Rosa T Banks, Wetington Barreta, Lisa M Beardsley, Matthew A Bediako, Jannie Bekker,

Daniele Benini, Vivencio Bermudez, Guillermo E Biaggi, Gordon Bietz, Mahesh Dyaram Biloría, Samuel Yotam Bindosano, Branko Bistrovic, Jonathan Bizirema, Violeto F Bocala, Rodney G Brady, Gina S Brown, Herbert Brugger, Reinder Bruinsma, G Alexander Bryant, Eliseo Bustamante, Hesron Byilingiro, Roger Caderma, Mario Augusto Calderon, Jesus Calvo, Leonor Segunda B Carbo, Abraham Carpena,

Agapito Jamito Catane Jr, Jonathan Catolico, Wilson Catolico, Carolyn M Catton, Mario Ceballos, Lorna Marie-Eugenie Cedras, Edward Chambugong, Shirley Chang, Carl Patrick Chin, Lisa Sangsook Choi, Somchai Chuenjit, Bookwon Chun, Chester V Clark III, Joan Yvonne Clarke, G S Robert Clive, Lalchansanga Colney, Lowell C Cooper, Nevenka Cop, Kevin Costello, Gary R Councell, James A Cress,

Rajmund Dabrowski, Padmaraj Daniel, Romero Daquila, Thomas B Davai, Nestor Dayson, Abner De los Santos, Orlando Salazar Deocades, Marino F De Oliveira, P Perumal Dhanaraja, Lawrence Domingo, Jose Dorismar, Paul H Douglas, C Garland Dulan, Juan Carlos Duran, Jorge Carlos Echezarraga, George O Egwakhe, Teodoro Elias, Ferdinand Esico, G Thomas Evans, Larry R Evans, Laurence James Evans,

Leong Fai, Howard F Faigao, Jimmy L Ferguson, Sergie Ferrer, Yance Fina, Mark A Finley, Ronald M Flowers, Daniel Fontaine-Marquez, John M Fowler, Anthony Francis,

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Ulrich W Frikart, David K Gairo, Carmelito Galang Jr, Samuel Galarpe, Agustin Galicia, Dale Galusha, Rene Garcia, Carlos Ursus Gill Krug, Clifford Goldstein, Erwin Gonzalez, Ricardo B Graham, John Graz, Ella Grents,

Alberto C Gulfan Jr, Edwin Gulfan, Roberto Gullon, Stephen R Guptill, Erkki Olavi Haapasalo, Joel Habaradas, Dilip Hagidok, Bert Haloviak, Allan R Handysides, Richard H Hart, Ceazar J Hechanova, Keith R Heinrich, Atte Markus Helminen, German Mandla Hlanze, Myung Kwan Hong, Roscoe J Howard III, King-Yi Eugene Hsu, Willie E Hucks, Teodor Hutanu, George Ipi, Jobir Iskhakov, Clyde M Iverson Jr,

David Javier Perez, Robert Jimenez, Rudy Jimenez, Johann E Johannsson, Choudampalli John, Swamidass Johnson, William G Johnson, Charlie Jondonero, Patricia Jones, Peter Joseit, Frans Kafiar, Joshua K Kajula, Ignacio Luis Kalbermatter, Mikhail F Kaminskiy, Gerry D Karst, Donald G King, Reuben Kisku, William M Knott, Linda Mei Lin Koh, Erton C Kohler, Allah-Ridy Kone, Shurman R Kook,

Gary D Krause, Vladimir Krupsky, Jonathan Kuntaraf, Kathleen Kuntaraf, Peter R Kunze, Saw Muller Kyaw, Robert E Kyte, Francis Lajanim, Pieter Lampeang, Kevin L Lang, Samuel Adama Larmie, Max-Rene Laurent, Pawel Lazar, Jairyong Lee, Israel Leito, Mike Lekic, Robert E Lemon, Edmund Liah, Pavel Ivanovich Liberanskiy, Eber Liessi, Charles C Ligan, L Jeremiah Lima, Mauricio Pinto Lima, Mantas Limbong, Jose R Lizardo,

Victor A Lotca, Francois Louw, Leonel Lozano, Johnny Lubis, Hengky Lumingkewas, Min Lwin, Paminus Machamire, Guenther Machel, Benjamin Mahinay Jr, Moldy Mambu, Wendell Mandolang, Nephthali Manez, Solomon Maphosa, Alex Marbun, Roger E Marshall, Alemu Haile Maruta, Hidayat Masih, Younis Masih, Jeannette Kahambu Matita, Gabriel E Maurer, Veronique Moampea Mbio, Geoffrey G Mbwana,

Donald Wellesley McFarlane, Lester P Merklin Jr, Saustin K Mfune, Armando Miranda, Jose Miudo, Edith Mkawa, Joshua Wone Mok, Solomon Mongaya, Eric Philippe Monnier, Musyoka Paul Muasya, Baraka G Muganda, Patrick Misairi Mulindwa, Evans Muvuti, Emmanuel Mwale, Pardon Kandanga Mwansa, Dirman Nainggolan, Catharina Sientje Nangoy, Danson Ng, G T Ng, August de Clerc Mwa Ngalumulume, Ivan M Nikolov, James R Nix,

Don Noble, Jean-Claude Nocandy, Emmanuel Kokou Noudoda, Goodwell Nthani, Richard Asiedu Ntriakwah, Gideon Chimaeze Nwaogwugwu, Lorna Grace Okotto, Joseph Adebisi Ola, Barry David Oliver, Daisy Jane F Orion, Richard Osborn, Rubin R Ott, Bjorn Ottesen, Brempong Owusu-Antwi, Elmer Pagunsan, Julio A Palacio, Frensy Panneflek, Orville D Parchment, Ruth E Parish, Timothy Muna Paul, Jan Paulsen, Levi Payoyo,

Ruben Daniel Pechero, Michael N A Pedrin, Joseph Syuk Peranginangin, Juan O Perla, Olga Pervanchuk, Philip Philipsen, David Poloche, Juan R Prestol, Erika F Puni, John Rathinaraj, Paul S Ratsara, Samuel Ravonjarivelo, Willy Reith, Joel T Requillo, Angel M Rodriguez, Jose Alberto Rodriguez, Guy Fernand Roger, Abner Sibug Roque, Miguel Angel Rosado, Blasious M Ruguri, Wilfredo Ruiz, Gary Rustad,

Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Abednigo Sacay, Erenst Sahensolar, Donald R Sahly, Noldy Sakul, Stanley Samuel, Tatipanga San-me, Samuel Sandoval Ruiz, Albert Saroingson, Nikolaus Satelmajer, Benjamin D Schoun, Carmen Schulz, Alexander Schwarz, Edward Senewe, Mesake Tokalau Senibulu, Wendell Serrano, Ralph Edmond Shelton, Masaki Shoji, Burken Sihotang, Edison Simanjuntak, Pavel Simek, Ella S Simmons,

Hepsiba Singh, Houtman Sinaga, Mastur Sitompul, Robert Sjolander, Ian Howard Sleeman, Dennis R Slusher, Heather-Dawn K Small, Robert S Smith, Domingos de Souza, Theart M St Pierre, Vasily D Stolyar, Walter Streithorst, Wilfredo Sumagaysay, Herry Sumanti, S Sundaram, Akeri Suzuki, Gary B Swanson, Robert L Swezey, Andras Szilvasi, Edison Takasanakeng, Tran Cong Tan, Lawrence Pita Tanabose, Pedro Donca Tatamelane, Eduardo Teixeira, Halvard B Thomsen, Brad Thorp, Alberto Ronald Timm, Tor Eigil Tjeransen,

Tomas Torres De Dios, Ronald W Townend, Homer W Trecartin, Max A Trevino, Klaus-Juergen Van Treeck, Rabi Velasco, Filiberto M Verduzco-Avila, Andre dos Santos Vieira, Robert H Vollmer, Waisea Vuniwa, Ray Wahlen, John Luga Wani, Gilbert Wari, David Weigley, Bertil A Wiklander, Jeffrey K Wilson, Ted N C Wilson, Harald Wollan, James S F Wu, Zeca Tembo C Xavier, Masao Yanaga, Khin Maung Yin,

Jael Asabe Yohanna, Debbie D Young, Reigner Ywa, Donald E Zabala, Valdis A Zilgavis, Joel Zukovski.

OPENING

Athelstine Mayor led in the opening song, *Power in the Blood*.

The invocation was given by Abner Sibug Roque, President of the North Philippine Union Mission, Southern-Asia Pacific Division.

08-60

October 10, 2008, evening
GCC Annual Council

CALL TO ORDER

Lowell C Cooper, General Vice President of the General Conference, welcomed the Annual Council attendees to the 96th Annual Council of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, with the following comments:

“Annual Council is the main meeting of the year when delegates from around the world gather to care for the work of the Church. It is our privilege to celebrate a Sabbath together before taking up the business of Annual Council.”

Matthew A Bediako, General Conference Secretary, read Bylaws, Article XIII, Section 2. a., which states the constitutional provisions for convening the Annual Council.

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

A letter of invitation dated March 27, 2008 was sent to all General Conference Executive Committee members and special invitees to attend the 2008 Annual Council held in Manila, Philippines at the Philippine International Convention Center.

The approximately 399 people attending are made up of members and invitees (303 General Conference Executive Committee members and 96 invitees). The names are listed on pages J-L in your agenda notebook.

Bylaws, Article XIII, Sec. 4., states: “Any fifteen members of the Executive Committee, including an officer of the General Conference, shall, after due notice to available members, constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee for the disposition of routine items, and shall be empowered to transact business that is in harmony with the general plans outlined by the Executive Committee at the designated place of meeting of the Executive Committee as hereinafter provided. A quorum of forty members is required for the disposition of nonroutine items such as major financial decisions, the dismissal of elected and appointed employees, and the election of presidents of divisions and of general vice presidents.”

I assure you, brother chairman, that this Annual Council will be handling far more than just routine items, and more than 40 members are present this evening and all eagerly await your Call to Order of the first business meeting of this important 2008 Annual Council.

Lowell C Cooper then declared the 2008 Annual Council open for the consideration of business.

AGENDA NOTEBOOK DISTRIBUTION

Agenda notebooks were distributed prior to the meeting.

08AC to MAB

DAILY PROGRAM

VOTED, To adopt the daily program of the 2008 Annual Council as follows:

DAILY PROGRAM
October 12 to 15, 2008

6:45 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.	Steering Committee
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Devotional
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Business Session

Lunch

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Committees
2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.	Business Session

SEC/ADCOM/08AC to LRE

123-08G ANNUAL COUNCIL 2008—STANDING COMMITTEES

VOTED, To approve standing committees for the 2008 Annual Council, as follows:

ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL TO STANDING COMMITTEES

Ted N C Wilson, Chairman
Larry R Evans, Secretary

Members: James A Cress, George O Egwakhe, Agustin Galicia, Orville D Parchment.

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October 10, 2008, evening
GCC Annual Council

NOMINATING

Jan Paulsen, Chairman
Matthew A Bediako, Secretary

Members: Niels-Erik Andreasen, Delbert W Baker, Rosa T Banks, Lowell C Cooper, James A Cress, Luka T Daniel, George O Egwakhe, G Thomas Evans, Larry R Evans, Mark A Finley, Ulrich Frikart, Agustin Galicia, Alberto C Gulfan Jr, Richard H Hart, Roscoe J Howard III, Eugene Hsu, Gerry D Karst, Linda Mei Lin Koh, Erton C Kohler, Jairyong Lee, Israel Leito, Robert E Lemon, Nair Lessa, Charles Ligan, Jose R Lizardo,

Jeanette Matita, Geoffrey G Mbwana, Armando Miranda, Emmanuel Mwale, Pardon K Mwansa, G T Ng, Gideon Nwaogwugwu, Barry D Oliver, Daisy Jane F Orion, Juan R Prestol, Paul S Ratsara, Gordon L Retzer, Blasious M Ruguri, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Claude Sabot, Don C Schneider, Ella S Simmons, Artur A Stele, Caroline Tobing, Max A Trevino, Bertil Wiklander, Ted N C Wilson, Harald Wollan.

STEERING

Jan Paulsen, Chairman
Larry R Evans, Secretary

Members: Rosa T Banks, Matthew A Bediako, Lowell C Cooper, George O Egwakhe, G Thomas Evans, Mark A Finley, Agustin Galicia, Eugene Hsu, Gerry D Karst, Robert E Kyte, Robert E Lemon, Jose R Lizardo, Armando Miranda, Pardon K Mwansa, G T Ng, Daisy Jane F Orion, Orville D Parchment, Juan R Prestol, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Claude Sabot, Don C Schneider, Ella S Simmons, Ted N C Wilson.

08AC to MAB

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Young Voices, a choral group from the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, sang *Can It Be*.

WELCOME

Jan Paulsen, General Conference President, welcomed the General Conference Executive Committee members and spouses along with invitees and others who came together for these meetings, as well as those who joined by television and Internet, to the 2008 Annual Council being held at the Philippine International Convention Center in Manila, Philippines.

Twenty-seven years ago, Paulsen indicated, the Annual Council was held in Manila. Since that time, Annual Councils have been held in South America, Inter-America, Southern Asia, Africa, and Australia.

During this Annual Council, the world budget that sets the mission agenda of the Church will be voted.

Paulsen said the theme this year is “Mission of Hope.” When all we hear these days is doom and gloom, it is good to know that Church leaders are committed to communicating the message of hope to the world.

SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION REPORT

Alberto C Gulfan, Jr, President of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD), welcomed those in attendance on behalf of the SSD to Manila, the capital of the Philippines. He briefly mentioned the history of Adventist work in the country.

The country of the Philippines was colonized by Spain on March 16, 1521. Eighty percent of the country’s population is Catholic. The Seventh-day Adventist Church was first introduced to the Philippines in 1905. In 1908, the first Adventist pastor came to the Philippines and the first church was established in 1911. In 1914, the first school opened its doors. Philippine Union College (known now as the Adventist University of the Philippines) was established in 1917.

Jeramie Sanico sang, *What Love Divine*.

The SSD video report was presented.

Jeramie Sanico sang, *The Holy City*.

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WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Joy Africa-Tan and Jay Ortizano sang *One Thousand Joys*.

HOMILY

Mark A Finley, General Vice President, gave the devotional entitled, “The Life-Giving Word.” Finley spoke on three aspects of God’s Word. He powerfully pointed out that God’s Word is a creative word, a reviving word, and an enlightening word. He called on the delegates at Annual Council to allow God’s Word to mold their spiritual lives so that God’s power can flow through them to bring spiritual renewal to His people.

The Bible is more than a statement of doctrinal beliefs, according to Finley; it is a living reality in the life of each believer giving hope, courage, and purpose. It lifts us from what we see around us to God’s divine reality for our lives and presents hope for today, tomorrow, and forever.

The benediction was offered by Joshua W Mok, Secretary of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

Lowell C Cooper, Chair
Matthew A Bediako, Secretary
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary
Dian R Lawrence, Recording Secretary

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 11, 2008, 11:00 a.m.

PRESIDENT'S KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Jan Paulsen, President of the General Conference, presented the keynote address, "A New Humanity," on Sabbath morning, October 11. Scripture quotations are taken from the New International Version, unless otherwise noted.

A NEW HUMANITY

The two centerpieces of Scripture which are the well into which we will draw our thoughts today are 2 Corinthians 5:16-20 and Ephesians 2:13-18.

They speak of a new kind of humanity which God will create through a process described as reconciliation. We need to understand what this "new humanity" is. But before we come to that, let me just recognize that there are two buffer-zones or bookends on either side of this message which between them hold the new humanity in their hands and shape it:

1. What God has done to each of us personally and individually: Through Christ, He extends salvation—complete, total, and never-ending—to all who accept Him as their Saviour. To those He says: I am not going to hold your sins and transgressions against you. They have been dealt with. Christ has taken care of that when He died on the cross. And that is enough. By this act—by this means—He says, we have been reconciled with God.

2. But, says God, this is something I want you to tell the world, for they don't know it. I want you to be my witnesses—my "ambassadors" is the word He uses in 2 Corinthians 5. The assignment is to tell the many who are strangers to Jesus Christ that God is offering a fresh start, a new start, to every man, woman, and child. This is the "new humanity" and it is different from anything we have had before. It has primarily to do with values and qualities of life. This is the witness you have to bring to the unbelieving world, and I don't want you to stop doing it until I come again; and, He says, I will not come back again until you have told them. It is a mission with an end-time focus.

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So here are the two: (1) The personal gift of salvation in Christ which God has given to each of us; and (2) The Second Coming of Christ at which the full benefit of this gift will be realized. Today we live in-between the two. And God says to us now: Because of what I have already done for you in the death of my Son, Jesus Christ, I will begin already now to create a “new humanity” of those who accept Jesus; and He says, I will do this in preparation for the Second Coming of my Son, Jesus Christ, at which time it will all be completed. It is of greatest importance that we recognize that the creation of a “new humanity” is not just a promise for the future; it is a reality which is to emerge and be experienced here and now! That is God’s plan.

Seventh-day Adventists are well-familiar with the truth of Christ’s Second Coming. We have believed it and we have preached it since our beginning as a movement. It has defined us as a community since we began 160 years ago. It is a truth which is solidly based on Scripture. Therefore, we know that His Second Coming is not an imaginary idea. We know that it is not an unrealistic, vague, existential notion. We know that it will end the ongoing process of history. We know that it is only after the Second Coming of Christ that we will discover the full meaning when He says, “I will make all things new” (Rev 21:5 KJV). If the doctrine of the Second Coming of Christ is not clear to you, and if you do not believe it and live your life accordingly, you have a problem, and you are in for one major surprise.

So here we are, held together as a people and lifted up by these two core teachings of the Bible: (1) We are reconciled to God by Christ’s death; and (2) We are awaiting the full consummation of that reconciliation at the Second Coming of Christ when God says, He will make “all things new” (Rev 21:5 KJV).

The big question now is: Since this is who we are, what we have, what we hold, and what we shall become; how is this reality meant to shape our relationship with other people? Christ said, through the Apostle, I am sending you out into the world of unbelief and I want you to be my ambassadors. So, clearly, our lives and our mission mandate involve relationships with people on a comprehensive scale. How are these relationships to be?

The answer to that question comes to us in one stark statement: Reconciliation with God translates into reconciliation between people—people who, for one reason or another, have been estranged and have become hostile to each other. For it is not enough to preach reconciliation between an individual and God, there has to be a corresponding reconciliation between people. It is with this in mind that God says my intention is to make of you “a new humanity” (Eph 2:11-18).

The key thought in this passage is that his purpose was to create in himself a “new humanity” and “. . . if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone and the new has come” (2 Cor 5:17).

The new humanity has a new attitude in relationships with other people. Paul's words are, "from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view" (2 Cor 5:16). So, how does the world of prejudices view people? They look at that which is external and which immediately meets the eye and they evaluate and judge you on that basis. They are impressed by wealth, status, beauty, and power. That, says God, will not do for a reconciled people. We do not value people by wealth, status, position, power, education, race, color of skin, language, culture, tribal identity, gender, or age. This truth is a must for the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

So, we are a global Church. How is the church in your country doing in this regard? People are on the move, and we are constantly in contact with people who are different from each of us. Do these differences bother you? Some people we meet are dispossessed by war, some are victims of poverty, and others are just seeking better opportunities for their children. We meet them by the millions in the more highly developed countries. Wars, poverty, or ethnic persecution—whether it be in the Balkans, in Eastern Europe, in Sudan, in the Middle East, in the rest of Africa, or in Asia—have set masses of people on the move. We are not just talking about a few thousand; we are talking about the multiple millions who are on the move.

How do we deal with this flood of strangers? Is it the flood (the fact that there are so many of them) that is the problem, or is it that they are strangers? What if they are also Seventh-day Adventists? Do our basic sentiments change? Yes, I know, we are to treat with particular kindness those who are our brothers and sisters in faith, but we have an obligation in the name of God to love all human beings, to relate to people just simply because they are human beings—whether in our faith community or not.

Let your thoughts go again to what Paul writes in Ephesians 2:11 ff.

The setting here is the barrier between the Gentiles and the Jews. The Jews called the Gentiles the uncircumcision. Which was a description of contempt, for the Jews had nothing but contempt for the Gentiles. There was a saying among the Jews that God created the Gentiles to be fuel for the fires of hell. Until Christ came, the barriers between the Jews and the Gentiles were absolute. Marriage could not cross the line. Even to enter a Gentile house, for a Jew, was to defile oneself. Before Christ, the barriers were up. After Christ, the barriers are meant by God to be down.

The Gentiles had no hope of the Messiah. They are being described in this passage as "separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel [God's kingdom], and foreigners to the covenants" (Eph 2:12). They were considered to be without promise, without hope, without God, and without a future. To the Gentiles, history, in the eyes of the Jews, was cyclical—it was going nowhere. By contrast, to the Jews, history was a continuous march forward into God's eternal future. Even in their most bitter and defeated moments, the Jews never doubted that the Messiah would come and the future prepared for them would be glorious.

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GCC Annual Council

Israel was God's covenant people. They believed that God had hand-picked them in preference to all other peoples. He said: "I will take you to me for a people" (Exod 6:7 AMP). This was both a privilege and a responsibility. It involved keeping the commandments, the law that God had given them. And they kept it, saying, "All the words which the Lord has said we will do" (Exod 24:3,7 KJV). It was a grave and serious commitment, but it gave to the Jews a special consciousness of being chosen, of being selected, by God. This is a mind-set that Paul was well aware of, for it was part of his own heritage and culture.

Maybe it is good to pause just for a moment and reflect on what it does to us. Do we believe that we are God's hand-picked people? Is it wrong to believe that we are God's movement of destiny? I think not; but the big question is: What does it do to our self-consciousness and to our relationship capacity to other people? How genuinely open and caring can you and I be towards others in order to function in an inoffensive way as witnesses for God, and as instruments through which God's love for **ALL** human beings can be expressed?

Now, stay with the text, for here comes the newness: "But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. . . . He has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility" (Eph 2:13,14). I find it interesting in this passage that Paul uses the word "peace" four times. He speaks here of the "dividing wall" as a symbol from the temple. There was the court of the Gentiles, the court of women, the court of the Israelites, followed by the court of the priests and the most holy place. It all has to do with access to God's presence, and for foreigners this was ever so complicated. No foreigner could safely go into the inner courts of the temple, and for someone from another nation to violate the sanctity of the most holy place was done at the risk of death.

This kind of religious or cultural barrier was not unique to the Jews. Even the Greeks had the same barrier as they related to the so-called "Barbarians" on whom they similarly looked to with contempt. Refugees, people who come from a foreign land, are very commonly viewed with suspicion or as a lesser grade of humanity. What luggage in terms of crime or strange cultural habits do they bring? There is a saying: Unknown makes unloved. Is this the kind of measured apprehension we have toward foreigners who come and move into our space?

But the text says that people reconciled to God relate to people, other human beings, differently. "From now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view" (2 Cor 5:16). Now, that is a foundational statement for us as Seventh-day Adventists to take with us as we relate individually, and as we relate as a church, to people who are different from us. It is true with respect to how we view anyone, but it is more important how we view people who are part of our spiritual community. In the Church, which is a very, very international and cross-cultural community, we see and treat diversity as an enrichment factor, not as something negative. Racial discrimination and a sense of racial superiority do not belong within the Seventh-day

Adventist Church. A sense of respect or disrespect must not arise from either wealth or poverty, formal education or none, public position or the lack of such. We will treat all people with a sense of respect and dignity, for we are all children of God.

Around the world, there are a considerable number of so-called ethnic or national churches. They are churches to which people, who for one reason or another are on the move, can come to taste, feel, and experience a bit of their own home culture, speak their own language, sing their own songs, and nurture much needed social links. This is the reality in which we live. We must relate to one another as brothers and sisters. “Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household” (Eph 2: 19). Being reconciled to God causes barriers to be gone. As God reached out to His reconciled people and embraced them, so reconciled people must reach out to each other and embrace. Being reconciled is very inclusive, very affirming, and very nonjudgmental. Yes, they may come into your space; yes, they may take your job; yes, they may eat your food; but we are joined as human beings by values which are greater than these.

I have to come back to what I have commented on many times before, namely the engagement of youth in the life of our local congregations. Many say they are too young. They lack experience. I say, experience is overrated. Get the right personal qualities, character, and personality. That is what matters most. Experience will come with exposure to the assignment. Inclusion, affirmation, and empowerment come first. Only after you have done that can you come to the next question: Are they able to do it? You make sure first that the spiritual gifts, personal values, and commitment are in place. And then, you help them to function!

Paul’s discussion of the removal of barriers among God’s people is in the context of unity. Suppose two people have a quarrel or a difference. How can that be resolved? The surest way to bring the two sides together is through a mediator—someone whom they both love and respect. That is what Christ is. He is our peace. He heals broken relationships. He reconciles. (Eph 2:14) It is God’s plan that the people who share this faith and this hope, and who live in anticipation of Christ’s Second Coming, should be bonded together and united as one. The barriers are gone. It is a sacred bond ministered to by the Holy Spirit. These are Paul’s words: “Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace” (Eph 4:3). Again, I am reminded how many times “peace” comes into this conversation. This is why Christ, during the last few hours He was with His disciples before His death, underscored repeatedly the importance of unity and no more so than in His prayer when He said: “. . . that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. . . . May they be brought into complete unity” (John 17:21-23). And the catalyst which brings this about is the love which is ministered by the Holy Spirit. We belong one to another.

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When Paul makes the point that Christ made “a new humanity out of the two,” he chooses the word for new (*kainos*) which means a new quality (not new in time), meaning newness of a different kind. The newness which Christ achieved is not that He made all Gentiles into Jews or Jews into Gentiles. By becoming reconciled to God, you do not become de-culturalized or de-naturalized; you don’t lose your racial, tribal, national, or cultural characteristics. You just become, additionally, what you were not before; namely, citizens of God’s everlasting Kingdom. People on both sides of the previous dividing line have been reconciled in Christ.

I want you to note the language by which the Bible describes the relationship between reconciled people:

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| Ephesians 4:2 | “Be completely humble and gentle, be patient, bearing with one another in love” |
| Ephesians 4:31,32 | “Get rid of all bitterness, rage, and anger” |
| Philippians 2:3,4 | “Do nothing out of selfish ambition . . . but in humility consider others better than yourselves” |
| Colossians 3:12-17 | “As God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with . . . kindness Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another” |
| 1 Peter 3:8-11 | “Live in harmony. . . . Do not repay evil with evil”
“God has called us to live in peace” |
| 1 Corinthians 7:15 | “. . . God has called us to live in peace.” |

Again, living in peace is the commission which the Lord Himself gave when He said “Blessed are the peacemakers” (Matt 5:9).

This all demonstrates the different kind of person you and I are meant to be.

In addition to the word “love,” the one word, or quality, which catches my attention more than any other in a reconciled community is the word “forgiveness.” It is difficult to find any word which describes the Christian attitude better than the readiness to forgive. We have all been faulted; we all need forgiveness. So, let us look at forgiveness.

“Why do I forgive anyone? I must forgive the lies directed against myself, because my own life has been so many times blotted by lies; I must forgive the loveless, the hatred, the slander, the fraud, the arrogance which I encounter since I myself have so often lacked love, hated, slandered, defrauded, and been arrogant.”—A Schweitzer, *Civilization and Ethics*, II, p 260.

We have this in common—we are all sinners in need of forgiveness!

Forgiveness does not trivialize sin; it heals the damage and hurt caused by it. This is as true for relationships between God and each one of us, as it is between people.

Listen to the inspired pen of the Lord’s servant: “The ground of all forgiveness is found in the unmerited love of God, but by our attitude toward others we show whether we have made that love our own He who is unmerciful toward others shows that he himself is not a partaker of God’s pardoning grace.”—COL 251.

“In the consciousness of sins forgiven there is inexpressible peace and joy and rest. . . . ‘Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil for you are with me.’ Ps 23:4”—MH 267.

God, who reconciled us to Himself in Christ Jesus, has appointed us as His ambassadors to be ministers of reconciliation. That is our assignment, our mission, until He comes again when we shall see Him face to face, as literally as we see and greet each other here today, and we shall hear from Him the blessed words: “Well done, good and faithful servant! . . . Come and share your master’s happiness” (Matt 25:23).

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 12, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONAL

The devotional message entitled, "The Everlasting Gospel," was presented by Francisco D Gayoba, Ministerial Association Secretary of the North Philippine Union Mission, Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

We need to examine our mission practices in light of the mission mandate given to our Church rather than just respond to the needs around us or follow what other churches or denominations are doing. Our Church, as God's last-day remnant Church, has been tasked to proclaim the everlasting gospel of God's grace and love, freeing people from guilt and condemnation, empowering them to obey God's law in faith so that they can be ready for Christ's return. Our mission as a Church must be focused on this ministry of hope and transformation.

Jan Paulsen, chair, called to order the second session of the 2008 Annual Council.

Prayer was offered by Max-Rene Laurent, President of French-Antilles Guiana Union Mission, Inter-American Division.

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, Agustin Galicia.

VOTED, To reaffirm the Mission Statement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which reads as follows:

A 05 05 Our Mission—The mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to communicate to all peoples the everlasting gospel of God's love in the context of the three angels' messages of

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Revelation 14:6-12, and as revealed in the life, death, resurrection, and high priestly ministry of Jesus Christ, leading them to accept Jesus as personal Savior and Lord and to unite with His remnant church, and to nurture them in preparation for His soon return.

A 05 10 Our Method—We pursue this mission under the guidance of the Holy Spirit through:

1. Preaching—Accepting Christ’s commission (Matt 28:18-20), we proclaim to all the world the message of a loving God, most fully revealed in His Son’s reconciling ministry and atoning death. Recognizing the Bible to be God’s infallible revelation of His will, we present its full message, including the second advent of Christ and the continuing authority of His Ten Commandment law with its reminder of the seventh-day Sabbath.

2. Teaching—Acknowledging that development of mind and character is essential to God’s redemptive plan, we promote the growth of a mature understanding of and relationship to God, His Word, and the created universe.

3. Healing—Affirming the biblical emphasis on the well-being of the whole person, we make the preservation of health and the healing of the sick a priority and through our ministry to the poor and oppressed, cooperate with the Creator in His compassionate work of restoration.

A 05 15 Our Vision—In harmony with the great prophecies of the Scriptures, we see as the climax of God’s plan the restoration of all His creation to full harmony with His perfect will and righteousness.

08AC to MAB

WATTS, D RONALD—RESIGNATION

VOTED, To accept the resignation of D Ronald Watts, President of the Southern Asia Division, for the purpose of retirement.

08AC to MAB

WATTS, D RONALD—APPRECIATION

VOTED, To express appreciation to D Ronald Watts for his years of dedicated service to the General Conference as President of the Southern Asia Division.

SUD/08AC to MAB

RATHINARAJ, JOHN—ELECTION

VOTED, To elect John Rathinaraj as President of the Southern Asia Division.

08AC to MAB

HOWARD, ROSCOE J III—RESIGNATION

VOTED, To accept the resignation submitted by Roscoe J Howard III, Secretary of the North American Division and Associate Secretary of the General Conference. He has accepted a call to be President of the Mid-America Union in the North American Division.

08AC to MAB

HOWARD, ROSCOE J III—APPRECIATION

VOTED, To express appreciation to Roscoe J Howard III for his years of dedicated service to the General Conference as Secretary of the North American Division and Associate Secretary of the General Conference.

NAD/08AC to MAB

BRYANT, G ALEXANDER—ELECTION

VOTED, To elect G Alexander Bryant as Secretary of the North American Division.

NAD/08AC to MAB

BRYANT, G ALEXANDER—ELECTION

VOTED, To elect G Alexander Bryant as Associate Secretary of the General Conference.

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08AC to MAB

BEKKER, JANNIE—RESIGNATION

VOTED, To record receipt of the resignation submitted by Jannie Bekker, Treasurer of the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division. He has accepted a call to be Treasurer of the Southeast Asia Union Mission in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

08AC to MAB

BEKKER, JANNIE—APPRECIATION

VOTED, To express appreciation to Jannie Bekker for his years of dedicated service to the General Conference as Treasurer of the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division.

SID/08AC to MAB

NTHANI, GOODWELL—ELECTION

VOTED, To elect Goodwell Nthani as Treasurer of the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION—STATEMENT
OF ACCEPTANCE

All General Conference Executive Committee members were asked to read, sign, and return the conflict of interest statement of acceptance.

TELL THE WORLD REPORT

VOTED, To accept the *Tell the World* report, which focused on the ways that various Church entities are telling the world about Jesus.

Prayer was offered by Solomon Maphosa, Secretary of the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division.

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Jan Paulsen, Chair
Agustin Galicia, Secretary
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary
Tamara K Boward, Recording Secretary

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 12, 2008, 2:00 p.m.

Gerry D Karst, chair, called to order the third session of the 2008 Annual Council.

Prayer was offered by Clifford Goldstein, Editor of the *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*.

08AC to MAB

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

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

GENERAL CONFERENCE AUDITING SERVICE

Associate Director for Southern Asia-Pacific Area, Rabi J Velasco

GENERAL CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

Associate Secretary, Homer W Trecartin

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Associate Director, Barry Winston Bussey

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08AC to MAB

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—MEMBERSHIP
ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the General Conference Executive Committee as follows:

Add Schalk, Lawrence E, 30 members at large

08AC to MAB

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On behalf of my fellow officers, I extend a hearty welcome to the members of the General Conference Executive Committee and your spouses. A special welcome is extended to the new members who are attending Annual Council for the first time due to church elections. We also welcome our regular invitees and your spouses.

Among us are people who need special recognition and welcome. These individuals would normally not attend Annual Council, but they are here by special invitation in harmony with our *Working Policy*. They are the Southern Asia-Pacific Division departmental directors, union secretaries, union treasurers, and conference/mission presidents. A special welcome to you!

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

It is heartening to announce that the last five years have been the best soul winning years in our history. Through baptism and profession of faith, over one million new members have been added to the Church each year.

During the past four quarters—July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008—the world divisions reported 1,051,601 accessions. That means that on the average 2,879 souls joined the Church every day. Our current midyear total membership comes to 15,780,719. The ratio of Church membership to the world population is 425.

These new members have been won through various evangelistic agencies such as radio, television, Internet, literature, our institutions, and dedicated lay people. Evangelists and pastors have demonstrated that the day of public evangelism is not past. Last but not least, the most

effective agency has been as always the godly example of loyal church members, living out, by God's grace, the truth before neighbors and friends.

I want to pause a moment to express my gratitude to the South American Division for their willingness to tackle the very sensitive issue of church membership audits. A massive membership audit conducted throughout the Division resulted in the loss of about 300,000 members. Yes, it is painful, but the leadership of the entire Division opted to be realistic about the numbers they had on their books.

In the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, a massive audit also led to a loss of membership. However, this year, the Southern Asia-Pacific Division has reported the highest growth rate of 6.60 percent. Now that South America has a realistic membership, we hope to see tremendous growth.

Once more, I appeal to the divisions who have not yet conducted membership audits to think seriously about it.

The percentage of net increase this year was 2.24 as compared to the previous year of 4.82.

DIVISION REPORTS

EAST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION (ECD)

We are happy to report that all countries of the East-Central Africa Division are at last enjoying peace. No war reports are being heard from the countries where war has been almost the way of living for many years. We praise God for containing the ugly escalation of tribal clashes in Kenya after the disputed presidential elections at the end of 2007. Those unfortunate developments adversely affected church life in the East African Union, the largest union in the East-Central Africa Division, with over 600,000 members.

We thank the General Conference leadership for the assistance and support given to the East-Central Africa Division during that very difficult situation.

Church Membership—One area in which we have seen God's hand is in the area of church membership growth. The East-Central Africa Division recorded a figure of 2,333,422 by the end of the second quarter in 2007. We are happy to record a figure of 2,503,421 members by the end of the second quarter in 2008. This is an increase of 170,000.

Stewardship—Through concerted efforts made by the Stewardship fraternity across the Division territory, a lot of improvement has been observed in the area of Stewardship. Some

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unions in the East-Central Africa Division have recorded as high as a fifty percent growth in tithes and offerings. Overall, the Division has recorded a twenty-one percent increase in tithe. Mission offerings have also gone up and we thank God for these positive developments.

Publishing Ministry Revival in the East African Union Mission—The East African Union Mission has a great army of about 2,000 literature evangelists. During the second quarter of 2008, the East-Central Africa Division publishing director, assisted by the associate publishing director of the East African Union Mission, conducted a series of literature evangelist recruitment drives in various places in the Mission where over 100 new literature evangelists were recruited.

HIV/AIDS Office—A new office to coordinate HIV/AIDS activities in the Congo region has been set up in the East Congo Union Mission by the HIV/AIDS Africa Region Office Director, Oscar Giordano.

Social and Welfare Activities in the East Congo Union Mission—Due to some excellent activities promoted by the church in the East Congo Union Mission in the area of social and welfare dimensions, the Governor of Katanga Province donated \$10,000 to support the church in its endeavors for the work. We thank the church for leading out in activities such as community development, social life among women and youth, HIV/AIDS sensitization programs, self-support programs, etc.

