



2020 YEAR END COUNCIL



I WILL GO
Proclaim the Three Angels' Messages





I WILL GO

Proclaim the Three Angels Messages

Program and Agenda

YEAR-END COUNCIL OF THE WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

November 2-5, 2020

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DAILY PROGRAMS

2020 YEAR-END COUNCIL

Monday, November 2, 2020

09:30 – 09:50 Steering Committee

10:00 – 10:45 Devotion/Season of Prayer - Ella S Simmons

10:45 – 2:00 pm Session

2:00 pm A D J O U R N M E N T

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

09:30 – 09:50 Steering Committee

10:00 – 10:45 Devotion/Season of Prayer - Claude J Richli

10:45 – 2:00 pm Session

2:00 pm A D J O U R N M E N T

Wednesday, November 4, 2020

09:30 – 09:50 Steering Committee

10:00 – 10:45 Devotion/Season of Prayer - Tim H Aka

10:45 – 2:00 pm Session

2:00 pm A D J O U R N M E N T

Thursday, November 5, 2020

09:30 – 09:50 Steering Committee

10:00 – 10:45 Devotion/Season of Prayer - Gerson P Santos

10:45 – 2:00 pm Session

2:00 pm A D J O U R N M E N T

NB: All the times are in Universal Time (GMT), Abidjan Time

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PARTICIPANTS

GENERAL CONFERENCE (3)

1. *Ted N C Wilson*
2. *Ella S Simmons*
3. *Claude Richli*
4. *Gerson P Santos*
5. *Tim H Aka*

WEST-CENTRAL AFRICA DIVISION (20)

6. *Olatunde Afolayan*
7. *Kingsley Anonaba*
8. *Ndah Alloua Assemian*
9. *Emmanuel Amegnito*
10. *James K. Badu*
11. *Juvenal Balisasa*
12. *Stephen Bindas*
13. *Ugochukwu Elems*
14. *N. John Enang*
15. *Jallah S. Karbah*
16. *Zakari Kassoule*
17. *Irineo Evaldo Koch*
18. *Emmanuel S. Manu*
19. *Ndaa*
20. *Abraham Obaya*
21. *Daniel Opoku-Boateng*
22. *Isaac Owusu-Dankwa*
23. *Vincent Same*
24. *Omobonike Sessou*
25. *Elie Weick-Dido*

CAMEROON UNION MISSION (2)

26. *Valere M. Assembe*
27. *Gonondo Guidaidi*

CENTRAL-AFRICA UNION MISSION (2)

28. *Bidzimou Firmin Alfred*

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EASTERN NIGERIA UNION CONF. (3)

EASTERN SAHEL UNION MISSION (2)

NORTHERN GHANA UNION MISSION (2)

NORTHERN NIGERIA UNION CONF. (3)

SOUTHERN GHANA UNION CONF. (3)

WEST AFRICA UNION MISSION (2)

WESTERN NIGERIA UNION CONF. (3)

WESTERN SAHEL UNION MISSION (2)

ADVENT PRESS (1)

BABCOCK UNIVERSITY (1)

VALLEY VIEW UNIVERSITY (1)

REGULAR INVITEE GCAS (1)

SPECIAL INVITEES (GC INSTS)

ADRA AFRICA (1)

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA (1)

AAIDS (1)

AWR – Africa (2)

Adventist Risk Management (2)

29. Assienin Grah Salomon
30. Wisdom Chukwuemeka Adiele
31. Gladys Chinyere Nwokochah
32. Basse E. O. Udoh
33. Djossou Adjeoda Comlan
34. Antoine Zoundi
35. Kwame Kwanin Boakye
36. Kwaku Danso-Abeam
37. Yohanna U. Harry
38. Esther Shem Ibrahim
39. Amon Kalayi Kwaskebe
40. Solomon Duah Boateng
41. Theresa Ennin
42. Thomas T. Ocran
43. Eric Redd
44. Michael S. Koroma
45. Bamidele Amos Dada
46. Julliet Gbada
47. Oyeleke A. Owolabi
48. Guy Fernand Roger
49. Andreia Liliane Dos Anjos
50. Kingsley Osei
51. Ademola Tayo
52. Daniel Bediako
53. Mpozembizi Furaha
54. Akintayo Odeyemi
55. Delbert Baker
56. Alexis Remon Llaguno
57. Ray St. Herbert Allen
58. Graham Barham

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ACM GC (1)

MARANATHA Project (1)

GC ENCYCLOPEDIA Project (1)

LEGAL ADVISORS (2)

OTHER INVITEES

RETIREE (1)

PRESIDENT OF THE HOST COUNTRY (1)

GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH INST.-WAD

WAD ELDERS COUNCIL CHAIR

UNION SECRETARIES

UNION TREASURERS

INSTITUTION TREASURERS

59. *Melissa Edwards*

60. *Mario Ceballos*

61. *Gilberto Araujo*

62. *Onaolapo Ajibade*

63. *Daniel Djizoe*

64. *Yaw Frimpong*

65. *David Adzo*

66. *Thio Tigie*

67. *Oluwole Ayinde Oyedeji*

68. *Matthew Bediako*

69. *Isaac Yenge Yenge Yenge*

70. *Jean Moukoko*

71. *Blackie Obolo*

72. *Emmanuel Kra*

73. *Kwame Annor-Boahen*

74. *Ishaya Istifanus*

75. *Chris Annan-Nunoo*

76. *John Baysah*

77. *Ezekiel A. Adeleye*

78. *Frederic K. Kouassi*

79. *Jean J. Bone*

80. *Basile Djossou*

81. *Emmanuel Manilla*

82. *Claude Adepoh*

83. *Dickson Sarfo Marfo*

84. *Marcus Dangana*

85. *Bright Osei Yeboah*

86. *Sohail Rafi*

87. *Amos O. Ibhiedu*

88. *Stephen Adabrah*

89. *Folorunso I. Akande*

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UNION DELEGATES

CMUM

90. Isaac Owusu-Amponsem

91. Abomo Abomo Alexandre Arnold

92. Atoh Jean Didier

93. Bilounga André

94. Dagassao Agoula

95. Dang Cécile Valérie

96. Eva Eva Mardochée

97. Eyeck Ndongo Marc

98. Hendjena Tchanaga Richard

99. Madi Yaya

100. Nang Ngba Timothée

101. Njock David Vivian

102. Nko'O Mendouga

103. Nyekam Blaise

104. René Juliard

105. Ze Evina

NOGH

106. Akwasi Boateng

107. Charles Ankrah

108. Dennis Wereko

109. Edward Osei Bonsu

110. Godfred Attaburo

111. I K. Konadu

112. Jonathan Amo Ameyaw

113. Linda Vida Gyasi

114. Maxwell Ntim Antwi

115. Osei Kofi

116. Paul Danquah

117. Patrick Kyeremeh

118. Philip Addo Aboagye

119. P O Mensah

120. Samuel Antwi Mensah

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AP

BU

VVU

ENUC

ESUM

NNUC

SGUC

CAUM

WSUM

121. Stephen Anokye
122. Yaw Asamoah Kwateng
123. Ishmael Quainoo
124. Yacob HALISO
125. Agyekum Boateng
126. Onyebuchi T. Opara
127. Dotou Geoffroy
128. Ouedraogo Ben Issouf
129. Trindade Cléber
130. Gameti Kwasi
131. Lokou Maximin
132. Kanti César
133. Thiombiano Julien
134. Yao Céline
135. Todegla Ernest
136. N'Drin Charles
137. Lawson Adam
138. Emmanuel G. Jugbo
139. Solomon O. T. HAMMOND
140. Emeryc Abib NDOMBETH
141. Elie Boromia
142. Tony Ogouma
143. Ericka Brigitte IBOUANGA
144. Francisco BRIGIDO JIMENEZ
145. Celesten BIBI
146. Gervasio CODIN
147. Benjamin Gomun GONKANOU
148. Issi KOUMNA RESSALA
149. Jean Yvon DZOMA
150. Stéphanie MILANDOU
151. Edson Monteiro
152. Coly Joseph

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WNUC
WAUM

153. Irlando de Pina
154. Daniel C. Friday
155. Herculano Gomes Alves
156. Nathalino Martins
157. Thelor Lambert
158. Gaspar Gomes
159. Mulumba T. Jean Pierre
160. Lais Antonieta da Silva Imbunhe
161. Bassirou Samake
162. Umoru Jacob E.
163. Rufus K. Freeman
164. Daniel S. Sandy
165. John G. Diabegeh
166. Darlington Teah
167. Alex Joe
168. Ernest Vandí
169. Joseph B. A. Conteh
170. Mondayma Smith
171. Hafiz Ghoson
172. Harod Seton
173. Dahowo Kanasuah

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STANDING COMMITTEES AND SERVICES

PLATFORM

Daniel Opoku-Boateng, Chair
Jallah Karbah, Abraham Obaya, Kwame Boakye-Kwanin
Bassey Udoh,

TRANSLATION

Vincent Same, Chair
David Kiminou, Frederick Falayi
Gnamba Jonas, Kiminou David
Apollos Bello, Andreia Dos Anjos

TIME KEEPER

Juvenal Balisasa, Chair
Afolayan Olatunde, N. John Enang,
Omobonike Sessou,

MUSIC COMMITTEE

N. J. Enang, Chair
Isaac Owusu-Dankwa, Guy F. Roger,
Leonie Agbessi, Frederick Falayi, Assogba Dieudonne

STEERING COMMITTEE

Elie Weick-Dido, Chairman
Kingsley Anonaba, Secretary
Members: WAD Treasurer and chairs of all aforementioned committees

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GLOSSARY OF MOST FREQUENTLY USED ACRONYMS

AC	Annual Council
ACM	Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries
ADCOM	Administrative Committee
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AIIAS	Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies
AM	Adventist Mission
AMC	Adventist Media Center
AP	Advent Press
AR	Adventist Review
ARM	Adventist Risk Management
AST	Archives and Statistics
ATN	Adventist Television Network
AU	Andrews University
AUA	Adventist University of Africa
AVC	Adventist Volunteer Center
AWR	Adventist World Radio
BRI	Biblical Research Institute
BU	Babcock University
CAUM	Central African Union Mission
CFA	Concile de fin d'Année
CHM	Children's Ministries
CMUM	Cameroon Union Mission
COM	Communication
DAO	Division de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre
DOUO	Division Officers and Union Officers
ECD	East-Central Africa Division

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EDU	Education
ENUC	Eastern Nigeria Union Conference
ESD	Euro-Asia Division
ESUM	Eastern Sahel Union Mission
EUD	Euro-Africa Division
FM	Family Ministries
GC	General Conference
GCAS	General Conference Auditing Service
GCC	General Conference Executive Committee
GCDO	General Conference and Division Officers
GCO	General Conference Officers
GCS	General Conference Session
GRI	Geosciences' Research Institute
GU	Griggs University/Griggs International Academy
HIS/GU	Home Study International/Griggs University
HM	Health Ministries
HRS	Human Resource Services
IAD	Inter-American Division
IHFA	International Health Food Association
IWM	Institute of World Mission
LLU	Loma Linda University
MENA	Middle East and North Africa Union
MIN	Ministerial Association
MYM	Mid-Year Meeting
NAD	North American Division
NGUM	Northern Ghana Union Mission
NNUC	Northern Nigeria Union Conference
NSD	Northern Asia-Pacific Division
OC	Oakwood College
OGC	Office of General Counsel

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PARL	Public Affairs and Religious Liberty
PME	Postgraduate Medical Education
PPPA	Pacific Press Publishing Association
PRE	Presidential
PreC	Presidents Council (General Conference and Division Presidents)
PREXAD	President’s Executive Administrative Council
PSI	Philanthropic Service for Institutions
PUB	Publishing Ministries
R&H	Review and Herald Publishing Association
SAD	South American Division
SEC	Secretariat
SecC	Secretaries Council (General Conference and Division Secretaries)
SGUC	Southern Ghana Union Conference
SID	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division
SM	Spring Meeting
SPD	South Pacific Division
SS&PM	Sabbath School and Personal Ministries
SSD	Southern Asia-Pacific Division
STW	Stewardship
SUD	Southern Asia Division
SUM	Sahel Union Mission
TED	Trans-European Division
TRE	Treasury
TreC	Treasurers Council (General Conference and Division Treasurers)
TRS	Trust Services
UMAC	Union Mission de l’Afrique Centrale
VVU	Valley View University
WAD	West-Central Africa Division
WADC	West-Central Africa Division Council

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WAUM	West Africa Union Mission
WHT	Ellen G White Estate, Inc.
WM	Women’s Ministries
WNUC	Western Nigeria Union Conference
WSUM	Western Sahel Union Mission
YEC	Year-end Council
YOU	Youth Ministries

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NJE 134. Proposal to run the Clinical Pastoral Orientation (CPO) in WAD for Pastors
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AP

BU.....

VVU.....

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KCA 140. Reports : UNIONS

CAUM

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CMUM.....

ENUC

ESUM

NGOH.....

NNUC.....

SGUC.....

WAUM

WNUC.....

WSUM.....

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ACM/SOP.....

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Communication/PARL

Education

Families Ministries/Adventist Possibilities.

Health Ministries

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Publishing Ministries.....

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Strategic Plan, Plan giving & Trust Service.....

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KCA 143. Nominating Committee Recommendation

JBA 144. WAD BOE Recommendations to WAD EXCOM

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KCA 147. Northern Nigerian Union Conference request for Field incorporation

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| KCA 2. 201-20GSb | Session Committees - Constitution and Bylaws Amendment [25] | Bylaws Art II |
| KCA 3. 204-20GS | General Conference Executive Committee - Constitution and Bylaws Amendment [26] | Bylaws Art XIII |
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- KCA 3. **436-20GS Membership (Church Board and Its Meetings) - Church Manual Amendment** [18]
- KCA 4. **437-20GN Sample List of Church Leaders - Church Manual Notes Amendment** [20]
- KCA 5. **444-20GS Use of “Reelect” - Church Manual Directive** [22]

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1 **MISSION STATEMENT**
2 **OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**
3

4
5 RECOMMENDING, To reaffirm the Mission Statement of the Seventh-day Adventist
6 Church, which reads as follows:
7

8 A 05 Mission Statement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church
9

10 A 05 05 Our Mission—Make disciples of Jesus Christ who live as His loving witnesses and
11 proclaim to all people the everlasting gospel of the Three Angels’ Messages in preparation for
12 His soon return (Matt 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Rev 14:6-12
13

14 A 05 10 Our Method—Guided by the Bible and the Holy Spirit, Seventh-day Adventists
15 pursue this mission through Christ-like living, communicating, discipling, teaching, healing,
16 and serving.
17

18 A 05 15 Our Vision—In harmony with Bible revelation, Seventh-day Adventists see as the
19 climax of God’s plan the restoration of all His creation to full harmony with His perfect will
20 and righteousness..
21
22

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E 85 Conflict of Interest and/or Commitment

E 85 05 Conflict of Interest and/or Commitment Defined—Conflict of interest shall mean any circumstance under which an employee or volunteer by virtue of financial or other personal interest, present or potential, directly or indirectly, may be influenced or appear to be influenced by any motive or desire for personal advantage, tangible or intangible, other than the success and well-being of the denomination.

Because of the common objectives embraced by the various organizational units and institutions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, membership held concurrently on more than one denominational committee or board does not of itself constitute a conflict of interest provided that all the other requirements of the policy are met.

A conflict of commitment shall mean any situation which interferes with an employee’s ability to carry out his/her duties effectively. Elected, appointed, or salaried employees on full-time assignment are compensated for full-time employment; therefore, outside or dual employment or other activity, whether compensated or not, that in any way interferes with the performance of an employee’s duties and responsibilities is a conflict of commitment. A conflict of commitment also exists in situations where an employee functions contrary to the values and ethical conduct outlined in the organization’s statement of ethical foundations and conduct (see model Statement of Ethical Foundations recommended by the 1999 Annual Council as guidelines for divisions) or when an employee functions contrary to established codes of ethical conduct for employees in particular professions (e.g. legal, investments).

E 85 10 Individuals Included Under this Policy—All trustees, officers, executive committee/board members, employees, and volunteers of denominational organizations shall be subject to this policy.

E 85 15 Conditions Constituting Conflict—A trustee, officer, executive committee/board member, employee, or volunteer has a duty to be free from the influence of any conflicting interest or commitment when serving the organization or representing it in negotiations or dealings with third parties. Both while on and off the job an employee is expected to protect the best interests of the employing organization. The following list, though not exhaustive, describes circumstances and conditions that illustrate conflict of interest or commitment:

1. Engaging in outside business or employment that encroaches on the denominational organization’s call for the full services of its employees even though there may be no other conflict.
2. Engaging in business or employment that is in any way competitive or in conflict with any transaction, activity, policy, or objective of the organization.
3. Engaging in any business with or employment by an employer who is a supplier of goods or services to any denominational organization.
4. Making use of the fact of employment by the denominational organization to further outside business or employment, associating the denominational organization or its prestige with an outside business or employment, or using one’s connection to the denomination to further personal or partisan political interests.
5. Owning or leasing any property with knowledge that the denominational organization has an active or potential interest therein.
6. Lending money to or borrowing money from any third party, excluding financial institutions, who is a supplier of goods or services or lending to/borrowing from a trustor or anyone who is in any fiduciary relationship to the denominational organization or is otherwise regularly involved in business transactions with the denominational organization.
7. Accepting or offering of any gratuity, favor, benefit, or gift of greater than nominal value or of any commission or payment of any sort in connection with work for the denominational organization other than the compensation agreed upon between the denominational organization and/or the employer and the employee.

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1 8. Making use of or disseminating, including by electronic means, any confidential information
 2 acquired through employment by the denominational organization for personal profit or advantage,
 3 directly or indirectly.

4 9. Using denominational personnel, property, equipment, supplies, or goodwill for other than
 5 approved activities, programs, and purposes.

6 10. Expending unreasonable time, during normal business hours, for personal affairs or for other
 7 organizations, to the detriment of work performance for the denomination.

8 11. Using one’s connections within the organization to secure favors for one’s family or relatives.

9 **E 85 20 Statement of Acceptance**—1. *By Employees*—At the time of initial employment an
 10 employee shall sign a statement indicating acceptance of the conditions of employment as outlined
 11 in the organization’s employee handbook. This acceptance shall constitute the employee’s
 12 declaration of compliance and resolve to remain in compliance with the conflict of interest and/or
 13 commitment policy. On an annual basis the employer shall provide employees with a copy of the
 14 Statement of Ethical Foundations, plus a copy of the conflict of interest and/or commitment policy,
 15 and shall inform employees regarding the duty to disclose potential conflicts of interest and/or
 16 commitment.

17 2. *By Administrators, Department Directors and Trustees*—The chief administrator, or designee,
 18 of the organization concerned shall receive annually a statement of acceptance and compliance with
 19 the policy on conflict of interest and/or commitment from each administrator, department director,
 20 member of the board/executive committee, and any other person authorized to handle resources of
 21 the organization. (The employing organization may determine that other individuals shall also be
 22 required to submit annually a statement of acceptance and compliance.) Submission of the statement
 23 by persons identified above shall constitute a declaration of compliance with the policy and shall
 24 place the individual under obligation to disclose potential conflicts of interest and/or commitment
 25 that may arise during the ensuing year.

26 **E 85 25 Reporting Potential or Actual Conflicts of Interest or Commitment**—All present and
 27 potential conflicts of interest must be disclosed:

28 1. If known, in advance of any meeting, business transaction, or other activity at which the issue
 29 may be discussed or on which the issue may have a bearing on the person’s approach to the issue,
 30 whether directly or indirectly; or

31 2. If not known in advance, when the actual, possible, or potential conflict becomes apparent.
 32 Disclosure must be made to the person in charge of the meeting or activity and to the full meeting,
 33 or to the person’s supervisor, as appropriate. The person should remove himself/herself from the
 34 room or situation to avoid participation in all discussion or deliberation on the issue, and voting.
 35 All such actions should be recorded in any minutes or records kept. Following full disclosure of the
 36 present or potential conflict, the board or equivalent group may decide that no conflict of interest
 37 exists and invite the participation of the person.

38 This policy establishes a process which is self-identifying. However, third parties may report
 39 alleged conflicts in writing with supporting documentation, to an officer of the organization
 40 concerned if the employee fails to disclose a conflict or does so inadequately. The source of third
 41 party reports shall be held in confidence by the recipient unless it is required to divulge the
 42 information pursuant to a court order or if there is indication that the report is fraudulent or made
 43 with malicious intent.

44 **E 85 30 Review Process for Conflicts of Interest and/or Commitment**—The officer or human
 45 resource/personnel office that receives the report of potential conflict shall inform the employee’s
 46 supervisor and shall have the matter reviewed by the appropriate employing authority or by the
 47 committee assigned to review such matters. If the disclosure has come from a third party, the officer
 48 or human resource/personnel office shall inform the employee concerned and shall give the
 49 employee an opportunity to submit any information which may help in the review of the reported

1 conflict. The decision of the employing authority or review committee as to whether or not a conflict
2 exists shall be communicated to the employee in writing.

3
4 **E 85 35 Sanctions for Noncompliance**—Noncompliance includes failure to:

- 5 1. Comply with this policy;
- 6 2. Report accurately on the disclosure form;
- 7 3. Comply with decisions made by the employing authority or review committee as a result of
8 reported potential or actual conflicts of interest
9 and/or commitment.

10 Noncompliance may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination from
11 employment. Termination from employment shall be processed in harmony with existing policies.

12 **E 85 40 Model Statement of Acceptance**—The following model statement of acceptance may be
13 modified in a manner appropriate to the organization concerned.

14 THIS DECLARATION applies, to the best of my knowledge, to all members of my immediate
15 family (spouse, children, parents) and its provisions shall protect any organization affiliated with or
16 subsidiary to the In the event facts change in the future that may create a
17 potential conflict of interest, I agree to notify the in writing.

- 18 1. I have read the Statement of Ethical Foundations and the policy on Conflict of Interest
19 and/or Commitment.
- 20 2. I am in compliance with my employer’s policy on Conflict of Interest and/or Commitment
21 as printed above.
- 22 3. Except as disclosed below:
 - 23 a. Neither I nor my family have a financial interest or business relationship which competes
24 with or conflicts with the interests of the.. ..
 - 25 b. Neither I nor my family have a financial interest in nor am or have been an employee,
26 officer, director, or trustee of, nor receive/have received financial benefits either directly or
27 indirectly from any enterprise (excluding less than five percent [5%] ownership in any entity with
28 publicly traded securities) which is or has been doing business with or is a competitor of the
29
 - 30 c. Neither I nor my family receive/received any payments or gifts (other than of token value)
31 from other denominational entities, suppliers, or agencies doing business with the
32
 - 33 d. Neither I nor my family serve/have served as an officer, director, trustee, or agent of any
34 organization affiliated with or subsidiary to the.....in any decision-making process
35 involving financial or legal interests adverse to the

36
37 Disclosures:

- 38 1.
- 39 2.
- 40 3.
- 41 4.
- 42 5.

43 DATE	NAME	TITLE	SIGNATURE
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44
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46 _____



1 ONE HUMANITY: A HUMAN RELATIONS STATEMENT

2

3 RECOMMENDING, To record that Ted N C Wilson, President of the General Conference,
4 during the GC Annual Council, requested the members to think of how each division can
5 discuss, in their own context, ways to reach people groups that have been neglected, ignored,
6 put down, disrespected; and how can we as a Church reach everyone.

7

8 Various reports were presented which reflected on the inequality and racism of people in
9 various cultures and countries around the world.

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1 POSCom/ADCOM/20AC to GEB

2
3 138-20G ONE HUMANITY: A HUMAN RELATIONS STATEMENT ADDRESSING
4 RACISM, CASTEISM, TRIBALISM, AND ETHNOCENTRISM

5
6 RECOMMENDING, To record the statement, “One Humanity: A Human Relations
7 Statement Addressing Racism, Casteism, Tribalism, and Ethnocentrism,” which reads as
8 follows:

9
10 **One Humanity: A Human Relations Statement**
11 **Addressing Racism, Casteism, Tribalism, and Ethnocentrism**
12

13 The moral duty of declaring biblical principles in the treatment of fellow human
14 beings has become paramount as the world increasingly recognizes the lingering scourge of
15 racial injustice, tribal conflicts, and caste system bigotry suffered by millions of persons in
16 every society and world region. God “has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell
17 on all the face of the earth” (Acts 17:26) and Jesus teaches us to love our neighbor as
18 ourselves (Matt 22:39). The Seventh-day Adventist Church acknowledges the important
19 responsibility of making its commitments and compassion clear to a world expecting both
20 words and deeds in harmony with the teachings of Jesus. Our commitment flows from our
21 mission to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to “every nation, tribe, tongue, and people” (Rev
22 14:6) in our troubled world as we recognize only Christ can change the human heart.

