

SPRING MEETING

April 5 and 6, 2009

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SPRING MEETING OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 5, 2009, 8:00 a.m.

PRESENT

Roy Adams, Onaolapo Ajibade, Bolivar Alana, Niels-Erik A Andreassen, Jonas Arrais, Raquel C Arrais, Delbert W Baker, Rosa T Banks, Harold W Baptiste, Lisa M Beardsley, Matthew A Bediako, Guillermo E Biaggi, Gordon Bietz, Rodney G Brady, Paul S Brantley, Gina S Brown, G Alexander Bryant, Garrett Caldwell, Mario E Ceballos, Shirley Chang, Carl Patrick Chin, Gordon E Christo, G S Robert Clive, Lowell C Cooper, Williams S Costa Jr,

Gary R Councill, James A Cress, Rajmund Dabrowski, Marino F De Oliveira, A Ganoune Diop, Paul H Douglas, Karnik Doukmetzian, C Garland Dulan, George O Egwakhe, G Thomas Evans, Larry R Evans, Howard F Faigao, Jimmy L Ferguson, Mark A Finley, Karen M Flowers, Ronald M Flowers, John M Fowler, Agustin Galicia, Dale E Galusha, L James Gibson, Ricardo B Graham, John Graz, Alberto C Gulfan Jr,

Bert B Haloviak, Allan R Handysides, Richard H Hart, Keith R Heinrich, Roscoe J Howard III, King-Yi Eugene Hsu, Clyde M Iverson Jr, Johann E Johannsson, Delbert L Johnson, Richard D Kajiura, Mikhail F Kaminskiy, Gerry D Karst, Anthony R Kent, Linda Mei Lin Koh, Erton C Kohler, William M Knott, Gary D Krause, Jonathan Kuntaraf, Kathleen H L Kuntaraf, Peter R Kunze, Robert E Kyte, Peter N Landless, Jairyong Lee, Israel Leito, Robert E Lemon,

Jean-Luc Lezeau, Jose R Lizardo, Emmanuel S Manu, Solomon Maphosa, Gabriel E Maurer, Geoffrey G Mbwana, Lester P Merklin Jr, Armando Miranda, Hiskia I Missah, Joshua W Mok, Baraka G Muganda, Pardon K Mwansa, G T Ng, James R Nix, Don J Noble, Goodwell Nthani, Barry D Oliver, Daisy Jane F Orion, Richard C Osborn, Orville D Parchment, Jan Paulsen, Juan O Perla, Philip Philipsen, Timothy L Poirier, Juan R Prestol, Peter J Prime,

Erika F Puni, John Rathinaraj, Paul S Ratsara, Gordon L Retzer, Angel M Rodriguez, Blasious M Ruguri, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Claude Sabot, Nikolaus Satelmajer,

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Lawrence E Schalk, Don C Schneider, Marti C Schneider, Benjamin D Schoun, Luis A Schulz, Ralph E Shelton Sr, Ella S Simmons, Heather-Dawn K Small, Robert S Smith, Artur A Steele, Akeri Suzuki, Gary B Swanson, Robert L Sweezey, Halvard B Thomsen, Brad Thorp,

Max C Torkelsen II, Homer W Trecartin, Max A Trevino, Cindy Tutsch, Filiberto M Verduzco-Avila, Bruno R Vertallier, Gilbert Wari, Dave Weigley, Bertil A Wiklander, Jeffrey K Wilson, Neal C Wilson, Ted N C Wilson, Harald Wollan, Joel Zukovski

## DEVOTIONAL

The devotional message entitled, “Now Abideth Faith, Hope, Charity,” was presented by G Alexander Bryant, Secretary of the North American Division and Associate Secretary of the General Conference.

In the chapter entitled, the love chapter, Paul gives us a very insightful look into hope. He closes the chapter by sharing that many of the gifts of the spirit will be done away—prophecies shall fail, tongues shall cease, and knowledge shall vanish away. Then he says there will be three things that shall remain faith, hope, and charity. It is easy to understand faith and charity in this context of the Christian life, but hope seems almost out of place. At first glance, it doesn't seem as though it belongs in the same room as faith and love. However, it plays a very significant role in the life of the believer. Hope is that intangible but real quality that tells me, no matter how dark the night may be, there is a bright day coming.

Hope comes from the Greek word *elpis* which means to anticipate. Webster defines hope as desire accompanied by anticipation. God made us and knows our make-up and understands the human being's need for hope. From the beginning of time, God gave man hope. When God banished Adam from the Garden He told him about a deliverer. He told Israel, while they were in and out of slavery, about the promised Messiah. All throughout Paul's writings, he speaks about hope over and over again. He talks about the abiding nature of hope. The hope that Paul is speaking about is the eternal hope; the blessed hope. This is a time when all things will be made right. It will be a time when there will be no more suffering, no more tears, no more pain, and no more death, for the former things will have passed away.

Then there will be a new heaven and a new earth. Comfort one another with these words of hope for this hope abides. The world is looking for this kind of hope. Let us go out and share it with them.

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Prayer was offered by Harold W Baptiste, Former Vice President of the General Conference.

Jan Paulsen, chair, called to order the first session of the 2009 Spring Meeting.

#### MISSION STATEMENT OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

The Mission Statement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was read by Rosa T Banks, secretary of the business session.

BRI/09SM to GDK

WILSON, NEAL C—DEDICATION

The book, *Toward a Theology of the Remnant*, published by the Biblical Research Institute, was dedicated to Neal C Wilson in recognition of his years of leadership.

SEC/ADCOM/09SM to LRE

114-09G SPRING MEETING 2009—STANDING COMMITTEES

VOTED, To approve standing committees for the 2009 Spring Meeting, as follows:

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jan Paulsen, Chair  
Matthew A Bediako, Secretary

Members: Niels-Erik A Andreasen, Delbert W Baker, Rosa T Banks, Shirley Chang, Carl Chin, Gordon E Christo, Lowell C Cooper, Larry R Evans, Mark A Finley, Agustin Galicia, Ricardo Graham, Alberto C Gulfan Jr, Richard H Hart, Roscoe J Howard III, Eugene Hsu, Gerry D Karst, Donald G King, Linda Mei Lin Koh, Erton C Kohler, Jonathan Kuntaraf, Jairyong Lee, Israel Leito, Robert E Lemon, Jose R Lizardo,

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Emmanuel Manu, Geoffrey G Mbwana, Armando Miranda, Pardon K Mwansa, Barry D Oliver, Daisy Jane F Orion, Ruben Pechero, Juan R Prestol, John Rathinaraj, Paul S Ratsara, Michael L Ryan, Don C Schneider, Ralph Shelton, Ella S Simmons, Artur A Steele, Lawrence P Tanabose, Filiberto M Verduzco-Avila, Bruno Vertallier, Gilbert Wari, Bertil Wiklander, Ted N C Wilson.

### STEERING

Jan Paulsen, Chair  
Larry R Evans, Secretary

Members: Rosa T Banks, Matthew A Bediako, G Alexander Bryant, 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, Homer W Trecartin, Ted N C Wilson.

### *TELL THE WORLD* REPORT

Lowell C Cooper, Mark A Finley, and Michael L Ryan presented the *Tell the World* report including an update on the *Follow the Bible* project. The presentation included reports from five world divisions as well as the Adventist Development and Relief Agency and Generation of Youth for Christ.

Prayer was offered by Matthew A Bediako, Secretary of the General Conference.

09SM to LRE

### KYTE, ROBERT E—RESIGNATION

VOTED, To accept the resignation of Robert E Kyte, General Counsel for the Office of General Counsel, General Conference. He has accepted another position.

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KYTE, ROBERT E—APPRECIATION

VOTED, To express appreciation to Robert E Kyte for his years of dedicated service to the General Conference as General Counsel for the Office of General Counsel.

SEC/09SM to LRE

DOUKMETZIAN, KARNIK—GENERAL COUNSEL, OFFICE OF GENERAL  
COUNSEL, GENERAL CONFERENCE - APPOINTMENT

VOTED, To appoint Karnik Doukmetzian as General Counsel for the Office of General Counsel, General Conference.

SEC/ADCOM/09SM to LRE

115-09G COMPENSATION REVIEW COMMITTEE—2009  
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VOTED, To appoint the Compensation Review Committee for the 2009 Spring Meeting, as follows:

MEMBERS

Weigley, Dave, Chair  
Lemon, Robert E, Secretary

Presidential

Cooper, Lowell C  
Finley, Mark A  
Gulfan, Alberto C Jr  
Hsu, Eugene  
Karst, Gerry D  
Kohler, Erton C  
Lee, Jairyong  
Leito, Israel  
Mbwana, Geoffrey G  
Miranda, Armando

Presidential, contd

Mwansa, Pardon K  
Oliver, Barry D  
Paulsen, Jan  
Rathinaraj, John  
Ratsara, Paul S  
Ryan, Michael L  
Schneider, Don C  
Simmons, Ella S  
Stele, Artur A  
Vertallier, Bruno

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Presidential, contd

Wari, Gilbert  
Wiklander, Bertil  
Wilson, Ted N C

Secretariat

Bediako, Matthew A  
Bryant, G Alexander  
Evans, Larry R  
Maurer, Gabriel E  
Mok, Joshua W

Treasury

Evans, G Thomas  
Prestol, Juan R  
Ryan, Roy E

GC Institutional Administrators

Andreasen, Niels-Erik  
Baker, Delbert W  
Hart, Richard H

Laypersons

Brown, Gina S  
Chang, Shirley

Laypersons, contd

Chin, Carl Patrick  
Green, Shelton  
Pechero, Reuben Daniel  
Saravia, Evelyn J  
Young, Debbie

Pastor/Front-line Workers

Shelton, Ralph Edmond  
Smith, David C

Union Presidents

Graham, Ricardo  
Howard, Roscoe J III  
Jackson, Daniel R  
King, Donald G  
Livesay, Don  
Retzer, Gordon L  
Torkelsen, Max II  
Trevino, Max A

Departments and Services

Handysides, Allan R  
Small, Heather-Dawn

SEC/OGC/ADCOM/ADCOM/GCDO09SM/09SM to MAB

116-09G GENERAL CONFERENCE RULES OF ORDER

VOTED, To amend the *General Conference Rules of Order*, to read as follows:

General Conference

Rules of Order

~~Review and Herald Publishing Association  
Hagerstown, Maryland, USA~~

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Silver Spring, Maryland, USA

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GENERAL CONFERENCE RULES OF ORDER  
(Procedural Rules for General Conference Business Sessions)  
Sessions and Executive Committee Meetings)

At the 1985 General Conference Session in New Orleans, a number of delegates expressed the desire for more precise and written rules of order for General Conference Sessions. In harmony with the wishes of the Session, the General Conference Executive Committee subsequently appointed a subcommittee to study the matter and draw up such rules of procedure.

In its work, this committee was guided by the desire to prepare rules of order for the Church which are in harmony with the Spirit of Prophecy instruction and Seventh-day Adventist policy and reflect a sensible approach to session and committee efficiency based on tried and true working methods.

The General Conference Executive Committee ratified the work of the subcommittee and the ~~present *General Conference Rules of Order* is the approved product.~~ *General Conference Rules of Order* were approved. The current edition has been updated for the 2010 General Conference Session to assure consistency within the rules and for clarity.

A fundamental aim of these rules is to facilitate the participation by delegates and committee members in discussions and debates, and in the decision-making process. Rules of procedure are set up to facilitate free participation and are not set in theological concrete.

It was felt that it was not necessary to go into great detail. Specific provision has been made for most eventualities. Neither the Bible nor the writings of Ellen G. White are textbooks of ecclesiastical parliamentary law. Ellen G. White asks for harmony and simplicity in the business meetings of the Church and recommends the avoidance of unnecessary machinery which could sap the physical and mental energies of those called to participate in council and committee meetings (Ms 3, 1890, p. 9).

The purpose of this short compendium of rules of order is to guide church leaders and other participants so that the work of church sessions and committees can move along smoothly, expeditiously, and fairly. These procedures should serve church business sessions like the clear signalization which enables traffic to move smoothly, safely, and rapidly without confusion and delay.

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The Church is a voluntary society of those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. She is the body of Christ. She is not a parliamentary body, a political forum, a service club, or a business corporation. When Seventh-day Adventists meet to transact the business of the Church, they are meeting with God. In the final analysis, it is the Holy Spirit who leads and guides. “If your committee meetings and council meetings,” wrote Ellen G. White, “are not under the direct supervision of the Spirit of God, your conclusions will be earthborn, and worthy of no more consideration than are any man’s expressions” (Letter 81, 1896, pp. 8, 9).

The delegates at church sessions and especially the General Conference Session are legislating, not to satisfy personal or party interests, not to cater to nationalistic or regional ambitions, but to work “for time and eternity” and participate in the divine mission for the salvation of the world—7T 258, 259. Delegates and committee members are warned against a spirit of selfishness, self-exaltation, and pomposity in council and committee meetings (see Ms 29, 1895, p. 8).

The overarching concern of church sessions and committees is to discover and understand God’s will regarding the issues, plans, and appointments to be considered. In the light of this purpose, the object of rules of order is to facilitate accomplishing the will of God. In this sense, the delegated sessions of the Church are *sui generis* (unique), different from any other human organization.

These rules of order are intended to be used with a sense of reverence for the divine purpose. They are not intended to provide for quick or dilatory parliamentary maneuvers to gain a point, gain undeserved attention, gain advantage by suppressing the wishes of others, or to confuse the chair, fellow delegates, or committee members. These rules, furthermore, should not be used in such a way as to become an excuse for procedural wrangling which could keep sessions or committees from moving forward with dispatch. Ellen G. White counsels that there should be “constant effort for brevity in business meetings” (Ms 3, 1890, p. 9).