Adventist World Radio Breakthrough in Ethiopia—A Protestant pastor who has been listening to the message of salvation through Adventist World Radio broadcast has embraced the Adventist message. As a true and faithful shepherd, this pastor has brought his flock with him to the newfound faith. He has already been taken off the payroll of his former church. The Central Ethiopia Field is working hard to find a way to accommodate this new shepherd who has paid a high price for his newly found faith.

A group of Ethiopian elders in a different town have also accepted the Adventist message after listening to Adventist World Radio. They began keeping Sabbath on their own. The West Ethiopia Field is now soliciting funds to build a church for this precious small flock.

Leadership Training in West Congo Union Mission-Kinshasa—Pardon K Mwansa, General Vice President, assisted by Geoffrey M Mbwana, East-Central Africa Division President, conducted a much needed leadership training for all union and field leaders of the West Congo Union Mission in the city of Kinshasa during July. Servant leadership was emphasized by the two leaders. Mwansa reminded the local leadership in the West Congo Union Mission about the need for all leaders to work in unity and also to invite the lay leaders to join the force of gospel ministry for the finishing of God's work.

Education Department—Hudson E Kibuuka, Education Director for the East-Central Africa Division, has been on a relentless mission to evaluate schools all over the East Congo Union Mission. This has helped school management, boards, and committees to reconsider their ways of school management. More qualified teachers have been recruited to improve the academic standards in these schools. The East-Central Africa Division thanks the leadership of the East Congo Union Mission for working hand in hand with the Division's Education Department to overhaul the whole educational system in that Union for better service.

ADRA Activities in East-Central Africa Division—The largest Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) office within the Division is in Kenya where ADRA has a number of development activities within the health sector with focus on HIV/AIDS prevention, water provision, food security, and income generating activities.

Due to post election unrest in Kenya at the beginning of the year, activities shifted to emergency response for the first few months of 2008. The Church and ADRA have worked together to respond to the immediate needs of over 250,000 internally displaced persons in the country. Churches collected large amounts of clothes, food, blankets, and other items for the displaced persons. ADRA International and other ADRA donor offices sent containers of valuable medicines and more than US\$70,000 to assist with the urgent needs of displaced persons. The Division provided more than one million Kenya Schillings (KES) for transport of displaced persons to their homes or areas of resettlement. Since the crisis, ADRA Kenya has been engaged in large scale resettlement activities, and the Division and ADRA have met and worked with church leaders, preparing them to be instrumental in bringing peace and reconciliation.

ADRA Rwanda has specialized in an education program throughout the country in a wide span of projects covering issues such as adult literacy training, support for school fees for primary school students, construction of educational facilities, training teachers to handle students with special needs, development of English language curriculum for teachers training, etc. ADRA Rwanda has made an extraordinary positive change in many rural areas of the country.

EURO-AFRICA DIVISION (EUD)

At the end of the second quarter in 2008, the Euro-Africa Division counted a membership of 176,177 worshipping together in 2,508 local churches and 706 companies. This means a growth of 1,003 members in net membership compared with the end of the first quarter in 2008. Compared with June 2007, the net growth of the Euro-Africa Division was 1,020 members.

The Voice of Prophecy Adventist Media Center in Germany received a license for radio broadcasting through satellite. This will reach millions of potential listeners. The license for

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Hope Channel television broadcasting is expected to be granted soon. The impact has already been seen. People are calling, expressing their desire to learn more about the Seventh-day Adventist Church and wanting to study the Bible with our believers.

We are at the point where experiences surpass our vision, our expectations, and even our faith. An immigrant to Spain returned to his home country of Romania. Searching for a meaningful occupation, he became a literature evangelist. He started to think BIG. Without any means in his pocket, he ordered 10,000 copies of *Triumph of Love*, an excerpt from *The Great Controversy*. Soon, he and his friends had distributed all these and continued to order more until finally they had personally distributed 90,000 books. So far, in Romania, 1,150,000 copies of *Triumph of Love* have brought light into many homes.

It seems that the time has come to share our faith through the printed word. In Bulgaria, the Union developed a bold program to bring *Steps to Christ* to every household. So far, 600,000 copies have been distributed, resulting in many Bible studies.

In Germany, the same initiative was launched to bring *Steps to Christ* to every home. The German publishing house printed 100,000 copies which were sold within six weeks. In the following months, another 50,000 were printed and now there will be yet another printing of 50,000. The most exciting thing, however, is to see the enthusiasm of church members, youth, and children having something in their hands that they can identify with and feel happy to share.

An encouraging development is the offer of lay initiatives to support the organized Church in the accomplishment of its mission. At the ASI Europe convention in Romania, almost 1,000,000 EUR was raised for mission projects to be done for, or in cooperation with, church organizations. At the same time, dozens and dozens of projects lead church members to offer their talents in public evangelism on all continents as well as in their home fields. It might be this intensified mission activity that has determined the actual membership growth in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Europe.

Finally, every church member in the Euro-Africa Division is called to share their faith in a way comfortable to themselves. This is setting free a lot of creative ideas—reaching people by caring for the poor, the needy, neighbors, and friends. Thus, they are contributing to *Tell the World* and helping to accomplish the Church's mission.

EURO-ASIA DIVISION (ESD)

During the past twelve months, the Euro-Asia Division activities have been determined by the plans of the Division's strategic development up to the year 2010.

The event of paramount importance was, of course, the satellite evangelistic program “Road to Happiness—Road to Stars” conducted by Artur and Galina Stele in the city of Nizhny, Novgorod, Russia’s third largest city, on March 14-22, 2008. All efforts and prayers of our church organizations were focused on that event. The evangelistic program, which can be rather regarded as a harvest program, was already the third event of this kind in the Euro-Asia Division. The prophecies from the book of Daniel and the secrets of happy family life, as presented by Artur and Galina Stele, aroused a warm response from church members and guests. Every evening many people left their daily pursuits to come to large churches or small chapels where they could plunge into the exciting atmosphere of discovering the mysteries of the book of Daniel and knowing the basic principles of achieving family happiness.

We earnestly and continually prayed for the success of this evangelistic program. And God heard us! On the last day, March 22, a total of forty-three persons were baptized at the worship service organized in the Christian Cultural Center of Nizhny, Novgorod.

After the evangelistic program, we received more than 3,500 responses, including email letters, SMS messages, and telephone calls to hotline services operated in Moscow and Kiev. Responses came from thirty-six countries, from Canada to Australia. We were especially excited about the responses from Muslim countries, where this satellite evangelistic program was greeted with fervor. The program was watched in Turkey, Israel, Jordan, New Zealand, the Philippines, and many other countries.

The bulk of responses received were from Russia and Ukraine. People were sending their comments, wishes, counsel, greetings, prayer requests, and thanks. They phoned and wrote from 623 cities and villages around the world.

During the program, there were 1,113,255 visitors from fifty countries to our Web site.

Among other big events of the past twelve months was the evangelistic program conducted by John Carter in Kazan, capital city of the Republic of Tatarstan. The meetings were held in Basket Hall, a downtown sports center that holds more than 7,000 visitors.

These were the unforgettable meetings that changed lives of hundreds of people. Initially some 400 people answered the call to give their lives to Christ. The first baptism took place on Sabbath, August 18, when 133 individuals were baptized. But the authorities, fearful of possible religious conflict, forbade the second baptism scheduled for the next Sabbath. Then Carter personally baptized seven individuals on another day of the week. To avoid any confrontation, one more group was baptized the next Sabbath on the Volga.

As a result, a third Adventist congregation, numbering 188 new converts, has been started in Kazan.

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On October 7, 2007 at the Levashovo Memorial Cemetery near St Petersburg, many met to see the solemn unveiling of the memorial to Seventh-day Adventists who were victims of Stalin repressions from 1937 through 1954. The relatives of executed Adventists, members of St Petersburg Adventist churches, a representative of the Governor of St Petersburg, scientists from a public organization, and many other people attended the event. No one knows how many Adventists are buried in this place. Today, we know the names of only six Adventist martyrs.

The memorial is a black marble cross with a crown of thorns made of bronze, which is fixed onto a big boulder standing on a small mound. At the foot of the cross, two biblical texts are inscribed: “Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life” (Rev 2:10) and “He who believes in me will live, even though he dies” (John 11:25). The boulder is surrounded by lesser stones on which the names of the buried Adventist martyrs are inscribed.

Our brethren testified of their faith in the Lord Jesus by their life and death. Through this monument, their fates appeal to us in these days, inviting us to be faithful, fearless, and willing to witness for Jesus Christ.

INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION (IAD)

The Inter-American Division has experienced unprecedented growth. The faithfulness of its members and workers, moved by the Holy Spirit, has yielded a tremendous evangelistic explosion that has resulted in 3,059,993 church members. Such stupendous growth has impacted the tithe and offering income, reflecting a comparative increase of more than ten percent above last year.

The strategic growth in the Inter-American Division has engendered the reorganization of new unions and local fields. At the present time, the Division has 17 unions and 101 local fields. Two new unions were organized in the first months of 2008—the Central Mexican Union Mission, with headquarters in Mexico City, and the Belize Union of Churches with mission status, with headquarters in Belize.

The Central Mexican Union Mission is aiming to evangelize Mexico City which is one of the largest cities in the world with nearly thirty million inhabitants. The administrative and departmental teams are motivated to face the challenge to populate Mexico City with citizens for the kingdom of heaven.

The creation of two new unions in Mexico has resulted in an extraordinary growth for the Church. The four Mexican unions now have a total of 24 local fields and 617,502 church members.

This year, the Venezuela-Antilles Union Mission, which was organized in 1989 with four local fields, organized four new fields reaching a total of ten local fields. This growth strategy has taken them from 5,000 annual baptisms to more than 20,000 baptisms in the first part of 2008. They now have more than 200,000 church members.

We praise God for all His blessings.

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION (NAD)

The Lord was gracious in 2007 and blessed the North American Division with a total of 37,359 baptisms/professions of faith. For the first two quarters of 2008, our baptisms/professions of faith totaled 16,411, bringing the Division membership to 1,069,898 as of June 30, 2008.

The Voice of Prophecy “Discover Bible Course” now has a brand new Bible lesson Web site that offers the “Discover Bible Course” in forty-seven languages and dialects, with more to be added. Additional translations that have been completed are Chinese, Russian, Shona, and Thai. You can visit the “Discover Bible Course” online at www.discoveronline.org.

New on AdventistChannel.org is a series especially for women—“Keeping the Faith.” Other features of this new series include a Spanish language section and an Adventist shopping section.

The first-ever live satellite evangelistic series for kids “Amazing Adventure,” began September 12, 2008 and was presented by Amazing Facts on 3ABN and the Hope Channel. There were more than 2,400 registered host sites, and nearly 20,000 “Amazing Adventure” Bible Study Guide sets were shipped to sites across North America.

The Lake Union and Pacific Union conferences joined together for a collaboration called “La Red” to reach out to the Hispanic population in the areas of Chicago, Illinois (August 2008) and Phoenix, Arizona (September 2008). In Chicago, more than 1,000 people attended each night and 1,500 on Sabbath, with 700 non-Seventh-day Adventists attending. It is projected that 300 to 400 baptisms will result from these two meetings.

In the Wisconsin Conference of the Lake Union, the Wisconsin Rapids church family introduced meal-time evangelism to help grow their church. From attendance of thirty to forty worshipers each Sabbath, attendance at church has now doubled because of weekly potlucks that give members an opportunity to get to know their visitors and have them join the congregation. Other positive results have been baptisms, growth in the children’s department, and the addition of more adult Sabbath School classes.

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From the North Pacific Union Conference, you can check out stories of churches and evangelistic reaping as well as stories of individuals whose lives have been changed. They are all about helping people—sharing Jesus locally, leading others spiritually, sharing Jesus globally, and celebrating changed lives. Find them on <http://npucmomentum.wordpress.com/posts/> and <http://npuchangedlives.wordpress.com>.

In August 2008, the director of the Evangelistic Resource Center at Southern Adventist University (SAU) reported, “inexperienced students from SAU led 4,561 to baptism this summer!” In 2001, SAU started requiring all theology majors to conduct a full evangelistic campaign before graduation. In 2005, this experiment included non-religion majors.

Southern Adventist University believes they are preparing more than just pastors who believe in evangelism but pastors who know how to do it effectively. They are preparing committed Christians who will serve the Lord in any area of work and ministry. Since 2001, SAU has sent out 392 preachers who have led 11,844 people to baptism.

From October 2007 to date, the Office of Volunteer Ministries (OVM) has processed 832 international volunteers, approximately 44 taskforce volunteers, over 5,000 group volunteers, and currently has 315 volunteers serving in 57 tutoring sites across the Division.

“You shall open your hand wide to your brother, to your poor and your needy, in your land.” (Deut 15:11 NKJV). Adventist Community Services Disaster Response (ACS DR), the official Seventh-day Adventist disaster response organization in the United States and Bermuda, has been very busy doing just this following Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana, flooding in the Northwest, tornadoes and flooding in our country’s mid-section, Hurricane Dolly in Texas, and Hurricanes Gustav and Ike in Texas and Louisiana. Distributions and services have included food, clothing, personal care kits, over 2,000 food buckets, over 6,000 blankets, and community clean up.

The Division’s evangelism initiative for 2009 will be the “Year of Pastoral Evangelism,” with emphasis on praying and working through the leading of the Holy Spirit for 100,000 souls for the Kingdom of God.

NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION (NSD)

Historic Midyear Meeting—Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders in Northern Asia held their midyear executive committee meeting in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea on May 9, 2008—the first such meeting there since the country closed its borders in 1953.

Meeting for one day in the city of Kumgangsan, the executive committee discussed how to use the extraordinary tithe for this region of the world.

“We have no organized work in North Korea, so to have an official meeting is a historic occasion,” said Glenn Mitchell, Associate Secretary for the Adventist Church in Northern Asia.

Delegates also visited the North Korea Agricultural Project, a farm run by Adventist pastor, Kim Sun Man, of the Yang Yang Jaeil Adventist Church in South Korea. For nine years, he has managed the farm in cooperation with the North Korean government and Hyundai Corporation, instructing farmers how to produce vegetables for those in need in North Korea.

HisHands Missionary Movement Dedication Service—The 302 volunteers from 66 churches around Korea attended the launching and dedication ceremony of the first batch of the *HisHands* Missionary Movement (HHMM) at Seoul Adventist Hospital Church on April 4, 2008. Representatives from the Division, union, and local conferences attended the festivities.

The HHMM is the brainchild of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division and takes the General Conference *HisHands* concept one step further by organizing volunteers in a more formal way. Volunteers dedicate three years to serving as missionaries in designated areas in their country. Equipped with scarves, ties, bags, Bibles, DVDs, booklets, and magazines, they go from door to door introducing people to Jesus and the Three Angels’ Messages.

Religious Liberty Symposium-Mongolia—International religious liberty leaders joined members of Mongolia’s government and major religious communities on May 30, 2008 for the nation’s first religious liberty symposium, meant largely to lay groundwork for a full-scale freedom of religion conference next year.

“This is a historic day for Mongolia in hosting this symposium on increasing religious tolerance,” said Samdan Tsendendamba, Secretary of the country’s Council on Religious Affairs. Mongolia is home to nearly three million people, fifty percent of whom are Buddhist. About forty percent claim no religion.

Women’s Ministry Bi-Division and Shepherdess Convention—One thousand and four participants attended the third bi-divisional Women’s Ministries Convention from July 9-13, 2008 at the Twin Towers Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand. The numbers far exceeded expectations judging by the first two bi-divisional conventions. Participants came from as far away as the United States. Almost all the countries of the Asia-Pacific region were represented. For the first time, we had a group of sixteen Mongolians attend a convention like this.

On Sabbath, the worship service attracted approximately 200 people from the Bangkok area, most of them Filipinos, as they reconnected with their friends from home. Mission College made a short presentation, and offerings collected that day went towards two scholarships for women enrolled there. In addition, another offering collected on Sabbath went toward helping

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with the evangelistic effort planned for 2009 by the Women's Ministries Department of Thailand Mission.

Satellite Evangelism-Korea—Five hundred churches participated in the all-Korean nationwide satellite series held by Myung-Kwan Hong, President of the Korean Union Conference, March 17-22, 2008. In addition, more than 1,000 watched the series on the Internet. Hong encouraged those watching to make it their first work to receive the grace of God.

Nightly, more than 700 people gathered at the Seoul Adventist Hospital Church to hear the message. Upon hearing the messages each evening, they were encouraged to carry the message of the Lord to the world.

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION (SPD)

The South Pacific Division increased their membership when more than 10,000 new members joined the Church through baptism and profession of faith since January 2008, bringing the total church membership of 399,330 for the South Pacific Division. The ongoing ministerial training and ministerial field schools, combined with evangelistic efforts conducted by pastors and evangelists, have brought in a bountiful harvest. For example, in June 2007, in Honiara, Solomon Islands, more than 10,000 attended each night for two weeks of an evangelistic campaign conducted by Gary Webster, and 376 new believers were added to the Church. Similar church growth is happening throughout the South Pacific Division territories.

The objective to evangelize unentered island nations, people groups, and identified ethnicity has been the goal of the South Pacific Division. One such island nation is Wallis and Fortuna Islands. Since the turn of this century, there has been no Adventist presence on Wallis and Fortuna. Many attempts have been made, but God has it all in His plans. In 2007, the New Caledonia Local Mission was assigned to take Wallis and Fortuna under its administration and to develop strategies of evangelizing the island nation. Under the leadership of Patrice Allet, the church developer and evangelist, Jean-Noel Adeline, took the challenge and traveled to Wallis, predominantly controlled by the Roman Catholic Church, and started a small Adventist community. Adeline has created such an interest among the residents that the State Church is very nervous about the presence of Adventist believers. Harvest is certainly on its way!

This year—2008—is an important year for the Papua New Guinea Union Mission. Not only does it have the highest church membership growth in the South Pacific Division, but it also has experienced development in other areas of church growth. The official opening of the headquarters office in Lae marks a progressive development for Papua New Guinea Union Mission. The honored guest performing at the opening was the Governor General of Papua New Guinea. He was accompanied by a number of dignitaries such as the Governor and Deputy Governor of the Morobe Province. The Chief of Police, government and civic officials,

representatives of other churches, thousands of church members, and the general public were also present to witness the event.

More than 40,000 Seventh-day Adventist church members from the National Capital district, Central Province, and other parts of Papua New Guinea came together at Bisiatabu and then to Bautama to participate in the 100th Year Centennial Celebration—commemorating the arrival of Adventist missionaries on the shore of Port Moresby on June 13, 1908. Septimus W and Edith Carr, accompanied by a young Fijian teacher, Peni Tavodi, were the first Seventh-day Adventist pioneer missionaries to set foot on the shores of Papua New Guinea. Peni Tavodi's death was historically recorded as "poisoned by Papuan Black," a venomous native snake. At the Centennial Celebration, the people of Koiari finally admitted that their forefathers had cast a magic spell on him and caused the snake to bite him. More than 40,000 attendees watched as the Koiari tribe sought forgiveness from Peni Tavodi's family, the Fijian representative, and from the rest of the Seventh-day Adventist members. The reconciliation ceremony was televised live and viewed throughout the nation. The Centennial Celebration concluded with the baptism of 170 new members.

To revitalize the spirit of mission and to encourage discipleship within members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the South Pacific Division has initiated an arrangement called "Partnership in Mission." It is an arrangement where each local conference in Australia and New Zealand is adopting a local mission within the Papua New Guinea Union Mission and the Trans-Pacific Union Mission as a "partner for mission." Since there has been rapid church growth within the Pacific island nations in comparison to Australia and New Zealand, it is very crucial to develop "Partnership in Mission" with the Pacific island nations while the opportunity for church growth is in our favor.

SOUTHERN AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN DIVISION (SID)

The Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division has declared the year 2008 as the year of mega evangelism and the whole territory is ablaze with the message of a soon-coming Saviour as is shown in the reports of the following unions.

Malawi Union Mission—The Sabbath of May 10, 2008 was a high day at Malamulo Mission as 472 precious souls were baptized as part of Malawi Union's response to the Division's mega evangelism program. Thirteen lay evangelists conducted meetings in the villages around the Mission.

Another evangelistic program was conducted at a place called Makwasa where more than 100 people registered for baptism.

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An additional 1,218 souls were baptized on March 31, 2008 in North Malawi Field. These baptisms were a result of both pastors' and lay preachers' evangelistic thrusts. It is noted with joy that some of the converts were from Islam.

In Ntowe Day Secondary School, the Sabbath message caused a great stir among those in attendance as the speaker challenged them that if they could find a text to confirm that Sunday is the Bible Sabbath they would be given a car worth US\$7,000. Of course, no one was successful. A member of the Jehovah's Witnesses went to his church leaders and asked them for a text, but in vain. They had nothing to provide him so he joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church during the meetings!

International Religious Liberty Celebration in Angola—Some 45,000 Angolans gathered at a sports stadium in Luanda on June 28, 2008 to celebrate freedom of religion in their country, which is rebuilding in the aftermath of a 27-year civil war that ended in 2002. The celebration, the largest to date, followed a three-day religious liberty congress sponsored by the International Religious Liberty Association and attended by 600 religious liberty proponents, faith leaders, and governmental representatives from the southwest African nation and around the world.

Botswana Union Mission—Forty-six were baptized on March 8, 2008 in Francistown, Botswana, during the Light of Hope evangelistic campaign conducted by Othibetse Nelson Simankane at Somerset East Extension Location.

One of the newly baptized members testified that he had believed that protection from evil and witchcraft came only from "charms" and ancestral spirits but was overjoyed to discover that there was a higher power that he could call on. And that higher power is God.

Southern Africa Union Conference—Greater Johannesburg is not the only African city being targeted in the Hope for Big Cities initiative of the General Conference. One of Africa's smallest capital cities, Maseru, located in the mountain kingdom of Lesotho, recently hosted H Mahando of Tanzania as its "Hope for the Cities" guest evangelist.

The series was jointly funded by the Southern Africa Union and the Lesotho conferences and was attended by many prominent citizens including the Deputy Prime Minister, cabinet ministers, members of parliament (including those from the opposition benches), and a number of pastors from other denominations.

The Lord blessed the series with the largest single harvest of souls in the history of the Church in the country. More than 370 have been baptized so far and four new congregations have been organized in the city.

One of those attending the meetings was from the Jehovah's Witness faith and she was responsible for inviting more than twenty of her friends to attend—all of whom were baptized with her.

Cottendale Community Mpumalanga, South Africa—The Cottendale Community is situated on the doorstep of the famous Kruger National Park. So far, as a result of the volunteer mission work undertaken by Ray Brown and his helpers, there is now a group of thirty-five baptized members worshipping in Cottendale, along with twenty-five regular visitors. It is estimated that this company has the potential to grow rapidly now that a beautiful new church has been built on a prominent location within the community.

Ray Brown has been a baptized Seventh-day Adventist for the past five years and comes from a Methodist background. He actually served the Methodists as a local pastor for about twenty years before discovering the Adventist message. Now retired, Ray and his wife combine her meager state pension with the income he receives from odd jobs in order to finance their mission work among the residents of Cottendale.

On Sabbath, July 19, 2008, the Cottendale Seventh-day Adventist Church was inaugurated by a joyous congregation while the final strokes of paint, applied late the previous day, were still drying on the walls!

Ethiopian Church in Johannesburg—Johannesburg, South Africa's largest city and Africa's communication hub, has drawn many people in search of work from all over the continent, and Ethiopians are no exception.

Recognizing that the Three Angels' Message has a multi-cultural and multi-racial mandate, the Trans-Orange Conference has employed an Ethiopian national, Pastor Girma, to nurture and evangelize this people group.

It is intended that the first Ethiopian Seventh-day Adventist Church in South Africa will be opened later this year in the southern suburbs of Johannesburg.

Mozambique Union Mission—A steady stream of South African volunteers is assisting Maranatha Volunteers International in Mozambique with their 1001 Church project and; so far, they have been involved in building eight churches and one primary school.

Just recently they did a bit more than just build. The volunteers who joined Maranatha to build the Mubanguene Church also funded the construction of a baptistery just behind the church. Imagine their surprise when they arrived to worship in the new building on Sabbath and found that the congregation had already filled the two-day-old baptistery for its first service!

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On that same day, the two South African pastors, along with the volunteer group, baptized five young ladies and witnessed six more souls that came forward for future baptism during the call. *Deo Gloria!*

Second Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division Women's Ministries Congress—The Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division recently held its second Women's Ministries Congress in Lusaka, Zambia from April 14-19, 2008. The Congress, which attracted more than 3,000 delegates, was attended by women from all the Division's unions.

The objective of the Congress was to uphold, encourage, and challenge the women to recognize that they, too, are called to spread the gospel. It was also to encourage the women to be involved in all areas of ministry in their local churches, communities, and homes, in accordance with the spiritual gifts God has blessed them with. The Congress achieved this through training and support.

Zimbabwe Union Conference—In the second quarter of 2008, the Zimbabwe Union Conference recorded 14,398 baptisms as the result of a mega evangelism drive.

SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION (SUD)

Membership—As of July 2008, the Southern Asia Division membership has grown to 1,402,568 with 3,506 organized churches and 5,625 companies. It has sixty-five local conferences, sections, and regions, seven union missions, and one attached field.

The Northern India Union, comprising thirteen states and two union territories with a population of 600 million, has historically been the largest challenge with a large population and limited membership. However, pastors and leaders have discovered a very responsive population in many areas. During 2007, more than 25,000 new members were added in this union and the percentage of growth (approximately twenty percent) was the highest among the unions.

From July 2007 to June 2008, 111,642 souls have been added to the Church by baptism. By God's grace, through the work of Global Mission pioneers, there are 280 baptized members in the country of Bhutan now.

Churches—The Southern Asia Division had 909 churches built in 1997. In the last ten years, about 2,100 churches have been built. But that still leaves about 500 churches without a building of their own.

Adventist Education—Four new boarding schools have been constructed in 2008 which provide subsidized education to children of lay members. Over 2,000 children are benefitting from these schools.

About 30 months ago, the Division initiated the organization of their own child-care agency—Adventist Child India. Currently, 4,000 children are in the Adventist Child India program and all academic and boarding fees are paid.

A separate affiliation authorizes Spicer Memorial College to offer Bachelor of Education degrees. Two hundred twenty students are currently enrolled in ministerial training at Spicer. Total enrollment is 1,260 this year.

Medical Institution—Surat Adventist Hospital has made major renovations in the past year and now heart surgeries are available through an agreement with Wockhart Heart Institute.

City Initiatives—Organization of Two New Conferences—In recent years, our leaders have adopted a strategy of organizing the church work in the large metros into separate sections and conferences. This has been done in Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Mumbai, and Delhi.

They are experiencing positive outcomes from this strategy. With increased membership and congregations in these cities, increased tithe income has resulted. Almost all of these units are self-supporting and conferences will be organized in all these cities in the near future.

Television Ministry—S Johnson distributes a Tamil language television program on several outlets to Tamil-speaking people both in India and abroad. In Chennai City this year, he reports 150 new members through follow-up meetings of this ministry. It also appears on the Hope Channel. In the last few months, pastors have produced programming in the Telegu, Kannada, and Hindi languages in preparation for Hope Channel telecasting.

SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION (SSD)

Evangelism—Fifteen guest evangelists, along with T Michael Porter, Chief Executive Officer of the Quiet Hour in Redlands, California were in Bacolod City, Philippines for the *ShareHim* evangelistic series held March 14-29, 2008. This program resulted in 329 individuals accepting Jesus through baptism.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in northern Mindanao rejoiced over what it called a “humbling experience with God” as 1,903 individuals sealed their newly found belief in God through baptism on March 22, 2008, after a two-week simultaneous public evangelism series held at different locations in southern Philippines.

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Conducting these public meetings were Alberto C Gulfan Jr, President of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division; Rick McEdward, SSD Adventist Mission Director; and Myron Iseminger, SSD Associate Treasurer.

Sixty-three participants representing four schools and a district in the South-Central Luzon Field took time from their regular classes and work to learn the principles and techniques of news writing, feature writing, photojournalism, layout and design, graphics software application, and electronic publication.

Asked why they joined this three-day seminar for writers, Cassadra Joy R Lingatong, reflected the participants' answer, "We want to be preachers of the Word—to witness for the Lord through writing."

The Adventist Church in Sarawak, Malaysia has many stories to tell the world how evangelism works there. "But these are not put in print, hence, this seminar," said Gilbert Tan, Executive Secretary of the Church in Sarawak, during the opening of the three-day seminar on writing, design, and e-publication held at the church headquarters on March 10-12, 2008. "We make it compulsory to our pastors because we want them to write these news stories so others will know what is happening in our field," Tan continued.

The seminar was unique because each participant was challenged to publish more newsletters on the local level and to print more conversion stories to inspire other church members.

The Certification Seminar for Women Leaders Level II in southern Philippines was held January 17-19, 2008 with 229 participants.

The Certification Seminar had all Women Ministries directors from the six fields in southern Philippines bring their delegates in order to qualify for the Level III session to be done sometime later.

Lectures and presentations dwelt on the seminar's theme, "Give your best in 2008," emphasizing women's responsibility of winning people to Christ and helping them overcome societal challenges that confront each of their families.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Sri Lanka launched a successful smoking cessation training program for their pastors and lay leaders from January 21-24, 2008. We believe these smoking cessation programs will serve as an effective tool to reach the masses in Sri Lanka and help many people to break the smoking habit.

Community Outreach/Services—The beneficence of youth need not wait for tomorrow. It should show evidence now. This concept gave the participants opportunities to do community work and make an impact for Jesus during the three-day activities of the “Youth Impact” in Negros Occidental from May 12-14, 2008.

Held at the Convention Center of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Negros Occidental, the activities gathered together 600 youth from the church’s territory. One activity that caught the attention of ABS-CBN television was the daily morning cleaning of Bacolod City’s major thoroughfares. This activity was covered in the station’s evening news report.

Another community service participated in by the young people was the blood draw activity sponsored by the Philippine National Red Cross-Bacolod Chapter on May 16, 2008.

Special Programs—Not less than 3,000 members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Myanmar converged on March 26-30, 2008 in Pyinoolwin, Upper Myanmar to attend the sixth country-wide convention designed to strengthen the faith of church members and to call for vigorous participation in the evangelism program of the Church.

On Sabbath, besides the Sabbath School and worship service, twelve ministerial workers were ordained into the gospel ministry, more than 130 new members joined the church through baptism, and 250 couples renewed their marriage vows. Also, more than seventy church members who had reached seventy years of age and above were honored for their dedication to the church and its programs.

People in merry bands flooded Mountain View College, like pilgrims to the Holy Land, for Sabbath and the culmination of the Philippine-wide Youth Congress 2008. Starting on a drizzling Monday, April 14, was an afternoon launching of this quinquennial event for the youth in this country of nearly one million Adventists, the majority of whom are young people, thirty years of age and below.

One of the memorable highlights of the Congress was the response of eighty-nine youth for baptism when Baraka G Muganda, at the worship service on Sabbath, appealed to the young delegates to give their lives to Jesus. They were baptized later that day. Also, ninety-three trainees were invested as Master Guides.

LEAD Conferences—Adventist leaders took part in the “Growing in Grace” Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) Conference conducted by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division. The LEAD Conference, in conjunction with *Tell the World*, was conducted in all unions in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

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TRANS-EUROPEAN DIVISION (TED)

The dynamic strategic plan of the Trans-European Division helps the Division team stay focused on the essential activities utilizing resources optimally. At the outset of this quinquennium, it was determined that we would prioritize work for children, youth, and education, using all available avenues with the expectation that the outcome would be a family of believers growing in unity, unified in Christ, growing in grace, and living practical lives in hope. The following glimpses from the Trans-European Division give a small picture of the plan put into action.

KIDs in Discipleship—KIDs in Discipleship (KIDs) is a ministry that is binding the hearts of families together by equipping parents and other caregivers to be primary spiritual mentors to their children. KIDs also challenges entire church congregations to support parents and caregivers in empowering children in worship, ministry, and mission. This ministry has now run for the second year in the Division.

In Nicosia, the fire station got a surprise visit from the children of the local Seventh-day Adventist church who dropped by to thank them for their service to the local community. The children, aged 6-13, decorated a card and drew pictures depicting the fire service, and delivered the items on Sabbath afternoon, May 25, 2008, with a fresh batch of cookies baked by one of the parents. The card read, “The children of the Seventh-day Adventist Church would like to honor you today for your brave service and protection of our community. Please accept this small gesture of gratitude.” Children in other KIDs groups have had other community outreach projects, sharing their faith with members in the community.

Victor Marley, the Director of the Children’s, Family, and Youth Ministries Department in Norway, stated after a recent training session, “KIDs has the potential to revolutionize our churches. Families are central in passing our faith to our children and our youth.” KIDs has been a real blessing to the families that have been part of it and already they are seeing baptisms as a direct result of this ministry. We pray that more congregations will go through the training and begin spreading the vision even further.

Youth Involvement—The Division believes in its youth. In a Division youth-leadership convention held in October last year, 170 participants took part in a variety of workshops and Critical Concern Seminars. Participants were challenged to realize the importance of youth evangelism, how to get involved, how to lead, and how to better minister to young people in the church. This “Youth Matters Convention” coincided with the 100th anniversary of the World Adventist Youth Department. The youth leaders re-committed themselves to the continuing aim of youth ministry: “The Advent message to all the world in our generation.”

Church Planting—A number of gatherings for church planters throughout the Division have been conducted this past year. The Division had set the goal of 356 church plants this quinquennium and by the beginning of 2008 the result shows 222 new church plants.

Focus on Evangelism—In Sudan, the training of pastors has been under the motto “Evangelism on the Move.” Pastors were involved in infield training through broad-spectrum evangelistic programs, which included *Better Living Seminars*. Attendance at these particular evangelistic meetings grew from 166 to 450.

1-2-3 Evangelization—In March this year, the Swedish Union launched a project entitled *1-2-3 Evangelization*. This is a concept that builds on their previous initiative “100/500” where the aim was to baptize 100 people in 500 days. This resulted in positive, real membership growth in Sweden for the first time in thirty years. In the project name, *1-2-3 Evangelization*, 1...stands for individual members. Each member is encouraged to increase their awareness of God-given opportunities to witness, invite others to church activities, and write three or more names on a card and specifically pray for these people every day. 2...is the number of hours per week members are encouraged to spend in an outreach program in their local church. 3...stands for teams. Over the next nineteen months, leaders in the church are challenged to train and develop new leaders, while every member is encouraged to be part of a team and help in some way. As individuals, it is easy to give up or become discouraged. In working together, much more can be achieved. The Union administration has met with all local church boards to discuss innovative ideas for evangelism.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church Recognized by the Government of Latvia—Last year the Latvian Parliament issued a new law, which positively affected the Church. The new law affirms the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Latvia as a registered church entitled to certain legal rights including the right for the Church to operate under its own internal rules and policies, to distribute literature, to evangelize and perform legally binding weddings, and to hold property.

British Adventist Woman Honored by the Queen—Joan Saddler received the Order of the British Empire from Queen Elizabeth II during a ceremony at Buckingham Palace at the end of 2007 as recognition for her outstanding community service in promotion of volunteer service, equality and diversity in healthcare, and for her work with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). During the post award celebration, Saddler said, “As Adventist Christians we must live our values and put our faith into practice and God will bless us.”

Health Emphasis Programs in Pakistan—At the end of 2007, the Health Department of the Pakistan Union launched a health and temperance program in association with the Pakistan Adventist Seminary and College Church. Under the theme “Heart of God,” the students, staff, and local church members promoted health through speech contests, different cases, games, and poster competitions emphasizing the need of abstaining from tobacco and alcohol. The focus

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was on the benefits of a healthy diet and a healthy lifestyle. The Health Department plans to run similar health programs in Pakistan's rural areas.

ADRA Television Drama Production Wins "National Achiever" Award—ADRA Denmark, in cooperation with ADRA Malawi, financially supported by Danish International Development Assistance (Danida) recently won the local prize "National Achiever," for their ability to engage the local population in issues associated with HIV/AIDS. The series "Tikuferanji" was created with the intention of providing information about the consequences of HIV/AIDS, preventive measures to the disease, and existing treatment. It is estimated that more than one million television viewers are watching the series weekly.

Adventist Youth March Against Street Crime—The United Kingdom has been marred by an increase of violent street crime. Several thousand people recently marched through the London City Center under the theme "Living Intentionally Versus Existing." Adventist youth and supporters were accompanied by drill brigades and drum corps along the route that passed the Houses of Parliament and the Prime Minister's residence. "Our message was clear. Live intentional lives," said Colin Stewart, Youth Ministries Director for the Church in South England. The Deputy Mayor of London, Ray Lewis, said that this was the type of initiative London needs.

WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION (WAD)

Evangelism—Among the outstanding achievements that took place in the West-Central Africa Division this year, was the evangelistic campaign that took place in the city of Kumasi, Ghana from July 10-27, 2008, resulting in 1,822 souls won for the Kingdom of God. We praise the name of the Lord God Almighty for such a harvest.