23
24 Seventh-day Adventists are committed to the unchanging biblical truths which reveal
25 that human beings are made in the image of God (Gen 1:27). Based on the creation account in
26 the book of Genesis, we believe in the God-given and immutable equality of all persons in all
27 times, all places, and all circumstances. We are all descended from Adam and Eve, our
28 original ancestors, who make all humanity one family (Gen 3:20). Even the tragic results of
29 human choice to rebel against God have not erased the enduring relationships between all
30 human beings. Distinctions of race, ethnicity, caste, and tribe are used to sinfully segment and
31 divide the fundamental unity God intended all human beings to experience with Himself and
32 each other.

33
34 We maintain our allegiance to the biblical principles of equality and dignity of all
35 human beings in the face of historic and continuing attempts to use skin color, place of origin,
36 caste, or perceived lineage as a pretext for oppressive and dominating behavior. These
37 attempts are a denial of our shared humanity and we deplore all such aggression and prejudice
38 as an offense to God. Still, we acknowledge that many members of our worldwide Church fail
39 to uphold this biblical truth about the equality of all persons. Contrary to the teachings and
40 example of Jesus, many believers and church organizations have absorbed sinful,
41 dehumanizing ideas about racial, tribal, caste, and ethnic valuing that have led to practices
42 injuring and wounding the human family. These ways of thinking, and the practices resulting
43 from them, undermine the very truths we have pledged ourselves to live and teach. We
44 apologize where in the past we may not have spoken or acted boldly enough on these matters.
45

46 Seventh-day Adventists are members of a diverse, global Church and are committed to
47 being agents of peace and reconciliation in society by modeling and advocating for the
48 biblical truth about our shared ancestry. “For the love of Christ compels us” to regard people

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1 from His point of view and to be His “ambassadors” in this divided world with the “word of
2 reconciliation” (2 Cor 5:14, 19, 20). We will support and nurture those marginalized and
3 mistreated because of their color, caste, tribe, or ethnicity (Matt 25:40). We believe those who
4 abuse and mistreat others should, in accordance with biblical principles, be appropriately
5 brought to justice and will ultimately face divine judgment (Eccl 12:14; Heb 9:27). We will
6 teach and urge that God’s truth about human origins and equality as taught in the Bible is the
7 wisest foundation for all human relationships.

8
9 God places a special responsibility upon those who have responded to His gracious
10 salvation for all (Gal 3:28) to demonstrate our commitment to equality, fairness, and
11 accountability in all human relations. God created each person unique, and His powerful
12 influence in our lives results in a celebration of differences that respectfully values each
13 person’s human heritage and culture. We recognize the ultimate solution to the sins of racism,
14 casteism, tribalism, and ethnocentrism is the transformation of individual lives and
15 relationships through Christ and His saving power. We accept and embrace our Christian
16 commitment to live, through the power of the Holy Spirit, as a Church that is just, caring, and
17 loving, grounded on biblical principles.

18
19 God invites everyone, everywhere to join the remnant Church described in Bible
20 prophecy (Rev 12:17) in proclaiming the everlasting gospel which focuses on the
21 righteousness of Jesus Christ encapsulated in the three angels’ messages (Rev 14:6-12). These
22 messages are to be given to “every nation, tribe, tongue, and people” culminating with
23 Christ’s soon return (Rev 14:6, 14). We look forward to a new heaven and a new earth when
24 “there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away” (Rev 21:4).

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1 PRE/ADCOM/GCDO19AC/19AC/142-
2 19GS/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to AAS-21GCS

3
4 125-20GS STATEMENT OF CONFIDENCE IN THE WRITINGS
5 OF ELLEN G WHITE

6
7 RECOMMENDED, To approve the Statement of Confidence in the Writings of Ellen G
8 White, which reads as follows:

9
10 STATEMENT OF CONFIDENCE IN THE
11 WRITINGS OF ELLEN G WHITE

12
13 As delegates to the 2021 General Conference Session in Indianapolis, Indiana, we
14 express our deep gratitude for God’s prophetic guidance of the Seventh-day Adventist
15 Church. Aiming to live “by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Matt 4:4,
16 NKJV; cf. Luke 10:16), we take seriously the biblical passages that teach the abiding nature
17 of the gift of prophecy (Rom 12:6; 1 Cor 12:10, 28; Eph 4:11-14) and promise its end-time
18 manifestation (Joel 2:28-31; Rev 12:17; 19:10; 22:9). We recognize the gift of prophecy in
19 the life and ministry of Ellen G White (1827-1915).

20
21 We believe that the writings of Ellen G White were inspired by the Holy Spirit and are
22 Christ centered and Bible based. Rather than replacing Scripture, they uplift its normative
23 character, safeguard the Church from “every wind of doctrine” (Eph 4:14), and offer an
24 inspired guide to Bible passages without exhausting their meaning or preventing further
25 study. They also help us to overcome the human tendency to accept from the Bible what we
26 like and to distort or disregard what we do not like.

27
28 We commit ourselves to prayerfully study the writings of Ellen G White with hearts
29 willing to follow the counsels and instructions found therein. Whether individually, in the
30 family, in small groups, in the classroom, or in the church, we believe that the study of her
31 writings brings us closer to God and His infallible Word—the Scriptures—providing us a
32 transforming and faith-uplifting experience.

33
34 We rejoice in the Lord for what has already been accomplished in the global and local
35 circulation of the writings of Ellen G White in both printed and electronic formats, including
36 egwwritings.org and related apps. We encourage the continued development of both
37 worldwide and local strategies to foster the circulation and study of her writings in as many
38 languages as possible. The study of these writings is a powerful means to strengthen and
39 prepare God’s people to face the challenges of these last days as we approach Christ’s soon
40 return.



1 THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES PROJECT AND PROMOTION

2
3 RECOMMENDING, To record that Angel M Rodriguez, retired Director of the Biblical
4 Research Institute, gave a presentation during the GC Annual Council on the importance of the
5 Three Angels' Messages.

6
7 The Three Angels' Messages project is focused on proclaiming these important
8 messages around the world with pastors and lay members working together. Mark A Finley,
9 Assistant to the President for Evangelism, has prepared presentations, including scripts and
10 graphics, for 13 sermons on the Three Angels' Messages entitled "Three Cosmic Messages."
11 Videos and a book will also be available. These presentations have been designed to bring
12 revival, renewal, spiritual refreshment, and commitment to Seventh-day Adventists and to reach
13 non-Adventists who are looking for truth. These messages are Christ-centered, grace-filled,
14 based on Scripture, practically applied, and faithfully proclaimed. A curriculum has also been
15 developed for grades K-12 and will provide age-specific material for children. Materials will
16 be made available online.

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1 ENDITNOW

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RECOMMENDED, To record that David Williams, Honorary Associate Director of Health Ministries for Policy and Public Health, shared a report during the GC Annual Council on Enditnow, a multi-departmental project initiated by Women’s Ministries on the topic of effectively confronting the challenge of domestic violence against women that is physical, sexual, economic, and/or psychological.

The extent of spousal abuse in society indicates that Christians should be involved in ministering to those who are affected. If we are to be truly Christ like, we must be eager to identify and take care of those who are unprotected, wounded, and without an advocate. The Church is called to be a place that serves the community and reflects Christ’s love. The Church can either be part of the problem or part of the solution.

For more information on this initiative click on this link: <https://enditnow.org/>

1 NURTURE AND RETENTION BOOK PROMOTION

2
3 RECOMMENDED, To record that Gerson P Santos, Associate Secretary of the
4 General Conference, presented during the GC Annual Council a new book on the topic of
5 nurture and retention, “Discipling, Nurturing, and Reclaiming,” which includes the
6 presentations from the 2019 Nurture and Retention Summit. This book will be distributed
7 throughout the divisions by General Conference Secretariat.
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1 YOU/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to GPS-21GCS

2
3 445-20GS YOUTH MINISTRIES - *CHURCH MANUAL*
4 AMENDMENT

5
6 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and
7 Organizations, pages 104-109, to read as follows:

8
9 Adventist Youth Ministries

10
11 The various youth organizations of the church should work closely with the youth
12 ministries department of the conference. The church works for and with its youth through
13 Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM). ~~the AYM~~. Under the AYM, youth are to work together,
14 in cooperation with the wider church community, towards the development of a strong youth
15 ministry that includes spiritual, mental, and physical development of each individual,
16 Christian social interaction, and an active witnessing program that supports the general soul-
17 winning plans of the church. In the quest for discipleship, the goal of AYM should be to bring
18 all youth to a saving relationship with Christ, build them up in His Word to reflect a Christ-
19 like character, train them how to serve the church and communities using their spiritual gifts,
20 and send them out to reach the communities in the power of the Holy Spirit.

21
22 ~~Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM)—The church works for and with its youth through~~
23 ~~the AYM. Under the AYM, youth are to work together, in cooperation with the wider church~~
24 ~~community, towards the development of a strong youth ministry that includes spiritual,~~
25 ~~mental, and physical development of each individual, Christian social interaction, and an~~
26 ~~active witnessing program that supports the general soul-winning plans of the church. The~~
27 ~~goal of AYM should be to involve all youth in activities that will lead them to active church~~
28 ~~membership and train them for Christian service.~~

29
30 *AYM Mission*—To lead young people into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ and
31 help them embrace His call to discipleship.

32
33 *AYM Motto*—The love of Christ compels us.

34
35 *AYM Aim*—The Advent Message to all the world in my generation.

36
37 The youth ministries program of the church comprises three broad categories, namely:
38 Junior Youth (Adventurers: ~~ages 6-9~~ ages 4-9 and Pathfinders: ages 10-15), Senior Youth
39 (Ambassadors: ages 16-21 and Young Adults: ~~ages 22-30+~~, ages 22-30), and Public Campus
40 Students: ages 16-30+.

41
42 God said to Moses, “And these words which I command you today shall be in your
43 heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in
44 your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall
45 bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall
46 write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates” (Deut. 6:6-9).

47










1 The apostle Paul added, “Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the
2 believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Tim. 4:12).

3
4 “We have an army of youth today who can do much if they are properly directed and
5 encouraged. . . . We want them to be blessed of God. We want them to act a part in well-
6 organized plans for helping other youth.”— GCB, Jan. 29, 30, 1893, p. 24.

7
8 “When the youth give their hearts to God, our responsibility for them does not cease.
9 They must be interested in the Lord’s work, and led to see that He expects them to do
10 something to advance His cause. It is not enough to show how much needs to be done, and to
11 urge the youth to act a part. They must be taught how to labor for the Master. They must be
12 trained, disciplined, drilled, in the best methods of winning souls to Christ. Teach them to try
13 in a quiet, unpretending way to help their young companions. Let different branches of
14 missionary effort be systematically laid out, in which they may take part, and let them be
15 given instruction and help. Thus they will learn to work for God.”—GW 210.

16
17 “With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon
18 the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole
19 world!”—MYP 196.

20
21 While there is to be an active Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM) in every church, it is
22 important that the youth program not be isolated from the rest of the church. In addition to
23 their AYM participation, youth should be integrated into responsible leadership and in all
24 lines of church work. As young elders, deacons, and deaconesses, for example, they can work
25 with and learn from experienced officers.

26
27 “In order that the work may go forward in all its branches, God calls for youthful
28 vigor, zeal, and courage. He has chosen the youth to aid in the advancement of His cause. To
29 plan with clear mind and execute with courageous hand demands fresh, uncrippled energies.
30 Young men and women are invited to give God the strength of their youth, that through the
31 exercise of their powers, through keen thought and vigorous action, they may bring glory to
32 Him and salvation to their fellow men.”—GW 67.

33
34 Adventist Youth Ministries Committee—The Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM)
35 Committee is the umbrella organization in the church for the general planning of the youth
36 ministry program. (See pp. 133, 134.) The AYM Committee includes the following church-
37 elected officers: Young Adults leader, Public Campus Ministries leader/coordinator,
38 Ambassador leader, Pathfinder director, Adventurer director, plus the personal ministries
39 leader, youth Sabbath School division leader, children’s ministries leader, health ministries
40 leader, principal of the school, the AYM advisor, sponsor, and the pastor. The Young Adults
41 leader, Ambassador leader, Pathfinder director, Adventurer director, and Public Campus
42 Ministries leader are members of the church board representing Adventist Youth Ministries.

43
44 If there are no distinct Ambassador ministry or young adults ministries established in
45 the church, or until such time as they are established, the AYM Committee will plan for the
46 senior youth ministry to include both age groups.

1 In parts of the world where there is no Pathfinder or Adventurer ministry, or until such
 2 time as they are organized, the AYM Committee will plan for appropriate activities for the
 3 junior youth.

4
 5 ~~The AYM leader (formerly known as the AYS director), who is a member of the~~
 6 ~~board, chairs this committee. The Young Adults leader may chair the AYM Committee.~~ The
 7 committee should meet as necessary to develop short- and long-range goals and plans for a
 8 successful ministry. (See Notes, #18, pp. 177, 178.)

9
 10 Young Adults Ministries Committee—The Young Adults Ministries - No change

11
 12 Public Campus Ministries—Strengthening the Youth Ministries - No change

13
 14 Public Campus Ministries Leader/Coordinator—The church may - No change

15
 16 Ambassador Ministry—The Ambassador Ministry provides - No change

17
 18 Ambassador Committee—The Ambassador Committee is responsible - No change

19
 20 Pathfinder Club—The Pathfinder Club provides a church-centered - No change

21
 22 Pathfinder Committee—The Pathfinder Club director and deputy directors are elected
 23 by the church. (See pp. 105, 179.) If two deputy directors are elected, there should be one
 24 male and one female. One of the deputy directors may also serve as club secretary and
 25 treasurer. ~~The director is a member of the board and the Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM)~~
 26 ~~Committee.~~

27
 28 Additional Pathfinder staff may include instructors of craft and nature classes and
 29 counselors who are each responsible for a unit of six to eight Pathfinders.

30
 31 Resource materials are available from the conference youth ministries director.

32
 33 Everyone involved in work with minor children must meet Church and legal standards
 34 and requirements, such as background checks or certification. Local church leaders should
 35 consult with the conference, which will ascertain and advise as to what background checks
 36 and certifications are available and/or required. (See Notes, #7, pp. 168, 169.)

37
 38 Adventurer Club—The Adventurer Club provides home and church programs for
 39 parents with ~~6 to 9-year-old~~ 4- to 9-year-old children. It is designed to stimulate the
 40 children’s curiosity and includes age-specific activities that involve both parents and child in
 41 recreational activities, simple crafts, appreciation of God’s creation, and other activities that
 42 are of interest to that age. All is carried out with a spiritual focus, setting the stage for
 43 participation in the church as a Pathfinder.

44
 45 Adventurer Committee—The church elects the club director and associates. (See
 46 pp. 104, 178.) Additional staff members are selected by the administrative staff of the club.
 47 ~~The director is a member of the Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM) Committee.~~



1 Resource materials are available from the conference youth ministries director.
2

3 Everyone involved in work with minor children must meet Church and legal standards
4 and requirements, such as background checks or certification. Local church leaders should
5 consult with the conference, which will ascertain and advise as to what background checks
6 and certifications are available and/or required. (See Notes, #8, pp. 174, 175.)
7

8 AYM Officers—The leaders/directors of the ~~four~~ five youth ministry entities must
9 exemplify Christlike graces and have a burden for soul winning and contagious enthusiasm.
10 The five leaders/directors are members of the church board. In helping motivate youth to
11 work together and take responsibilities, the leaders/directors will be in the background—
12 guiding, counseling, and encouraging youth, helping them gain experience and the joys of
13 achievement. The leaders/directors should study the youth profile of the church and seek to
14 involve every eligible youth in the Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM).
15

16 The leaders/directors will keep in touch with the pastor, ~~their respective sponsors,~~
17 advisor, and the conference youth ministries director, taking advantage of opportunities for in-
18 service training and leading their respective ministry into a cooperative relationship with the
19 church and the conference.
20

21 The associate leaders/deputy directors (if needed) will assist the leaders/directors and
22 perform leadership duties when the leaders/directors are absent. The respective committees
23 may assign additional responsibilities to the associate leaders/directors.
24

25 The secretary-treasurers will keep a record of the activities of their respective
26 ministries, submit monthly reports on forms provided to the conference youth ministries
27 director, and encourage youth to report their witnessing activities during the ten-minute
28 personal ministries period.
29

30 The respective assistant secretary-treasurers (if needed) assist with the secretary-
31 treasurers' work as assigned.
32

33 AYM Advisor—The Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM) advisor ~~Sponsor~~—The
34 Adventist Youth Ministries (AYM) sponsor may be an elder or other person on the board who
35 understands the objectives of the AYM, is sympathetic with youth and their involvement in
36 the church's ministries, and will serve as a valued counselor to the youth. The ~~sponsor~~ advisor
37 serves as a guide or counselor to AYM officers and joins them regularly in AYM Committee
38 meetings. ~~The sponsor will work with the AYM leader to present the ministry's needs to the~~
39 ~~board.~~
40

41 The ~~sponsor~~ ministry leader should become acquainted with the conference youth
42 ministries director and keep the director informed of changes in officer personnel and other
43 AYM matters. Along with AYM leaders, the ~~sponsor~~ advisor should attend conference youth
44 training institutes to keep informed about developments in youth ministry.
45

46 For the sake of continuity, the ~~sponsor,~~ advisor, if possible, should serve multiple
47 terms.
48

1 Everyone involved in work with minor children must meet Church and legal standards
2 and requirements, such as background checks or certification. Local church leaders should
3 consult with the conference, which will ascertain and advise as to what background checks
4 and certifications are available and/or required. (See Notes, #7, pp. 168, 169.)

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Resources—For youth ministries resources, see Notes, #17, p. 171.

1 YOU/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to GPS

2

3 446-20GN ADVENTIST YOUTH MINISTRIES RESOURCES -

4

CHURCH MANUAL NOTES AMENDMENT

5

6 VOTED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 8, Local Church Officers and

7 Organizations, Notes, page 178, #18, to read as follows:

8

9 19. ***Adventist Youth Ministries Resources*** (see p. 109)—Local church officers
10 should first contact their respective conference/mission, union, and division for resources. In
11 addition, the General Conference Youth Ministries website ~~Web-site~~ also provides support for
12 all levels of youth ministry at www.youth.adventist.org. ~~www.geyouthministries.org~~.

13

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1 SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/19AC/436-19GS/ChManSub/ChMan/
 2 ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to GPS-21GCS

3
 4 436-20GS MEMBERSHIP (CHURCH BOARD AND ITS
 5 MEETINGS) - *CHURCH MANUAL* AMENDMENT

6
 7 RECOMMENDED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 10, Services and Other
 8 Meetings, pages 130 and 131, Membership (Church Board and Its Meetings), to read as
 9 follows:

10
 11 Membership—The board is elected by the members at the time of the regular election
 12 officers. (See pp. 71, 72.) In addition to conference-appointed pastors, the church should elect
 13 a representative board that includes the following officers:

- 14
- 15 Elders
- 16 Head deacon
- 17 Head deaconess
- 18 Treasurer
- 19 Clerk
- 20 Interest coordinator
- 21 Adventist Community Services leader or Dorcas Society leader
- 22 Adventist Men’s coordinator
- 23 Adventist Possibility Ministries leader
- 24 Adventist Youth Ministries
- 25 Adventurer Club director
- 26 Ambassador Club leader
- 27 Pathfinder Club director
- 28 Public Campus Ministries leader/coordinator
- 29 Young Adults leader
- 30 ~~Adventist Youth Ministries leader~~
- 31 ~~Adventurer Club director~~
- 32 ~~Ambassador Club leader~~
- 33 Bible school coordinator
- 34 Children’s ministries leader
- 35 Church music coordinator
- 36 Communication committee chairperson or communication secretary
- 37 Education secretary/church school principal or head teacher
- 38 Family ministries leader
- 39 Health ministries leader
- 40 Home and School Association leader
- 41 ~~Pathfinder Club director~~
- 42 Personal ministries leader and secretary
- 43 ~~Public Campus Ministries leader/coordinator~~
- 44 Publishing ministries coordinator
- 45 Religious liberty leader
- 46 Sabbath School superintendent

- 1 Stewardship ministries leader
- 2 Women’s ministries leader
- 3 ~~Young adults leader~~

4
5 In some cases, depending on the size of the membership, the board may not include all
6 of this list or may add additional members. The pastor appointed by the conference to serve
7 the church always is a member of the board.
8

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1 SEC/ChManSub/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/ChMan/19AC/437-
 2 19GN/ChManSub/ ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to GPS

3
 4 437-20GN SAMPLE LIST OF CHURCH LEADERS - *CHURCH*
 5 *MANUAL* NOTES AMENDMENT

6
 7 VOTED, To amend the *Church Manual*, Chapter 9, Elections, Notes, pages 178, 179,
 8 #1, Sample List of Church Leaders, to read as follows:

9
 10 1. Sample List of Church Leaders (see p. 111). The nominating committee selects
 11 members to serve as officers in a variety of positions. A small church may have a short list of
 12 officers. A large church may have a long list of officers. Here is a list that may be considered:

- 13
- 14 Elder(s)
- 15 Deacon(s)
- 16 Deaconess(es)
- 17 Clerk
- 18 Treasurer and assistant(s)
- 19 Interest coordinator
- 20 Church board
- 21 Church school board
- 22 Adventist Community Services leader or Dorcas Society leader
- 23 Adventist Community Services secretary-treasurer or Dorcas Society secretary-
- 24 treasurer
- 25 Adventist Possibility Ministries leader
- 26 Adventist Youth Ministries
- 27 Adventist Youth Ministries music leader
- 28 Adventist Youth ministries pianist or organist
- 29 Adventist Youth Ministries secretary/treasurer and assistant
- 30 Adventurer Club director
- 31 Ambassador Club leader
- 32 Pathfinder Club director and deputy director
- 33 Public Campus Ministries leader/coordinator
- 34 Young Adults leader
- 35 ~~Adventist Youth Ministries leader and associate(s)~~
- 36 ~~Adventist Youth Ministries sponsor~~
- 37 ~~Adventist Youth Ministries secretary treasurer and assistant~~
- 38 ~~Adventist Youth Ministries music leader~~
- 39 ~~Adventist Youth Ministries pianist or organist~~
- 40 ~~Adventurer Club director~~
- 41 ~~Ambassador Club leader~~
- 42 Bible school coordinator
- 43 Children’s ministries coordinator
- 44 Church chorister or song leader or music coordinator
- 45 Church organist or pianist
- 46 Communication secretary or communication committee
- 47 Education secretary/church school principal or head teacher
- 48 Family ministries leader(s)



- 1 Health ministries leader
- 2 ~~Ministry to People With Disabilities coordinator~~
- 3 ~~Pathfinder Club director and deputy director~~
- 4 Personal ministries leader
- 5 Personal ministries secretary
- 6 Prayer ministries director
- 7 ~~Public-campus ministries leader/coordinator~~
- 8 Publishing ministries coordinator
- 9 Religious liberty leader
- 10 Sabbath School superintendent(s) and assistant(s)
- 11 Sabbath School secretary and assistant(s)
- 12 Sabbath School division leaders, including leaders for the adult and extension
- 13 divisions
- 14 Sabbath School Investment secretary
- 15 Spirit of Prophecy writings coordinator
- 16 Stewardship ministries leader
- 17 Vacation Bible School director
- 18 Women's ministries leader
- 19 ~~Young adults leader~~
- 20 Additional personnel considered necessary

21

22 Home and School Association officers (leader and secretary-treasurer): If only one

23 church supports a school, the church nominating committee makes recommendations to the

24 school board, which then makes the appointments. If more than one church supports a school,

25 the school board conducts the whole process. (See pp. 90, 91.)

26

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1 SEC/ChManSub/ChMan/ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to GPS-21GCS
2
3 444-20GS USE OF “REELECT” - *CHURCH MANUAL* DIRECTIVE
4
5 RECOMMENDED, To approve a directive to amend the *Church Manual* where appropriate,
6 by replacing “reelect” with “elect to a new term of office.”
7
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1 OGC/Con&By/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO17AC/17AC/209-17GS/202-18GS/Con&By/ADCOM/
 2 SecC/GCDO19AC/19AC/201-19GS/SEC/Con&By/ADCOM/PreC/SecC/TreC/GCDO20AC/
 3 SEC/ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to HMM-21GCS

4
 5 201-20GSa GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS - CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
 6 AMENDMENT

7
 8 RATIONALE: This amendment allows the General Conference Executive Committee to
 9 determine the timing for a subsequent General Conference Session after a Session is
 10 postponed and makes provision for electronic presence at a Session. The amendment also
 11 provides an approval process for the minutes of the General Conference Session and defines
 12 the Session’s parliamentary authority.

