

ELEVENTH BUSINESS MEETING
Fifty-ninth General Conference Session
Atlanta, Georgia
June 30, 2010, 2:00 p.m.

Prayer was offered by Tibor Shelly of the North American Division.

05GCS/07AC/PolRev&Dev/SecC/GCDO09AC/09AC/271-09G/10GCS to LRE(DIV)

232-10GS REVIEW OF DENOMINATIONAL POLICIES

During the 2005 General Conference Session, an action was taken requesting that “the General Conference Executive Committee, during the next quinquennium, systematically review denominational policies and procedures in light of the Resolutions adopted on the Holy Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.”

In response to this request, the 2007 Annual Council requested the Policy Review and Development Committee to systematically review the current General Conference *Working Policy*. The committee has systematically reviewed the *Working Policy* and it is

VOTED, To record receipt of the statement on review of denominational policies, which has been approved by the General Conference Executive Committee, and reads as follows:

A systematic review of the General Conference *Working Policy* was conducted and no direct nor indirect conflict was found with the resolutions on the Holy Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy.

TRS/GCDO06SM/06SM/124-06GS/108-07GS/106-08GS/112-09GS/10GCS to REL

118-10GS TRUST SERVICES—NAME CHANGE

VOTED, To change the name of the Trust Services department at the General Conference office to the Planned Giving and Trust Services department. Divisions shall have the option to follow the name change or retain the name Trust Services department.

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STW/ADCOM/09AC/131-09GS/10GCS to AM

119-10GS STEWARDSHIP—NAME CHANGE

VOTED, To change the name of the Stewardship department at the General Conference office to the Stewardship Ministries department.

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/MinSer&StrucComm/GCDO08AC/08AC/222-08GS/212-09GS
Con&By/ADCOM/SecC/09AC/207-09GS/10GCS to LRE

205-10GS_e TERM OF OFFICE - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
AMENDMENT

Recognizing that time gaps may exist between the time one's term of service expires and a successor is elected, the following proposal amends the General Conference Constitution to specify the times for the beginning and the ending of the term of office for elected and appointed staff so that an orderly transition may take place and a recognition that tasks and commitments will still need to be cared for after the expiration of one's term and the commencement of their replacement's term including any assignments to be carried out during a General Conference Session.

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

ARTICLE X—TERM OF OFFICE

Sec. 1. All officers of the General Conference and those whose election is provided for in Article VI, Sec 1. shall hold office from the time they ~~take up their duties until the next regular session or until their successors are elected and take up their duties.~~ are elected and, except for resignation or other termination, shall serve until their reelection, or until their replacement is elected. A person who is not reelected during a session does not thereby lose delegate status at the session. Unless other arrangements are made in consultation with administration, such individuals will be expected to fulfill during the session itself any session-related responsibilities which have been assigned to them. In situations where official responsibilities cannot be immediately transferred to a newly elected individual, the officer whose term has expired may be requested by the newly elected officer, and approved by the General Conference Administrative Committee, to carry limited responsibilities, for a defined period of time until transition arrangements have been completed. Their term of office, unless government requirements dictate otherwise, is not subject to division retirement policies, which may determine specific ages for mandatory retirements.

Sec. 2. Members of the General Conference Executive Committee provided for in Article VIII, Sec. 1. a. 2) shall serve from the time of their election until the next regular session, for the period of time they hold the office that entitled them to membership on the General Conference Executive Committee.

Sec. 3. Members of the General Conference Executive Committee provided for in Article VIII, Sec. 1. b. shall serve, except for resignation or other termination, from the time of their selection until their replacements are selected by a division executive committee.

Sec. 4. Those persons who, by virtue of holding elected position, have been members of the General Conference Executive Committee at the beginning of the current session but who have not been reelected shall be entitled to voice and vote at any General Conference Executive Committee convened during the session.

~~Sec. 3. Sec. 5. All those who are appointed to serve the General Conference as provided for in Article VII, or who are appointed by the General Conference Executive Committee during the quinquennium, shall serve from the time they take up their duties and, except for resignation or other termination, shall continue until their reelection/reappointment or the election/appointment of their replacement at the first Annual Council following the next regular session or until the position is terminated by action of the General Conference Executive Committee. appointment until their successors are appointed and take up their duties, or until the position is terminated. The appointments provided for in Article VII shall be reviewed at the first Annual Council of the Executive Committee following the General Conference Session.~~

~~Sec. 4. Sec. 6. Service as outlined in Sec. 1. to Sec. 3. Sec. 5. above may be terminated for cause as provided for in General Conference Bylaws, Article XIII, Sec. 1.~~

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/08AC/209-08GS/203-09GS/10GCS to LRE

201-10GS DIVISIONS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE -
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

The proposed amendment to the General Conference Constitution uses the term union as an inclusive term for all union categories, and clarifies the designated authority of Divisions.