It must never be forgotten that the letter of procedural rules can kill; it is the spirit that gives life to church order and government. The chair, with the support of the delegates, must use good judgment and not let the machinery get in the way of the advancement of God’s work.

Where procedural issues arise which are not specifically covered by the *General Conference Rules of Order*, the chair shall rule according to his best judgment. However, any delegate has the right to appeal the ruling. In that case, if the appeal is seconded, the chair shall put the issue to the delegates for a decision by majority vote.



May these rules ~~of~~ of order help church delegates and committee members in their appointed work of “legislating for God” (Letter 81, 1896, p. 8).

—General Conference Executive Committee

Relationship of ~~Rules of Order~~ General Conference Rules of Order to the  
*Church Manual* and General Conference *Working Policy*

The *Church Manual* and General Conference Constitution, ~~Bylaws~~ Bylaws, and *Working Policy* take precedence over the rules of order, should there be any conflict.

Duties of Chair

1. The chair shall preside over sessions and committee meetings in harmony with the rules of order.
2. The chair shall take up the various committee reports and items of business on the approved agenda.
3. The chair shall work for consensus in decision making by treating each side of an issue with fairness.
4. The chair may vote
  - a. If the vote is by ballot, or
  - b. To make a tie or break a tie (if he has not already voted by ballot).
5. It is the duty of the chair to hold speakers to their allotted time and help move business along as expeditiously and fairly as possible.
6. The chair shall decide points of order (though the decision may be appealed by any delegate).
7. While it is necessary for the chair to give leadership, in order to be impartial and give evidence that justice is done, the chair should not personally become closely involved in session floor debate while in the chair. Should he wish to express his views at length and take sides in the debate, he should step down from the chair calling upon another officer to take the chair temporarily. It is understood, however, that in committee meetings the president, even while occupying the chair, will be free to fully participate in the discussions and present his views.

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### Duties of Delegates and Committee Members

1. In view of the ~~high~~ privilege of serving as delegates at church sessions or as committee members, those acting in these capacities should conduct themselves with Christian decorum, realizing they are doing the Lord's business, not making frivolous, irrelevant, unnecessarily time-consuming, or obstructionist speeches or motions. In such cases the chair has every right to rule out of order.
2. Delegates or committee members, for reasons of fairness and respect for fellow delegates or members, should not expect to speak to a motion a second (or additional) time until others wishing to speak have had the opportunity to do so (as far as this is feasible). However, the chair may give a person who has already spoken the opportunity to answer a question or clarify previous remarks.
3. Delegates or committee members have the right to speak in their own language, subject to the availability of translators.

### Quorum

The quorum for sessions or committee meetings shall be fixed by the bylaws of the respective church organizations.

### Voting

1. Voting normally shall be by voice vote (~~viva voce~~) \ (viva voce).
2. If there is no objection, the chair can declare a vote by general consent.
3. By ruling of the chair or by majority vote of the delegates present and voting, voting can be by raising of hands, standing, secret ballot, or use of electronic device. If there appears to be a reasonable doubt regarding the result of a vote, either the chair or any member may call for the votes to be counted/recounted (a division of the assembly).
4. The chair may ask the secretary for assistance in counting the vote and/or appoint tellers.

### Elections

1. Elections shall be in harmony with the General Conference Constitution, ~~Bylaws~~ Bylaws, and *Working Policy*.

2. All nominations for elective office or executive committee membership shall be made by the Nominating Committee. This precludes nominations from the floor or by any other body or person.

3. Only one name shall be presented to the floor by the Nominating Committee for each position to be filled. The Nominating Committee may choose to present successive partial reports when there are a large number of positions to be filled.

4. The Nominating Committee shall meet in closed session. This does not mean that officers of higher church organizations cannot be invited to sit as counselors with the committee.

5. Election shall be by simple majority vote.

6. If there is objection to a part or the whole of the ~~the~~ Nominating Committee report, the objector(s) may request that the report (not an individual name) be referred back to the Nominating Committee for further consideration. It is the usual procedure for the chair to accept the referral; however, if the request becomes a motion, it is nondebatable and is decided by simple majority vote.

7. A request or motion to refer should be based on information which the objector(s) may have and which could be helpful to the Nominating Committee. When referral is granted, all objections must then be made known to the Nominating Committee chair and secretary. In counsel with the chair and secretary, the Nominating Committee shall determine the procedure for hearing the objection(s) to the report.

8. Persistent referrals back, particularly from the same source, are inconsistent with fairness and good procedure. In this case, there is every right to refuse referral and the Nominating Committee report can then be voted upon without further delay.

### Dealing With Motions

There are basically four types of motions:

1. Main motions
2. Privileged motions
3. Subsidiary motions

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4. Incidental motions

Each category has its own purposes, characteristics, and order of precedence.

1. Main Question or Motion. The purpose of a main motion is to introduce and propose the action regarding an item of business. Only delegates or members with the right to vote may make motions or speak to motions.

~~a. The purpose of a main motion is to introduce and propose action regarding an item of business.~~

~~b. Only delegates or members with the right to vote may make motions or speak to motions.~~

~~c. a. Every motion requires~~ Requires a second.

~~d. b. A simple majority vote is required for the motion to pass.~~ pass unless the Bylaws or these rules specify a different requirement.

~~e. c. It may be amended by a majority vote.~~

~~f. d. A motion~~ Another motion is not in order when ~~another~~ a main motion is being considered, except

1) Privileged motions (fixing time of future meeting, adjournment, and question of privilege), and

2) Subsidiary motions (tabling, previous questions, refer to committee, amendments, postpone indefinitely, and limit time of debate), and

3) Incidental motions (appeals regarding points of order, division of a question, and withdrawing or modifying a motion).

~~g. e. In case of a tie vote, the motion is lost.~~ This provision respects the right of the chair, if the chair has not already voted, to do so in order to make or break a tie vote.

2. Privileged Motions. This ~~kind of motion~~ category of motions deals with the rights of delegates or committee members as a whole and the rights of individual delegates or members in regard to the session or meeting. No debate is allowed on privileged motions, and they cannot be tabled (except a question of privilege), postponed, or referred to a committee (committed).

These rules recognize three kinds of privileged motions: Fixing the time of a further meeting, calling for adjournment or recess, and questions of privilege.

a. Fixing the time of a further meeting.

This motion

- 1) Requires a second.
- 2) Cannot be debated.
- 3) Is the highest motion in rank.
- 4) Can be amended in regard only to time and place.
- 5) Cannot interrupt a person speaking.
- 6) Requires a simple majority.
- 7) Can be reconsidered.

b. Calling for adjournment or recess.

This motion

- 1) Requires a second.
- 2) Cannot be debated, though the chair or secretary may provide information regarding business requiring attention.
- 3) ~~Cannot be amended.~~ Adjournment cannot be amended, recess may be amended.
- 4) Requires a simple majority.
- 5) Cannot interrupt a person speaking.
- 6) Cannot be reconsidered.

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c. Questions of privilege. A question of privilege is used to get the attention of the chair and meeting regarding a matter of business or procedure that cannot wait.

- 1) Questions of privilege refer to
  - a) Organization of session or meeting.
  - b) Comfort of delegates or members.
  - c) Conduct of delegates, members or of others present.
- 2) Procedure for questions of privilege
  - a) Do not require a second.
  - b) Cannot be debated.
  - c) Cannot be amended.
  - d) Can interrupt a person speaking.
  - e) Are usually decided by determination of the chair (though two delegates can appeal from the decision).
  - f) Can be reconsidered.

3. Subsidiary Motions. Subsidiary motions apply to a main motion and take precedence over the main motion because they need to be decided before the main motion can proceed. Privileged motions have precedence over subsidiary motions.

These rules of order recognize six kinds of subsidiary motions: motion to table, calling previous question, refer to committee (commit), amendments, postpone indefinitely, and limit time of debate.

a. Motion to Table. A motion to table should be used when delegates or committee members wish to postpone to a later time consideration of an item that has been moved. It is not used to “drop” or suppress a motion; the correct motion for this is “postpone indefinitely.” A motion to take from the table business previously tabled, is treated in the same way as a motion to table, though it can be renewed if it fails to pass. A motion to table

- 1) Requires a second.

- 2) Cannot be debated.
- 3) Cannot be amended.
- 4) Requires a simple majority.
- 5) Cannot be reconsidered.
- 6) Does not apply to committee reports or unfinished business but only to a pending motion.

b. Calling the Motion to Call the Previous Question. The purpose of this motion is to stop and close debate immediately and vote on a main motion or amendment under consideration. If previous question is ordered regarding an amendment, debate can continue on the main motion after the previous question on the amendment is voted. Privileged motions, motion to table, and incidental motions take precedence (~~“hold-over”~~) over previous question. Simply calling out “question” is not formally moving “previous question,” but indicates to the chair that a delegate or committee member feels it is time to vote. This motion

- 1) Requires a second.
- 2) Cannot be debated.
- 3) Cannot be amended.
- 4) Requires a two-thirds vote.
- 5) Cannot interrupt a person speaking.
- 6) Can be reconsidered.

c. Refer to Committee (Commit). The purpose of the motion to commit is to refer an item of business to a committee. The motion to commit

- 1) Requires a second.
- 2) Can be debated.
- 3) Can be amended.

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- 4) Requires a simple majority.
- 5) Takes ~~precedence (“hold-over”)~~, precedence, except the motion to postpone indefinitely and the main question.
- 6) Can be reconsidered if the committee has not already begun its work.

d. Amendments. The purpose of the motion to amend is to change or modify a main motion, and thus it must be germane to the business matter to be amended. A motion to amend (first level) may itself be amended (second level), but there can be no amendment (third level) to an amendment to an amendment. A “substitute motion” is really an amendment. The motion to amend

- 1) ~~Needs~~ Requires a second.
- 2) Can be debated ~~though discussion is~~ with discussion limited to the amendment itself.
- 3) Requires a simple majority.
- 4) Only one amendment can be considered at a time. As each is voted, other amendments offered are considered in succession.
- 5) Amendments are usually done by inserting, striking out or ~~substituting~~ substituting, or a combination of these.
- 6) Can be reconsidered.

e. Postpone Indefinitely. The purpose of this motion is to suppress a motion. Subsidiary motions do not apply, except previous question and limit (or extend) time of debate. The motion to postpone indefinitely

- 1) ~~Needs~~ Requires a second.
- 2) Is fully debatable, including both the main question and the propriety of postponing indefinitely.
- 3) Cannot be amended.



- 4) Requires a simple majority.
- 5) Applies essentially only to main motions, though it can be applied to “Questions of Privilege.”
- 6) Can be reconsidered if the vote was affirmative.

f. ~~Limit (or extend) time of debate.~~ Set Time of Debate. The purpose of this motion is to establish limits regarding the length of individual speeches in a discussion or to limit the time period provided for discussion before voting. ~~limit (or, where limited, to extend) the length of speeches and/or time of discussion.~~

~~In order to provide opportunity for a larger number of delegates or committee members to intervene in the debate, the chair may rule (the ruling may be appealed from) that speeches shall be limited to a certain time length.~~ The motion to set time of debate

- 1) Requires a second.
- 2) Can be debated.
- 3) Can be amended.
- 4) Requires a two-thirds vote.
- 5) Can be reconsidered by moving to extend time of debate (majority required).

4. Incidental Motions. These motions deal with incidents concerning main motions and must be decided before the main motion. These rules of order recognize as incidental motions only appeals regarding points of order, division of a question, and withdrawing or modifying a motion.

a. Appeal regarding points of order. The purpose is to object to a decision or ruling of the chair at the time it is made regarding a point of order or to relieve the chair from having to make a decision by placing responsibility on the delegates or members. The appeal

- 1) Requires a second.
- 2) Generally is debatable, but not when the decorum of the session or meeting is in question or when an undebatable question is pending.

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- 3) Cannot be amended.
- 4) Requires a simple majority.
- 5) Motions to “table” and “privileged motions” take precedence, as does “previous question” when the appeal is debatable.
- 6) Can be reconsidered.

⊕ 7) In a question of appeal a delegate or member may speak only once, except by special permission of the chair, and the chair has the right to present the arguments in favor of the chair’s decision or ruling.

b. Division of a question. The purpose of this motion is to divide a question having several propositions or sections (e.g. document with several pages or paragraphs) into separate parts which are to be considered and voted on as distinct questions. When divided, each part is voted on separately as if it had been offered alone. For practical purposes, it is better to divide a question when it is introduced, though the motion can be made any time while the question is pending.

The formality of a vote on division of a question can be dispensed with, the chair ruling by common consent regarding the method of division. If this procedure is objected to, then a formal motion to divide becomes necessary, specifying how the question is to be divided. The motion to divide

- 1) Applies only to main questions and amendments.
  - a) Requires a second.
  - b) Requires a simple majority.
- 2) Yields to all privileged and subsidiary motions and to the incidental motion to appeal from a decision of the chair, except the motions to amend and to postpone indefinitely over which it has precedence.
- 3) Can be amended, but the other five kinds of subsidiary motions do not apply to the motion to divide.
- 4) ~~Is not debatable.~~ Cannot be debated.

- 5) Can be reconsidered.

c. **Withdrawing or Modifying a Motion.** Before a motion has been stated by the chair, it is the property of the mover, who can withdraw it or modify it without asking for consent. After the motion has been stated by the chair, the maker must ask the assembly's permission to withdraw or modify the motion. If there is no objection, the chair shall treat the request as a unanimous-consent request. If there is an objection, the chair shall put the request to a majority decision vote. A motion to modify or withdraw

- 1) Does not require a second.
- 2) Cannot be debated.
- 3) Cannot be amended.
- 4) Requires a simple majority.
- 5) Cannot be reconsidered.