13
 14 RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws,
 15 Constitution Article V—General Conference Sessions, to read as follows:

16
 17 ARTICLE V—GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS
 18

19 Sec. 1. The General Conference shall hold quinquennial sessions at such time and
 20 place as the General Conference Executive Committee shall designate and announce by a
 21 notice published in the *Adventist Review* or *Adventist World* or other publications voted by the
 22 General Conference Executive Committee in three consecutive months beginning at least four
 23 months before the date for the opening of the Session. In case special world conditions make
 24 it imperative to postpone the calling of the Session, the General Conference Executive
 25 Committee, in regular or special council, shall have authority to make such postponement, not
 26 to exceed two years, giving notice to all constituent organizations. In the event that the
 27 General Conference Executive Committee exercises its authority to postpone a Session, it
 28 shall also have the authority to set the subsequent regular Session at such time and place as it
 29 shall see fit, not to exceed five calendar years from the date of the postponed Session.

30
 31 Sec. 2. The General Conference Executive Committee may call - No change

32
 33 Sec. 3. At least one-third of the total delegates authorized hereinafter - No change

34
 35 Sec. 4. Generally, regular or specially called General Conference Sessions are to be
 36 held in person and onsite. However, delegates when requested by the General Conference
 37 Executive Committee may participate by means of an electronic conference or similar
 38 communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same time, and
 39 participation by such means shall constitute presence in person and attendance at such a
 40 meeting. Votes cast remotely shall have the same validity as if the delegates met and voted
 41 onsite. ~~Sec. 4. The election of officers and the voting on all matters of business shall be by~~
 42 ~~viva voce vote, or as designated by the Chair, unless otherwise requested by a majority of the~~
 43 ~~delegates present.~~

44
 45 Sec. 5. The election to any office enumerated in Article VI, Sec. 1. and all other voting
 46 shall be as defined by the *General Conference Rules of Order*. Voting electronically or by
 47 secret ballot must be in a manner that ensures the highest integrity, privacy, and

1 confidentiality, as verified by General Conference Secretariat and General Conference
2 Auditing Service, in consultation with the General Conference’s legal counsel.

3
4 Sec. 6. Minutes of the General Conference Session shall be approved at the first
5 Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee following a regular or
6 special session.

7
8 ~~Sec. 5.~~ Sec. 7. The delegates to a General Conference Session shall be - No change

9
10 ~~Sec. 6.~~ Sec. 8. Regular delegates shall represent the General Conference’s - No change

11
12 ~~Sec. 7.~~ Sec. 9. Regular delegates shall be allotted on the following - No change

13
14 ~~Sec. 8.~~ Sec. 10. Delegates at large shall represent the General - No change

15
16 ~~Sec. 9.~~ Sec. 11. Division administrations shall consult with unions to ensure - No
17 change

18
19 ~~Sec. 10.~~ Sec. 12. Credentials to sessions shall be issued by the - No change

20
21 ~~Sec. 11.~~ Sec. 13. Calculations for all delegate allotments, as provided - No change

22
23 Sec. 14. Parliamentary Authority: The parliamentary authority pertaining to all rules
24 and procedures for General Conference Session not covered by its constitution and bylaws
25 shall be based on the *General Conference Rules of Order*.
26

1 SEC/Con&By/ADCOM/PreC/SecC/TreC/GCDO20AC/20AC to HMM-21GCS

2
3 201-20GSb SESSION COMMITTEES - CONSTITUTION
4 AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

5
6 RATIONALE: This amendment allows for Session committees to meet by electronic means
7 and clarifies that only credentialed delegates may be members of the Session Nominating
8 Committee.

9
10 RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws
11 Article II—Session Committees, to read as follows:

12
13 ARTICLE II—SESSION COMMITTEES

14
15 Sec. 1. At each regular session of the General Conference, such - No change

16
17 Sec. 2. Session committees may convene by means of an electronic conference or
18 similar communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same
19 time.

20
21 ~~Sec. 2.~~ Sec. 3. Church Manual Committee: The chair of the *Church Manual* - No
22 change

23
24 ~~Sec. 3.~~ Sec. 4. Constitution and Bylaws Committee: The chair of the - No change

25
26 ~~Sec. 4.~~ Sec. 5. Nominating Committee: a. The membership of the - No change

27
28 b. The members of the Nominating Committee - No changes

29
30 c. Each group (named in Sec. 4. b. 1) and 2) above) - No change

31
32 d. Those chosen as members of the Nominating Committee must be duly
33 credentialed delegates ~~accredited delegates in attendance~~ at the General Conference Session.

34
35 e. Delegates holding elected positions under the - No change

36
37 f. No delegate shall nominate more than one person - No change

38
39 g. The Nominating Committee shall elect its own chair - No change

40
41 h. The Nominating Committee shall limit its nominations - No change

42
43 i. In order to expedite the work of the Nominating - No change

44
45 ~~Sec. 5.~~ Sec. 6. Steering Committee: The Steering Committee shall be - No change

1 SEC/Con&By/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO17AC/212-17GS/205-
 2 18GS/Con&By/ADCOM/Con&By/
 3 ADCOM/PRE/Con&By/ADCOM/PreC/SecC/TreC/GCDO19AC/19AC/204-19GS/Con&By/
 4 ADCOM/PreC/SecC/TreC/GCDO20AC/20AC to HMM-21GCS

5
 6 204-20GS GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -
 7 CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

8
 9 RATIONALE: This amendment allows for removal from membership on the General
 10 Conference Executive Committee “for cause,” while adding to the definition of “for cause,” in
 11 order to stay consistent with General Conference *Working Policy* B 45 20. The amendment
 12 adds the executive officers to the list of elected positions requiring a quorum of 40 members.
 13 It removes local conference/mission/field presidents from being invited to attend Annual
 14 Council meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee and amends the
 15 notification requirements for meetings of the Executive Committee called during a General
 16 Conference Session.

17
 18 RECOMMENDED, To amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaws,
 19 Article XIII—General Conference Executive Committee, to read as follows:

20
 21 ARTICLE XIII—GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

22
 23 Sec. 1. a. During the intervals between sessions of the General - No change

24
 25 b. The General Conference Executive Committee shall - No change

26
 27 c. The General Conference Executive Committee shall have power to
 28 elect or remove, for cause, officers, directors, and associate directors of
 29 departments/associations/ services and committee members, and to fill for the current term
 30 any vacancies that may occur in its offices, boards, committees, or agents due to death,
 31 resignation, or other reasons. The phrase “for cause,” when used in connection with removal
 32 from an elected or appointed position, or from membership on the General Conference
 33 Executive Committee, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence; 2) persistent
 34 failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and with relevant
 35 employment and denominational policies; 3) actions which may be the subject of discipline
 36 under the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*; ~~or~~ 4) failure to maintain regular standing as
 37 a member of the Seventh-day Adventist ~~Church.~~ Church; 5) theft or embezzlement; or 6)
 38 conviction of or guilty plea for a crime.

39
 40 d. The General Conference Executive Committee shall have - No change

41
 42 e. The removal from office by the General Conference - No change

43
 44 f. The General Conference Executive Committee shall have - No change

45
 46 Sec. 2. a. A meeting of the General Conference Executive - No change

47
 48 b. A meeting of the General Conference Executive Committee - No change



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Sec. 3. A majority of the full membership of the General Conference - No change

Sec. 4. 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 non-routine items such as major financial decisions, the dismissal of elected and appointed employees, and the election of General Conference president, secretary, treasurer/chief financial officer, and vice presidents. ~~presidents of divisions and of general vice presidents.~~ All meetings require notice to members as per ~~Sec. 8.~~ Sec. 7. below.

Sec. 5. All meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee - No change

Sec. 6. Meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee - No change

~~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. 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.~~

~~Sec. 8. Sec. 7.~~ 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~~ electronic 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. If General Conference Executive Committee meetings are called during a General Conference Session, notice given during a business session shall constitute notice to all members, and all other notice requirements are waived. ~~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.~~

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1 SEC/Con&By/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO20AC/20AC to HMM-21GCS

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214-20GSE USE OF “TELEPHONE CONFERENCE” -
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS EDITORIAL DIRECTIVE

RECOMMENDED, To approve a directive to amend the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws, where appropriate, by deleting “telephone conference” and replacing it with “electronic conference.”



1 SEC/OGC/224-20Ga/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/Pre/SecC/TreC/GCDO20AC/SEC/
2 ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to HMM(DIV)

3
4 225-20Ga UNION CONFERENCE MODEL CONSTITUTION AND
5 BYLAWS - POLICY AMENDMENT

6
7 VOTED, To amend GC D 10, Union Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws, to
8 read as follows:

9
10 D 10 Union Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws

11 D 10 05 Union Conference Constitution and Bylaws—The following Union
12 Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws ~~Bylaws~~—~~This model constitution~~ shall be
13 followed as closely as possible by all union conferences. Those sections of the model
14 constitution and bylaws that appear in bold print are essential to the unity of the Church
15 worldwide and shall be included in the constitution and bylaws as adopted by each union
16 conference. Other sections of the model constitution and bylaws may be modified as set out in
17 Bylaw Article XII, provided they continue to be in full harmony with the provisions of this
18 model. Where specific cases require modification to text in bold print, final approval for such
19 modifications to any text in bold print must be studied and approved by the General
20 Conference Executive Committee after receiving a recommendation from the division
21 executive committee and the General Conference Administrative Committee. Amendments to
22 the Union Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws shall be made by action of the
23 Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at any Annual
24 Council of that Committee.

25
26 Amendments to the Union Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws shall be made
27 by action of the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
28 at any Annual Council of that Committee.

29
30 **CONSTITUTION OF THE _____ UNION**
31 **CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

32
33 **Article I—Name**

34
35 **The name of this organization shall be the _____ Union Conference of**
36 **Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as the union or union conference.**

37
38 **Article II—Purpose**

39
40 **The purpose of this union conference is to call all people within its territory to**
41 **become disciples of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the everlasting gospel embraced by the**
42 **three angels’ messages (Revelation 14:6-12), and to prepare them for Christ’s soon**
43 **return.**

44
45 **Article III—Relationships**
46



1 **text of the constitution and bylaws from time to time, at a union conference constituency**
 2 **meeting, provided any such changes are in harmony with the spirit and intent of the**
 3 **model constitution and bylaws. ~~constitution~~. Such amendments shall require an**
 4 **affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates present and voting. ~~The union~~**
 5 **~~constituency meeting and/or the union conference executive committee may recommend~~**
 6 **~~to the General Conference through the _____ Division of the General Conference~~**
 7 **~~of Seventh-day Adventists, amendments to the model constitution.~~**

8
 9 **BYLAWS OF THE _____ UNION**
 10 **CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

11
 12 **Article I—Principal Office**

13
 14 **The principal office for the transaction of the business of the**
 15 **Union Conference is fixed and located at _____, _____. In an emergency, the**
 16 **executive committee may change the location of the principal office on a temporary**
 17 **basis.**

18
 19 **Article II—Membership/Constituency Meetings**

20
 21 **Sec. 1. Regular Meeting: This union conference shall hold a regular**
 22 **quinquennial ~~constituency meeting~~ membership/constituency meeting* at such time and**
 23 **place as the executive committee of the union conference shall designate. In the event**
 24 **that the union executive committee fails to call a regular constituency meeting within the**
 25 **quinquennial period, the _____ ~~Division Executive Committee~~ Committee, or**
 26 **General Conference Executive Committee in the case of unions directly attached to the**
 27 **General Conference, may give notice for such a meeting and designate the time and place.**
 28 **In case regional conditions make it imperative to postpone the calling of the constituency**
 29 **meeting, the union conference executive committee, in a regular or special meeting, shall**
 30 **have authority to make such postponement, not to exceed one year, giving notice to all**
 31 **constituent organizations. In the event that the executive committee exercises its authority to**
 32 **postpone a constituency meeting, it shall also have the authority to set the subsequent regular**
 33 **constituency meeting at such time and place as it shall see fit, not to exceed five calendar**
 34 **years from the date of the postponed constituency meeting.** Notice of the time and place of the
 35 meeting of the delegates representing the members shall be given by:

36
 37 a. A notice printed in the official publication of the union conference at
 38 least four weeks before the date of the session, or

39
 40 b. A method approved by the _____ Union Conference Executive
 41 Committee, provided all member units receive notice with sufficient time to select delegates.

42
 43 c. A method approved by the _____ **Division Executive**
 44 **Committee, in the event of inaction or failure to call a constituency meeting by**
 45 **the _____ Union Conference Executive Committee.**

 *The membership/constituency meeting is a business meeting of the membership of this union conference. These meetings may also be called membership/constituency sessions.

1 **Sec. 2. Special Meeting: a.** The executive committee of this union conference shall
 2 call a special constituency meeting when:

- 3
- 4 1) It is voted by the executive committee, or
- 5
- 6 2) It is voted by the delegates at any constituency meeting, or
- 7
- 8 3) It is requested by _____ percent of the executive committees
 9 of the conferences and missions/fields/sections within the union conference, or
- 10
- 11 4) It is voted by the _____ Division Executive Committee
 12 or the General Conference Executive Committee.
- 13

14 The date for such a meeting in response to paragraphs 3) and 4) above shall not
 15 be more than 90 days from the date when the actions described in paragraphs 3) and 4)
 16 above are communicated to the officers/executive committee of the union.

17

18 b. In the absence of a timely response by the union executive
 19 committee to paragraphs 2) through 4) in Sec. 2. a. above, the _____ Division
 20 Executive Committee or General Conference Executive Committee may call a special
 21 constituency meeting of the union conference and designate the time and place for such
 22 a meeting.

23

24 c. The agenda for special constituency meetings shall be included in
 25 the notice of the meeting.

26

27 d. Notice as to the time and place of special constituency meetings
 28 shall be given in the same manner as for regularly scheduled constituency meetings.

29

30 **Sec. 3. Virtual Attendance at Constituency Meetings:** Generally, regular and
 31 specially called constituency meetings are to be held in person and onsite. However, delegates
 32 when requested by the executive committee, and if permitted by local law, may participate by
 33 means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons can hear
 34 each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in
 35 person and attendance at such a meeting.

36

37 ~~Sec. 3.~~ **Sec. 4. Chair and Secretary for Constituency Meetings:** The president of
 38 this union conference shall serve as chair and the secretary of this union shall serve as
 39 secretary for constituency meetings of this union. ~~meetings.~~ The president may designate
 40 other individuals to assist in chair duties from time to time. In the event that the
 41 president’s office is vacant or that the president is unavailable to serve as chair, the
 42 constituency meeting may be called to order by the ranking division officer present. The
 43 first item of business shall be the election of a chair *pro tem*, selected from the delegates
 44 present at the meeting. When the election of a president has been completed, the new
 45 president, or re-elected president, if present at the constituency meeting, shall replace
 46 the chair *pro tem*.

47

1 In a similar manner, arrangements may be made for a secretary *pro tem* if the
 2 secretary’s office is vacant or the secretary is unavailable to serve at the constituency
 3 meeting. When the election of a secretary has been completed, the new secretary, ~~or re-~~
 4 ~~elected secretary~~, if present at the constituency meeting, shall replace the secretary *pro*
 5 *tem*.

6
 7 ~~A person who is not reelected at a constituency meeting does not thereby lose~~
 8 ~~delegate status at the current constituency meeting.~~

9
 10 ~~Sec. 4. Sec. 5. Regular Meeting Business:~~ The business of the regular constituency
 11 meeting shall include the election/appointment of personnel for various positions (see
 12 ~~Sec. 10. and 11. Sec. 11. and 12.~~ below), the receipt of reports from the president,
 13 secretary, treasurer/chief financial officer (report based on audited statements),
 14 departmental directors, and the auditor. The constituency meeting shall
 15 endorse/approve/develop plans for the conduct of the work as are desirable and in
 16 harmony with the policies of the _____ Division. ~~the Division.~~

17
 18 ~~Sec. 5. Sec. 6. Quorum:~~ At least _____ percent of the delegates authorized hereinafter
 19 under ~~Section 1. Sec. 1.~~ of Article III must be present at the opening of any regular or special
 20 constituency meeting to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Once the meeting
 21 is declared open, the delegates remaining present shall constitute a quorum.

22
 23 ~~Sec. 6. Sec. 7. Proxy Voting:~~ All delegates must be present in person at any
 24 constituency ~~meeting meeting~~, or participating by electronic means, in order to be eligible
 25 to vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

26
 27 ~~Sec. 7. Sec. 8. Voting Rights of the Delegates:~~ Each delegate appointed to act on
 28 behalf of the members of this union conference shall be entitled to one vote on each question
 29 to be decided by the body. The voting rights of the individual delegates representing the
 30 members as hereinafter provided shall be limited to the particular constituency meeting of the
 31 union conference in which they have been designated to represent a local conference or local
 32 mission/field/section, institution, the Division, ~~Division~~ or the General Conference of
 33 Seventh-day Adventists.

34
 35 ~~Sec. 8. Sec. 9. Voting:~~ The voting on matters of business shall normally be by *viva*
 36 *voce*. The chair may call for the vote by other means, including a secret ballot, when it is
 37 deemed advisable or is requested by the membership. Votes cast remotely shall have the
 38 same validity as if the delegates met and voted onsite.

39
 40 ~~Sec. 9. Sec. 10. Parliamentary Authority:~~ The parliamentary authority pertaining to
 41 all rules and procedures for constituency meetings not covered by its bylaws shall be based on
 42 those published in the *General Conference Rules of Order*, and any adaptation or supplement
 43 approved by the division executive committee, unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds
 44 (2/3) majority vote of the constituency meeting. ~~The parliamentary authority pertaining to~~
 45 ~~all rules and procedures for constituency meetings not covered by its bylaws shall be~~
 46 ~~based on those published in the *General Conference Rules of Order*, and any adaptation~~
 47 ~~or supplement approved by the division executive committee, unless otherwise~~
 48 ~~determined by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the constituency meeting.~~

1
2 ~~Sec. 10.~~ **Sec. 11. Election/Appointment and Term of Office: a. Elections: Union**
3 **All union conference officers and members of the executive committee who are not ex**
4 **officio members shall be elected by the delegates at a meeting of the union conference**
5 **constituency. The election of departmental directors, associate departmental directors,**
6 **associate secretaries, or associate treasurers, if not determined by the delegates at the**
7 **union conference constituency meeting, shall be referred to the executive committee for**
8 **appointment. ~~committee.~~ Other positions to be filled by election may include the chief**
9 **administrator(s) and board members of union institutions if and as required by the**
10 **governance documents and structure for each entity.**

11
12 **b. Term of Office: Persons elected at the constituency meeting and**
13 **those appointed by the executive committee normally serve until the next regular**
14 **constituency meeting. However, their period of service may be shorter due to**
15 **resignation, voluntary retirement, retirement in situations where a mandatory**
16 **retirement age policy is in effect, or removal from office, for cause, by the executive**
17 **committee or a special constituency meeting.**

18
19 The phrase “for cause” when used in connection with removal from an elected or
20 appointed position, or from employment, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence;
21 2) persistent failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and
22 with relevant employment and denominational policies; 3) actions which may be the subject
23 of discipline under the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*; 4) failure to maintain regular
24 standing as a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; 5) theft or embezzlement; or 6)
25 conviction of or guilty plea for a crime.

26
27 ~~Sec. 11.~~ **Sec. 12. Election of Local Mission/Field/Section Officers and Term of**
28 **Office: a. Elections: ~~The presidents, secretaries, and treasurers/chief financial officers~~**
29 **The president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer of local**
30 **missions/fields/sections within the territory of this union conference shall be elected by**
31 **the union constituency meeting ~~conference in regular session~~ or by the union executive**
32 **committee between constituency meetings. ~~sessions.~~**

33
34 **b. Term of Office: Local mission/field/section officers elected at the**
35 **constituency meeting normally serve until a midterm meeting of the union executive**
36 **committee, unless they resign, voluntarily retire, retire in situations where a mandatory**
37 **retirement age policy is in effect, or are removed from office, for cause, by the union**
38 **conference executive committee or by a special constituency meeting (see definition of**
39 **“for cause” in ~~Sec. 10,~~ Sec. 11, paragraph b. above).**

40
41 *(Note: Section 11 above is applicable to union conferences in whose territory there is*
42 *a local mission/field/section.)*

43
44 **Article III—Representation at Constituency Meetings**

45
46 **Sec. 1. Regular Delegates—Each member organization shall be represented at**
47 **union conference constituency meetings by duly appointed delegates as follows:**

48

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1 a. Each local conference or local mission/field/section shall be entitled
2 to one delegate without regard to conference or mission/field/section membership and
3 one additional delegate for each _____ church members or major fraction thereof.
4

5 b. Such delegates shall be chosen, by the respective local conference
6 or local mission/field/section executive committees, from among those who hold
7 membership in a duly organized local church within the respective conference or
8 mission/field/section or from among those who are employees of the member
9 organization.
10

11 c. The delegation from each conference or mission/field/section, if
12 comprised of three or more individuals, shall include representation from laity, pastors,
13 and/or other frontline employees of the respective conference or mission/field/section
14 and include ~~male~~ males and females.
15

16 **Sec. 2. Delegates At-Large—Delegates at-large to a union conference**
17 **constituency meeting ~~consist of:~~ include:**
18

19 a. The current members of the executive committee of this union
20 conference.
21

22 b. Such other persons from the union conference staff, institutions
23 owned and operated by the union, and local conferences or local missions/fields/sections,
24 as may be recommended by the union conference executive committee and accepted by
25 the delegates in the constituency meeting. The number of such delegates shall not exceed
26 ten percent of the total number of regular delegates provided for hereinabove.
27

28 c. Members of the General Conference and _____ Division
29 executive committees, who may be present at any constituency meeting of this union
30 conference. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total
31 number of delegates otherwise provided for.
32

33 d. A person who is not elected to a new term of office at a
34 constituency meeting does not thereby lose delegate status at the current constituency
35 meeting.
36

37 **Sec. 3. Church Membership Requirement: All delegates appointed to represent**
38 **the members of this union conference at any constituency meeting shall be members in**
39 **regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.**
40

41 **Article IV—Constituency Meeting Committees**
42

43 *(Note: Division executive committees may authorize a process whereby the session*
44 *organizing and nominating committees may be selected and empowered to perform their tasks*
45 *in advance of the session. The process to select such committees for a session shall involve*
46 *constituency representation rather than being accomplished by the executive committee*
47 *alone. Unless a division executive committee has approved other arrangements as described*

1 above, the following provisions shall apply for the appointment and functioning of session
 2 committees.)
 3

4 **Prior to each union conference constituency meeting, the executive committee**
 5 **shall provide for such temporary committees as may be necessary to conduct the**
 6 **preliminary work for the session.**
 7

8 To facilitate the business of the session, constituency meeting committees may
 9 convene by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all
 10 persons participating can hear each other at the same time. **These committees include:**
 11 ~~Committees that facilitate the business of the session include:~~
 12

13 **Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee for each constituency**
 14 **meeting shall be appointed. It shall consist of _____ representatives from each local**
 15 **conference or local mission/field/section, _____ representatives from the health care**
 16 **system/institution(s) serving the union, one representative from each of the union**
 17 **conference operated institutions, and the president of the _____ Division, or his**
 18 **designee, who shall serve as chair.** Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee for
 19 each constituency meeting shall be appointed. It shall consist of _____ representatives from
 20 each local conference or local mission/field/section, _____ representatives from the health
 21 care system/institution(s) serving the union, one representative from each of the union
 22 conference operated institutions, and the president of the _____ Division, or his
 23 designee, who shall serve as chair.
 24

25 **b. The members of the organizing committee shall be appointed by**
 26 **their respective delegate groups as one of the first items of business at each regularly**
 27 **scheduled constituency meeting.** The members of the organizing committee shall be
 28 appointed by their respective delegate groups as the first item of business at each regularly
 29 scheduled constituency meeting.
 30

31 ~~The organizing committee shall nominate, and~~ **The organizing**
 32 **committee shall nominate, and the constituency shall elect:**
 33

- 34 1) A nominating committee
- 35
- 36 2) A constitution and bylaws committee
- 37
- 38 3) Other committees as may be necessary.
- 39

40 **Sec. 2. Nominating Committee: The nominating committee shall consist of at**
 41 **least _____ and not more than _____ members, including the president of**
 42 **the _____ Division, or his designee, who shall serve as chair. The membership of**
 43 **the committee shall be balanced, as nearly as possible, between denominational workers**
 44 **and laypersons representing various segments of the work and territories of the union.**
 45 **conference.**
 46

47 **a. Those chosen as members of the Nominating Committee must be**
 48 **duly appointed delegates in attendance at the constituency meeting.**



1 require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting at a union executive
2 committee meeting where a majority of members is present.