Special Seminars for Reaching Muslims—The West-Central Africa Division is a 10/40 Window division and about fifty percent of its population are Muslim. Because 2009 is declared a "Year of Evangelism" by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the West-Central Africa Division hosted three training seminars with regard to Muslim relations in preparation for the 2009 event as well as the long-range future.

A training seminar was organized in Bamako, Mali from March 17-22, 2008 by Priscille Metonou, West-Central Africa Division Women's Ministries Director. Wilda Cox and Marty Phillips were the main speakers/trainers. Twenty-five women leaders and four pastors from Sahel Union Mission attended and were blessed in a special way.

Another training seminar was organized in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire from May 12-15, 2008 by the West-Central Africa Division with A Ganoune Diop, Director for Global Mission Study Centers, Adventist Mission as the main trainer. The purpose of the seminar was to equip the

West-Central Africa Division staff, union officers, and Adventist Mission coordinators to reach Muslims.

Youth Congress—Since its reorganization as the West-Central Africa Division, the Division had its first Youth Congress last August in Calabar, Nigeria from August 20-24, 2008 where about 3,000 young people and members attended the big gathering that culminated with a powerful sermon on Sabbath, August 23, 2008, by Baraka G Muganda, General Conference Youth Department Director, and assisted by Jean Emmanuel Nlo Nlo, the West-Central Africa Division Communication and Youth Department Director.

CONCLUSION

Let me take this opportunity to thank my fellow leaders of the divisions, unions, conferences/missions, and churches for your hard work in steering the Church toward evangelism.

To our dedicated Church members around the world, thank you. Thank you for your dedication and determination to evangelize your communities and to prepare people for the soon coming King.

The marvelous growth of our work throughout the world during these five years is positive evidence of the direct work of the Holy Spirit through the Church.

The whole business of the Church is to save souls. Its entire program has the single goal of bringing people into a Christ-like life. No sermon speaks as it should unless it is evangelistic.

Let our seminaries remember that evangelism is their reason for existence. Let our schools, colleges, and universities remember that evangelism is their primary task. Let our teachers, physicians, nurses, engineers, scholars, skilled and unskilled laborers, businessmen, businesswomen, husbands and wives, and families remember that our vocation is to win the world to Christ. There is nothing else we can do as important as leading men and women to love and obey Him.

VOTED, To record receipt of the Secretary's report, as presented.

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AST/08AC to MAB

ARCHIVES AND STATISTICS REPORT

Bert B Haloviak, Director of Archives and Statistics, gave a brief presentation of Church membership growth. At the time of the 2008 Annual Council, six of the thirteen world divisions are reporting over 50,000 baptisms bringing the average number of accessions for all divisions to 80,892. The current midyear membership stands at 15,780,719 resulting in a ratio of 425 people populating our planet for every baptized Seventh-day Adventist. During the past four quarters, July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008, there were 1,051,601 accessions or an average of 2,879 per day who joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This is our fifth consecutive Annual Council in which over one million baptisms is being reported.

DISTRIBUTION OF BAPTISMAL GROWTH AND MEMBERSHIP

The recent baptisms when shown as a percent are distributed as follows:

- South America Division—21%
- Inter-America Division—20%
- East-Central Africa—16%
- Southern Africa-Indian Ocean—15%
- Southern Asia—11%
- Southern Asia-Pacific—6%
- The remaining eleven percent live within the other seven divisions

The distribution of current membership can be shown as follows:

- Africa—13%
- Latin America—35%
- Asia—18%
- North America—7%
- Europe and Oceania—5%

IMPACT OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AUDITS

SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION

During these past four quarters, the South American Division (SAD) undertook a massive church membership audit and its end result showed a decrease in its membership rolls of over 300,000. Although SAD led the divisions in baptisms (218,000), it exhibited a 267,000 net membership decrease during this reporting period.

The huge membership decrease in that division impacted the overall growth rate of the Church to render a 2.24 percent average for the thirteen divisions. That meant that 2.24 were baptized for every 100 church members. That rate is the lowest since 1943.

SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

Between 2003-2005, Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD) membership audits revealed a decrease of perhaps 400,000. Its recovery is apparent from this current report. SSD currently shows the second highest divisional growth rate of 6.6 percent. That is its highest growth rate since the division organized in 1997.

In addition, for the 2007 calendar year, the Southern Asia-Pacific Division maintained a loss to gain ratio of 24 losses per 100 accessions, well below the Church average of 33 per 100. The division also witnessed the fourth best divisional population-per-SDA-member ratio improvement going from 849-to-1 to 808-to-1.

PIONEERS OF GROWTH EXAMPLES IN THE SOUTHERN-ASIA PACIFIC AREA

The work began within the Southern-Asia Pacific area at the beginning of the 20th century. Five divisions cooperated in establishing Adventism in such countries as the Philippines, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bangladesh, and Thailand. It began with indigenous workers who became pioneers of Seventh-day Adventist growth in their own homelands. History reveals that the children and grandchildren of these pioneers continued the work. The Seventh-day Adventist *Yearbook* shows a lineage of dedication to the ever-expanding work of the Church.

VOTED, To record receipt of the Statistical report, as presented.

MINISTRY MAGAZINE PRESENTATION

The first issue of *Ministry* was published in January 1928, eighty years ago. Today there are issues published in many languages. Last year, the October 2007 issue featured the African continent. This year, for the October edition, we have chosen to feature the South American continent which includes the Inter-American and South American divisions. The first two copies were presented to the presidents of these divisions, Israel Leito (IAD) and Erton C Kohler (SAD).

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ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY—MEMBER MEETING

At 3:15 p.m., a member meeting of Adventist Development and Relief Agency convened, after which the business session of the General Conference Executive Committee reconvened.

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA REPORT

Brempong Owusu-Antwi, President of the Adventist University of Africa (AUA), reported on the newest General Conference institution of higher education located in Nairobi, Kenya. AUA opened in 2003 to serve the three divisions located on the African continent, fulfilling the need for postgraduate studies and a theological seminary. There are 239 students presently enrolled at the school.

AUA was granted an interim charter in January 2008, and church leaders from around the world witnessed the granting of the charter. A minimum of five full-time professors are needed to run an approved program in order to receive a full charter from the government of Kenya. Arrangements are in place to house those professors.

HIV/AIDS REPORT

In 2002, the General Conference established an HIV/AIDS office in Johannesburg, South Africa. It's goal is to provide assistance to local churches in helping their communities that are infected with HIV/AIDS, bringing spiritual and physical healing. The office combines prevention through education and job training. Meeting the needs of those affected by the disease either directly or indirectly is their God-given commission.

One group especially vulnerable are grandmothers. These grandmothers, in caring for their sick children and grandchildren, often become ill themselves having come into close contact with the virus. Support groups encourage them to seek assistance from a wider group of people who understand their needs.

VOTED, To accept the HIV/AIDS report as presented.

Prayer was offered by Noldy Sakul, President of the East Indonesia Union Mission, Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

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Gerry D Karst, Chair
G T Ng, Secretary
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary
Carolyn S Rochester, Recording Secretary

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 13, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONAL

The devotional message entitled, "A Universal Mission for a Universal Movement," was presented by Edwin Gulfan, President of Zamboanga Peninsula Mission, South Philippine Union Conference, Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

Sin entered this earth through the first two human beings created by God, and consequently, all members of the human race have become sinners and need to be saved.

Some centuries after man fell into sin and the thoughts of men were only evil continually, God wanted to preserve faith in Him through the family of a man whom God saw was untarnished by the sinfulness of his time. Noah was asked to build an ark which was the hope of salvation for the people who repented and believed in God's message of warning.

Abraham was another man whom God saw did not yield to the idolatry of the people in Mesopotamia. Being called the father of the faithful, he literally has become the root of Israel and all that God did through His chosen people. The Bible is of Hebrew origin. Christ, Himself, was of Jewish descent.

A remnant of the seed of the woman is prophesied to come in due time in history to fulfill the Gospel Commission just prior to the end of the world. Despite obstacles in accomplishing the universal mission, this movement will eventually triumph by lifting Christ up in the lives of its members who will be changed by God's amazing grace. Consequently, people will be drawn to God, then He will come to gather them together in the heavenly home He has prepared as their home for eternity.

Revelation 14:6 tells about the first angel's message which proclaims the everlasting gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people of the world.

Jan Paulsen, chair, called to order the fourth session of the 2008 Annual Council.

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Prayer was offered by Moses Ostrovsky, President of the Belarus Conference, Euro-Asia Division.

TREASURER'S REPORT

When we read Matthew 24:14, we often put emphasis on the last part: “and then shall the end come.” This is a great promise and is what we all long for. But there is another promise in that text that is just as important—“. . . this gospel of the Kingdom *shall* be preached in all the world.” What a promise! In the Gospel Commission in Matthew 28, we are told, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations . . .” What a challenge, what a task, but what a promise—that “. . . this gospel of the Kingdom *shall* be preached in all the world.”

This is the first paragraph of my 2007 Annual Council report that I gave in Silver Spring, Maryland.

What a promise,
what a challenge,
what a task.

PROMISED BLESSINGS

These past twelve months have been filled with evidence of God fulfilling His promises. God has added to the Church daily those who should be saved as you have already heard in Matthew A Bediako's report. He has continued to bless His people: Tithe has increased from US\$1.6 billion in 2006 to US\$1.78 billion in 2007. That was an 11.1 percent increase. Mission offerings have continued to increase and went from US\$58.4 million to US\$63 million between 2006 and 2007. It is difficult to calculate exactly how much of the increase, when stated in dollars, has come from the weakening of the US dollar and how much has come from increases in local currency, but a major portion of the increase is attributable to the weakening of the US dollar. The percentage increase in tithe in the North American Division was approximately four percent and mission offerings, approximately two percent.

EXTRAORDINARY TITHE

Last year at Annual Council, we presented information on the extraordinary tithe received from a family that was divesting of their multinational business. Although it is not the practice of the General Conference to receive tithe directly from members, the General Conference Executive Committee approved that it be received and administered from the General Conference on behalf of the world Church in this unusual circumstance. At the time of the 2007 Annual Council, the total that had been received was \$49 million. All the proceeds

from the sale of the business had not yet been realized, and so additional tithe was received in the last part of 2007 and the first part of 2008, bringing the total to US\$101.7 million.

What a blessing,
what an opportunity.

Spring Meeting authorized the General Conference Administrative Committee to process requests and proposals relative to the use of this extraordinary tithe. This has been done, and Juan R Prestol, Undertreasurer of the General Conference, will give a report of the allocations that have been approved. Allocations have been made of all but approximately US\$15 million which is being held for future initiatives. There is one allocation of approximately US\$3.5 million that is still to be divided among various initiatives that focus on world religions. The earnings on the extraordinary tithe since inception total approximately US\$2.8 million through September 2008. Extraordinary tithe funds are targeted at reaching those in the 10/40 Window, big cities, and special opportunities around the world.

Because this large extraordinary item would make comparisons of the financial statement with past and future years difficult, we have set up the accounting to track the extraordinary tithe separately from the regular operating funds of the General Conference. The audited financial statement will combine them but will provide a breakout of the funds in a footnote.

YEAR-TO-DATE OPERATING

The September 30, 2008 interim financial statement for the General Conference shows a strong operating picture but does not reflect the effect of the financial markets over the last two months. The portion of tithe received by the General Conference from the North American Division is up approximately US\$1.8 million over last year at this time, and tithe from the divisions other than North America is up US\$3.1 million. Mission offerings are also up year-to-date compared to last year. A major share of the increase from outside of the USA is due to the decline in the value of the US dollar this year.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

A familiar hymn says, "We are living, we are dwelling, In a grand and awful time, In an age on ages telling—To be living is sublime." We know that as we get closer to the Lord's return, things will not improve. In the financial world, we are becoming more and more a single global economy. That has its advantages but also its disadvantages. It means that what affects one part of the world affects the whole world.

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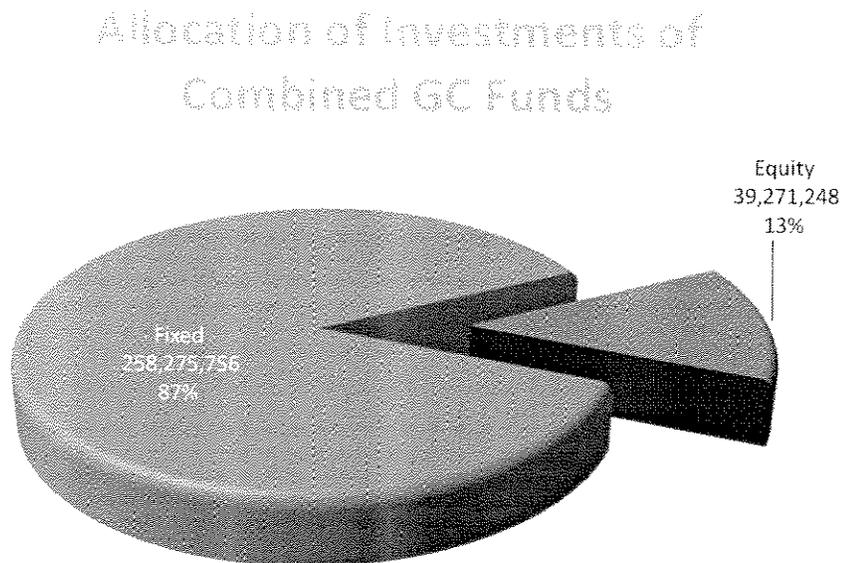
FINANCIAL MARKETS

In the last few weeks, we have seen turmoil in the financial markets that are unprecedented in my lifetime. Even the best economists and financial minds don't know where to turn or what to do. It is comforting for us to know that there is One "who sits above all the confusion and distractions of the earth . . ." He is in charge and we have the privilege of working for Him.

Roy E Ryan, Associate Treasurer who oversees the investment office at the General Conference, will give a report on the recent affects of the markets on the General Conference. Because of the turmoil in the financial markets, he will be giving a more detailed report on investments than what normally would be given at the time of an Annual Council.

The General Conference investment office invests not only the funds held by the General Conference for the work of the General Conference, but also the investments of the North American Division Retirement Funds, the Hospital Retirement Funds, and funds belonging to other denominational organizations that have placed their investments with the General Conference. The decision on the allocation of their funds between the various investment pools is up to each organization and depends on the goals for the funds.

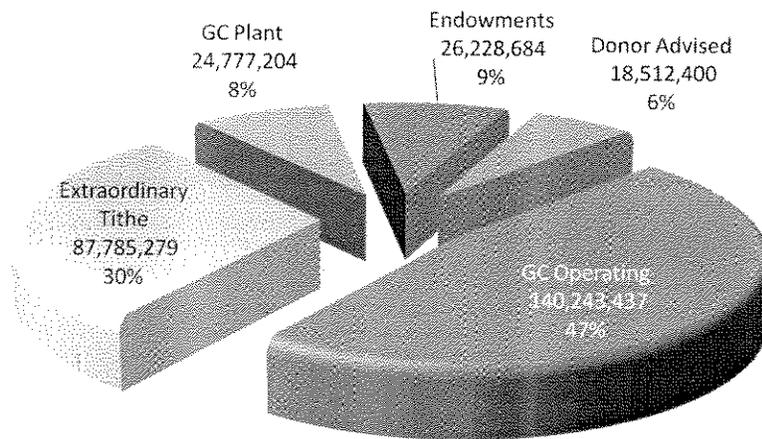
The operating budget of the General Conference is based on the expected revenues for the year. Although most individuals return tithes and give offerings on a fairly regular basis, it is interesting that in many parts of the world the amount received in December is two to three times that of any other month. We send to the divisions and General Conference institutions appropriations and pay salaries on a regular monthly basis, so it is necessary to have working capital to keep the funds flowing even when



the timing of the receipt of funds and their disbursement is not the same. In addition to the difference of timing of funds within a calendar year, there is also the need to keep some unallocated funds on hand so that when revenues dip because of economic or other conditions, there is time to make planned adjustments without having to cut appropriations or precipitously lay off personnel. Because of this, the General Conference *Working Policy* recommends that the General Conference keep the equivalent of 40 percent of a year's unrestricted income in working capital. In addition, we have 100 percent of the funds that have been committed for projects and to cover restricted donations.

Of the US\$297.6 million of General Conference funds invested, 87 percent are in fixed income and 13 percent in equities (stocks).

GC - Combined Source of Investment Funds



Source: General Conference, 2007-2008

The following is a listing of the various General Conference funds and an indication of the percentage of funds that are invested in equities:

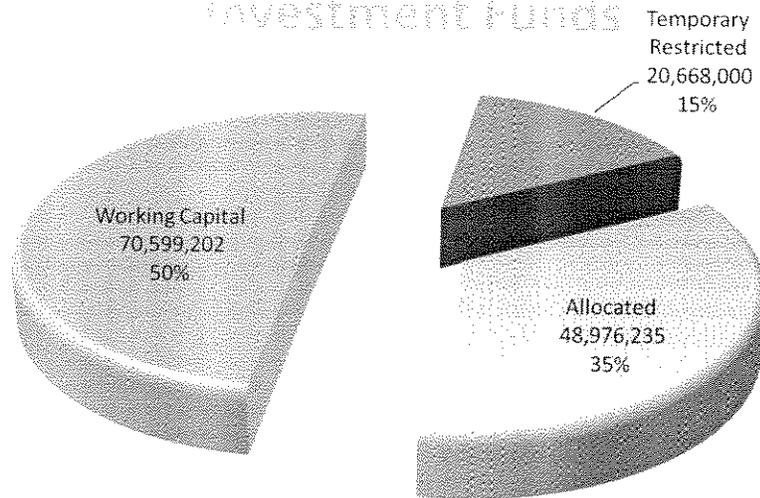
Source	Amount	Percentage in Equities
GC Working Capital	70.6 million	16%
Allocated Functions	49.0 million	16%
Temporarily Restricted	20.7 million	16%
Extraordinary Tithe	87.8 million	0%
Plant Funds	24.8 million	12%

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Endowments (True and Quasi)	26.2 million	26%
Donor advised funds*	18.5 million	39%

*Donor advised funds include US\$6.6 million in donated stock.

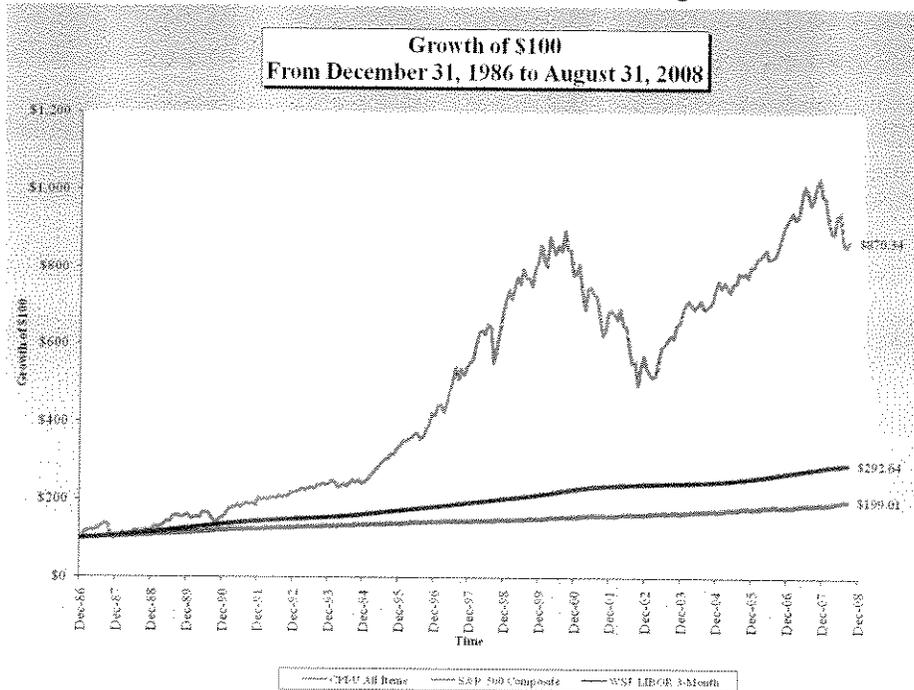
GCC Operating - Source of Investment Funds



Thirteen percent of equities, or about US\$39.2 million, are directly affected by the drop in stock prices. As of 5:00 p.m., October 8, 2008 (Eastern Daylight Savings Time in the United States), the S&P 500 index was at 910, a 38 percent decline since January 1, when it was at 1,468. Although it is not exact, as not all our investments are in the S&P 500 index, it can give a general idea of what is happening with that US\$39.2 million. Of course, 87 percent of the funds are in fixed income, which have experienced some returns but are also under pressure because of the widespread downturn. At this point, we are down approximately US\$16 million on US\$297.6 million, which is approximately five percent. (Just as a rough approximation, a one point gain or loss in the S&P 500 average represents US\$30,000. I only give this in answer to questions as to what affect a certain movement in the market has had on General Conference operations. The affect on the retirement funds for the North American Division and NAD hospitals is, of course, much larger.)

The percentages of equities in retirement funds are much higher than those in General Conference funds, as they are invested for the long term to maximize return in order to meet the retirement commitments. When there are downturns in the markets, there tends to be questions as to why we invest at all in equities when there is a risk of losing the funds or having them

decrease in value. The fact is that there are two risks with funds: One is the risk of loss of the funds, and the second is the risk of loss of opportunity to earn on the funds. Historically, returns on equities (stocks) has been much higher than that of fixed US\$100 in the S&P 500 stock index, the LIBOR, which is approximately what is earned on fixed income funds, and the amount of inflation for the period from 1986 to the present. You can see that to keep up with inflation you needed to increase the US\$100 to US\$199. The earnings on investing in fixed income investments would have increased that US\$100 to US\$292 over that twenty-year period, providing about twice the rate of inflation. But investments in the S&P 500 index of stocks would have increased that US\$100 to US\$870 over the same period. So, if you look at the opportunity risk for investing that US\$100 in fixed income investments as compared with stocks, it would be about US\$578 (\$870 - \$292). That means you could have lost five times your original US\$100 investment and still have more left than investing in fixed income investments.



We cannot afford to keep most of our operating capital or funds that are needed in the immediate future in equities, as they may be down when they are needed, but when funds have a longer horizon, as in the case of endowment funds, retirement funds, etc, there is a great opportunity for loss if they are all kept in lower income, less volatile fixed income investments.

CONSERVATIVE BUDGET PROCESS

There is always a question as to how conservative to become in the budgeting process. We use the income from two years ago when formulating the budget, but with some adjustments for expected income in areas such as investment earnings, release of blocked currencies, etc.

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The budget presented is conservative but does not make radical changes to reflect the uncertain economic conditions. We have consistently operated under budget. We will certainly continue to monitor the situation and make adjustments, if needed, but do not want to make radical changes that might hinder the work if it is not necessary. It should be understood that if the financial situation worsens dramatically, the General Conference will revisit the budget. Hopefully this will not be necessary. We will operate very conservatively as we continue to monitor the situation.

CONCLUSION

People sometimes ask Treasury if we are having trouble sleeping because of the turbulent economic times. The answer is that even though we are naturally concerned about all the things around us, we rest assured that there is One at the helm who sees and knows all, and we rest well in that assurance.

The servant of the Lord, Ellen G White, wrote, “We can see only a little way before us; ‘but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.’ He never becomes confused. He sits above the confusion and distractions of the earth, and all things are opened to His divine survey; and from His great and calm eternity He can order that which His providence sees is best.

“If we were left to ourselves to plan, we should make mistakes. Our prejudices, our weaknesses, our self-deceptions, and our ignorances would be manifest in many ways. But the work is the Lord’s, the cause is His; He never leaves His workmen without divine directions. . . .”—ML 10.

TRE/08AC to REL

SPECIAL ENABLING ACTION RELATIVE TO 2008

Given the events of the past weeks in the financial markets and the uncertainty as to what affect it may have on the finances of the General Conference and on the tithes and offerings for the balance of 2008 and 2009, it was

VOTED, To authorize the General Conference Administrative Committee, if necessary, to make adjustments to the 2009 World Budget after consultation with division officers, including possibly delaying the projected three-percent increases in appropriations to the divisions.

REPORT ON INVESTMENTS

Roy E Ryan, Associate Treasurer of the General Conference, reported on the portfolio of investments of the Church.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT—SEPTEMBER 2008

Juan R Prestol, General Conference Undertreasurer, pointed out items of interest in the interim year-to-date Financial Statement of September 2008.

VOTED, To record receipt of the interim year-to-date Financial Statement of September 2008.

TRE/08AC to JRP

EXTRAORDINARY TITHE REPORT

VOTED, To record receipt of the report on allocations from the extraordinary tithe funds.

TRE/08AC to REL

GENERAL CONFERENCE WORKING CAPITAL

VOTED, To increase by a minimum of one percent per year the recommended working capital calculation, based on unrestricted income, from 40 percent to 50 percent.

TRE/08AC to REL

GENERAL CONFERENCE WORLD BUDGET—2009

VOTED, To approve the 2009 General Conference World Budget, as presented. (See pages 118-133.)

Prayer was offered by Saustin K Mfune, President of the Malawi Union Mission, Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division. Prayer was requested for God's continued blessings during uncertain financial times.

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Revised

TRE/08AC to REL

2007 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET FUNDS

VOTED, 1. To approve \$1,000,000 for the Southern Africa Union Retirement Plan from the balance of funds in the 2007 Supplemental Budget, due to the unique circumstances of the field as well as governmental requirements; and

2. To approve an additional \$3,500,000 (for a total of \$7,000,000) for the Adventist University of Africa from the balance of funds in the 2007 Supplemental Budget for the building program, with the understanding that the final decision on the release of the funds be subject to General Conference Administrative Committee action after reviewing the implications of the financial situation over the next few months. This will provide the opportunity for the institution to begin functioning and will incur savings by completing the construction in a single phase.

TRE/08AC to REL

2007 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

VOTED, To approve the 2007 Supplemental Budget report as presented.

TRE/08AC to REL

SOUTHERN AFRICA UNION CONFERENCE LOAN

The government of South Africa requires that all retirement pension plans be fully funded. With combining the old sustentation plan and the two union retirement plans they fall considerably short of meeting the government requirement which can trigger severe unwanted consequences. Part of the unfunded status is the result of the unusual history of needing to bring the two plans to the same level of benefits. Given this unique situation, the General Conference has granted US\$1,000,000 to the Southern Africa Union Conference from the Supplemental Budget to help with the retirement plan funding, and further it was

VOTED, To provide a loan facility of up to US\$2,500,000 from Operating Funds to the Southern Africa Union Conference for purposes of bringing the funding of the retirement plans to the level needed to combine them and meet the funding requirements of the South African government. The loan as drawn down by the Southern Africa Union Conference will be denominated in South African Rand with a ten-year amortization. The interest rate is to be set by the General Conference Administrative Committee at the time of the loan. The loan shall be

guaranteed by the Southern Africa Union Conference and the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division.

TRE/08AC to JRP

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EXTREME HARDSHIP

VOTED, To authorize the General Conference Administrative Committee to approve additional financial assistance to divisions and General Conference institutions dealing with extreme hardship situations due to decline in value of the US dollar. This assistance will be considered part of any supplemental appropriation made available from 2008 funds or, in case supplemental funds are not available, it will be considered an additional appropriation from operating funds in 2008. A report on these funding activities will be presented to the Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee at the 2009 Spring Meeting.

TRE/08AC to REL

TREASURER'S REPORT

VOTED, To record receipt of the Treasurer's Report, as presented.

08AC to ODP

GROWING DISCIPLES

Ronald M Flowers gave an update on the *Growing Disciples* project which focuses on the nurture and retention of members. Three departmental directors shared stories as examples of discipleship.

VOTED, To record receipt of the *Growing Disciples* project report.

Prayer was offered by Joan Y Clark, layperson from the Inter-American Division.

Jan Paulsen, Chair
Rosa T Banks, Secretary
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary
Tamara K Boward, Recording Secretary

General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists 2009 Appropriations Budget

AC 2008

	2008			2009		
	Tithe	Non-Tithe	Total	Tithe	Non-Tithe	Total
Summary:						
Income						
Function 01000 - Tithe	90,585,398	0	90,585,398	94,598,198	0	94,598,198
Unrestricted Offerings	0	47,784,604	47,784,604	0	52,788,143	52,788,143
Unrestricted Donations	0	220,000	220,000	0	790,000	790,000
Unrestricted Investment Earnings	0	3,200,000	3,200,000	0	2,000,000	2,000,000
Miscellaneous Income	0	226,272	226,272	0	131,706	131,706
Additional Funds	90,585,398	51,430,876	142,016,274	94,598,198	55,709,849	150,308,047
Transfers to / from Other Functions	28,800,000	(28,800,000)	0	28,800,000	(28,800,000)	0
Transfers from Other Funds	(4,684,686)	4,684,686	0	771,368	(771,368)	0
	0	100,000	100,000.00	0	100,000	100,000
	<u>114,700,712</u>	<u>27,415,562</u>	<u>142,116,274</u>	<u>124,169,566</u>	<u>26,238,481</u>	<u>150,408,047</u>
Expense						
I. Office Operating	35,333,575	0	35,333,575	37,010,331	0	37,010,331
II. GC Administered Funds	13,062,285	1,400,000	14,462,285	14,588,585	1,050,000	15,618,585
III. IDE Funding	22,110,600	0	22,110,600	24,448,096	0	24,448,096
IV. Appropriations	44,275,942	24,323,846	68,599,788	47,841,085	24,761,755	72,602,840
V. Special Funding	1,418,310	1,691,716	3,110,026	1,460,859	1,743,833	3,204,692
	<u>116,200,712</u>	<u>27,415,562</u>	<u>143,616,274</u>	<u>125,329,956</u>	<u>27,555,588</u>	<u>152,885,544</u>
Net	(1,500,000)	0	(1,500,000)	(1,160,390)	(1,317,107)	(2,477,497)
Blocked Currency	1,500,000	0	1,500,000	1,160,390	1,317,107	2,477,497
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
 2009 Appropriations Budget
 Tithe

AC 2008

Unallocated Income

Function 01000 - Tithe

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009
612100	85,103	150,000	85,500
612500	95,778	111,000	96,000
612510	836,368	850,000	837,000
612599	(106,882)	(114,000)	(107,000)
616100	17,714,913	14,687,000	17,714,913
618105	71,728,826	68,927,000	70,608,826
616300	200,000	0	0
616430	(1,117,841)	(980,000)	(1,118,000)
616440	(502,156)	0	(503,000)
616600	557,253	539,160	631,790
616700	(2,507,150)	(2,584,762)	(2,647,831)
	0	4,000,000	3,500,000
	0	5,000,000	5,500,000
	<u>86,984,212</u>	<u>90,585,398</u>	<u>94,598,198</u>

BLOCKED CURRENCY/WORKING CAPITAL

0

1,500,000

1,160,390

Additional Funds

619001 ADDITIONAL TITHE TO GC
 619005 NON-TITHE - APPROPRIATION

31,900,000
(31,900,000)

28,800,000
(28,800,000)

28,800,000
(28,800,000)

0

0

0

**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
2009 Appropriations Budget
Non-Tithe**

AC 2008

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009
Unallocated Income			
Function 05000 - Non-Tithe			
Unrestricted Offerings			
631100 WORLD MISSION FUND - OS	38,106,782	32,278,400	38,107,000
631190 WMF - OS - TRF TO RSTRD FNCTNS	(3,784,183)	(3,274,705)	(3,784,183)
631300 WMF - OVERSEAS ACCRUED	300,000	0	0
631630 WMF - OS BLOCKED	(3,187,972)	(2,540,812)	(3,187,972)
631640 WMF - OS BLOCKED	(1,487,836)	0	0
	<u>29,936,791</u>	<u>26,462,883</u>	<u>31,134,845</u>
631105 WORLD MSN FUND - NAD	24,179,938	23,752,000	24,179,938
631195 WMF - NAD - TRF TO RSTRD FNCTNS	(2,526,640)	(2,460,279)	(2,526,640)
	<u>21,653,298</u>	<u>21,291,721</u>	<u>21,653,298</u>
Unrestricted Donations	<u>51,580,089</u>	<u>47,784,604</u>	<u>52,788,143</u>
638002 MISC DONATIONS	41,610	200,000	40,000
638005 MISSIONS UNSPECIFIED	957,480	20,000	750,000
	<u>999,090</u>	<u>220,000</u>	<u>790,000</u>
Unrestricted Investment Earnings			
711002 INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS	4,236,077	3,000,000	2,000,000
712001 CAPITAL GAINS INCOME (LOSS)	2,419,202	200,000	0
715001 UNREALIZED APPRECIATION OF INVEST	(1,938,665)	0	0
	<u>4,716,614</u>	<u>3,200,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>

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**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
 2009 Appropriations Budget
 Non-Tithe**

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009	AC 2008
Unallocated Income				
Function 05000 - Non-Tithe				
Endowments				
788040 NON-TITHE - ENDOWMENT INCOME	26,358	0		0
Miscellaneous Income				
677111 LEASE INCOME-SW BELL	17,457	13,000	17,457	
678002 MISCELLANEOUS NON-TITHE INC	(18,395)	95,272	0	
678150 ROYALTIES	114,249	118,000	114,249	
	<u>113,311</u>	<u>226,272</u>		<u>131,706</u>
BLOCKED CURRENCYWORKING CAPITAL	<u>5,422,824</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>1,317,107</u>
Transfers to / from Other Functions				
01000 Offerings for Exchange - From Other Functions	(10,029,525)	(4,684,686)	771,368	
05000 Offerings Exchanged - To Other Functions	<u>10,029,525</u>	<u>4,684,686</u>	<u>(771,368)</u>	
Transfers from Other Funds	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
12 GC CORP ESTATES FUND	<u>0</u>	<u>100,000</u>		<u>100,000</u>

**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
2009 Appropriations Budget
Tithe**

	AC 2008		Budget 2009
	Actual 2007	Budget 2008	
I. Office Operating			
GC OFFICE OPERATING CAP			38,500,000
APPLIED TO WORLD BUDGET			1,489,669
Net In House Budget Funding	<u>31,202,280</u>	<u>35,333,575</u>	<u>37,010,331</u>
II. GC Administered Funds			
11042 ADVENTIST REVIEW ON LINE	0	0	25,000
11048 AR ADVENTIST WORLD	2,962,125	5,000,000	5,500,000
11462 ELECTRONIC RESOURCES FOR SABBATH SCHOOL	0	0	99,000
11486 OMA MISSION QUARTERLY	200,000	200,000	200,000
41050 INTERNATIONAL BIBLE CONFERENCE	0	0	62,500
51098 BLKD CURR EXPENDITURES	14,339	20,000	20,000
51105 WORLD BUDGET MISC	50,000	50,000	50,000
51175 ELM SHAVEN REPAIRS	20,000	20,000	20,000
51180 ELM SHAVEN SUPERVISION ASSIST	8,000	8,000	8,000
51651 SOW ONE BILLION - ADMIN	35,000	35,000	35,000
51682 EVANGELISM-CENTER OF GLOBAL EVANGELISM	100,000	100,000	100,000
51740 DEPARTMENTAL SPECIAL PROJECTS	450,000	50,000	50,000
52260 ADVENTIST MISSION	413,283	443,715	450,000
81050 ANNUAL COUNCIL TRAVEL	110,000	110,000	466,480
81051 ANNUAL COUNCIL TRAVEL	500,000	500,000	1,10,000
81225 MONETARY EXCHANGE	100,000	100,000	500,000
81250 GC SESSION	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,00,000
61500 OFFERINGS PROMOTION-ADVENTIST MISSION	150,000	200,000	1,200,000
61683 PRE VIDEO PRODUCTION	220,000	320,000	200,000
61685 OFF OF GLOBAL SOFTWARE AND TECHNOLOGY	0	0	315,551
61688 OFF OF ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS	0	0	261,474
61708 ADVENTIST TELEVISION NETWORK OPERATIONS	2,754,000	2,880,570	3,180,570
61729 SPRING MEETING	130,000	130,000	130,000
61750 COUNCIL ON EVANGELISM AND WITNESS	425,000	425,000	425,000
61752 GC COMMISSIONS	150,000	150,000	150,000
61761 MINISTRIES COMMITTEE-GROWING DISCIPLES	0	0	150,000
61762 FAITH AND SCIENCE COUNCIL	0	0	58,000
61755 LEADERSHIP TRAINING	100,000	100,000	100,000
61758 COUNCIL ON INTERCHURCH/FAITH RELATIONS	15,000	45,000	100,000
61780 STRATEGIC PLANNING	29,150	25,000	45,000
61780 MISC TRAVEL (WRLD BDOT)	0	50,000	25,000
61796 PAYROLL SOFTWARE SUPPORT - SAD	0	200,000	50,000
Total GC Administered Funds - Tithe	<u>10,185,897</u>	<u>13,062,285</u>	<u>14,568,585</u>