After a motion has been withdrawn, the situation is as if the motion had never been made.

d. **Reconsideration of Motions.** When these rules of order permit it, a motion already voted on can be reconsidered. The purpose of reconsideration is to permit correction of an erroneous action, especially when added information has become available or a changed situation has developed since the vote was taken. In order to protect against possible abuse, the motion to reconsider must be made by one who voted with the prevailing side. The motion to reconsider is appropriate when made during the same meeting or council. (After adjournment, the motion to rescind is the appropriate motion to be used at a subsequent meeting.)

- 1) Requires a second.
- 2) Is debatable, except when the motion proposed for reconsideration is undebatable.
- 3) Cannot be amended.
- 4) Needs Requires a simple majority.
- 5) Cannot be reconsidered, except by unanimous consent.

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e. Rescinding or Amending Previous Actions. The purpose of the motion to rescind is to repeal or annul an action previously voted. The motion to amend a previous action aims at changing only a part of the text previously voted.

- 1) Requires a second.
- 2) Can be amended.
- 3) Is debatable, except when the motion proposed for repeal is undebatable.
- 4) Can be ~~reconsidered~~. reconsidered only if vote was in the negative.
- 5) Needs two-thirds majority, unless ~~a prior announcement prior notice~~ has been ~~made~~ given that consideration will be given to rescind a previous action.

#### ~~Suspending Rules of Order~~ General Conference Rules of Order

Under special circumstances, and for the purpose of facilitating the business of the Church, these rules of order may be suspended by a ~~two-thirds~~ two-thirds vote of the delegates or members.

#### ~~Changing Rules of Order~~ General Conference Rules of Order

These rules of order may be changed by a two-thirds vote of the General Conference Executive Committee.

#### Rules of Order for General Conference

These rules of order shall apply to both the General Conference Sessions and Executive Committee meetings.

#### ~~Adapting General Conference Rules of Order~~ General Conference Rules of Order to Union or Conference Sessions and Executive Committee Meetings

These General Conference rules of order apply in principle to the world Church. Division committees may adapt, where necessary, these rules of order for use at sessions and executive committee meetings within their territory. ~~territory, by approval of the General Conference Executive Committee.~~

Use of ~~Rules of Order~~ General Conference Rules of Order by Other Church Organizations

Other church organizations, such as local churches, boards, and faculty meetings, may use these rules of order.

MOTIONS SUMMARY TABLE

Rank	Motions	Interrupt	Second	Debate	Amend	Vote	Reconsider	Notes*
10	Fix Time of Further Meeting (P)	No	Yes	No	Yes*	Majority	Yes	As to time and place
9	Adjourn/ Recess (P)	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No	
8	Question of Privilege (P)	Yes	No	No	No	Chair*	Yes	Chair's decision can be appealed by two members
7	Table (S)	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No	
6	Previous Question (S)	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	Yes	
5	Limit/Extend Debate (S)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3	Yes*	To extend debate only
4	Refer to Committee (S)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes*	If committee has not begun consideration
3	Amendment (S)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes	
2	Postpone Indefinitely (S)	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	Yes*	Affirmative vote only
1	MAIN MOTION	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes	
-	Appeal Points of Order (I)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	Yes	
-	Division of Question (I)	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	Yes	
-	Reconsider (I)	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	No	
-	Motion to Rescind	No	<del>No</del> Yes	Yes <sup>1</sup>	<del>No</del> Yes	Majority <sup>2</sup>	Yes	
-	Refer Back to Nominating Committee (I)	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No	Usually accepted
-	Take from the Table (I)	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	<del>Yes</del> No	
-	Withdraw Motion (I)	No	No	No	No	Majority	No	

2/3 Two-thirds Vote; P—Privileged Motion; S—Subsidiary Motion; I—Incidental Motion

<sup>1</sup> Except when motion proposed for repeal is ~~undebatable~~. undebatable.

<sup>2</sup> If notice of motion to rescind was previously given, otherwise requires a two-thirds majority.

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08AC/ADCOM/Adhoc/PreC/GCDO09SM/09SM to LCC

119-09G PUBLISHING COMMISSION FOR THE GENERAL  
CONFERENCE AND NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION—  
REPORT

INTRODUCTION

In October 2008, the General Conference Executive Committee approved the formation of a Publishing Commission for the General Conference and North American Division. Commission membership and terms of reference were voted by the General Conference Administrative Committee on November 25, 2008.

The task of the Commission involved a study of the current and projected role of General Conference-owned publishing and production facilities in North America. Terms of reference for the Commission indicated that its report should identify and prioritize effective, efficient, and sustainable options for meeting the denominational publishing and production needs of the General Conference and North American Division.

The Commission was established in light of questions concerning publishing trends and plans for the future. The situation is not one of crisis proportions, yet neither is it one of robust health. A ten-year report of sales at both publishing houses indicates a growth of 5 percent. During the same period, North American Division membership grew by 22 percent. Net worth at one house has increased by 16 percent while the other house has experienced a decrease of 21 percent over the ten-year period. In light of these and other trends, it is evident that the General Conference-owned publishing houses face important challenges.

The Commission's report provides a brief overview of General Conference publishing history, the unique role of General Conference publishing institutions, and current challenges in publishing and production. The report then identifies and analyzes a range of options with respect to General Conference-owned publishing institutions. The purpose of the report is not to advocate one option to the exclusion of all others. Instead, the report attempts to provide members of the General Conference Executive Committee with a view of the situation from which informed decisions can be made for the future.

HISTORY OF GENERAL CONFERENCE-OWNED PUBLISHING INSTITUTIONS<sup>1</sup>

*Review and Herald Publishing Association:* The Review and Herald Publishing Association (RHPA) is the current name for the oldest institution of the Seventh-day Adventist

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<sup>1</sup> The historical summaries in this section are from entries in the *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia*, Commentary Reference Series, Volume 11, Review and Herald Publishing Association, Hagerstown, Maryland, 1996.

Church. First incorporated in 1861, the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association was established in Battle Creek, Michigan. Periodic expansion of facilities was indicative of progress. However, there were times when the publishing house experienced serious financial difficulties. Much nondenominational commercial printing was accepted to keep the factory functioning. Ellen G White counseled against the commercial publishing of objectionable material that compromised Seventh-day Adventist teachings and views. On December 30, 1902, the publishing house was totally destroyed by fire although some assets, such as stock, housed in other buildings were spared. One result of the fire was the discontinuance of commercial printing.

A new organization, Review and Herald Publishing Association formed in 1903, received the assets from the Battle Creek operations and began publishing in the District of Columbia. That same year, the General Conference office was relocated from Battle Creek to Takoma Park, Maryland. The two properties were virtually adjacent to each other.

On March 20, 1980, the Southern Publishing Association in Nashville, Tennessee, merged with the Review and Herald. The Review and Herald facility could not be enlarged to accommodate the increased workload. Therefore, a 127 acre site was purchased near Hagerstown, Maryland. The Review and Herald Publishing Association has operated from this site since 1983.

*Pacific Press Publishing Association:* The Pacific Adventist Publishing Association was organized in 1875 as the Seventh-day Adventist Church's publishing enterprise in the western United States. The publishing work grew rapidly. By 1887, twelve presses were in use and 125 persons were employed at the publishing house. Because it often interfered with production of denominational publications, the large amount of commercial work being done created a growing problem. Eventually, in response to Ellen G White's counsel, the board voted in 1902 to reduce the volume of commercial work.

Originally located in Oakland, California, the publishing house, renamed as Pacific Press Publishing Association (PPPA), moved to Mountain View, California in 1904. In 1970, Pacific Press assumed the operation of Maracle Press Limited and Kingsway Publishing Association in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada. Maracle Press was later sold.

By the 1980s, the high cost of operating in the Bay Area of California, as well as other financial considerations, dictated relocation to an area providing less expensive operating costs. In addition, such a move would make it possible to realize savings as a result of a more efficiently designed facility. A 40-acre site was purchased in Nampa, Idaho where the publishing house moved in 1984.

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*Southern Publishing Association:* The first Seventh-day Adventist printing in Nashville, Tennessee was done by the Tennessee River Conference and J E White in 1900. Immediately after the 1901 General Conference Session organization of the Southern Union Conference, the union president requested that the Atlanta Branch of the Review and Herald be transferred to the Herald Publishing Company—at that time privately owned. Later in 1901, this company was incorporated under the name Southern Publishing Association (SPA).

Because of the problems of an aging physical plant located in a deteriorating neighborhood, the board voted, in 1972, to relocate and build a new publishing house which opened in 1974. In 1980, because of an economic decline and the growing need to utilize denominational printing equipment efficiently, a special committee consisting of representatives from Southern Publishing Association, the Review and Herald Publishing Association, the General Conference Publishing Department, and General Conference officers met to prepare a proposal that would lead to the merger of the two publishing houses.

Shortly thereafter, constituency meetings of the publishing houses were convened and actions approved to effect a merger. It was made clear to constituents at the time that it was hoped the two houses would eventually operate on a single site that was yet to be determined.

In summary, the history of denominational publishing in North America reveals the complexities and challenges of change. Organizations have been established, relocated, merged or discontinued. No mention has been made of numerous branches and book depositories that were set up by the various publishing houses listed above. The use of branch offices and book depositories has been discontinued. Technology, transportation, and regional or national economic circumstances have all had their impact on the Church's publishing work. But the story is also of growth and blessing. Today, the Church operates 63 publishing houses around the world. The advancing mission of the Church is heavily dependent on print media and the publishing houses serve this wide-ranging need.

PPPA and RHPA have always been General Conference institutions. Both are located in the United States of America. Both serve the General Conference, the North American Division, and the worldwide Church in unique ways. A later section of this report describes, in greater detail, the role of these institutions.

## CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE PRINT MEDIA INDUSTRY ENVIRONMENT

A review of the specific situation of any publishing entity must not ignore an understanding of the larger context in which publishing and printing is done today. Numerous changes in social, economic, and technological environments carry significant implications for the production and marketing of print media.



In recent years, printing and print publications have been impacted heavily by advances in technology. Printing machinery has become much more efficient. Each new piece of equipment increases capacity significantly. At the same time, digital electronic communication platforms provide access to almost endless information without the widespread use of ink and paper.

Trends and changes exerting the most impact on publishing and printing include the following:

1. Rapid advances in printing technology. Pre-press work has been highly digitized. Printing equipment has much higher capacity with much less waste in the process. Publishing/printing establishments cannot remain competitive without continued capital investment to upgrade equipment and processes.
2. Widespread availability of electronically-disseminated information affects dependency on print media. Surveys in North America indicate that while book and magazine readership is stable, in comparison with earlier decades, newspaper circulation is undergoing a substantial decline. There are more losers than winners in the newspaper industry. Although books and magazines are expected to retain a major place in North American society, new technology will continue to transform the ways in which people access information. (Trade books sell at the rate of approximately one per church in North America. Print runs are low and thus product pricing is not advantaged by high volume. Specialty items addressing current events have higher sales if there is a marketing blitz associated with their publication.)
3. A developing momentum towards self-publishing. There is an increasing trend towards authors being their own publishers with the publishing house fulfilling a service role for the author.
4. Movement towards print-on-demand and electronic publishing. Publishing establishments are pressed to move beyond the offset book. Offset printing remains in demand but there is an increasing market for e-books. Publishers must view themselves as distributors of intellectual property rather than publishers of books and magazines. Print-on-demand technology will allow for titles to be never "out of print." Providing this service will require capital investment and a new approach to dealing with inventory.

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## CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST PUBLISHING/PRINTING ENVIRONMENT

There are situations specific to Seventh-day Adventist publishing in North America. These, coupled with printing industry and social trends identified above, add complexity to analyzing the present status and of planning the future of church-related publishing institutions. The following represent perhaps the largest issues to be considered.

1. Proliferation of publishing/printing facilities. The Seventh-day Adventist Church values the role of print media in mission, so much so that the global Church now operates some 63 publishing houses. Within North American Division territory, there are numerous publishing/printing establishments, some owned and operated by denominational institutions, others owned and operated by lay members or lay organizations. Although two universities have closed their printing plants within the last four years, there is still surplus printing capacity within the denomination. The same holds true in the commercial printing environment. Job-pricing is very competitive. This provides a wide array of options in the choice of printers.

2. Changing role of Church structure in relation to publishing houses. In former times, PPPA and RHPA had very close connections with Church infrastructure. Major changes have occurred in three aspects of the relationship.

a. The Literature Evangelist Program. Prior to the 1990s, local conferences were supporting the Literature Evangelist program with amounts equivalent to 4-5 percent of tithes. Today, very few conferences still support the program, and those that do so provide support not exceeding 1 percent of tithes. Door-to-door marketing of consumer products has almost completely disappeared in North America. In the absence of another marketing system, the two publishing houses have gradually assumed considerable financial burdens to support the Literature Evangelist program.

b. Department and local church involvement in annual magazine subscription programs. When it was customary for every local conference and union to have a roster of department directors, a department director carried responsibilities for engaging the local churches in annual magazine and literature sponsorship programs. Over time, the staffing pattern at conferences and unions has changed until now there is virtually no conference-based leadership engaging local churches in large programs of literature distribution. A few conferences continue to employ publishing department directors.

c. Due to financial constraints, many local conferences no longer operate Adventist Book Centers—another of the primary marketing strategies for the distribution of denominational publications. In slightly over a decade, PPPA purchased 27 of these stores in

order to preserve a distribution channel for PPPA and RHPA products. Combined loss from these stores is approaching \$4 million after PPPA subsidies of over \$7 million have been applied.

d. Buyers' commitment to "lowest cost" among all available options. Denominational entities frequently cite cost considerations as the determining factor in selecting a publishing/printing establishment for their jobs. PPPA and RHPA are at some disadvantage compared to other SDA-owned or commercial printing facilities. (Several reasons are outlined below.) Concern for cost efficiencies has resulted in some major mission-related printing jobs of the General Conference and North American Division being outsourced to other printing establishments.