3
4 **Sec. 3. Administrative Authority: The executive committee shall have full**
5 **administrative authority:**

6
7 a. To fill for the current term any vacancies that may occur by death,
8 resignation or otherwise, in its boards, committees, departments, or in offices which have
9 been filled by union conference constituency meeting election. **If a new president is to be**
10 **elected, the president of the _____ Division, or his designee, shall serve as chair of**
11 **the executive committee.**

12
13 b. To appoint committees, such as an administrative committee, with their
14 terms of reference.

15
16 c. To employ such personnel as may be necessary to execute its work
17 effectively.

18
19 d. To grant and withdraw credentials and licenses. The withdrawal of
20 credentials shall require the consent of two thirds (2/3) of the members of the union
21 conference executive committee.

22
23 **Sec. 4. Regular Meetings:** The executive committee may schedule regular meetings at
24 such times and places as it may select.

25
26 **Sec. 5. Special Meetings:** Special meetings of the executive committee may be called
27 at any time or place by the president or, in his absence, by the secretary. In response to the
28 written request of a majority of the members of the executive committee a special meeting
29 shall also be called by the secretary.

30
31 **Sec. 6. Attendance at Meetings:** Where allowed by local law, executive committee
32 members may participate in meetings by means of an electronic conference or similar
33 communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same
34 time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at such a
35 meeting.

36
37 **Sec. 7. Notice of Meetings:** Notice as to time and place, and any other
38 requirements under these bylaws, shall be provided to all members in a reasonable
39 manner at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if the meeting is to take place by electronic
40 conference or similar communications, or at least 96 hours if the meeting is to take place
41 in person.

42
43 **Sec. 8. Quorum:** _____ members of the executive committee, including the chair or
44 vice-chair, shall constitute a quorum.

45
46 **Article VI—Officers and Their Duties**

47
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Article VII—Directors of Departments/Associations/Services

Sec. 1. Advisory Role: The directors of departments/associations/services of this union conference shall work under the direction of the executive committee of the union conference and the president and shall serve in an advisory relationship to the field.

Sec. 2. Departments/Associations/Services Structure: Union conference departments, associations, and services shall be organized in harmony with the department/association/service structure of the General Conference but shall not necessarily duplicate the departments/ associations/services at the division or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. ~~Departments/ Services Structure: Union conference departments/services shall be organized in harmony with the departmental/service structure of the General Conference but shall not necessarily duplicate the departments/services in the division or the General Conference.~~

Article VIII—Other Organizations

Sec. 1. Unincorporated Organizations: The _____ Union Conference may carry on its ministry through unincorporated subsidiary organizations. Constituency meetings of such organizations shall be held in conjunction with the regularly scheduled constituency meetings of the union conference.

Sec. 2. Corporations: The _____ Union Conference may form corporate bodies provided it obtains prior approval of the _____ Division. Membership meetings and elections of boards of directors shall be held as provided by articles and bylaws of the corporations and in harmony with applicable laws.

Article IX—Finance

Sec. 1. Tithes and Offerings: The church funds managed by this union conference shall consist of such tithe, including direct tithe, as it shall be assigned by policy and as received from the local conferences/missions/fields within its territory, and such gifts, legacies, bequests, devises, appropriations, reverted funds, and other donations as may be made to it.

Sec. 2. Policies: The portion of the tithe which is reserved for this union conference, as specified by policy, and all other funds shall be used in harmony with the financial policies of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; and in the case of ~~donations~~ donations, their use shall be in harmony with the specifications of donors and in compliance with government regulations. Tithe is shared with the division on fixed percentages as set by the division executive committee, and with the General Conference on fixed percentages as set by the Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee.

Sec. 3. Bank Accounts: The funds of this union conference shall be safeguarded in harmony with the financial policies of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Moneys shall be deposited in the name of the _____ Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in regular or special

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1 accounts in such banks or savings institutions as the executive committee shall designate
 2 and shall be withdrawn only by persons authorized by resolution of the executive
 3 committee.

4
 5 **Sec. 4. Financial Statements:** The _____ Union Conference shall regularly
 6 prepare statements of income and fund balances and shall be responsible for the filing of
 7 copies of the annual financial statement with the _____ Division and the General
 8 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and, to the extent required by law, with any
 9 branch of local or national government.

10
 11 **Article X—Budget, Employee Compensation Review, and Financial Audit**

12
 13 **Sec. 1. Budget:** The _____ Union Conference shall prepare an annual
 14 budget in harmony with the policies of the _____ Division of the General
 15 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

16
 17 **Sec. 2. Employee Compensation and Expense Review:** The executive committee
 18 shall appoint an employee compensation and expense review committee whose tasks are
 19 outlined in General Conference *Working Policy*.

20
 21 **Sec. 3. Independent Audit:** ~~A financial audit~~ The financial statements of this
 22 union conference shall be audited at least annually ~~conducted at least annually~~ by an
 23 auditor chosen in harmony with General Conference *Working Policy*; and the records of
 24 this union conference or any of its subsidiaries, agencies, or institutions shall at all times
 25 be open to said auditor.

26
 27 **Article XI—Indemnification**

28
 29 **Sec. 1.** To the extent permitted by law, this union conference shall indemnify any
 30 person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or
 31 completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative,
 32 because he/she is or was a member of the union conference executive committee or an officer,
 33 employee, or agent of the union conference against expenses (including legal fees),
 34 judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him/her
 35 in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding if he/she acted in good faith and in a
 36 manner he/she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the union
 37 conference, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to
 38 believe his/her conduct was unlawful.

39
 40 **Sec. 2.** This right of indemnification shall be in addition to, and not exclusive of, all
 41 other rights to which such member of the executive committee, ~~offieer~~ officer, or department
 42 director may be entitled.

43
 44 *(Note: This right of indemnification may be expanded or contracted as allowed under*
 45 *local law and as adopted by the constituents.)*

46
 47 **Article XII—Amendments**



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Amendment, Revision and Repeal: The constitution and bylaws of this union conference which are essential to the unity of the Church worldwide and are designated in bold print shall be amended or revised from time to time in order to comply with changes to the Model Union Conference Constitution and Bylaws as voted by the General Conference Executive Committee in its annual meetings. Such amendments or revisions shall be approved by a simple majority vote (unless local law requires a higher majority) of the delegates present and voting at any duly called constituency meeting of the union conference. Other sections of the constitution and bylaws may be amended, revised, or repealed by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting, provided such changes are in harmony with the spirit of the Union Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws, and have been processed through the union conference executive committee. Notice of any proposed changes to the Bylaws of this union conference shall be given specifically in conjunction with the publication of notice for the constituency meeting.

~~The constituency or the union conference executive committee may recommend to the General Conference through the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists amendments to the Union Conference Model Bylaws.~~

1 SEC/OGC/224-20Gb/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/Pre/SecC/TreC/GCDO20AC/SEC/
2 ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to HMM(DIV)

3
4 225-20Gb UNION MISSION/SECTION MODEL OPERATING
5 POLICY - POLICY AMENDMENT

6
7 VOTED, To amend GC D 15, Union Mission/Section Model Operating Policy, to
8 read as follows:

9
10 D 15 Union Mission/Section Model Operating Policy

11
12 D 15 05 Union Mission/Section—The following Union Mission/Section Model
13 Operating Policy shall be followed as closely as possible by all union missions/sections.
14 Those sections of the model operating policy that appear in bold print are essential to the
15 unity of the Church worldwide and shall be included in the operating policy for each union
16 mission/section. Other sections of the model operating policy may be modified as set out in
17 Article XIV, provided they continue to be in full harmony with the provisions of this model.
18 Where specific cases require modification to text in bold print, final approval for such
19 modifications to any text in bold print must be studied and approved by the General
20 Conference Executive Committee after receiving a recommendation from the division
21 executive committee and the General Conference Administrative Committee. Any
22 modifications needed to meet specific conditions in a union mission/section shall be
23 submitted to the respective division executive committee for consideration. Amendments to
24 the Union Mission/Section Model Operating Policy shall be made by action of the Executive
25 Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at any Annual Council of
26 that Committee.

27
28 Amendments to the Union Mission/Section Model Operating Policy shall be made by
29 action of the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at
30 any Annual Council of that Committee.

31
32 **Operating Policy of the _____ Union**
33 **Mission/Section of Seventh-day Adventists**

34
35 **Article I—Name**

36
37 **The name of this organization shall be the _____ Union Mission/Section of**
38 **Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as the union or union mission/section.**

39
40 **Article II—Purpose**

41 **The purpose of this union mission/section is to call all people within its territory**
42 **to become disciples of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the everlasting gospel embraced by the**
43 **three angels’ messages (Revelation 14:6-12), and to prepare them for Christ’s soon**
44 **return.**

1 Article III—Relationships

2
3 The _____ Union Mission/Section is a member unit of the global Seventh-
4 day Adventist Church and is located in the territory of the _____ Division of the
5 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The purposes, policies, and procedures
6 of this union mission/section shall be in harmony with the working ~~policies~~ policies,
7 ~~actions,~~ and procedures enacted by the ~~Executive Committee~~ executive committee of
8 the _____ Division ~~and or~~ the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This
9 union mission/section shall pursue the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in
10 harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs, programs, initiatives, and actions adopted and
11 approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at its sessions, and
12 ~~initiatives adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists~~
13 ~~in its quinquennial sessions.~~

14
15 Article IV—Geographic Territory

16
17 The territory of this union mission/section shall consist of _____.

18
19 Article V—Membership/Constituency

20
21 The membership of this union mission/section shall consist of such local
22 conferences or local missions/fields/sections as have been or shall be organized in any
23 part of the territory served by the union and which have been formally approved for
24 membership by vote of the delegates at any ~~union mission/section~~ regular or special
25 union constituency meeting.

26
27 Article VI—Principal Office

28
29 The principal office for the transaction of the business of the _____ Union
30 Mission/Section is fixed and located at _____, _____. The executive
31 committee of the _____ Division may change the location of the principal office.

32
33 Article VII—Membership/Constituency Meetings

34
35 **Sec. 1. Regular Meetings:** This union mission/section shall hold a regular
36 quinquennial membership/constituency meeting* ~~constituency meetings~~ at such time and
37 place as the executive committee of the union mission/section shall designate. In the
38 event that the union executive committee fails to call a regular constituency meeting
39 within the quinquennial period the _____ Division Executive Committee
40 Committee, or General Conference Executive Committee in the case of unions directly
41 attached to the General Conference, may give notice for such a meeting and designate the
42 time and place. In case regional conditions make it imperative to postpone the calling of the
43 constituency meeting, the division executive committee, in a regular or special meeting, shall
44 have authority to make such postponement, not to exceed one year, giving notice to all
45 constituent organizations. In the event that the executive committee exercises its authority to

*The membership/constituency meeting is a business meeting of the membership of this union mission/section. These meetings may also be called membership/constituency sessions.

1 postpone a constituency meeting, it shall also have the authority to set the subsequent regular
2 constituency meeting at such time and place as it shall see fit, not to exceed five calendar
3 years from the date of the postponed constituency meeting. Notice of the time and place of the
4 meeting of the delegates representing the members shall be given by:

5
6 a. A notice printed in the official publication of the union mission/section
7 at least four weeks before the date of the session, or

8
9 b. A method approved by the _____ Union Mission/Section
10 Executive Committee, provided all member units receive notice with sufficient time to select
11 delegates, or

12
13 c. A method approved by the _____ Division Executive
14 Committee, in the event of inaction or failure to call a constituency meeting by
15 the _____ Union Mission/Section Executive Committee.

16
17 **Sec. 2. Special Meeting: a. The executive committee of this union mission/section**
18 **shall call a special constituency meeting when:**

19
20 1) It is voted by the executive committee, or

21
22 2) It is voted by the delegates at any constituency meeting, or

23
24 3) It is requested by _____ percent of the executive committees
25 of the conferences ~~or~~ and missions/fields/sections within the union mission/section, or

26
27 4) It is voted by the _____ Division Executive Committee
28 or the General Conference Executive Committee.

29
30 The date for such a meeting in response to paragraphs 3) and 4) above shall not
31 be more than 90 days from the date when the actions described in paragraphs 3) and 4)
32 above are communicated to the officers/executive committee of the union.

33
34 b. In the absence of a timely response by the union executive
35 committee to paragraphs 2) through 4) in Sec. 2. a. above the _____ Division
36 Executive Committee or the General Conference Executive Committee may call a
37 special constituency meeting of the union mission/section and designate the time and
38 place for such a meeting.

39
40 c. The agenda for special constituency meetings shall be included in
41 the notice of the meeting.

42
43 d. The Notice as to the time and place of special constituency meetings
44 shall be given in the same manner as for regularly scheduled constituency meetings.

45
46 **Sec. 3. Virtual Attendance at Constituency Meetings:** Generally, regular and
47 specially called constituency meetings are to be held in person and onsite. However, delegates
48 when requested by the executive committee, and if permitted by local law, may participate by



1 means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons can hear
 2 each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in
 3 person and attendance at such a meeting.

4
 5 **~~Sec. 3.~~ Sec. 4. Chair and Secretary for Constituency Meetings:** The president of
 6 this union mission/section shall serve as chair and the secretary of this union shall serve
 7 as secretary for constituency meetings of this union. The president may designate other
 8 individuals to assist in chair duties from time to time. In the event that the president’s
 9 office is vacant or that the president is unavailable to serve as chair, the ranking division
 10 officer present shall serve as chair for the meeting.

11
 12 ~~In a similar manner, arrangements~~ Arrangements may be made for a secretary
 13 *pro tem* if the secretary’s office is vacant or the secretary is unavailable to serve at the
 14 constituency meeting.

15
 16 **~~Sec. 4.~~ Sec. 5. Regular Meeting Business:** The business of the regular constituency
 17 meeting will include the election/appointment of personnel for various positions (see Sec.
 18 11. and 12. below), ~~Sec. 10. and 11. below.~~), the receipt of reports from the president,
 19 secretary, treasurer/chief financial officer (report based on audited statements),
 20 departmental directors, and the auditor. In addition, the constituency meeting shall
 21 review/create plans for moving the union mission/section toward union conference
 22 status. It shall also endorse/approve/ develop plans for the conduct of the work as are
 23 desirable and in harmony with the policies of the _____ Division.

24
 25 **~~Sec. 5.~~ Sec. 6. Quorum:** At least _____ percent of the delegates authorized hereinafter
 26 under Sec. 1. and 2. of Article VIII must be present at the opening of any regular or special
 27 constituency meeting to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Once the meeting
 28 is declared open, the delegates remaining shall constitute a quorum.

29
 30 **~~Sec. 6.~~ Sec. 7. Proxy Voting:** All delegates must be present in person at any
 31 constituency ~~meeting~~ meeting, or participating by electronic means, in order to be eligible
 32 to vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

33
 34 **~~Sec. 7.~~ Sec. 8. Voting Rights of the Delegates:** Each delegate appointed to act on
 35 behalf of the members of this union mission/section shall be entitled to one vote on each
 36 question to be decided by the body. The voting rights of the individual delegates representing
 37 the members as hereinafter provided shall be limited to the particular constituency meeting of
 38 the union mission/ section in which they have been designated to represent a local conference
 39 or local mission/field/section, institution, the Division, or the General Conference of Seventh-
 40 day Adventists.

41
 42 **~~Sec. 8.~~ Sec. 9. Voting:** The voting on matters of business shall normally be by *viva*
 43 *voce*. The chair may call for the vote by other means, including a secret ballot, when it is
 44 deemed advisable or is requested by the membership. Votes cast remotely shall have the
 45 same validity as if the delegates met and voted onsite.

46
 47 **~~Sec. 9.~~ Sec. 10. Parliamentary Authority:** The parliamentary authority for
 48 constituency meetings pertaining to all rules and procedures not covered by its bylaws shall

1 be based on those published in the *General Conference Rules of Order*, and any adaptation or
 2 supplement approved by the division executive committee, unless otherwise determined by a
 3 two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the constituency meeting.

4
 5 **~~Sec. 10.~~ Sec. 11. Elections/Appointments and Term of Office: a. Elections: The**
 6 **president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer of this union mission/section**
 7 **shall be elected by the division executive committee rather than by the session of this**
 8 **union mission/section. The election of departmental directors, associate departmental**
 9 **directors, associate secretaries, or associate treasurers for this union mission/section, if**
 10 **not determined by the delegates at the union constituency meeting, shall be referred to**
 11 **the executive committee for appointment. The union constituency meeting shall also**
 12 **elect the members (other than ex officio) of the union executive committee and, where**
 13 **required by the governance documents of union institutions, the chief administrator(s)**
 14 **and board members of such entities.**

15
 16 **b. Term of Office: Persons elected at the constituency meeting and**
 17 **those appointed by the executive committee normally serve until the next regular**
 18 **constituency meeting. However, their period of service may be shorter due to**
 19 **resignation, voluntary retirement, retirement in situation where a mandatory retirement**
 20 **age policy is in effect, or removal from office, for cause, by the executive committee or a**
 21 **special constituency meeting.**

22
 23 The phrase “for cause” when used in connection with removal from an elected or
 24 appointed position, or from employment, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence;
 25 2) persistent failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and
 26 with relevant employment and denominational policies; 3) actions which may be the subject
 27 of discipline under the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*; 4) failure to maintain regular
 28 standing as a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; 5) theft or embezzlement; or 6)
 29 conviction of or guilty plea for a crime.

30
 31 **~~Sec. 11.~~ Sec. 12. Election of Local Mission/Field/Section Officers and Term of**
 32 **Office: a: Elections: The president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer of**
 33 **local missions/fields/sections within the territory of this union mission/section shall be**
 34 **elected by the union constituency meeting or by the union executive committee between**
 35 **constituency meetings.**

36
 37 **b. Term of Office: Local mission/field/section officers elected at the**
 38 **constituency meeting normally serve until a midterm meeting of the union executive**
 39 **committee, unless they resign, voluntarily retire, retire in situations where a mandatory**
 40 **retirement age policy is in effect, or are removed from office, for cause, by the union**
 41 **executive committee or by a special constituency meeting (see definition of “for cause” in**
 42 **Sec. 10, paragraph b. above).**

43
 44 *(Note: ~~Sec. 11.~~ Sec. 12. above is applicable to union missions/sections in whose*
 45 *territory there is a local mission/field/section.)*

46
 47 **Article VIII—Representation at Constituency Meetings**

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1 **Sec. 1. Regular Delegates**—Each member organization shall be represented at
2 union mission/section constituency meetings by duly appointed delegates as follows:

3
4 a. Each local conference or local mission/field/section shall be entitled
5 to one delegate without regard to conference or mission/field/section membership and
6 one additional delegate for each _____ church members or major fraction thereof.

7
8 b. Such delegates shall be chosen, by the respective local conference or
9 local mission/field/section executive committees, from among those who hold
10 membership in a duly organized local church within the respective conference or
11 mission/field/section or from among those who are employees of the member
12 organizations. ~~Such delegates shall be chosen by the respective local executive~~
13 ~~committees from among those who hold membership in a duly organized local church~~
14 ~~within the respective conference or mission/field/section.~~

15
16 c. The delegation from each conference or mission/field/section if
17 comprised of three or more individuals shall include representation from laity, pastors,
18 and/or other frontline employees of the respective conference or mission/field/section
19 and include ~~male~~ males and females.

20
21 **Sec 2. Delegates At-Large: Delegates at-large to a union mission/section**
22 **constituency meeting ~~shall be:~~ include:**

23
24 a. The current members of the executive committee of this union
25 mission/section.

26
27 b. Such other persons from the union mission/section staff, institutions
28 owned and operated by the union, institutions operated by the division and located within
29 the union territory, and local conferences or local missions/fields/sections, as may be
30 recommended by the union mission/section executive committee and accepted by the
31 delegates in the constituency meeting. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten
32 percent of the total number of regular delegates provided for hereinabove.

33
34 c. Members of the General Conference and _____ Division
35 executive committees, who may be present at any constituency meeting of this union
36 mission/section. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total
37 number of delegates otherwise provided for.

38
39 d. A person who is not elected to a new term of office at a constituency
40 meeting does not thereby lose delegate status at the current constituency meeting.

41
42 **Sec. 3. Church Membership Requirement: All delegates appointed to represent**
43 **the members of this union mission/section at any constituency meeting shall be members**
44 **in regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.**

45
46 **Article IX—Constituency Meeting Committees**

47
 Program

 General Agenda

 Policy Agenda

 Con & By Agenda

 Consent Agenda

1 (Note: Division executive committees may authorize a process whereby the session
 2 organizing and nominating committees may be selected and empowered to perform their tasks
 3 in advance of the session. The process to select such committees for a session shall involve
 4 constituency representation rather than being accomplished by the executive committee
 5 alone. Unless a division executive committee has approved other arrangements as described
 6 above, the following provisions shall apply for the appointment and functioning of session
 7 committees.)
 8

9 **Prior to each union mission/section constituency meeting, meeting of this union**
 10 **~~mission/section~~, the executive committee shall provide for such temporary committees as**
 11 **may be necessary to conduct the preliminary work for the session.**
 12

13 To facilitate the business of the session, constituency meeting committees may
 14 convene by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all
 15 persons participating can hear each other at the same time. **These committees include:**
 16 ~~**Committees that facilitate the business of the session include:**~~
 17

18 **Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee for each constituency**
 19 **meeting shall be appointed. It shall consist of _____ representative(s) from each local**
 20 **conference or local mission/field/section, _____ representative(s) from each union**
 21 **mission/section-operated institution or division-operated institution located in this union**
 22 **territory, and the president of the _____ Division, or his designee, who shall serve**
 23 **as chair.**
 24

25 **b. The members of the organizing committee shall be appointed by**
 26 **their respective delegates as one of the first item of business at each regularly scheduled**
 27 **constituency meeting.**
 28

29 **c. The organizing committee shall nominate, and the constituency**
 30 **shall elect:**
 31

- 32 1) A nominating committee.
- 33
- 34 2) Other committees as may be necessary.
- 35

36 **Sec. 2. Nominating Committee: The nominating committee shall consist of at**
 37 **least _____ and not more than _____ members, including the president of**
 38 **the _____ Division, or his designee, who shall serve as chair. The membership of the**
 39 **committee shall be balanced, as nearly as possible, between denominational workers and**
 40 **laypersons representing various segments of the work and territories of the union.**
 41 ~~**conference.**~~
 42

43 **a. Those chosen as members of the Nominating Committee must be**
 44 **duly appointed delegates in attendance at the constituency meeting.**
 45

46 **b. Persons holding elective office, as outlined in Article VII, Sec. 10.**
 47 **and 11. in the current term, excluding non-ex officio members of the executive committee,**
 48 **shall not be eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee.**

1 c. The Nominating Committee shall limit its nominations to those
 2 positions for which persons are to be elected at the constituency meeting and for which
 3 budgetary provisions has been made.

4
 5 d. The Nominating Committee shall also nominate members for the
 6 union executive committee and for the boards of union institutions whose bylaws
 7 indicate that board members for the entity are elected at a union constituency meeting.

