SPRING MEETING

April 8 and 9, 2014

SPRING MEETING OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 8, 2014, 8:00 a.m.

PRESENT

Onaolapo Ajibade, Audrey E Andersson, Raquel C Arrais, Delbert W Baker, Rosa T Banks, Guillermo E Biaggi, Rodney G Brady, G Alexander Bryant, Brent B Burdick, Dowell Chow, Carl P Chin, Gordon E Christo, Chester V Clark III, Donovan Cleary, G S Robert Clive, Gary R Councell, Marlon de Souza Lopes, Paul H Douglas, Karnik Doukmetzian, Jonathan M Duffy, George O Egwakhe, G Thomas Evans, Howard F Faigao, Sergie B Ferrer,

Mark A Finley, Agustin Galicia, Dale E Galusha, Doris M Gothard, Ricardo B Graham, Abraham I Guerrero Romero, Jerome Habimana, Elie Henry, Eugene Hsu, Willie E Hucks II, Myron A Iseminger, Daniel R Jackson, Nenad Jepuranovic, Richard D Kajiura, Hudson E Kibuuka, Donald G King, Linda Mei Lin Koh, Erton C Kohler, Gary D Krause, Vladimir Krupskyi, Jonathan Kuntaraf, Kathleen K Kuntaraf, Robert E Kyte, Jairyong Lee, Israel Leito,

Mike M Lekic, Robert E Lemon, Thomas L Lemon, Emmanuel S Manu, Solomon Maphosa, Gabriel E Maurer, Geoffrey G Mbwana, Armando Miranda, Hiskia I Missah, Larry R Moore, Marcella J Morales, Derek J Morris, Pardon K Mwansa, G T Ng, James R Nix, Goodwell Nthani, Barry D Oliver, Willie Oliver, Daisy J Orion, Kenneth W Osborn, Orville D Parchment, Ruth E Parish, Jan Paulsen, Magdiel E Perez-Schulz, Juan R Prestol, John Rathinaraj,

Paul S Ratsara, Claude Richli, Blasious M Ruguri, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Dawn Sackmann, Saw Samuel, Lawrence E Schalk, Benjamin D Schoun, Luis A Schulz, Ella S Simmons, Lionel H Smith, Ron C Smith, Artur A Stele, Akeri Suzuki, Tibor Szilvasi, John H Thomas, Brad Thorp, Homer W Trecartin, David Trim, Filiberto M Verduzco-Avila, Bruno R Vertallier, J Raymond Wahlen II, Nathaniel M Walemba, Gilbert Wari, Bertil A Wiklander,

Ted N Wilson, Harald Wollan, Norbert G Zens, E Edward Zinke

14-4 April 8, 2014, a.m. GCC Spring Meeting

DEVOTIONAL

The devotional message entitled, "My Prison Experience and God's Blessings," was presented by Antonio Monteiro, former Director of Global Mission for the Eastern Sahel Union Mission, West Central Africa Division.

CALL TO ORDER

G T Ng, Secretary of the General Conference, read Bylaws, Article XIII, Section 2. b., which states the constitutional provisions for convening the Spring Meeting.

"Sec. 2. b. A meeting of the General Conference Executive Committee, known as the Spring Meeting, shall be held annually for the purpose of receiving the audited financial reports of the General Conference and for transacting regular Executive Committee business as provided for in the General Conference Working Policy relating to Spring Meetings."

A letter of invitation dated January 13, 2014 was sent to all General Conference Executive Committee members and invitees to attend the 2014 Spring Meeting held at the General Conference world headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland.

The approximately 203 people invited to attend are made up of members and invitees (130 General Conference Executive Committee members and 73 invitees). The names are listed on pages J-K of the agenda notebook. As of 9:00 a.m., approximately 86 attendees were registered onsite.

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

G T Ng then indicated to the Chair that because more than 40 attendees were present, the delegates were eagerly awaiting the call to order of the first business meeting of the 2014 Spring Meeting.

Having met all the requirements to hold a Spring Meeting of the General Conference, Ted N C Wilson then declared the 2014 Spring Meeting open for transacting the business of the Church as outlined in the agenda.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

7:00 am - 8:00 am

The Mission Statement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was read by G T Ng, Secretary of the General Conference.

VOTED, To reaffirm the Mission Statement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

DAILY PROGRAM

VOTED, To adopt the daily program of the 2014 Spring Meeting, as follows:

DAILY PROGRAM

Tuesday, April 8

Steering Committee

8:00 am - 9:00 am	Devotional	
9:00 am - 12:00 am	Business Session	
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch/Committees	
2:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Business Session	
Wednesday, April 9		
7:00 am - 8:00 am	Steering Committee	
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Devotional	
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Business Session	

14-6 April 8, 2014, a.m. GCC Spring Meeting

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Lunch/Committees

2:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Business Session

SEC/ADCOM/14SM to MAI

133-14G STANDING COMMITTEES—SPRING MEETING - 2014

VOTED, To approve the standing committees for the 2014 Spring Meeting, as follows:

NOMINATING

Ted N C Wilson, Chair G T Ng, Secretary

Members: Niels-Erik A Andreassen, Delbert W Baker, Lisa M Beardsley-Hardy, Guillermo E Biaggi, Dedrick L Blue, Shirley Chang, Dowell Chow, Lowell C Cooper, Dale E Galusha, L James Gibson, Alberto C Gulfan Jr, Myron A Iseminger, Daniel R Jackson, Erton C Kohler, Vladimir Krupskyi, Peter N Landless, Jairyong Lee, Israel Leito, Robert E Lemon, Don Livesay, Geoffrey G Mbwana,

Armando Miranda, Marcella J Morales, Pardon K Mwansa, Barry D Oliver, Ronald W Oliver, Daisy J Orion, Kenneth W Osborn, Larry J Pitcher, Juan R Prestol, John Rathinaraj, Paul S Ratsara, Blasious M Ruguri, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Saw Samuel, Benjamin D Schoun, Ella S Simmons, Artur A Stele, John H Thomas, Max C Torkelsen II, Bruno R Vertallier, Nathaniel M Walemba, Gilbert Wari, Dave Weigley, Bertil Wiklander, Harald Wollan, Norbert Zens.

STEERING

Ted N C Wilson, Chair Myron A Iseminger, Secretary

Members: Delbert W Baker, Rosa T Banks, G Alexander Bryant, Sheri Clemmer, Lowell C Cooper, Karnik Doukmetzian, George O Egwakhe, G Thomas Evans, Agustin Galicia, Daniel R Jackson, Gary D Krause, Robert E Lemon, Geoffrey G Mbwana, Armando Miranda, Pardon K Mwansa, G T Ng, Daisy J F Orion, Orville D Parchment, Karen J Porter, Juan R Prestol, Michael L Ryan, Roy E Ryan, Benjamin D Schoun, Ella S Simmons, Artur A Stele, John H Thomas, J Raymond Wahlen II, Harald Wollan.

SEC/ADCOM/14SM to MAI

132-14G COMPENSATION REVIEW COMMITTEE—2014 SPRING MEETING - APPOINTMENT

VOTED, To appoint the Compensation Review Committee for the 2014 Spring Meeting, as follows:

MEMBERS

King, Donald G, Chair

*Lemon, Robert E, Secretary

Presidential

*Baker, Delbert W

Biaggi, Guillermo E

*Cooper, Lowell C

Gulfan, Alberto C Jr

Jackson, Daniel R

Kohler, Erton C

Lee, Jairyong

Leito, Israel

*Mbwana, Geoffrey G

*Miranda, Armando

*Mwansa, Pardon K

Oliver, Barry D

Rathinaraj, John

Ratsara, Paul S

Ruguri, Blasious M

Trecartin, Homer W

Vertallier, Bruno

Wari, Gilbert

Wiklander, Bertil

*Wilson, Ted N C

Secretariat

Adjibade, Onaolapo

*Banks, Rosa T

Bryant, G Alexander

Christo, Gordon E

*Iseminger, Myron A

Secretariat contd

*Ng, GT

Maurer, Gabriel E

Perez-Schulz, Magdiel E

Smith, Lionel H

Suzuki, Akeri

Treasury

Clive, G S Robert

*Egwakhe, George O

Evans, G Thomas

Ferrer, Sergie B

Jepuranovic, Nenad

Lopes, Marlon de Souza

Manu, Emmanuel S D

Nthani, Goodwell

*Prestol, Juan R

GC Institutional Administrators

Duffy, Jonathan M

Kyte, Robert E

Nix, James R

Thomas, Mark B

Laypersons

Chang, Shirley

Chin, Carl P

Clark, Chester V III

Flores, Ricardo

14-8 April 8, 2014, a.m. GCC Spring Meeting

Laypersons
George, Somer AUnion Presidents
Graham, Ricardo BGothard, Doris MJohnson, Mark AMorales, Marcella JLemon, Thomas LOliver, Ronald WLivesay, DonSackmann, Dawn RMoore, LarryZinke, E EdwardSmith, Ron

Pastor/Front-line Workers Torkelsen, Max C II
Weigley, Dave

Anderson, Eric D

Blue, Dedrick

Departments and Services

*Cangy, Gilbert R

*General Conference Employees: The committee will meet in executive session without General Conference employees.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

VOTED, To adopt the agenda as listed.

WIKLANDER, BERTIL A, PRESIDENT OF THE TRANS-EUROPEAN DIVISION—APPRECIATION

Appreciation was expressed to Bertil A Wiklander, President of the Trans-European Division, who will be retiring on July 31, 2014.

Prayer was offered for Bertil A Wiklander and his wife, as they look forward to retirement, by Ted N C Wilson, President of the General Conference.

KIDNAPPED—BOOK PRESENTATION

Dale E Galusha, President of Pacific Press Publishing Association presented a copy of the new book, *Kidnapped*, which is a biography of Paul S Ratsara, to Ted N C Wilson, President of the General Conference and Paul S Ratsara, President of the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division.