3. Financial overhead costs unique to PPPA and RHPA. The General Conference, and to some extent the entire Church, relies on PPPA and RHPA for a wide range of services, some of which are not generally performed by other publishing houses (denominational or otherwise). Several of these services have financial implications that are hidden or largely unrecognized. Denominational expectations include:

a. Order/subscription fulfillment services for the Sabbath School curriculum materials at all age levels (Cradle Roll through Adult).

b. Stocking, shipping, billing and collection services for materials printed for denominational entities. Most other printers operate on a job-order basis with a one-time full shipment of product followed by full payment for the job. PPPA and RHPA are expected to maintain inventory and provide for deferred payment on products such as the education textbook program for SDA schools.

c. Free rights to sister publishing houses outside of NAD for the use of pre-press investment on Sabbath School curriculum materials.

d. Payment of royalties on General Conference and Ellen G White Estate publications. (Other publishing houses, denominational or independent, do not pay these royalties, thus there is a marketing disadvantage to PPPA and RHPA.)

e. A commitment, regardless of circulation, to keep all Spirit of Prophecy titles in print.

f. Continued engagement in unprofitable product lines because they remain critical to denominational mission.

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g. Obligation to participate with local conferences in addressing the unfunded commitments of the former North American Division “defined benefit” retirement plan. Contributions from both houses to this fund in 2008 amounted to over \$1,900,000.

h. PPPA and RHPA do not have direct access to church membership for raising capital for new equipment or facilities. Independent publishers encounter virtually no barriers in the direct marketing of their needs to local churches, church members and/or lay organizations.

i. Porous territorial boundaries for publishing house products. More than a small volume of foreign language products printed in low-cost areas outside of North America under the “discounted cost-of-rights” courtesies extended by PPPA and RHPA finds its way back into the North American SDA market at reduced prices. This is being done under independent initiatives. Efforts by the foreign publisher/printer have been unsuccessful in stemming the backflow of products.

## STRATEGIES FOR THE FUTURE

After reviewing the impact of factors outlined above, the Commission studied financial operations for the two publishing houses over the last ten years. It is clear that financial challenges exist. The Commission discussed both operational and structural proposals as the means for maintaining a strong publishing work for the General Conference and North American Division.

Several structural options are readily apparent. The Commission looked briefly at the following.

1. Reconfiguring the product line assignments while continuing with current publishing house structures.
2. Retaining two publishing houses but with only one production facility either within one of the existing houses or as a separate third entity.
3. Close production facilities while maintaining one or both publishing houses. The house(s) would have a production department but no production facility (i.e. all production is accomplished by a non-GC-owned printing facility).
4. Merging the two publishing houses and production facilities at either of the present locations.
5. Merging the two publishing houses and production facilities at a new location.

6. Changing to non tax-exempt status for the two publishing houses. This would allow for the publishing houses to accept a higher level of nondenominational publishing and printing jobs.

7. Establishing a North American Division Publishing Committee to oversee four main publishing interests: the two independent publishing houses, all Adventist Book Centers, and the literature evangelist programs.

Each of the options has merits and demerits. However, this is not to imply that all options are seen as having an equal impact on the future of the publishing institutions or on the role of publishing in the mission of the Church. The time frame available for the Commission's work did not allow for thorough research and analysis that would serve as sufficient foundation for a specific recommendation concerning the restructuring options outlined above.

Earlier studies indicate that a merger (see paragraphs 4. and 5. above) may provide the most efficient and cost-effective structure. The present and near future publishing/printing needs of the General Conference and North American Division could be provided from a single publishing house having state-of-the-art equipment. If decisions were guided only by financial considerations, the matter would be less complex. However, institutional closures or mergers involve a number of costs not measured in financial terms. Decisions of this kind require thoughtful preparation of a rationale and appropriate education of constituencies involved.

In the Commission's view, a restructuring as per any of the models above does not ensure viability of the publishing work. The place of the publishing house in the mission of the Church in North America is central to any resolution of the challenges now experienced. The impact on the publishing houses of changes within the Church in North America has been summarized above. In the Commission's view, these changes have resulted in some distance between the mission of the Church and the mission of the publishing houses. The Commission believes that a new synergy can be found by collectively addressing the following matters:

1. Recognizing that the uncompensated services provided by the publishing houses and the obligations of the "defined benefit" NAD retirement fund justify a somewhat higher cost per job than might be the case with other publishing/printing establishments. Unless these financial obligations are borne by another source, the publishing houses have no choice but to consider these costs as additional overhead expense and to recover these from routine operations.

2. Establishing preferred status for PPPA and RHPA. By virtue of their being General Conference institutions providing unique services to the world field, PPPA and RHPA must be given preferred status as publishers/printers of jobs originating from the General

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Conference and North American Division offices, as well as from unions in the North American Division and entities located at the General Conference office. These Church entities should demonstrate a readiness to do business with the publishing houses even though costs may be somewhat higher. At the same time, preferred status must not shield PPPA and RHPA from rigorous attention to efficiency and market competitiveness. A relationship of mutual trust, openness and understanding will be necessary.

3. Reestablishing a closer connection between Church mission and the services of the publishing houses. Changes in Church structure created gaps in the historical relationship of church and publishing house. As a result the publishing houses began to assume responsibilities and financial obligations previously carried by Church entities. It is unlikely that conferences will employ department directors to conduct magazine subscription campaigns or that support for the Literature Evangelist program will increase dramatically. Much creative thinking, including a restudy of previous Church-publishing house relationships, is needed by Church entities and publishing house administrations to identify avenues for a new partnership in mission.

4. Re-visioning the marketing strategies for the publishing houses. At the present time, publishing house products are almost entirely distributed through Adventist Book Centers or by literature evangelists. Both distribution channels face challenges. Other mass-marketing systems must be explored. The publishing houses should also join in pursuing the 'convergence' principle in media—alignment of message and mission strategies across all media platforms: print, radio, television, and internet.

#### UNDERSTANDING AND APPLYING THE COUNSELS OF ELLEN G WHITE

There is a rich and informative history of publishing work in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Ellen G White provided much counsel about the importance and operation of publishing houses. During her lifetime, there were significant leadership and strategy issues surrounding the publication of literature for the Church's mission. She spoke and wrote pointedly about unethical business practices and the desire of one publishing house to capture a monopoly on denominational publications. (See chapter 13 of *The Publishing Ministry*, a compilation of writings by Ellen G White.)

Specific counsel from Ellen G White to Pacific Press and Review and Herald publishing houses was written during a period marked by tension between the two. Less than cordial relations prevailed and there was talk of "take over" and "consolidation" of all publishing operations at Battle Creek, Michigan. Ellen G White strongly objected to such plans.

Ever since those days, Ellen G White's counsel (i.e. that there should be more than one publishing house) has informed subsequent discussions about the publishing ministry structure in

North America. Some view her messages not only as a corrective to the situation of her day but as determinative concerning the continuance of PPPA and RHPA for all time.

The Commission reviewed her writings through a compilation prepared in 1968 by the Ellen G White Estate. In the Commission's view, these counsels serve to highlight principles rather than to protect specific structures. In addition to extremely valuable insights on the role of the publishing work in the mission of the Church, Ellen G White underscored principles which should inform the establishment and operation of institutions that serve the Church. These include:

1. Large institutional concentrations in one locale are not the best way for the Church to fulfill its mission. (Much of what she wrote on this subject was written prior to the major denominational reorganization in 1901 and perhaps needs to be seen in that light.)
2. No single individual or small group of individuals should have sole determination of the content or expression of denominational beliefs and teachings. A single publishing house for the denomination was not to be seen as God's plan. (While there are many publishing houses around the world, the visible and historic profile of PPPA and RHPA leads some to believe that separate and continuing identity of both houses should be preserved.)

## SUMMARY

This report is presented as information rather than advocacy. There is more than one pathway to the future for the General Conference-owned publishing institutions. The Commission believes that solutions to present challenges and responding to future needs at PPPA and RHPA require careful attention to cost efficiency and innovative marketing. However, these are best addressed within a clearly defined and widely embraced role for publishing in the mission of the Church. Structural adjustments may be considered at some point. However, these alone are insufficient to create an environment in which the publishing needs of the General Conference and North American Division are served best. Addressing the operational issues can be done apart from or in connection with structural considerations and will help to provide a solid foundation for serving General Conference and North American Division publishing needs in the future.

After discussion by the General Conference Executive Committee, it was

VOTED, To accept the report from the Publishing Commission for the General Conference and North America (GCC-A) and refer the matters raised in this report to the following entities:

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1. General Conference administration for consideration of an overall publishing strategy for the future and the role of General Conference-owned publishing and production facilities.
2. North American Division for review and action concerning the mission of publishing within the division territory and the policy framework pertaining to it.
3. The administration and boards of Pacific Press Publishing Association and Review and Herald Publishing Association for review and action concerning the future operations of their respective publishing house in light of challenges and options identified in the report.

MIN/09SM to GDK

#### CREATION SABBATH

VOTED, To accept the concept of a Creation Sabbath as a way of acknowledging God as our Creator and the implications that this biblical teaching has for us during worship services, on Sabbath, October 24, 2009. *Ministry Magazine* will be working with other publications, departments, and entities to promote this concept. A web site will be developed, including biblical passages to be read, suggested hymns, sermons, and other materials to create a worldwide sense of unity in promoting this belief in a positive light.

Prayer was offered by Artur A Stele, President of the Euro-Asia Division.

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



SPRING MEETING OF THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 5, 2009, 2:00 p.m.

Jan Paulsen, chair, called to order the second session of the 2009 Spring Meeting.

Prayer was offered by Gordon E Christo, Secretary of the Southern Asia Division.

Prayer was requested for healing for Ricardo Bacchus.

TRE/09SM to REL

TREASURER'S REPORT

O TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD

“O taste and see that the LORD [is] good: blessed [is] the man [that] trusteth in him. Psalms 34:24. During this past year we have had occasion to “taste and see that the Lord is good.” We have also had plenty of reasons to need to trust in Him. We have always seen His goodness and we can always trust Him.”

This was the first paragraph of our report to Spring Meeting last year when we were reporting on the blessings of over US\$100 million in Extraordinary Tithe. At that time, we had no idea of the economic events that would transpire in the next few months. How true it is: “O taste and see that the LORD [is] good: blessed [is] the man [that] trusteth in him (Psalms 34:24). Our trust is in the Lord.

It is once again a privilege to bring a report of the tithes and offerings which God's children have brought with rejoicing to the House of the Lord. In spite of the economic turmoil in the last quarter of 2008, tithes and offerings for the year were up. The financial markets have, of course, had a negative impact on the General Conference as it has on most organizations.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Worldwide tithe in 2008 was up 8.56 percent over 2007 and totaled US\$1,934,565,008 as compared to US\$1,780,527,081. Approximately 43 percent of that increase in US dollar terms is

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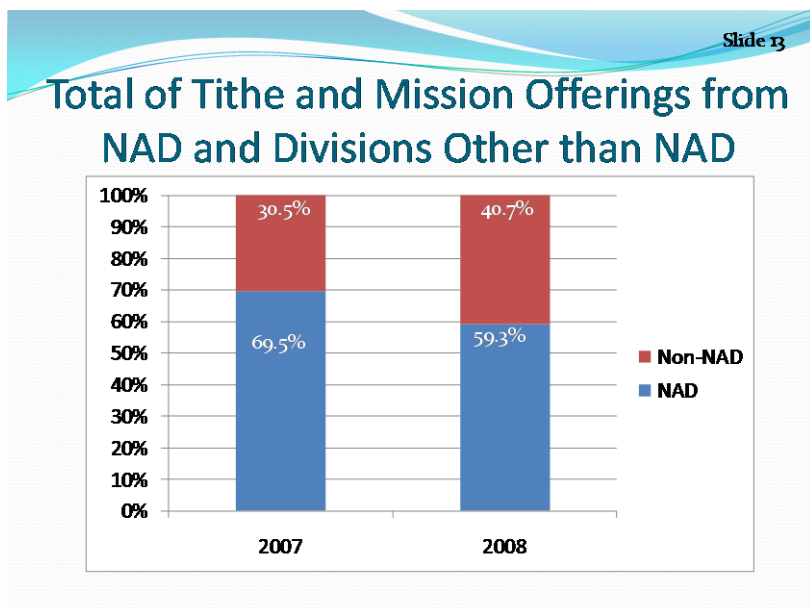
due to the changes in the exchange rate with the weak US dollar during the first ten months of the year, but there were still major increases in tithe in terms of local currency in most divisions. Tithe in the North American Division, except for the portion from Canada, was not affected by the exchange rates but the US economy was one of the first to be affected by the economic tsunami that is rolling around the world. Tithe in NAD was down .4 percent compared to 2007 but when adjusted for extraordinary tithe items it was up .8 percent.

The large increase in local tithe in many areas outside of North America, 43 percent of which came from changes in exchange rates, now means that the total gross tithe from the twelve divisions outside North America has exceeded that of North America for the first time. In 2008, gross tithe from North America was US\$894,234,155 and from the rest of the divisions US\$ 1,040,330,853. The current strengthening of the US dollar could reduce the US dollar equivalents of the tithe from outside the US in 2009.