8
 9 Article X—Executive Committee

10
 11 **Sec. 1. Membership of Executive Committee: The executive committee of**
 12 **the _____ Union Mission/Section of Seventh-day Adventists shall be elected at its**
 13 **regularly scheduled constituency meeting and shall consist of not more**
 14 **than _____ members, the actual number to be determined by the _____ Division**
 15 **Executive Committee. The president, the secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer,**
 16 **and the presidents of constituent conferences or missions/fields/sections shall be**
 17 **members ex officio of the executive committee. The remaining membership shall include**
 18 **laypersons, departmental directors, pastors, or other denominational employees. The**
 19 **officers of the _____ Division and of the General Conference of Seventh-day**
 20 **Adventists are members ex officio of the union mission/section executive committee;**
 21 **however, their membership shall be in addition to the number detailed above. Any such**
 22 **officers exercising their voting rights at any one meeting shall not make up more than**
 23 **ten percent of the committee membership present.** ~~Sec. 1. Membership of Executive~~
 24 ~~Committee: The executive committee of the _____ Union Mission/Section shall~~
 25 ~~consist of not more than _____ members, the actual number to be determined by~~
 26 ~~the _____ Division Executive Committee. The union president, the union secretary~~
 27 ~~and treasurer/chief financial officer, and the presidents of local conferences or local~~
 28 ~~missions/fields/section shall be members ex officio, the other members being elected at~~
 29 ~~the union constituency meeting. The officers of the _____ Division and of the~~
 30 ~~General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are members ex officio of the union~~
 31 ~~mission/section executive committee; however, their membership shall be in addition to~~
 32 ~~the number detailed above. Any such officers exercising their voting rights at any one~~
 33 ~~meeting shall not make up more than ten percent of the committee membership present.~~

34
 35 *(Note: The division may indicate in this operating policy the minimum percentage of*
 36 *laypersons on the union executive committee.)*

37
 38 **Sec. 2. Delegated Authority: The executive committee of this union**
 39 **mission/section mission/section, unless replaced at a special constituency meeting, is**
 40 **delegated the authority to act on behalf of the constituents between constituency**
 41 **meetings, including the authority to remove, for cause (see definition of “for cause” in**
 42 **Article VII, Sec. 10 above), persons who have been elected at a union constituency**
 43 **meeting including officers of local missions/fields/ sections, directors of**
 44 **departments/services, chief administrators of institutions, and members of boards and**
 45 **committees whose election or appointment is a result of constituency meeting or**
 46 **executive committee meeting action and to fill, for the remaining portion of the term of**
 47 **office, any vacancies thus created. (The offices of union mission/section president,**
 48 **secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer are always filled by action of the division**

1 executive committee.) The removal of those named under Article VII, Sec. 10. shall
 2 require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting at a union executive
 3 committee meeting where a majority of members is present. including: officers of local
 4 missions/fields/sections; directors of departments/services; chief administrators of
 5 institutions; and board/committee members whose election or appointment is a result of
 6 constituency meetings or executive committee action; and to fill, for the remaining
 7 portion of the term, any vacancies thus created.

8
 9 **Sec. 3. Administrative Authority: The executive committee shall have full**
 10 **administrative authority:**

11
 12 a. To fill for the current term office any vacancies that may occur by
 13 death, resignation, or otherwise, in its boards, committees, departments, or in offices which
 14 have been filled by union mission/section constituency meeting election. ~~To fill for the~~
 15 current term any vacancies that may occur by death, resignation, or otherwise, in its
 16 boards, committees, departments, or in offices which have been filled by union
 17 mission/section constituency meeting election.

18
 19 b. To appoint committees, such as an administrative committee, with their
 20 terms of reference. ~~To appoint committees, such as an administrative committee, with~~
 21 their terms of reference.

22
 23 c. To employ such personnel as may be necessary to execute its work
 24 effectively. ~~To employ such personnel as may be necessary to execute its work~~
 25 effectively.

26
 27 d. To grant and withdraw credentials and licenses. The withdrawal of
 28 credentials shall require the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting at a union executive
 29 committee meeting where a majority of members is present. ~~To grant and withdraw~~
 30 credentials and licenses. The withdrawal of credentials shall require the affirmative vote
 31 of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting at a union executive committee meeting where a
 32 majority of members is present.

33
 34 **Sec. 4. Meetings of the executive committee may be called at any time or place by the**
 35 **president, or in his absence by the acting chair appointed by the union executive committee. If**
 36 **the president is absent from the field and no acting chair has been appointed, such a meeting**
 37 **may be called by the secretary upon the written request of any five members, or twenty-five**
 38 **percent (whichever is more), of the executive committee. ~~Meetings of the executive~~**
 39 **committee may be called at any time or place by the president, or in his absence by the**
 40 **acting chair appointed by the union executive committee. ~~If the president is absent from~~**
 41 **the field and no acting chair has been appointed, such a meeting may be called by the**
 42 **secretary upon the written request of any five members, or twenty-five percent**
 43 **(whichever is more), of the executive committee.**

44
 45 **Sec. 5. Attendance at Meetings: Where allowed by local law, executive committee**
 46 **members may participate in meetings by means of an electronic conference or similar**
 47 **communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same**

1 time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at such a
2 meeting.

3
4 **Sec. 6. Notice of Meetings:** Notice as to time and place, and any other
5 requirements under this operating policy, ~~these bylaws~~, shall be provided to all members
6 in a reasonable manner at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if the meeting is to take
7 place by electronic conference or similar communications, or at least 96 hours if the
8 meeting is to take place in person.

9
10 **Sec. 7. Quorum:** Unless otherwise required in the Operating
11 Policy, _____ members, including the president, of the union mission/section of executive
12 committee shall constitute a quorum.

13
14 **Article XI—Officers and Their Duties**

15
16 **Sec. 1. Executive Officers:** The executive officers of this union mission/section
17 shall be a president, a secretary, and a treasurer/chief financial officer. The secretary and
18 treasurer/chief financial officer may be one individual known as the secretary treasurer. It is
19 the duty of these officers, in consultation with one another, to carry forward the work
20 according to plans, policies, and programs voted by the division executive committee, by
21 the constituency in session, and/or the union executive committee. These plans, policies,
22 and programs shall be in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs and actions adopted
23 and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in its quinquennial
24 sessions.

25
26 The union mission/section executive officers shall be appointed by the division
27 yearend ~~meeting/council~~ meeting/council, or by the division executive committee, and
28 shall hold office for the period of _____ years or until their successors are appointed and
29 enter upon their duties. Vacancies in such offices shall be filled by action of the division
30 executive committee.

31
32 a. **President:** The president, who shall be an ordained minister of
33 experience, is the first officer and shall report to the ~~union~~ executive committee of the
34 union mission/section in consultation with the secretary and the treasurer/chief financial
35 officer. He shall act as chair of constituency meetings and of the union executive
36 committee and serve in the general interests of the union mission/section as the
37 constituency and the executive committee shall determine. In his leadership he shall
38 adhere to the policies of the _____ Division and of the General Conference of
39 Seventh-day Adventists, work in harmony with the division executive ~~committee~~,
40 committee and in close counsel with the division officers.

41
42 When a union president is to be absent from the field for prolonged periods of time,
43 the union executive committee shall be authorized, in counsel with the division officers, to
44 appoint an individual to act as chair during such absences.

45
46 b. **Secretary:** The secretary, associated with the president as an
47 executive officer, shall serve under the direction of the executive committee and shall act
48 as vice-chair of the executive committee. The secretary shall report to the executive

1 committee of the union mission/section after consultation with the president. It shall be
2 the duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the union constituency meetings and of
3 the executive committee meetings, and to furnish copies of such to all members of the
4 executive committee and to the division officers. ~~officers of the _____ Division.~~ The
5 secretary shall also be responsible for providing information as may be requested by the
6 president or by the union or division executive committee; and shall perform such other
7 duties as pertain to the office.

8
9 c. **Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer:** The treasurer/chief financial
10 officer, associated with the president as an executive officer, shall serve under the
11 direction of the executive committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall report to
12 the executive committee of the union mission/section after consultation with the
13 president. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall be responsible for providing
14 financial leadership to the organization which will include, but shall not be limited to,
15 receiving, ~~safeguarding~~ safeguarding, and disbursing all funds in harmony with the
16 actions of the executive committee, for remitting all required funds to the
17 division/General Conference in harmony with the _____ Division policy, and for
18 providing financial information to the president and to the executive committee. The
19 treasurer/chief financial officer shall also be responsible for furnishing copies of the
20 financial statements to the division officers. ~~the _____ Division officers.~~

21
22 **Sec. 2. Other Officers:** Other individuals may serve as officers of the union
23 mission/section, such as associate secretary and associate treasurer.

24
25 **Article XII—Directors of Departments/Associations/Services**

26
27 **Sec. 1. Advisory Role:** The directors of departments/associations/services of this
28 union mission/section shall work under the direction of the executive and the president
29 and shall serve in an advisory relationship to the field.

30
31 **Sec. 2. Departments/Associations/Services Structure:** Union mission/section
32 departments, associations, and services shall be organized in harmony with the
33 department/association/service structure of the General Conference but shall not necessarily
34 duplicate the departments/ associations/services at the division or the General Conference of
35 Seventh-day Adventists. ~~Departments/Services Structure: Union mission/section departments,~~
36 ~~associations, and services shall be organized in harmony with the department, associations,~~
37 ~~and service structure of the General Conference but shall not necessarily duplicate the~~
38 ~~departments, associations, and services at the _____ Division or the General~~
39 ~~Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.~~

40
41 **Article XIII—Other Organizations**

42
43 **Sec. 1. Unincorporated Organizations:** The _____ Union Mission/Section may
44 carry on its ministry through unincorporated subsidiary organizations. Constituency meetings
45 of such organizations shall be held in conjunction with the regularly scheduled constituency
46 meetings of this union mission/section. **Unincorporated Organizations:**
47 ~~The _____ Union Mission/Section may carry on its ministry through~~
48 ~~unincorporated subsidiary organizations. Constituency meetings of such organizations~~



1 ~~shall be held in conjunction with the regularly scheduled constituency meetings of this~~
2 ~~union.~~

3
4 **Sec. 2. Corporations:** The _____ Union Mission/Section may form
5 corporate bodies provided it obtains prior approval of the _____ Division.
6 Membership meetings and elections of boards of directors shall be held as provided by
7 articles and bylaws of the corporations and in harmony with applicable laws.

8
9 **Article XIV—Finance**

10
11 **Sec. 1. Tithes and Offerings:** The church funds managed by this union
12 mission/section shall be:

13
14 a. Such portion of tithe as it shall be assigned by policy and receive
15 from its respective conferences or missions/fields/sections.

16
17 b. Appropriations from the _____ Division or the General
18 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

19
20 c. Special donations and funds, legacies, gifts, devises, and bequests
21 made to it.

22
23 d. The assigned portion of tithe from churches not directly under the
24 local fields of the union.

25
26 **Sec. 2. Policies:** The portion of tithe which is reserved for this union
27 mission/section, as specified by policy, and all other funds shall be used in harmony with
28 the policies of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day
29 Adventists; Conference; and in the case of donations, their use shall be in harmony with
30 the specifications of donors and in compliance with government regulations. Tithe is
31 shared with the division on fixed percentages as set by the division executive committee,
32 and with the General Conference on fixed percentages as set by the Annual Council of
33 the General Conference Executive Committee. This union mission/section shall pass on
34 to the _____ Division the specified tithe percentage, retirement fund percentages
35 as may be decided by the division executive committee, and all mission offerings.

36
37 **Sec 3. Bank Accounts:** The funds of this union mission/section shall be
38 safeguarded in harmony with the financial policies of the _____ Division of the
39 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Moneys shall be deposited in the name
40 of the _____ Union Mission/Section of Seventh-day Adventists in regular or special
41 accounts in such banks or savings institutions as the executive committee shall designate
42 and shall be withdrawn only by persons authorized by resolution of the executive
43 committee.

44
45 **Sec. 4. Financial Statements:** The _____ Union Mission/Section shall
46 regularly prepare statements of income and fund balances and shall be responsible for
47 the filing of copies of the annual financial statement with the _____ Division and



1 **the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and, to the extent required by law,**
2 **with any branch of local or national government.**

3
4 **Sec. 5.** Major trust funds belonging to this union mission/section shall be deposited
5 with the division until needed to fulfill the purpose for which they were raised.
6

7 **Article XV—Budget, Employee Compensation Review, and Financial Audit**
8

9 **Sec. 1. Budget:** The _____ Union Mission/Section shall prepare an annual
10 budget in harmony with the policies of the _____ Division of the General
11 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.
12

13 **Sec. 2. Employee Compensation and Expense Review:** The executive committee
14 shall appoint an employee compensation and expense review committee, including a
15 division officer or one or more representatives appointed by the division executive
16 committee. The tasks of this committee are outlined in General Conference *Working*
17 *Policy*.
18

19 **Sec. 3. Independent Audit:** ~~All accounting records~~ The financial statements of
20 this union mission/section shall be audited at least annually by an auditor chosen in
21 harmony with General Conference *Working Policy*; and the records of this union
22 mission/section or any of its subsidiaries, agencies, or institutions shall at all times be
23 open to said auditor.
24

25 **Article XVI—Dissolution and Disposition of Assets**
26

27 **This union mission/section may be dissolved only by action of the division**
28 **executive committee.**
29

30 **In the event of the dissolution of this union mission/section and unless otherwise**
31 **required by local law, all assets remaining after all claims have been satisfied shall be**
32 **transferred to a legal entity authorized by the _____ Division of the General**
33 **Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.**
34

35 **Article XVII—Indemnification**
36

37 **Sec. 1.** To the extent permitted by law, this union mission/section shall indemnify any
38 person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or
39 completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative,
40 because he/she is or was a member of the union mission/section executive committee or an
41 officer, employee, or agent of the union mission/section against expenses (including legal
42 fees), judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by
43 him/her in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding if he/she acted in good faith and in
44 a manner he/she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the union
45 mission/section, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable
46 cause to believe his/her conduct was unlawful.
47

1 SEC/OGC/224-20Gc/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/Pre/SecC/TreC/GCDO20AC/SEC/
2 ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to HMM(DIV)

3
4 225-20Gc UNION OF CHURCHES MODEL CONSTITUTION AND
5 BYLAWS - POLICY AMENDMENT

6
7 VOTED, To amend GC D 17, Union of Churches Conference Model Constitution and
8 Bylaws, to read as follows:

9
10 D 17 Union of Churches Model Constitution and Bylaws

11
12 D 17 05 Union of Churches Constitution and Bylaws—The following Union of
13 Churches Model Constitution and Bylaws ~~Bylaws—This model constitution~~ shall be followed
14 as closely as possible by all unions of churches with conference status. Those sections of the
15 model constitution and bylaws that appear in bold print are essential to the unity of the
16 Church worldwide and shall be included in the constitution and bylaws as adopted by each
17 union of churches. Other sections of the model constitution and bylaws may be modified as
18 set out in Bylaw Article XII, provided they continue to be in full harmony with the provisions
19 of this model. Where specific cases require modification to text in bold print, final approval
20 for such modifications to any text in bold print must be studied and approved by the General
21 Conference Executive Committee after receiving a recommendation from the division
22 executive committee and the General Conference Administrative Committee. ~~Where specific~~
23 ~~cases require modification to material in bold print, final approval for such modifications to~~
24 ~~any material in bold print must be studied and approved by the General Conference~~
25 ~~Administrative Committee after receiving a recommendation from the division executive~~
26 ~~committee and the Office of General Counsel.~~

27
28 Amendments to the Union of Churches Model Constitution and Bylaws shall be made
29 by action of the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
30 at any Annual Council of that Committee.

31
32 **CONSTITUTION OF THE _____ UNION OF CHURCHES**
33 **OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

34
35 **Article I—Name**

36
37 **The name of this organization shall be the _____ Union of Churches of**
38 **Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as the union or union of churches.**

39
40 **Article II—Purpose**

41 **The purpose of this union of churches is to call all people within its territory to**
42 **become disciples of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the everlasting gospel embraced by the**
43 **three angels’ messages (Revelation 14:6-12), and to prepare them for Christ’s soon**
44 **return.**

1 Article III—Relationships
2

3 The _____ Union of Churches is a member unit of the global Seventh-day
4 Adventist Church and is located in the territory of the _____ Division of the
5 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The purposes, policies, and procedures
6 of this union of churches shall be in harmony with the working ~~policies policies, actions,~~
7 and procedures enacted by the ~~Executive Committee~~ executive committee of
8 the _____ Division ~~and or~~ the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This
9 union of churches shall pursue the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in
10 harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs, programs, initiatives, and actions adopted and
11 approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at its sessions, and
12 ~~initiatives adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists~~
13 ~~in its quinquennial sessions.~~

14
15 Article IV—Geographic Territory

16
17 The territory of this union of churches shall consist of _____.

18
19 Article V—Membership/Constituency

20
21 The membership/constituency of this union of churches shall consist of such local
22 churches as have been or shall be organized in any part of the geographic territory
23 under its jurisdiction and formally approved for membership by vote of the delegates at
24 any regular or special union constituency meeting.

25
26 Article VI—Bylaws

27
28 The members of this union of churches, acting in and through a union
29 constituency meeting, may enact bylaws, and/or repeal them, and such bylaws may
30 embrace any provision not inconsistent with the constitution or with the current union
31 of churches model constitution and bylaws approved by the Executive Committee of the
32 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

33
34 Article VII—Dissolution and Disposition of Assets

35
36 This union of churches may be dissolved only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote
37 of the delegates present and voting at any constituency meeting.

38
39 In the event of the dissolution of this union of churches and unless otherwise
40 required by local law, all assets remaining after all claims have been satisfied shall be
41 transferred to a legal entity authorized by the _____ Division of the General
42 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

43
44 Article VIII—Amendments

45
46 ~~This constitution shall not be amended except to conform to the model union of~~
47 ~~churches constitution when it is amended by action of the General Conference Executive~~
48 ~~Committee at an Annual Council.~~

Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1 **The bolded text of this constitution and bylaws shall not be amended except to**
 2 **conform to the union of churches model constitution and bylaws when it is amended by**
 3 **action of the General Conference Executive Committee at an Annual Council. Such**
 4 **amendments shall be adopted into the union’s constitution and bylaws by a simple**
 5 **majority vote (unless local law requires a higher majority) of delegates present and**
 6 **voting at a union conference constituency meeting. This union may amend the unbolded**
 7 **text of the constitution and bylaws from time to time at a union of churches constituency**
 8 **meeting provided any such changes are in harmony with the spirit and intent of the**
 9 **model constitution and bylaws. ~~constitution.~~ Such amendments shall require an**
 10 **affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates present and voting. ~~The union~~**
 11 **~~constituency meeting and/or the union executive committee may recommend to the~~**
 12 **~~General Conference through the _____ Division of the General Conference of~~**
 13 **~~Seventh-day Adventists, amendments to the model constitution.~~**

14
 15 **BYLAWS OF THE _____ UNION OF CHURCHES**
 16 **OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

17
 18 **Article I—Principal Office**

19
 20 **The principal office for the transaction of the business of the _____ Union**
 21 **of Churches is fixed and located at _____, _____. The executive committee**
 22 **may ~~in an emergency~~ change the location of the principal office on a temporary basis.**

23
 24 **Article II—Membership/Constituency Meetings**

25
 26 **Sec. 1. Regular Meeting: This union of churches shall hold a regular quinquennial**
 27 **~~constituency meeting~~ membership/constituency meeting* at such time and place as the**
 28 **executive committee of the union of churches shall designate. In the event that the union**
 29 **executive committee fails to call a regular constituency meeting within the quinquennial**
 30 **period, the _____ Division Executive Committee, or General Conference Executive**
 31 **Committee in the case of unions directly attached to the General Conference, ~~or General~~**
 32 **~~Conference Executive Committee in the case of unions directly attached to the General~~**
 33 **~~Conference,~~ may give notice for such a meeting and designate the time and place. In case**
 34 **regional conditions make it imperative to postpone the calling of the constituency meeting,**
 35 **the union of churches executive committee, in a regular or special meeting, shall have**
 36 **authority to make such postponement, not to exceed one year, giving notice to all constituent**
 37 **organizations. In the event that the executive committee exercises its authority to postpone a**
 38 **constituency meeting, it shall also have the authority to set the subsequent regular**
 39 **constituency meeting at such time and place as it shall see fit, not to exceed five calendar**
 40 **years from the date of the postponed constituency meeting. Notice of the time and place of the**
 41 **meeting of the delegates representing the members shall be given by:**

42
 43 a. A notice printed in the official publication of the union of churches at
 44 least four weeks before the date of the session, or
 45

*The membership/constituency meeting is a business meeting of the membership of this union of churches. These meetings may also be called membership/constituency sessions.

1 b. A method approved by the _____ Union of Churches Executive
2 Committee, provided all member units receive notice with sufficient time to select delegates.

3
4 c. **A method approved by the _____ Division Executive
5 Committee, in the event of inaction or failure to call a constituency meeting by
6 the _____ Union of Churches Executive Committee.**

7
8 **Sec. 2. Special Meeting: a. The executive committee of this union of churches
9 shall call a special constituency meeting when:**

10
11 1) It is voted by the executive committee, or

12
13 2) It is voted by the delegates at any constituency meeting, or

14
15 3) **It is requested by _____ percent of the constituent churches**
16 **of the union of churches through their business meetings. ~~At least fifty percent of the~~**
17 **~~constituent churches request it through business meeting decisions of each church.~~**

18
19 4) It is voted by the _____ Division Executive Committee
20 or the General Conference Executive Committee.

21
22 **The date for such a meeting in response to paragraphs 3) and 4) above
23 shall not be more than 90 days from the date when the actions described in paragraphs
24 3) and 4) above are communicated to the officers/executive committee of the union.**

25
26 b. **In the absence of a timely response by the union executive
27 committee to paragraphs 2) through 4) in Sec. 2. a. above, the _____ Division
28 Executive Committee or General Conference Executive Committee may call a special
29 constituency meeting of the union of churches and designate the time and place for such
30 a meeting.**

31
32 c. **The agenda for special constituency meetings shall be included in
33 the notice of the meeting.**

34
35 d. **Notice as to the time and place of special constituency meetings
36 shall be given in the same manner as for regularly scheduled constituency meetings.**

37
38 **Sec. 3. Virtual Attendance at Constituency Meetings: Generally, regular and**
39 **specially called constituency meetings are to be held in person and onsite. However, delegates**
40 **when requested by the executive committee, and if permitted by local law, may participate by**
41 **means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons can hear**
42 **each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in**
43 **person and attendance at such a meeting.**

44
45 **~~Sec. 3.~~ Sec. 4. Chair and Secretary for Constituency Meetings: The president of**
46 **this union of churches shall serve as chair and the secretary of this union shall serve as**
47 **secretary for constituency meetings of this union. The president may designate other**
48 **individuals to assist in chair duties from time to time. In the event that the president's**

1 office is vacant or that the president is unavailable to serve as chair, the constituency
 2 meeting may be called to order by the ranking division officer present. The first item of
 3 business shall be the election of a chair *pro tem*, selected from the delegates present at
 4 the meeting. When the election of a president has been completed, the new president, ~~or~~
 5 ~~re-elected president~~, if present at the constituency meeting, shall replace the chair *pro*
 6 *tem*.

7
 8 In a similar manner, arrangements may be made for a secretary *pro tem* if the
 9 secretary’s office is vacant or the secretary is unavailable to serve at the constituency
 10 meeting. When the election of a secretary has been completed, the new secretary, ~~or re-~~
 11 ~~elected secretary~~, if present at the constituency meeting, shall replace the secretary *pro*
 12 *tem*.

13
 14 ~~A person who is not reelected at a constituency meeting does not thereby lose~~
 15 ~~delegate status at the current constituency meeting.~~

16
 17 ~~Sec. 4. Sec. 5. Regular Meeting Business:~~ The business of the regular constituency
 18 meeting shall include the election/appointment of personnel for various positions (see
 19 Sec. 11. Sec. 10. below), the receipt of reports from the president, secretary,
 20 treasurer/chief financial officer (report based on audited statements), departmental
 21 directors, and the auditor. The constituency meeting shall endorse/approve/develop
 22 plans for the conduct of the work as are desirable and in harmony with the policies of
 23 the _____ Division.

24
 25 ~~Sec. 5. Sec. 6.~~ Quorum: At least _____ percent of the delegates authorized hereinafter
 26 under ~~Section 1. Sec. 1.~~ of Article III must be present at the opening of any regular or special
 27 constituency meeting to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Once the meeting
 28 is declared open, the delegates remaining present shall constitute a quorum.

29
 30 ~~Sec. 6. Sec. 7. Proxy Voting:~~ All delegates must be present at any constituency
 31 ~~meeting meeting~~, or participating by electronic means, in order to be eligible to vote. There
 32 shall be no voting by proxy.

33
 34 ~~Sec. 7. Sec. 8. Voting Rights of the Delegates:~~ Each delegate appointed to act on
 35 behalf of the members of this union of churches shall be entitled to one vote on each question
 36 to be decided by the body. The voting rights of the individual delegates representing the
 37 members as hereinafter provided shall be limited to the particular constituency meeting of the
 38 union of churches in which they have been designated to represent a local church, institution,
 39 the Division, ~~Division~~ or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

40
 41 ~~Sec. 8. Sec. 9. Voting:~~ The voting on matters of business shall normally be by *viva*
 42 *voce*. The chair may call for the vote by other means, including a secret ballot, when it is
 43 deemed advisable or is requested by the membership. Votes cast remotely shall have the
 44 same validity as if the delegates met and voted onsite.