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 GCC Annual Council

**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
 2009 Appropriations Budget
 Non-Tithe**

AC 2008

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008		Budget 2009
II. GC Administered Funds - Non-Tithe				
51100 CONTINGENCY	700,000	1,100,000		750,000
61603 OGC SPECIAL COUNSEL/LITIGATION	200,000	300,000		300,000
Total GC Admin Funds Non-Tithe	900,000	1,400,000		1,050,000
Total GC Administered Funds	11,085,897	14,462,285		15,618,585

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**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
 2009 Appropriations Budget
 Tithe**

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009
III. IDE Funding			AC 2008
IDE FUNDING	20,146,196	22,110,600	24,449,096
	<u>20,146,196</u>	<u>22,110,600</u>	<u>24,449,096</u>

IV. Appropriations

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009
Separate Board Units - Tithe			
11050 APPROPRIATIONS TO AWR	326,400	336,192	346,278
41215 GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE	878,642	1,056,622	1,068,315
41920 WHITE ESTATE	1,463,388	1,604,189	1,671,547
41935 WHT RESEARCH CTRS/RANCHES	600,551	638,044	616,312
51101 WAGE FACTOR CONTINGENCY	100,040	85,077	120,000
61170 GCAS - HEADQUARTERS	650,000	770,000	1,620,443
61179 GCAS OVERSEAS	5,167,757	5,746,182	7,571,113
61183 ESD AUDITING	0	77,760	0
61185 GCAS NSD	0	539,160	631,790
68000 GCAS UNFILLED BUDGET CONTINGENCY	0	443,114	0
Sub-Total Separate Board Units - Tithe	9,186,778	11,296,340	13,645,798

General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
 2009 Appropriations Budget
 Title

AC 2006

IV. Appropriations: (Cont'd)	Divisions - Title	Actual		Budget		Budget	
		2007	2008	2008	2009		
52026	APPROPRIATIONS, TITLE OPERATING						
	ECD - EAST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIV	2,830,784	2,915,708	1,085,306	3,003,179		
	EASTERN EUROPE FIN AFFAIRS COM	1,023,005	1,053,895	220,000			
	EEFAC - DARMSTADT	0	200,000				
		1,023,005	1,253,895		1,305,306		
	EUD - EURO-AFRICA DIVISION	1,497,789	1,542,723	885,860	1,589,005		
	IAD - INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION	860,058	885,860	0	912,436		
	NAD - NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION	0	0		0		
	NSD - NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION	1,434,186	1,477,191		1,521,507		
	SAD - SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION	1,702,468	1,753,542	1,806,148			
	SATELLITE TELEVISION - WHAST	280,500	288,915	297,882			
		1,982,968	2,042,457		2,103,730		
	SID - SOUTHERN AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN	2,798,547	2,882,503	1,009,599	2,966,978		
	SPD - SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION	980,193	1,009,599	2,028,193	1,039,887		
	SSD - SOUTHERN ASIA PACIFIC DIV	1,967,178	2,028,193	1,667,465	2,086,979		
	SOUTHERN ASIA DIV (SERVSDA)	1,618,898	1,667,465	2,729,335	1,717,489		
	TED - TRANS-EUROPEAN DIVISION	2,649,840	2,729,335	2,085,403	2,811,215		
	WAD - WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIV	2,024,983	2,085,403		2,147,965		
	Total Appropriations - 52026	21,688,089	22,518,132	23,207,676	23,207,676		
41250	HIV/AIDS	50,000	51,500	53,045			
52012	ADVENTIST HERITAGE MINISTRIES	82,103	51,500	104,000			
52035	HPL EXCESS LIABILITY TRANSFER	647,054	1,873,000	1,800,000			
52765	APPROPRIATIONS TO TED	1,150,000	1,150,000	1,150,000			
52792	1040 WINDOW APPROPRIATIONS	210,000	760,000	1,209,000			
	Sub-Total Divisions - Title	23,787,246	26,404,132	27,523,721			

**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
2009 Appropriations Budget
Tithe**

AC 2008

IV. Appropriations: (Cont'd)

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009
General Church Programs - Tithe			
11090 EVANGELISM - STAFF	100,000	133,000	133,000
22284 GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS-AIAS/AUA	80,000	60,000	60,000
22285 GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS	100,000	100,000	100,000
Sub-Total General Church Programs - Tithe	260,000	293,000	293,000

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009
Subsidies to Publications - Tithe			
11045 AR MONTHLY EDITION SUBSIDY	317,835	317,835	327,370
11425 MINISTRY MAG (ENGLISH)	224,485	265,756	283,154
11585 EDUCATION AMICUS	147,134	151,793	157,548
21175 EDU JAE ENGLISH EDITION	100,000	100,000	100,000
21176 EDU JAE INTL EDITION	20,000	20,000	20,000
22810 SDA PERIODICAL INDEX	5,500	6,000	6,500
32880 SPIRIT OF PROPHECY BOOKS	150,000	375,000	375,000
32881 SOP BKS TO NEW MEMBERS "CONNECTING"	233,334	0	0
Sub-Total Subsidies to Publications - Tithe	1,198,298	1,236,384	1,289,572

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AC 2008

		Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009
IV. Appropriations: (Cont'd)				
Institutions - Tithe				
11015	ADRA	189,720	195,412	201,274
11017	AIAS OPERATING	204,051	210,173	216,478
	AU OPERATING APPROP: SEMINARY:			
	REGULAR	1,155,406	1,190,068	1,225,779
	FAC REPLACE-SEMINARY	73,391	75,593	77,861
	AU GENERAL OPERATING	63,434	65,337	67,297
	AVIATION CENTER	0	0	0
	MISSION ORIENTATION	154,530	159,166	163,941
	EXTENSION SCHOOL	0	0	0
	INST FOR PREVENT OF ADDICTION	133,491	137,496	141,621
21035	ANDREWS UNIV OPERATING	1,580,252	1,627,660	1,676,490
21345	GUJUGA OPERATING	61,812	63,666	65,576
21455	LLU OPERATING	2,750,230	2,750,230	2,750,230
41485	IHFA INTL HEALTH FOOD ASSN	35,446	98,946	98,946
41657	PARL LIBERTY MAGAZINE	100,000	100,000	100,000
51480	ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA	225,000	0	0
	Sub-Total Institutions - Tithe	<u>5,146,511</u>	<u>5,046,086</u>	<u>5,108,994</u>
	Total Appropriations - Tithe	<u>39,578,833</u>	<u>44,275,942</u>	<u>47,841,085</u>

**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
 2009 Appropriations Budget
 Non-Tithe**

AC 2008

IV. Appropriations: Divisions - Non-Tithe	Actual		Budget		Budget	
	2007	2008	2008	2009	2008	2009
52027 APPROPRIATIONS, NON-TITHE OPERATING:						
EAST CENTRAL AFRICA DIV	1,414,838	1,418,015		1,480,555		289,342
HIV-AIDS OFFICE	0	31,518		32,464		774,395
TOTAL ECD APPROPRIATIONS	1,414,838	1,449,533	1,449,533	1,493,019	1,493,019	1,056,086
EASTERN EUROPE FIN AFFAIRS COM						
EURO-AFRICA DIVISION		253,981		261,497		259,342
INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION		729,942		751,840		774,395
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION		995,462		1,025,326		1,056,086
NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIV		0		0		0
SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION		168,401		173,463		178,657
SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION		977,248		1,006,565		1,036,762
		757,809		780,337		803,747
SO AFRICA INDIAN OCEAN						
HIV-AIDS OFFICE	1,088,650	1,082,042		1,114,503		1,177,265
TOTAL SID APPROPRIATIONS	0	31,518		32,464		951,410
	1,088,650	1,113,560	1,113,560	1,146,967	1,146,967	1,028,891
SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIV						
SOUTHERN ASIA DIV (SERVSDA)		1,109,685		1,142,976		1,177,265
TRANS-EUROPEAN DIV		896,795		923,699		951,410
		969,828		998,923		1,028,891
WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA						
HIV-AIDS OFFICE	1,109,618	1,114,145		1,147,569		1,177,265
TOTAL WAD APPROPRIATIONS	0	21,012		21,842		951,410
	1,109,618	1,135,157	1,135,157	1,169,211	1,169,211	1,085,752
Sub-Total Divisions - Non-Tithe	10,471,957	10,762,866	10,762,866	11,085,752	11,085,752	

**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
 2009 Appropriations Budget
 Non-Tithe**

AC 2008

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009
IV. Appropriations: (Cont'd)			
Donations Non-Tithe:			
51140 DONATIONS	60,000	60,000	60,000
Institutions - Non-Tithe			
11015 ADRA - RENT	699,724	776,254	752,660
11017 AIJAS OPERATING	581,721	599,173	617,148
11050 AMWR HEADQUARTERS -RENT	66,119	95,538	111,712
21035 ANDREWS UNIV OPERATING GRADUATE SCHOOL	2,273,956	2,342,175	2,412,440
21345 GUGIA OPERATING APPROP GUGIA RENTAL	195,738 <u>418,444</u>	201,610 <u>464,210</u>	207,658 <u>450,100</u>
21345 GUGIA OPERATING	614,162	665,820	657,758
LLU OPERATING GENERAL GRADUATE BIOLOGY	7,324,889 <u>300,000</u>	7,324,889 <u>300,000</u>	7,324,889 <u>300,000</u>
21455 LLU OPERATING	7,624,889	7,624,889	7,624,889
21560 OC OPERATING	1,108,866	1,142,132	1,176,396
51480 ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA	0	255,000	283,000
Sub-Total Institutions	<u>12,989,457</u>	<u>13,590,980</u>	<u>13,616,003</u>
Total Appropriations Non-Tithe	<u>23,521,414</u>	<u>24,323,846</u>	<u>24,761,755</u>
Grand Total Approp Tithe & Non-Tithe	<u>63,100,247</u>	<u>68,599,788</u>	<u>72,602,840</u>

**General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
2009 Appropriations Budget**

AC 2008

	Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009
V. Special Funding - Tithe			
Institutional Programs - Tithe			
11050 AWR HEADQUARTERS	1,377,000	1,418,310	1,460,859
Total Special Funding - Tithe	<u>1,377,000</u>	<u>1,418,310</u>	<u>1,460,859</u>
V. Special Funding - Non-Tithe			
Division Programs - Non-Tithe			
52030 Appropriations, Special:			
EOD - EAST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION	56,100	57,783	59,516
EASTERN EUROPE FIN AFFAIRS COM	91,800	94,554	97,391
EUD - EURO-AFRICA DIVISION	71,400	73,542	75,748
IAD - INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION	76,500	78,795	81,159
NSD - NORTHERN ASIA PACIFIC DIV	51,000	52,530	54,106
UNENTERED TERRITORIES	<u>45,900</u>	<u>47,277</u>	<u>48,695</u>
	96,900	99,807	102,801
SAD - SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION	71,400	73,542	75,748
SOUTH AMERICAN DIV WHAST	61,200	63,036	64,927
	<u>132,600</u>	<u>135,252</u>	<u>140,675</u>
SID-SOUTHERN AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN DIV	51,000	52,530	54,106
SPD - SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION	51,000	52,530	54,106
SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION (SERVSDA)	96,900	99,807	102,801
SSD - SOUTHERN ASIA PACIFIC DIVISION	51,000	52,530	54,106
TED - TRANS-EUROPEAN DIVISION	173,400	178,602	183,960
WAD - WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION	56,100	57,783	59,516
Sub-total Division Programs	<u>1,004,700</u>	<u>1,033,515</u>	<u>1,065,896</u>

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 Non-Tithe**

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		Actual 2007	Budget 2008	Budget 2009
V. Special Funding (Cont'd)				
<i>Institutional Programs - Non-Tithe</i>				
11011	838NAD APPROPRIATIONS TO MAD SERVICEMENS CENTER - KOREA	35,700	36,771	37,874
11018	838AIAS APPROPRIATIONS TO AIAS	30,800	31,518	32,464
11050	838AWR APPROPRIATIONS TO AWR	122,400	126,072	129,854
AU SPECIALS:				
21040	838AU APPROPRIATIONS TO ANDREWS UNIV GRAD SCHOOL & SEM LIB BOOKS	51,000 <u>127,500</u>	52,530 <u>131,325</u>	54,106 <u>135,265</u>
21350	838HSI APPROPRIATIONS TO GUGIA	241,230	248,467	255,921
61708	ADVENTIST TELEVISION NETWORK OPERAT	<u>30,800</u>	<u>31,518</u>	<u>32,464</u>
Sub-Total Institutional Programs		<u>639,030</u>	<u>658,201</u>	<u>677,947</u>
Total Special Funding - Non-Tithe		<u><u>1,643,730</u></u>	<u><u>1,691,716</u></u>	<u><u>1,743,833</u></u>
Grand Total Special Funding		<u><u>3,020,730</u></u>	<u><u>3,110,028</u></u>	<u><u>3,204,692</u></u>

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 2009 Appropriations Budget
 Non-Tithe**

AC 2008

Restricted Funds	52028	APPROPRIATIONS	Actual	Budget	Budget	Increase	2007
			2007	2008	2009	(Decrease)	Investment Amount
838ECD		APPROPRIATIONS TO ECD	105,038	109,760	118,349	8,589	13.15%
838ESD		EASTERN EUROPE FIN AFFAIRS COM	31,042	37,370	41,822	4,452	4.65%
838EUD		APPROPRIATIONS TO EUD	54,158	56,593	62,771	6,178	6.97%
838IAD		APPROPRIATIONS TO IAD	45,109	47,137	52,283	5,146	5.81%
838NSD		APPROPRIATIONS TO NSD	38,960	40,711	45,156	4,445	5.02%
838SAD		APPROPRIATIONS TO SAD	65,146	68,075	75,507	7,432	8.39%
838SID		APPROPRIATIONS TO SID	96,324	100,655	108,250	7,595	7.59%
838SPD		APPROPRIATIONS TO SPD	42,247	44,147	48,966	4,819	5.44%
838SSD		APPROPRIATIONS TO SSD	74,801	78,164	86,697	8,533	9.63%
838SERVSDA		APPROPRIATIONS TO SUD (SERVSDA)	61,158	63,908	70,885	6,977	7.88%
838TED		APPROPRIATIONS TO TED	87,997	91,953	101,992	10,039	11.33%
838WAD		APPROPRIATIONS TO WAD	78,020	81,528	87,322	5,794	9.70%
Total Restricted Funds			780,000	820,000	900,000	79,999	100.00%

Divisions who can make adjustments within their budgets with out these funds are encouraged to release their allocations of this appropriation to the GC 10/40 Window Fund

General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
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Divisions:	Base Appropriations			Special Appropriations			Total
	Title	Non-Title	Total	Title	Non-Title	Total	
APPROPRIATIONS TO ECD	3,003,179	1,460,555	4,463,734	59,516	59,516	4,523,250	
EASTERN EUROPE FIN AFFAIRS COM	1,305,306	289,342	1,574,648	97,391	97,391	1,672,039	
APPROPRIATIONS TO EUD	1,589,005	774,395	2,363,400	75,748	75,748	2,439,148	
APPROPRIATIONS TO IAD	912,436	1,056,086	1,968,522	81,159	81,159	2,049,681	
APPROPRIATIONS TO NSD	1,521,507	178,657	1,700,164	102,801	102,801	1,802,965	
APPROPRIATIONS TO SAD	1,806,148	1,036,762	2,842,910	140,675	140,675	2,983,585	
APPROPRIATIONS TO SPD	1,039,897	803,747	1,843,634	54,106	54,106	1,897,740	
APPROPRIATIONS TO SID	2,968,978	1,114,503	4,083,481	54,106	54,106	4,137,587	
APPROPRIATIONS TO SSD (SERVSDA)	1,717,489	951,410	2,668,899	102,801	102,801	2,771,700	
APPROPRIATIONS TO SSD	2,086,979	1,177,265	3,264,244	54,106	54,106	3,318,350	
APPROPRIATIONS TO TED	2,811,215	1,028,891	3,840,106	183,960	183,960	4,024,066	
APPROPRIATIONS TO TED-Special	1,150,000	0	1,150,000	0	0	1,150,000	
APPROPRIATIONS TO WAD	2,147,985	1,147,589	3,295,534	59,516	59,516	3,355,050	
APPROPRIATION FOR 1040 WINDOW	1,209,000	0	1,209,000	0	0	1,209,000	
	25,289,084	10,999,182	36,288,276	1,085,886	1,085,886	37,334,162	
Institutions:							
ADRA	201,274	752,660	953,934	0	0	953,934	
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA	0	263,000	263,000	0	0	263,000	
ADVENTIST WORLD RADIO	346,278	111,712	457,990	129,854	1,590,713	2,048,703	
AIAS	216,478	617,148	833,626	32,464	32,464	866,090	
ANDREWS UNIVERSITY	1,676,480	2,412,440	4,088,930	189,371	189,371	4,278,301	
GRI	1,068,315	0	1,068,315	0	0	1,068,315	
GRIGGS UNIVERSITY/GIA	65,576	657,758	723,334	255,921	255,921	979,255	
LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY	2,750,230	7,624,889	10,375,119	0	0	10,375,119	
OAKWOOD COLLEGE	0	1,176,396	1,176,396	0	0	1,176,396	
WHITE ESTATE	2,287,859	0	2,287,859	0	0	2,287,859	
	8,612,500	13,616,003	22,228,503	607,610	2,068,468	24,296,971	
Institutional Svcs:							
ADVENTIST TELEVISION NETWORK	3,180,570	0	3,180,570	32,464	32,464	3,213,034	
COUNCIL ON EVANGEL & WITNESS	558,000	0	558,000	0	0	558,000	
GCAS - HQ	1,620,443	0	1,620,443	0	0	1,620,443	
HIV-AIDS - AFRICA	53,045	86,570	139,615	0	0	139,615	
INTL HEALTH FOOD ASSN	98,946	0	98,946	0	0	98,946	
MAD - PARL LIBERTY MAGAZINE	100,000	0	100,000	0	0	100,000	
MAD-SERVICE/MENT CENTER-KOREA	0	0	0	37,874	37,874	37,874	
GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS	160,000	0	160,000	0	0	160,000	
PUBLISHING PROGRAMS	1,269,572	0	1,269,572	0	0	1,269,572	
EXCESS AVIATION & LAB INS	1,800,000	0	1,800,000	0	0	1,800,000	
	8,840,576	86,570	8,927,146	70,338	70,338	8,997,484	
IDE PROGRAM							
GENERAL CONF AUDITING SERVICE						24,449,096	
GRAND TOTAL						8,202,903	
						103,280,616	

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 13, 2008, 2:00 p.m.

Eugene Hsu, chair, called to order the fifth session of the 2008 Annual Council.

Prayer was offered by Lisa S Choi, layperson from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division.

08AC to TNCW

CONNECTING WITH JESUS—REPORT

James R Nix, Director of the Ellen G White Estate, presented a report on *Connecting With Jesus*, a global project focusing on the distribution of books written by Ellen G White. G Ralph Thompson is coordinating the project with each of the world division offices. Most of the divisions are moving forward with implementation of the program which includes providing ten of Ellen G White's books along with study guides at an inexpensive price to two million families in multiple languages. The General Conference, as well as some individuals, has subsidized the program with three million dollars collectively.

VOTED, To record receipt of the *Connecting With Jesus* project report.

08AC to LCC

GENERAL CONFERENCE AUDITING SERVICE—REPORT

The General Conference Auditing Service (GCAS) annual report for 2007 was presented by Paul H Douglas, Director of GCAS. Operating from office locations in forty-five countries, GCAS currently has a staff of approximately 200 professionals with a shared mission to serve God by delivering excellent audit services to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In its service to more than 2,700 denominational organizations above the level of a local congregation, the GCAS leadership team, supported by the GCAS Board, is very intentional in recruiting and retaining the right people; re-engineering the audit process to ensure that it is efficient and

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leverages the best available technologies; providing a product of audit reports that are timely to support effective financial oversight; creating partnerships to assist the Church in developing its accounting professionals; and managing client relationships so that perceptions will match the reality of excellence being delivered.

VOTED, 1. To record receipt of the General Conference Auditing Service annual report for 2007.

2. To request that administrations of divisions and unions receive General Conference Auditing Service reports containing information specific to their territories with a view to using such information as a basis for setting specific objectives and outlining procedures to ensure credibility and transparency in financial management practices within the territory concerned.

08AC to EH

ADVENTIST INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES—REPORT

Stephen R Guptill, President of Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIIAS), presented a report on the institution. AIIAS, an international school and a General Conference institution, consists of a theological seminary, a school of graduate studies, and offers programs in theology, ministry, health, education, and business. AIIAS was the first Seventh-day Adventist institution to offer a doctoral program in business. The institution currently offers programs on campus, at distance learning centers, and online. Many who have earned degrees at AIIAS work as denominational educators, division administrators, and governmental leaders.

VOTED, To record receipt of the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies report.

08AC to GDK

BIBLICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE—REPORT

Angel M Rodriguez, Director of Biblical Research Institute (BRI), reported that during the last two years, BRI staff has produced 100 articles including Bible study guides, books, and newsletters. The Institute's focus is to generate practical, doctrinal, and theological materials useful to Adventist Bible teachers, pastors, and interested church members for their

own personal edification and as they minister to others. It also encourages personal Bible study and promotes commitment to the Christ-centered message and the mission of the Church. BRI provides reliable information about Seventh-day Adventist thinking and theology to the larger Christian and non-Christian communities.

VOTED, To record receipt of the Biblical Research Institute report.

FinPl&Bud08AC/08AC to LCC

APPROPRIATIONS REVIEW COMMISSION—REPORT

The Annual Council received a report from Lowell C Cooper regarding the work of the Appropriations Review Commission appointed by the Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee. The Commission's task was to review the current pattern for distributing world resources through the General Conference budget. In recent months, the Commission consulted with twenty-two organizations (divisions, institutions, and services) that receive financial assistance through the General Conference budget. The Commission concludes that there is justification for adjusting appropriation levels, both in the direct financial assistance provided as well as in the interdivision employee program. The Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee approved a proposal from the Commission concerning a process to determine appropriation adjustments. The Commission will submit to the Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee (April 2009) its recommendations regarding these adjustments.

VOTED, To record receipt of the Appropriations Review Commission report.

MinSer&StrucCom/08AC to JP

COMMISSION ON MINISTRIES, SERVICES, AND STRUCTURES (GCC-S)— REPORT

VOTED, To record receipt of the Commission on Ministries, Services, and Structures (GCC-S) report as follows:

INTRODUCTION

The Commission on Ministries, Services, and Structures reported to the 2007 Annual Council with recommendations concerning flexibility in organizational structure. The Commission then addressed a second phase of its assignment, a review of ministries and services—particularly those located at or funded (in full or in part) by the General Conference

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office. This report presents the Commission's recommendations regarding these ministries and services.

The assignment for the Commission came in the context of discussions concerning denominational structure as it relates to the need for and placement of special ministries and services. On several occasions over the past twenty years, questions have been raised concerning the functions and services of departments in denominational structure. A series of commissions¹ studied the matter, primarily from the perspective of whether or not the needs of the global Church are best served by the current range of departments and services based at the General Conference. The thirteen world divisions also provide services through department structures for their territory. In most cases, the department structure at divisions is patterned after the range of departments at the General Conference office.

Although several studies were undertaken and various recommendations formulated, the discussion of department roles, functions, and location has not been concluded through definitive actions of the General Conference Executive Committee. The report of the Ministries and Services Review Commission (April 2005) was referred to the current Commission on Ministries, Services, and Structures so that the matter might be addressed within the larger context of denominational structure.

SCOPE OF ASSIGNMENT

The Commission appointed a Ministries and Services Review Steering Committee and assigned to it the task of reviewing eighteen departments and services (see table below) based at the General Conference office. Administrative offices and other service structures located at the General Conference were not included in the present assignment either because the nature of the service is not provided elsewhere in denominational structure or because the service is supervised by a board or committee with global representation.

Both current and earlier discussions about departments and services focused primarily on the question of the most effective location of these functions. There is general consensus that a range of support functions, provided through departments and other specialized services, is needed in the Church. Concern for efficient and effective delivery of services has focused the dialog on the relation of the General Conference to its division offices, especially in reference to the departments selected for this review.

¹ These include the Role and Function Commission (1989), the Commission on World Church Organization (1995), the Structural Consultation Committee report (1999), and the Ministries and Services Review Commission (2005).

GENERAL CONFERENCE DEPARTMENTS/SERVICES SELECTED FOR REVIEW

1. Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide
2. Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries
3. Adventist Mission
4. Children's Ministries
5. Communication
6. Education
7. Family Ministries
8. Global Centers (Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Secular and Postmodernism)
9. Health Ministries
10. International Health Food Ministry (formerly IHFA)
11. Ministerial Association (including Shepherdess International and *Ministry* magazine)
12. Public Affairs and Religious Liberty
13. Publishing Ministries
14. Sabbath School/Personal Ministries
15. Stewardship
16. Trust Services
17. Women's Ministries
18. Youth Ministries (including *Amicus* magazine, especially for SDA youth in public universities)

The Steering Committee chose to address the question by conducting a survey to ascertain: 1) The extent to which divisions rely on the departments and services of the General Conference; and 2) The capacity of divisions to provide departmental services without reliance on the General Conference departments. Each of the thirteen divisions responded to the survey.

The Steering Committee did not assume that decisions regarding the location of departments and services would be determined by division survey responses alone. Instead, the division responses would provide one critical element of information—the extent to which divisions rely on the range of services based at the General Conference office. Even if all divisions indicated little need, if any, to rely on a particular service provided from the General Conference office, it would still be necessary to determine, from the viewpoint of General Conference and world leadership, the role of such services as a function of the General Conference office.

SURVEY RESULTS

The Commission reviewed the division responses and, with the exception of one cost center, finds general affirmation for and reliance upon the services provided from the General Conference departments. (Survey questions and a summary statement of responses for each department are shown on pages 145 to 148 of this report.) Apart from the recommendation below, the Commission brings no other proposal for major change or continued study at this time concerning the role and function of departments at the General Conference.

RECOMMENDED, That the General Conference Executive Committee authorize discontinuation of the role and function of the International Health Food Ministry, as a General

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Conference sponsored service entity, effective July 1, 2010, and that divisions currently utilizing the services of IHFM be informed accordingly.

[NOTE: It should be understood that the General Conference Executive Committee may take final action on this recommendation. It is not necessary to refer this action to the General Conference Session for ratification since the International Health Food Ministry is not listed in Article X of the General Conference Bylaws as one of the departments whose director is elected at a General Conference Session.]

It is also clear from the survey that divisions do not have equal levels of need for the services of all departments. Some divisions are capable of taking full responsibility for providing the range of services now offered by specific departments at the General Conference. Perhaps it is for this reason that a decision about the continuation of department functions at the General Conference office or their relocation is so complex. An “either/or” decision does not seem to provide sufficient resolution to the questions. Such a conclusion is consistent with the information coming from earlier studies. Though recommendations were made from earlier commissions, the General Conference Executive Committee has yet to adopt a specific course of action.

The varied needs of divisions for department services suggest a role for administrative consultation between the General Conference and its divisions as to where the energies of General Conference-based departments and services might best be focused. It should not be assumed that all departments serve all divisions equally. Instead, there should be flexibility in the scope and extent of departmental services provided to divisions.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In its review of the Steering Committee’s report relating to the role, function, and location of departments and services, the Commission also considered two related matters: 1) How departments and service entities are established, modified, or discontinued from time to time; and 2) How department and service entity leadership is selected. Reflection on these questions suggests that there may be steps that could accelerate the decision-making process, provide for flexibility in structures, and ensure sufficient deliberation as to staffing needs.

Perhaps the main focus in addressing these matters revolves around the role of a General Conference Session (hereafter referred to as Session) and the role of the General Conference Executive Committee (hereafter referred to as Executive Committee) at an Annual Council. Both bodies have global representation. The Session is the voice of a constituency. The Executive Committee is the voice of a globally representative group elected by the Session and is delegated the authority, between sessions, to act on behalf of the General Conference in session.

The organization into departments of many General Conference office support services to the world field had its origin at the 1901 Session. Although there have been changes and additions to the departments through the decades, the final decision as to the establishment of departments and some service units has required Session approval. Current General Conference Bylaws list the departments by name and then, with respect to structural changes, describe the role of the Executive Committee and the Session as follows:

“ . . . Should changes to the departmental structure of the General Conference be deemed necessary, such changes may be approved by action of the Executive Committee in Annual Council, subject to ratification at the next General Conference Session.”—General Conference Bylaws, Article X, Departments and Associations—Directors/Secretaries, Associates, and Assistants, Sec. 1.

The same General Conference Bylaws article provides that departmental and association directors/secretaries and associate directors/secretaries shall be elected by the Session.

In recent times, the roster of departments has been adjusted by Sessions in the following ways:

1985 General Conference Session	Organized several separate departments into the Church Ministries Department
1995 General Conference Session	Regrouped the functions and services of the Church Ministries Department by creating separate Youth, Stewardship, and Family Ministries departments. Renamed the remaining cluster of services as the Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department. Also introduced a new department, Children’s Ministries.

The listing of departments, under General Conference Bylaws Article X (see above), does not fully account for the present range of services provided from the General Conference. The 1985 Annual Council adopted working definitions for “departments” and “services” that provide some clarification as to the differences in function. Several new services, though not formally established as departments, function in a quasi-department fashion. These services have been set up with Executive Committee approval and reflect an ongoing response to changing needs within the world Church.

The following services have been added within the last 20+ years. Some of these have similarities to departments in that they serve all divisions, with directors having counterparts in

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divisions and/or unions. Others have functions somewhat different from the regular department structures at the General Conference.

1. International Health Food Association (1987) involving a name change from World Foods Service and adoption of a new policy statement.
2. Global Mission (1990)
3. Office of Mission Awareness (1993)
4. Office of Global Leadership (1995)
5. Institute of World Mission (1996)
6. Adventist Television Network (The Hope Channel) (1997)
7. Center for Global Evangelism (2003)
8. Office of Adventist Mission (2005) involving a reconfiguration of Global Mission and the Office of Mission Awareness
9. Office of Program Impact and Appraisal (2007)
10. Office of Global Software and Technology (2007)

A notable feature about these services is that they have been established by action of the Executive Committee (at Annual Councils) without the intention of obtaining ratification from a Session for them to be regarded as departments. Further, the selection of personnel to lead these services is made by the Executive Committee. The directors of these services are not elected to these assignments by a Session.

This illustrates an important dynamic in the global Church. Change introduces new conditions and new service needs. The Executive Committee needs to be able to respond in a timely manner to these situations. In the past, no department structure change, either addition or discontinuation, was implemented prior to Session approval. In the view of the Commission, the right of the Session with respect to General Conference office department structure would not be compromised by granting the Executive Committee the ability to implement changes between sessions.

Therefore, the Commission presents two recommendations for consideration by Annual Council. If adopted, both will require amendments to the General Conference Bylaws and thus need presentation to and approval by a Session.

These recommendations are expressed as concepts (see below) and several reasons cited in support of each. The first gives further clarity to the role of the Executive Committee respecting the implementation of changes in departmental structure. The second recommendation relates to the selection process for associate directors of departments at the General Conference.

Possible amendments to General Conference Bylaws which would reflect the Commission's recommendations are shown below *for illustrative purposes only*. The Commission proposes that the concepts identified below be approved by the Executive Committee with the understanding that related amendments to the General Conference Bylaws and/or policies would be referred to the appropriate committees for study. Recommendations for changes to the General Conference Bylaws would be brought to a future meeting of the Executive Committee for its review and recommendation to the next Session. Amendments to accommodate these concepts in General Conference *Working Policy* would be presented for approval by Annual Council.

RECOMMENDATION #1

RECOMMENDED, That the role of the Executive Committee, with respect to approving and implementing changes to departmental structure, be exercised without the requirement of obtaining prior approval from a Session. However, the Session retains the prerogative to grant or withhold its consent on such changes.

A rationale in support of this recommendation includes:

1. Authorizing the Executive Committee at an Annual Council to implement department changes before informing the Session permits the world leadership of the Church (i.e. the Executive Committee) to respond more dynamically to changes and developments in the world field.
2. Authorizing the Executive Committee at an Annual Council to implement department changes before informing the Session is consistent with the Executive Committee's authority to establish and operate union and union of churches structures before presenting such actions to a Session for formal validation.

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3. The Executive Committee, representing global leadership of the Church, may be the body most informed, and thus best equipped, to make decisions regarding the need of the Church for new or modified department structures.

RECOMMENDATION #2

RECOMMENDED, That the election of associate directors/secretaries for General Conference departments and associations be accomplished at the first Annual Council following a Session instead of during the Session itself.

A rationale in support of this recommendation includes:

1. Reducing the heavy nominating committee agenda at a Session will allow more time for deliberation on candidates for other offices including department director/secretary positions.

2. Newly elected directors/secretaries would not have to make hasty decisions in working with the Session Nominating Committee on the recommendation of associates. A period of time (between the Session and Annual Council) would allow for careful thought and research regarding the range of expertise and skill needed to fulfil effectively the department's role and function.

3. Reducing the number of elected positions at a Session places some restriction on the ability of the Session to address issues of national, cultural, and linguistic diversity in the General Conference staff. However, this matter may also be addressed by the Executive Committee at an Annual Council. In denominational organization, apart from the Session itself, the Executive Committee is the body with the largest and most globally diverse membership.

General Conference Bylaws amendments *illustrating* the recommendations shown above:

ARTICLE X—DEPARTMENTS AND ASSOCIATIONS— DIRECTORS/SECRETARIES, ASSOCIATES AND ASSISTANTS

~~Sec. 1. Departmental and association directors/secretaries and associate directors/secretaries shall be elected by the General Conference Session and assistants shall be appointed as determined by the General Conference Executive Committee to serve the world Church through the Ministerial Association and the following departments: Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries, Children's Ministries, Communication, Education, Family Ministries, Health Ministries, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, Publishing Ministries, Sabbath School and Personal Ministries, Stewardship, Trust Services, Women's Ministries, and Youth Ministries. Directors/Secretaries for departments and associations established to serve the world Church~~

from the General Conference shall be elected by the General Conference Session. Associate directors/secretaries shall be elected at the first Annual Council following a General Conference Session. Assistant directors/secretaries shall be elected as determined by the General Conference Executive Committee.

Should changes to the departmental structure of the General Conference be deemed necessary, such changes may be approved and implemented by action of the General Conference Executive Committee in Annual Council ~~subject to ratification at the next General Conference Session.~~ prior to obtaining General Conference Session endorsement for the changes. When additions or changes to department or association structures are implemented at times other than in connection with a General Conference Session, the General Conference Executive Committee at an Annual Council shall also address the staffing needs involved until the next General Conference Session.

SURVEY QUESTIONS FOR EIGHTEEN GENERAL CONFERENCE DEPARTMENTS

1. The nature of services provided by this cost center requires that it continue to be based at the General Conference office. (If the response is “Agree”, it is not necessary to complete items 2 through 6 for this cost center. Please proceed to the next cost center section.)	Disagree _____ Not sure _____ Agree _____
2. The extent to which this division relies on the GC office for the services of this cost center.	Low reliance _____ Medium reliance _____ High reliance _____
3. The extent to which this division employs personnel to provide services similar or complementary to the services provided by this GC cost center.	Full-time personnel _____ Part-time personnel _____ No assigned personnel _____
4. The needs of this division for the services addressed by this GC cost center could be fully provided from the division without reliance on this GC-based cost center.	Disagree _____ Not sure _____ Agree _____

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5. If the answer to #4 is “Disagree” or “Not sure”— proceed to #6. If the answer to #4 is “Agree”, provide an answer to this statement: This division is capable and prepared to take full responsibility for this cost center’s services by the end of 2010. In other words, this division will not require or expect services from this GC cost center following the close of this quinquennium.	Disagree _____ Not sure _____ Agree _____
6. This division will require and expect services from this GC cost center for at least another quinquennium.	Disagree _____ Not sure _____ Agree _____

SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS FOR EIGHTEEN GENERAL CONFERENCE DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

1. Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide: Twelve of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office.

2. Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries: Six of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. Four divisions disagreed with the statement, three were not sure. Seven divisions expressed low or medium reliance on the services of this department.

3. Adventist Mission: Twelve of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office.

4. Children’s Ministries: Nine of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. Three divisions indicated they were fully prepared to take full responsibility for this department by the end of 2010.

5. Communication: Eleven of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. The two divisions that did not agree with the statement indicated a need for continuation of this General Conference-based department for at least another quinquennium.

6. Education: Eleven of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. The two divisions that disagreed with

the statement also indicated a need for services from this department for at least another quinquennium.

7. Family Ministries: Nine of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. Three divisions expressed readiness to assume full responsibility for these services by the end of 2010.

8. Global Study Centers: Ten of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. Three divisions expressed low reliance on the services of these centers.

9. Health Ministries: Ten of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. However, two of the divisions that did not agree with the first statement indicated a need for services from this department for at least another quinquennium.

10. International Health Food Ministry: Three of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. Only one division expressed a requirement and expectation for services from this cost center for at least another quinquennium.

11. Ministerial Association and Shepherdess: Twelve of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office.

12. Trust Services: Five of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. Of the eight remaining divisions, five disagreed and three were not sure, with only two of the eight expressing a requirement and expectation of services from this department for at least another quinquennium.