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

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ARTICLE III—DIVISIONS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

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

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

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/08AC/218-08GS/205-09GS/202-10GSa/Con&By/10GCS to LRE

203-10GS MEMBERSHIP - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

The proposed amendment to the General Conference Constitution uses the term unions as an inclusive term for all categories of unions.

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

ARTICLE IV—MEMBERSHIP

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

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

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

1) ~~Union of churches~~

2) 1) Local Conferences ~~conferences~~

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

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/08AC/219-08GS/206-09GS/MinSer&StrucComm/Con&By/
ADCOM/SecC/09AC/204-09GSb/207-09GSb/205-10GSb/Con&By/ADCOM/10GCS to LRE

204-10GS GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS - CONSTITUTION
AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

The proposed amendment to the General Conference Constitution adds *Adventist World* to *Adventist Review* as the designated media for placing a notice regarding a coming quinquennial Session. The amendment also uses the term unit as an inclusive term for those church entities which are represented with delegates.

VOTED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Constitution, Article V—General Conference Sessions, to read as follows:

ARTICLE V—GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Sec. 1. The General Conference shall hold quinquennial Sessions at such time and place as the General Conference Executive Committee shall designate and announce by a notice published in the *Adventist Review* and *Adventist World* in three consecutive issues at least four months before the date for the opening of the Session. In case special world conditions make it imperative to postpone the calling of the Session, the General Conference Executive Committee, in regular or special council, shall have authority to make such postponement, not to exceed two years, giving notice to all constituent organizations.

Sec. 2. The General Conference Executive Committee may call special sessions of the General Conference at such time and place as it considers proper, by means of a notice as provided for in Sec. 1., and the transactions of such special sessions shall have the same force as those of the regular sessions.

Sec. 3. At least one-third of the total delegates authorized hereinafter under - No change

Sec. 4. The election of officers and the voting on all matters of business - No change

Sec. 5. The delegates to a General Conference Session shall be designated as follows:

- a. Regular delegates.
- b. Delegates at large.

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c. In case of financial exigency or other major crisis within the Church or in the international arena, the General Conference Executive Committee may take an action to reduce the maximum number of delegates to a particular General Conference Session. Such reduction shall then be applied to both regular delegates and delegates at large.

Sec. 6. Regular delegates shall represent the General Conference's member ~~units~~ ~~union conferences,~~ ~~union missions,~~ ~~member conferences,~~ ~~missions,~~ ~~and unions of churches~~ as defined in Article IV, as follows:

a. Delegates representing union conferences and union of churches conferences having division affiliation shall be appointed by the respective union ~~conference~~ executive committee.

b. Delegates representing union missions and ~~unions~~ union of churches missions having division affiliation shall be appointed by the respective division executive committees in consultation with the organizations concerned.

c. Delegates representing conferences and missions having - No change

d. Delegates representing conferences and missions - No change

e. Delegates representing conferences and missions directly attached to ~~divisions,~~ divisions shall be appointed by the respective division executive committees in consultation with the organizations concerned.

f. Delegates representing division institutions, the number - No change

g. Delegates representing union conferences and union of churches conferences directly attached to the General Conference shall be appointed by the executive ~~committee~~ committees of the respective attached entity. ~~union conferences.~~

h. Delegates representing ~~union missions, conferences, missions, and unions of churches~~ union missions, union of churches missions, and local conferences and missions directly attached to the General Conference shall be appointed by the General Conference Executive Committee in consultation with the organizations concerned.

Sec. 7. Regular delegates shall be allotted on the following basis:

a. Each union conference shall be entitled to two delegates - No change

- b. Each union mission shall be entitled to one delegate - No change
- c. Each union of churches conference shall be entitled to one delegate other than its president (who is a delegate at large) without regard to membership size.
- d. Each union of churches mission is represented by its president (who is a delegate at large).
- ~~e. e.~~ Each local conference shall be entitled to two delegates - No change
- ~~d. f.~~ Each local mission* shall be entitled to one delegate - No change
- e. ~~Each union of churches shall be entitled to two delegates without regard to membership size.~~
- f. g. Each division shall be entitled to additional delegates based upon its membership as a proportion of the world Church membership. The total number of delegates from all divisions under this provision shall not exceed 400. The resulting quota of division delegates under this provision shall be distributed first to the unions that are affiliated with that division, based on each union's proportion of the division membership. Any unallocated delegate entitlements under this process shall be allocated at the discretion of the division executive committee.
- ~~g. Delegates from each division, provided for under Sec. 7. f., shall be allotted to the union conferences and union missions that are affiliated with that division, based on each union's proportion of the division membership. Any unallocated delegate entitlements under this process shall be allocated at the discretion of the division executive committee.~~
- h. Unused quotas of regular delegates allocated to unions and unions of churches may be reallocated by the divisions.