COUNCIL ON EVANGELISM AND WITNESS

Armando Miranda gave the opening remarks to the Council on Evangelism and Witness. Sergie B Ferrer, Treasurer of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, shared the experience of the office team at the Division during the 10 Days of Prayer, and Blasious M Ruguri, President of the East-Central Africa Division, gave a testimony regarding evangelism in that territory

Andre D Brink, Associate Director of Communication, shared the project, "United Prayer Works," where short Bible stories have been reenacted with the theme of united prayer.

Mission to the Cities

David Trim, Director of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, gave an update of the Church membership statistics, while focusing on the big cities.

Michael L Ryan, General Vice President and David Trim interviewed Paul S Ratsara, President of the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division, Erton C Kohler, President of the South American Division, Gilbert Wari, President of the West-Central Africa Division, Homer W Trecartin, President of the Middle East and North Africa Union Mission, Bruno R Vertallier, President of the Inter-European Division, and Israel Leito, President of the Inter-American Division, regarding how the work is progressing in the cities within their territories.

Creation Project

Delbert W Baker, General Vice President, gave an update on the Creation Project and the materials that are available for distribution.

Creative Evangelism

Daniel R Jackson, President of the North American Division, shared a video featuring the Paradise Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church in San Diego, California that has created a Refugee Assimilation Project, which helps refugees to the United States learn English as well as providing other services. They have baptized more than 250 new church members from 51 countries as a result of this outreach.

Prayer was offered by Ricardo B Graham, President of the Pacific Union Conference, for the ministry of this congregation.

Jairyong Lee, President of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, shared how churches are creating Centers of Influence, such as vegetarian restaurants and multi-cultural family service centers. These Centers are responsible for many baptisms in the Division.

14-10 April 8, 2014, a.m. GCC Spring Meeting

Prayer was offered by Ricardo B Graham, President of the Pacific Union Conference, for centers of influence in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division.

Benjamin D Schoun, General Vice President, introduced the film, *Hell and Mr Fudge*, which is a tool for introducing the doctrine of the state of the dead.

NY13

Mark A Finley, Special Assistant to the President for Evangelism, and Donald G King, President of the Atlantic Union Conference, shared the results of the NY13 evangelistic effort. There were 64 new congregations formed and 5,300 individuals baptized.

Prayer was offered by Mark A Finley for the continuing work in New York City.

2014 MISSIONARY BOOK

Mark A Finley and Peter N Landless, Director of Health Ministries, shared the new 2014 Missionary Book, *Health & Wellness: Secrets That Will Change Your Life*.

A prayer of dedication was offered by Ted N C Wilson, President of the General Conference.

HM/PreC/14SM to MAF

142-14G COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH MINISTRY REPORT

VOTED, To record receipt of the Comprehensive Health Ministry Report, which reads as follows:

Historically the Seventh-day Adventist Church has emphasized comprehensive health ministry. The Church's mission is one of physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. Seventh-day Adventists are concerned with the whole person. Our goal is to model the self-sacrificial ministry of Christ in a broken world plagued with sorrow, suffering, and disease.

In view of our renewed emphasis in Mission to the Cities and reaching people in unreached people groups both in the developed and developing world, comprehensive health ministry and patterning our outreach initiatives after the ministry of Christ is imperative. The initiatives listed below are just the beginning of this renewed emphasis.

1. The 2015 Missionary Book of the year, *Secrets of Health and Wellness*, is currently being printed. Preliminary copies will be distributed at Spring Meeting.

- 2. A series of 24 health/evangelistic sermons are in production and will be ready by June. Twelve of these sermons correlate with the Missionary Book of the year. The thought is that an invitation to health presentations can easily be inserted in the Missionary Book of the year so people who read the book will have an opportunity to attend a series of health presentations at the local Seventh-day Adventist Church. All graphics are copyright free, open source, multicultural, and will be available for world divisions.
- 3. The July issue of *Adventist World* is designed as a special 48-page edition focusing especially on health ministry. This issue will be ready for the Geneva Health Conference.
- 4. From July 7-12, 2014, the International Health Conference will be conducted in Geneva, Switzerland. The theme of the conference is "Non-Communicable Diseases." Attendance will be limited to one thousand due to convention center space constraints. The conference will consist of plenary sessions as well as teaching tracts by specialists in the appropriate fields for church administrators, pastors, health educators, departmental directors, hospital administrators etc.
- 5. The fall Week of Prayer Readings for 2014 will be based on the theme of Christ's methods of evangelism.
- 6. Planning committees are working on ways to incorporate classes on health and spirituality more fully into the curriculum of both Loma Linda University and Andrews University.
- 7. Comprehensive health symposiums are being planned for pastors in varying world divisions beginning with the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division in June of 2014.
- 8. Plans will be presented at the President's Council in October at the 2014 Annual Council for a one week international health emphasis in the context of "a gift to the community."

Armando Miranda, General Vice President introduced Dimas Lopez, Secretary of the Chiapas Mexican Union Mission, and Jairo Zavala Arias, Treasurer of the Chiapas Mexican Union Mission.

14-12 April 8, 2014, a.m. GCC Spring Meeting

ADCOM/ADCOM/14SM to AG-15GCS

134-14GS CHIAPAS MEXICAN UNION MISSION—NEW UNION CONFERENCE

RECOMMENDED, To grant union conference status to the Chiapas Mexican Union Mission in the Inter-American Division, by no later than December 31, 2014.

ADCOM/ADCOM/14SM to AG-15GCS

135-14GS SOUTH COLOMBIAN UNION MISSION—NEW UNION CONFERENCE

RECOMMENDED, To grant union conference status to the South Colombian Union Mission in the Inter-American Division, by no later than December 31, 2014.

Prayer was offered by Audrey E Andersson, Secretary of the Trans-European Division.

Prayer was requested for the Chiapas Mexican Union Mission and the South Colombian Union Mission.

Ted N C Wilson, Chair John H Thomas, Secretary Myron A Iseminger, Editorial Secretary Tamara K Boward, Recording Secretary

SPRING MEETING OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 8, 2014, 2:00 p.m.

Ted N C Wilson called to order the second session of the 2014 Spring Meeting.

James R Nix, Director of the Ellen G White Estate, read a quotation from Ellen G White from the Review and Herald, August 23, 1892.

Prayer was offered by Filiberto M Verduzco-Avila, Treasurer of the Inter-American Division.

NomCom14SM/14SM to MAI

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

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

General Conference Youth Ministries

Associate Director for Public Campus Ministries

Jiwan S Moon

SEC/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO10SM/10SM/ADCOM/GCDO10AC/10AC/ADCOM/102-10Ge/ADCOM/GCDO11SM/11SM/ADCOM/GCDO11AC/11AC/ADCOM/102-11Gd/ADCOM/GCDO12SM/12SM/ADCOM/GCDO12AC/12AC/102-12Gc/ADCOM/GCDO13SM/13SM/ADCOM/GCDO13AC/13AC/ADCOM/102-13Gb/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to HW(DIV)

102-14Ga AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2014

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2014, with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as follows:

14-14 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

<u>DATE</u>	DAY	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
April 2014 8-9 14-May 3 16(eve) 17 20-21 21-22 22 23-24 23(pm) 24(am) 24(pm)	Tue Mon Wed Thu Sun Mon Tue Wed Wed Thu Thu	Spring Meeting IWM Mission Institute Pacific Press Board Committees Pacific Press Board Oakwood University Board of Trustees Biblical Research Institute Committee Adventist University of Africa Board Faith and Science Council Review and Herald HHES Board Review and Herald Board Review and Herald Finance Committee	Silver Spring MD Chiang Mai THAILAND Nampa ID Nampa ID Huntsville AL Loma Linda CA Nairobi KENYA Loma Linda CA Hagerstown MD Hagerstown MD Hagerstown MD
May 2014 6 8 20-22 20-21 22-Jun 4 22(am) 23-28(am)	Tue Thu Tue Tue Thu Thu Fri	AIIAS Constituency Meeting AIIAS Board Meeting Ctr for E Asian Religions Mission Ldrship Conf Loma Linda University Board and Committees Great Controversy and Religious Freedom Tour Adventist Health International Services Board International Medical Education Conference	Silang Cavite PHILIPPINES Silang Cavite PHILIPPINES Muak Lek THAILAND Loma Linda CA EUROPE Loma Linda CA Loma Linda CA
June 2014 1(pm) 2-4 2 2(am) 4(pm) 5 10(pm) 16-19 19 23-29 23(am)	Sun Mon Mon Wed Thu Tue Mon Thu Mon	Andrews University Board Dinner/Info Items Theology of Ordination Study Committee Andrews University Board Andrews University Subcommittees Adventist Risk Management Board Committees Adventist Risk Management Board of Directors Review and Herald Board Exec/Finance Comm Prime Time General Conference Mission Board IWM Re-Entry Seminars Family/Teen Christian Record Services Board of Directors	Berrien Springs MI Silver Spring MD Berrien Springs MI Berrien Springs MI VERMONT VERMONT Silver Spring MD Silver Spring MD Silver Spring MD Berrien Springs MI Lincoln NE
July 2014 7-26 7-12 13-15	Mon Mon Sun	IWM Mission Institute Global Conference on Health Professional Adventists of Safety and Security	Berrien Springs MI SWITZERLAND Silver Spring MD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	MEETING	<u>LOCATION</u>
August 2014 12-16 15-24 20(eve) 21 25-26 27(am)	Tue Fri Wed Thu Mon Wed	All Africa Bible Corresp Sch & Special Needs Min Consult Mtg International Bible and Science Conference Pacific Press Board Committees Pacific Press Board Loma Linda University Board and Committees Adventist Health International Services Board	Baraton KENYA St George UT Nampa ID Nampa ID Loma Linda CA Loma Linda CA
September 20 10-13 15-18 16(am) 16(pm) 24(eve) 25(am) 30	14 Wed Mon Tue Tue Wed Thu Tue	Global Mission Center Directors Meeting Prime Time Christian Record Services Board of Directors General Conference Leadership Council Review and Herald Finance Committee Review and Herald Board Division Officer Interviews	Port of Spain TRINADAD Silver Spring MD Lincoln NE Silver Spring MD Hagerstown MD Hagerstown MD Silver Spring MD
October 2014 1 2 3(am) 5(am) 5(pm) 5(eve) 6 6 6 6 6(am) 7(am) 7(pm) 7(eve) 7(eve) 8(am) 8(pm) 8(pm) 8(pm) 8(pm) 8(eve)-9 9(am)	Wed Thu Fri Sun Sun Sun Mon Mon Mon Tue Tue Tue Wed Wed Wed Wed Wed Thu	Presidential Advisory Division Officer Interviews General Conference Mission Board ADRA International Board Church Manual Committee Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board Presidents Council Secretaries Council Treasurers Council IBE Programs Review Committee GC & Division Officers Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee International Board of Education International Board of Min and Theol Ed (IBMTE) Hope Channel, Inc Board IRLA Board Adventist World Radio Board Accred Association of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ General Conference Auditing Service Board Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD

14-16 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>			
October 2014 contd						
9(eve)-15	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD			
9(eve)-10(am)	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD			
19-20	Sun	Oakwood University Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL			
20-21	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI			
21(am)	Tue	Loma Linda University Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA			
22-23	Wed	Faith and Science Council	Berrien Springs MI			
26(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI			
27(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Seminary Exec Committee	Berrien Springs MI			
27	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI			
28	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI			
November 2014 December 2014						
3(pm)	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board Committees	Silver Spring MD			
4(am)	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board of Directors	Silver Spring MD			
9-10	Tue	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA			
11(am)	Thu	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA			
15(pm)	Mon	Review and Herald Board Exec/Finance Comm	Silver Spring MD			

SEC/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO10SM/10SM/ADCOM/GCDO10AC/10AC/ADCOM/102-10Gf/ADCOM/GCDO11SM/11SM/ADCOM/GCDO11AC/11AC/ADCOM/102-11Ge/ADCOM/GCDO12SM/12SM/ADCOM/GCDO12AC/12AC/102-12Gd/GCDO13SM/13SM/ADCOM/GCDO13AC/13AC/102-13Gc/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to HW(DIV)

102-14Gb AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2015

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2015, 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>	MEETING	<u>LOCATION</u>
January 2015			
12-31	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Chiang Mai THAILAND
13-17	Tue	GC Executive Officers Meeting/PREXAD	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
26	Mon	Membership Software Advisory Committee	Abidjan CÔTE D'IVOIRE

<u>DATE</u>	DAY	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>January 2015</u> 28-Feb 1	contd Wed	Global Adventist Internet Network Conference	Abidjan CÔTE D'IVOIRE
February 201 22(pm)	<u>5</u> Sun	Loma Linda University Board Education	Loma Linda CA
23-24	Mon	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA
25(am)	Wed	Adventist Health International Board	Loma Linda CA
25(pm)	Wed	Geoscience Research Institute Board	Loma Linda CA
March 2015			
1(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
2(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Seminary Exec Committee	Berrien Springs MI
3	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
17(am)	Tue	Loma Linda University Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
18(eve)	Wed	Pacific Press Finance Committee	Nampa ID
19	Thu	Pacific Press Board	Nampa ID
23-26	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
24(pm)	Tue	Institute for the Prevention of Addictions Board	Silver Spring MD
26(pm)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
<u>April 2015</u>			
5(am)	Sun	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
6-7(am)	Mon	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
6(eve)	Mon	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
6(eve)	Mon	International Board of Min & Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD
7(pm)	Tue	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
7(eve)	Tue	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
8	Wed	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
8	Wed	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
8	Wed	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
9(am)	Thu	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
9(pm)	Thu	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
10(am)	Fri	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
12	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
12(eve)	Sun	Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD
13(am)	Mon	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
13(pm)	Mon	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
13(pm)	Mon	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
13(eve)	Mon	Hope Channel, Inc Board	Silver Spring MD

14-18 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>April 2015</u> co 14-15	ntd Tue	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
19-20	Sun	Oakwood University Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL
20-May 9	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	
20-21 21	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
22-23	Tue Wed	Adventist University of Africa Board Faith and Science Council	Nairobi KENYA Loma Linda CA
22-23 22(pm)	Wed	Review and Herald HHES Board	Hagerstown MD
22(eve)	Wed	Review and Herald Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD
23(am)	Thu	Review and Herald Board	Hagerstown MD
()			8
May 2015			
5	Tue	AIIAS Constituency Meeting	Silang Cavite PHILIPPINES
7	Thu	AIIAS Board Meeting	Silang Cavite PHILIPPINES
19-20	Tue	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA
21(am)	Thu	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA
27(pm)	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board Committees	VERMONT
28	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board of Directors	VERMONT
31(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Board Dinner/Info Items	Berrien Springs MI
June 2015			
1	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
1(am)	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
8-27	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Berrien Springs MI
8-25	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
11(am)	Thu	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
11(pm)	Thu	Review and Herald Board Exec/Finance Comm	Silver Spring MD
15-21	Mon	IWM Re-Entry Seminars Family/Teen	Berrien Springs MI
30	Tue	Presidents Council	San Antonio TX
30	Tue	Secretaries Council	San Antonio TX
30	Tue	Treasurers Council	San Antonio TX
July 2015			
2-11	Thu	General Conference Session	San Antonio TX
13-Aug 1	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Berrien Springs MI
20-25	Mon	IWM Re-Entry Seminars Family/Teen	Berrien Springs MI
	2.2011		
<u>August 2015</u>			
12(eve)	Wed	Pacific Press Finance Committee	Nampa ID

<u>DATE</u>	DAY	MEETING	<u>LOCATION</u>	
August 2015 contd				
13	Thu	Pacific Press Board	Nampa ID	
13(am)	Thu	Pacific Press Publishing Assoc Constituency	Nampa ID	
24-25	Mon	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA	
26(am)	Wed	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA	
September 20)15			
9-12	Wed	Global Mission Center Directors Meeting	Paris FRANCE	
14-17	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD	
17(pm)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD	
23(eve)	Wed	Review and Herald Finance Committee	Hagerstown MD	
24(am)	Thu	Review and Herald Board	Hagerstown MD	
29	Tue	Presidential Advisory	Silver Spring MD	
30-Oct 1	Wed	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD	
October 2015				
2(am)	Fri	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD	
4(am)	Sun	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD	
4(pm)	Sun	Church Manual Committee	Silver Spring MD	
5	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD	
5	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD	
5	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD	
5(am)	Mon	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD	
5(eve)	Mon	Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD	
6(am)	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD	
6(pm)	Tue	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD	
6(eve)	Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD	
6(eve)	Tue	International Board of Min and Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD	
7(am)	Wed	Hope Channel, Inc Board	Silver Spring MD	
7(pm)	Wed	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD	
7(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD	
7(pm)	Wed	Accred Association of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD	
7(eve)-8	Wed	General Conference Auditing Service Board	Silver Spring MD	
8(am)	Thu	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD	
8(pm)	Thu	AIIAS Board	Silver Spring MD	
8(eve)-11	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD	
8(eve)-15	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD	
18-19	Sun	Oakwood University Board of Trustees	Huntsville AL	

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>			
October 2015 contd						
19-20	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI			
20(am)	Tue	Loma Linda University Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA			
21-22	Wed	Faith and Science Council	Berrien Springs MI			
25(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI			
26(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Seminary Executive Committee	Berrien Springs MI			
26	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI			
27	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI			
November 2015						
December 202	<u>15</u>					
2(pm)	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board Committees	Silver Spring MD			
3(am)	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board of Directors	Silver Spring MD			
7-12	Mon	Global Mission Study Center Directors Meeting	·			
8-9	Tue	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA			
10(am)	Thu	Adventist Health International Services Board	Loma Linda CA			
14(pm)	Mon	Review and Herald Board Exec/Finance Comm	Silver Spring MD			

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to HW(DIV)

102-14Gc AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2016

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2016, 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>	MEETING	<u>LOCATION</u>
January 2016 5	<u>5</u> Tue	GC Executive Officers Meeting	FLORIDA
6-9	Wed	PREXAD	FLORIDA
February 201	6		
22-23	Mon	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA
28-Mar 18	Sun	General Conference Department Advisories	Silver Spring MD
28(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
29	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	MEETING	LOCATION
February 2010 29(pm)	6 contd Mon	Andrews University Seminary Exec Committee	Berrien Springs MI
March 2016 1 21-24 22(am) 24(pm)	Tue Mon Tue Thu	Andrews University Board Prime Time Loma Linda University Executive Committee General Conference Leadership Council	Berrien Springs MI Silver Spring MD Loma Linda CA Silver Spring MD
April 2016 3(am) 4-5(am) 4(eve) 4(eve) 5(pm) 5(eve) 6 6 7(am) 7(pm) 8(am) 10 10(eve) 11(am) 11(pm) 11(pm) 11(pm) 11(eve) 12-13 14(am) 14(pm) May 2016 23-24	Sun Mon Mon Tue Tue Wed Wed Wed Thu Thu Fri Sun Mon Mon Mon Mon Tue Thu Thu	IBE Programs Review Committee Global Mission Issues Committee International Board of Education International Board of Min and Theol Ed (IBMTE) General Conference Mission Board Accred Association of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ Presidents Council Secretaries Council Treasurers Council GC & Division Officers Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee Division Officer Interviews Division Officer Interviews Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board ADRA International Board IRLA Board Adventist World Radio Board Hope Channel, Inc Board Spring Meeting Loma Linda University Constituency Meeting Loma Linda University Organizing Boards Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Silver Spring MD Loma Linda CA Loma Linda CA
June 2016 6-9 July 2016	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD

14-22 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	MEETING	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>August 2016</u>			
29-30	Mon	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA
September 20	16		
19-22	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
22(pm)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD
27	Tue	Presidential Advisory	Silver Spring MD
28-29	Wed	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
30(am)	Fri	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
October 2016	· •		
2(am)	Sun	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
2(pm)	Sun	Church Manual Committee	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(am)	Mon	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
3(eve)	Mon	Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board	Silver Spring MD
4(am)	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
4(pm)	Tue	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
4(eve)	Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
4(eve)	Tue	International Board of Min and Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD
5(am)	Wed	Hope Channel, Inc Board	Silver Spring MD
5(pm)	Wed	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
5(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
5(pm)	Wed	Accred Association of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD
5(eve)-6	Wed	General Conference Auditing Service Board	Silver Spring MD
6(am)	Thu	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
6(pm)	Thu	AIIAS Board	Silver Spring MD
6(eve)-7(am)	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD
6(eve)-12	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
18(am)	Tue	Loma Linda University Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
23(eve)	Sun	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
24	Mon	Andrews University Subcommittees	Berrien Springs MI
24(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Seminary Exec Committee	Berrien Springs MI
25	Tue	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI

November 2016

<u>DATE</u> <u>DAY</u> <u>MEETING</u> <u>LOCATION</u>

December 2016

12-13 Mon Loma Linda University Board and Committees Loma Linda CA

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to HW(DIV)

102-14Gd AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2017

VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2017, with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	DAY	MEETING	<u>LOCATION</u>
January 2017 3 4-7	Tue Wed	GC Executive Officers Meeting PREXAD	FLORIDA FLORIDA
February 2017 24(eve)-27(am) 27(pm)-28	7 Fri Mon	Loma Linda University Board Retreat Loma Linda University Board and Committees	CALIFORNIA Loma Linda CA
March 2017 20-23 21(am) 23(pm)	Mon Tue Thu	Prime Time Loma Linda University Executive Committee General Conference Leadership Council	Silver Spring MD Loma Linda CA Silver Spring MD
April 2017 2(am) 3-4(am) 3(eve) 3(eve) 4(pm) 4(eve) 5 5	Sun Mon Mon Tue Tue Wed Wed Wed	IBE Programs Review Committee Global Mission Issues Committee International Board of Education International Board of Min and Theol Ed (IBMTE) General Conference Mission Board Accred Association of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ Presidents Council Secretaries Council Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD Silver Spring MD
6(am) 6(pm)	Thu Thu	GC & Division Officers Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD Silver Spring MD

14-24 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

<u>DATE</u>	DAY	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
April 2017 co 7(am) 9 9(eve) 10(am) 10(pm) 10(pm) 10(eve) 11-12	Fri Sun Sun Mon Mon Mon Mon Tue	Division Officer Interviews Division Officer Interviews Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board ADRA International Board IRLA Board Adventist World Radio Board Hope Channel, Inc Board Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD Silver Spring MD
May 2017 22-23	Mon	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA
<u>June 2017</u> 5-8	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
July 2017			
August 2017 28-29	Mon	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA
September 20 18-21 21(pm) 26 27-28 29(am)	Mon Thu Tue Wed Fri	Prime Time General Conference Leadership Council Presidential Advisory Division Officer Interviews General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD Silver Spring MD Silver Spring MD Silver Spring MD Silver Spring MD
October 2017 1(am) 1(pm) 2 2 2 2(am) 2(eve) 3(am) 3(pm) 3(eve)	Sun Sun Mon Mon Mon Mon Tue Tue	ADRA International Board Church Manual Committee Presidents Council Secretaries Council Treasurers Council IBE Programs Review Committee Africa HIV/AIDS Office Board GC & Division Officers Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD Silver Spring MD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>		
October 2017	contd				
3(eve)	Tue	International Board of Min and Theol Ed (IBMTE)	Silver Spring MD		
4(am)	Wed	Hope Channel, Inc Board	Silver Spring MD		
4(pm)	Wed	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD		
4(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD		
4(pm)	Wed	Accred Association of SDA Sch, Coll, & Univ	Silver Spring MD		
4(eve)-5	Wed	General Conference Auditing Service Board	Silver Spring MD		
5(am)	Thu	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD		
5(pm)	Thu	AIIAS Board	Silver Spring MD		
5(eve)-6(am)	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD		
5(eve)-11	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD		
24(am)	Tue	Loma Linda University Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA		
November 2017					
December 2017					
11-12	Mon	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA		

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to MAI

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 (AAA) (GCC), as follows:

Add Caesar, Lena Costa, Myrna

Tkachuk, Vladimir, ESD Education Director

Delete Mirilov, Branislav, ESD Education Director

Rodriguez, Angel M

14-26 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to MAI

ADVENTIST-LAYMEN'S SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES (ASI) COORDINATING COMMITTEE (GCC-S)—MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) Coordinating Committee (ASICoordCom) (GCC-S), as follows:

Add Holland, Chris

Delete Chow, Ramon

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to MAI

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (GCC)— MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

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

Add Moskala, Jiri, Invitee Richli, Claude, Invitee

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to MAI

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:

Delete Egwakhe, George O

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to MAI

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 Landless, Peter N, Health Ministries Director

Tkachuk, Vladimir, ESD Education Director Weslake, Ken, SPD Education Director

Delete Coulson, Malcom T, SPD Education Director

Handysides, Allan R, Health Ministries Director Mirilov, Branislav, ESD Education Director *To be named*, President of Griggs University

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to MAI

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 Caldas Moura, Ozeas, Chairpersons of Undergrad Programs

Gane, Barry, Deans of Graduate Programs in Religious Formation

Moskala, Jiri, Presidents/Deans of Seminaries/Universities

Nwaomah, Sampson, Presidents/Deans of Seminaries/Universities

Ovando-Gibson, Maria, Faculty from Institutions

Sabuin, Richard, Presidents/Deans of Seminaries/Universities Siquiera, Reinaldo, Presidents/Deans of Seminaries/Universities Williams, Ivan, Individuals Active in Ministerial Formation

Delete DuPreez, Gerald, Individuals Active in Ministerial Formation

Fortin, H Denis, Presidents/Deans of Seminaries/Universities

Kwesi, Ifeoma, Faculty from Institutions

Musvosvi, Joel, Presidents/Deans of Seminaries/Universities Rodriguez, Angel M, Biblical Research Institute Director

Saban, Robin, Deans of Graduate Programs in Religious Formation

14-28 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

> Siquiera, Reinaldo, Chairpersons of Undergrad Programs Timm, Alberto, Presidents/Deans of Seminaries/Universities

SEC/ADCOM/GCDO14SM/14SM to MAI

GENERAL CONFERENCE MISSION BOARD (GCC-B)— MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the General Conference Mission Board (GCMB) (GCC-B), as follows

Add Iseminger, Myron A

Krause, Gary D, Secretary

Delete Anderson, Eric, Frontline Member of GCC

Barrientos, Claudya, Young Person Iseminger, Myron A, Secretary

Krause, Gary D

TRE/AudCom/14SM to REL

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2013

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

VOTED, To accept the auditor's reports on the audited Combined Financial Statements of the General Conference for the period ending December 31, 2013 (which include the Operating Funds, Plant Fund, and Other Funds), and the auditor's opinions including those of the following unitized funds, as presented by Maner Costerisan, PC:

Money Fund
Capital Preservation Fund
Bond Fund
Income Fund
Global Opportunities Fund
Large Cap Fund
Small Cap Fund
International Fund

Emerging Markets Fund Liability Driven Investment Fund

(A copy of the Audited Financial Statement is filed with the official copy of the minutes.)

TRE/AudCom/14SM to REL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH POLICY

VOTED, To accept the 2013 Audit Management Letter and Policy Compliance Report as presented by Maner Costerisan, PC, independent auditors.

(The 2013 Audit Management Letter and Policy Compliance Report are filed with the official copy of the minutes.)

TRE/AudCom/14SM to REL

GENERAL CONFERENCE AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Gina S Brown, Member of the General Conference Audit Committee, presented the General Conference Audit Committee Report.

VOTED, To accept the General Conference Audit Committee Report.

(The General Conference Audit Committee report is filed with the official copy of the minutes.)

TRE/14SM to REL

TREASURER'S REPORT

AND THEN SHALL THE END COME

"Christ tells us when the day of His kingdom shall be ushered in. He does not say that all the world will be converted, but that "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14). By giving the gospel to the world, it is in our power to hasten the coming of the day of God. Had the church of Christ done her appointed work as the Lord ordained, the whole world would before this have been warned, and the Lord Jesus would have come to the earth in power and great glory.

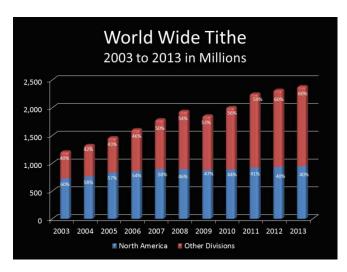
14-30 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

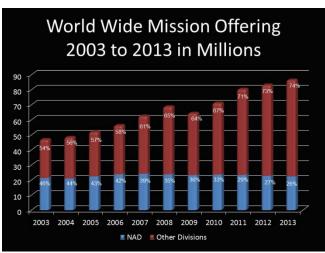
Living power must attend the message of Christ's second appearing. We must not rest until we see many souls converted to the blessed hope of the Lord's return. In the days of the apostles the message that they bore wrought a real work, turning souls from idols to serve the living God. The work to be done today is just as real, and the truth is just as much truth; only we are to give the message with as much more earnestness as the coming of the Lord is nearer. The message for this time is positive, simple, and of the deepest importance. We must act like men and women who believe it. Waiting, watching, working, praying, warning the world—this is our work."—AG 353

God wants us to understand the urgency of the times. We have a message to give to the fallen world.

2013 OPERATING RESULTS

In spite of the recession and slow recovery of the economy in the US, the economies of most of the countries of the world have continued to be strong. This is also reflected in the tithe and offering figures. Worldwide tithe was up 2.8 percent totaling US\$2.378 billion. Tithe in the North American Division was up 1.7 percent over 2012 and totaled US\$949 million in 2013 as compared to US\$933 million in 2012. Tithe from divisions other than the North American Division was up 3.6 percent and totaled US\$1.429 billion compared to US\$1.380 billion. The increase when stated in US dollars was somewhat reduced by changes in exchange rates to the US.

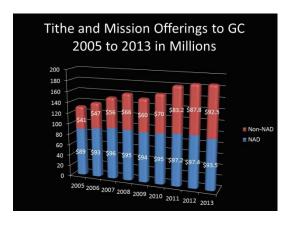




Mission offerings in the North American Division were down 1.9 percent from US\$22.8 million in 2012 to US\$22.3 million in 2013, but offerings from divisions outside North America were up 6.1 percent from US\$60.2 million to US\$63.9 million. Mission offerings in 2013 totaled

US\$86.7, and for the first time the 13th Sabbath Offering for projects exceeded US\$1 million and will go to benefit projects in the Trans-European Division. As in the case of the tithe, the exchange rates reduced the amount in US dollars.