13. Public Affairs and Religious Liberty: Eleven of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office.

14. Publishing Ministries: Nine of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office.

15. Sabbath School and Personal Ministries: Twelve of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office.

16. Stewardship: Eight of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. Of the five remaining divisions, two

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disagreed and three were not sure, with only one of the eight expressing the requirement and expectation of services from this department for at least another quinquennium.

17. Women's Ministries: Eight of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. Of the five remaining divisions, two disagreed and three were not sure, with only one of the eight expressing the requirement and expectation of services from this department for at least another quinquennium.

18. Youth Ministries: Ten of thirteen divisions indicated that the nature of this service requires it to be based at the General Conference office. Of the three remaining divisions, two disagreed and one was not sure, none expressed the requirement and expectation for continued service from this department for at least another quinquennium.

MinSer&StrucCom/08AC to JP&LRE-Con&By+PolRev&Dev

262-08Ga INTERNATIONAL HEALTH FOOD ASSOCIATION—
DISCONTINUATION AS A GENERAL CONFERENCE-
SPONSORED ENTITY

VOTED, To authorize the discontinuation of the role and function of the International Health Food Ministry as a General Conference-sponsored service entity, effective July 1, 2010, and to inform divisions currently utilizing the services of IHFM accordingly.

MinSer&StrucCom/08AC to JP&LRE-Con&By+PolRev&Dev

262-08Gb CHANGES TO DEPARTMENTAL STRUCTURE—ROLE OF
THE GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

VOTED, 1. To endorse the concept that the role of the General Conference Executive Committee, with respect to approving and implementing changes to departmental structure, be exercised without the requirement of obtaining prior approval from a General Conference Session. However, the Session retains the prerogative to grant or withhold its consent on such changes; and further

2. To refer to the Constitution and Bylaws and the Policy Review and Development committees the task of preparing amendments to reflect this concept.

MinSer&StrucCom/08AC to JP&LRE-Con&By+PolRev&Dev

262-08Gc ELECTION OF ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS/SECRETARIES
OF GENERAL CONFERENCE DEPARTMENTS AND
ASSOCIATIONS

VOTED, 1. That the election of associate directors/secretaries for General Conference departments and associations be accomplished at the first Annual Council following a General Conference Session instead of during the General Conference Session itself; and further

2. To refer to the Constitution and Bylaws and Policy Review and Development committees the task of preparing amendments to reflect this concept.

MinSer&StrucCom/08AC to JP&LRE

COMMISSION ON MINISTRIES, SERVICES, AND STRUCTURES (GCC-S)—
RECOMMENDATIONS

VOTED, To present early at the 2010 General Conference Session the recommendations made by the Commission on Ministries, Services, and Structures for the role of the General Conference Executive Committee and the election of the associate directors/secretaries of General Conference departments and associations so that the changes, if accepted, can be implemented at that General Conference Session.

MinSer&StrucCom/08AC to JP&LRE

COMMISSION ON MINISTRIES, SERVICES, AND STRUCTURES (GCC-S)—
DISCONTINUE

VOTED, To discontinue the Commission on Ministries, Services, and Structures (GCC-S).

08AC to JP-ADCOM

PUBLISHING COMMISSION

VOTED, To establish a Publishing Commission to study General Conference publishing houses in the North American Division for the purpose of assessing and projecting publishing

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needs for the future, ensuring strong and effective operation. This action will be referred to the General Conference Administrative Committee for terms of reference and membership.

Prayer was offered by Shirley Chang, layperson from the North American Division.

Eugene Hsu, Chair

Agustin Galicia, Secretary

Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary

Susan Wolfe, Recording Secretary

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 14, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONAL

The devotional message entitled, “Worship Him,” was presented by Sally Lam-Phoon, Director of Women’s, Family, and Children’s ministries and Shepherdess International Coordinator for the Northern Asia-Pacific Division.

The Three Angels’ messages center on worship—worship of the God who created the heavens and the earth. It is a call to worship Him instead of the Beast; it is a call to remember that He is the Creator, the Lord of the Sabbath. As sinners, dare we come before God and His throne? What audacity! Yet, God has invited us to worship not because we are worthy, but because Jesus is worthy; not because we have a right to, but because Jesus has reclaimed that right on our behalf so that we can be called the sons and daughters of God.

Worship may be defined by three A’s: Adoration, Attitude, and Action.

We adore the God of Heaven because He made us, He knows us and He saved us—not because of any goodness in us, but through the grace extended by Jesus who has covered us with His righteousness. As sinful beings, we can’t even begin to understand true worship, but as we surrender and recognize our need of God, the Holy Spirit works alongside us to teach us.

When we focus on God in our worship on a daily basis, He changes us and keeps us in an attitude of worship that guides and colors our day-to-day living and being. His grace is infused into our very being, changing us, energizing us, and constraining us to action in mission as we yearn to fulfill His purpose in us by enlarging His Kingdom on earth in preparation for the glorious Kingdom to come where we will revel in our worship of the Lamb who is worthy of our honor and our praise.

Jan Paulsen, chair, called to order the sixth session of the 2008 Annual Council.

Prayer was offered by Gordon Bietz, President of Southern Adventist University.

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EDU/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/PreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

258-08G DIVISION BOARD OF EDUCATION - POLICY
AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC FE 20 55, Division Board of Education, to read as follows:

FE 20 55 Division Board of Education—1. Purpose—Each division shall - No change

2. Membership—The membership of these boards shall be appointed - No change

3. Meetings—These boards shall meet in full session at least once - No change

4. Functions—The functions of the division boards of education shall - No change

5. Authority Delegated by the International Board of Education—Division boards of education shall be authorized by the International Board of Education, upon request by the division board of education with demonstration of eligibility, to approve, revise, and close undergraduate programs; and to approve and, as necessary, close undergraduate professional institutions that offer programs of study leading to certificates, preparation for licensure, or other credentials below the graduate level. This authorization shall be ongoing as the division board of education continues to meet the requirements for eligibility. To be authorized by the International Board of Education to perform these functions, the division board of education must:

a. Demonstrate through its policies and practices that its mission and scope are consistent with International Board of Education and International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education policies for assuring the theological faithfulness and academic quality of its educational programs.

b. Demonstrate standards and processes for performing these functions at levels that are generally accepted for international higher education in accordance with International Board of Education and International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education policies, and policies of the division's respective governmental agency as required.

c. Provide written procedures that describe, officially and publicly:

1) The division's policies, processes, and procedures that govern decision-making for these functions.

2) The levels of approval available, scope of approval that may be granted, and evaluation standards and criteria used for decisions for approval, revision, and closure of programs and institutions.

d. Maintain policies and procedures for self-evaluation by programs and institutions, in addition to on-site review by visiting teams that include representation from the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities and International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education.

e. Establish specific goals and objectives for Seventh-day Adventist education within the division which are congruent with those of the International Board of Education.

f. Approve post-secondary undergraduate programs, with authorization from the International Board of Education, as follows:

1) Designate the institution(s) in which specific programs of study will be offered.

2) Review proposals from tertiary institutions and approve undergraduate programs.

3) Report to the International Board of Education approval of undergraduate programs prior to their start up.

g. Consult with the General Conference Education Department and administrators and faculty of higher education institutions in order to:

1) Provide guidelines for the selection of faculty in undergraduate programs.

2) Establish requirements for admission of students into undergraduate programs.

3) Stipulate undergraduate programs, as necessary, in consultation with the International Board of Education, to meet the needs of the world Church.

4) Provide guidance to each institution on the design of the overall curriculum for undergraduate programs.

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5) Establish, in consultation with the International Board of Education, a system of quality assurance that demonstrates accountability within the division and to the world Church; and establish a system of self-scrutiny by the division board of education and the tertiary institutions of the division for monitoring processes and outcomes of program decisions for approval, revision, and closure.

6) Maintain separate guidelines, policies, and processes for the establishment of undergraduate professional institutions that offer programs of study leading to certificates, preparation for licensure, or other credentials below the graduate level.

h. Cooperate with the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities in conducting accreditation visits to tertiary institutions.

i. Support and hold educational institutions accountable for responding to the recommendation(s) received from the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities.

6. Right of Appeal—Within 120 days of the division board of education issuing a decision, the involved institution may request reconsideration of the decision by the division board of education provided the request is based on new information. Such review may be supported by representation of no more than three persons appearing before a meeting of the division board of education. The division board of education in executive session shall then render its final decision. If, after the final decision is rendered by the division board of education, the matter is not resolved, written appeal by the institution may be made to the International Board of Education which shall have discretion to determine whether to accept the appeal for review.

7. In countries where the application of these procedures may seriously compromise the ongoing viability of an institution, because of the requirements of government and educational agencies, it is recognized that while the underlying principles will not differ, however, the application of those principles may vary.

EDU/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/PreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

259-08G DIVISION BOARDS OF MINISTERIAL AND THEOLOGICAL
EDUCATION - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC FE 20 25, Division Boards of Ministerial and Theological Education, to read as follows:

FE 20 25 Division Boards of Ministerial and Theological Education—1. Purpose - No change

2. Composition of the Division Board - No change
3. Meetings—The board shall hold regularly scheduled meetings at - No change
4. Executive Committee—The board may appoint an executive - No change
5. Duties of the Board - No change
6. Alternative Procedures—Divisions wishing to operate under - No change

7. Right of Appeal—Within 120 days of the division Board of Ministerial and Theological Education issuing a decision, the involved institution may request reconsideration of the decision by the division Board of Ministerial and Theological Education provided the request is based on new information. Such review may be supported by representation of no more than three persons appearing before a meeting of the division Board of Ministerial and Theological Education. The division Board of Ministerial and Theological Education in executive session shall then render its final decision. If, after the final decision is rendered by the division Board of Ministerial and Theological Education, the matter is not resolved, written appeal by the institution may be made to the International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education which shall have discretion to determine whether to accept the appeal for review. ~~Right of Appeal—Any action of the division Board of Ministerial and Theological Education involving a specific institution or program may be appealed by the same in writing within 120 days of notification of such action. Such an appeal may be supported by a representation of no more than three persons before a meeting of the division board. The division board in closed session shall then render its decision. In extreme and far-reaching decisions, further appeal may be made to the International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education.~~

EDU/GCDO08SM/ADCOM/GCDO08AC/08AC to ESS(DIV)

116-08G SUPPORTING RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY STUDIES IN THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

VOTED, To commit to promoting and supporting research and scholarly studies through sponsored projects on topics of need and interest to the Church by establishing a scholarship and grants oversight committee dedicated to this purpose, as outlined in the proposal, “Supporting Research and Scholarly Studies in the Seventh-day Adventist Church,” which reads as follows:

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THE NEED

The quest for understanding, which is at the heart of research and scholarly study, encourages discovery and creativity. Research can generate new knowledge and lead to new products and processes that will improve the quality of human life, a goal for the Church. Research contributes to resolutions for solving problems in the human experience. Seventh-day Adventist scholars should be active world citizens who contribute to research and development in all areas of public discourse for meeting the needs of the human condition.

Today's fundamental investigations will provide tomorrow's knowledge, largely determining the quality of life for future generations through the end times. Yet, the Church's support of research and scholarly studies involves more than just the research or the study itself. It serves to place Seventh-day Adventists at the forefront in public life, participating in their communities as sources of enlightenment from positions of both intellectual and spiritual authority.

We are called to be lights in and to the world. Scholars can reach populations for which others hold little credibility. Therefore, Seventh-day Adventist scholars should be leaders in identifying solutions to the world's problems and for creating and advancing innovations through scholarly activity in matters of most concern to the world, including, for example:

1. Cultural awareness
2. Economic development
3. Education
4. Energy conservation and protection of the environment
5. Health and social enhancements
6. Religious and spiritual development

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

Purpose of Program: The Seventh-day Adventist Research and Studies Program shall provide scholarships and grants to members of the Church to conduct research and scholarly studies to improve and strengthen the Church's knowledge base and contributions in selected areas of inquiry and development. Specific priority requests for research and study will be identified and published annually. These priorities will focus on issues and areas of investigation

for which the Church has a particular need or interest. However, other research and study topics will be considered for funding as submitted and determined appropriate for Church support.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Applicants: Members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church who are in regular standing and who are deemed by a scholarship and grants oversight committee to be qualified and competent in the field of proposed research or study will be eligible to apply for these funds.

APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

All applications for funding will be processed through a scholarship and grants oversight committee and will be evaluated through a peer-review procedure that is conducted by a panel of experts in the proposed field of study, including research design and methodology. The selection criteria by which the review panel will judge applications are as follows, for example:

1. Need for the project (10 points)
2. Usefulness of expected results (10 points)
3. Development of new knowledge (10 points)
4. Formulation of problems and knowledge of related research (10 points)
5. Specificity of statement of procedures (5 points)
6. Adequacy of methodology and scope of project (10 points)
7. Plan of operation (10 points)
8. Quality of key personnel (including regular standing in the Church, determined by inquiry at the division level) (10 points)
9. Budget and cost effectiveness (5 points)
10. Evaluation plan (15 points)
11. Adequacy of other resources necessary for the study (5 points)

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AWARD INFORMATION

Type of Awards: (1) Doctoral Degree Scholarships and Grants; (2) Seventh-day Adventist Research and Study Grants.

Amount of Awards: Program funding levels will be determined in the General Conference annual budgeting process. The size of awards will vary by project need and funds available. The number of awards will vary by the array of project needs and funds available. Project periods will range up to 36 months.

ADCOM/ADCOM/08AC to GDK-10GCS

125-08GS BELARUS CONFERENCE—CHANGE OF STATUS

RECOMMENDED, To grant union of churches with conference status to the Belarus Conference in the Euro-Asia Division, effective November 13, 2008.

ADCOM/ADCOM/08AC to GDK-10GCS

126-08GS MOLDOVA UNION CONFERENCE—CHANGE OF STATUS

RECOMMENDED, To grant union of churches with conference status to the Moldova Union Conference in the Euro-Asia Division, effective November 25, 2008.

ADCOM/ADCOM/08AC to GDK-10GCS

127-08GS FAR EASTERN MISSION—CHANGE OF STATUS

RECOMMENDED, To grant union of churches with mission status to the Far Eastern Mission in the Euro-Asia Division, effective November 5, 2008.

ADCOM/ADCOM/08AC to AM-10GCS

129-08GS NORTH BRAZIL UNION MISSION—REORGANIZATION

RECOMMENDED, To reorganize the North Brazil Union Mission in the South American Division into two union missions:

1. Northwest Brazil Union Mission with constituency from Amazonas-Roraima Conference, Central Amazon Conference, West Amazon Conference, South Rondonia Conference; and
2. North Brazil Union Mission with constituency from Lower Amazon Conference, South Para Conference, Maranhao Mission, and South Maranhao Mission, effective January 1, 2010.

ADVENTIST TELEVISION NETWORK, INC—MEMBER MEETING

At 10:35 a.m., a member meeting of Adventist Television Network, Inc convened, after which the business session of the General Conference Executive Committee reconvened.

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/08AC to LRE-10GCS

218-08GS MEMBERSHIP - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article IV—Membership, to read as follows:

ARTICLE IV—MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 1. The membership of the General Conference shall consist of:

a. All ~~union conferences and union missions~~ unions that have been or shall be properly organized and accepted by vote of the General Conference in Session.

b. All of the following entities that are directly attached to the General Conference or to a division:

- 4) ~~Union of churches~~

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⇒ 1) Local ~~Conferences~~ conferences

⇒ 2) Local mission and functional equivalents thereof - No change

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220-08GS APPOINTMENT - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article VII—Appointment, to read as follows:

ARTICLE VII—APPOINTMENT

The following shall be appointed at the first Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee following a regular session: a director of Archives and Statistics, a director and associate directors of ~~the~~ Biblical Research Institute, a director and associate directors of Geoscience Research Institute, and editors and associate editors for the principal denominational journals prepared at the ~~General Conference. Conference, and the membership of standing committees and various boards reserved for appointment by the General Conference~~ Executive Committee.

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE-10GCS

221-08GS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article VIII—Executive Committee, to read as follows:

ARTICLE ~~VIII—EXECUTIVE~~ VIII—GENERAL CONFERENCE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee of the General Conference shall consist of:

a. Ex officio members—1) Those elected as provided for in - No change

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2) Presidents of ~~unions, unions union conferences, presidents of union missions,~~ presidents of attached unions, past presidents of the General Conference holding credentials from the General Conference, the president-executive director of Adventist Development and Relief Agency International, the president of Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies, the editor of *Adventist Review*, *Review* and *Adventist World*, the editor of *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*, the president of Adventist Risk Management Incorporated, the president of Adventist University of Africa, the president-executive director of Adventist World Radio, the president of Andrews University, the director of Archives and Statistics, the director of Biblical Research Institute, the president of Christian Record Services Incorporated, the president and the ~~director~~ board chair of Ellen G White Estate, the president of Hope Channel, the director of Geoscience Research Institute, the president of Griggs University and International Academy, ~~the director of International Health Food Association, the president of Loma Linda University, the president of Loma Linda University Medical Center, the president of Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center,~~ the editor of *Ministry*, the president of Oakwood University, College, the president of Pacific Press Publishing Association, and the president of Review and Herald Publishing Association.

b. Elected Members—1) Three laypersons and one church pastor from each division without regard to ~~membership, and one membership size up to 500,000 members. One~~ additional church pastor or other frontline denominational employee for each additional 500,000 members or major portion thereof beyond the first 500,000 members. thereof. The above laypersons, pastors, and other denominational employees shall be selected by each division executive committee from individuals recommended by the union executive committees and shall be Seventh-day Adventists in regular standing. committees.

2) Thirty additional members selected by the - No change

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE-10GCS

222-08GS TERM OF OFFICE - CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article X—Term of Office, to read as follows:

ARTICLE X—TERM OF OFFICE

Sec. 1. All officers of the General Conference and those whose election - No change

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Sec. 2. Members of the General Conference Executive Committee provided for in Article VIII shall serve from the time of their election until the next regular session.

Sec. 3. All those who are appointed to serve the General Conference as provided for in Article ~~VII~~ VII, or who are appointed by the General Conference Executive Committee during the quinquennium, shall serve from the time they take up their appointment until their successors are appointed and take up their duties, or until the position is terminated. The appointments provided for in Article VII shall be reviewed at the first Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee following the General Conference Session.

Sec. 4. Service as outlined in Sec. 1. to Sec. 3. above may be - No change

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223-08GS CORPORATIONS - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article XI—Corporations, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XI—CORPORATIONS

Sec. 1. The establishment of corporations to serve the General Conference shall be authorized by ~~either a General Conference Session or by an Annual Council~~ of the General Conference Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. The General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists - No change

Sec. 3. At each regular General Conference Session, the delegates shall elect the ~~trustees~~ directors of the General Conference Corporation.

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE-10GCS

224-08GS BYLAWS - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

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

ARTICLE XII—BYLAWS

At any regular or special session of the General Conference, the delegates may enact, ~~amend~~ amend, or repeal Bylaws by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates present and voting. ~~bylaws.~~ Such actions may embrace any provision not inconsistent with the Constitution.

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE-10GCS

225-08GS AMENDMENTS - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article XIV—Amendments, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XIV—AMENDMENTS

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

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE-10GCS

226-08GS TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATION - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article I—Territorial Administration, to read as follows:

ARTICLE I—TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 1. The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter - No change

Sec. 2. The duly organized divisions are: East-Central Africa Division, Euro-Africa Division, Euro-Asia Division, Inter-American Division, North American Division, Northern Asia-Pacific Division, South American Division, South Pacific Division, Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division, Southern Asia Division, Southern Asia-Pacific Division, Trans-European Division, and West-Central Africa Division. The boundaries of these divisions shall be subject

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to adjustment ~~only at sessions of the General Conference or~~ at Annual Councils of the General Conference Executive Committee.

Sec. 3. If a territorial adjustment is made at an Annual Council, it shall be made only provided each division and other territory affected is represented at the council by at least one of its officers, or in the case of an unorganized territory, by a senior church leader from that territory. An exception to the requirement of such representation shall be made in a condition of emergency. In such a case, the General Conference Executive Committee shall make whatever adjustments are necessary for the conduct of the work in the territories affected.

Sec. 4. Administrations of all organizations and institutions within a division's territory shall be responsible to their respective executive committees/boards and operate in harmony with division and General Conference Executive Committee actions and policies. General Conference institutions and fields without divisional affiliation shall operate in harmony with the General Conference Executive Committee and its policies. ~~Union conferences and union missions, together with all other organizations and institutions within a division's territory, shall be responsible to that division's executive committee, or in the case of General Conference institutions and fields without divisional affiliation, to the General Conference Executive Committee.~~

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227-08GS SESSION COMMITTEES - CONSTITUTION
AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article II—Session Committees, to read as follows:

ARTICLE II—SESSION COMMITTEES

Sec. 1. At each regular session of the General Conference, such committees - No change

Sec. 2. Church Manual Committee: The chair of the Church Manual - No change

Sec. 3. Constitution and Bylaws Committee: The chair of the Constitution - No change

Sec. 4. Nominating Committee: a. The membership of the Nominating Committee shall consist of the following:

- 1) Each division and each attached union shall be - No change

- 2) Delegates at large who are excluded under - No change
- b. The members of the Nominating Committee shall be chosen as follows:
 - 1) ~~Each division delegation and each attached union delegation~~ The delegation of each division and attached union shall act as a unit in selecting members to which it is entitled. Excluded from this process shall be any delegates at large currently employed by the General Conference or its institutions.
 - 2) The delegates at large currently employed by the General Conference or its institutions shall act as a unit in selecting members to which they are entitled.
 - 3) The election of the above representatives on the - No change
- c. ~~Each division delegation and attached union delegation~~ The delegation of each division and attached union shall select its representatives on the Nominating Committee to represent, as far as possible, the various geographical areas, organizational segments, and types of activity of the territory.
- d. Those chosen as members of the Nominating Committee - No change
- e. Delegates holding elected positions under the provisions of Article VI, Sec. 1. of the Constitution shall not be members of the Nominating Committee.
- f. No delegate shall nominate more than one person for election - No change
- g. The Nominating Committee shall elect its own chair and - No change
- h. The Nominating Committee shall limit its nominations to - No change
- i. In order to expedite the work of the Nominating Committee, the representatives from each division shall be allowed a reasonable amount of time to meet and consider the personnel needs of their respective divisions and to make recommendations to the full Nominating Committee. Decisions of these groups shall not be binding on the Nominating Committee as a whole, but shall be submitted as recommendations which will be considered. ~~The Nominating Committee shall also recommend that the following North American Division officers serve the General Conference as listed below:~~

~~North American Division secretary to serve as General Conference associate secretary~~

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~~North American Division treasurer to serve as General Conference associate treasurer~~

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228-08GS GENERAL CONFERENCE VICE PRESIDENTS AND
DIVISION VICE PRESIDENTS - CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article III—General Conference Vice Presidents and Division Vice Presidents, to read as follows:

ARTICLE III—GENERAL CONFERENCE VICE PRESIDENTS
AND DIVISION VICE PRESIDENTS

Sec. 1. General vice presidents of the General Conference shall be elected - No change

Sec. 2. A general vice president of the General Conference ~~or the president of the North American Division shall, in the absence of~~ shall, in the absence of or at the discretion of the president, chair meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee.

Sec. 3. The role of the general vice presidents of the General Conference - No change

Sec. 4. The vice presidents of the General Conference elected for the divisions shall serve as ~~chairmen~~ chairs of the division executive committees operating in their respective territories; shall have oversight of the work in those territories under the direction of the division executive committees; and shall be designated within their respective division territories as presidents of the divisions over which they preside.

Sec. 5. Vice presidents of the divisions may be appointed by the division - No change

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232-08GS AUDITING SERVICE AND AUDITS - CONSTITUTION
AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article VIII—Auditing Service and Audits, to read as follows:

ARTICLE VIII—AUDITING SERVICE AND AUDITS

Sec. 1. At each regular General Conference Session, the General Conference shall elect a director of the General Conference Auditing Service, whose duties shall be to:

- a. Administer the conduct of audits - No change
- b. Monitor the overall audit program - No change
- c. Recommend to the General Conference - No change
- d. Report to the General Conference ~~President~~, Executive Committee, through the General Conference Auditing Service Board, on the overall audit program in the Church and the trends/issues that appear in the global picture of financial and policy administration.

Associate directors shall also be elected at each regular General Conference Session. The director and associate directors shall be recommended by the General Conference Auditing Service Board to the Session Nominating Committee after consultation with the administrations of the respective divisions.

References to service directors and associate service directors elsewhere in these Bylaws shall not apply to the director and associate directors of the General Conference Auditing Service, except as provided for in Article XIII, Sec. 1.c.

- Sec. 2. a. At each regular General Conference Session, the General - No change
- b. A quorum of the General Conference Auditing Service Board - No change

Sec. 3. The General Conference Auditing Service, ever sensitive to the country-specific regulations governing the audits of denominational entities in a particular country, serves as the denomination's preferred provider of auditing services for world divisions; ~~union conferences;~~ ~~union missions;~~ unions; conferences; missions; ~~unions of churches~~; affiliated services, organizations, and institutions of the General Conference and every other administrative level; Adventist Development and Relief Agency country and regional administrations and projects (not audited by external auditors); and special funds. Exceptions to the above global requirements shall be by specific action of the General Conference Executive Committee.

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233-08GSE DEPARTMENTS AND ASSOCIATIONS—DIRECTORS/
SECRETARIES, ASSOCIATES, AND ASSISTANTS -
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS EDITORIAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article X—Departments and Associations—Directors/Secretaries, Associates, and Assistants, to read as follows:

ARTICLE X—DEPARTMENTS AND ASSOCIATIONS—
DIRECTORS/SECRETARIES, ASSOCIATES, AND ASSISTANTS

Sec. 1. Departmental and association directors/secretaries and associate directors/secretaries shall be elected by the General Conference Session and assistants shall be appointed as determined by the General Conference Executive Committee to serve the world Church through the Ministerial Association and the following departments: Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries, Children’s Ministries, Communication, Education, Family Ministries, Health Ministries, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, Publishing Ministries, Sabbath School and Personal Ministries, Stewardship, Trust Services, Women’s Ministries, and Youth ~~Ministries..~~ Ministries.

Should changes to the departmental structure of the General Conference be deemed necessary, such changes may be approved by action of the General Conference Executive Committee in Annual Council, subject to ratification at the next General Conference Session.

Sec. 2. The departmental, association, agency, and service directors/secretaries shall work under the direction of the president and the General Conference Executive Committee. Departmental, association, agency, and service personnel shall function in an advisory capacity to the field.

Sec. 3. The term “associate director/secretary” shall be used to designate - No change

Sec. 4. The term “assistant director/secretary” shall be used to designate those persons who are appointed as determined by the General Conference Executive Committee to assist the director/secretary and associates in any department, association, agency, or service in carrying out the work of the General Conference, usually in one or more special procedures or functions. Such persons, who shall work under the direction of their respective departmental, association, agency, or service directors/secretaries, shall fulfill these special assignments largely in the office and serve to expedite the work of the departmental, association, agency, or service staff. Field appointments for assistants shall be of a very limited nature.

Sec. 5. Departmental and association directors/secretaries, associates, and assistants shall assist the executive officers of the General Conference in their leadership and nurture of the Church, by promoting the plans and programs of the Church as approved by the General Conference Executive Committee, and by facilitating the involvement of the membership in the mission of the Church. This will be accomplished through the production of resources and through promotion, consultation, coordination, and leadership development. Departmental plans and programs shall be developed and coordinated by the departments under the direction of an administrative officer, be processed through administration, and receive General Conference Executive Committee approval, whenever deemed advisable, before implementation and promotion in the field.

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234-08GS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article XIII—Executive Committee, to read as follows:

ARTICLE ~~XIII—EXECUTIVE~~
XIII—GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sec. 1. a. During the intervals between sessions of the General Conference, the General Conference Executive Committee is delegated the authority to act on behalf of the General Conference in session. The membership of the General Conference Executive Committee includes representatives of all the divisions of the world field and the presidents of all unions, ~~union conferences and union missions~~, and therefore speaks for the world Church. Major items affecting the world Church are considered at the Annual Council meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee, when all the members of the Committee are invited to be present. The authority, therefore, of the General Conference Executive Committee is the authority of the world Church.

b. The General Conference Executive Committee shall also have power to grant or withdraw credentials or licenses, to appoint committees, such as an administrative committee, with their terms of reference, to review, change, and create working policies, to approve strategic plans and programs for the world Church, and to employ personnel that may be necessary to execute its work effectively. effectively, and to take all necessary actions not otherwise reserved for the General Conference in session to assure the continuous effective operation of the world Church to fulfill its mission.

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c. The General Conference Executive Committee shall have power to elect or remove, for cause, officers, directors, and associate directors of departments/associations/ services and committee members, and to fill for the current term any vacancies that may occur in its offices, boards, committees, or agents due to death, resignation, or other reasons. The phrase “for cause,” when used in connection with removal from an elected or appointed position, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence; 2) persistent failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and with relevant employment and denominational policies; ~~and~~ 3) actions which may be the subject of discipline under the Church Manual. ~~Manual~~; or failure to maintain regular standing as a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

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

e. The removal from office by the General Conference Executive Committee of any person elected under Article VI, Sec. 1. of the Constitution or its withdrawal of credentials or licenses shall be by a ~~two-thirds~~ two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting at any ~~regular~~ duly called meeting.

f. The General Conference Executive Committee shall have the power to remove, for cause, members from the General Conference Executive Committee or any committee for which it is responsible by a ~~two-thirds~~ two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting at any ~~regular~~ duly called meeting.

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

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

Sec. 3. A majority of the full membership of the General Conference Executive Committee, including the president or a general vice president, is empowered to transact denominational business of any nature at any time and place. All meetings require notice to members as per Sec. 8. below.

Sec. 4. Any fifteen members of the General Conference Executive Committee, including an officer of the General Conference, ~~shall, after due notice to available members, shall~~ constitute a quorum of the General Conference Executive Committee for the disposition of routine items, and shall be empowered to transact business that is in harmony with the general plans outlined by the General Conference Executive Committee. ~~Committee at the designated place of meeting of the Executive Committee as hereinafter provided. A quorum of forty members~~ A quorum of forty members is required for the disposition of nonroutine items such as major financial decisions, the dismissal of elected and appointed employees, and the election of presidents of divisions and of general vice presidents. All meetings require notice to members as per Sec. 8. below.

Sec. 5. All meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee shall be held at the General Conference headquarters, or at another place that may be voted by the General Conference Executive Committee. Members may participate in meetings by means of a telephone conference or similar communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at such a meeting. All meetings require notice to members as per Sec. 8. below.

Sec. 6. Meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee may be called at any time by the ranking officer of the General Conference who may be present at headquarters, and this officer, or any member of the Committee appointed ~~by him~~, in harmony with Bylaws, Article III, Section 2., shall act as chair of the meeting.

Sec. 7. Local conference/mission/field presidents shall be invited to attend Annual Council meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee when it is held within the territory of their division. ~~Such~~ Unless an Executive Session, which consists of members only, is called, such invitees shall be extended the privilege of participation in all discussions of the meeting, but without vote. ~~privileges of full participation in all discussion and decision-making processes of the meeting.~~

Sec. 8. Notice as to time, place, and any other requirements under these Bylaws of all General Conference Executive Committee meetings shall be provided to all members in a reasonable manner at least three (3) days prior to the meeting if the meeting is to take place by telephone conference or similar communications, or at least fourteen (14) days if it is to take place in person. Divisions may send presidents of unions of churches to attend Annual Council meetings of the Executive Committee. Such invitees shall be extended the privileges of full participation in all discussion and decision-making processes of the meeting.

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235-08GS DIVISION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES - CONSTITUTION
AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article XIV—Division Executive Committees, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XIV—DIVISION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

Sec. 1. In each division, a division executive committee shall be constituted - No change

Sec. 2. The ex-officio members of a division executive committee shall be - No change

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

Sec. 4. Five members of a division executive committee, including the ~~Chair,~~ chair, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of routine business. When the chair is unable to be present, the secretary may convene such a meeting at division headquarters and shall serve as chair. Minority meetings of fewer than five members of the division executive committee may be held for the transaction of necessary routine business, but actions taken at such meetings shall not be final until the minutes of such meetings have been approved in a meeting with a quorum present. A quorum of ten members or 25 percent of the committee membership, whichever is greater, is required for the disposition of nonroutine items such as major financial decisions, the dismissal of elected and appointed employees, and the appointment of union mission officers. To the extent permitted by applicable law, division executive committee members may participate in meetings by means of a telephone conference or similar communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at such a meeting.

Sec. 5. Notice as to time, place, and other requirements under these Bylaws of all division executive committee meetings shall be provided to all members in a reasonable manner appropriate for the jurisdiction.

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236-08GS AUDIT OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE -
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article XV—Audit of the General Conference, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XV—AUDIT OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

The General Conference Executive Committee shall have an audit of the financial statements of the General Conference and of the General Conference Corporation conducted by an external auditor at least once each calendar year. The external auditor shall also conduct an annual policy compliance ~~audit~~ test of these organizations, and shall report annually the results of ~~these audits~~ the financial audit and policy compliance test to the General Conference Executive Committee and to the General Conference at its regular sessions.

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238-08GS APPROPRIATIONS - CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article XIX—Appropriations, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XIX—APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 1. The General Conference Executive Committee shall make its regular appropriations to the world field at Annual Councils. These appropriations are to be based on budget requests from the fields.

Sec. 2. Appropriations shall be made subject to the receipt of the full - No change

Sec. 3. Appropriations for major projects shall be held in trust for the - No change

Sec. 4. All funds raised in the divisions, except the regular funds belonging - No change

Sec. 5. To the extent permitted by law, General Conference funds in all the world shall be made available to meet the annual appropriations of the General Conference.

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240-08GS INDEMNIFICATION - CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article XXI—Indemnification, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XXI—INDEMNIFICATION

Sec. 1. To the extent permitted by law, the General Conference shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, because he/she is or was a member of the General Conference Executive ~~Committee~~ Committee, a delegate to a General Conference Session, or an officer, employee, or agent of the General Conference against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him/her in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding if he/she acted in good faith and in a manner he/she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the General Conference, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his/her conduct was unlawful.

Sec. 2. This right of indemnification shall be in addition to, and not exclusive of, all other rights to which such person ~~member of the Executive Committee or officer~~ may be entitled.

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209-08GS DIVISIONS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE -
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article III—Divisions of the General Conference, to read as follows:

ARTICLE III—DIVISIONS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

The General Conference conducts much of its work through its divisions, which in turn are comprised of ~~union conferences and union missions~~ unions in specific areas of the world. Each division is an ~~administrative unit~~ of the General Conference ~~with commensurate authority~~ is authorized to carry out responsibilities in the territory assigned to it. ~~It is not a separate constituent level of organization.~~ It shall act in full harmony with the General Conference

Constitution and Bylaws, the General Conference *Working Policy*, and actions of the General Conference Executive Committee.

In order to carry the authority of the General Conference, the actions of division committees shall, of necessity, be in harmony with and complementary to the decisions of the General Conference in Session, and the actions of the General Conference Executive Committee between Sessions.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT—REPORT

Rajmund Dabrowski showed a video which focused on building a bridge of hope through communication.

ADVENTIST CHAPLAINCY MINISTRIES—REPORT

Gary Councill and Mario Ceballos gave an overview of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries and what their priorities are for the future.

VOTED, To record receipt of the Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries report.

08AC to MAB

DANIEL, LUKA T—RESIGNATION

VOTED, To accept the resignation of Luka T Daniel, President of the West-Central Africa Division, for the purpose of retirement.

08AC to MAB

DANIEL, LUKA T—APPRECIATION

VOTED, To express appreciation to Luka T Daniel for his years of dedicated service to the General Conference as President of the West-Central Africa Division.

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08AC to MAB

FRIKART, ULRICH—RESIGNATION

VOTED, To accept the resignation of Ulrich Frikart, President of the Euro-Africa Division, for the purpose of retirement.

08AC to MAB

FRIKART, ULRICH—APPRECIATION

VOTED, To express appreciation to Ulrich Frikart for his years of dedicated service to the General Conference as President of the Euro-Africa Division.

08AC to LRE

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (GCC)—
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the General Conference Executive Committee (GCC), as follows:

Add	Daniel, Luka T, 30 members at large
	Frikart, Ulrich, 30 members at large

Prayer was offered by Ulrich Frikart, President of the Euro-Africa Division.

Jan Paulsen, Chair
G T Ng, Secretary
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary
Tamara K Boward, Recording Secretary

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 14, 2008, 2:00 p.m.

Pardon K Mwansa, chair, called to order the seventh session of the 2008 Annual Council.

Prayer was offered by Homer W Trecartin, Associate Secretary of the General Conference. Prayer was requested for the crisis in Iraq where the situation has worsened especially for Christians in the northern part of Iraq who have had to flee.

PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

244-08G ORGANIZATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH STRUCTURE -
POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC B 05, Organizational and Operational Principles of Seventh-day Adventist Church Structure, to read as follows:

B 05 Organizational and Operational Principles of
Seventh-day Adventist Church Structure

Organizational life and procedures in the Seventh-day Adventist Church are based upon the following principles:

1. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a worldwide community of - No change
2. Each level of denominational organization has a defined membership - No change
3. Organizational status is granted to a constituency as a trust - No change
4. Decisions are based on group processes that allow for member - No change
5. The highest level of authority within the powers granted to each level - No change

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6. Different elements of organizational authority and responsibility are - No change

7. The constituent levels of the Church may establish affiliated entities - No change

8. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has both a local and global - No change

9. References in the General Conference *Working Policy* to higher level, higher organization, lower level, lower organization, or similar terms referring to Church structure, or references to levels of the Church are for descriptive purposes and are not meant to define a legal relationship or create liability unless otherwise specifically stated.

OGC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SecC/TreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

206-08G INCORPORATING ORGANIZATIONS - NEW POLICY

VOTED, To adopt a new policy GC BA 25 05, Incorporating Organizations, to read as follows:

BA 25 05 Incorporating Organizations—The General Conference divisions, unions, and local conferences/missions have separate identities for their legal purposes. No church organization or entity assumes responsibility for the liabilities, debts, acts, or omissions of any other church organization simply because of its church affiliations. The incorporation or registration of legal entities of the Church, other than at the General Conference level, is subject to division policy which takes into consideration the principles of denominational organization and representation, laws of jurisdictions, and the specific needs of the Church in the geographic areas served. Unless local laws require otherwise, the local church operates under the legal structure of the local conference, mission, or union of churches and not as a separate legal entity.

OGC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

211-08G TYPES (CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES) - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC E 05 05, Types, to read as follows:

E 05 05 Types—Denominational employees shall be classified and accredited by the employing organization (see E 10) according to the categories listed below. No person shall be included in more than one category at the same time. Any division that wishes to issue

credentials other than those categorized below, may do so with prior approval of the General Conference Executive Committee at Annual Council.

ACM/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/08AC to LRE

212-08G MINISTERIAL EMPLOYEES—ORDAINED, COMMISSIONED,
AND LICENSED - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC E 05 10, Ministerial Employees—Ordained, Commissioned, and Licensed, to read as follows:

E 05 10 Ministerial Employees—Ordained, Commissioned, and Licensed—1. a. Ministerial Credential—To ministerial employees who have demonstrated a divine call to ministry and have been ordained to the ~~Gospel~~ gospel ministry.

b. Ministerial License—To ministerial employees who have demonstrated a divine call to ministry which is recognized by a conference/mission/field with an assignment as a spiritual leader, pastor, chaplain, or evangelist.

2. a. Commissioned Minister Credential—To the following unless - No change

b. Commissioned Minister License—Where applicable, to - No change

3. Licensed ministers are on the path toward ordination to the ~~Gospel~~ gospel ministry. (See L 25.) It is not the normal practice to ordain an individual who has not been classified as a licensed minister. (See L 25 30 and L 35.) Commissioned ministers holding licenses or credentials are not normally on the path toward ordination to the gospel ministry.

PUB/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

214-08G ROYALTY POLICY - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC FP 55, Royalty Policy, to read as follows:

FP 55 ~~Royalty~~ Copyrights/Royalty Policy

FP 55 05 General Provisions—Copyright policies of the publishing houses shall operate in harmony with national and international copyright laws. ~~Provisions—1. No book or pamphlet~~

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~~shall be printed or translated by any publishing house without written permission or a signed contract from the original publisher and/or the author.~~

1. Publishing houses must obtain written permission or a signed contract from the original publisher, copyright owner, and/or the author whenever publishing houses want to translate, publish, and produce materials that they have not developed.

2. A translation of any book or pamphlet from the language - No change
3. Contracts with authors shall be accompanied by, or include, an - No change
4. Authors may be requested to relinquish their royalties on any book - No change
5. Publishing houses shall provide all authors with an annual report of - No change

FP 55 10 Royalties—Guidelines—Category A—Subscription books - No change

Category B—Ellen G White books for free distribution: One percent (1%) - No change

Category C—Ellen G White trade books: Five percent (5%) of retail price - No change

Category D—Five percent (5%) of retail price of the annual devotional - No change

Category E—No royalty shall be paid on educational textbooks produced - No change

Category F—Trade books:

Hardbound

Sales up to 7,500 ~~copies~~—8 copies—up to 8 percent of retail price

Sales 7,500 to 15,000 ~~copies~~—9 copies—up to 9 percent of retail price

Sales over 15,000 ~~copies~~—10 copies—up to 10 percent of retail price

Paperback

Sales up to 20,000 ~~copies~~—7 copies—up to 7 percent of retail price

Sales over 20,000 ~~copies~~—10 copies—up to 10 percent of retail price

PUB/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

215-08G PUBLICATIONS AND MERCHANDISE TO BE CARRIED
BY LITERATURE EVANGELISTS - NEW POLICY

VOTED, To adopt a new policy GC FP 65 10, Publications and Merchandise to be Carried by Literature Evangelists, to read as follows:

FP 65 10 Publications and Merchandise to be Carried by Literature Evangelists—Where there are no legal impediments, literature evangelists shall carry and promote only those books, periodicals, and/or audio-visual materials which are currently furnished by denominational publishing houses.

PUB/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

216-08G REGULAR LITERATURE EVANGELIST - POLICY
AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC FP 70 05, Regular Literature Evangelist, to read as follows:

FP 70 05 Regular Literature Evangelist—A regular literature evangelist is an authorized self-employed individual ~~who~~ who, as per policy FP 65 10, sells products furnished by official Seventh-day Adventist publishing houses and works within the framework of policy as set by the division where he/she engages in literature evangelism.

AM/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/PolRev&Dev/08AC to LRE

260-08G ADVENTIST MISSION - NEW POLICY

VOTED, To adopt a new policy HC, Adventist Mission, to read as follows:

HC Adventist Mission

HC 05 Philosophy and Mission

Adventist Mission was formed to bring together the Office of Global Mission and the Office of Mission Awareness. The Global Mission initiative was established to find ways, under God's guidance, to plant new groups of believers in unentered areas and people groups around the world. It involves all church departments, institutions, services, and laypeople in this special

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ministry. The Office of Mission Awareness was established to promote the Sabbath School mission offerings, which help fund the Church's long-established mission needs. Adventist Mission is, in all units of Church administration, a Presidential function. It assists all church entities in their efforts to take the everlasting gospel to every people group and to each individual in the world. All church departments, entities, and institutions are encouraged to embrace Global Mission goals as a key part of their responsibilities.

HC 10 Purposes

1. Global Mission—To oversee and strengthen the Global Mission initiative by focusing attention on areas and people groups where there are no Seventh-day Adventists and starting new groups of believers among them.
2. Mission Awareness—To promote and share mission information through official Church and other communication channels to raise awareness of mission and increase financial support for the Church's worldwide mission outreach.

HC 15 Global Mission

The Global Mission function of Adventist Mission aims to reach the unreached with hope.

HC 15 05 Principal Objectives—1. To challenge church members with the need to reach all people groups with the Seventh-day Adventist message.

2. To find every means possible to plant new groups of believers and establish a strong Seventh-day Adventist presence in all people groups where presently there is none.
3. To help the Church grow where it has limited presence.

HC 15 10 Planting New Groups—The Seventh-day Adventist Church began as a church-planting movement and it will continue to grow as it focuses on establishing new groups of believers in new areas. "Place after place is to be visited; church after church is to be raised," writes Ellen G White. "Those who take their stand for the truth are to be organized into churches. . ."—Ev 353. Adventist Mission fosters and promotes this in a variety of ways, including church-planting conferences. These conferences cast the vision and provide resources for planting new groups of believers and for ministries that support this process.

HC 15 15 Global Mission Pioneers—Divisions are responsible for the oversight of the recruitment of the Global Mission pioneers to start new groups of believers in new areas.

Divisions are responsible for training pioneers, with guidance from the General Conference Adventist Mission.

HC 15 20 Global Study Centers—Global study centers for major world religions were established to expand church growth in specific people groups, religions, and philosophies. The centers develop a variety of models, methods, approaches, and tools to help the world Church, leaders and lay persons alike.

Their functions are:

1. To offer divisions a variety of concepts and models for reaching the unreached people groups in their territories.
2. To conduct research in cross-cultural theological issues that have the potential of significantly affecting the Church's approach to mission.
3. To recommend issues arising from their research that need further study by the Church.
4. To develop research papers that will guide the Church in its pursuit of global evangelism.
5. To support methods chosen by divisions through training and development of resources and materials that support these methods.

Global study centers are encouraged to find ways to “translate” the good news in a way that makes sense to people from different cultural and religious backgrounds. This process must never compromise or water down Bible truth, but must communicate that truth clearly with all of its implications to people of different context. Ellen G White says the apostle Paul “varied his manner of labor, shaping his message to the circumstances under which he was placed.” She adds, “. . . the laborer for God is to study carefully the best methods . . .” and “. . . are not to be one-idea men, stereotyped in their manner of working, unable to see that their advocacy of truth must vary with the class of people among whom they work and the circumstances they have to meet.”—GW 118, 119.

HC 15 30 Global Partnerships—Adventist Mission is responsible for the Global Partnership tentmaker program. It works closely with General Conference Secretariat and its affiliated entity, the Institute of World Mission, in recruiting, supervising, training, placing, and supporting tentmakers around the world.

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HC 15 35 Financial Responsibilities—The Global Mission appropriations to world divisions have one major goal—to help fund projects to start new groups of believers in new areas. Each unit of Church organization will contribute financially to each Global Mission project. Future funding from Adventist Mission depends on adequate reporting of current projects.

HC 20 Mission Awareness

The Mission Awareness function of Adventist Mission is a communication function, not an administrative one.

HC 20 05 Principal Objectives—1. To raise awareness of mission among members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

2. To find creative ways of promoting the World Mission Fund through mission offerings, including the Thirteenth Sabbath offering, among members of all ages.

3. To develop new methods and processes for mission giving.

HC 20 10 Principal Functions—1. To coordinate and channel mission information through official Church and other communication outlets.

2. To develop materials, resources, and programs that will inform and inspire Church leaders and laypeople regarding mission needs and opportunities.

3. To liaise with all levels of Church administration, institutions, departments, services, and supporting ministries as partners in raising the profile of mission offerings in the world field.

4. To evaluate the effectiveness of promotion initiatives.

TRE/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

250-08G PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC N 60 05, Personal Accident Insurance, to read as follows:

N 60 05 Personal Accident Insurance—1. Covered Employees—The - No change

2. Schedule of Benefits—a. Fifty thousand dollar (US\$50,000) - No change

- b. Twenty-five thousand dollar (US\$25,000) principal sum for - No change
 - c. Five thousand dollar (US\$5,000) principal sum for death or dismemberment, applicable to each dependent child ~~from age 1 through 25.~~ through age 25.
 - d. The Schedule of Benefits shall apply to the family unit or - No change
 - e. Death and dismemberment cases shall be treated in - No change
 - f. In case of accidental death, the benefit shall accrue to the - No change
- 3. Type of Coverage—The insurance is a 24-hour broad form type - No change
 - 4. Covered Period—Coverage begins on the date the individual is - No change
 - 5. Treasurers of organizations concerned shall be responsible for - No change
 - 6. The costs for Personal Accident Insurance, as outlined above, shall - No change

TRE/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

247-08G NATIONAL INSURANCE/SOCIAL SECURITY SUBSIDY
ON ALLOWANCES - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC O 25 25, National Insurance/Social Security Subsidy on Allowances, to read as follows:

O 25 25 National Insurance/Social Security Subsidy on Allowances—1. Most new appointee, furlough, optional annual leave, annual leave, and permanent return allowances paid to interdivision employees are not based on the base division country of the interdivision employee and therefore do not take into account the differences in national insurance/social security rates in the various countries. Items based on the local salary in the host or base division country reflect the expected level of interdivision employee contribution to national insurance/social security. In order for interdivision employees to receive approximately the same net allowances, the organization bearing the expense for the allowance shall also bear the cost of a subsidy equal to the employee's share of the host or base division country's national insurance/social security on the following allowances:

- a. Outfitting allowance

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- b. Baggage allowance
 - c. Underweight freight settlement
 - d. Educational allowance
 - e. Travel to school for secondary school students
 - f. Financial assistance on indebtedness
 - g. Furlough travel
 - h. Visitation of older children travel
 - i. Rehabilitation allowance
 - j. Any other allowances approved by the General Conference - No change
2. The subsidy shall not apply to the following - No change

TRE/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

248-08G STUDYING IN A THIRD DIVISION COUNTRY OR IN
A BASE DIVISION COUNTRY NOT PROVIDED FOR
UNDER O 55 10 OR O 55 15 - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC O 55 20, Studying in a Third Division Country or in a Base Division Country not Provided for Under O 55 10 or O 55 15, to read as follows:

O 55 20 Studying in a Third Division Country or in a Base Division Country not Provided for Under O 55 10 or O 55 15—A parent(s) may choose to send the child/children to a Seventh-day Adventist secondary school in a third division country or in a country not provided for under O 55 10 or O 55 15. Such decisions are acceptable, but are a personal decision and are not to result in additional expense to the denomination in the form of educational allowance, travel to school, furlough, optional annual leave, permanent return travel, or medical expense.

1. If a child is studying in a division country other than provided for in - No change
2. When furlough travel is approved, the interdivision employee shall - No change

3. When the expenses in the third division country are substantially - No change
4. ~~The educational and travel allowance granted under this section is not to exceed what would be granted to the interdivision employee if the third division country were his/her base division country.~~
- ~~5.~~ 4. When a child is sent to study in a division where the medical costs - No change

TRE/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

249-08G STUDYING IN A THIRD DIVISION COUNTRY OR IN
A BASE DIVISION COUNTRY NOT PROVIDED FOR
UNDER O 60 10 OR O 60 15 - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC O 60 20, Studying in a Third Division Country or in a Base Division Country not Provided for Under O 60 10 or O 60 15, to read as follows:

O 60 20 Studying in a Third Division Country or in a Base Division Country not Provided for Under O 60 10 or O 60 15—A parent(s) may choose to send the child/children to a Seventh-day Adventist college or university in a third division country or to a country not provided for under O 60 10 or O 60 15. Such decisions are acceptable, but are personal decisions and are not to result in additional expense to the denomination in the form of educational allowance, travel to school, furlough, optional annual leave or permanent return travel, or medical expense.

1. For a child/children studying in a division country other than - No change
2. When granting permanent return travel for the college-age child, the - No change
3. ~~The educational and travel allowances provided for in paragraphs 1. and 2. above are not to exceed what would be granted to the interdivision employee if the third division country were his/her base division country.~~
4. ~~3.~~ 3. When a child is sent to study in a third division country where the - No change
5. ~~4.~~ 4. School systems vary in different countries. In some countries the - No change

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TRE/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

246-08G ASSISTANCE ON INCOME TAX - POLICY AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC P 50 55, Assistance on Income Tax, to read as follows:

P 50 55 Assistance on Income Tax—1. When a host or a base country imposes additional income tax on an interdivision employee as a result of organizational payments for travel related allowances such as tickets, baggage/freight, shipment of goods in connection with appointment, furloughs, optional annual leaves, annual ~~leave~~, leaves, or permanent return, the host division or the local employing organization shall reimburse the employee an amount equivalent to the incremental tax.

~~2. Taxes imposed by the employee's home country as a result of the payments described above are the employee's responsibility.~~

~~3.~~ 2. If the employee elects a cash settlement in lieu of actual expenses - No change

~~4.~~ 3. ~~Host~~ Host/base divisions may bill the General Conference for these tax reimbursements to employees who are on Code 1, 2, 3, or 6 budgets. The cost is the responsibility of the local employing organization if the employee is working on a Code 4 budget.

SEC/AUD/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

204-08G ACCOUNTING MANUALS AUTHORITY - POLICY
AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC S 05 45, Accounting Manuals Authority, to read as follows:

S 05 45 Accounting Manuals Authority—1. Financial reports shall be prepared in accordance with applicable denominational accounting manuals prepared by the General Conference Treasury. All organizations shall adhere to the appropriate current denominational accounting manual as follows:

~~ABC Accounting Manual~~
~~Academy Accounting Manual~~
~~Conference Accounting Manual~~
~~HHES Accounting Manual~~

~~International Accounting Manual~~ International Accounting Manual, 1990 edition
(effective prior to 2011)
~~Local Church Accounting Manual~~ Local Church Accounting Manual
~~Publishing House Accounting Manual~~
Seventh-day Adventist Accounting Manual, 2008 edition (effective January 1, 2011)

2. Any exceptions to this policy shall be approved by the General Conference.

TRE/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

241-08G INVESTMENT OF CHURCH FUNDS - POLICY
AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC S 85, Investment of Church Funds, to read as follows:

S 85 Investment of Church Funds

S 85 05 Safeguarding Denominational Funds—~~1. Introduction—In Funds—~~
Introduction—In order that assets for investment might be prudently managed the following principles and policies have been adopted for the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

S 85 10 ~~Philosophy—1. Committees~~ Philosophy—Committees and individuals authorized to invest funds for the denomination must always be mindful of their stewardship responsibility. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, they should strive with prudence and wisdom to reflect the Master both in style and substance. At the practical level, this means direct investments will not be made in certain industries which are not in keeping with Seventh-day Adventist values. It also means that principles of integrity and fairness will govern all transactions with counter parties.

S 85 15 Principles—~~1. Controlling committees~~ committees, defined as any group with the authority to give direction and control execution of instructions, must act as prudent investors would be expected to act, with discretion and intelligence, to seek reasonable income, preserve principal, and to avoid speculative investments. To the extent reasonably possible and efficient, the operational role should be separated from the oversight role for investment management.

2. All investments must be prudent and in harmony with the laws, ~~rules~~ rules, and regulations of the jurisdiction in which the organization is located.

3. A return correlates strongly with risk, but tolerance for risk varies - No change

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4. ~~Criteria for Selection of Investment Instruments—Specific~~ Specific investments or techniques are not by themselves prudent or imprudent. The choices of techniques or investments to include in a portfolio are determined by the level of risk for a specific security and its anticipated effect on the portfolio.

5. ~~Diversification Through Pooled Investment Vehicles—Controlling~~ Controlling committees shall diversify the portfolios of intermediate and long-term assets for investment. All intermediate-term (S 85 40) and long-term (S 85 45) portfolios should be well diversified to avoid undue exposure to any single economic sector, industry group, or individual security. Pooled investment vehicles are the recommended method for facilitating diversification. ~~The following apply to intermediate and long term investments but may not apply to short term investments (S 85 35):~~

a. ~~Investments in any company should not exceed 4.9 percent of the outstanding ownership of the entity.~~

b. ~~At no time shall a controlling committee allow more than 5 percent of the assets under its management, based on market value, to be invested in the securities of any one issuer other than government debt.~~

c. ~~At no time shall a controlling committee allow more than 15 percent of the assets under management, based on market value, to be invested in any one industry. Industries are defined as sub groupings within macro economic sectors (e.g. Sector = Technology, Industry = Hardware).~~

d. ~~When pooled funds are offered, interest and values must be established in such a manner that all investors are treated fairly based on length of time investments were held.~~

6. When pooled funds are offered, interest and values must be established in such a manner that all investors are treated fairly based on length of time investments were held.

~~6. 7.~~ Within the values of the denomination, controlling committees shall - No change

~~7. 8.~~ In investing and managing assets, a controlling committee must limit costs to those that are appropriate and reasonable in relation to the size of the asset pools, the purpose of the asset pool ~~pool~~, and the skill of the controlling committee.

a. ~~Retention of external managers or the construction of portfolios through the purchase of individual securities or vehicles should only be considered when the assets for investment are large enough to allow for appropriate diversification and to justify the fees associated with management of the fund and custody of the securities. Normally asset pools of~~

~~less than US\$2,000,000 would not qualify. For asset pools greater than US\$2,000,000, a committee must evaluate available options with a view to minimizing management costs.~~

b. Use of Brokers

~~1) Criteria for Selection—In placing portfolio transaction orders on behalf of the Fund, the manager (internal or external, anyone with authority to approve the purchase or sale of securities) shall obtain execution of orders through well-capitalized, qualified broker-dealers. Managers may not trade with affiliated brokerages.~~

~~2) Costs—All transactions must be executed at the optimum commission rates and spreads, taking into consideration the efficiency of execution of the transaction. All costs must be fully disclosed including direct commissions, reductions in yield, placement fees, management fees, administrative or any other benefits the brokers may receive as compensation. The committee should keep in mind that these types of costs are traditionally negotiated and the committee has the responsibility to negotiate the most favorable rates. Seeking prices from multiple vendors is strongly suggested.~~

~~3) Reporting—At least annually, the committee shall review a report detailing all commissions paid, including bid/ask spreads and new issue allocations by the Fund. Additionally, the report shall detail the benefits, if any, received in exchange for the commission dollars generated at each broker/dealer.~~

~~8. Controlling committees shall complete an asset allocation study in consultation with nonconflicted, qualified professionals for asset pools for investment prior to investing any assets.~~

~~9. Quality and Marketability—Common and convertible preferred stocks should be of good quality and listed on a major exchange or traded in the over the counter market with the requirement that such stocks have adequate market liquidity relative to the size of the asset pool.~~

~~10. For each asset pool an Investment Policy Statement in a format understood by the money management industry and consistent with this General Conference *Working Policy* shall be approved by each controlling committee whether employing external managers or managing funds internally.~~

~~11. Convertible bonds, convertible into common stock, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), and preferred stock are considered equity securities and thus are prohibited from being purchased as fixed income securities.~~

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~~12. All members of controlling committees must have a current, signed conflict of interest statement on file.~~

~~13. Self custody of securities is not allowed. Controlling committees must select a recognized custodian to hold securities, to settle brokerage transactions, and to provide monthly detail of such transactions.~~

~~14. Controlling committees which determine investment policy or make investment decisions shall retain professional investment advisors whose compensation is not commission but fee based. All investment advisors must be registered as investment advisors with appropriate regulatory authorities.~~

~~15. Controlling committees shall require qualified legal review of account opening documents, management contracts, and powers of attorney.~~

~~16. Controlling committees are required to retain all records pertaining to transfers of assets, account documents, contracts, and statements.~~

~~17. When restricted or illiquid securities or real estate are acquired through donation or the maturity of a trust are held until a prudent investor would liquidate such securities, they shall not constitute a violation of S 85.~~

~~18. Controlling committees must ensure that documented beneficial ownership is established for all securities held.~~

~~S 85 20 Divisions and General Conference Institutions to Establish Investment Policy—1. Wide Policies—1. Investments in any company should not exceed 4.9 percent of the outstanding ownership of the entity.~~

~~2. At no time shall a controlling committee allow more than 5 percent of the assets under its management, based on market value, to be invested in the securities of any one issuer other than government debt.~~

~~3. At no time shall a controlling committee allow more than 15 percent of the assets under management, based on market value, to be invested in any one industry. Industries are defined as sub-groupings within macro-economic sectors (e.g. Sector = Technology, Industry = Hardware).~~

~~4. Retention of external managers or the construction of portfolios through the purchase of individual securities or vehicles should only be considered when the assets for investment are large enough to allow for appropriate diversification and to justify the fees~~

associated with management of the fund and custody of the securities. Normally asset pools of less than US\$2,000,000 would not qualify. For asset pools greater than US\$2,000,000, a committee must evaluate available options with a view to minimizing management costs.

5. Use of Brokers

a. Criteria for Selection—In placing portfolio transaction orders on behalf of the Fund, the manager (internal or external, anyone with authority to approve the purchase or sale of securities) shall obtain execution of orders through well capitalized, qualified broker-dealers. Managers may not trade with affiliated brokerages.

b. Costs—All transactions must be executed at the optimum commission rates and spreads, taking into consideration the efficiency of execution of the transaction. All costs must be fully disclosed including direct commissions, reductions in yield, placement fees, management fees, administrative or any other benefits the brokers may receive as compensation. The committee should keep in mind that these types of costs are traditionally negotiated and the committee has the responsibility to negotiate the most favorable rates. Seeking prices from multiple vendors is strongly suggested.

c. Reporting—At least annually, the committee shall review a report detailing all commissions paid, including bid/ask spreads and new issue allocations by the Fund. Additionally, the report shall detail the benefits, if any, received in exchange for the commission dollars generated at each broker/dealer.

6. Controlling committees shall complete an asset allocation study in consultation with non-conflicted, qualified professionals for asset pools for investment prior to investing any assets.

7. Common and convertible preferred stocks should be of good quality and listed on a major exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market with the requirement that such stocks have adequate market liquidity relative to the size of the asset pool.

8. For each asset pool, an Investment Policy Statement in a format understood by the money management industry and consistent with this General Conference *Working Policy* shall be approved by each controlling committee whether employing external managers or managing funds internally.

9. Convertible bonds, convertible into common stock, Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), and preferred stock are considered equity securities and thus are prohibited from being purchased as fixed income securities.

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10. All members of controlling committees must have a current, signed conflict of interest statement on file.

11. Self custody of securities is not allowed. Controlling committees must select a recognized custodian to hold securities, to settle brokerage transactions, and to provide monthly detail of such transactions.

12. Controlling committees which determine investment policy or make investment decisions shall retain professional investment advisors whose compensation is not commission but fee based. All investment advisors must be registered as investment advisors with appropriate regulatory authorities.

13. Controlling committees shall require qualified legal review of account opening documents, management contracts, and powers of attorney.

14. Controlling committees are required to retain all records pertaining to transfers of assets, account documents, contracts, and statements.

15. When restricted or illiquid securities or real estate are acquired through donation or the maturity of a trust are held until a prudent investor would liquidate such securities, they shall not constitute a violation of S 85.

16. Divisions and General Conference to Establish Investment Policy

a. Rationale—Wide variations in national markets, laws, regulations, securities, and levels of investment expertise make it impractical to establish a single detailed set of investment policies beyond a set of general principles and policies. guidelines as contained in this policy.

b. Divisions—Each ~~Each~~ division is encouraged, subject to General Conference Administrative Committee approval, to develop an investment policy in harmony with the provisions of this policy which contains principles, guidelines, and processes appropriate to its territory to govern the investment practices of its organizations and institutions.

c. General Conference Institutions—The General Conference Administrative Committee, at its discretion, may allow a General Conference institution's board of directors to develop and administer its own investment policies, in harmony with the provisions of this policy, and should contain principles, guidelines, and processes appropriate to the institution. When granting such authority, the General Conference Administrative Committee shall consider:

1) Size of the institution's investment pool.

2) Level of investment expertise of the institutional board or executive committee.

3) Level of long-term institutional resources committed to supporting the administration and staffing of an investment office with individuals competent to implement the institution's investment policy.

d. Divisions choosing not to develop an investment policy for the division and its affiliated organizations, and General Conference institutions that are not approved to develop and administer their own investment policy, shall be limited to investments in the General Conference Unitized Funds and/or those investments covered in S 85 35.

~~2. The General Conference Administrative Committee, at its discretion, may allow a General Conference institution's board of directors to develop and administer its own investment policies, in harmony with the provisions of this policy, and should contain principles, guidelines, and processes appropriate to the institution. When granting such authority, the General Conference Administrative Committee shall consider:~~

~~a. Size of the institution's investment pool.~~

~~b. Level of investment expertise of the institutional board or executive committee.~~

~~c. Level of long-term institutional resources committed to supporting the administration and staffing of an investment office with individuals competent to implement the institution's investment policy.~~

~~3. Divisions choosing not to develop an investment policy for the division and its affiliated organizations, and General Conference institutions that are not approved to develop and administer their own investment policy, shall be limited to investments in the General Conference Unitized Funds and/or those investments covered in S 85 35.~~

Notwithstanding, the requirements of S 85 50 exceptions requests to limitations of S 85 20, paragraph 3., may be addressed in writing to the secretary of the General Conference Investment Committee, who, in consultation with the officers of the General Conference, requesting ~~division~~ division, or General Conference institution shall recommend for action to the General Conference Administrative Committee whether the General Conference Executive Committee, division executive committee, or General Conference institution's board should be authorized to determine the acceptability of the exception request.

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S 85 25 General Conference Unitized Funds—1. The General Conference - No change

2. New funds may be created from time to time by the General - No change

3. The portfolios of the General Conference Unitized Funds are - No change

S 85 30 Classes of Funds—1. ~~Assets~~ Funds—Assets or investment at all organizational levels must be divided into three classes:

1. Short-Term Funds—Those funds not needed to cover immediate expenses but that may be needed during the next twelve months to support operating activities or projects that are anticipated to commence during that period. Short-term funds are to be invested to maximize current income with an emphasis on security of principle and liquidity.

2. Intermediate-Term Funds—Those funds that support operating activities and projects that are not anticipated to commence within the next twelve months. They typically would include excess operating capital, funds held for building and other projects not expected to be needed during the next twelve months. Intermediate-term funds are to be invested with the goal of obtaining a positive annual return but even more importantly, over the investment time horizon of forty-eight months, to protect against loss of principle. In order to accomplish this, there is a willingness to sacrifice some positive returns to protect principle. It is the objective that asset growth should exceed the rate of inflation over the investment time horizon in order to preserve purchasing power of the invested assets.

3. Long-Term Funds—Those assets that are committed for retirement benefits, endowment, quasi endowments, or other long-term needs where fluctuations in market value are acceptable to achieve greater anticipated long-term returns. It is recognized that in some years, fluctuations in market values may result in negative rates of return. Long-term funds are invested with the objective that the market value of the investments should grow in the long run and earn rates of return in excess of the general market indices.

a. ~~Short-Term Funds—Those funds not needed to cover immediate expenses but that may be needed during the next twelve months to support operating activities or projects that are anticipated to commence during that period. Short term funds are to be invested to maximize current income with an emphasis on security of principle and liquidity.~~

b. ~~Intermediate-Term Funds—Those funds that support operating activities and projects that are not anticipated to commence within the next twelve months. They typically would include excess operating capital, funds held for building and other projects not expected to be needed during the next twelve months. Intermediate term funds are to be invested with the goal of obtaining a positive annual return but even more importantly, over the investment time~~

~~horizon of forty eight months, to protect against loss of principle. In order to accomplish this there is a willingness to sacrifice some positive returns to protect principle. It is the objective that asset growth should exceed the rate of inflation over the investment time horizon in order to preserve purchasing power of the invested assets.~~

~~e. Long Term Funds—Those assets that are committed for retirement benefits, endowment, quasi-endowments, or other long term needs where fluctuations in market value are acceptable to achieve greater anticipated long term returns. It is recognized that in some years, fluctuations in market may result in negative rates of return. Long term funds are invested with the objective that the market value of the investments should grow in the long run and earn rates of return in excess of the general market indices.~~

S 85 35 Investment of Short-Term Funds—1. All short-term securities - No change

2. All denominational organizations, institutions, and services are - No change

S 85 40 Investment of Intermediate-Term Funds—1. All provisions as - No change

2. Marketable bonds must be rated “investment grade” or better by - No change

3. Intermediate-term issues that are permitted include only those with - No change

4. Intermediate-Term investments include - No change

S 85 45 Investment of Long-Term Funds—1. All provisions as provided in - No change

2. Long-Term investments include - No change

S 85 50 Special Consideration Securities—1. With General Conference Executive Committee approval, or as otherwise provided in S 85 20, paragraph 16. d., ~~Committee, or as otherwise provided, in S 85 20, paragraph 3.,~~ the following may be permissible for organizations administering large investment pools (normally not less than US\$10,000,000) and with professional management staff:

a. Real Estate—Syndicated with institutional investors and - No change

b. High yield bonds

c. Partnerships investing in equity securities which are - No change

d. Mortgage- or asset-backed securities when managed by - No change

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- e. Derivative contracts may be used to reduce or manage the - No change
- f. Private equity

S 85 55 Miscellaneous—1. Interpretation regarding investment vehicles not - No change

2. It is recognized that where the Church operates a Trust Services - No change

TRE/AUD/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

243-08G GENERAL CONFERENCE CORE POLICIES FOR POLICY
 COMPLIANCE TESTING - POLICY APPENDIX
 AMENDMENT

VOTED, To move GC Appendix D, General Conference Core Policies for Policy Compliance Testing, from the Appendix to the main text as GC S 90, and to amend the policy to read as follows:

~~Appendix D~~

S 90 General Conference Core Policies for Policy Compliance Testing ^{(a)(b)}

The General Conference Executive Committee has identified core policies to be tested during the financial audit or review engagement for each denominational organization. In identifying these core policies, a materiality threshold was defined for each core policy which determines the level of reporting for any noted non-compliance; and a related assertion statement was developed for each core policy which together shall be signed and submitted by the principal officers of each denominational organization before the commencement of the audit engagement.

<i>Summary of Policy</i>	<i>Materiality</i> ^(c)	<i>Assertion</i> ^(d)
GENERAL		
1. Policies on financial control:		

<i>Summary of Policy</i>	<i>Materiality</i> ^(c)	<i>Assertion</i> ^(d)
A. Financial reports given to committee on a monthly basis. (S 05 30)	Monthly = At least 9 of 12 months to management; at least quarterly to governing body.	Management has prepared and studied monthly financial statements and provided them at least quarterly to the organization's governing body which compared them with the annual budget.
B. Budget plan approved by committee. (S 05 25)	Approved = Yes/No	Management has prepared an annual budget which was approved by the controlling committee.
C. If, at the close of the financial year, the organization recorded an operating loss, recovery shall be provided for in subsequent budgets, if working capital is less than 100 percent and if liquid assets are less than current liabilities and allocated funds. (S 15 15, paragraph 4.)	Provided – Yes/No working capital allowed to drop to 75 percent before reported in Policy Compliance Report.	When working capital was less than the recommended amount and liquid assets on hand were inadequate to cover current liabilities and allocated funds, management included a recovery plan when preparing the ensuing years' budgets.
2. Funds borrowed from church members. (S 45 05)	Other than the Trust Services Program and Union Revolving Fund Plan, was borrowing from members more than 5 percent of liquid assets?	The organization has not solicited loans from any church members, except through denominationally recognized channels such as Trust Services and revolving funds.
3. All board members and employees designated by policy shall sign statements of acceptance of the conflict of interest policy. (E 85 20)	All = 90 percent of individuals (must include 100 percent of officers plus any others specially specified by organization's board)	The chief administrator has received a statement of acceptance and compliance with the policy on conflict of interest from each of the individuals designated by policy.
4. Working capital shall be at least the recommended amount. (T 15 05)	Working capital amount is recommendation only, therefore would never be in Policy Compliance Report.	The organization has the recommended amount of working capital.

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<i>Summary of Policy</i>	<i>Materiality</i> ^(c)	<i>Assertion</i> ^(d)
5. Contributions to denominational Retirement Plan(s) shall comply with applicable division policy. (Z 10 35 and applicable division policies)	Compliance = 100 percent of required contributions in period when due.	The organization has made all required contributions to the applicable retirement plans in accordance with <i>Working Policy</i> .
6. The provisions of insurance coverage shall be in harmony with <i>Working Policy</i> . (S 60 05)	All = at least 95 percent of the properties covered, and at least the minimum levels of liability coverage.	The organization has purchased property, liability, and other applicable insurance coverage that is in harmony with S 60 05.
7. Formation of new legal corporations shall be approved by the respective division or GC committee. (BA 25 10)	Approved = Yes/No	The organization obtained approval from the respective higher organization to form a new legal corporation.
SECURITIES & INVESTMENTS		
8. Investments (in all Funds, for the type of entity) shall comply with policy.		Divisions that adopt their own investment policies in accordance with S 45 should replace steps 8A through 8H with their own policies.
A. Intermediate and long-term investments shall not exceed 4.9 percent of the outstanding ownership of any entity which it is invested in. (S 85 15)	Less than 5.4 percent of the outstanding ownership of any one issuer.	The organization does not own more than 4.9 percent of the total equity of any other entity.
B. Controlling committee shall not allow more than 5 percent of the assets under its management, based on market value, to be invested in the securities of any one issuer, other than government debt.	Less than 5.5 percent of the total assets under management	Other than government debt, the organization has not invested more than 5 percent of its total assets in the securities of any one issuer.

<i>Summary of Policy</i>	<i>Materiality</i> ^(c)	<i>Assertion</i> ^(d)
C. Controlling committee shall not allow more than 15 percent of assets under management, based on market value, to be invested in any one industry. (S 85 15)	Less than 16.5 percent of assets under management invested in one industry	The organization has not invested more than 15 percent of assets under management in any one industry.
D. Asset pools shall be large enough to justify management costs paid for the retention of external managers or the purchase of individual securities. (S 85 15)	Asset pools greater than US\$2,000,000, Yes/No	The investment committee has evaluated available options with a view to minimizing management costs.
E. All short-term securities purchased shall have adequate market liquidity and shall be rated A-1, P-1 or equivalent except those issued by a sovereign government. (S 85 35)	All = 95 percent of all short-term securities	The organization's investments in short-term securities have adequate market liquidity and do not represent a significant exposure relative to the organization's short-term portfolio and are rated A-1, P-1 or equivalent
F. Investment of intermediate-term funds shall be rated "investment grade" or better by Standard and Poor's (BBB-or higher) and Moody's (Baa3 or higher). Securities have an average life of less than forty-eight months. (S 85 40)	All = 95 percent of all intermediate-term securities including special temporary employee loans	The organization has invested in intermediate-term funds that are rated "investment grade" or better by Standard and Poor's (BBB- or higher) or Moody's (Baa3 or higher) or one of their subsidiaries. Securities have average life of less than forty-eight months.

