Northern Asia-Pacific Division



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Improving the Members of Committees and Boards

he Adventist church operates its business through a committee system in every level of organization from the local congregation to the General Conference. The constituency meeting or the session of each organization has the highest authority in its given jurisdiction. However, between the regular sessions the Executive Committee or the Board is delegated to exercise full administrative authority. Normally the Conference, Union, Division, and the General Conference have their Executive Committee that is elected by the session, while local churches and various institutions are governed by the respective Boards of Directors.

Adventist organization is quite unique in administration. The president or the chief executive officer does not make administrative decisions. The committee does. No single individual, no matter how capable he is, makes decision, but the committee or the board makes it collectively. Therefore the contribution of each member of the committee is not only valued but is essential. The quality of each member is the quality of the committee and of its decision.

In view of the paramount importance of the committee or board and its members, it would be rather very strange that there has been no training seminar for the committee or board members so far in the history of our church in Asia.

I have never attended or heard of any orientation meeting for the committee members throughout my thirty-five years of committee membership experience. I just attended the meetings without understanding the role and function of the committee and even chaired numerous committees and boards without having proper training. It would not be only for me but also for most of the administrators and committee members.

Though it was already very late, the NSD organized and conducted training seminars for the Union Committee and institutional board members of each Union last March. Thirty-five members from the Chinese Union Mission, 55 from the Japan Union Conference, and 110 from the Korean Union Conference gained the training on March 15-16; 19-20; and 21-23 in their Union territories, respectively. Lecturers were: Dr. Don Sahly, the Director of the Office of Leadership Development of the General Conference; Dr. Edward Wright, the Senior Pastor of the Collegedale Church, as well as a professor at the Southern Adventist University; and Pastor Pyung Duk Chun, the Division president.

The subject areas of presentations were: Basic SDA Organization and Its Characteristics; Qualities Needed for Church Leadership; Roles and Functions of Committees and Boards; How to be Effective and Contributing Members of the Committee; and Rules of Order. Everyone greatly appreciated the training and it was an eye-opening experience for most of the attendees. In June there will be the same type of seminar for the local conference executive committees and school board members of the Korean Union Conference. The Division and the Unions have plans to conduct such seminars every five years.

Pyung Duk Chun, President

2001 NSD Secretarial Advisory

he 2001 Northern Asia-Pacific Division Secretariat Advisory was held March 13 and 14 at the Division Headquarters in Ilsan, Korea. This was the first Advisory for the new quinquennium. And 16 participants from the GC, NSD, three Unions and local Conferences/ Mission field attended the meetings. Office participants, ten of them are new to their positions as Secretaries, so this Advisory also served as a Training and Orientation Seminar.

The speakers or presenters from the General Conference included Athal H Tolhurst, Undersecretary; Vernon B Parmenter, Associate Secretary; and Douglas Clayville, newly appointed Associate Secretary, who also gave two morning devotional messages.



The NSD Secretariat Advisory

The topics during the Advisory included: Roles and Functions of secretaries; Job Descriptions; Call Procedures for Regular Workers; The Making of Minutes; Archives and Statistics; Volunteerism; Writing Policies; Constitutions and Bylaws; Records Management; Church Manual Amendments/Translations; and Secretariat Evaluation, etc.

The two-day Advisory, even though very intensive with many areas covered and discussed, was a good learning experience, and many of us found it an eye-opening event. We enjoyed the fellowship and delicious food. At the conclusion of the Advisory, we resolved to implement what we had learned, and to prepare for the secretariat evaluation during the coming quinquennium.

Ng, Wai Chun (Stanley), Secretary

United by the Word of God

NSD Trust Service Advisory

- held in Taipei, Taiwan

rust Service Department of Northern Asia-Pacific Division held the meeting of Trust Service Advisory at the conference room of Chinese Union Mission in Taipei, Taiwan from April 5 to 6, 2001. Trust Service



Directors from Chinese Union, Japan Union, Korean Union, Northern Asia-Pacific Division and General Conference attended.

The participants with J. K. Wilson (second left)

Elder Jeffrey K Wilson, director of General Conference Trust Services led the meeting with good programs and instruction. The attendees made a five year plan for each Union and decided to do their best for developing and improving Trust Service Activities in Northern Asia-Pacific Division territories.

Before the Advisory, a Trust Service Seminar for all ministers in Taiwan was held at the town of Ping Tung from April 3 to 4, 2001. Ahout sixty pastors including Elder Pael Hsing-Sheng Liu, president of Taiwan Mission attended the seminar and was very impressed by sharing the word of God and experiences of the dedicated people.

After the Advisory, a Trust Service Seminar for ministers and administrative leaders of institutions in Korea was held at Deer Mountain from April 9 to 11, 2001. About seventy pastors and institution leaders attended and were very impressed with the program.

Through the above three meetings, we have deeply recognized the importance of Trust Service Activities and convinced the possibilities of quite new area of God's work even in the very conservative Oriental society. We are appreciative of Elder Wilson's specific commitment with us for nearly two weeks and for all of the attendees' enthusiastic participation. Big thanks to the directors of our three Unions.

May the Lord bless.