Even though tithe in the North American Division is up by 1.7 percent, the portion of tithe to the General Conference decreased by US\$3.4 million (4.8 percent) because of the decrease in tithe sharing percentage with the General Conference. It decreased from 8 percent in 2012 to 7.5 percent in 2013 and will decrease to 7 percent in 2014. Then it will hold at 7 percent for two years followed by four years of 1/4 percent decrease per year until it reaches 6 percent in 2020. This decrease of US\$3.4 million in tithe from the North American Division, coupled with a decrease of US\$0.4 million in Mission Offerings, was offset by an increase in tithe from the other divisions of US\$1.0 million and mission offerings of US\$3.7 million providing a small net increase in tithe and offerings to the General Conference of US\$0.9 million.



So in summary, tithe and mission offerings coming to the General Conference for the World Budget were up 0.5 percent from US\$185.2 million in 2012 to US\$186.1 million in 2013. The graph to the left shows the share of the tithes and offerings received by the General Conference over the past nine years. You can see that the portion coming from the divisions outside North America has been increasing rapidly, meaning they are continuing to pick up an increased portion of the support of the World Budget.

FINANCIAL MARKETS

After several years of extremely turbulent financial markets it has been good to see the improvements over the past couple of years. Caution needs to be exercised when investing funds as there is no certainty that the good performance will continue. Interest rates remain very low and provide little opportunity for meaningful returns without considerable risk.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OPERATING EXPENSES

The General Conference operated approximately US\$6.9 million under the budgeted cap for 2013 and that, combined with the increases in tithe and offering above budget and some other one-time items, produced very positive operating results. Since funds received by the church can be restricted or allocated, the increase does not mean all the funds are available for the committee to vote out for new items, but we did have an excess of required working capital

14-32 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

above the 100 percent level of US\$10.5 million which could be available for a Supplemental Budget in 2014. The total increase in fund balances was US\$32.7 million.

Accounting for not-for-profit organizations is different than for commercial organizations. In a commercial setting there is normally a single bottom line number that gives you a picture of the operations for the year. Additional information on one-time items and revenue trends and expenses help to better understand that figure, but the bottom line is the most meaningful number. In not-for-profit accounting the objective is to be sure the funds have been spent in accordance with any restrictions put on them by the donor or allocation by the governing body. We use fund accounting to help us accomplish this. The unrestricted regular operating funds are the basis of the General Conference World Budget and are available to the Executive Committee to provide appropriations to the world field, support our interdivision missionaries, fund programs, and cover the operating costs of the General Conference headquarters. The other funds benefit the work but because of their restrictions are not included as part of the regular operating budget. The following breakdown helps in understanding the components of the US\$32.7 million increase in fund balance.

	Increase/Decrease 2013 Fund Balance in Millions
Regular Operating Fund	US\$13.2
Donor Advised Fund	14.5
Extraordinary Tithe	2.4
Plant Fund	0.9
Charitable Gift Annuity and Endowment Funds	1.7
Total Increase in Fund Balances for the GC in 2013	US\$32.7

Donor Advised Funds—When donors provide funds for a specific purpose, they are recorded as restricted funds and are used in accordance with the restriction. But sometimes individuals wish to make donations in a particular tax year for tax planning purposes but have not yet determined which projects they wish to support. If accepted by the General Conference, these funds are placed in a donor advised fund, and the General Conference works with the donor to understand his or her wishes, but in the mean time they appear in our accounting records as unrestricted.

Extraordinary Tithe Fund—This fund has the extraordinary tithe received by the General Conference that was voted to be used over a five-to-seven year period. The fund balance should decrease each year as the funds are used to support the approved initiatives.

Plant Fund—This is the fund where we maintain the accounting for the land, buildings, and equipment belonging to the General Conference and includes the funded depreciation.

Charitable Gift Annuity Fund—This fund is used to account for gift annuities wherein the General Conference is a beneficiary.

Endowment Funds—These are funds where the principal is to be maintained but the income is available for specific purposes.

PRAISE TO THE LORD

We praise the Lord for His goodness and for the faithfulness of His children. May the Lord continue to bless as we work to take the Good News to the whole world.

"The message for this time is positive, simple, and of the deepest importance. We must act like men and women who believe it. Waiting, watching, working, praying, warning the world—this is our work."—AG 353

TRE/SP&B14SM/14SM to JRP

2013 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

VOTED, To approve the allocation of US\$200,000 from the 2013 Supplemental Budget Funds to each division and to the Middle East and North Africa Union Mission, for a total of US\$2.8 million.

TRE/SP&B14SM/14SM to JRP

10/40 WINDOW CONTINGENCY FUND

VOTED, To approve the allocation of the following from the 10/40 Window Contingency Fund:

- 1. US\$600,000 to the Indonesian Hope Channel
- 2. US\$650,000 for the Theological Education Centers in the Chinese Union Mission

14-34 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

SPECIAL ALLOCATION OF 10/40 WINDOW CONTINGENCY FUNDS TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA UNION MISSION (MENA)

VOTED, To authorize the redirection of the world budget allocation to the 10/40 Window of US\$3,968,999 as follows:

- 1. Funding to the Middle East and North Africa Union Mission (MENA) in the amount of US\$1,500,000 per year to fund Centers of Influence Projects and other related efforts, such as the training and involvement of local workers. This amount will be increased by the percentages of increase applicable to regular appropriations to world divisions and General Conference institutions.
- 2. An allocation of US\$2,468,999 (in 2014) to be applied to projects in the territory of the 10/40 Window. This allocation is intended to be applied to projects in territories other than MENA. This amount will be increased by the percentages of increase given to the regular appropriations voted for the world divisions and General Conference institutions, plus an amount equivalent to one-third (1/3) of the total increase to the world divisions and General Conference institutions.

TRE/SP&B14SM/14SM to JRP

UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND

VOTED, To approve the allocation of US\$400,000 to the Inter-American Division from the Unusual Opportunities Fund to purchase houses to be used as churches.

TRE/SP&B14SM/14SM to JRP

EXTRAORDINARY TITHE FUNDS

VOTED, To approve the allocation of US\$8,000,000 for Hope Channel's 10/40 Window Direct TV projects from the Extraordinary Tithe Fund.

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/103-09G/10SM/103-10G/SP&B11SM/11SM/103-11G/SP&B12SM/12SM/103-12G/SP&B13SM/13SM/103-13G/SP&B14SM/14SM to JRP

103-14G OPERATING EXPENSE CAP 2013 - 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 2013, as follows:

Operating Expense Cap 2013

Total income basis	US\$2,377,621,650
Expense cap at 2% of world tithe	
Expense for 2013	US\$40,651,118
Expense as a percentage of cap	85.49%
Amount under the cap	US\$6,901,315

Operating Expense Cap Summary

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

14-36 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

2000	656,938,361	4,235,930	661,174,291	28,099,907	22,877,949	5,221,958	81.42%
YEAR	GROSS NAD TITHE	GROSS NON-NAD TITHE	GROSS WORLD TITHE	САР	ACTUAL OPERATING EXPENSE	EXPENSE UNDER THE CAP	EXPENSE AS % OF CAP
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%
2009	877,932,567	972,448,826	1,850,381,393	37,007,628	33,683,030	3,324,598	91.02%
2010	887,976,938	1,114,309,972	2,002,286,910	40,045,738	35,751,896	4,293,842	89.28%
2011	923,139,207	1,327,163,354	2,250,302,561	45,006,051	36,274,153	8,731,898	80.60%
2012	932,651,081	1,379,708,059	2,312,359,140	46,097,183	38,259,534	7,837,649	83.00%
2013	948,724,512	1,428,897,138	2,377,621,650	47,552,433	40,651,118	6,901,315	85.49%

^{*}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/SP&B14SM/14SM to JRP

COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, MARCH 31, 2014

Juan R Prestol, Undertreasurer of the General Conference, presented the Combined Financial Statements of the General Conference for the period ending March 31, 2014.

VOTED, To record receipt of the combined Financial Statements for the General Conference for the period ending March 31, 2014.

TRE/SP&B14SM/14SM to REL

136-14G FINANCIAL PROVISIONS FOR EMPLOYEES RETIRING AND/OR NOT REELECTED/REAPPOINTED—GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2015

There are many factors that enter into decisions of elected staff as they approach a General Conference Session. Some individuals may plan to retire but be requested to continue while others may make themselves available to continue but not be reelected. It takes time to find new employment and can even take a number of months to have retirement applications processed and approved by both the government and denominational retirement plans for those who choose to retire after not being asked to continue. Because of these factors and to help the staff plan and make a smooth transition where needed, it is

VOTED, To approve the financial provisions for General Conference employees who retire or are not reelected at the 2015 General Conference Session and for General Conference employees in appointed positions under quinquennial review by the General Conference Administrative Committee in 2015 (review normally done around October), as follows:

- 1. For positions voted at time of General Conference Session, effective July 1, 2015, regular salary and benefits from the General Conference will be continued for a period of five months or until the person concerned secures employment, whichever is earlier.
- 2. If denominational employment is secured within the five-month period, beginning July 1, 2015, the unused portion of the five months' salary will be passed on to the employing organization as a salary subsidy.
- 3. Moving expenses to the new assignment will be covered by the General Conference.
- 4. Elected individuals who plan to retire at the time of the General Conference Session or who are not reelected and decide to retire during the five months period starting July 1, 2015 will continue on salary and benefits through November 30, 2015. Unless employed by the General Conference in some non-elected position, requests to carry temporary transition assignments during this period will not affect the November 30, 2015 ending date for salary.
- 5. Where individuals are not retiring and are continuing to actively seek employment and have not restricted their availability (i.e. not being willing to move, etc.) administration may extend the period of salary by up to another five months and may offer up to 10 months of salary subsidy to denominational organizations employing such individual.
- 6. Similar provisions will apply for those not reelected/reappointed at the time of the 2015 quinquennial review of appointed positions, with effective dates of five months from that date.