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<i>Summary of Policy</i>	<i>Materiality</i> ^(c)	<i>Assertion</i> ^(d)
<p>G. Investment in long-term funds include approved equity investments listed on recognized exchanges and also shall meet all the provisions provided in S 45 35 and S 45 40. Intrad denominational loans shall be adequately secured. (S 85 45)</p>	<p>All = 95 percent of total long-term funds</p>	<p>The organization has invested in approved equities listed on recognized exchanges. For intradenominational loans, the organization has obtained a “no objection” from the controlling committee of the parent organization. Mortgages are adequately secured and syndicated; real estate mortgages have been limited to 80 percent of the fair market value of the collateral.</p>
<p>H. Investments in other vehicles (“special consideration securities”) requires appropriate approval. (S 85 50)</p>	<p>Approval = Yes/No</p>	<p>The organization has obtained appropriate approval before investing in securities in the “special consideration” category.</p>
SPLIT-INTEREST AGREEMENTS		
<p>9. Local conferences/missions/fields considering gift annuities in excess of \$100,000 or non-cash annuities, shall counsel with union prior to writing agreements. (S 40 10)</p>	<p>All = 95 percent of the value of cash and non-cash gift annuities</p>	<p>The organization counseled with union prior to accepting and administering gift annuities in excess of US\$100,000 or non-cash annuities. All gift annuities have been accepted and administered in accordance with local laws.</p>
<p>10. Annuity rates shall be in accordance with policy. (S 40 10)</p>	<p>All = 95 percent of annuities are in accordance with GC/division provided rate schedules</p>	<p>The organization has adhered to applicable GC/division provided rate schedules for gift annuity agreements.</p>

<i>Summary of Policy</i>	<i>Materiality</i> ^(c)	<i>Assertion</i> ^(d)
11. All trust agreements shall be authorized by board or appropriate committee, written upon competent local legal counsel, and the denomination will benefit substantially from the trust agreements. (S 40 15)	All = 95 percent of agreements and the related monetary amounts were authorized, written upon counsel, and benefited the denomination. Yes/No	Trust agreements were all authorized by the board or an appropriate subcommittee, were written upon competent local legal counsel, and substantially benefited denominational organizations.
12. Each organization shall record in the legal corporation minutes the maturity of all deferred gift instruments and the distribution made to beneficiaries. (S 40 25)	All = 95 percent of agreements and related monetary amounts. Yes/No	The organization has recorded the maturities of all deferred giving instruments and the distributions made to beneficiaries in the legal corporation's minutes
13. No denominational employee, serving as administrator, trustee or executor of wills shall receive any fees for his/her personal benefit. (S 40 30)	Fees received for personal benefit? Yes/No	No denominational employee, acting as administrator, trustee or executor of wills has received any fees for his/her personal benefit for rendering this service
DEBT, OTHER LIABILITIES, AND CONTINGENCIES		
14. Accounting for gift annuities shall comply with policy and be in harmony with GAAP. (S 40 10)	All = at least 95 percent of gift annuities and related monetary amounts are accounted for in accordance with GAAP.	The organization has accounted for all gift annuities in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. (GAAP)
15. All denominational organizations shall conduct activities on available funds and no further debts shall be incurred except as provided for in policy:		

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<i>Summary of Policy</i>	<i>Materiality</i> ^(c)	<i>Assertion</i> ^(d)
A. Enlargement of facilities done without incurring indebtedness except as provided for by policy and when properly authorized. (S 15 05, paragraph 2.)	All = At least 95 percent of costs for enlargement of facilities without debt, except as provided by policy and properly authorized	Management approved the enlargement of facilities with funding provided out of organization's own funds or with debt that is in accordance with policy and properly authorized.
B. Denominational organizations shall not borrow money for reinvestment or to lend to individuals. (S 15 05, paragraph 3.)	Borrowed money to reinvest? Yes/No	The organization did not borrow any money for reinvestment or to lend to individuals.
C. No organization shall borrow money to re-lend except through a denominational revolving fund. (S 15 05, paragraph 5.)	Borrowed money to re-lend? Yes/No	The organization did not borrow money to re-lend except through the denominational revolving fund.
REVENUE		
16. Proper tithe percentages shall be remitted by the divisions to the GC. (V 10 05, paragraph 4.)	All = at least 100 percent of the amount each division's appropriate tithe percentages to the GC on behalf of the world field	The divisions have remitted all required tithe percentages to the GC.
17. Tithe funds shall be used only for their intended purposes (V 15 15)	All = 100 percent of all tithe funds used	The organization used all tithe funds in accordance with policy.
18. Capital expenditures for land, buildings, and other facilities shall not be funded out of tithe, except the purchases of evangelistic equipment. (V 15 25)	Yes/No	Except the purchase of evangelistic equipment, the organization did not use tithe funds to finance capital expenditure activities.
19. Mission offerings shall be passed on to the General Conference and shall be distributed appropriately per policy. (W 05 05)	All = 100 percent of GC-designated world mission funds	All world mission funds recognized as General Conference funds have been received, recorded, and appropriately distributed in accordance with policy.

<i>Summary of Policy</i>	<i>Materiality</i> ^(c)	<i>Assertion</i> ^(d)
PAYROLL		
20. For all employees:		
A. Pay rate shall be within applicable range in remuneration scale. (Y 05)	All = 100 percent of all employees ^(e)	Employees have been remunerated in accordance with applicable ranges in remuneration scale.
B. Service record shall be maintained, updated, and signed. (E 70 20)	All = 90 percent of all employees	The organization has maintained and updated service records in computerized format. A responsible official has signed the official copy of the computerized form.
21. Vacations, holidays, and sick time practices shall comply with policy. (E 75)	All = 100 percent of officers, 90 percent of non-officer employees	The organization has complied with the policies on vacation, holiday, and sick time for each employee.
22. Employee reimbursements for auto use, per diem, and other travel related expenses shall comply with policy. (Y 10 05)	All = 100 percent of officers, 90 percent of non-officer employees	The organization paid auto allowance, per diem, and other travel related expenses in accordance with policy.
23. Health care assistance shall comply with policy. (Y 15 15)	All = 100 percent of officers, 90 percent of non-officer employees	The organization provided health care assistance to employees and their other eligible dependents in accordance with policy.
24. Scholarship grants to dependents of employees shall comply with policy. (Y 15 30)	All = 100 percent of officers, 90 percent of non-officer employees	The organization provided tuition assistance to the dependents of eligible employees in accordance with policy.

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<i>Summary of Policy</i>	<i>Materiality</i> ^(c)	<i>Assertion</i> ^(d)
25. All termination settlements paid to discontinued employees shall be computed properly, recorded on their service record, and a signed release of liability should be obtained. (E 70 30)	All = 100 percent of sample tested, complied with policy	The organization has recorded in the official office copy of the appropriate committee minutes and on the service record an appropriate action relating to the discontinuance of service and the particulars of any financial settlement made.

Notes:

(a) These policies relate to General Conference *Working Policy*. Each division should prepare a similar document, referencing its core policies, which should include at least the core policies listed above. Each division may add core policies to this list, where desired for their territory.

(b) Auditors are to test for compliance with these core policies on every financial audit or review engagement. If auditors become aware of non-compliance with other policies that appear to be significant or pervasive in their district or territory, they will report such non-compliance in general terms in communications with either the respective division or the General Conference, but not in communications with the audit client.

(c) Materiality is to be used by the auditor to determine how to communicate noted non-compliance. If the non-compliance exceeds the materiality, it will be noted in the Policy Compliance Report. If non-compliance is below the materiality, it will be noted in the Audit Communication Letter.

(d) The assertions should be provided by management to the auditor at the same time as the Audit Engagement Letter is submitted.

(e) Except transitional employees, if approved by administrative committee or human resources committee.

OGC/NAD/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

242-08G SERVICE IN SELF-SUPPORTING INSTITUTIONS - POLICY
AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend GC Z 25 50, Service in Self-Supporting Institutions, to read as follows:

Z 25 50 Service in ~~Self-Supporting Institutions~~—A Supporting Ministries—A denominational employee who is assigned by a conference/mission/field committee to serve in a ~~self-supporting institution~~ supporting ministry may continue earning denominational service credit provided the following conditions are met:

1. Conference/Mission/Field Employee—The employee is on the conference/mission/field payroll and is paid on the same basis as other conference/mission/field employees. (The ~~self-supporting institution~~ supporting ministry may make an appropriation or contribution to the conference/mission/field to cover all or a portion of the employee's remuneration.)
2. Type of Institution—The employee shall be limited to service - No change
3. Category of Service—The employee shall be limited to service in the following categories of service:
 - a. Chief administrator of an institution or its major components.
 - b. Minister who serves as pastor, chaplain, or Bible teacher.
 - c. Teachers.
4. Need Substantiated—The ~~organization~~ supporting ministry shall substantiate its need for an employee who has a background of denominational service.
5. Procedure—The assignment of the employee to service in a ~~self-supporting institution~~ supporting ministry shall be approved by the union ~~conference~~ committee and the division retirement plan committee.
6. Contribution—The ~~self-supporting institution~~ supporting ministry may be requested to make contributions to the retirement plan to cover the service credit being earned by the employee.

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7. Application—Divisions shall have the right to modify this policy to restrict its application based on the legal requirements of the jurisdictions and the retirement plans offered in the division territory.

SEC/ADCOM/102-05Gd/SEC/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO06SM/06SM/ADCOM/GCDO06AC/
06AC/102-06Gc/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO07SM/07SM/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO07AC/07AC/
ADCOM/102-07Gb/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08SM/08SM/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC
to LRE(DIV)

102-08Ga AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2008

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2008, with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2008</u>			
20,21	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI
26(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
27	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
28	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
29(am)	Wed	Loma Linda Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
30	Thu	Supporting Ministries Advisory Committee	Silver Spring MD
<u>November 2008</u>			
<u>December 2008</u>			
4	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
7-10	Sun	Oakwood University Evangelism Council	Huntsville AL
9,10	Tue	Loma Linda Boards and Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
11(am)	Thu	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA
11(am)	Thu	Adventist Heritage Ministry Constituency	Silver Spring MD
11(am)	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board of Trustees	Silver Spring MD
15(am)	Mon	ADRA International Board (Teleconference)	Silver Spring MD
16	Tue	RH Board Executive/Finance Committees	Hagerstown MD

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SEC/ADCOM/102-05Ge/SEC/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO06SM/06SM/ADCOM/GCDO06AC/
06AC/102-06Gd/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO07SM/07SM/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO07AC/07AC/
102-07Gc/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08SM/08SM/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC to
LRE(DIV)

102-08Gb AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2009

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2009, 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 2009</u>			
8-11	Thu	Ellen G White Estate Board Consultation	Kent Island MD
14-17	Wed	PREXAD	Daytona Beach FL
25-28	Sun	Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board	Nairobi KENYA
26-Feb 14	Mon	Institute of World Mission	COSTA RICA
<u>February 2009</u>			
8-12	Sun	2009 International Risk Management Conference	Penang MALAYSIA
9-14	Mon	ADRA ALC	THAILAND
10,11	Tue	Global Leadership Training	CHINA
13-15	Fri	ADRA International Board and Retreat	THAILAND
18	Wed	Christian Record Services Finance Committee	Lincoln NE
19	Thu	Christian Record Services Board of Trustees	Lincoln NE
20(eve)-23(am)	Fri	Loma Linda Boards Retreat	
23(pm),24	Mon	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
25(am)	Wed	Adventist Health International Board	Loma Linda CA
25(am)	Wed	Geoscience Research Institute Board	Loma Linda CA
<u>March 2009</u>			
1(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
2	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
3	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
3	Tue	IWM Administrative Council	Berrien Springs MI
5,6	Thu	AIAS Management Committee and Board	Silang PHILIPPINES
5	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
16-20	Mon	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
18(pm)	Wed	Department Directors/GC President Meeting	Silver Spring MD
19	Thu	GC Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>March 2009</u> contd			
23(pm),24	Mon	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
24(am)	Tue	Loma Linda Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
25(am)	Wed	Adventist Mission Committee	Silver Spring MD
25(pm)	Wed	Adventist Television Network Operating Com	Silver Spring MD
25(pm)	Wed	Pacific Press Finance Committee	Nampa ID
26,27(am)	Thu	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
26	Thu	Pacific Press Board	Nampa ID
29	Sun	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Silver Spring MD
30	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
30	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
30	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
30(pm)	Mon	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
30(eve)	Mon	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
31	Tue	Education Consultation	Silver Spring MD
31(am)	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
31(pm)	Tue	Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
31(eve)	Tue	Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>April 2009</u>			
1,2	Wed	Use of Tithe Study Commission	Silver Spring MD
1(eve)	Wed	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
1(eve)	Wed	ADRA Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
5,6(am)	Sun	Spring Meeting	Huntsville AL
13-May 2	Mon	Institute of World Mission	PHILIPPINES
13,14	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
15,16	Wed	Faith and Science Council	Loma Linda CA
19,20	Sun	Oakwood University Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL
22(pm)	Wed	RH HHES Board	Hagerstown MD
22(eve)	Wed	RH Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
23(am)	Thu	RH Board	Hagerstown MD
24	Fri	Adventist Heritage Ministry Finance Committee	Battle Creek MI
26,27	Sun	Adventist Heritage Ministry Board	Battle Creek MI
28	Tue	Adventist University of Africa Board	Nairobi KENYA
<u>May 2009</u>			
13-17	Wed	Global Internet Evangelism Network	Montego Bay JAMAICA
19,20	Tue	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
20	Wed	Supporting Ministries Advisory Committee	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>May 2009 contd</u>			
21(am)	Thu	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA
21(pm)	Thu	GC Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
31(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
<u>June 2009</u>			
1	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
15-18	Mon	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
16(pm)	Tue	RH Board Executive/Finance Committees	Hagerstown MD
17,18	Wed	PREXAD	Silver Spring MD
24,25	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	Burlington VT
<u>July 2009</u>			
6-11	Mon	World Conf on Health & Lifestyle in Primary Care	Geneva SWITZERLAND
13-Aug 1	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Berrien Springs MI
15-16	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	VERMONT
<u>August 2009</u>			
19(eve)	Wed	PPPA Finance Committee	Nampa ID
20	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
21	Fri	Adventist Heritage Ministry Finance Committee	Fairhaven MA
23,24	Sun	Adventist Heritage Ministry Board	Fairhaven MA
24,25	Mon	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
26(am)	Wed	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA
<u>September 2009</u>			
5	Sat	All Africa International Hlth & Temperance Rally	Nairobi KENYA
7-10	Mon	All Africa (Tri-Division) ICPA Conference	Nairobi KENYA
9(eve)	Wed	RH Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
10(am)	Thu	RH Board	Hagerstown MD
13-16	Sun	Adventist Risk Management Conference	New York NY
14-24	Mon	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
16(pm)	Wed	Department Directors/GC President Meeting	Silver Spring MD
17	Thu	GC Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
21	Mon	Christian Record Services Finance Committee	Lincoln NE
22	Tue	Christian Record Services Board of Trustees	Lincoln NE
30(pm)	Wed	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
30(eve)	Wed	Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2009</u>			
1(am)	Thu	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
1(pm)	Thu	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
1(eve)	Thu	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD
2(am)	Fri	Adventist Mission Committee	Silver Spring MD
4	Sun	<i>Church Manual</i> Committee	Silver Spring MD
4(pm),5	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
5(eve)	Mon	ADRA Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
6	Tue	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
6	Tue	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
6	Tue	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
6(eve)	Tue	Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD
7(am)	Wed	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
7(pm)	Wed	Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
8	Thu	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Silver Spring MD
8(eve)	Thu	Adventist Television Network Operating Com	Silver Spring MD
9(am)	Fri	AIAS Management Committee and Board	Silver Spring MD
9(am)	Fri	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
9(eve)-14	Fri	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
15(pm)-18(am)	Thu	Conference on Adventist Mission in Africa	Berrien Springs MI
18,19	Sun	Oakwood University Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL
19,20	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI
20	Tue	Loma Linda Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
22	Thu	Supporting Ministries Advisory Committee	Silver Spring MD
25(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
26	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
27	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
27	Tue	IWM Administrative Council	Berrien Springs MI
<u>November 2009</u>			
21	Sat	World Festival of Religious Freedom	Lima PERU
<u>December 2009</u>			
3	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
6-9	Sun	Oakwood University Evangelism Council	Huntsville AL
8,9	Tue	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
10(am)	Thu	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA
14(pm)	Mon	RH Board Executive/Finance Committees	Hagerstown MD

SEC/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO06SM/06SM/102-06Ge/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO07SM/07SM/
ADCOM/SecC/GCDO07AC/07AC/102-07Gd/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08SM/08SM/ADCOM/
SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE(DIV)

102-08Gc AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2010

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2010, 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 2010</u>			
12-16	Tue	PREXAD	FLORIDA
<u>February 2010</u>			
15	Mon	Christian Record Services Finance Committee	Lincoln NE
16(am)	Tue	Christian Record Services Board of Trustees	Lincoln NE
21(pm)	Sun	Loma Linda Boards—Education Day	Loma Linda CA
22	Mon	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
23	Tue	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
24(am)	Wed	Adventist Health International Board	Loma Linda CA
24(pm)	Wed	Geoscience Research Institute Board	Loma Linda CA
28(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
<u>March 2010</u>			
1	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
2	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
4	Thu	AIAS Management Committee and Board	Silang PHILIPPINES
15-19	Mon	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
23(am)	Tue	Loma Linda Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
24(eve)	Wed	Pacific Press Finance Committee	Nampa ID
25	Thu	Pacific Press Board	Nampa ID
29,30(am)	Mon	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
30(pm)	Tue	Adventist Mission Committee	Silver Spring MD
30(pm)	Tue	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
31	Wed	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
31(am)	Wed	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
<u>April 2010</u>			
1	Thu	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>April 2010 contd</u>			
1	Thu	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
1	Thu	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
1(eve)	Thu	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
2(am)	Fri	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
4(am)	Sun	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
4(pm)	Sun	Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
5	Mon	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Silver Spring MD
5(eve)	Mon	Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD
6,7(am)	Tue	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
12,13	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
14	Wed	Faith and Science Council	Loma Linda CA
18,19	Sun	Oakwood University Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL
27	Tue	Adventist University of Africa Board	Nairobi KENYA
28(pm)	Wed	HHES Board	Hagerstown MD
28(eve)	Wed	RH Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
29(am)	Thu	RH Board	Hagerstown MD
<u>May 2010</u>			
20	Thu	Supporting Ministries Advisory Committee	Silver Spring MD
25	Tue	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
26	Wed	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
27(am)	Thu	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA
<u>June 2010</u>			
1-9	Tue	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
6(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
7	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
10(pm)	Thu	RH Board Executive/Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
20	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Atlanta GA
21	Mon	Presidents Council	Atlanta GA
21	Mon	Secretaries Council	Atlanta GA
21	Mon	Treasurers Council	Atlanta GA
22(am)	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Atlanta GA
22(pm)	Tue	Division Officer Interviews	Atlanta GA
23(pm),24(am)	Wed	General Conference Session Spiritual Emphasis	Atlanta GA
24-Jul 3	Thu	General Conference Session	Atlanta GA

July 2010

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>August 2010</u>			
11(eve)	Wed	Pacific Press Finance Committee	Nampa ID
12	Thu	Pacific Press Board	Nampa ID
30	Mon	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
31	Tue	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
<u>September 2010</u>			
1(am)	Wed	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA
22(eve)	Mon	RH Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
23(am)	Tue	RH Board	Hagerstown MD
<u>October 2010</u>			
3(am)	Sun	Adventist Mission Committee	Silver Spring MD
3(pm)	Sun	Adventist World Radio	Silver Spring MD
4	Mon	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
5	Tue	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
5	Tue	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
5	Tue	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
6(am)	Wed	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
6(pm)	Wed	Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
6(eve)	Wed	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
7	Thu	Council on Evangelism and Witness	Silver Spring MD
7(eve)	Thu	Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD
8(am)	Fri	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
8(eve)-13	Fri	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
17,18	Sun	Oakwood University Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL
19(am)	Tue	Loma Linda Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
24(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
25	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
26	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
<u>November 2010</u>			
<u>December 2010</u>			
5-8	Sun	Oakwood University Evangelism Council	Huntsville AL
9(pm)	Thu	RH Board Executive/Finance Committees	Hagerstown MD
14	Tue	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
15	Wed	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
December 2010 contd 16(am)	Thu	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA

SEC/ChManSub/ChManSub/443-06GS/ChManSub/ChMan/442-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-10GCS

401-08GS CARE OF MEMBERS - *CHURCH MANUAL* AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 16, Organizing, Uniting, and Dissolving Churches, page 214, Care of Members, to read as follows:

Care of Members—In the membership of a church which has been dissolved or expelled, there may be loyal members who desire to remain with the Seventh-day Adventist communion. To ensure their welfare, their memberships shall be provisionally held for up to ~~ninety days~~ one year in the conference/mission/field church to allow opportunity for those who desire to do so to have their memberships in the conference/mission/field church confirmed or transferred to another church of their choice. Their standing shall be evaluated by the conference/mission/field committee, and, if satisfactory, they may be recommended for membership in the conference/mission/field church or a church of their choice.

The names of members of a dissolved or an expelled church, who are under discipline, shall be referred to the conference/mission/field secretary for early attention by the conference/mission/field committee as set out in “Loss of Members,” above, regarding dissolution of churches because of loss of members.

SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/445-06GS/ADCOM/ChManSub/ChMan/444-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-ChManSub+ChMan+ADCOM+09AC+10GCS

403-08GS CHURCH AUTHORITY IN THE SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH - *CHURCH MANUAL* AMENDMENT

VOTED, To refer the *Church Manual*, Chapter 1, Authority of the Church and the *Church Manual*, pages 1 and 2, Church Authority in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, to the *Church Manual* Committee.

ADCOM/ChManSub/ChMan/448-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-ChManSub+ChMan+ADCOM+09AC+10GCS

405-08GS INTRODUCTION - *CHURCH MANUAL* AMENDMENT

VOTED, To refer *Church Manual*, Introduction, pages *xix* to *xxii*, to the *Church Manual* Committee.

ADCOM/ChManSub/ChMan/449-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-ChManSub+ChMan+ADCOM+09AC+10GCS

406-08GS CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD - *CHURCH MANUAL* AMENDMENT

VOTED, To refer *Church Manual*, Chapter 2, Church of the Living God, pages 3 to 7, to the *Church Manual* Committee.

ADCOM/ChManSub/ChMan/450-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-10GCS

407-08GS VITAL IMPORTANCE OF ORGANIZATION -
CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 4, Organization Founded on Divine Principles, pages 22 and 23, Vital Importance of Organization, to read as follows:

Vital Importance of Organization

Just as there can be no living, active human body unless its members are organically united and functioning together, ~~together under central control~~, so there can be no living, growing, prospering church unless its members are organized into a united spiritual body, all performing their God-given duties and functions under the direction of a divinely constituted authority. Without organization no institution or movement can prosper. A nation without organized government would soon be in chaos. A business enterprise without organization would fail; so would it be with the church: without organization it would disintegrate and perish.

~~Without organization no institution or movement can prosper. A nation without organized government would soon be in chaos. A business enterprise without organization would fail; so would it be with the church: without organization it would disintegrate and perish.~~

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For the sake of her healthy development and for the accomplishment of her glorious task of carrying the gospel of salvation to all the world, Christ gave to His church a simple but effective system of organization. Success in her endeavors to achieve her mission depends on loyal adherence to this divine pattern.

“Some have advanced the thought that as we near the close of time, every child of God will act independently of any religious organization. But I have been instructed by the Lord that in this work there is no such thing as every man’s being independent. The stars of heaven are all under law, each influencing the other to do the will of God, yielding their common obedience to the law that controls their action. And in order that the Lord’s work may advance healthfully and solidly, His people must draw together.”—*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 489.

“Oh, how Satan would rejoice if he could succeed in his efforts to get in among this people and disorganize the work at a time when thorough organization is essential and will be the greatest power to keep out spurious uprisings and to refute claims not endorsed by the word of God! We want to hold the lines evenly, that there shall be no breaking down of the system of organization and order that has been built up by wise, careful labor. License must not be given to disorderly elements that desire to control the work at this time.”—*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 489.

ADCOM/ChManSub/ChMan/453-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-ChManSub+ChMan+ADCOM+ 09AC+10GCS

410-08GS AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS OF THE CHURCH AND
THEIR OFFICERS - *CHURCH MANUAL* AMENDMENT

VOTED, To refer *Church Manual*, Chapter 9, Auxiliary Organizations of the Church and Their Officers, pages 101 to 131, to the *Church Manual* Committee.

ADCOM/ChManSub/ChMan/454-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-ChManSub+ChMan+ADCOM+ 09AC+10GCS

411-08GS CHURCH ELECTION - *CHURCH MANUAL* AMENDMENT

VOTED, To refer *Church Manual*, Chapter 11, Church Election, pages 153 to 160, to the *Church Manual* Committee.

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ADCOM/ChManSub/ChMan/455-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-ChManSub+ChMan+
ADCOM+ 09AC+10GCS

412-08GS GOSPEL FINANCE - *CHURCH MANUAL* AMENDMENT

VOTED, To refer *Church Manual*, Chapter 12, Gospel Finance, pages 161 to 170, to the
Church Manual Committee.

ADCOM/ChManSub/ChMan/456-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-10GCS

413-08GS TITLE TO CHURCH PROPERTIES - *CHURCH*
MANUAL NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION SUPPLEMENT
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, North American Division Supplement,
Organizations for Holding Church Properties: Trust Services, Wills, and Annuities, page 225,
Title to Church Properties, to read as follows:

Title to Church Properties

In order to safeguard denominational property it is necessary to have the title to all local church and conference properties vested in a corporation ~~created~~ authorized by a ~~conference~~ union of churches/conference/mission organization according to the laws governing in the locality where the property is located. All such properties are to be owned in fee simple (i.e., clear title), which insures that if at any time a congregation becomes disaffected and leaves or is dissolved by a local conference, the properties are preserved for use by congregations loyal to the Church. ~~Title to all local church properties should be held by the conference corporations. When properties are acquired for the use of local churches or conference organizations, the titles should be held by the corporate organizations.~~

Prayer was offered by Violeto F Bocala, former President of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

Pardon K Mwansa, Chair
Rosa T Banks, Secretary
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary
Carolyn S Rochester, Recording Secretary

ANNUAL COUNCIL OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 15, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONAL

The devotional message entitled, "The Everlasting Gospel," was presented by Min Ho Joo, Director of the 1000 Missionary Movement, Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

When we examine the experience of Jonah, we can see some needs in our own preparation for Christ's return. In some ways, we can relate the sleeping of Jonah to a sleeping church, and the tempest which he faced by God to the many devastating calamities in the end time. While we recognize that Satan is the cause of these accidents and disasters, we also know that they are among the agencies God uses to arouse men and women to a sense of their own danger. If God longs to awaken His Church, then we must ask ourselves, "How do we prepare for Jesus' Second Coming?" Two points necessary for this preparation stand out. First, we must go back to the Word of God (Rev 1:3). All the Scriptures are focused on Jesus, which raises the hostility of Satan, but is our strongest weapon against him. Secondly, we prepare by preaching God's Word (2 Tim 4:1,2). We know that when efforts are made to win souls for Christ, we develop a Christ like character (see ChS 8). By preaching, we are transformed into the likeness of Jesus. By preaching we will hasten His coming.

Jesus is coming. We should be aroused and prepared to see Jesus. Our journey is almost over. By going back to the Word of God and preaching to the world, we have to prepare ourselves to meet Him and hasten His coming.

Michael L Ryan, chair, called to order the eighth session of the 2008 Annual Council.

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

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SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/458-07GE/ADCOM/08AC to AM

415-08GE USE OF “WORKER” - *CHURCH MANUAL* EDITORIAL
DIRECTIVE

VOTED, To approve a directive to amend the *Church Manual*, where appropriate, by deleting the term “worker,” and replacing it with the term “church employee.”

IAD/ChManSub/ChMan/460-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-10GCS

416-08GS CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES - *CHURCH MANUAL*
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 10, Ministers and Workers in Relation to the Church, page 150, Credentials and Licenses, to read as follows:

Credentials and Licenses

God’s work is to be jealously safeguarded by the responsible leaders in every step of organization, from the local church to the General Conference. In order that enemies of the work may not gain access to our pulpits, it is most strongly urged that no one be allowed to speak to any congregation unless he/she presents valid and up-to-date denominational credentials. It is recognized, however, that there are times when it is proper for our congregations to be addressed by government officials or by civic leaders; but all unauthorized persons should be excluded from the pulpit. (See pp. 77, 149, 215-217.)

The churches in their collective capacity through the ~~conferences/missions/fields~~ unions of churches/conferences/missions/fields confer upon certain individuals the authority to represent and speak for the church as ministers and gospel workers. This authority is represented by the granting of credentials, which are written commissions, properly dated and signed by the officers of the union of churches/conferences/missions/ fields. ~~conference/mission/field~~. The authority thus conveyed is not personal or inherent in the individual holding the credentials, but is inherent in the body granting the credentials, and may be recalled at any time if sufficient cause exists. The credentials granted workers are never to be regarded as the personal property of the workers, but as belonging to the organization granting the same. The worker is honor-bound to return them upon the request of the organization.

Official credentials are issued to all authorized Seventh-day Adventist workers, and are granted by controlling committees for limited ~~periods~~. periods, according to their constitution and bylaws or operating policies.

SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/ChManSub/ChMan/461-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-10GCS

417-08GS SUMMARY OF DOCTRINAL BELIEFS - *CHURCH*
MANUAL APPENDIX DELETION

1. Whereas, the statement of Fundamental Beliefs, in chapter 3, is already a summary statement of the Church's understanding of Scripture; and
2. Whereas, the Appendix statement is somewhat a summary of a summary; and
3. Whereas, the topics of the Appendix statement do not exactly correspond by numbers with the statement of Fundamental Beliefs; and
4. Whereas, the topics of the Appendix statement do not reflect in subject matter with any exactness, the topics of the statement of Fundamental Beliefs; and
5. Whereas, the Appendix statement is primarily designed for the preparation of candidates for baptism and is rarely used for this purpose because of numerous other Bible Study Guides; and
6. Whereas, there is an expectation that the Appendix should match the total number of statements listed in the statement of Fundamental Beliefs and thereby causes confusion; it is

RECOMMENDED, To delete the Appendix, Summary of Doctrinal Beliefs, pages 219 to 223, from the *Church Manual*, which reads as follows:

Summary of Doctrinal Beliefs

This summary of doctrinal beliefs is especially prepared for the instruction of candidates for baptism. (See pp. 31-35.)

1. The true and living God, the first person of the Godhead, is our heavenly Father, and He, by His Son, Christ Jesus, created all things. (Matt. 28:18, 19; 1 Cor. 8:5, 6; Eph. 3:9; Jer. 10:10-12; Heb. 1:1-3; Acts 17:22-29; Col. 1:16-18.)
2. Jesus Christ, the second person of the Godhead, and the eternal Son of God, is the only Saviour from sin; and man's salvation is by grace through faith in Him. (Matt. 28:18, 19; John 3:16; Micah 5:2; Matt. 1:21; 2:5, 6; Acts 4:12; 1 John 5:11, 12; Eph. 1:9-15; 2:4-8; Rom. 3:23-26.)

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3. The Holy Spirit, the third person of the Godhead, is Christ's representative on earth, and leads sinners to repentance and to obedience of all God's requirements. (Matt. 28:18, 19; John 14:26; 15:26; 16:7-15; Rom. 8:1-10; Eph. 4:30.)

4. Through Christ, believers receive forgiveness of sins which are forsaken and confessed, and for which, as far as lies in their power, restitution is made. (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14, 15; 1 John 1:7-9; Isa. 55:6, 7; Eze. 33:15; Matt. 5:23, 24; 6:14, 15.)

5. The Bible is God's inspired word, and is the full, the sufficient, and the only basic rule of faith and practice. (2 Tim. 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Ps. 119:9, 11, 105, 130; 1 Thess. 2:13; Isa. 8:20; Jer. 15:16; Heb. 4:12.)

6. All who enter the kingdom of heaven must have experienced conversion, or the new birth, through which man receives a new heart and becomes a new creature. Thus, regardless of ethnic or social background, he becomes a member of "the whole family in heaven and earth." (Matt. 18:3; John 3:3; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eze. 36:26, 27; Heb. 8:10-12; 1 Peter 1:23; 2:2; Acts 17:26; Eph. 3:15.)

7. Christ dwells in the regenerate heart, writing upon it the principles of God's law, leading the believer to delight to obey its precepts, and imparting power for such obedience. (2 Cor. 6:16; Ps. 40:8; Heb. 8:10-12; John 14:15; Col. 1:27; 3:16; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 3:14-21.)

8. Upon His ascension Christ began His ministry as high priest in the holy place of the heavenly sanctuary, which sanctuary is the antitype of the earthly tabernacle of the former dispensation. As in the type, a work of investigative judgment began as Christ entered the second phase of His ministry, in the Most Holy Place, foreshadowed in the earthly service by the Day of Atonement. This work of the investigative judgment in the heavenly sanctuary began in 1844, at the close of the 2300 years, and will end with the close of probation. (Heb. 4:14; 8:1, 2; Lev. 16:2, 29; Heb. 9:23, 24; Dan. 8:14; 9:24-27; Rev. 14:6, 7; 22:11.)

9. The second coming of Christ is the hope of the church, the climax of the gospel, and the goal of the plan of redemption, when Jesus will come literally, personally, and visibly, with all His holy angels. Many signs of the times testify that His coming is at hand. And the almost complete fulfillment of all the various lines of prophecy indicates that "he is near, even at the doors." (John 14:1-3; Titus 2:11-14; Heb. 9:28; Acts 1:9-11; Rev. 1:7; Matt. 25:31; Luke 9:26; 21:25-33; Matt. 24:14, 36-39, 33, margin.)

10. The righteous dead will be raised to life at Christ's second advent. Together with the righteous living, they will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air, and will go with Him to heaven, there to spend the one thousand years known as the millennium. (Rev. 1:7; John 5:25,

28, 29; Hosea 13:14; 1 Cor. 15:51-55; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; John 11:24, 25; 14:1-3; Rev. 20:6, 4, 5; Isa. 25:8, 9.)

11. The wicked who are living at the time of Christ's second advent will be slain by the brightness of His coming. These, with the wicked dead of all ages, will await the second resurrection, at the close of the one thousand years. (2 Thess. 1:7-10; 2:8; Jude 14, 15; Rev. 20:5, 12, 15; John 5:28, 29; Acts 24:15; Isa. 24:21, 22.)

12. At the end of the one thousand years, the following events will take place: (a) Christ and the righteous will descend from heaven, with the Holy City, the New Jerusalem (Rev. 21:2, 10); (b) the wicked dead will be resurrected for final judgment (Rev. 20:11, 12); (c) the wicked will receive the final wages of sin when fire comes down from God out of heaven to consume them (Rev. 20:7-10, 14, 15); and (d) this fire, which destroys the works of sin, will purify the earth. (2 Peter 3:10-14; Mal. 4:1, 3; Rev. 20:8, 4.)

13. The earth, cleansed by fire and renewed by the power of God, will become the eternal home of the redeemed. (2 Peter 3:9-13; Isa. 65:17-25; 35:1-10; 45:18; Matt. 5:5; Mal. 4:1-3; Prov. 11:31.)

14. The seventh day of the week is the eternal sign of Christ's power as Creator and Redeemer, and is therefore the Lord's day, or the Christian Sabbath, constituting the seal of the living God. It should be observed from sunset Friday to sunset Saturday. (Gen. 2:1-3; Ex. 16:23-31; 20:8-11; John 1:1-3, 14; Eze. 20:12, 20; Mark 1:21-32; 2:27, 28; Isa. 58:13; Luke 4:16; 23:54-56; 24:1; Acts 17:2; Heb. 4:9-11; Isa. 66:22, 23; Lev. 23:32.)

15. Marriage is one of the God-given institutions dating from the Garden of Eden, before sin entered the world. Jesus honored the institution of marriage and upheld its sanctity and permanence. The New Testament repeatedly affirms the sacredness of the marriage relationship, and instructs that it is to be entered into with a lifelong commitment to fidelity and moral purity. Sexual intimacies between male and female outside of marriage or between members of the same sex are contrary to the divine plan and are condemned in the Bible as sin. Those who are followers of Jesus will by His grace maintain moral purity within these biblical guidelines concerning sexual relationships. "For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from immorality" (1 Thess. 4:3, RSV).