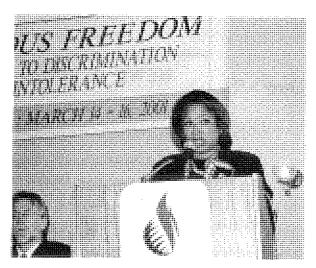
Kim, Kwang Doo, Trust Service Director

IRLA Bermuda Conference

- significant guest speakers

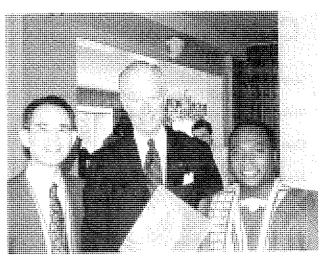
International Religious Liberty Association (IRLA) hosted "International Bermuda Conference on Religious Freedom" on March 14-16, 2001 at The Fairmont Hamilton Princess Hotel in Bermuda. The theme of the conference was "Religious Freedom: An Answer to Discrimination and Intolerance."

In the evening of March 14, there was a reception at one of the historical buildings in Bermuda. Premier Jennifer Smith came to greet us with three ministers of the government. They were from education, telecommunication and youth/sport departments. She wrote in her letter, "I am delighted to have this opportunity to welcome you to Bermuda as a delegate of the International Bermuda Conference. We consider it an honor that the IRLA has chosen our island home as the venue for this important conference. I have no doubt that your discussions on the topic of religious freedom will contribute to initiatives that will bring significant change to those areas of the world that continue to suffer from religious discrimination and intolerance." The next morning, she appeared again to be the inaugural speaker for the conference.



Bermuda Premier Jennifer Smith (right)

Ambassador Joseph Reed, Under-Secretary of United Nations (UN), was the keynote speaker. He spoke of "Globalization, the United Nations, and our World." In the beginning of his speech, he mentioned that he and Neal C. Wilson, former president of the General Conference (GC) of the Seventh-day Adventists, were good friends for many years.



Ambassador Joseph Reed (center), Emanuel Nlo Nlo (right) and Tadaomi Shinmyo (left)

He explained the work of the UN by using statistics. For example, 52% of the world population is female and 48% male; 30% Caucasian and 70% not; 30% Christian and 70% not; 30% able to read and 70% not; 1% holds college education and 99% not; 1% has computer and 99% not; etc. Finally, he appealed, "UN is your organization and needs your support." It is very interesting to know that 189 countries are members of UN in 2001 and UN has about 2000 workers.

Other main speakers and their topics were as follows: Doudou Diene (a lady from Switzerland): "UNESCO: A Culture of Tolerance"

Rosa Maria Martinez de Codes (a lady from Spain): "The Figbt Against Discrimination in Western Europe"

Lee Boothby (a man from USA): "Accommodation of Religious Rights Within Prisons and the Military"

Bert B. Beach (a man from GC): "Proselytism - Issues of Discrimination"

Anatoly Krasikov (a man from Russia): "Xenophobia versus Religious Freedom in Russia"

Michell Tyner (a man from GC): "Church-State Relations" Cole Durham (a man from USA): "Advancing Religious Freedom in Eastern Europe"

Arthur Fletcher (a man from USA): "An Answer to Discrimination in the United States of America"

Tad Stahnke (a man from USA): "NGOs and Government: How to Work Together"

In terms of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bermuda, we have the Bermuda Conference belonging to the Atlantic Union Conference. There are 9 organized churches and 3,400 members. There is also a church school having 400 students. When we think of the total population of the island, about 62,000, the Adventist Church is one of the strongest churches in Bermuda.

Coming Events ...

Model Pastors Workshop

April 30-May 2, 2001 Korea

Evangelism Training

May 20, 2001 Naha, Okinawa [Cancelled]

Camp Leaders Training

May 22-24, 2001 Korea [Cancelled]

Single Professionals Seminar

June 24-28, 2001 Thailand [New date]

AMiCUS Workshop

June 29-July 2, 2001 Korea [Cancelled]

NSD Publishing Advisory

July 2-4, 2001 Ilsan, Korea [New date]

NSD Communication Advisory

July 5-8, 2001 IIsan, Korea [New date]

Youth Ministry Advisory

July 3-5, 2001 Ilsan, Korea [New date]

ACM/NSO/AMiCUS Advisory

July 9-11, 2001 Ilsan, Korea [Cancelled]

Youth Congress

July 13-16, 2001 Taiwan [Cancelled]

Shepherdess Meeting

August 1-2, 2001 Japan

Quality Health Care Seminar

August 1-4, 2001 Beijing, China [Cancelled]

Elders' Training

August 5-10, 2001 UB, Mongolia [Cancelled]

Pathfinder Camporee

August 10-13, 2001 Taiwan [Cancelled]

Lay Training Session

August 20-25, 2001 UB, Mongolia

Bi-division (NSD-SSD) ASI Convention

August 22-26, 2001 Bali Indonesia [New place]

Shepherdess Advisory

September 3-5, 2001 Seoul, Korea

Lay Leaders Field School & Evangelism Crusade

October 12-20, 2001 Taegu, Korea

Health Ministries Advisory

October 17-18, 2001 Seoul, Korea

Women's Ministries Seminar

October 19-21, 2001 Korea

Health and Temperance Congress

October 19-21, 2001 Seoul, Korea

NSD Prime Time

October 25-31, 2001 Ilsan, Korea

NSD Advisory Council on Evangelism and Witness

October 29, 2001 Ilsan, Korea

NSD/Union Officers Council and Seminar

October 30, 2001 Ilsan, Korea

NSD & Union Officers Council

October 30, 2001 Ilsan, Korea

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