Mission offerings in the North American Division were down slightly from US\$24,179,938 in 2007 to US\$23,774,840 in 2008. But mission offerings from the other divisions were up substantially from US\$38,106,782 in 2007 to US\$44,734,514 in 2008. As in the case of the tithe, approximately half of this increase in mission offerings when stated in US dollars was due to changes in the exchange rates.

Slide 14 (below) shows the increase in tithe and mission offerings from NAD and the twelve other divisions. You can see that all the increases in revenue to the General Conference this year came from outside the North American Division.





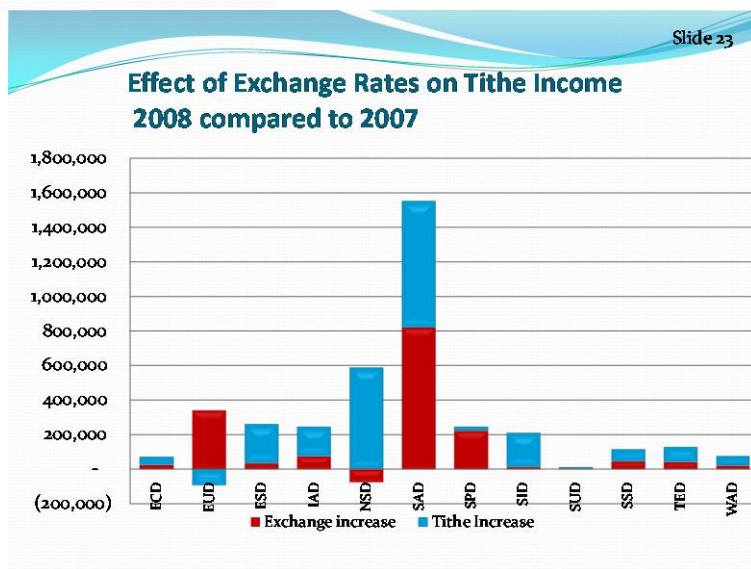
Slide 13 (to the left) shows the dramatic shift in the percentage of funds coming to the World Budget from areas outside of the North American Division. It also shows how much more vulnerable the General Conference's World Budget is to exchange rate fluctuations.

Slide 23 (to the right) shows by division a breakdown of the amount of the increase in tithe that came from increased tithe in local currency and the amount that is attributable to changes in exchange rates. Approximately 47 percent of the increase is due to changes in exchange rates.

#### INVESTMENTS AND THE FINANCIAL MARKET

The past twelve months have been the most volatile for investments since the Great Depression. It has not been without its effect on the assets of the Church. Although the Church is not in the business of building up funds to be invested, there are substantial amounts of retirement funds, endowment funds and other allocated and working capital funds that need to be invested to both earn returns and to offset the effect of inflation during the time they are held.

The General Conference investment office invests not only funds held by the General Conference for its work, but also investments of the North American Division Retirement Funds, the Hospital Retirement Funds, and funds belonging to other denominational organizations that have placed them with the General Conference to invest. The decision on the allocation of the



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funds between the various investment pools is up to each organization and depends on the goals for the funds involved.

Approximately 11 percent of the General Conference's Operating Fund (excluding Extraordinary Tithe and Donor Advised Funds) are in equities and 89 percent in fixed income investments. The Plant Fund has 4 percent in equities and the Endowment Fund 13 percent. None of the Extraordinary Tithe funds are in equities. With investments, there are realized and unrealized gains and losses as well as investment earnings. When you combine all three of these, you get the net return on the investments. For 2008, we had a net negative return on the US\$295 million of General Conference owned funds of approximately US\$7.6 million. It was made up of realized and unrealized losses of US\$15.6 and investment earnings of US\$8.0 million. That works out to a negative return of 2.6 percent for the year. This does not include North American Division retirement funds which are managed by the General Conference Investment Committee on behalf of the North American Division and have a much higher percentage of equities and, therefore, were affected to a much greater extent by the downturn in the markets.

## OPERATING RESULTS

Although there are always items within the annual financial statements that need to be taken into consideration when comparing the operating results of two fiscal years, they usually do not make the two years totally incomparable. The US\$104 million in Extraordinary Tithe, of which US\$94 million was received in 2007 and US\$10 million in 2008, require us to look at the effects of the Extraordinary Tithe separately from the rest of the operations to make a proper comparison between the two years. We have prepared spreadsheets showing each of the funds and sub-funds separately so that we can look at what the financial statements would have looked like without the Extraordinary Tithe, then look at the Extraordinary Tithe separately. These spreadsheets are attached to this report on pages 9-16.

In any normal year, the revenues and expenditure are fairly closely aligned. We budget to spend the majority of expected revenues in the same year they are received. The US\$104 million of Extraordinary Tithe we received during 2007 and 2008 will be spent over a period of five to eight years. So in the Extraordinary Tithe Fund, which is part of the Operating Fund on the audited financial statement, we will see the large increases in the fund balance in 2007 and then a decrease each year over the next five to seven years until it has all gone for the initiatives that have been approved. In 2007, this increased the Operating Fund balance by US\$94 million. During 2008, approximately US\$7 million were released to divisions and General Conference institutions from the Extraordinary Tithe funds, but accounting requirements require that we show as current operating expense any amounts committed through committee actions to organizations or functions not included in the combined statements. During 2008, the committee approved allocations for all but US\$18.5 million of the funds. As US\$16.4 million of these funds were for initiatives that are handled through functions that are included within the General

Conference's financial statements, those amounts appear as allocated funds. The US\$59.5 million that was voted for divisions and General Conference institutions that are not a part of the General Conference's combined statement are treated as a 2008 operating expense in the statement. The net of the US\$10 million received in 2008, plus the investment earnings of US\$1.2 million in 2008, and the US\$59.5 million treated as an expense in 2008 has the effect of reducing the Operating Fund balance by US\$46.4 million. The details of all of these items are shown in the spreadsheets on page 10.

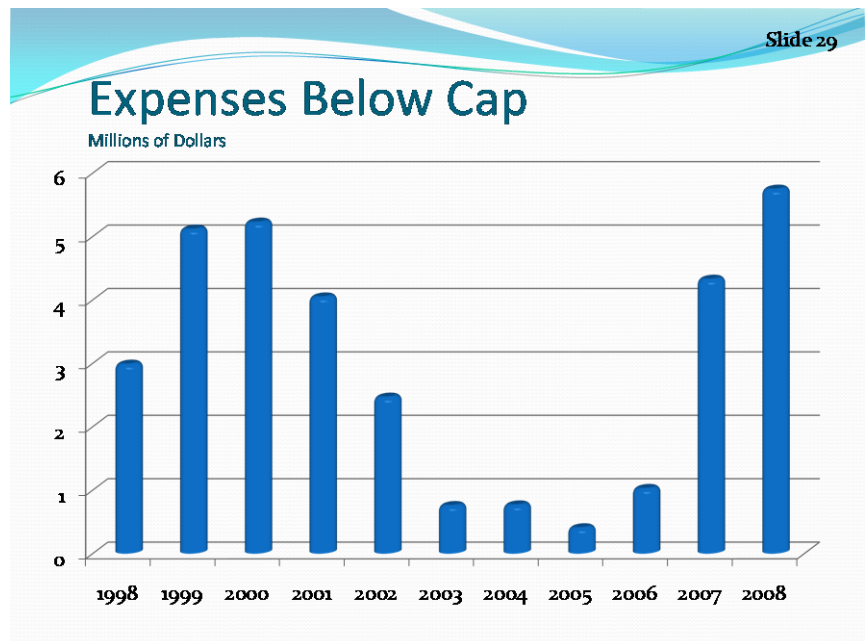
In spite of the investment declines experienced during 2008, with the tithe and offerings being well above budget and the General Conference headquarters being US\$2.4 million under budget, the Operating Fund (excluding Extraordinary Tithe) had an increase of US\$2.0 million. We praise the Lord for that. When we combine all the General Conference Funds (excluding the Extraordinary Tithe Fund) we show a decrease of US\$2.6 million.

#### WORKING CAPITAL AND OPERATING CAP SUMMARY

The working capital for 2008 is 105 percent as compared to 107 percent for 2007. The General Conference headquarters is limited by an expense cap equal to 2 percent of gross tithe. The General Conference headquarters' expenses in 2008 were US\$5.7 below the voted cap. Slide 29 (to the right) shows how we have operated over the last 11 years relative to the expense cap.

#### BUDGET AND OPERATING CONSTRAINTS

With the uncertainties in the markets and the world economy in October 2008 when the Annual Council voted the 2009 World Budget, it authorized the General Conference Administrative Committee to make adjustments to the budget, if necessary, because of the financial situation. In the World Budget that was voted, we had anticipated a 3 percent increase in appropriations to most divisions and General Conference institutions for 2009 over 2008. We did take an action in the General Conference Administrative Committee to hold off on the increase until the picture became a little clearer and we had the final operating results for 2008. We are recommending not to increase



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the base appropriation by the 3 percent originally proposed in the 2009 World Budget, but to give the equivalent of the 3 percent as a onetime appropriation from the Supplemental Budget. The difference is that it does not raise the baseline of appropriations for future budgets. It will depend on the economy, but our hope is that we will be able to maintain the same appropriation in 2010 as we have for 2008 and 2009, but that is not guaranteed.

At the same time, we put in place a number of constraints at the General Conference World Headquarters in light of the financial situation. We follow the North American Division on our remuneration rates. The North American Division voted not to increase the wage factor in 2009. We adjusted our budget accordingly which reduced our budgeted expenses by a little over US\$642,000. We also reduced travel budgets by 20 percent which totaled a little over US\$765,000 making a total budgeted savings of approximately US\$1.4 million. In addition, we put a virtual freeze on filling any positions that are or become vacant. We are reviewing and reporting to the General Conference Administrative Committee on these constraints every two months. There have been a few positions that had to be filled and a few where we have used temporary or part time staff to help cover functions that were critical. However, the annualized net savings from the approximately twenty unfilled budgeted positions at the present time is approximately US\$1.6 million.

We are monitoring very closely the effect the recession is having on tithes and offerings. We have looked at the last quarter of 2008 and compared it with the last quarter of 2007 and see approximately a 5 percent decrease. Part of that is due to changes in the exchange rates, but some of it is due to actual decreases in tithes and offerings because of the economy. We cannot compare the first two months of 2009 to previous year as there are a different number of Sabbaths involved. When we get to the end of March, we will be able to compare and analyze the first quarter of 2009. The item that is having the greatest effect on the revenues coming to the General Conference at this time is the strengthening of the US dollar against a number of currencies. A strong dollar is positive for the church as a whole as it makes the appropriation go farther, but on the flip side it has a major negative effect on the approximately 40 percent of our revenue that comes from outside of the US. We praise the Lord for the faithfulness of His children as they continue to return their tithes and give their offerings to finish the work.

## CONCLUSION

During these turbulent economic times we have taken courage by the assurance that God is in charge. I have presented this passage from Ellen G White before but would once again share it as a reminder to keep our eyes on the One who is at the helm and who sees and knows all.

The servant of the Lord, Ellen G White, wrote in *My Life Today*, "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 ignorance 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

FinPl&Bud01SM/01SM/103-01Ga/ FinPl&Bud02SM/02SM/103-02G/FinPl&Bud03SM/03SM/  
 103-03G/FinPl&Bud04SM/04SM/103-04G/FinPl&Bud05SM/05SM/103-05G/FinPl&Bud06SM/  
 06SM/103-06G/ FinPl&Bud07SM/07SM/103-07G/FinPl&Bud08SM/08SM/103-08G/  
 FinPl&Bud09SM/09SM to JRP

103-09G OPERATING EXPENSE CAP 2008 - REPORT

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

VOTED, To accept the report for the Operating Expense Cap 2008, as follows:

Operating Expense Cap 2008

Total income basis .....	\$1,933,470,107
Expense cap at 2% of world tithe .....	\$38,669,402
Expense for 2008 .....	\$32,933,248
Expense as a percentage of cap.....	85.17%
Amount under the cap.....	\$5,736,154

Operating Expense Cap Summary

YEAR	GROSS NAD TITHE	WORLD TITHE %	TOTAL	CAP	ACTUAL OPERATING EXPENSE	EXPENSE UNDER THE CAP	EXPENSE AS % OF CAP
4.85%*							
1992	446,977,202	2,616,378	449,593,580	21,805,289	19,152,695	2,652,594	87.84%
1993	454,792,764	2,685,069	457,477,833	22,187,675	21,083,033	1,104,642	95.02%

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YEAR	GROSS NAD TITHE	WORLD TITHE %	TOTAL	CAP	ACTUAL OPERATING EXPENSE	EXPENSE UNDER THE CAP	EXPENSE AS % OF CAP
4.85%*							
1994	480,730,812	2,902,438	483,633,250	23,456,213	21,918,901	1,527,312	93.45%
1995	491,795,455	3,226,237	495,021,692	24,008,552	22,098,370	1,910,182	92.04%
1996	507,406,829	2,912,685	510,319,514	24,750,496	23,073,972	1,676,524	93.23%
4.25%*							
1997	534,169,178	4,233,457	538,402,635	22,882,112	21,422,458	1,459,654	93.62%
1998	569,714,074	9,073,464	578,787,538	24,598,470	21,618,414	2,980,056	87.89%
1999	610,215,571	4,209,332	614,424,903	26,113,058	20,999,068	5,111,990	80.42%
2000	656,938,361	4,235,930	661,174,291	28,099,907	22,877,949	5,221,958	81.42%
2.00%**							
2001	685,051,305	429,500,692	1,114,551,997	27,913,439	23,862,558	4,044,881	85.51%
2002	707,805,149	434,912,910	1,142,718,059	27,342,516	24,879,758	2,462,758	90.99%
2003	727,180,606	475,704,684	1,202,885,290	26,922,403	26,172,840	749,563	97.22%
2004	762,318,491	555,412,923	1,317,731,414	27,646,624	26,886,383	760,241	97.25%
2005	834,926,654	622,213,348	1,457,140,002	29,142,800	28,740,301	402,499	98.62%
2006	861,581,965	741,151,992	1,602,733,957	32,054,679	31,036,519	1,018,160	96.82%
2007	896,610,322	884,519,508	1,781,129,830	35,622,597	31,304,400	4,318,197	87.88%
2008	893,139,254	1,040,330,853	1,933,470,107	38,669,402	32,933,248	5,736,154	85.17%

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

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



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

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

TRE/09SM to REL

#### 2007 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET FUNDS

VOTED, 1. To approve \$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. This will provide the opportunity for the institution to begin functioning and will incur savings by completing the construction in a single phase.