Sec. 8. Delegates at large shall represent the General ~~Conference~~ Conference, its institutions, divisions of the General Conference, and division institutions and shall be appointed on the following basis:

- a. All members of the General Conference Executive Committee.
- b. Associate directors/secretaries of General Conference - No change

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- c. Twenty delegates from General Conference appointed staff. Such delegates shall be selected by the General Conference Executive Committee upon recommendation from the General Conference Administrative Committee.
 - d. Twenty delegates for each division.
 - e. Each division shall be entitled to additional delegates - No change
 - f. Those representatives of the General Conference and division - No change
- Sec. 9. Division administrations shall consult with unions to ensure that - No change
- Sec. 10. Credentials to sessions shall be issued by the General Conference - No change
- Sec. 11. Calculations for all delegate allotments as provided for in this - No change

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/GCDO08AC/08AC/237-08GS/229-09GS/10GCS to LRE

226-10GS REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

The proposed amendment uses the more inclusive term which encompasses all organizational forms of unions.

VOTED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws, Article XVI—Remuneration and Expenses, to read as follows:

ARTICLE XVI—REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

Sec. 1. The General Conference Executive Committee shall appoint annually a minimum of eight persons not in its employ who, with officers of the General Conference and not less than seven presidents of ~~union conferences~~, unions, shall constitute a committee to review the remuneration, related allowances, and expenses of employees.

Sec. 2. The General Conference Executive Committee shall have power to make necessary adjustments from time to time in the remuneration of employees.

MinSer&StrucComm/07AC/260-07GSe/202-08GSe/204-09GSe/10GCS to LRE

202-10GSb FUNDS—CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

The following proposed amendment helps clarify that the division is a conduit rather than a terminal point for tithe sent by union churches.

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

ARTICLE XVII—FUNDS

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

- a. A percentage of the tithe receipts - No change
- b. A percentage of the tithe receipts of the union of churches shall be forwarded to through the division in accordance with the General Conference *Working Policy*.
- c. Regular mission - No change
- d. Special gifts. Proceeds - No change

OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/GCDO08AC/08AC/223-08GS/213-09GS/10GCS to LRE

210-10GS CORPORATIONS - CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS AMENDMENT

The proposed amendment names the General Conference Executive Committee as the body which authorizes the establishment of corporations.

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

ARTICLE XI—CORPORATIONS

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

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

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

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09AC/226-09GS/10GCS to LRE

223-10GS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - CONSTITUTION AND
BYLAWS AMENDMENT

The following proposal amends the General Conference Bylaws to provide for additional terms of reference for the General Conference Executive Committee to assure the continuous effective operation of the world Church. Provision is made to allow members to participate via telephone conference calls or similar communications and to establish notice requirements for meetings of the Committee.

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

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

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

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

c. The General Conference Executive Committee shall have power to elect or remove, for cause, officers, directors, and associate directors of departments/associations/services and committee members, and to fill for the current term any vacancies that may occur in its offices, boards, committees, or agents due to death, resignation, or other reasons. The phrase “for cause,” when used in connection with removal from an elected or appointed position, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence; 2) persistent failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and with relevant employment and denominational policies; ~~and~~ 3) actions which may be the subject of discipline under the *Church Manual*. ~~Manual~~; or 4) failure to maintain regular standing as a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NomCom10GCS/10GCS to GTN

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT #8

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

General Conference

Associate Secretary:
Myron Iseminger

Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Department
Associate Director: Mario E Ceballos

Children's Ministries Department
Associate Director: Saustin K Mfunne

Education Department
Associate Directors:
Hudson E Kibuuka
Mike Mile Lekic
Luis A Schulz
John Wesley Taylor V

Health Ministries Department
Associate Directors:
Fred Hardinge
Kathleen H K Kuntaraf
Peter N Landless

Planned Giving and Trust Services Department
Associate Directors:
Charles B Simpson
Wilfredo L Sumagaysay

Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department
Associate Directors:
Barry W Bussey
James D Standish

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Publishing Ministries Department
Associate Director: Wilmar Hirle

Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department
Associate Director: Gary B Swanson

Stewardship Ministries Department
Associate Director: Mario Nino

Women's Ministries Department
Associate Director: Raquel Arrais

Youth Ministries Department
Director: Gilbert R Cangy

Prayer was offered by Marshall McKenzie of the North American Division.

Pardon K Mwansa, Chair
Rosa T Banks, Secretary
Larry R Evans, Actions Editor
Rowena J Moore, Recording Secretary