TRE/14SM to REL

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

(A copy of the Treasurer's Report is filed with the official copy of the minutes.)

GENERAL CONFERENCE CORPORATION MEMBERS' MEETING

At 3:51 p.m. the General Conference Corporation members' meeting was convened, after which the business session of the General Conference Executive Committee reconvened.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE AND SCIENCE CONFERENCE

Michael L Ryan and Lisa M Beardsley-Hardy presented information about the International Bible and Science Conference being held August 15-24, 2014 in Utah. They encouraged divisions to send three representatives from each institution accredited by the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities.

MISSION TO THE CITIES—KIEV, UKRAINE

Guillermo E Biaggi presented a short film on the Mission to the Cities initiative in Kiev, Ukraine which took place at the same time as the recent political unrest.

Mark A Finley offered a prayer for Kiev and the Ukraine.

HOPE CHANNEL REPORT

Brad Thorp presented a report on the gains being made by the Hope Channel with 14 satellite channels, in 24 languages, and 8 internet channels. NET events have been particularly effective in places like the Ukraine and India. In the Middle East and North Africa Union the Hope Channel has become co-located with the Nilesat satellite, covering much of North Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. A new Hope Channel will be opening in Africa, broadcasting in local languages.

SABBATH SCHOOL AND PERSONAL MINISTRIES REPORT

Jonathan Kuntaraf presented a short film describing some of the initiatives that the Sabbath School and Personal Ministries department has been promoting. These include the Reaching and Winning Series, the New Beginnings DVD series, a certification program that Adventist Community Services is using in Centers of Influence, training and resources developed for Special Needs Ministries and websites for discipleship resources.

14-40 April 8, 2014, p.m. GCC Spring Meeting

IAD/ADCOM/14SM to AG-15GCS

131-14GS VENEZUELA-ANTILLES UNION MISSION—NAME CHANGE

RECOMMENDED, To change the name of the Venezuela-Antilles Union Mission, in the Inter-American Division, to the West Venezuela Union Mission, effective January 1, 2014. This change comes at the request of the Division and reflects their decision to attach the territories of the Curacao and Bonaire Conference and the Aruba Mission to the Inter-American Division.

TED/GCDO14SM/14SM to HW-15GCS

138-14GS FINLAND UNION CONFERENCE—CHANGE OF STATUS

RECOMMENDED, To grant union of churches with conference status to the Finland Union Conference in the Trans-European Division, effective October 1, 2014. This will replace the current Finland Union Conference and its constituent entities.

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY READING

Daniel R Jackson, President of the North American Division, offered a prayer that we all work toward the goal of unity and fellowship.

Ted N C Wilson and others read selections from *Help in Daily Living: A Practical Guide to Everyday Blessings*, a small book which comprises the closing section of *Ministry of Healing*.

Closing prayer was offered by Doris Gothard, Layperson from the North American Division.

Prayer was requested for healing for Alberto C Gulfan Jr.

Ted N C Wilson, Chair Harald Wollan, Secretary Myron A Iseminger, Editorial Secretary Wendy Trim, Recording Secretary

SPRING MEETING OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 9, 2014, 8:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONAL

The devotional message entitled, "Congenital Christianity," was presented by David Kim, Layperson from the North American Division.

Ted N C Wilson, chair, called to order the third session of the 2014 Spring Meeting.

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

Prayer was requested for those mourning the death of Bob Roberts; and for healing for Alberto C Gulfan Jr and Roberta Fleck.

MISSIONARY BOOKS OUTREACH TOOLS

Delbert W Baker, General Vice President, and Wilmar Hirle, Associate Director of Publishing Ministries, shared how the new Missionary Books for 2014 and 2015 on health and creation can be used by church members as outreach tools.

CREATION PROJECT UPDATE

Benjamin D Schoun, General Vice President, gave an update regarding the success of the Creation Project. Copies of the Missionary Book on Creation, *Beyond Imagination*, as well as the video, *The Creation: The Earth is a Witness* and the brochure, "*The Creation: Proclamation of the First Angel's Message*," were distributed as a sample of what materials are available.

Williams S Costa Jr, Director of Communication, shared a video about how the Northern Asia-Pacific Division has been focusing on the Creation Project. He talked about how the different departments and territories are getting involved in this project. A short clip of the Creation film was shown demonstrating the various languages that are available.

14-42 April 9, 2014, a.m. GCC Spring Meeting

"CONNECTING WITH JESUS"

Michael L Ryan shared data from recent surveys showing the need for continued promotion of Ellen G White's writings. He appealed to the divisions to discuss what can be done to place the Spirit of Prophecy materials into each Adventist home in their territory. The Spirit of Prophecy committee plans to be proactive in contacting the divisions to see that all 10 Connecting With Jesus books are available in the various languages.

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY COMMITTEE REPORT

James R Nix, Director of the Ellen G White Estate, shared about the resources available for territories wishing to translate Spirit of Prophecy books into new languages. The committee is considering revision of translation subsidy guidelines. They have a goal of providing printed and electronic books in more languages.

ELLEN G WHITE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

Next year is the 100-year anniversary of the death of Ellen G White. James R Nix, Director of the Ellen G White Estate, suggested ways to increase the focus on the Spirit of Prophecy during 2015. The various departments and divisions of the Church will be invited to participate in the anniversary. A new Ellen G White Visitor Center will be opening at the White Estate during the 2015 Spring Meeting, and highlights of her works will be presented at the 2015 General Conference Session.

R&RCom/PreC/PREXAD/14SM to MAF-14AC

143-14G BELIEVE HIS PROPHETS

VOTED, To record receipt of the document, Believe His Prophets, which reads as follows:

BELIEVE HIS PROPHETS

Throughout history all great revivals have been accompanied by at least three things: prayer, a study of God's Word, and witness. One of the major aspects of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's current emphasis on revival is the "Revived by his Word" initiative. Tens of

thousands of Seventh-day Adventists are studying the same chapter of the Bible each day. This united Bible reading emphasis will conclude with reading Revelation 21 and 22 during the 2015 General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas. One of the unique features of this Bible reading initiative is the daily blog which is a brief commentary on the reading for the day.

At a recent meeting, the Revival and Reformation Committee discussed the continuation of "Revived by His Word" as an ongoing Bible study program of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Church members will be able to continue reading through the Bible and accessing the biblical explanations that have already been prepared.

BELIEVE HIS PROPHETS: A NEW INITIATIVE FOR 2015-2020

When Israel faced a crisis during the days of Jehoshaphat, the nation gathered to fast and pray. In response to their prayers, the word of the Lord through the prophet assured them of victory. King Jehoshaphat responded, "Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; *believe His prophets*, and you shall prosper." (2 Chronicles 20:20) Echoing and reechoing down through the centuries are the words of Israel's king speaking to our hearts today.

The "Believe His Prophets" initiative proposes to correlate Biblical passages with readings from the Conflict of the Ages series leading the reader through the Bible and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, *Prophets and Kings*, *Desire of Ages*, *Acts of the Apostles*, and the *Great Controversy* in a five year time frame. Each of the Conflict of the Ages series books contains 700-800 pages for a total of 3,500-4,000 pages. There are 31,173 verses in the Bible. This plan envisions reading approximately 10-15 verses per day with the appropriate 2-4 pages in the Conflict Series. For those who are unable to read, the plan is to provide audio presentations on CDs, MP3 players, and GodPod-type devices. We will also evaluate what we have learned from Revived by His Word to significantly strengthen the Believe His Prophets initiative.

"Satan is our destroyer, but Christ is our restorer. We must put faith into constant exercise, and trust in God, whatever our feelings may be . . . Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper."—RH May 19, 1896

PreC/PREXAD/14SM to MAF

144-14G REAPING GOD'S HARVEST

VOTED, To record receipt of the document, Reaping God's Harvest, which reads as follows:

REAPING GOD'S HARVEST (2014-2015)

Mission to the Cities is producing significant results for the kingdom of God. Hundreds of thousands of people are being impacted by a comprehensive, multifaceted evangelistic approach to the world's cities. In addition to the Mission to the Cities initiative, church members in cities, towns and villages worldwide are reaching out to their communities to share Jesus' last-day message of love and truth.

Jesus' statement, "...look at the fields for they are already white for harvest" (John 4:35) is as relevant today as it was two thousand years ago. Ellen G White adds these thought-provoking words, "All are now deciding their eternal destiny. Men need to be aroused to realize the solemnity of the time, the nearness of the day when human probation shall be ended. Decided efforts should be made to bring the message for this time prominently before the people. The third angel is to go forth with great power (6T 16).

"Evangelistic work, opening the Scriptures to others, warning men and women of what is coming upon the world, is to occupy more and still more of the time of God's servants."—RH Aug. 2, 1906

In our recent history, the year before the General Conference Session has been designated a year of evangelistic reaping. The following proposal has been presented to the division presidents and the President's Executive Administrative Council (PREXAD).

- 1. To designate from July 1, 2014 to June 27, 2015 as a year of evangelistic reaping.
- 2. To develop appropriate promotional material through denominational periodicals and media outlets explaining this reaping emphasis is part of the Tell the World and Mission to the Cities initiatives.
- 3. To designate Sabbaths May 30, June 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2015 as World Baptism Sabbaths.
- 4. To explore the possibility of an international baptism at the General Conference Session in San Antonio by baptizing some candidates at the Session, but using video footage or live uplink capacity to project these baptisms to the local audience and the international audience through Hope Channel.

PLANNED GIVING AND TRUST SERVICES REPORT

Gary W Dodge, Director of Planned Giving and Trust Services, featured a video from the departmental website that showed the benefits of donating to the Church in many ways, including gifts, endowments, and scholarships.

NURTURE AND RETENTION COMMITTEE UPDATE

Artur A Stele, General Vice President, shared an update on the work of the Nurture and Retention Committee (ADCOM-S).

WHO ARE WE AND WHY ARE WE HERE?

Clinton Wahlen, Associate Director of the Biblical Research Institute, shared his personal testimony, which focused on the positive attributes of the Church that drew him from atheism to Adventism.