The Christian husband and wife are to love and respect one another as God loves and respects them. They are commanded to love and respect their children, to treat them gently, and to teach them to love and serve God. To this end they are to utilize family worship, attendance at Sabbath School and the other church services, and as much as possible, the schools operated by the church. Likewise children are to fulfill their responsibilities to respect and obey their

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parents. (Gen. 2:21-24; Deut. 4:6, 7; Matt. 19:3-9; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Eph. 5:24, 25, 28; Col. 3:18-21; 1 Thess. 4:3-8; Heb. 10:23-35; 13:4; 1 Peter 3:7.)

16. The tithe is holy unto the Lord, and is God's provision for the support of His ministry. Freewill offerings are also part of God's plan for the support of His work throughout the world. (Lev. 27:30-32; Mal. 3:8-12; Num. 18:20-28; Matt. 23:23; Prov. 3:9, 10; 1 Cor. 9:13, 14; 2 Cor. 9:6, 7; Ps. 96:8. See pp. 16, 33, 35, 51, 161-166.)

17. Immortality comes only through the gospel, and is bestowed as a gift from God at Christ's second coming. (1 Cor. 15:21, 22, 51-55; Ps. 146:3, 4; Eccl. 9:5, 6, 10; 1 Tim. 6:15, 16; 2 Tim. 1:10; 1 John 5:11, 12.)

18. The condition of man in death is one of unconsciousness. All men, good and evil alike, remain in the grave from death to the resurrection. (Eccl. 9:5, 6; Ps. 115:17; 146:3, 4; Job 14:10-12, 21, 22; 17:13; John 11:11-14; 1 Thess. 4:13; John 5:28, 29.)

19. The Christian is called unto sanctification, and his life should be characterized by carefulness in deportment and modesty and simplicity in dress. (1 Thess. 3:13; 4:3, 7; 5:23; 1 Peter 2:21; 3:15, 3-5; Isa. 3:16-24; 1 Cor. 10:31; 1 Tim. 2:9, 10. See pp. 16, 176-182.)

20. The Christian should recognize his body as the temple of the Holy Spirit. He will therefore honor God by caring for his body intelligently, partaking in moderation of that which is good and avoiding the use of that which is harmful, abstaining from all unclean foods; from the use, manufacture, or sale of alcoholic beverages; from the use, manufacture, or sale of tobacco in any of its forms for human consumption; and from the misuse of, or trafficking in, narcotics or other drugs. (1 Cor. 3:16, 17; 6:19, 20; 9:25; 10:31; 2 Cor. 7:1; Gal. 5:17-21; 6:7, 8; 1 Peter 2:9-12; 1 Cor. 10:1-11; Lev. 11:1-8. See pp. 16, 33, 35, 195.)

21. The church is to come behind in no gift, and the presence of the gift of prophecy is to be one of the identifying marks of the remnant church. (1 Cor. 1:5-7; 12:1-28; Amos 3:7; Hosea 12:10, 13; Rev. 12:17; 19:10. See pp. 15, 33, 34.)

Seventh-day Adventists recognize that this gift was manifested in the life and ministry of Ellen G. White.

22. The Bible teaches a definite church organization. The members of this organization are under sacred obligation to be subject thereunto, loyally to support it, and to share in its maintenance. They are admonished not to forsake the assembling of themselves together. (Matt. 16:16-18; Eph. 1:10-23; 2:19-22; 1 Cor. 14:33, 40; Titus 1:5-9; Matt. 18:15-18; 1 Cor. 12:12-28; 16:1-3; Heb. 10:25; Acts 4:32-35; 6:1-7.)

23. Baptism by immersion typifies the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, and openly expresses faith in His saving grace and the renunciation of sin and the world, and is recognized as a condition of entrance into church membership. (Matt. 3:13-17; 28:19; Acts 2:38, 41-47; 8:35-39; 16:32, 33; 22:16; Rom. 6:1-11; Gal. 3:27; Col. 3:1-3. See pp. 30, 33, 35.)

24. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper commemorates the Saviour's death; and participation by members of the body is essential to Christian growth and fellowship. It is to be preceded by the ordinance of foot-washing as a preparation for this solemn service. (Matt. 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; John 6:48-56; 13:1-17; 1 Cor. 11:27-30.)

25. In the Christian life there is complete separation from worldly practices, such as card playing, theatergoing, dancing, et cetera, which tend to deaden and destroy the spiritual life. (2 Cor. 6:15-18; 1 John 2:15-17; James 4:4; 2 Tim. 2:19-22; Eph. 5:8-11; Col. 3:5-10. See pp. 178-180.)

26. Through the study of the Word God speaks to us, imparting light and strength; and through prayer the soul is united with God. These are Heaven's ordained means for obtaining victory in the conflict with sin and for the development of Christian character. (Ps. 19:7, 8; 119:130; John 6:63; 17:17; 1 Peter 2:2; 1 Thess. 5:17; Luke 18:1; Ps. 55:17; Isa. 50:4.)

27. Every church member is under sacred command from Jesus to use his talents in personal soul-winning work in helping to give the gospel to all the world. When this work is finished, Jesus will come. (Matt. 25:14-29; 28:18-20; Rev. 22:17; Isa. 43:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:17-20; Rom. 10:13-15; Matt. 24:14.)

28. In accordance with God's uniform dealing with mankind, warning them of coming events that will vitally affect their destiny, He has sent forth a proclamation of the approaching return of Christ. This preparatory message is symbolized by the three angels' messages of Revelation 14, and meets its fulfillment in the great Second Advent Movement today. This has brought forth the remnant, or Seventh-day Adventist Church, keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. (Amos 3:7; Matt. 24:29-34; Rev. 14:6-10; Zeph. 3:13; Micah 4:7, 8; Rev. 14:12; Isa. 26:2; Rev. 22:14.)

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SEC/ChManSub/BRI/ChManSub/ChMan/464-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-10GCS

420-08GS DEACONESS - *CHURCH MANUAL* AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 7, Church Officers and Their Duties, pages 58 and 59, Deaconess, to read as follows:

Deaconess

Deaconesses were included in the official staff of the early Christian churches. “I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deaconess of the church at Cenchreae, that you may receive her in the Lord as befits the saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been a helper of many and of myself as well” (Rom. 16:1, 2, RSV).

The deaconess is elected to office, serving for a term of one or two years as determined by the local church. (See p. 49.) It does not follow that the wife of a man chosen as deacon thereby becomes a deaconess, nor is it incumbent upon a church to choose the wife of a deacon as deaconess because her husband is a deacon. The deaconess is to be chosen from the standpoint of consecration and other qualifications that fit her to discharge the duties of the office. The church may arrange for a suitable service of induction for the deaconess by an ordained minister holding current credentials. Deaconesses may be ordained in divisions where the process has been approved by its executive committee. (See Chapter 7, Notes #1, Deaconesses May Be Ordained.)

Duties of Deaconesses—Deaconesses serve the church in a wide variety of - No change

Board of Deaconesses—Where several deaconesses have been elected - No change

SEC/ChManSub/BRI/ChManSub/ChMan/465-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-10GCS

421-08GS ORGANIZATION OF A CHURCH - *CHURCH MANUAL*
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 16, Organizing, Uniting, and Dissolving Churches, pages 209 and 210, Organization of a Church, to read as follows:

Organization of a Church

Churches are organized by an ordained minister on the recommendation of a conference/mission/field committee. Since so much is involved in the organization of a church, the local conference/mission/field president should, whenever possible, be invited to be present.

When a company of baptized believers, fully instructed in the message, is prepared to assume the responsibilities of an organized church, the conference/mission/field president should be taken into counsel and a date should be agreed upon for the organization to take place.

The baptized believers being assembled, it is well to present a brief review of the leading principles of our faith, such as belief in the Godhead with the personhood of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, salvation by grace through faith, the new birth, the priesthood of Christ, the Second Advent, the law of God, the Sabbath, the nature of man, the state of the dead, the judgment, the church, baptism, the communion service, spiritual gifts, Christian stewardship, health and temperance, the oneness of the human family in Christ Jesus, and Christian social standards. Two or three representative texts should be cited in support of each teaching.

When this has been done, ~~done~~ a call should be made, asking all who are in agreement with these principles and who desire to unite in church fellowship to come forward. The name of each person should be recorded. If one or more are already members of the conference/mission/field church or any other church, the one officiating will already have ascertained this and will have had letters granted to them to join this new church. These will thus form a nucleus.

If, however, there are none present who have such membership elsewhere, then three members (preferably established Sabbathkeepers among those present) should be selected as a nucleus. The following questions might then be asked: Do you accept Christ as your personal Saviour? Are you in full harmony with the principles of faith that have just been presented? Have you been baptized by immersion? Are you in good fellowship and enjoying one another's confidence?

If these questions are answered in the affirmative, the three are declared to constitute the nucleus of the new church. Then one after another the names on that list are called, and the person is asked the foregoing questions; then a vote is taken among the nucleus to receive the individual into church fellowship. Each person thus received becomes a member of the church and is qualified to vote on the next name. Care should be taken to see that full fellowship and brotherly love exist among those received into membership. Should any difficulty arise in any case over a question either of doctrine or of fellowship, action in such cases should be deferred unless the matter can be adjusted kindly and tactfully at the time.

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When all have been received, the church is a complete entity and ready for the election of officers. A nominating committee should be chosen, with the officiating minister as chairman. This committee shall bring in nominations to fill the various church offices. When these have been elected, the elders should be ordained. After a brief outline of an elder's duties and the mutual responsibilities of members, the elders should be called to the platform and invited to kneel while the officiating ministers pray and lay hands upon them to signify that the church sets them apart for this service. A similar but shorter dedication should take place for the ordination of the ~~deacons~~. deacons and an induction service for deaconesses. Deaconesses may be ordained in divisions where the process has been approved by its executive committee. (See Chapter 7, Notes #1, Deaconesses May Be Ordained.) When this has been done, the church is fully organized and ready for service.

Before such a meeting closes, an action should be taken requesting the local conference to receive the newly organized church into the sisterhood of churches at the time of the next local conference/mission/field session.

Care should be taken to see that all officers are fully instructed concerning their duties. The church should have a communion set provided, also the materials needed for the ordinance of foot-washing. The treasurer, the clerk, and the other officers should be furnished with the necessary record and receipt books. All such details should be given careful attention, for the future prosperity of the church depends in a large degree upon the care that is exercised in its organization and instruction. When it can be arranged, the communion service should be celebrated at the time the church is organized.

ChManSub/ChMan/467-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM

423-08GE DEACONS MUST BE ORDAINED - *CHURCH MANUAL*
EDITORIAL AMENDMENT

VOTED, To amend the Church Manual, Chapter 7, Church Officers and Their Duties, page 56, Deacons Must Be Ordained, to read as follows:

Deacons Must Be Ordained—A newly elected deacon cannot fill his office until he has been set apart by an ordained minister who holds current credentials from the conference/mission/field.

The sacred rite of ordination should be simply characterized by simplicity and performed in the presence of the church by an ordained minister, and may consist of a brief reference to the office of deacon, the qualities required of such a servant of the church, and the principal duties he will be authorized to perform for the church. After a short exhortation to faithfulness in

service, the minister, assisted by an elder where appropriate, ordains the deacon by prayer and the laying on of hands. (See p. 210.) If he has been once ordained as deacon, and has maintained his membership, it is not necessary for him to be ordained again even though he has transferred to another church. When the term for which he was elected expires, he must be reelected if he is to continue to serve as deacon. Should one who has been ordained as elder be elected as deacon of a church, it is not necessary for him to be ordained as deacon; his ordination as elder covers this office.

SEC/ChManSub/BRI/ChManSub/ChMan/468-07GN/ADCOM/08AC to AM

424-08GN CHURCH OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES - *CHURCH*
MANUAL NOTES ADDITION

VOTED, To add a new section to the *Church Manual*, Chapter 7, Church Officers and Their Duties, Notes, page 67, #1 and #2, to read as follows:

1. Deaconesses May Be Ordained—A deaconess may be set apart by an ordained/commissioned minister who holds current credentials from the union of churches/conference/mission/field.

The sacred rite of ordination should be characterized by simplicity and performed in the presence of the church by an ordained/commissioned minister, and may consist of a brief reference to the office of deaconess, the qualities required of such a servant of the church, and the principal duties she will be authorized to perform for the church. After a short exhortation to faithfulness in service, the minister, assisted by an elder where appropriate, ordains the deaconess by prayer and the laying on of hands. (See p. 210.) If she has been once ordained as deaconess, and has maintained her membership, it is not necessary for her to be ordained again even though she has transferred to another church. When the term for which she was elected expires, she must be reelected if she is to continue to serve as deaconess.

2. Ordained Deaconesses Not Authorized to Preside—The ordained deaconess is not authorized to preside at any of the ordinances of the church, nor can she perform the marriage ceremony. She may not preside at any of the business meetings of the church; neither may she officiate at the reception or transfer of members. Where a church has no one authorized to perform such duties, the church shall contact the union of churches/conference/mission/field for assistance. (See p. 58.)

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Allan R Handysides gave an update on the condition of William G Johnsson. He has a badly broken ankle which is going to be splinted, and then he will be flown home to Washington, DC where he will undergo surgery. Rae Lee Cooper will accompany him on the flight.

Prayer was offered by Allan R Handysides.

08AC to AM

CHURCH MANUAL—STUDY GROUP

VOTED, That the General Conference appoint a small study group to look at the *Church Manual* to determine whether it would be beneficial to write a new *Church Manual*.

OMA/FinPl&Bud05AC/05AC/101-05Ga/06AC/101-06Ga/FinPl&Bud07AC/GCDO07AC/
07AC/101-07Ga/FinPl&Bud08AC/08AC to JRP(DIV)

101-08Ga CALENDAR OF THIRTEENTH SABBATH
OFFERINGS—WORLD 2009 - 2015

VOTED, To revise the Calendar of Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings—World 2009 - 2015, to read as follows:

2009	First Quarter	Southern Asia-Pacific Division
	Second Quarter	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division
	Third Quarter	South American Division
	Fourth Quarter	South Pacific Division
2010	First Quarter	East-Central Africa Division
	Second Quarter	Euro-Africa Division
	Third Quarter	Trans-European Division
	Fourth Quarter	West-Central Africa Division
2011	First Quarter	Southern Asia Division
	Second Quarter	Euro-Asia Division
	Third Quarter	Inter-American Division
	Fourth Quarter	North American Division

2012	First Quarter	Northern Asia-Pacific Division
	Second Quarter	Southern Asia-Pacific Division
	Third Quarter	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division
	Fourth Quarter	South American Division
2013	First Quarter	South Pacific Division
	Second Quarter	East-Central Africa Division
	Third Quarter	Euro-Africa Division
	Fourth Quarter	Trans-European Division
2014	First Quarter	West-Central Africa Division
	Second Quarter	Southern Asia Division
	Third Quarter	Euro-Asia Division
	Fourth Quarter	Inter-American Division
2015	First Quarter	North American Division
	Second Quarter	Northern Asia-Pacific Division
	Third Quarter	Southern Asia-Pacific Division
	Fourth Quarter	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division

Distribution summary among divisions from 2009 through 2015:

East-Central Africa	2
Euro-Africa	2
Euro-Asia	2
Inter-American	2
North American	2
Northern Asia-Pacific	2
Southern Africa-Indian Ocean	3
South American	2
South Pacific	2
Southern Asia	2
Southern Asia-Pacific	3
Trans-European	2
West-Central Africa	2

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StratPIStCom/GCDO07AC/07AC/101-07Gd/08AC to MLR(DIV)

101-08Gb CALENDAR OF SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS—
WORLD 2009

VOTED, To record the Calendar of Special Days and Events—World 2009, to read as follows:

January

3	Soul-Winning Commitment	Program provided by divisions
10	<i>Tell the World: Spiritual Growth</i>	Program provided by GC
17	Health Ministries	Program provided by divisions
24	Religious Liberty Day	

February

7	<i>Tell the World: Church Planting Sabbath</i>	Program provided by GC
7-14	Christian Home and Marriage	Program provided by GC
21	<i>Let's Talk Sabbath</i>	Program provided by GC
21	Health and Temperance Magazines	Program provided by divisions

March

7	Women's Day of Prayer	Program provided by GC
14	<i>Tell the World: Personal Outreach</i>	Program provided by GC
14	Missionary Literature Emphasis	Program provided by publishing houses
21-28	Youth Week of Prayer	Program provided by GC

April

11	Adventist Mission Emphasis (offering)	Program provided by GC
11	Youth Spiritual Commitment Celebration (Northern Hemisphere)	
18	Literature Evangelism Rally	Program provided by divisions
25	Christian Education	Program provided by divisions

May

1-31	Drug Awareness Month	Program provided by GC
2	Community Service Evangelism	Program provided by divisions
16	<i>Tell the World: Big Cities</i>	Program provided by GC
23	Sabbath of Hope	Program provided by GC

June

6	Bible Correspondence School	
13	Women's Ministry	Program provided by GC

July

4	Griggs University/International Academy	
11	<i>Tell the World: Media Ministry</i>	Program provided by GC

August

8	Global Mission Evangelism	Program provided by divisions
22	Abuse Prevention Emphasis	Program provided by GC

September

5	Lay Evangelism	Program provided by divisions
5-12	<i>Adventist Review</i> (Annual subscription promotion)	
12	Family Togetherness	Program provided by GC
12	Adventist Mission Emphasis (offering)	Program provided by GC
12	Youth Spiritual Commitment Celebration (Southern Hemisphere)	
19	Pathfinder Day	
19-26	Health Emphasis	Program provided by divisions

October

3	Sabbath School Guest	Program provided by divisions
3	<i>Tell the World: In the Community</i>	Program provided by GC
10	Spirit of Prophecy	Program provided by Ellen G White Estate
17	Children's Sabbath	

November

7-14	Week of Prayer	
14	Annual Sacrifice (offering)	Program provided by GC
21	Ingathering	
28	Bible Emphasis	Program provided by divisions

December

5	Stewardship	Program provided by divisions
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StratPIStCom/GCDO07AC/07AC/101-07Ge/08AC to MLR(DIV)

101-08Gc CALENDAR OF SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS—
WORLD 2010

VOTED, To record the Calendar of Special Days and Events—World 2010, to read as follows:

January

2	Soul-Winning Commitment	Program provided by divisions
9	<i>Tell the World: Spiritual Growth</i>	Program provided by GC
16	Health Ministries	Program provided by divisions
23	Religious Liberty Day	

February

6	<i>Tell the World: Church Planting Sabbath</i>	Program provided by GC
6-13	Christian Home and Marriage	Program provided by GC
20	<i>Let's Talk Sabbath</i>	Program provided by GC
20	Health and Temperance Magazines	Program provided by divisions

March

6	Women's Day of Prayer	Program provided by GC
13	<i>Tell the World: Personal Outreach</i>	Program provided by GC
13	Missionary Literature Emphasis	Program provided by publishing houses
20-27	Youth Week of Prayer	Program provided by GC

April

10	Adventist Mission Emphasis (offering)	Program provided by GC
10	Youth Spiritual Commitment Celebration (Northern Hemisphere)	
17	Literature Evangelism Rally	Program provided by divisions
24	Christian Education	Program provided by divisions

May

1-31	Drug Awareness Month	Program provided by GC
1	Community Service Evangelism	Program provided by divisions
15	<i>Tell the World: Big Cities</i>	Program provided by GC
22	Sabbath of Hope	Program provided by GC

June

5 Bible Correspondence School
12 Women's Ministry Program provided by GC

July

3 Griggs University/International Academy
10 *Tell the World: Media Ministry* Program provided by GC

August

7 Global Mission Evangelism Program provided by divisions
21 Abuse Prevention Emphasis Program provided by GC

September

4 Lay Evangelism Program provided by divisions
4-11 *Adventist Review*
(Annual subscription promotion)
11 Family Togetherness Program provided by GC
11 Adventist Mission Emphasis (offering) Program provided by GC
11 Youth Spiritual Commitment
Celebration (Southern Hemisphere)
18 Pathfinder Day
18-25 Health Emphasis Program provided by divisions

October

2 Sabbath School Guest Program provided by divisions
2 *Tell the World: In the Community* Program provided by GC
9 Spirit of Prophecy Program provided by Ellen G White
Estate
16 Children's Sabbath

November

6-13 Week of Prayer
13 Annual Sacrifice (offering) Program provided by GC
20 Ingathering
27 Bible Emphasis Program provided by divisions

December

4 Stewardship Program provided by divisions

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TRE/FinPl&Bud07AC/GCDO07AC/07AC/101-07Gf/08SM/FinPl&Bud08/08AC to JRP(DIV)

101-08Gd CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS—WORLD 2009

VOTED, To revise the Calendar of Offerings—World 2009, which reads as follows:

January

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

February

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

March

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

April

4	Outreach/Church Budget
11*+	World Mission Budget
18	Church Budget
25	Conference/Union

May

2	Outreach/Church Budget
9*+	Disaster and Famine Relief (Program provided for NAD only)
16	Church Budget
23	Conference/Union
30	Church Budget

June

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

July

4 Outreach/Church Budget
11*+ World Mission Budget
18 Church Budget
25 Conference/Union

August

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

September

5 Outreach/Church Budget
12*+ World Mission Budget (Unusual Opportunities)
19 Church Budget
26 Conference/Union

October

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

November

7 Outreach/Church Budget
14*+ Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)
21 Church Budget
28 Conference/Union

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December

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

Summary of Offerings

General Conference	6
Division	6
Conference/Union	12
Church	28

Total	52
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*Program provided by the General Conference
+Worldwide offering

FinPl&Bud08AC/08AC to JRP(DIV)

101-08Ge CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS—WORLD 2010

VOTED, To adopt the Calendar of Offerings—World 2010, which reads as follows:

January

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

February

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

March

6 Outreach/Church Budget
13 *+ Adventist World Radio
20 Church Budget
27 Conference/Union

April

3 Outreach/Church Budget
10 GC Session Offering (funds remitted to the GC) [replaces the World Mission Budget]
17 Church Budget
24 Conference/Union

May

1 Outreach/Church Budget
8 *+ Disaster and Famine Relief (Program provided for NAD only)
15 Church Budget
22 Conference/Union
29 Church Budget

June

5 Outreach/Church Budget
12 Division
19 Church Budget
26 Conference/Union; GC Session Offering (only the offering collected at the GC Session will apply to the 10/40 Window)

July

3 Outreach/Church Budget; GC Session Offering (only the offering collected at the GC Session will apply to the 10/40 Window)
10 *+ World Mission Budget
17 Church Budget
24 Conference/Union
31 Church Budget

August

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

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September

4	Outreach/Church Budget
11 *+	World Mission Budget (Unusual Opportunities)
18	Church Budget
25	Conference/Union

October

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

November

6	Outreach/Church Budget
13 *+	Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)
20	Church Budget
27	Conference/Union

December

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

Summary of Offerings

General Conference	7
Division	6
Conference/Union	12
Church	27
Total	52

*Program provided by the General Conference

+Worldwide offering

SEC/ADCOM/08AC to LRE

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION (GCC-B)—
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the International Board of Education (IBE) (GCC-B), as follows:

Add	Blackmer, Larry (NAD) Mirilov, Branislav (ESD) Lekic, Mike (SSD) Oliver, Barry D (SPD)
Delete	Biaggi, Guillermo (ESD) Evans, Laurie J (SPD) Kovalski, Gerald N (NAD)

SEC/ADCOM/08AC to LRE

GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE BOARD (GCC-B)—
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the Geoscience Research Institute Board (GRIBd) (GCC-B), as follows:

Add	Prestol, Juan R
Delete	Rose, Steven G

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/08AC to LRE-10GCS

219-08GS GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS - CONSTITUTION
AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article V—General Conference Sessions, to read as follows:

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ARTICLE V—GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Sec. 1. The General Conference shall hold quinquennial Sessions at such time and place as the General Conference Executive Committee shall designate and announce by a notice published in the *Adventist Review and Adventist World* in three consecutive issues at least four months before the date for the opening of the Session. In case special world conditions make it imperative to postpone the calling of the Session, the General Conference Executive Committee, in regular or special council, shall have authority to make such postponement, not to exceed two years, giving notice to all constituent organizations.

Sec. 2. The General Conference Executive Committee may call special sessions of the General Conference at such time and place as it considers proper, by means of a notice as provided for in Sec. 1., and the transactions of such special sessions shall have the same force as those of the regular sessions.

Sec. 3. At least one-third of the total delegates authorized hereinafter under - No change

Sec. 4. The election of officers and the voting on all matters of business - No change

Sec. 5. The delegates to a General Conference Session shall be designated as follows:

a. Regular delegates.

b. Delegates at large.

c. In case of financial exigency or other major crisis within the Church or in the international arena, the General Conference Executive Committee may take an action to reduce the maximum number of delegates to a particular General Conference Session. Such reduction shall then be applied to both regular delegates and delegates at large.

Sec. 6. Regular delegates shall represent the General Conference's member units ~~union conferences, union missions, member conferences, missions, and unions of churches~~ as defined in Article IV, as follows:

a. Delegates representing union conferences having division - No change

b. Delegates representing union missions and unions - No change

c. Delegates representing conferences and missions having - No change

d. Delegates representing conferences and missions - No change

e. Delegates representing conferences and missions directly attached to ~~divisions~~, divisions shall be appointed by the respective division executive committees in consultation with the organizations concerned.

f. Delegates representing division institutions, the number - No change

g. Delegates representing union conferences directly attached - No change

h. Delegates representing union missions, conferences, missions, and unions of churches directly attached to the General Conference shall be appointed by the General Conference Executive Committee in consultation with the organizations concerned.

Sec. 7. Regular delegates shall be allotted on the following basis - No change

Sec. 8. Delegates at large shall represent the General ~~Conference~~ Conference, its institutions, divisions of the General Conference, and division institutions and shall be appointed on the following basis:

a. All members of the General Conference Executive Committee.

b. Associate directors/secretaries of General Conference - No change

c. Twenty delegates from General Conference appointed staff. Such delegates shall be selected by the General Conference Executive Committee upon recommendation from the General Conference Administrative Committee.

d. Twenty delegates for each division.

e. Each division shall be entitled to additional delegates - No change

f. Those representatives of the General Conference and division - No change

Sec. 9. Division administrations shall consult with unions to ensure that - No change

Sec. 10. Credentials to sessions shall be issued by the General Conference - No change

Sec. 11. Calculations for all delegate allotments as provided for in this - No change

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229-08GSE UNDERSECRETARY AND ASSOCIATE SECRETARIES -
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS EDITORIAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws,
Article IV—Undersecretary and Associate Secretaries, to read as follows:

ARTICLE IV—UNDERSECRETARY IV—GENERAL CONFERENCE
UNDERSECRETARY AND ASSOCIATE SECRETARIES

Sec. 1. An undersecretary and associate secretaries shall be elected to share with the secretary the responsibilities of the office. They shall perform such duties connected with the General Conference Secretariat as may be assigned to them by the secretary or by the General Conference Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. The secretary of the North American Division, by virtue of election - No change

Sec. 3. The role of the General Conference undersecretary and associate - No change

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/08AC to LRE-10GCS

230-08GSE DIVISION SECRETARIES - CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS EDITORIAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws,
Article V—Division Secretaries, to read as follows:

ARTICLE V—DIVISION SECRETARIES V—GENERAL CONFERENCE
UNDERTREASURER AND ASSOCIATE TREASURERS

~~Sec. 1. A secretary shall be elected for each division to be designated “division secretary.”~~

~~Sec. 2. Each division secretary shall work according to plans and programs voted by the General Conference in session and according to plans and policies agreed upon by the division executive committee. The secretary shall serve as vice chair of the executive committee, and shall report to the executive committee after consultation with the president. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the division executive committee meetings, to collect~~

~~information and make such reports as may be required, and to do such other work as usually pertains to this office.~~

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

Sec. 1. An undertreasurer and associate treasurers shall be elected to share with the treasurer the work of the office. They shall perform such duties connected with the General Conference Treasury as may be assigned to them by the treasurer or by the General Conference Executive Committee. They may be authorized by the General Conference Administrative Committee to sign checks under the instruction of the treasurer.

Sec. 2. The treasurer of the North American Division, by virtue of election to that responsibility, shall also be an associate treasurer of the General Conference.

Sec. 3. The role of the General Conference undertreasurer and associate treasurers, in relationship with the divisions, includes the following:

- a. To provide financial counsel, information, and analysis.
- b. To assist in conducting financial surveys as requested.
- c. To respond to special requests submitted by the division treasurers.
- d. To invest the assets of the divisions as requested by the divisions.
- e. To assist in international banking arrangements.

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231-08GSE UNDERTREASURER AND ASSOCIATE TREASURERS -
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS EDITORIAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article VI—Undertreasurer and Associate Treasurers, to read as follows:

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~~ARTICLE VI—UNDERTREASURER AND ASSOCIATE TREASURERS~~
~~VI—DIVISION SECRETARIES~~

~~Sec. 1. An undertreasurer and associate treasurers shall be elected to share with the treasurer the work of the office. They shall perform such duties connected with the Treasury as may be assigned to them by the treasurer or by the Executive Committee. They may be authorized by the Administrative Committee to sign checks under the instruction of the treasurer.~~

~~Sec. 2. The treasurer of the North American Division, by virtue of election to that responsibility, shall also be an associate treasurer of the General Conference.~~

~~Sec. 3. The role of the General Conference undertreasurer and associate treasurers, in relationship with the divisions, includes the following:~~

- ~~a. To provide financial counsel, information, and analysis.~~
- ~~b. To assist in conducting financial surveys as requested.~~
- ~~c. To respond to special requests submitted by the division treasurers.~~
- ~~d. To invest the assets of the divisions as requested by the divisions.~~
- ~~e. To assist in international banking arrangements.~~

Sec. 1. A secretary shall be elected for each division to be designated “division secretary.”

Sec. 2. Each division secretary shall work according to plans and programs voted by the General Conference in session and according to plans and policies agreed upon by the division executive committee. The secretary shall serve as vice-chair of the executive committee, and shall report to the executive committee after consultation with the president. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the division executive committee meetings, to collect information and make such reports as may be required, and to do such other work as usually pertains to this office.

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

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/GCDO08AC/08AC to LRE-10GCS

237-08GS REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES - CONSTITUTION
AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article XVI—Remuneration and Expenses, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XVI—REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

Sec. 1. The General Conference Executive Committee shall appoint annually a minimum of eight persons not in its employ who, with officers of the General Conference and not less than seven presidents of ~~union conferences~~, unions, shall constitute a committee to review the remuneration, related allowances, and expenses of employees.

Sec. 2. The General Conference Executive Committee shall have power to make necessary adjustments from time to time in the remuneration of employees.

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/08AC to LRE-10GCS

239-08GSE FINANCE - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
EDITORIAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article XX—Finance, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XX—FINANCE

Sec. 1. To provide a working fund for regular operations and to protect against a possible financial emergency or depression, the General Conference shall maintain an amount of working capital as defined and specified in the General Conference Working Policy.

Sec. 2. The General Conference Executive Committee, acting through its legal agency, the General Conference Corporation, shall have power to make annuity contracts; but all moneys obtained in this way shall be invested in securities and not be made available for appropriations until the annuity contracts have matured.

Sec. 3. The tithes and mission offerings received by the General Conference shall be appropriated for the work of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. It shall not be within the prerogative, therefore, of the General Conference Executive Committee, the General Conference

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Treasury, nor of any agent or agency of the denomination to lend these funds to private individuals, to endorse notes, sign bonds or other ~~securities~~ securities, or in any other way to divert the funds of the General Conference from their intended purpose.

Sec. 4. The basis for computing goals and per capita funds shall be the - No change

SEC/Con&By/ADCOM/08AC to LRE-10GCS

252-08GSE OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES - CONSTITUTION
AND BYLAWS EDITORIAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article IX—Officers and Their Duties, to read as follows:

ARTICLE IX—OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Sec. 1. The officers of the General Conference shall be a president, vice presidents, a secretary, an undersecretary, associate secretaries, a treasurer, an undertreasurer, and associate treasurers. It is the duty of these officers, in consultation with one another, to carry forward the work according to plans and programs voted by the General Conference in session and according to plans and policies agreed upon by the General Conference Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. Executive Officers: The president, secretary, and treasurer - No change

Sec. 3. President: The president is the first officer of the ~~General Conference~~, Conference and shall report to the General Conference Executive Committee in consultation with the secretary and the treasurer. He or his designee shall preside at the sessions of the General Conference, act as chair of the General Conference Executive Committee, serve in the general interests of the General Conference as the General Conference Executive Committee shall determine, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to such office. The General Conference ~~President~~ president shall be an ordained minister of experience.

Sec. 4. Vice Presidents: Each vice president shall assist the president - No change

Sec. 5. Secretary, undersecretary, and associate secretaries: The secretary, in the performance of the executive responsibilities, shall report to the General Conference Executive Committee after consultation with the president. The secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes of the proceedings of the General Conference Sessions and meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee, for maintaining correspondence with church organizations,

and for the performance of such other duties as usually pertain to such office. The undersecretary and associate secretaries shall assist the secretary in this work.

Sec. 6. Treasurer, undertreasurer, and associate treasurers: The treasurer, in the performance of the executive responsibilities, shall report to the General Conference Executive Committee after consultation with the president. The treasurer shall be responsible for providing financial leadership to the General Conference which will include, but not be limited to, receiving, safeguarding, and disbursing all funds in harmony with the actions of the General Conference Executive Committee, for providing financial information to the president and to the General Conference Executive Committee, and for the performance of such other duties as usually pertain to such office. The undertreasurer and associate treasurers shall assist the treasurer in this work.

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253-08GSE ELECTION - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS EDITORIAL
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article VI—Election, to read as follows:

ARTICLE VI—ELECTION

Sec. 1. The following shall be elected at each regular session of the General - No change

Sec. 2. The following shall be approved by vote of the General Conference Executive Committee at a subsequent meeting, following recommendations from the divisions:

Other persons to serve as members of the General Conference Executive Committee as provided for in Article VIII, Sec. 1. b. ~~Sec. 1. b.~~

SEC/Con&By/ADCOM/08AC to LRE-10GCS

254-08GSE GENERAL AND DIVISION FIELD SECRETARIES -
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS EDITORIAL
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article IX—General and Division Field Secretaries, to read as follows:

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ARTICLE IX—GENERAL AND DIVISION FIELD SECRETARIES

Sec. 1. The term “general field secretary” shall be used to designate general - No change

Sec. 2. The general field secretaries shall work under the direction of the General Conference Executive Committee and the president, and be assigned either to field service or to special projects or responsibilities that are approved by the General Conference Executive Committee.

Sec. 3. The term “division field secretary” shall be used to designate field - No change

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255-08GSE DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES AND STATISTICS -
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS EDITORIAL
AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article XII—Director of Archives and Statistics, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XII—DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES AND STATISTICS

At the first Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee following a regular session, the General Conference shall appoint a director of Archives and Statistics whose duties shall be to administer the General Conference Archives and to compile and report the statistics of the world work, and who shall serve under the direction of the General Conference secretary and the General Conference Executive Committee.

ADCOM/ChManSub/ChMan/452-07GS/ADCOM/08AC to AM-10GCS

409-08GS TO COOPERATE WITH THE CONFERENCE/MISSION/FIELD -
CHURCH MANUAL AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 7, Church Officers and Their Duties, page 53, To Cooperate With the Conference/Mission/Field, to read as follows:

To Cooperate With the Conference/Mission/Field—The pastor, elder(s), and all church officers should cooperate with the conference/mission/field officers and departmental directors in

carrying out ~~local, union, division, and General Conference~~ approved plans. They should inform the church of all regular and special ~~offerings~~, offerings and should promote all the programs and activities of the church.

The elder should work very closely with the church treasurer and see that all conference/mission/field funds are remitted promptly to the conference/mission/field treasurer at the time established by the conference/mission/field. The elder should give personal attention to seeing that the church clerk's report is sent promptly to the conference/mission/field secretary at the close of each quarter.

The elder should regard all correspondence from the conference/mission/field office as important. Letters calling for announcements to the church should be presented at the proper time.

The first elder, in the absence of and in cooperation with the pastor, should see that delegates to conference/mission/field sessions are elected and that the names of such delegates are sent to the conference/mission/field office by the clerk.

The elder should give counsel and help to officers in the church to measure up to their responsibilities in cooperating with the conference/mission/field in carrying out plans and policies, and in seeing that reports are accurately and promptly forwarded.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Thanks was expressed to Secretariat, including Matthew A Bediako, Larry R Evans, Dian R Lawrence, the entire Secretariat staff, and to those who worked hard to make sure everything went smoothly, including George O Egwakhe and Sheri Clemmer. A special thanks was expressed to the Southern Asia-Pacific Division for hosting the Annual Council and to all of the division workers who assisted in making us feel welcome.

Appreciation was expressed to all those who came to participate in the meeting, especially the laymembers who left their work to join us.

Prayer was offered by Matthew A Bediako, Secretary of the General Conference.

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Michael L Ryan, Chair

Agustin Galicia, Secretary

Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary

Tamara K Boward, Recording Secretary