2. To approve a three percent increase in appropriations, which were held due to budget constraints, for the divisions and institutions from the balance of funds in the 2007 Supplemental Budget.

TRE/09SM to JRP

#### EXTRAORDINARY TITHE FUND

VOTED, To approve the financial statement of the Extraordinary Tithe Fund for the period ending February 28, 2009

(The financial statement of the Extraordinary Tithe Fund is filed with the official copy of the minutes.)

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TRE/09SM to JRP

COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITORS'  
REPORT

Juan Prestol, Undertreasurer of the General Conference, made a presentation covering areas of particular interest in the Combined Financial Statements of the General Conference for the year ending December 31, 2008.

(The Combined Financial Statements and the auditors' report are filed with the official copy of the minutes.)

TRE/FinAudRev/09SM to REL

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2008

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

VOTED, To accept the 2008 Combined Financial Statements of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the period ending December 31, 2008, as recommended by the General Conference Financial Audit Review Committee, (which include the Operating Funds, The Plant Fund, and Other Funds) and the auditors' opinions for the following unitized funds:

Money Fund  
Capital Preservation Fund  
Bond Fund  
Income Fund  
Large Cap U.S. Equity Fund  
Small Cap U.S. Equity Fund  
International Fund  
Emerging Markets Fund  
Euro Bond Fund

(A copy of the Annual Financial Statements is filed with the official copy of the minutes.)

TRE/FinAudRev/09SM to REL

AUDIT MANAGEMENT LETTER, POLICY COMPLIANCE  
REPORT AND RESPONSE

James E Nyquist, of Maner Costerisan, P.C., read the Audit Management Letter and Policy Compliance Report. Robert E Lemon read the General Conference Management Letter of Response.

VOTED, To accept the 2008 Audit Management Letter, Policy Compliance Report, and General Conference Management Letter of Response.

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

TRE/FinAudRev/09SM to REL

GENERAL CONFERENCE FINANCIAL AUDIT REVIEW  
COMMITTEE REPORT

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

VOTED, To accept the General Conference Financial Audit Review Committee Report.

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

TRE/09SM to RER

REPORT ON INVESTMENTS

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

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TRE/09SM to REL

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

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

#### GENERAL CONFERENCE CORPORATION MEMBERS' MEETING

At 4:10 p.m. the General Conference Corporation members' meeting was convened, after which the business session of the General Conference Executive Committee reconvened.

TRE/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO09SM/09SM to RER

#### 117-09G SPECIAL CONSIDERATION SECURITIES

VOTED, To allow the General Conference Investment Committee the latitude to instruct professional managers to use those investment instruments as outlined in GC S 85 50, paragraphs 1-b, 1-d, and 1-e, when appropriate, in order to make use of available tools to enhance management of downside risk, with the understanding that such instructions will be informed by GC S 85 15, paragraphs 3 and 4. Use of those investment instruments as defined in GC S 85 50, paragraphs 1-b, 1-d, and 1-e, shall only be utilized by the General Conference Investment Committee upon recommendation by the consultant retained by the General Conference Investment Committee and executed by professional managers as retained for the various portfolios and funds that are the responsibility of the General Conference Investment Committee.

#### OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY REPORT

Prayer was offered by Delbert W Baker, President of Oakwood University.

Delbert W Baker presented a report on Oakwood University. The report noted the history of Oakwood University. Today the school has 1865 students, 110 faculty, and 210 staff members. This is the highest enrollment the school has had to date. Oakwood University is mission directed, academically progressive, and fiscally conservative.

VOTED, To receive the report from Oakwood University.

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## HOPE CHANNEL, INCORPORATED, MEMBERS' MEETING

At 4:52 p.m. the Hope Channel, Incorporated, members' meeting was convened, after which the business session of the General Conference Executive Committee reconvened.

Prayer was offered by Bruno R Vertallier, President of the Euro-Africa Division.

Prayer was requested for those mourning the loss of those who died in the plane crash in Montana on March 22, 2009.

Jan Paulsen, Chair  
Claude Sabot, Secretary  
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary  
Tamara K Boward, Recording Secretary

SPRING MEETING OF THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 6, 2009, 8:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONAL

The devotional message entitled, “Heavenly Hope,” was presented by Anthony R Kent, Associate Secretary of the Ministerial Association at the General Conference.

All people are looking for the same essential thing . . . Hope! Normal, healthy, mature people—people of every nation, tribe, and language are looking for Hope! And we have an opportunity to escort people, our friends, neighbors and family into this arena of true Hope.

The Christian perspective of Hope is not so much wishful positive thinking but expectancy, certainty, and confidence. This confidence is due to the Perfect Life, the only Perfect Life! The atoning sacrificial death of Jesus on a cross! The extraordinary resurrection and the ascension into heaven itself of the lovely Jesus! And Hope doesn’t just end there—there is the Blessed Hope! Jesus will come again!

In seemingly hopeless situations, God has repeatedly done the unthinkable and offered Hope and now humanity is in a position to look at this Hope cumulatively! From the fall of humanity to the present, God has frequently and regularly provided hope. Clear examples can be found in the experiences of Adam and Eve; Noah, the giving of the covenant and the rainbow; Abraham and Sarah; Joseph; Moses, the Exodus, the gift of the promised land; Rahab; Naaman; David; and Daniel.

In Luke 2, Simeon is characterized as an old man of faith who had the dual characteristics of hope and resilience. Many of God’s people have these characteristics of hope and resilience and they display it through their lives as they await the return of Jesus, the Blessed Hope.

Sometimes Hope is found when and where we do not expect it. Jesus told a very significant story of a young prodigal who found Hope in what he was actually running from, as recorded in Luke 15:11-32. Though he took and misused the assets of his father, he could not deprive his father of hope. While the elder son was the sole heir of all his father’s tangible possessions, he needed to also inherit the intangible possessions of the estate—hope, grace, and generosity.

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We, as the Church need to ensure that we offer our world these “intangible” possessions of our Heavenly Father. We are called to live our lives in the reality, the certainty, and the expectancy of Heavenly Hope!

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Prayer was offered by Cindy Tutsch, Associate Director of the Ellen G White Estate.

Ella S Simmons, chair, called to order the third session of the 2009 Spring Meeting.

MIN/09SM to GDK

#### FRENCH *MINISTRY* MAGAZINE PRESENTATION

*Ministry* magazine will now be available in French. A copy was presented to Jan Paulsen as well as the division presidents.

A prayer of dedication was offered by Gerry D Karst, Vice President of the General Conference.

MIN/SEC/09SM to LRE

#### SAUVAGNAT, BERNARD—ASSOCIATE EDITOR FOR FRENCH EDITION OF *MINISTRY* MAGAZINE - APPOINTMENT

VOTED, To appoint Bernard Sauvagnat as Associate Editor for the French edition of *Ministry* magazine.

ADCOM/PreC/GCDO09SM/09SM to JP(DIV)

#### 120-09G ROADMAP FOR MISSION

VOTED, To approve the document, Roadmap for Mission, as a statement of philosophy, with the understanding that additional edits suggested from the floor will be considered by an

editing committee and brought to the 2009 Annual Council prior to being inserted into the General Conference *Working Policy*. The document reads as follows:

## RATIONALE

Mission is the lifeblood of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Mission is woven into our identity; mission defines who we are and why we exist. Early in our movement, we took the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 18-20) as our divine mandate motivated by the vision of the everlasting gospel reaching every nation, tribe, language, and people (Revelation 14: 6-12). Our mission is God's mission.

Under the blessing of the Lord, our Church has grown, reaching to Earth's farthest bounds. When we began, our mission placed us among people who had traditions of Christianity. Today, however, mission takes us to populations that are rooted in other world religions. Furthermore, in some areas of the world, conversion to Christianity is frowned upon or even runs the risk of threatening one's person and life. The history of Christianity indicates that this has practically always been the case.

At the same time, the spirit of the age encourages acceptance of all world religions as valid expressions of the human spirit and discourages efforts to persuade people to turn from one religion to another. Some Christian theologians even argue that the task of missions is to affirm people in their own religion—to make Hindus better Hindus, Muslims better Muslims, Buddhists better Buddhists, and so on.

Among Seventh-day Adventists, one finds a variety of initiatives and methodologies toward people of different religions. While the concern for mission is commendable, the proliferation of approaches makes it all the more imperative for the organized Church to articulate simply and clearly the nature of our mission—what it is and how we go about it—firmly grounded in the authority of the Scriptures.

We must find our roadmap for mission in the specific instructions and acts of Jesus and the apostles as recorded in the Scriptures. In His sovereignty, the Lord takes initiatives to reveal Himself to men and women through a variety of means. For instance, in the Old Testament, we read of people outside the circle of the chosen people who were followers of God—Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20), Jethro (Exodus 18:1-27), Naaman (2 Kings 5:1), and so on. Likewise, the New Testament tells of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12), of Gentiles who were “God-fearers” (Acts 13:43, 50; 16:14; 17:4, 17), and of others who obeyed God's law through following their conscience (Romans 2:14-16). Such examples, however, do not provide a template for Seventh-day Adventist mission; they simply provide laudable examples of the Lord's working.



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## THE MISSION

Seventh-day Adventist mission is centered in God's loving gift of His Son to be the Saviour of the world. We are to share this good news with all people, telling them that "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12), and that "whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

At its core, mission is bearing witness through word and life and in the power of the Holy Spirit. As the Lord commanded Israel of old, "You are my witnesses, . . . and my servant whom I have chosen" (Isaiah 43:10), so the Risen Lord commands us, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

Seventh-day Adventist mission is comprehensive in its scope. It involves proclaiming the good news to the whole world (Matthew 24:14), making disciples of all nations by going, baptizing, and teaching them (Matthew 28:18-20), and inviting them into the *ecclesia*—the end-time community of believers in Jesus who worship God the Creator and Redeemer (Revelation 12:17; 14:6-7).

This community, the Church, is the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 1:21, 22; 4:4-6). In this fellowship where Jesus is confessed as Saviour and Lord, and where the Scriptures provide the foundation for instruction, members experience the transforming power of the new life in Christ. They love one another (John 13:31, 32); they are united, despite differences of race, gender, or social standing (Ephesians 2:12-14; Galatians 3:28); and they grow in grace (2 Peter 3:18). They, in turn, go out to make disciples of other people, and they carry forward Jesus' ministry of compassion, help, and healing to the world (Matthew 10:7, 8).

Although other Christians also preach the gospel, Seventh-day Adventists understand our special calling as proclaiming the good news of salvation and obedience to God's commandments. This proclamation takes place during the time of God's judgment and in the expectation of the soon return of Jesus, bringing to an end the cosmic conflict (Revelation 14: 6, 7; 20:9-10).

Seventh-day Adventist mission, therefore, involves a process of proclamation that builds up a community of believers "who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus" (Revelation 14:12). They live lives of service to others and eagerly await the Second Coming of the Lord.

## FULFILLING THE MISSION

Our mission remains unchanged wherever we find ourselves in the world. How we fulfill it—how we go about it—however, takes a variety of forms depending on differences in culture and conditions in society. Fulfilling the mission where non-Christian religions prevail often entails significant modifications in approaching the task. We encounter cultural differences, other writings that are deemed sacred, and sometimes restrictions in religious freedom.

### *The Example of the Apostles*

The conditions Seventh-day Adventists face in sharing the message of Jesus to people of other religions largely parallel those that the apostles encountered. How they went about the mission is instructive for us today.

The first Christians faced a world of many deities. It was also a dangerous world, as the Caesars in Rome increasingly demanded not only respect, but worship as divine. Yet they risked everything they had, even their lives, and many lost it, in an unbreakable commitment to their Savior.

In this environment, the apostles always uplifted Jesus Christ as mankind's only hope. They did not shrink from proclaiming who He was and what He had done. They announced forgiveness and new life through Him alone, and they called people everywhere to repentance in view of judgment to come and the return of Jesus (Acts 2:38; 8:4; 1 Corinthians 2: 2). And they proclaimed that only one person could rightly be adored as Lord—Jesus Christ: “For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many ‘gods’ and many ‘lords’), yet for us there is but one God, the Father...and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ. . .” (1 Corinthians 8:5, 6).

Although they modified their approach in keeping with the audience, they never deviated from proclaiming the uniqueness of Jesus as the hope of the world. They never suggested that they had come to help their hearers find a deeper spiritual experience within their own religions; on the contrary, they challenged them to turn to the salvation provided in Christ. Thus, the Apostle Paul in Athens began his discourse on Mars Hill by referring to the gods the people were worshipping, but led them to the message of Jesus and His resurrection (Acts 17:22-31).