REACH THE WORLD

Michael L Ryan, General Vice President, shared a draft of a brochure on the proposed strategic plan for 2015-2020 and asked for feedback so that the document can be revised and completed before the 2014 Annual Council.

IT'S TIME—MISSION TO THE CITIES

Michael L Ryan, General Vice President, and David Trim, Director of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research interviewed Blasious M Ruguri, President of the East-Central Africa Division, Barry D Oliver, President of the South Pacific Division, Guillermo E Biaggi, President of the Euro-Asia Division, Daniel R Jackson, President of the North American Division, Jairyong Lee, President of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, John Rathinaraj, President of the Southern Asia Division, and Bertil A Wiklander, President of the Trans-European Division, who shared the work being done in their territories to reach cities with populations over one million.

Heather-Dawn K Small, Director of Women's Ministries, shared the work that women are doing through their Homes of Hope and Healing initiative, which focuses on meeting the needs of families in their homes.

14-46 April 9, 2014, a.m. GCC Spring Meeting

SEC/GCDO14SM/14SM to RTB(DIV)

137-14G SPECIAL GUESTS—GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2015

Special Guests is a category of delegates to accommodate representation from different levels of the General Conference institutions, service agencies, fields, and entities that might not be covered by the constitutional provisions.

VOTED, To authorize a Special Guest category of attendees at General Conference Session 2015 under the following provisions:

- 1. Each division shall be eligible for a special guest quota equal to 15 percent of the division's regular and at-large delegates to the Session.
- 2. Each General Conference institution or service agency having an at-large delegate quota shall be eligible for a special guest quota of two persons.
- 3. Additional special guests may be invited at the discretion of the General Conference Administrative Committee.
- 4. Special Guests are to be selected through the same process used for the selection of delegates.
- 5. Authorized expenses of Special Guests are travel, travel insurance, housing, and per diem. Divisions or General Conference institutions/service agencies involved in the selection of Special Guests shall have responsibility for all arrangements pertaining to the expenses of Special Guests, including deciding at which level the expenses are to be borne. In addition, the division or General Conference institution/service agency concerned shall provide the necessary financial guarantees that may be required for obtaining a visa.
 - 6. Special Guests will be entitled to sit with the division's delegation at the Session.
- 7. Special Guests may attend all business meetings of the Session but without voice or vote.

SEC/GCDO14SM to RTB(DIV)

139-14G INTERDIVISION EMPLOYEES (IDEs) AS SPECIAL GUESTS—GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2015

VOTED, To authorize interdivision employees (IDEs) to attend the 2015 General Conference Session as Special Guests under the following provisions:

Interdivision employees (appointees, those on paid annual leave or permanent return while on permanent return salary) may be given the opportunity to attend the 2015 General Conference Session as Special Guests. For interdivision employees (IDEs) already in the field, this should be part of their paid annual leave and voted as such by their respective host divisions and onward to International Personnel Resources and Services (IPRS). Airline tickets will be reimbursed up to the amount normally paid for travel to their annual leave authorized destination points in the base or family adopted division. Any cost above that amount will be personal expense. Reimbursement for airline tickets is limited to actual cost. No minimum number of days in attendance is required to obtain the airfare waiver. Names of those utilizing the waiver must be recorded by the Mission Personnel Processing Committee. The IDE is required to attend the Session for a minimum of seven days to qualify for an additional, all-inclusive financial assistance of USD 500, if accompanied by spouse, or USD 350 if unaccompanied.

Interdivision employees serving as official delegates are not covered under this provision.

SEC/GCDO14SM/14SM to RTB(DIV)

140-14G ALLOCATION OF AT-LARGE DELEGATE SEATS—GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION - 2015

VOTED, To approve the following allocation of at-large delegate seats for the 2015 General Conference Session:

1. From the 300 delegate seats available under Section 8. f. under Article V of the General Conference Constitution, 100 seats shall be allocated among divisions based on the division's membership as of December 31, 2013, as a proportion of total world membership. At its discretion a division may surrender any of these delegate seats for re-allocation by the General Conference Administrative Committee (ADCOM).

East-Central Africa Division	16
Euro-Asia Division	1
Inter-American Division	20

Inter-European Division	1
North American Division	7
Northern Asia-Pacific Division	4
South American Division	12
South Pacific Division	2
Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division	17
Southern Asia Division	8
Southern Asia-Pacific Division	7
Trans-European Division	1
West-Central Africa Division	4

2. Thirty-five seats shall be reserved for allocation by the General Conference Administrative Committee.

Adhoc/ADCOM/PreC/SecC/TreC/134-13G/PREXAD/GCDO14SM/14SM to PKM

125-14G GUIDELINES FOR THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN RESPONDING TO CHANGING CULTURAL ATTITUDES REGARDING HOMOSEXUAL AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE SEXUAL PRACTICES

VOTED, To adopt the Guidelines for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Responding to Changing Cultural Attitudes Regarding Homosexual and Other Alternative Sexual Practices, which read as follows:

GUIDELINES FOR THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN RESPONDING TO CHANGING CULTURAL ATTITUDES REGARDING HOMOSEXUAL AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE SEXUAL PRACTICES

THE DIVINE IDEAL OF SEXUALITY AND MARRIAGE

Issues related to human sexuality and marriage can be seen in their true light as they are viewed against the background of the divine ideal for humanity. God's creative activity culminated in making humankind in His own image as male and female and instituting marriage. Marriage as a wonderful divine gift to humanity is a covenant-based union of the two genders physically, emotionally, and spiritually, referred to in Scripture as "one flesh." Jesus Christ affirmed marriage to be both monogamous and heterosexual, a lifelong union of loving companionship between a man and a woman. In addition, throughout Scripture such heterosexual union in marriage is elevated as a symbol of the bond between Deity and humanity.

The harmonious relation of a man and a woman in marriage provides a microcosm of social unity that is time-honored as a core ingredient of stable societies. The Creator intended married sexuality not only to serve a unitive purpose but also to provide joy, pleasure, and physical completeness. At the same time, it is to a husband and wife whose love has enabled them to know each other in a deep sexual bond that a child may be entrusted. Their child, a living embodiment of their oneness, thrives in the atmosphere of married love and unity and has the benefit of a relationship with each of the natural parents.

While the monogamous union in marriage of a man and a woman is affirmed as the divinely ordained foundation of the family and social life and the only morally appropriate locus of intimate sexual expression, ¹ singleness and the friendship of singles are within the divine design as well. Scripture, however, places a distinction between acceptable conduct in friendship relations and sexual conduct in marriage.

Unfortunately, human sexuality and marriage have been corrupted by sin. Therefore, Scripture does not focus only on the positive aspects of human sexuality but also on wrong expressions of sexuality and their negative impact on people and society. It warns humans of destructive sexual behaviors such as fornication, adultery, homosexual intimacies, incest, and polygamy, (e.g., Matt 19:1-12; 1 Cor 5:1-13; 6:9-20; 7:10-16, 39; Heb 13:4; Rev 22:14, 15) and calls them to do what is good, healthy, and beneficial.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church adheres without reservation to the divine ideal of pure, honorable, and loving sexual relations within heterosexual marriage, believing that any lowering of this high view is detrimental to humanity. It also believes that the ideals of purity and beauty of marriage as designed by God need to be emphasized. Through the redemptive work of Christ, the original purpose of marriage may be recovered, and the delightful and wholesome experience of matrimony may be realized by a man and a woman who join their lives in a lifelong marriage covenant.

THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY

The Seventh-day Adventist Church believes that it has been called into existence by God to proclaim the everlasting gospel to the entire world, and to invite persons everywhere to be ready for the second coming of Jesus. The Church pursues God's mission around the globe, currently teaching, preaching, caring, and serving in more than 200 nations. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has no creedal statement: it believes that its teachings rest on the authority of the Bible alone. It summarizes those beliefs, however, in a Statement of Fundamental Beliefs, currently 28 in number. Central to the Church's understanding of God's plan for ordering human society is its teaching on "Marriage and the Family."

¹ See the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Official Statements about "Same-Sex Unions" and "Homosexuality."

² Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists, "Marriage and Family," No. 23.

14-50 April 9, 2014, a.m. GCC Spring Meeting

Because Seventh-day Adventists live, work, and minister in every part of the world, individual Seventh-day Adventists and the institutions by which the Church pursues God's mission relate to and interact with all levels of human government. The Bible instructs Christians to be obedient to the laws enacted by civil government, and wherever morally possible, Seventh-day Adventist members and Church organizations will seek to be subject to the governing authorities, even as they seek counsel about how to respond when the claims of government conflict with the truths of the Bible and the Fundamental Beliefs of the Church.

THE CHURCH'S RELATIONSHIP TO CIVIL LEGISLATION ABOUT HOMOSEXUALITY AND ALTERNATIVE SEXUAL BEHAVIORS

The Word of God is replete with instruction and illustration bearing on the believer's relationship to the authority and jurisdiction of civil government. Because the Seventh-day Adventist Church values the entirety of the Word of God as its ultimate authority for truth, doctrine, and way of life, it always seeks to reflect in its teaching and practice the full message of Scripture regarding appropriate interaction with civil government. To that end, the Church periodically offers counsel to individuals, leaders, and church institutions when the claims of civil government and the teachings of the Bible appear to be in conflict. This document focuses on the growing divide between the enactments of some civil governments and the beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church about acceptable sexual behaviors.

The following principles, though not comprehensive, undergird the Church's consistent application of biblical truths to the societies and cultures in which it operates and the governments to which it responds. These principles will be especially important in framing, for a Church ministry or organization, an appropriate response to any level of civil government that may attempt to impose on the Church its perceptions of legally and morally acceptable sexual practices.

1. All human governments exist through the provision and allowance of God. The apostle Paul clearly instructs both individual Christians and the Church to place themselves willingly in submission to human governments that have been ordained by God to preserve Godgiven liberties, promote justice, preserve social order, and care for the disadvantaged (see Rom 13:1-3). Insofar as they act in concert with the values and principles articulated in the Word of God, civil governments deserve the respect and obedience of individual believers and the corporate Church. Wherever possible, individual Seventh-day Adventists and Church organizations in a given state or nation will seek by their behavior and statements to be understood as loyal citizens, participating in the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Additionally, believers are instructed to pray for those in civil authority (1 Tim 2:1, 2) so that believers may practice the virtues of God's kingdom.