45
 46 ~~Sec. 9. Sec. 10. Parliamentary Authority:~~ The parliamentary authority pertaining to
 47 all rules and procedures for constituency meetings not covered by its bylaws shall be based on
 48 those published in the *General Conference Rules of Order*, and any adaptation or supplement

1 approved by the division executive committee, unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds
2 (2/3) majority vote of the constituency meeting.

3
4 **Sec. 10, Sec. 11. Election/Appointment and Term of Office: a. Elections: All**
5 **union of churches officers and members of the executive committee who are not ex**
6 **officio members shall be elected by the delegates at a meeting of the union of churches**
7 **constituency. The election of departmental directors, associate departmental directors,**
8 **associate secretaries, or associate treasurers, if not determined by the delegates at the**
9 **union of churches constituency meeting, shall be referred to the executive committee for**
10 **appointment. Other positions to be filled by election may include the chief**
11 **administrator(s) and board members of union institutions if and as required by the**
12 **governance documents and structure for each entity.**

13
14 **b. Term of Office: Persons elected at the constituency meeting and**
15 **those appointed by the executive committee normally serve until the next regular**
16 **constituency meeting. However, their period of service may be shorter due to**
17 **resignation, voluntary retirement, retirement in situations where a mandatory**
18 **retirement age policy is in effect, or removal from office, for cause, by the executive**
19 **committee or a special constituency meeting.**

20
21 The phrase “for cause” when used in connection with removal from an elected or
22 appointed position, or from employment, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence;
23 2) persistent failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and
24 with relevant employment and denominational policies; 3) actions which may be the subject
25 of discipline under the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*; 4) failure to maintain regular
26 standing as a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; 5) theft or embezzlement; or 6)
27 conviction of or guilty plea for a crime.

28
29 **Article III—Representation at Constituency Meetings**

30
31 **Sec. 1. Regular Delegates: Member organizations of this union of churches shall**
32 **be represented at union constituency meetings by duly appointed delegates as follows:**

33
34 **a. Each local church shall be entitled to one delegate without regard**
35 **to total church membership and one additional delegate for each _____ church members**
36 **or major fraction thereof.**

37
38 **b. Such delegates shall be chosen by the respective local church**
39 **business meeting, from among those who hold membership in that local church.**

40
41 **c. The delegation from each local church, if comprised of three or**
42 **more individuals, shall include ~~male~~ males and females.**

43
44 **Sec. 2. Delegates At-Large: Delegates at-large to a union constituency meeting**
45 **include:**

46
47 **a. The current members of the executive committee of this union of**
48 **churches.**



b. Such other persons from the union of churches staff, ~~denominational~~ institutions owned and operated by the union, as may be recommended by the union of churches executive committee and accepted by the delegates in the constituency meeting. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of regular delegates provided for hereinabove.

c. Members of the General Conference and _____ Division executive committees, who may be present at any constituency meeting of this union. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of delegates otherwise provided for.

d. All employees holding credentials or ministerial licenses issued by this union of churches.

e. A person who is not elected to a new term of office at a constituency meeting does not thereby lose delegate status at the current constituency meeting.

Sec. 3. Church Membership Requirement: All delegates appointed to represent the members of this union of churches at any constituency meeting shall be members in regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Article IV—Constituency Meeting Committees ~~IV—Constituent Session Committees~~

(Note: Division executive committees may authorize a process whereby the session organizing and nominating committees may be selected and empowered to perform their tasks in advance of the session. The process to select such committees for a session shall involve constituency representation rather than being accomplished by the executive committee alone. Unless a division executive committee has approved other arrangements as described above, the following provisions shall apply for the appointment and functioning of session committees.)

Prior to each union of churches constituency meeting, the executive committee shall provide for such temporary committees as may be necessary to conduct the preliminary work for the session. ~~Prior to each union of churches constituency meeting, the executive committee shall provide for such temporary committees as may be necessary to conduct the preliminary work for the session.~~

To facilitate the business of the session, constituency meeting committees may convene by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same time. These committees include: ~~Committees that facilitate the business of the session include:~~

Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee for each constituency meeting shall be appointed. It shall consist of _____ representative(s) from each member church in the union of churches, _____ representative(s) from each union or division-operated institution located in the union’s territory, and the president of the _____ Division, or his designee, who shall serve as chair. ~~Organizing Committee:~~



1 a. ~~An organizing committee for each constituency meeting shall be appointed. It shall consist~~
2 ~~of _____ representative(s) from each member church in the union of~~
3 ~~churches, _____ representative(s) from each union or division operated institution located in~~
4 ~~the union’s territory. The organizing committee will be chaired by the president of~~
5 ~~the _____ Division, or his designee.~~

6
7 **b. The members of the organizing committee shall be appointed by**
8 **their respective church or institutional delegations as one of the first items of business at**
9 **each regularly scheduled constituency meeting. If a church or institution is entitled to**
10 **only one delegate at the session, that person shall serve as a member of the organizing**
11 **committee.** ~~The members of the organizing committee shall be appointed by their respective~~
12 ~~church or institutional delegations as one of the first items of business at each regularly~~
13 ~~scheduled constituency meeting. If a church or institution is entitled to only one delegate at~~
14 ~~the session, that person shall serve as a member of the organizing committee.~~

15
16 c. ~~The organizing committee shall nominate, and~~ **The organizing**
17 **committee shall nominate, and** the constituency shall elect:

- 18 1) A nominating committee
- 19 2) A constitution and bylaws committee
- 20 21 2) A constitution and bylaws committee
- 22 23 3) Other committees as may be necessary.

24
25 **Sec. 2. Nominating Committee: The nominating committee shall consist of at**
26 **least _____ and not more than _____ members, including the president of**
27 **the _____ Division, or his designee, who shall serve as chair. The membership of**
28 **the committee shall be balanced, as nearly as possible, between denominational workers**
29 **and laypersons representing various segments of the work and territories of the union.**
30 **conference.**

31
32 a. Those chosen as members of the Nominating Committee must be
33 duly appointed delegates in attendance at the constituency meeting.

34
35 b. Persons holding elective office, as outlined in ~~Article II, Sec. 11, Sec.~~
36 ~~10,~~ in the current term, excluding non-ex officio members of the executive committee, shall
37 not be eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee.

38
39 c. The Nominating Committee shall limit its nominations to those
40 positions for which persons are to be elected at the constituency meeting and for which
41 budgetary provisions have been made.

42
43 d. The Nominating Committee shall also nominate members for the
44 union executive committee and for the boards of union institutions whose bylaws
45 indicate that board members for the entity are elected at a union constituency meeting.

46
47 **Sec. 3. Standing Constitution and Bylaws Committee: The standing constitution**
48 **and bylaws committee shall include an officer of _____ Division and shall be**

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1 chaired by the secretary of the _____ Union of Churches, or his/her designee. This
 2 committee shall function between the regularly scheduled sessions of the constituency
 3 and shall submit its reports and detailed recommendations through the executive
 4 committee to the next regular constituency meeting.

5
 6 **Article V—Executive Committee**
 7

8 **Sec. 1. Membership of Executive Committee:** The executive committee of
 9 the _____ Union of Churches of Seventh-day Adventists shall be elected at its
 10 regularly scheduled constituency meeting and shall consist of not more
 11 than _____ members. The president, secretary, treasurer/chief financial officer, vice
 12 president(s), and the chief administrator of each union of churches institution, shall be
 13 members ex officio of the executive committee. The remaining membership shall include
 14 laypersons, departmental directors, pastors, or other denominational employees. The
 15 officers of the _____ Division and of the General Conference of Seventh-day
 16 Adventists are members ex officio of the union of churches executive committee;
 17 however, their membership shall be in addition to the number detailed above. Any such
 18 officers exercising their voting rights at any one meeting shall not make up more than
 19 ten percent of the committee membership present.

20
 21 *(Note: The union constituency may indicate in its bylaws the minimum percentage of*
 22 *laypersons on the union executive committee.)*
 23

24 **Sec. 2. Delegated Authority:** The executive committee of this union of churches,
 25 unless replaced at a special constituency meeting, is delegated the authority to act on
 26 behalf of the constituents between constituency meetings, ~~regular sessions~~, including the
 27 authority to remove for cause (see definition of “for cause” in Article II, Sec. 11. ~~Sec. 10.~~
 28 above), persons who have been elected at a union constituency meeting, including
 29 officers, officers of the union of churches, directors of departments/services, and
 30 members of boards and committees whose election or appointment is a result of a
 31 constituency meeting or executive committee meeting action and to fill, for the
 32 remaining portion of the term, any vacancies thus created. The removal of those named
 33 under ~~Article II, Sec. 10.~~ Article VI, Sec. 1. shall require the affirmative vote of two-
 34 thirds (2/3) of those voting at a union executive committee meeting where a majority of
 35 members is present.
 36

37 **Sec. 3. Administrative Authority:** The executive committee shall have full
 38 administrative authority:
 39

40 a. To fill for the current term any vacancies that may occur by death,
 41 resignation or otherwise, in its boards, committees, departments, or in offices which have
 42 been filled by union of churches constituency meeting election. **If a new president is to be**
 43 **elected, the president of the _____ Division, or his designee, shall serve as chair of**
 44 **the executive committee.**
 45

46 b. To appoint committees, such as an administrative committee, with their
 47 terms of reference.
 48

1 c. To employ such personnel as may be necessary to execute its work
2 effectively.

3
4 d. To grant and withdraw credentials and licenses. The withdrawal of
5 credentials shall require the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the union of
6 churches executive committee.

7
8 **Sec. 4. Regular Meetings:** The executive committee may schedule regular meetings at
9 such times and places as it may select.

10
11 **Sec. 5. Special Meetings:** Special meetings of the executive committee may be called
12 at any time or place by the president or, in his absence, by the secretary. In response to the
13 written request of a majority of the members of the executive committee a special meeting
14 shall also be called by the secretary.

15
16 **Sec. 6. Attendance at Meetings:** Where allowed by local law, executive committee
17 members may participate in meetings by means of an electronic conference or similar
18 communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same
19 time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at such a
20 meeting.

21
22 **Sec. 7. Notice of Meetings:** Notice as to time and place, and any other
23 requirements under these bylaws, shall be provided to all members in a reasonable
24 manner at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if the meeting is to take place by electronic
25 conference or similar communications, or at least 96 hours if the meeting is to take place
26 in person.

27
28 **Sec. 8. Quorum:** _____ members of the executive committee ~~committee~~ committee, including
29 the chair or vice-chair, shall constitute a quorum.

30
31 **Article VI—Officers and Their Duties**

32
33 **Sec. 1. Executive Officers:** The executive officers of this union of churches shall
34 be a president, a secretary, and a treasurer/chief financial officer. The secretary and
35 treasurer/chief financial officer may be one individual known as the secretary-treasurer.
36 It is the duty of these officers, in consultation with one another, to carry forward the
37 work according to plans, policies, and programs voted by the division executive
38 committee, the constituency in session, and/or the union of churches executive
39 committee. These plans, policies, and programs shall be in harmony with the
40 Fundamental Beliefs and actions adopted and approved by the General Conference of
41 Seventh-day Adventists in its quinquennial sessions.

42
43 a. **President:** The president, who shall be an ordained minister of
44 experience, is the first officer and shall report to the executive committee of the union of
45 churches in consultation with the secretary and the treasurer/chief financial officer. He
46 shall act as chair of constituency meetings and of the union executive committee and
47 serve in the general interests of the union of churches as the constituency and the
48 executive committee shall determine. In his leadership he shall adhere to the policies of

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1 the _____ Division and of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, work
2 in harmony with the _____ ~~Division executive committee,~~ the division executive
3 committee and in close counsel with the division officers.

4
5 b. Secretary: The secretary, associated with the president as an
6 executive officer, shall serve under the direction of the executive committee and shall act
7 as vice-chair of the executive committee. The secretary shall report to the executive
8 committee of the union of churches after consultation with the president. It shall be the
9 duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the union of churches constituency meetings
10 and of the executive committee meetings; to furnish copies of these minutes to all
11 members of the executive committee and to the division officers. The secretary shall also
12 be responsible for providing information as may be requested by the president or by the
13 union or division executive committee; and shall perform such other duties as usually
14 pertain to the office.

15
16 c. Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer: The treasurer/chief financial
17 officer, associated with the president as an executive officer, shall serve under the
18 direction of the executive committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall report to
19 the executive committee of the union of churches after consultation with the president.
20 The treasurer/chief financial officer shall be responsible for providing financial
21 leadership to the organization which will include, but shall not be limited to, receiving,
22 safeguarding, and disbursing all funds in harmony with the actions of the executive
23 committee, for remitting all required funds to the division/General Conference in
24 harmony with the _____ Division policy, and for providing financial information
25 to the president and to the executive committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer
26 shall also be responsible for furnishing copies of the financial statements to the division
27 officers. ~~the _____ Division officers.~~

28
29 Sec. 2. Other Officers: Other individuals may serve as officers of the union of
30 churches, such as vice president, associate secretary, and associate treasurer.

31
32 **Article VII—Directors of Departments/Associations/Services**

33
34 Sec. 1. Advisory Role: The directors of departments/associations/services of this
35 union of churches shall work under the direction of the executive committee and the
36 president and shall serve in an advisory relationship to the field.

37
38 Sec. 2. Departments/Associations/Services Structure: Union of churches departments,
39 associations, and services shall be organized in harmony with the
40 department/association/service structure of the General Conference but shall not necessarily
41 duplicate the departments/ associations/services at the division or the General Conference of
42 Seventh-day Adventists. ~~Departments/Services Structure: Departments/services of unions of~~
43 ~~churches shall reflect the needs of its territory and shall take into consideration such services~~
44 ~~that may be provided by the division and the General Conference.~~

45
46 **Article VIII—Other Organizations**



1 **Constitution and Bylaws, and have been processed through the union of churches**
2 **executive committee. Notice of any proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of**
3 **this union of churches shall be given specifically in conjunction with the publication of**
4 **notice for the constituency meeting.**

5
6 ~~**The constituency or a union of churches executive committee may recommend to**~~
7 ~~**the General Conference through the _____ Division of the General Conference of**~~
8 ~~**Seventh-day Adventists amendments to the Union of Churches Model Constitution and**~~
9 ~~**Bylaws.**~~

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1 SEC/OGC/224-20Gd/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/Pre/SecC/TreC/GCDO20AC/SEC/
2 ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to HMM(DIV)

3
4 225-20Gd UNION OF CHURCHES MODEL OPERATING POLICY
5 - POLICY AMENDMENT

6
7 VOTED, To amend GC D 19, Union of Churches Model Operating Policy, to read as
8 follows:

9
10 D 19 Union of Churches Model Operating Policy

11
12 D 19 05 Union of Churches—The following Union of Churches Model Operating
13 Policy shall be followed as closely as possible by all unions of churches with mission status.
14 Those sections of the model operating policy that appear in bold print are essential to the
15 unity of the Church worldwide and shall be included in the operating policy for each union of
16 churches with mission status. Other sections of the model operating policy may be modified
17 as set out in Article XIV, provided they continue to be in full harmony with the provisions of
18 this model. Where specific cases require modification to text in bold print, final approval for
19 such modifications to any text in bold print must be studied and approved by the General
20 Conference Executive Committee after receiving a recommendation from the division
21 executive committee and the General Conference Administrative Committee. Any
22 ~~modifications needed to meet specific conditions in a union of churches shall be submitted to~~
23 ~~the respective division executive committee for consideration. Where specific cases require~~
24 ~~modification to material in bold print, final approval for such modifications to any material in~~
25 ~~bold print must be studied and approved by the General Conference Administrative~~
26 ~~Committee after receiving a recommendation from the division executive committee and the~~
27 ~~Office of General Counsel.~~

28
29 Amendments to the Union of Churches Model Operating Policy shall be made by
30 action of the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at
31 any Annual Council of that Committee.

32
33 **Operating Policy of the _____ Union of Churches**
34 **of Seventh-day Adventists**

35
36 **Article I—Name**

37
38 **This organization shall be known as the _____ Union of Churches of**
39 **Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as the union or union of churches.**

40
41 **Article II—Purpose**

42
43 **The purpose of this union of churches is to call all people within its territory to**
44 **become disciples of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the everlasting gospel embraced by the**
45 **three angels’ messages (Revelation 14:6-12), and to prepare them for Christ’s soon**
46 **return.**



Article III—Relationships

The _____ Union of Churches is a member unit of the global Seventh-day Adventist Church and is located in the territory of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The purposes, policies, and procedures of this union of churches shall be in harmony with the working ~~policies policies, actions,~~ and procedures enacted by the ~~Executive Committee~~ executive committee of the _____ Division ~~and or~~ the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This union of churches shall pursue the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs, programs, initiatives, and actions adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at its sessions, and initiatives adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in its quinquennial sessions.

Article IV—Geographic Territory

The territory of this union of churches shall consist of _____.

Article V—Membership/Constituency

The membership/constituency of this union of churches shall consist of such churches as have been or shall be organized in any part of the territory under its jurisdiction and received into membership by vote of the delegates assembled in a regular or special union of churches constituency session.

Article VI—Principal Office

The principal office for the transaction of the business of the _____ Union of Churches is fixed and located at _____, _____. The executive committee of the _____ Division may change the location of the principal office.

Article VII—Membership/Constituency Meetings

Sec. 1. Regular Meetings: This union of churches shall hold a regular quinquennial membership/constituency meeting* ~~quinquennial constituency meetings~~ at such time and place as the executive committee of the union of churches shall designate. **In the event that the union executive committee fails to call a regular constituency meeting within the ~~quinquennial~~ quinquennial period, the _____ Division Executive Committee, or General Conference Executive Committee in the case of unions directly attached to the General Conference, ~~or General Conference Executive Committee in the case of unions directly attached to the General Conference,~~ may give notice for such a meeting and designate the time and place. In case regional conditions make it imperative to postpone the calling of the constituency meeting, the division executive committee, in a regular or special meeting, shall have authority to make such postponement, not to exceed one year, giving notice to all constituent organizations. In the event that the executive committee**

*The membership/constituency meeting is a business meeting of the membership of this union of churches. These meetings may also be called membership/constituency sessions.



1 exercises its authority to postpone a constituency meeting, it shall also have the authority to
2 set the subsequent regular constituency meeting at such time and place as it shall see fit, not to
3 exceed five calendar years from the date of the postponed constituency meeting. Notice of the
4 time and place of the meeting of the delegates representing the members shall be given by:

5
6 a. A notice printed in the official publication of the union of churches at
7 least four weeks before the date of the session, or

8
9 b. A method approved by the _____ Union of Churches Executive
10 Committee, provided all member units receive notice with sufficient time to select delegates,
11 or

12
13 c. A method approved by the _____ Division Executive
14 Committee, in the event of inaction or failure to call a constituency meeting by
15 the _____ Union of Churches Executive Committee.

16
17 **Sec. 2. Special Meeting: a. The executive committee of this conference union of**
18 **churches shall call a special constituency when: ~~meeting, at a time and place it deems~~**
19 **~~proper when:~~**

20
21 1) It is voted by the executive committee, or

22
23 2) It is voted by the delegates at any constituency meeting, or

24
25 3) It is requested by _____ percent of the constituent churches
26 of the union of churches through their business meetings.

27
28 ~~3) 4)~~ It is requested by the _____ Division Executive
29 Committee or the General Conference Executive Committee.

30
31 The date for such a meeting in response to paragraph 3) and 4) above, shall not
32 be more than 90 days from the date when the actions described in paragraphs 3) and 4)
33 above are communicated to the officers/executive committee of the union.

34
35 b. In the absence of a timely response by the union executive
36 committee to paragraphs 2) through 4) ~~and 3)~~ in Sec. 2. a. above,
37 the _____ Division Executive Committee or the General Conference Executive
38 Committee may call a special constituency meeting of the union of churches and
39 designate the time and place for such a meeting.

40
41 c. The agenda for special constituency meetings shall be included in
42 the notice of the meeting.

43
44 d. Notice ~~regarding as to~~ the time and place of special constituency
45 meetings shall be given in the same manner as for regularly scheduled constituency
46 meetings.

1 **Sec. 3. Virtual Attendance at Constituency Meetings:** Generally, regular and
 2 especially called constituency meetings are to be held in person and onsite. However, delegates
 3 when requested by the executive committee, and if permitted by local law, may participate by
 4 means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons can hear
 5 each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in
 6 person and attendance at such a meeting.

7
 8 **Sec. 3. Sec. 4. Chair and Secretary for Constituency Meetings:** The president of
 9 this union shall serve as chair and the secretary of this union shall serve as secretary for
 10 constituency meetings of this union. The president may designate other individuals to
 11 assist in chair duties from time to time. In the event that the president’s office is vacant
 12 or that the president is unavailable to serve as chair, the ranking division officer present
 13 shall serve as chair for the meeting.

14
 15 ~~In a similar manner, arrangements~~ **Arrangements** may be made for a secretary
 16 *pro tem* if the secretary’s office is vacant or the secretary is unavailable to serve at the
 17 constituency meeting.

18
 19 ~~Sec. 4. Sec. 5. Regular Meeting Business:~~ The business of the regular constituency
 20 meeting shall include the election/appointment of personnel for various positions (see
 21 ~~Sec. 11. Sec. 10.~~ below), the receipt of reports from the president, secretary,
 22 treasurer/chief financial officer (report based on audited statements), departmental
 23 directors, and the auditor. In addition, the constituency meeting shall review/create
 24 plans for moving the union of churches with mission status toward union of churches
 25 with conference status. It shall also endorse/approve/develop plans for the conduct of the
 26 work as are desirable and in harmony with the policies of the _____ Division.

27
 28 **Sec. 5. Sec. 6. Quorum:** At least _____ percent of the delegates authorized hereinafter
 29 under Sec. 1. and 2. of Article VIII must be present at the opening of any regular or special
 30 constituency meeting to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Once the meeting
 31 is declared open, the delegates remaining shall constitute a quorum.

32
 33 ~~Sec. 6. Sec. 7. Proxy Voting:~~ All delegates must be present in person at any
 34 ~~constituency meeting meeting,~~ or participating by electronic means, in order to be eligible
 35 to vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

36
 37 ~~Sec. 7. Sec. 8. Voting Rights of the Delegates:~~ Each delegate appointed to act on
 38 behalf of the members of this union of churches shall be entitled to one vote on each question
 39 to be decided by the body. The voting rights of the individual delegates representing the
 40 members as hereinafter provided shall be limited to the particular constituency meeting of the
 41 union of churches in which they have been designated to represent a local church, institution,
 42 the Division, or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist. ~~church or institution.~~

43
 44 **Sec. 8. Sec. 9. Voting:** The voting on matters of business shall normally be by *viva*
 45 *voce*. The chair may call for the vote by other means, including a secret ballot, when it is
 46 deemed advisable or is requested by the membership. Votes cast remotely shall have the
 47 same validity as if the delegates met and voted onsite.