### *Writings of other Religions*

Paul made references to non-biblical writings in his speech in Athens and his letters (Acts 17:38; 1 Corinthians 15:33; Titus 1:12), but he gave priority to the Scriptures (the Old Testament) in his proclamation and instruction to the new Christian communities (Acts 13:13-47; 2 Timothy 3: 16, 17; 4:2).

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In Seventh-day Adventist witness, the writings of other religions can be useful in building bridges by pointing to elements of truth that find their fullest and richest significance in the Bible. These writings should be used in a deliberate attempt to introduce people to the Bible as the inspired Word of God and to help them transfer their allegiance to the Scriptures as the source of faith and practice. However, the nurture and spiritual growth of new believers must be accomplished on the basis of the Bible and its exclusive authority (see “Guidelines for Engaging in Global Mission”).

### *Contextualization*

The Apostle Paul also described how he adapted his approach to his audience: “Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some” (1 Corinthians 9:19-22).

From Paul’s example arises contextualization—the intentional and discriminating attempt to communicate the gospel in a culturally meaningful way. For Seventh-day Adventist mission, contextualization must be faithful to the Scriptures, guided by the Spirit, and relevant to the host culture, remembering that all cultures are judged by the gospel.

As the Church seeks to adapt its approach to mission in a very diverse world, the danger of syncretism—the blending of religious truth and error—is a constant challenge. Contextualization should only be attempted within a specific cultural location, close to where the people live, and it is a process that should involve church leaders, theologians, missiologists, local people, and ministers.

### *Openness and Identity*

Paul sought to be open and honest in his presentation of the gospel: “We have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God” (2 Corinthians 4:2). Likewise, we are to carry out our mission openly, not concealing our name and purpose unless they create formidable barriers. In many contexts, identifying ourselves as “Seventh-day Adventist” will be preferable to “Christian.”

In seeking to find connections with people from other religions, the theme of cosmic conflict, which is found in various expressions, may be a useful starting point. Other areas that can prove helpful are prophecy, modesty and simplicity, and healthful living.

### *Baptism and Church Membership*

Candidates for baptism should not only confess Jesus as Lord (Romans 10:9), they should have at least a rudimentary knowledge of the Fundamental Beliefs and understand that they are joining a worldwide fellowship that is loyal to God and awaits the Second Coming of Jesus.

In some situations, Seventh-day Adventist mission may include the formation of transitional groups (usually termed Special Affinity Groups) that lead the people from a non-Christian religion into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In forming such groups, a clear plan that emphasizes the end result should be followed. These groups should be established and nurtured only with the endorsement and collaboration of church leaders. Although some situations may require an extended period of time to complete the transition, leaders of these groups should make every effort to lead the people into membership in the Seventh-day Adventist Church within a deliberate time plan (see “Guidelines on Alternative Organization Structures and Administrative Relationships”).

Any ministry or group that is formed with the intention of representing the Seventh-day Adventist Church in any part of the world will endeavor to promote both the theological and organizational unity of the Church. Although the theological dimension may be given the chief emphasis in the initial stages of the group, the leader of the group should intentionally lead its members to a sense of Seventh-day Adventist identity and an awareness of church organization, with growing participation in the lifestyle, practices, and mission of the Church.

### *Opportunities and Needs*

Today, because of immigration and other factors, followers of world religions are found throughout the world. In this new context, leaders in all the world divisions should develop specific plans to bring the Seventh-day Adventist message to these peoples.

For the fulfillment of the mission globally, the Church needs to help people develop expertise in the writings of other religions, along with literature and programs to train clergy and lay members in reaching adherents of these religions. The Global Mission Study Centers should play a major, but not exclusive, role in these endeavors.

Worldwide, our pastors and members need to be educated to accept new believers from world religions. This will require the developing of competence among leaders, local elders, pastors, missionaries, and frontline workers.

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In the allocation of human and financial resources, the needs of the mission to followers of other religions should be included as part of strategic mission planning.

*Where Freedom is Restricted*

Our mission takes us at times to societies where religious freedom is severely restricted. These areas of the world are not to be abandoned; rather, new methods of fulfilling the mission are to be attempted. These include the “tentmaker” approach, and encouraging people from such countries who have become Seventh-day Adventists in another society to return to their home countries as ambassadors for Christ. And even where a human presence is not possible, the silent witness through radio, television, or the Internet may, like the altars left behind by Abraham on his wanderings (Genesis 12:7), be used by the Spirit to lead men and women to accept the Advent message.

CONCLUSION

Although the mission to followers of world religions poses huge challenges, the mission itself remains unchanged. Through whatever approach we follow, its end result is to lead men and women to join those who confess Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, who embrace the basic Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and whose lives reflect the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. They should identify themselves with the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church in doctrine, lifestyle, hope, and mission.

God, the Lord of the mission, is free and sovereign. He can and does intervene to reveal Himself in various ways, drawing people to Himself and awakening them to His majesty and sovereignty. But, to His Church He has entrusted a mission. It is a comprehensive mission, but it is a single mission. He has not established parallel or multiple tracks for us to follow, which is to say, we should all be committed to the same beliefs and be organized and work in harmony with the world Church.

The world is big, the task huge. But it is God’s mission. Therefore, it cannot fail; nothing is impossible in its fulfillment.

FORMER GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEMBER REMEMBERED

It was noted during the discussion on the “Roadmap for Mission” that this Spring Meeting is the first large General Conference Executive Committee to be held since the passing away of a former Committee member and former President of the North Pacific Union

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Conference (NAD), Jere D Patzer. Patzer was an ardent champion of the evangelistic mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

#### CHRISTIAN RECORD SERVICES, INC—LEGAL MEETING

At 10:26 a.m., the Christian Record Services, Inc, annual legal meeting was convened, after which a meeting of the International Health and Temperance Association was convened.

#### INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION MEETING

The International Health and Temperance Association annual legal meeting was convened, after which the business session of the General Conference Executive Committee reconvened.

#### UPDATE ON *CONNECTING WITH JESUS* PROJECT

Ted N C Wilson presented an update on the *Connecting With Jesus* project. Gabriel E Maurer explained how the Euro-Africa Division has been reaching their goals of distributing the writings of Ellen G White. Also, a generous layperson has donated funds for providing Seventh-day Adventist pastors with these books.

#### REVIEW AND HERALD PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION REPORT

Robert S Smith, President of the Review and Herald Publishing Association, showed a video which explained the process involved in publishing books.

VOTED, To receive the report from the Review and Herald Publishing Association.

09SM to MAB

#### ROMOLDI, TIZIANO—ELECTION

VOTED, To elect Tiziano Romoldi as Associate Director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty.

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#### INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS LIBERTY ASSOCIATION MEETING

At 11:21 a.m., the International Religious Liberty Association annual legal meeting was convened, after which the business session of the General Conference Executive Committee reconvened.

ADCOM/GCDO09SM/09SM to EH-10GCS

#### 118-09GS NORTH PHILIPPINE UNION MISSION—CHANGE OF STATUS

RECOMMENDED, To grant union conference status to the North Philippine Union Mission in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, effective July 1, 2009.

TRE/GCDO09SM/09SM to GOE(DIV)

#### 121-09G MEAL TICKETS—GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2010

A guarantee for meal tickets must be provided to the Georgia World Congress Center as of May 12, 2010, with the understanding that only a limited number of meal tickets will be available for purchase on site in Atlanta.

There are limited eating facilities open in the CNN Center, and although we expect a better food service in Atlanta in 2010 than what we had in St Louis in 2005, it is

VOTED, 1. To provide each delegate for whom the General Conference is financially responsible with two meal tickets per day in addition to a \$30.00 per diem with the expense being covered by the respective organization responsible for per diem.

2. To provide spouses of General Conference Executive Committee members two meal tickets per day with the expense being covered by the organization responsible for the per diem.

TRE/GCDO09SM/09SM to REL(DIV)

122-09G TRAVEL EXPENSES—PAYMENT OF EXPENSES FOR  
 GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
 MEMBERS AND OTHER DELEGATES—GENERAL  
 CONFERENCE SESSION - 2010

VOTED, To approve the following procedures regarding the payment of authorized expenses for General Conference Executive Committee members and other delegates (and spouse in some cases) who attend the 2010 General Conference Session.

Each individual shall submit an expense report to the treasurer of their respective organization.

For expenses that are to be covered by the General Conference, the division will accumulate all authorized charges and bill the General Conference in summary form.

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY		
	<u>Travel<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Lodging</u>	<u>Per Diem<sup>7</sup> Meal Tickets</u>
GC Officers/Field Secretaries/ Departmental Directors Spouse of above	Travel Budget Spouse Travel If Eligible	Travel Budget Spouse Travel If Eligible	Travel budget Spouse Travel If Eligible
GC Institutional Representatives Spouse of above <sup>2</sup>	Inst Personal/Inst	Inst Inst	Inst Inst
Division Officers Spouse of above <sup>2</sup>	Div Personal/Div	GC GC	GC GC <sup>3</sup>
Layperson Spouse of above <sup>2</sup>	GC Personal/Un/Div	GC GC	GC GC <sup>3</sup>
Union Presidents Spouse of above <sup>2</sup>	Un/Div Personal/Un/Div	Un/Div Un/Div	Un/Div Un/Div <sup>3</sup>
Church Pastors/ Front Line Workers Spouse of above <sup>2</sup>	GC Personal/Un/Div	GC GC	GC GC <sup>3</sup>



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Selected Members (30) <sup>4</sup>	GC/Inst	GC/Inst	GC/Inst
Spouse of above <sup>2</sup>	Personal/GC	GC/Inst	GC/Inst <sup>3</sup>

DELEGATES OTHER THAN GC  
 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Regular Delegates	Sending Organization <sup>6</sup>	Sending Organization <sup>6</sup>	Sending Organization <sup>6</sup>
Spouse of above <sup>2</sup>	Personal/Sending Organization <sup>6</sup>	Sending Organization <sup>6</sup>	Sending Organization <sup>6</sup>
At Large Delegates <sup>5</sup>	GC/Div/Un/Inst	GC/Div/Un/ Inst	GC/Div/Un/ Inst
Spouse of above	Personal/GC/Div/ Un/Inst	GC/Div/Un/ Inst	GC/Div/Un/ Inst

OTHER

Special Guests from Division (15% and the 300 approved by the General Conference Administrative Committee	Un/Div	Un/Div	Un/Div
Spouse of above <sup>2</sup> (where applicable)	Personal/Un/Div	Un/Div	Un/Div

CATEGORIES TO BE COVERED IN OTHER ACTIONS:

Protocol Guests  
 Main Sessions Devotional Speakers (non-delegates)  
 Support staff

Account to charge for expenses listed as GC responsibility: 138060

<sup>1</sup>Travel covers cost of fares, per diem en route, travel insurance, and accommodation en route.

<sup>2</sup>This is not intended to imply that spouse travel is provided in all cases. The decision as to whether spouse travel is provided is to be made by the organization responsible for the expenses of the delegate involved and this document only indicates who is responsible for the

cost of spouse travel if the organization chooses to provide financial assistance for the spouse of the delegate to attend the session.

<sup>3</sup> Spouses of General Conference Executive Committee members will be provided two meal tickets per day by the organization responsible for covering the per diem expense for the delegate.

<sup>4</sup>Expenses for selected members (30) employed by a General Conference institution are responsibility of that institution. All other selected members are the responsibility of the GC other than the GC Executive Committee members.

<sup>5</sup>Expenses for At Large Delegates shall be covered by the organization which has been assigned the delegates. For delegates from the General Conference (Associate Department Directors) within the At Large Category who have travel budgets will have the travel expenses/lodging/per diem/meal tickets charged to their travel budgets.

<sup>6</sup>As determined by sending organization (Union, Conference, Institution, etc.)

<sup>7</sup>Per diem is provided to cover breakfast and other personal expenses.

TRE/GCDO09SM/09SM to REL(DIV)

123-09G ALLOWANCES—GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2010

VOTED, To approve allowances for the 2010 General Conference Session, as follows:

ALLOWANCES—GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2010

Attendee Category <sup>2</sup>	Per Diem <sup>1</sup>	Air Fare (most economical ticket available)	Limo, Shuttle or Bus (actual, airport to hotel)	Mileage Rate <sup>1</sup>
1. General Conference Executive Committee (GCC), Delegates & Official Staff from the General Conference (GC)				
a. GCC members, elected staff, other delegates, and technical staff	US\$30 + 2 meal tickets	Covered (See action outlining financial responsibility.	Covered (See action outlining financial responsibility.	US\$.38

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b. Attendees as above accompanied by spouse who is not on official GC business	US\$30 + 4 meal tickets	Personal (Unless covered by spouse travel policy.)	Personal (Unless covered by spouse travel policy.)	US\$.38
2. Division Delegates (Not including GCC Members)				
a. Division Delegates	US\$30 Meal tickets as arranged by division	As arranged by division		
3. Delegates and Special Guests (as provided under the 15 percent provision and the 300 approved by the General Conference Administrative Committee) from divisions				
a. Unaccompanied by spouse	As arranged by division			
b. Accompanied by spouse				
Note: <sup>1</sup> Per diem and mileage rates listed are set by the best estimate of the 2010 NAD rates and will be used for the GC Session even if the NAD finalizes on different rates for 2010. <sup>2</sup> No allowances will be granted to children attending the Session.				

SEC/09SM to MAB

#### GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION REGISTRATION ITEMS

Matthew A Bediako made several announcements regarding registration of delegates at the General Conference Session. The divisions should send in the information regarding their delegates before the 2009 Annual Council, if possible, so there is time for the delegates to get their visas. Bediako pointed out that all delegates must be approved by the respective division executive committee.