- 2. Although the authority of human government is derived from the authority of God, the claims and jurisdictions of human governments are never ultimately definitive for either individual believers or the Church. Both individual believers and the Church owe supreme allegiance to God Himself. On those occasions when the claims of civil government directly conflict with and contradict the teaching of the Word of God as understood by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, both the Church and its members are bound by that same Word of God to obey its precepts rather than those of human government (Acts 5:29). This expression of a higher allegiance is specific only to the claim of government that is in contradiction to the Word of God, and does not otherwise diminish or remove the obligation of either the Church or individual believers to live in submission to civil authority on other matters.
- 3. Because individual believers and the organized Church enjoy the rights and liberties given them by God and ratified by civil government, they may fully participate in the processes by which societies organize social life, provide for public and electoral order, and structure civil relationships. This may include a clear articulation of the Church's beliefs in such things as (1) the preservation of liberty of conscience; (2) the protection of the weak and disadvantaged; (3) the responsibility of the state to promote justice and human rights; (4) the divinely ordained state of marriage between one man and one woman and the family that results from this union; and (5) the values of God-given health principles and practices in building up the social and economic welfare of the state. Neither individual Seventh-day Adventists nor the congregations, institutions, and entities through which they engage in their God-given mission should surrender their privileges and rights as a result of opposition to their allegiance to biblical teaching. With its long history of defending religious liberty and freedom of worship around the globe, the Seventh-day Adventist Church defends the rights of all persons, of whatever faith, to follow the dictates of their conscience and to engage in the religious practices to which that faith compels them.
- 4. Because the Seventh-day Adventist Church believes and practices a wholistic understanding of the gospel of Jesus Christ, its evangelistic, educational, publishing, medical, and other ministry organizations are integral and indivisible expressions of its fulfillment of the commission given by Jesus, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matt 28:19, 20, ESV). While Seventh-day Adventist congregations, publishing and media ministries, educational institutions, hospitals and medical centers, and ministry organizations appear to share certain similarities with other social and cultural institutions, they have historically been organized and continue to be organized on a faith and missional basis. They exist for the express purpose of communicating the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ through their multiform methods and initiatives, and to advance the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and should enjoy all the privileges and liberties accorded to the religious organization of which they are essential parts. The Seventh-day Adventist Church vigorously asserts and defends the nonseparability of its various forms of mission, and urges all

14-52 April 9, 2014, a.m. GCC Spring Meeting

civil governments to accord to each of its organizations and entities the rights of conscience and freedom of religious practice asserted in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and guaranteed in the constitutions of most world states.

In their interface with civil governments and societies, both the Church and individual Seventh-day Adventists must conduct themselves as representatives of the kingdom of Christ, exhibiting His characteristics of love, humility, honesty, reconciliation, and commitment to the truths of the Word of God. Each human being, of whatever gender, race, nationality, social class, faith, or sexual orientation, deserves to be treated with respect and dignity by the Seventhday Adventist Church and the entities and organizations through which it pursues God's mission. Because it defines itself as the body of Christ, who "died for us" "while we were yet sinners" (Rom 5:8), the Church holds itself to the highest standards of speech and conduct toward all human beings. Recognizing that God is the ultimate Judge of all persons, the Church believes in the opportunity of all persons to be included in the kingdom of heaven as they acknowledge and forsake their sinfulness, confess Christ as Lord, accept His righteousness in place of their own, seek to obey His commandments, and live His life of service. The Church affirms its right to describe some behaviors, ways of living, and the organizations that promote them as contrary to the Word of God. The Church is also responsible, however, to differentiate clearly between its critique of those beliefs and behaviors, and its respect for the persons expressing those beliefs and behaviors. The Church does not condone and will not allow its public statements on matters of social concern to be characterized as contempt or verbal humiliation of those with whom it disagrees. In exercising its freedoms, the Church's public speech must exhibit the grace always seen in Jesus. All Seventh-day Adventist entities and organizations, as well as individual members of the Church, are urged to express their respect for individuals or groups of persons with whose behavior and opinions they are compelled to disagree because of allegiance to the Word of God. The Church earns the credibility to participate in difficult social and national issues by its clear identification of itself as a redemptive entity.

In light of the above principles derived from the Word of God, the Seventh-day Adventist Church seeks to offer counsel to congregations, church organizations and entities, and those who lead church organizations and entities. The complex issues surrounding civil governments' responses to the reality of homosexuality and alternative sexual practices in contemporary society underscore the importance of this counsel.

THE CHALLENGES OF STATE LEGISLATION

In a growing number of nations, governments enact special legislative or judicial protection to prevent what they consider discriminatory behavior. Those protections sometimes appear to impair the religious-freedom rights of Seventh-day Adventist pastors, leaders, and Church organizations to employ persons, perform weddings, offer employment benefits, publish missional material, make public statements, and provide education or educational housing on the

basis of the Seventh-day Adventist teaching about the sinfulness of sexual behaviors prohibited by Scripture.

Conversely, in a number of nations, homosexual or alternative sexual practices result in harsh penalties imposed by law. While Seventh-day Adventist institutions and members may appropriately advocate for preserving the unique and God-given institution of heterosexual marriage in their societies and legal codes, it is the position of the Church to treat those practicing homosexual or alternative sexual behaviors with the redemptive love taught and lived by Jesus.

THE MORAL AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS OF THE CHURCH

The Seventh-day Adventist Church will encourage all its congregations, employees, ministry leaders, organizations, and entities to uphold church teachings and faith-based practices in Church membership, employment, education, and marriage ceremonies, including officiating at weddings. These teachings and faith-based practices, built upon the Bible's instructions about human sexuality, are equally applicable to heterosexual and homosexual relationships. It is inconsistent with the Church's understanding of scriptural teaching to admit into or maintain in membership persons practicing sexual behaviors incompatible with biblical teachings. Neither is it acceptable for Adventist pastors or churches to provide wedding services or facilities for same-sex couples.

In upholding these Scriptural standards, the Church relies upon the faith-based exemptions usually and customarily extended by civil government to religious organizations and their affiliated ministries to organize themselves according to their understanding of moral truth. The Church will also attempt to provide legal counsel and resources to Church leaders, organizations, and entities so that they operate in harmony with its biblical understanding of human sexuality.

Congregational leaders, Church employees, ministry leaders, and institutions are advised to review carefully the Church's existing policies with regard to membership, employment, and education to ensure that local practices are in harmony with the Church's expressed teachings about sexual behavior. Consistent expression and application of organizational policies and teachings regarding such behavior will be a key feature of maintaining the faith-based exemptions customarily allowed by civil governments.

FAITH-BASED DECISION MAKING IN EMPLOYMENT AND ENROLLMENT

The Seventh-day Adventist Church asserts and reserves the right for its entities to employ individuals according to Church teaching about sexual behaviors compatible with the teaching of Scripture as understood by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. While each institution and ministry

14-54 April 9, 2014, a.m. GCC Spring Meeting

operates in its own society and legal climate, each also expresses the worldwide belief system and teachings of the global Church. The Church maintains the right of these ministries and institutions to make decisions based on the teaching of Scripture and will provide legal review of relevant law and ordinances.

Wherever possible and feasible, the Church will continue to advocate, both legislatively and in courts of law, for faith-based preferential hiring and enrollment practices for itself and its ministries.

THE CHURCH AND PUBLIC SPEECH

The Church asserts the right to express its commitment to biblical truth through the communication it makes available to its members and to various publics, as well as to defend the free-speech rights of its employees to express the Church's teaching about sexual behavior in public environments, including worship services, evangelistic meetings, educational classrooms, and public forums. Church leaders accept the responsibility to keep themselves and Church employees informed about government regulations regarding acceptable speech, and to invite periodic legal review of how those regulations should affect the Church's mission. Those responsible for the Church's official communication and those who preach and teach should emphasize the importance of surrendering all behavior, including sexual behavior, to the transforming power of Jesus Christ. The standard for both published material and public statements about sexual behaviors must be that they are widely understood as both "clear and respectful," expressing biblical truth with the kindness of Jesus Himself.

THE CHURCH'S COMMITMENT TO TRAINING AND LEGAL REVIEW

To achieve a consistent application of a "clear and respectful" standard in its ministries, the Church urges all its ministries, including pastoral and evangelistic ministries, educational ministries, publishing and media ministries, and health and medical ministries, among others, periodically to provide training and counsel to employees who interface with the public through media and public presentations. This training should include a review of current national or community law pertaining to public speech about sexual behaviors, and examples of appropriate ways to communicate the Church's beliefs and teachings.

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TERMINATION SETTLEMENTS

WHEREAS, The General Conference Executive Committee (GCC) during the 2011 Spring Meetings voted "to grant a variance for 2010 and 2011 to General Conference institutions and entities located in the United States to NAD Working Policy Y 36 30, Settlement, allowing for the granting of higher termination settlements than may be provided for in policy because of the abnormally high unemployment in the United States, subject to approval by the General Conference Administrative Committee (GCC-S);"

WHEREAS, The General Conference Administrative Committee (ADCOM) on July 24, 2012 and May 14, 2013 voted to extend that provision to 2012 and 2013 and a similar provision is still needed for 2014, it was

VOTED, To grant a variance for 2012 through 2014 to General Conference institutions and entities located in the United States to North American Division *Working Policy* Y 36 30, Settlement, allowing for the granting of higher termination settlements than may be provided for in policy because of the abnormally high unemployment in the United States, subject to approval by the General Conference Administrative Committee (GCC-S).

Closing remarks were offered by Ted N C Wilson, President of the General Conference.

Prayer was offered by Sergie Ferrer, Treasurer of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

Prayer was requested for those mourning the death of Bob Roberts; for healing for Alberto C Gulfan Jr and Roberta Fleck; for safe travels as everyone travels home.

Ted N C Wilson, Chair Rosa T Banks, Secretary Myron A Iseminger, Editorial Secretary Tamara K Boward, Recording Secretary