1 **Sec. 9, Sec. 10. Parliamentary Authority:** The parliamentary authority for
 2 constituency meetings pertaining to all rules and procedures not covered by its bylaws shall
 3 be based on those published in the *General Conference Rules of Order*, and any adaptation or
 4 supplement approved by the division executive committee, unless otherwise determined by a
 5 two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the constituency meeting.
 6

7 **Sec. 10, Sec. 11. Elections/Appointments and Term of Office: a. Elections: The**
 8 **president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer of this union of churches shall**
 9 **be elected by the division executive committee rather than by the session of this union of**
 10 **churches.** The election of departmental directors, associate departmental directors,
 11 associate secretaries, or associate ~~treasurers,~~ **treasurers for this union of churches,** if not
 12 determined by the delegates at the union constituency meeting, shall be referred to the
 13 executive committee for appointment. The union constituency meeting shall also elect
 14 the members (other than ex officio) of the union executive committee and, where
 15 required by the governance documents of union institutions, the chief administrator(s)
 16 and board members of such entities.
 17

18 **b. Term of Office: Persons elected at the constituency meeting and**
 19 **those appointed by the executive committee normally serve until the next regular**
 20 **constituency meeting. However, their period of service may be shorter due to**
 21 **resignation, voluntary retirement, retirement in situation where a mandatory retirement**
 22 **age policy is in effect, or removal from office, for cause, by the executive committee or a**
 23 **special constituency meeting.**
 24

25 The phrase “for cause” when used in connection with removal from an elected or
 26 appointed position, or from employment, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence;
 27 2) persistent failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and
 28 with relevant employment and denominational policies; 3) actions which may be the subject
 29 of discipline under the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*; 4) failure to maintain regular
 30 standing as a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; 5) theft or embezzlement; or 6)
 31 conviction of or guilty plea for a crime.
 32

33 **Article VIII—Representation at Constituency Meetings**
 34

35 **Sec. 1. Regular Delegates: Member organizations of this union of churches shall**
 36 **be represented at union constituency meetings by duly appointed delegates as follows:**
 37

38 **a. Each local church shall be entitled to one delegate without regard**
 39 **to total church membership and one additional delegate for each _____ church members**
 40 **or major fraction thereof.**
 41

42 **b. Such delegates shall be chosen, by the respective local church**
 43 **business meeting, from among those who hold membership in that local church.**
 44

45 **c. The delegation from each local church, if comprised of three or**
 46 **more individuals, shall include ~~male~~ males and females.**
 47

1 **Sec. 2. Delegates At-Large: Delegates at-large to a union constituency meeting**
 2 **include:**

3
 4 **a. The current members of the executive committee of this union of**
 5 **churches.**

6
 7 **b. Such other persons from the union of churches staff,**
 8 **denominational institutions owned and operated by the union/division/General**
 9 **Conference, as may be recommended by the union of churches executive committee and**
 10 **accepted by the delegates in the constituency meeting. The number of such delegates**
 11 **shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of regular delegates provided for**
 12 **hereinabove.**

13
 14 **c. Members of the General Conference and _____ Division**
 15 **executive committees, who may be present at any constituency meeting of this union.**
 16 **The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of**
 17 **delegates otherwise provided for.**

18
 19 **d. A person who is not elected to a new term of office at a constituency**
 20 **meeting does not thereby lose delegate status at the current constituency meeting.**

21
 22 **Sec. 3. Church Membership Requirement: All delegates appointed to represent**
 23 **the members of this union of churches at any constituency meeting shall be members in**
 24 **regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.**

25
 26 **Article IX—Constituency ~~Session~~ Meeting Committees**

27
 28 *(Note: Division executive committees may authorize a process whereby the session*
 29 *organizing and nominating committees may be selected and empowered to perform their tasks*
 30 *in advance of the session. The process to select such committees for a session shall involve*
 31 *constituency representation rather than being accomplished by the executive committee*
 32 *alone. Unless a division executive committee has approved other arrangements as described*
 33 *above, the following provisions shall apply for the appointment and functioning of session*
 34 *committees.)*

35
 36 **Prior to each union of churches constituency meeting, the executive committee**
 37 **shall provide for such temporary committees as may be necessary to conduct the**
 38 **preliminary work for the session.**

39
 40 To facilitate the business of the session, constituency meeting committees may
 41 convene by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all
 42 persons participating can hear each other at the same time. **These committees include:**
 43 ~~**Committees that facilitate the business of the session include:**~~

44
 45 **Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee for each constituency**
 46 **meeting shall be appointed. It shall consist of _____ representative(s) from each member**
 47 **church in the union of churches, _____ representative(s) from each**
 48 **union/division/General Conference-operated institution located in the union’s territory,**



1 **and the president of the _____ Division, or his designee, who shall serve as chair.**
 2 ~~Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee for each constituency meeting shall be~~
 3 ~~appointed. It shall consist of _____ representative(s) from each member church in the union~~
 4 ~~of churches, _____ representative(s) from each union/division/General Conference-operated~~
 5 ~~institution located in the union’s territory. The organizing committee will be chaired by the~~
 6 ~~president of the _____ Division, or his designee.~~

7
 8 **b. The members of the organizing committee shall be appointed by**
 9 **their respective church or institutional delegations as one of the first items of business at**
 10 **each regularly scheduled constituency meeting. If a church or institution is entitled to**
 11 **only one delegate at the session, that person shall serve as a member of the organizing**
 12 **committee.**

13 ~~The members of the organizing committee shall be appointed by their respective church or~~
 14 ~~institutional delegations as one of the first items of business at each regularly scheduled~~
 15 ~~constituency meeting. If a church or institution is entitled to only one delegate at the session,~~
 16 ~~that person shall serve as a member of the organizing committee.~~

17
 18 ~~c. The organizing committee shall nominate, and~~ **The organizing**
 19 **committee shall nominate, and the constituency shall elect:**

- 20
 21 1) **A nominating committee**
 22
 23 2) **A constitution and bylaws committee**
 24
 25 3) 2) **Other committees as may be necessary**
 26

27 **Sec. 2. Nominating Committee: The nominating committee shall consist of at**
 28 **least _____ and not more than _____ members, including the president of**
 29 **the _____ Division, or his designee, who shall serve as chair. The membership of**
 30 **the committee shall be balanced, as nearly as possible, between denominational workers**
 31 **and laypersons representing various segments of the work and territories of the union.**
 32 **conference.**

33
 34 **a. Those chosen as members of the Nominating Committee must be**
 35 **duly appointed delegates in attendance at the constituency meeting.**
 36

37 **b. Persons holding elective office, as outlined in Article VII, Sec. 11.**
 38 **~~Sec. 10, in the current term,~~ excluding non-ex officio members of the executive committee,**
 39 **shall not be eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee.**
 40

41 **c. The Nominating Committee shall limit its nominations to those**
 42 **positions for which persons are to be elected at the constituency meeting and for which**
 43 **budgetary provisions have been made.**
 44

45 **d. The Nominating Committee shall also nominate members for the**
 46 **union executive committee and for the boards of union institutions whose bylaws**
 47 **indicate that board members for the entity are elected at a union constituency meeting.**
 48

1 c. To employ such personnel as may be necessary to execute its work
2 effectively.

3
4 d. To grant and withdraw credentials and licenses. The withdrawal of
5 credentials shall require the consent of two thirds (2/3) of those voting at a union executive
6 committee meeting where a majority of members is present. ~~the members of the executive~~
7 ~~committee.~~

8
9 **Sec. 4. Meetings of the executive committee may be called at any time or place by the**
10 **president, or in his absence by the acting chair appointed by the union executive committee. If**
11 **the president is absent from the field and no acting chair has been appointed, such a meeting**
12 **may be called by the secretary upon the written request of any five members, or twenty-five**
13 **percent (whichever is more), of the executive committee. Regular Meetings: The executive**
14 **committee may schedule regular meetings at such times and places as it may select.**

15
16 **Sec. 5. Special Meetings: Special meetings of the executive committee may be called**
17 **at any time or place by the president or, in his absence, by the secretary. In response to the**
18 **written request of a majority of the members of the executive committee a special meeting**
19 **shall also be called by the secretary.**

20
21 **Sec. 6. Sec. 5. Attendance at Meetings: Where allowed by local law, executive**
22 **committee members may participate in meetings by means of an electronic conference**
23 **or similar communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the**
24 **same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at such a**
25 **meeting.**

26
27 **Sec. 7. Notice of Meetings: Notice as to time and place, and any other**
28 **requirements under this operating policy, ~~these bylaws~~, shall be provided to all members**
29 **in a reasonable manner at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if the meeting is to take**
30 **place by electronic conference or similar communications, or at least 96 hours if the**
31 **meeting is to take place in person.**

32
33 **Sec. 8. Quorum: Unless otherwise required in the Operating**
34 **Policy, members, including the president, of the union of churches executive**
35 **committee shall constitute a quorum. ~~_____ members of the executive committee shall~~**
36 **~~constitute a quorum.~~**

37
38 **Article XI—Officers and Their Duties**

39
40 **Sec. 1. Executive Officers: The executive officers of this union of churches shall**
41 **be a president, a secretary, and a treasurer/chief financial officer. The secretary and**
42 **treasurer/chief financial officer may be one individual known as the secretary treasurer. It is**
43 **the duty of these officers, in consultation with one another, to carry forward the work**
44 **according to plans, policies, and programs voted by the division executive committee,**
45 **the ~~constituency~~, constituency in session, and/or the union of churches executive**
46 **committee. These plans, policies, and programs shall be in harmony with the**
47 **Fundamental Beliefs and actions adopted and approved by the General Conference of**
48 **Seventh-day Adventists in its quinquennial sessions.**

Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1 The union of churches executive officers shall be appointed by the division
 2 yearend meeting/council, or by the division executive committee, executive committee
 3 and shall hold office for the period of _____ years or until their successors are appointed
 4 and enter upon their duties. Vacancies in such offices shall be filled by action of the
 5 division executive committee.
 6

7 a. **President:** The president, who shall be an ordained minister of
 8 experience, is the first officer and shall report to the ~~union of churches~~ executive
 9 committee of the union of churches in consultation with the secretary and the
 10 treasurer/chief financial officer. He shall act as chair of constituency meetings and of the
 11 ~~union of churches~~ executive committee and serve in the general interests of the union of
 12 churches as the constituency and the executive committee shall determine. In his
 13 leadership he shall adhere to the policies of the _____ Division and of the General
 14 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, work in harmony with the division executive
 15 committee, and in close counsel with the division officers.
 16

17 b. **Secretary:** The secretary, associated with the president as an
 18 executive officer, shall serve under the direction of the executive committee and shall act
 19 as vice-chair of the executive committee. The secretary shall report to the executive
 20 committee of the union of churches after consultation with the president. It shall be the
 21 duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the union of churches constituency meetings
 22 sessions and of the executive committee meetings, and to furnish copies of such to all
 23 members of the executive committee and to the division officers, officers of
 24 ~~the _____ Division.~~ The secretary shall also be responsible for providing
 25 information as may be requested by the president or by the union of churches or
 26 division executive committee; and shall perform such other duties as pertain to the
 27 office.
 28

29 c. **Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer:** The treasurer/chief financial
 30 officer, associated with the president as an executive officer, shall serve under the
 31 direction of the executive committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall report to
 32 the executive committee of the union of churches after consultation with the president.
 33 The treasurer/chief financial officer shall be responsible for providing financial
 34 leadership to the organization which will include, but shall not be limited to, receiving,
 35 ~~safeguarding~~ safeguarding, and disbursing all funds in harmony with the actions of the
 36 executive committee, for remitting all required funds to the division/General Conference
 37 in harmony with the _____ Division policy, and for providing financial
 38 information to the president and to the executive committee. The treasurer/chief
 39 financial officer shall also be responsible for furnishing copies of the financial statements
 40 to the division officers, the _____ Division officers.
 41

42 **Sec. 2. Other Officers:** Other individuals may serve as officers of the union of
 43 churches, such as ~~vice president, associate secretary,~~ associate secretary and associate
 44 treasurer.
 45

Article XII—Directors of Departments/Associations/Services

Sec. 1. Advisory Role: The directors of departments/associations/services of this union of churches shall work under the direction of the executive committee and the president and shall serve in an advisory relationship to the field.

Sec. 2. Departments/Associations/Services Structure: Union of churches departments, associations, and services shall be organized in harmony with the department/association/service structure of the General Conference but shall not necessarily duplicate the departments/ associations/services at the division or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. ~~Departments/Services Structure: Departments/Services of unions of churches shall reflect the needs of its territory and shall take into consideration such services that may be provided by the division and the General Conference.~~

Article XIII—Other Organizations

Sec. 1. Unincorporated Organizations: The _____ Union of Churches may carry on its ministry through unincorporated subsidiary organizations. Constituency meetings of such organizations shall be held in conjunction with the regularly scheduled constituency meetings of the union of churches.

Sec. 2. Corporations: The _____ Union of Churches may form corporate bodies provided it obtains prior approval of the _____ Division. Membership meetings and elections of boards of directors shall be held as provided by articles and bylaws of the corporations and in harmony with applicable laws.

Article XIV—Finance

Sec. 1. Tithes and Offerings: The church funds managed by this union of churches shall consist of such tithe, including direct tithe, as it shall be assigned by policy and as received from the local churches within its territory, and such gifts, legacies, bequests, devises, appropriations, reverted funds, and other donations as may be made to it.

Sec. 2. Policies: The portion of tithe which is reserved for this union of churches, as specified by policy, and all other funds shall be used in harmony with the financial policies of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; and in the case of donations, their use shall be in harmony with the specifications of donors and in compliance with government regulations. Tithe is shared with the division on fixed percentages as set by the division executive committee, and with the General Conference on fixed percentages as set by the Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee.

Sec 3. Bank Accounts: The funds of this union of churches shall be safeguarded in harmony with the financial policies of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Moneys shall be deposited in the name of the _____ Union of Churches of Seventh-day Adventists in regular or special accounts in such banks or savings institutions as the executive committee shall designate



1 and shall be withdrawn only by persons authorized by resolution of the executive
 2 committee.

3
 4 **Sec. 4. Financial Statements:** The _____ Union of Churches shall regularly
 5 prepare statements of income and fund balances and shall be responsible for the filing of
 6 copies of the annual financial statement with the _____ Division and the General
 7 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and, to the extent required by law, with any
 8 branch of local or national government.

9
 10 **Sec. 5** Major trust funds belonging to this union of churches shall be deposited with
 11 the division until needed to fulfill the purpose for which they were raised.

12
 13 **Article XV—Budget, Employee Compensation Review, and Financial Audit**

14
 15 **Sec. 1. Budget:** The _____ Union of Churches shall prepare an annual
 16 budget in harmony with the policies of the _____ Division of the General
 17 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

18
 19 **Sec. 2. Employee Compensation and Expense Review:** The executive committee
 20 shall appoint an employee compensation and expense review committee, including a
 21 division officer or one or more representatives appointed by the division executive
 22 committee. The tasks of this committee are outlined in General Conference *Working*
 23 *Policy*.

24
 25 **Sec. 3. Independent Audit:** ~~All accounting records~~ The financial statements of
 26 this union of churches shall be audited at least annually by an auditor chosen in
 27 harmony with General Conference *Working Policy*; and the records of this union of
 28 churches or any of its subsidiaries, agencies, or institutions shall at all times be open to
 29 said auditor.

30
 31 **Article XVI—Dissolution and Disposition of Assets**

32
 33 **This union of churches may be dissolved only by action of the division executive**
 34 **committee.**

35
 36 **In the event of the dissolution of this union of churches and unless otherwise**
 37 **required by local law, all assets remaining after all claims have been satisfied shall be**
 38 **transferred to a legal entity authorized by the _____ Division of the General**
 39 **Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.**

40
 41 **Article XVII—Indemnification Article XVI—Indemnification**

42
 43 **Sec. 1.** To the extent permitted by law, this union of churches shall indemnify any
 44 person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or
 45 completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative,
 46 because he/she is or was a member of the union of churches executive committee or an
 47 officer, employee, or agent of the union of churches against expenses (including legal fees),
 48 judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him/her



1 in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding if he/she acted in good faith and in a
2 manner he/she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the union of
3 churches, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to
4 believe his/her conduct was unlawful.

5
6 **Sec. 2.** This right of indemnification shall be in addition to, and not exclusive of, all
7 other rights to which such member of the executive committee, officer, or department director
8 ~~departmental director or employee~~ may be entitled.

9
10 *(Note: This right of indemnification may be expanded or contracted as allowed under*
11 *local law and as adopted by the constituents.)*

12
13 **~~Article XIII—Dissolution and Disposition of Assets~~**

14
15 ~~**This union of churches may be dissolved only by action of the division executive**~~
16 ~~**committee.**~~

17
18 ~~**In the event of the dissolution of this union of churches and unless otherwise**~~
19 ~~**required by local law, all assets remaining after all claims have been satisfied shall be**~~
20 ~~**transferred to a legal entity authorized by the _____ Division of the General**~~
21 ~~**Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.**~~

22
23 **Article XVIII—Amendments Article XIV—Amendments**

24
25 **At any annual meeting of the _____ Division Executive Committee or at a**
26 **Division Council this operating policy may be amended by a majority vote (unless local**
27 **law requires a higher majority), vote, provided that such amendments shall not be**
28 **inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the General Conference and the**
29 **working policy of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day**
30 **Adventists, and with the spirit of the Union of Churches Model Operating Policy.**
31 **However, those portions of this operating policy which are essential to the unity of the**
32 **Church worldwide and are designated in bold print shall only be amended or revised**
33 **from time to time by the _____ Division Executive Committee by a simple**
34 **majority vote in order to comply with changes to the Union of Churches Model**
35 **Operating Policy as voted by the General Conference Executive Committee in its annual**
36 **meetings.**

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48
 Program

 General Agenda

 Policy Agenda

 Con & By Agenda

 Consent Agenda

1 SEC/OGC/224-20Ge/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/Pre/SecC/TreC/GCDO20AC/SEC/
2 ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to HMM(DIV)

3
4 225-20Ge LOCAL CONFERENCE MODEL CONSTITUTION AND
5 BYLAWS - POLICY AMENDMENT
6

7 VOTED, To amend GC D 20, Local Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws, to
8 read as follows:
9

10 D 20 Local Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws

11 D 20 05 Local Conference Constitution and Bylaws—The following Local Conference
12 Model Constitution and Bylaws ~~Bylaws—This model constitution~~ shall be followed as
13 closely as possible by all local conferences. Those sections of the model constitution and
14 bylaws that appear in bold print are essential to the unity of the Church worldwide and shall
15 be included in the constitution and bylaws as adopted by each local conference. Other
16 sections of the constitution and model bylaws may be modified as set out in Bylaw Article
17 XII, provided they continue to be in full harmony with the provisions of this model. Where
18 specific cases require modification to text in bold print, final approval for such modifications
19 to any text in bold print must be studied and approved by the General Conference Executive
20 Committee after receiving a recommendation from the division executive committee and the
21 General Conference Administrative Committee. ~~Where specific cases require modification to~~
22 ~~material in bold print, final approval for such modifications to any material in bold print must~~
23 ~~be studied and approved by the General Conference Administrative Committee after receiving~~
24 ~~a recommendation from the division executive committee and the Office of General Counsel.~~
25

26 Amendments to the Local Conference Model Constitution shall be made by action of
27 the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at any Annual
28 Council of that Committee.
29

30 **CONSTITUTION OF THE _____ CONFERENCE**
31 **OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**
32

33 **Article I—Name**

34
35 **The name of this organization shall be known as the _____ Conference of**
36 **Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as the conference.**
37

38 **Article II—Purpose**
39

40 **The purpose of this conference is to call all people within its territory to become**
41 **disciples of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the everlasting gospel embraced by the three**
42 **angels’ messages (Revelation 14:6-12), and to prepare them for Christ’s soon return.**
43
44

Article III—Relationships

The _____ Conference is a member unit of the _____ Union Conference or Union Mission/Section of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and is located in the territory of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The purposes, policies, and procedures of this conference shall be in harmony with the working ~~policies policies, actions,~~ and procedures enacted by the ~~Executive Committee executive committee~~ of the _____ Division ~~and or~~ the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This conference shall pursue the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs, programs, initiatives, and actions adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at its sessions. ~~and initiatives adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in its quinquennial sessions.~~

Article IV—Geographic Territory

The territory of this conference shall consist of _____.

Article V—Membership/Constituency

The membership/constituency of this conference shall consist of such churches as have been or shall be properly organized in any part of the geographic territory under its jurisdiction and formally approved for membership by vote of the delegates at any regular or special conference constituency meeting.

Article VI—Bylaws

The members of this conference, acting in and through a conference constituency meeting, may enact bylaws, and/or repeal them, and such bylaws may embrace any provision not inconsistent with the constitution or with the current local conference model constitution and bylaws approved by the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Article VII—Dissolution and Disposition of Assets

This conference may be dissolved only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the delegates present and voting at any constituency meeting.

In the event of the dissolution of this conference and unless otherwise required by local law, all assets remaining after all claims have been satisfied shall be transferred to a legal entity authorized by the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Article VIII—Amendments

The bolded text of this constitution and bylaws shall not be amended except to conform to the local conference model constitution and bylaws when it is amended by action of the General Conference Executive Committee at an Annual Council. Such



1 amendments shall be adopted into the conference constitution and bylaws by a simple
 2 majority vote (unless local law requires a higher majority) of delegates present and
 3 voting at a conference constituency meeting. This conference may amend the unbolded
 4 text of the constitution and bylaws from time to time at a conference constituency
 5 meeting provided any such changes are in harmony with the spirit and intent of the
 6 model constitution and bylaws. ~~constitution~~. Such amendments shall require an
 7 affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates present and voting. ~~The conference~~
 8 ~~executive committee may recommend to the General Conference, through~~
 9 ~~the _____ Union Conference or Union Mission/Section and~~
 10 ~~the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists,~~
 11 ~~amendments to the model constitution.~~

12
 13 **BYLAWS OF THE _____ CONFERENCE**
 14 **OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

15
 16 **Article I—Principal Office**

17
 18 **The principal office for the transaction of the business of**
 19 **the _____ Conference is fixed and located at _____, _____.** ~~The~~
 20 ~~executive committee may in an emergency change the location of the principal office on~~
 21 **a temporary basis.**

22
 23 **Article II—Membership/Constituency Meetings**

24
 25 **Sec. 1. Regular Meeting: This conference shall hold a**
 26 ~~regular _____ (biennial, triennial, quadrennial, or quinquennial) constituency meeting~~
 27 **regular quinquennial membership/constituency meeting*** ~~at such time and place as the~~
 28 ~~executive committee of the conference shall designate. In the event that the executive~~
 29 ~~committee fails to call a regular constituency meeting within the quinquennial~~
 30 ~~quinquennial period, the _____ Union Conference or Union Mission/Field~~
 31 ~~Executive Committee Committee, or General Conference Executive Committee in the case~~
 32 ~~of conferences directly attached to the General Conference, may give notice for such a~~
 33 ~~meeting and designate the time and place. In case regional conditions make it imperative to~~
 34 ~~postpone the calling of the constituency meeting, the union conference or union~~
 35 ~~mission/section executive committee, in a regular or special meeting, shall have authority to~~
 36 ~~make such postponement, not to exceed one year, giving notice to all constituent~~
 37 ~~organizations. In the event that the executive committee exercises its authority to postpone a~~
 38 ~~constituency meeting, it shall also have the authority to set the subsequent regular~~
 39 ~~constituency meeting at such time and place as it shall see fit, not to exceed five calendar~~
 40 ~~years from the date of the postponed constituency meeting. Notice of the time and place of the~~
 41 ~~meeting of the delegates representing the members shall be given by:~~

42
 43 a. A notice printed in the official publication of the conference
 44 ~~the _____ Union Mission/Section or Union Conference~~ at least four weeks before the
 45 date of the session, or

 *The membership/constituency meeting is a business meeting of the membership of this conference. These meetings may also be called membership/constituency sessions.

1 b. A method approved by the _____ Conference Executive
2 Committee, provided all member units receive notice with sufficient time to select delegates,
3 or

4
5 c. **A method approved by the _____ Union Executive**
6 **Committee, in the event of inaction or failure to call a constituency meeting by**
7 **the _____ Conference Executive Committee.**

8
9 **Sec. 2. Special Meeting: a. The executive committee of this conference shall call a**
10 **special constituency meeting when:**

- 11 1) It is voted by the executive committee, or
- 12 2) It is voted by the delegates at any constituency meeting, or
- 13 3) It is requested by _____ percent of the churches of the
- 14 conference through their business meetings, church boards, or
- 15
- 16 4) It is voted by the union executive committee, division
- 17 executive committee, or General Conference Executive Committee.
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21

22 The date for such a meeting in response to paragraphs 3) and 4) above shall not
23 be more than 90 days from the date when the actions described in paragraphs 3) and 4)
24 above are communicated to the officers/executive committee of the conference, union-

25
26 b. In the absence of a timely response by the conference executive
27 committee to paragraphs 2) through 4) in Sec. 2. a. above the _____ Union Executive
28 Committee or _____ Division Executive Committee may call a special constituency
29 meeting of the conference and designate the time and place for such a meeting.

30
31 c. The agenda for special constituency meetings shall be included in
32 the notice of the meeting.

33
34 d. Notice as to the time and place of special constituency meetings
35 shall be given in the same manner as for regularly scheduled constituency meetings.

36
37 **Sec. 3. Virtual Attendance at Constituency Meetings:** Generally, regular and
38 special called constituency meetings are to be held in person and onsite. However, delegates
39 when requested by the executive committee, and if permitted by local law, may participate by
40 means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons can hear
41 each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in
42 person and attendance at such a meeting.