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06AC/102-06Gd/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO07SM/07SM/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO07AC/07AC/  
102-07Gc/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08SM/08SM/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC/ADCOM/  
102-08Gb/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO09SM/09SM to GTN(DIV)

#### 102-09Ga 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>April 2009</u>			
7	Tue	Inst for Prevention of Addictions Board	Silver Spring MD
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(pm)	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
27-May 16	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Chiang Mai THAILAND
28	Tue	Adventist University of Africa Board	Nairobi KENYA
<u>May 2009</u>			
19,20	Tue	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
20	Wed	Supporting Ministries Advisory Committee	Silver Spring MD
21(am)	Thu	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA
21(pm)	Thu	GC Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
31(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Board Information Items	Berrien Springs MI
<u>June 2009</u>			
1(am)	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
1(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
13	Sat	World Festival of Religious Freedom	Lima PERU
15-18	Mon	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
16(pm)	Tue	RH Board Executive/Finance Committees	Silver Spring MD
17,18	Wed	PREXAD	Silver Spring MD
23-28	Tue	Institute of World Mission Re-entry Seminar	Berrien Springs MI

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>June 2009 contd</u>			
23,24	Tue	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
<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
27(pm)-30(am)	Thu	Christian Record Services Board and Retreat	Lincoln NE
<u>September 2009</u>			
9-12	Wed	Global Internet Evangelism Network	Orlando FL
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
15(am)	Tue	PARL World Affairs Committee	Silver Spring MD
16(pm)	Wed	Department Directors/GC President Meeting	Silver Spring MD
17	Thu	GC Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
30,Oct 1	Wed	Human Resources Workshop	Silver Spring MD
30(am)	Wed	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
30(eve)	Wed	Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>October 2009</u>			
1(am)	Thu	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
1 (am)	Thu	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD
2(am)	Fri	Adventist Mission Committee	Silver Spring MD
2(am)	Fri	Accred Assoc. of SDA Sch., Coll. & Univ.	Silver Spring MD
4-5	Sun	<i>Church Manual</i> Committee	Silver Spring MD
4(am)	Sun	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
5	Mon	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
5(eve)	Mon	ADRA Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
6	Tue	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2009 contd</u>			
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	IRLA Board	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	Hope Channel, Inc Board	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
12(eve)	Mon	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
15-18	Thu	Second Conference on 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(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
26(am)	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
26(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
27	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
27(eve)	Tue	IWM Administrative Council	Berrien Springs MI
<u>November 2009</u>			
<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	Silver Spring MD

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 ADCOM/SecC/GCDO07AC/07AC/102-07Gd/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO08SM/08SM/ADCOM/  
 SecC/GCDO08AC/08AC/ADCOM/102-08Gc/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO09SM/09SM to  
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102-09Gb 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
26-28	Tue	Global Leadership Summit	CHINA
<u>February 2010</u>			
17(pm)	Wed	Christian Record Services Finance Committee	Lincoln NE
18(am)	Thu	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(am)	Wed	Geoscience Research Institute Board	Loma Linda CA
28(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
<u>March 2010</u>			
1(am)	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
1(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	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
24,25(am)	Wed	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
24(eve)	Wed	Pacific Press Finance Committee	Nampa ID
25	Thu	Pacific Press Board	Nampa ID
25(pm)	Thu	Adventist Mission Committee	Silver Spring MD
25(pm)	Thu	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
26(am)	Fri	Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
28	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>March 2010 contd</u>			
28(am)	Sun	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
29(am)	Mon	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
29(am)	Mon	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD
29(pm)	Mon	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
30	Tue	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
30	Tue	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
30	Tue	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
30(eve)	Tue	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
31(am)	Wed	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
31(pm)	Wed	Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
<u>April 2010</u>			
1	Thu	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Silver Spring MD
2(am)	Fri	Hope Channel, Inc Board	Silver Spring MD
4,5	Sun	Use of Tithe Study Commission	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
21,22	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board	Burlington VT
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
30(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Board Information Items	Berrien Springs MI
31(am)	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
31(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
<u>June 2010</u>			
1-17	Tue	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
10(pm)	Thu	RH Board Executive/Finance Committee	Silver Spring MD



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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
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June 2010 contd

21,22(am)	Mon	Division Officer Interviews	Atlanta GA
22(pm)	Tue	Presidents Council	Atlanta GA
22(pm)	Tue	Secretaries Council	Atlanta GA
22(pm)	Tue	Treasurers Council	Atlanta GA
23(am)	Wed	GC & Division Officers	Atlanta GA
23(pm),24(am)	Wed	General Conference Session Spiritual Emphasis	Atlanta GA
24(pm)-Jul 3	Thu	General Conference Session	Atlanta GA

July 2010

August 2010

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

September 2010

1(am)	Wed	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA
12-15	Sun	Adventist Risk Management Conference	
13-23	Mon	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
14	Tue	Departmental Orientation	Silver Spring MD
20(pm)	Mon	Christian Record Services Finance Committee	Lincoln NE
21(am)	Tue	Christian Record Services Board of Trustees	Lincoln NE
22(eve)	Wed	RH Board Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
23(am)	Thu	RH Board	Hagerstown MD

October 2010

3(am)	Sun	Adventist Mission Committee	Silver Spring MD
3(pm)	Sun	Adventist World Radio	Silver Spring MD
3(pm)	Sun	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
4	Mon	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
4(am)	Mon	International Board of Education and IBMTE	Silver Spring MD
5	Tue	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
5	Tue	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
5	Tue	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
5(eve)	Tue	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, &Univ	Silver Spring MD
6(am)	Wed	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
6(pm)	Wed	Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2010 contd</u>			
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(am)	Fri	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
8(eve)-14(am)	Fri	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
14(pm)-16	Thu	Departmental Orientation	Silver Spring MD
17,18	Sun	Oakwood University Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL
19(am)	Tue	Loma Linda Executive Committees	Loma Linda CA
24(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
25(am)	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
25(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
26	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI

November 2010

December 2010

2(am)	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
5-8	Sun	Oakwood University Evangelism Council	Huntsville AL
9(pm)	Thu	RH Board Executive/Finance Committees	Silver Spring MD
14	Tue	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
15	Wed	Loma Linda Boards and Committees	Loma Linda CA
16(am)	Thu	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA

SEC/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO09SM/09SM to GTN(DIV)

102-09Gc AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2011

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2011, 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 2011</u>			
11-15	Tue	PREXAD	FLORIDA

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>February 2011</u>			
16(pm)	Wed	Christian Record Services Finance Committee	Lincoln NE
17(am)	Thu	Christian Record Services Board of Trustees	Lincoln NE
<u>March 2011</u>			
9,10	Wed	AIAS Management Committee and Board	PHILIPPINES
14-18	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
27(am)	Sun	Adventist Television Network Operating Com	Silver Spring MD
27(am)	Sun	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
27(pm)	Sun	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
27(pm)	Sun	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD
27(eve)	Sun	Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD
28,29(am)	Mon	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
29(pm)	Tue	Adventist Mission Committee	Silver Spring MD
29(pm)	Tue	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
30	Wed	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
30	Wed	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
30	Wed	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
30(eve)	Wed	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
31(am)	Thu	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
31(pm)	Thu	Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
<u>April 2011</u>			
1(am)	Fri	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
1(am)	Fri	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
3	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
4	Mon	Council on Evangelism & Witness	Silver Spring MD
5,6(am)	Tue	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
<u>May 2011</u>			
<u>June 2011</u>			
13-17	Mon	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
15,16	Wed	PREXAD	Silver Spring MD
<u>July 2011</u>			

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GCC Spring Meeting

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>August 2011</u>			
<u>September 2011</u>			
12-22	Mon	Staff Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
14(pm)	Wed	Department Directors/GC President Meeting	Silver Spring MD
15	Thu	GC Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
28(am)	Wed	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
28(eve)	Wed	Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD
28(eve)	Wed	Griggs University Board	Silver Spring MD
29(am)	Thu	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
29(am)	Thu	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD
30	Fri	<i>Church Manual</i> Committee	Silver Spring MD
30(am)	Fri	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
<u>October 2011</u>			
2	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
3	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
3	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
3	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
3(eve)	Mon	Adventist Television Network Operating Com	Silver Spring MD
4(am)	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
4(pm)	Tue	Financial Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
5(am)	Wed	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
5(pm)	Wed	Adventist Mission Committee	Silver Spring MD
5(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
6	Thu	Council on Evangelism and Witness	Silver Spring MD
6(eve)	Thu	AIAS Management Committee and Board	Silver Spring MD
7(am)	Fri	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
7(eve)-12	Fri	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
10(eve)	Tue	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>November 2011</u>			
<u>December 2011</u>			

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GCC Spring Meeting

SEC/ADCOM/09SM to LRE

ACCREDITING ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST  
SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, AND UNIVERSITIES (GCC)—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities (AASDASC&U) (GCC), as follows:

Add	Blackmer, Larry, NAD Bryant, G Alexander Mirilov, Branislav, ESD
Delete	Biaggi, Guillermo E, ESD Howard, Roscoe J III Kovalski, Gerald, NAD

SEC/ADCOM/09SM to LRE

ADVENTIST MISSION COMMITTEE (GCC-S)—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

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

Add	Cuncell, Gary R Knott, William M Ng, G T Nix, James R Rathinaraj, John Rodriguez, Angel M Thorp, Brad Vertallier, Bruno R Wari, Gilbert
Delete	Daniel, Luka T Feldbush, Martin W Frikart, Ulrich Parmenter, Vernon B Watts, D Ronald

SEC/ADCOM/09SM to LRE

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

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

Add	Bryant, G Alexander, Associate Secretary Sahly, Donald R, President, Griggs University and Griggs International Academy, Invitee Trecartin, Homer W, Associate Secretary
Delete	Howard, Roscoe J III, Associate Secretary Parmenter, Vernon B, Associate Secretary

SEC/ADCOM/09SM to LRE

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

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

Delete	DeLima, Nathan
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SEC/ADCOM/09SM 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	Rathinaraj, John, SUD Vertallier, Bruno R, EUD Wari, Gilbert, WAD
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Delete Daniel, Luka T, WAD  
Frikart, Ulrich, EUD  
Watts, D Ronald, SUD

SEC/ADCOM/09SM to LRE

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF MINISTERIAL AND THEOLOGICAL  
EDUCATION (GCC-B)—MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the International Board of Ministerial and  
Theological Education (IBMTE) (GCC-B), as follows:

Add Newborn, Craig  
Rathinaraj, John  
Tasker, David  
Tilstra, Douglas  
Vertallier, Bruno R  
Wari, Gilbert

Delete Daniel, Luka T  
Doggette, James  
Frikart, Ulrich  
Klingbeil, Gerald  
Watts, D Ronald

SEC/ADCOM/09SM to LRE

USE OF TITHE STUDY COMMISSION (GCC-A)—MEMBERSHIP  
ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the Use of Tithe Study Commission (GCC-A), as  
follows:

Add Douglas, Paul H, Invitee  
Iverson, Clyde M Jr, Invitee  
Krause, Gary D, Invitee  
Lezeau, Jean-Luc, Invitee  
Lizardo, Jose R, Invitee  
Manu, Emmanuel, Invitee

Nthani, Goodwell  
Oliver, Barry D  
Orion, Daisy J, Invitee  
Rathinaraj, John  
Simmons, Ella S, Invitee  
Trecartin, Homer W, Invitee  
Vertallier, Bruno R  
Wari, Gilbert

Delete Bekker, Jannie  
Daniel, Luka T  
Frikart, Ulrich  
Hechanova, Ceazar, Invitee  
Upson, Donald W, Invitee

SEC/GCDO09SM/09SM to LRE

ADVENTIST INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED  
STUDIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (GCC-B)—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies Management Committee (AIIASMgtCom) (GCC-B), as follows:

Add Mok, Joshua W, SSD  
Delete Sumendap, Hendrik, SSD

SEC/GCDO09SM/09SM to LRE

ADVENTIST MISSION AWARENESS COMMITTEE (GCC-S)—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

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

Delete Kyte, Nancy  
Parmenter, Vernon B



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

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

Add Knott, William M, *Adventist Review*

SEC/GCDO09SM/09SM to LRE

GENERAL CONFERENCE AUDITING SERVICE BOARD (GCC-B)—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the General Conference Auditing Service Board  
(GCASBd) (GCC-B), as follows:

Add Douglas, Paul H, Secretary  
Makowski, Andreas, Euro-Africa

Delete Detlefsen, Wilfried, Euro-Africa  
Korff, Eric A, Secretary

SEC/GCDO09SM/09SM to LRE

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

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

Add Christo, Gordon E, SUD

Delete Watts, D Ronald, SUD

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SEC/GCDO09SM/09SM to LRE

WORLD SABBATH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY GUIDE CURRICULUM  
COMMITTEE (GCC-S)—MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the World Sabbath School Bible Study Guide Curriculum Committee (WSSCC) (GCC-S), as follows:

Add	Fowler, Falvo Shields, Bonita
Delete	Beagles, Kathy Habada, Patricia A Puni, Erika F

SEC/ADCOM/09SM to LRE

COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (GCC-S)—DISCONTINUE

VOTED, To discontinue the Commission on Higher Education (HEdComm) (GCC-S).

Prayer was offered by Max C Torkelson II, President of the North Pacific Union Conference, North American Division.

Ella S Simmons, Chair  
Homer W Trecartin, Secretary  
Larry R Evans, Editorial Secretary  
Tamara K Boward, Recording Secretary