43
44 ~~Sec. 3.~~ **Sec. 4. Chair and Secretary for Constituency Meetings:** The president of
45 this conference shall serve as chair and the secretary of this conference shall serve as
46 secretary for constituency meetings of the this conference. The president may designate
47 other individuals to assist in chair duties from time to time. In the event that the
48 president’s office is vacant or that the president is unavailable to serve as chair, the

1 constituency meeting may be called to order by the ranking union officer present. The
 2 first item of business shall be the election of a chair *pro tem*, selected from the delegates
 3 present at the meeting. When the election of a president has been completed, the new
 4 president, ~~or re-elected president~~, if present at the constituency meeting, shall replace
 5 the chair *pro tem*.

6
 7 In a similar manner, arrangements may be made for a secretary *pro tem* if the
 8 secretary's office is vacant or the secretary is unavailable to serve at the constituency
 9 meeting. When the election of a secretary has been completed, the new secretary, ~~or re-~~
 10 ~~elected secretary~~, if present at the constituency meeting, shall replace the secretary *pro*
 11 *tem*.

12
 13 ~~A person who is not reelected a constituency meeting does not thereby lose~~
 14 ~~delegate status at the current constituency meeting.~~

15
 16 ~~Sec. 4.~~ Sec. 5. Regular Meeting Business: The business of the regular constituency
 17 meeting shall include the election/appointment of personnel for various positions (see
 18 Sec. 11, ~~Sec. 10~~, below), the receipt of reports from the president, secretary,
 19 treasurer/chief financial officer (report based on audited statements), departmental
 20 directors, and the auditor. The constituency meeting shall endorse/approve/develop
 21 plans for the conduct of the work as are desirable and in harmony with the policies of
 22 the _____ Division.

23
 24 ~~Sec. 5.~~ Sec. 6. Quorum: At least _____ percent of the delegates authorized hereinafter
 25 under ~~Section 1~~, Sec. 1. of Article III must be present at any regular or special constituency
 26 meeting to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Once the meeting is declared
 27 open, the delegates present shall constitute a quorum.

28
 29 ~~Sec. 6.~~ Sec. 7. Proxy Voting: All delegates must be present in person at any
 30 constituency ~~meeting~~ meeting, or participating by electronic means, in order to be eligible
 31 to vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

32
 33 ~~Sec. 7.~~ Sec. 8. Voting Rights of the Delegates: Each delegate appointed to act on
 34 behalf of the members of this conference shall be entitled to one vote on each question to be
 35 decided by the body. The voting rights of the individual delegates representing the members
 36 as hereinafter provided shall be limited to the particular constituency meeting of the
 37 conference in which they have been designated to represent a local church, an institution,
 38 the _____ Union Conference or Union Mission/Section, the _____ Division the
 39 Union, the Division, or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

40
 41 ~~Sec. 8.~~ Sec. 9. Voting: The voting on matters of business shall normally be by *viva*
 42 *voce*. The chair may call for the vote by other means, including a secret ballot, when it is
 43 deemed advisable or is requested by the membership. Votes cast remotely shall have the
 44 same validity as if the delegates met and voted onsite.

45
 46 ~~Sec. 9.~~ Sec. 10. Parliamentary Authority: The parliamentary authority pertaining to
 47 all rules and procedures for constituency meetings not covered by its bylaws shall be based on
 48 those published in the *General Conference Rules of Order*, and any adaptation or supplement

1 approved by the division executive committee, unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds
 2 (2/3) majority vote of the constituency meeting. ~~The parliamentary authority pertaining to~~
 3 ~~all rules and procedures for constituency meetings not covered by its bylaws shall be~~
 4 ~~based on those published in the *General Conference Rules of Order*, and any adaptation~~
 5 ~~or supplement approved by the division executive committee, unless otherwise~~
 6 ~~determined by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the constituency meeting.~~

7
 8 **Sec. 10, Sec. 11. Election/Appointment and Term of Office: a. Election: All**
 9 **conference officers and members of the executive committee who are not ex officio**
 10 **members shall be elected by the delegates at a meeting of the conference constituency.**
 11 **The election of departmental directors, associate departmental directors, associate**
 12 **secretaries, or associate treasurers, if not determined by the delegates at the conference**
 13 **constituency meeting, shall be referred to the executive committee for appointment.**
 14 **Other positions to be filled by election may include the chief administrator(s) and board**
 15 **members of conference institutions if and as required by the governance documents and**
 16 **structure for each entity.**

17
 18 **b. Term of Office: Persons elected at the constituency meeting and**
 19 **those appointed by the executive committee normally serve until the next regular**
 20 **constituency meeting. However, their period of service may be shorter due to**
 21 **resignation, voluntary retirement, retirement in situations where a mandatory**
 22 **retirement age policy is in effect, or removal from office, for cause, by the executive**
 23 **committee or a special constituency meeting.**

24
 25 The phrase “for cause” when used in connection with removal from an elected or
 26 appointed position, or from employment, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence;
 27 2) persistent failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and
 28 with relevant employment and denominational policies; 3) actions which may be the subject
 29 of discipline under the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*; 4) failure to maintain regular
 30 standing as a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; 5) theft or embezzlement; or 6)
 31 conviction of or guilty plea for a crime.

32
 33 **Article III—Representation at Constituency Meetings**

34
 35 **Sec. 1. Regular Delegates: All delegates duly accredited by any one of the**
 36 **organized churches of the conference. Each church shall be entitled to one delegate for the**
 37 **organization and one additional delegate for each _____ members or major fraction thereof**
 38 **and who hold membership in the local church which accredits them. Such delegates shall**
 39 **be chosen by the business meeting of the respective local church and include males and**
 40 **females.**

41
 42 **Sec. 2. Delegates At-Large: Delegates at-large to a constituency meeting of this**
 43 **conference include:**

44
 45 **a. The current members of the executive committee of this conference.**

46
 47 **b. Members of the _____ Union Mission/Section or Union**
 48 **Conference Committees who may be present at any constituency meeting of this**



conference. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of delegates otherwise provided for.

c. All employees holding credentials or ministerial licenses issued by this conference.

d. Such other persons as may be recommended by the executive committee and accepted by the delegates in session. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of regular delegates provided for hereinabove.

e. A person who is not elected to a new term of office a constituency meeting does not thereby lose delegate status at the current constituency meeting.

~~Sec. 1. The delegates at any constituency meeting of this conference shall be regular delegates and delegates at-large.~~

~~a. Regular Delegates: All delegates duly accredited by any one of the organized churches of the conference. Each church shall be entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each _____ members or major fraction thereof and who hold membership in the local church which accredits them. Such delegates shall be chosen by the business meeting of the respective local church and include males and females.~~

~~b. Delegates at-large:~~

~~1) All members of the executive committee of the _____ Conference.~~

~~2) All members of the executive committee of the _____ Union Mission/Section or Union Conference who may be present at any constituency meeting of this conference.~~

~~3) All employees holding credentials or ministerial licenses issued by this conference.~~

~~4) Members of the division executive committee who may be present at any constituency meeting of this conference. The number of such delegates representing the Division shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of delegates otherwise provided for.~~

~~5) Such other persons as may be recommended by the executive committee and accepted by the delegates in session. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of regular delegates provided for hereinabove.~~

1 e. ~~The organizing committee shall nominate, and~~ **The organizing**
2 **committee shall nominate, and the constituency shall elect:**

- 3
- 4 1) A nominating committee
- 5
- 6 2) A constitution and bylaws committee
- 7
- 8 3) Other committees as may be necessary.
- 9

10 **Sec. 2. Nominating Committee: The nominating committee shall consist of at**
11 **least _____ and not more than _____ members, including the president of**
12 **the _____ Union, Union Mission/Section or Union Conference, or his designee, who**
13 **shall serve as the chair. The membership of the committee shall be balanced, as nearly**
14 **as possible, between denominational workers and laypersons representing various**
15 **segments of the work and territories of the conference.**

16

17 a. Those chosen as members of the Nominating Committee must be
18 **duly appointed delegates in attendance at the constituency meeting.**

19

20 b. Persons holding elective office, as outlined in Article II, **Sec. 11, Sec.**
21 **10**, in the current term, excluding non-ex officio members of the executive committee, **shall**
22 **not be eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee.**

23

24 c. The Nominating Committee shall limit its nominations to those
25 positions for which persons are to be elected at the constituency meeting and for which
26 budgetary provisions have been made.

27

28 d. The Nominating Committee shall also nominate members for the
29 **conference executive committee** and for the boards of conference institutions whose
30 bylaws indicate that board members for the entity are elected at a conference
31 constituency meeting.

32

33 **Sec. 3. Standing Constitution and Bylaws Committee: The standing constitution**
34 **and bylaws committee shall include an officer of the _____ Union Mission/Section**
35 **or Union Conference and shall be chaired by the secretary of the local conference, or**
36 **his/her designee.**

37

38 **This committee shall function between the regularly scheduled constituency**
39 **meetings and shall submit its reports and detailed recommendations through the**
40 **conference executive committee to the next regular constituency meeting.**

41

42 **Article V—Executive Committee**

43

44 **Sec. 1. Membership: The executive committee of the _____ Conference of**
45 **Seventh-day Adventists shall be elected at its regularly scheduled constituency meeting**
46 **and shall consist of not more than _____ members. The president, secretary,**
47 **treasurer/chief financial officer, and vice president(s) of the conference shall be**
48 **members ex officio of the executive committee. The membership of the committee may**

1 include at least one departmental director and one institutional representative with **the**
 2 **remaining membership balanced as nearly as possible between laypersons and pastors**
 3 **or other denominational employees** from various sections of the conference. **The officers of**
 4 **the _____ Union Mission/Section or Union Conference, of the _____ Division**
 5 **and of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are members ex officio of the**
 6 **local conference executive committee; however, their membership shall be in addition to**
 7 **the number detailed above. Any such officers exercising their voting rights at any one**
 8 **meeting shall not make up more than ten percent of the committee membership present.**

9
 10 *(Note: A conference constituency may indicate in its bylaws the minimum percentage*
 11 *of laypersons on the conference executive committee.)*

12
 13 **Sec. 2. Delegated Authority: The executive committee of this conference, unless**
 14 **replaced at a special constituency session, is delegated the authority to act on behalf of**
 15 **the constituents between constituency meetings, regular sessions, including the authority**
 16 **to remove for cause** (see definition of “for cause” in Article II, ~~Sec. 11.~~ Sec. 10. above)
 17 **persons who have been elected at a conference constituency meeting, including officers**
 18 **of the conference, directors of departments/services, members of boards and committees**
 19 **whose election or appointment is a result of a constituency meeting or executive**
 20 **committee meeting action and to fill, for the remaining portion of the term, any**
 21 **vacancies thus created. The removal of those named under ~~Article VI, Sec. 1,~~ Article VI,**
 22 **Sec. 1. shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting at an a**
 23 **conference executive committee meeting where a majority of members is present.**

24
 25 **Sec. 3. Administrative Authority: The executive committee shall have full**
 26 **administrative authority:**

27
 28 a. To fill for the current term any vacancies that may occur by death,
 29 resignation or otherwise, in its boards, committees, departments, or in offices which have
 30 been filled by conference constituency meeting election. **If a new president is to be elected,**
 31 **the president of the _____ Union Mission/Section or Union Conference,**
 32 **~~Conference~~ or his designee, shall serve as chair of the executive committee.**

33
 34 b. To appoint committees, such as an administrative committee, with their
 35 terms of reference.

36
 37 c. To employ such personnel as may be necessary to execute its work
 38 effectively. To employ ministers, secretaries, teachers, and other persons as deemed necessary
 39 for the work of the conference.

40
 41 d. To grant and withdraw credentials and licenses. The withdrawal of
 42 credentials shall require the consent of two thirds (2/3) of the members of the conference
 43 executive committee.

44
 45 **Sec. 4. Regular Meetings: The executive committee may schedule regular meetings at**
 46 **such times and places as it may select.**

1 the secretary to keep the minutes of the conference constituency meetings and of the
2 executive committee meetings, to furnish copies of these minutes to all members of the
3 executive committee and to the union officers. ~~officers of the _____ Union~~
4 ~~Mission/Section or Union Conference.~~ The secretary shall also be responsible for
5 providing information as may be requested by the president or by the conference, union,
6 or division executive committee and shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to
7 the office.

8
9 c. Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer: The treasurer/chief financial officer,
10 associated with the president as an executive officer, shall serve under the direction of
11 the executive committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall report to the
12 executive committee of the conference after consultation with the president. The
13 treasurer/chief financial officer shall be responsible for providing financial leadership to
14 the organization which will include, but shall not be limited to, receiving, ~~safeguarding~~
15 safeguarding, and disbursing all funds in harmony with the actions of the executive
16 committee, for remitting all required funds to the union/division/General Conference in
17 harmony with the _____ Division policy, and for providing financial information
18 to the president and to the executive committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer
19 shall also be responsible for furnishing copies of the financial statements to the union
20 officers. ~~the _____ Union officers.~~

21
22 Sec. 2. Other Officers: Other individuals may serve as officers of the local conference,
23 such as vice president, associate secretary, and associate treasurer.

24
25 Article VII—Directors of Departments/Associations/Services

26
27 Sec. 1. Advisory Role: The directors of departments/associations/services of this
28 conference shall work under the direction of the executive committee ~~of the conference~~
29 and the president and shall serve in an advisory relationship to the field.

30
31 Sec. 2. Departments/Associations/Services Structure: Conference departments,
32 associations, and services shall be organized in harmony with the
33 department/association/service structure of the General Conference but shall not necessarily
34 duplicate the departments/ associations/services at the division or the General Conference of
35 Seventh-day Adventists. ~~Departments/Services Structure: Conference departments/services~~
36 ~~shall be organized in harmony with the departmental/service structure of the General~~
37 ~~Conference but shall not necessarily duplicate the departments/services in the union, division,~~
38 ~~or General Conference.~~

39
40 Article VIII—Other Organizations

41
42 Sec. 1. Unincorporated Organizations: The _____ Conference may carry on its
43 ministry through unincorporated subsidiary organizations. Constituency meetings of such
44 organizations shall be held in conjunction with the regularly scheduled constituency meetings
45 of the conference.

46
47 Sec. 2. Corporations: The _____ Conference may form corporate bodies
48 provided it obtains prior approval of the _____ Division. Membership meetings

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1 and elections of boards of directors shall be held as provided by articles and bylaws of
 2 the corporations and in harmony with applicable laws.

3
 4 **Article IX—Finance**

5
 6 **Sec. 1. Tithes and Offerings:** The church funds managed by this conference shall
 7 consist of such tithe, including direct tithe, as it shall be assigned by policy and as
 8 received from the local churches within its territory, and such gifts, legacies, bequests,
 9 devises, appropriations, reverted funds, and other donations as may be made to it.

10
 11 **Sec. 2. Policies:** The portion of the tithe which is reserved for this conference, as
 12 specified by policy, and all other funds shall be used in harmony with the financial
 13 policies of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day
 14 Adventists; and in the case of donations, their use shall be in harmony with the
 15 specifications of donors and in compliance with government regulations. Tithe is shared
 16 with the union and division on fixed percentages as set by the division executive
 17 committee, and with the General Conference on fixed percentages as set by the Annual
 18 Council of the General Conference Executive Committee.

19
 20 **Sec. 3. Bank Accounts:** The funds of this conference shall be safeguarded in
 21 harmony with the financial policies of the _____ Division of the General
 22 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Moneys shall be deposited in the name of
 23 the _____ Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in regular or special accounts, in
 24 such banks or savings institutions as the executive committee shall designate and shall
 25 be withdrawn only by persons authorized by resolution of the executive committee.

26
 27 **Sec. 4. Financial Statements:** The _____ Conference shall prepare regularly
 28 appropriate statements of income and fund balances and shall be responsible for the
 29 filing of any financial information directly with the _____ Union Conference or
 30 Union Mission/Field Section and the _____ Division of the General Conference of
 31 Seventh-day Adventists and, to the extent required by law, with any branch of local or
 32 national government.

33
 34 **Article X—Budget, Employee Compensation Review, and Financial Audit**

35
 36 **Sec. 1. Budget:** The _____ Conference shall prepare an annual budget in
 37 harmony with the policies of the _____ Division of the General Conference of
 38 Seventh-day Adventists.

39
 40 **Sec. 2. Employee Compensation and Expense Review:** The executive committee
 41 shall appoint an employee compensation and expense review committee whose tasks are
 42 outlined in General Conference *Working Policy*.

43
 44 **Sec. 3. Independent Audit:** ~~All accounting records~~ The financial statements of
 45 this conference shall be audited at least annually by an auditor chosen in harmony with
 46 General Conference *Working Policy* and the records of this conference or any of its
 47 subsidiaries, agencies, or institutions shall at all times be open to said auditor.

48










Article XI—Indemnification

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

Sec. 2. This right of indemnification shall be in addition to, and not exclusive of, all other rights to which such member of the executive committee, ~~or an officer~~ officer, or department director may be entitled.

(Note: This right of indemnification may be expanded or contracted as allowed under local law and as adopted by the constituents.)

Article XII—Amendments

Amendment, Revision, and Repeal: The constitution and bylaws of this conference which are essential to the unity of the Church worldwide and are designated in bold print shall be amended or revised from time to time in order to comply with changes to the Local Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws as voted by the General Conference Executive Committee in its annual meetings. Such amendments or revisions shall be approved by a simple majority vote (unless local law requires a higher majority) of the delegates present and voting at any duly called constituency meeting of the local conference. Other sections of the constitution and bylaws may be amended, revised, or repealed, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting, provided such changes are in harmony with the spirit of the Local Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws, and have been processed through the conference executive committee. Notice of any proposed changes to the bylaws of this conference shall be given specifically in conjunction with the publication of notice for the session.

~~The constituency or the conference executive committee may recommend to the General Conference through the _____ Union Mission/Section or Union Conference and the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists amendments to the Local Conference Model Constitution and Bylaws.~~

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General Agenda

Policy Agenda

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Consent Agenda

1 SEC/OGC/224-20Gf/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/Pre/SecC/TreC/GCDO20AC/SEC/
2 ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to HMM(DIV)

3
4 225-20Gf LOCAL MISSION/FIELD/SECTION MODEL
5 OPERATING POLICY - POLICY AMENDMENT
6

7 VOTED, To amend GC D 25, Local Mission/Field/Section Model Operating Policy,
8 to read as follows:
9

10 D 25 Local Mission/Section Model Operating Policy

11
12 D 25 05 Local Mission/Field/Section—The following Local Mission/Field/Section
13 Model Operating Policy shall be followed as closely as possible by all
14 missions/fields/sections. Those sections of the model operating policy that appear in bold
15 print are essential to the unity of the Church worldwide and shall be included in the operating
16 policy for each mission/field/section. Other sections of the model operating policy may be
17 modified as set out in Article XIV, provided they continue to be in full harmony with the
18 provisions of this model. Where specific cases require modification to text in bold print, final
19 approval for such modifications to any text in bold print must be studied and approved by the
20 General Conference Executive Committee after receiving a recommendation from the
21 division executive committee and the General Conference Administrative Committee. Any
22 other modifications needed to meet specific conditions in a mission/field/section shall be
23 submitted to the respective division executive committee for consideration. Where specific
24 cases require modification to material in bold print, final approval for such modifications to
25 any material in bold print must be studied and approved by the General Conference
26 Administrative Committee after receiving a recommendation from the division executive
27 committee and the Office of General Counsel.
28

29 Amendments to the Mission/Field/Section Model Operating Policy shall be made by
30 action of the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at
31 any Annual Council of that Committee. ~~committee.~~
32

33 **Operating Policy of the _____ Mission/Field/Section**
34 **of Seventh-day Adventists**

35
36 **Article I—Name**

37
38 **This organization shall be known as the _____ Mission/Field/Section of**
39 **Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as the mission/field/section.**
40

41 **Article II—Purpose**

42
43 **The purpose of this mission/field/section is to call all people within its territory to**
44 **become disciples of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the everlasting gospel embraced by the**
45 **three angels’ messages (Revelation 14:6-12), and to prepare them for Christ’s soon**
46 **return.**
47

1 Article III—Relationships

2
3 The _____ Mission/Field/Section is a member unit of the _____ Union
4 Conference or Union Mission/Section and is located in the territory of
5 the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The
6 purposes, policies, and procedures of this mission/field/section shall be in harmony with
7 the working ~~policies policies, actions,~~ and procedures enacted by the ~~Executive~~
8 ~~Committee~~ executive committee of the _____ Division ~~and or~~ the General
9 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This mission/field/section shall pursue the
10 mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs,
11 programs, initiatives, and actions adopted and approved by the General Conference of
12 Seventh-day Adventists at its sessions. ~~and initiatives adopted and approved by the~~
13 ~~General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in its quinquennial sessions.~~

14
15 Article IV—Geographic Territory

16
17 The territory of this mission/field/section shall consist of _____.

18
19 Article V—Membership/Constituency

20
21 The membership/constituency of this mission/field/section shall consist of such
22 churches as have been or shall be properly organized in any part of the territory served
23 by the mission/field/section and accepted by vote of the delegates assembled at any
24 regular or special mission/field/section constituency session.

25
26 Article VI—Principal Office

27
28 The principal office for the transaction of the business of
29 the _____ Mission/ Field/Section is fixed and located at _____, _____.
30 The executive committee of the _____ Union Conference or Union Mission/Section
31 may change the location of the principal office.

32
33 Article VII—Membership/Constituency Meetings

34
35 **Sec. 1. Regular Meetings:** This mission/field/section shall hold a regular
36 quinquennial membership/constituency meeting* ~~constituency meetings~~ at such time and
37 place as the mission/field/section executive committee of the mission/field/section, in
38 counsel with the officers of the union conference or union mission/section,
39 ~~mission/section or union conference~~ shall designate. In the event that the
40 mission/field/section executive committee fails to call a regular constituency meeting
41 within the quinquennial period, the _____ Union Conference or Union
42 Mission/Section Executive Committee, or General Conference Executive Committee in the
43 case of missions/fields/sections directly attached to the General Conference, Executive
44 Committee may give notice for such a meeting and designate the time and place. In case
45 regional conditions make it imperative to postpone the calling of the constituency meeting.

*The membership/constituency meeting is a business meeting of the membership of this mission/field/section. These meetings may also be called membership/constituency sessions.

1 the union conference executive committee, in a regular or special meeting, shall have
2 authority to make such postponement, not to exceed one year, giving notice to all constituent
3 organizations. In the event that the executive committee exercises its authority to postpone a
4 constituency meeting, it shall also have the authority to set the subsequent regular
5 constituency meeting at such time and place as it shall see fit, not to exceed five calendar
6 years from the date of the postponed constituency meeting. Notice of the time and place of the
7 meeting of the delegates representing the members shall be given by:

8
9 a. A notice printed in the official publication of the mission/field/section
10 at least four weeks before the date of the session, or

11
12 b. A method approved by the _____ Mission/Field/Section
13 Executive Committee, provided all member units receive notice with sufficient time to select
14 delegates, or

15
16 c. A method approved by the _____ Union Executive
17 Committee, in the event of inaction or failure to call a constituency meeting by
18 the _____ Mission/Field/Section Executive Committee.

19
20 **Sec. 2. Special Meeting: a. The executive committee of this mission/field/section**
21 **shall call a special constituency meeting when:**

22
23 1) It is voted by the executive committee, or

24
25 2) It is voted by the delegates at any constituency meeting, or

26
27 3) It is requested by _____ percent of the churches through
28 ~~their church boards,~~ business meetings, or

29
30 4) It is voted by the union executive committee, division
31 executive committee, or General Conference Executive Committee.
32 ~~the _____ Union Executive Committee or the Division Conference Executive~~
33 ~~Committee.~~

34
35 The date for such a meeting in response to paragraphs 3) and 4) above shall not
36 be more than 90 days from the date when the actions described in paragraphs 3) and 4)
37 above are communicated to the officers/executive committee of the mission/field/section.
38 ~~union.~~

39
40 b. In the absence of a timely response by the mission/field/section
41 executive committee to paragraphs 2) through 4) in Sec. 2. a. above,
42 the _____ Union Executive Committee or the Division Executive Committee may
43 call a special constituency meeting of the mission/field/section and designate the time
44 and place for such a meeting.

45
46 c. The agenda for special constituency meetings shall be included in
47 the notice of the meeting.

1 d. **The Notice as to the time and place of special constituency meetings**
 2 **shall be given in the same manner as for regularly scheduled constituency meetings.**
 3

4 **Sec. 3. Virtual Attendance at Constituency Meetings:** Generally, regular and
 5 specialty called constituency meetings are to be held in person and onsite. However, delegates
 6 when requested by the executive committee, and if permitted by local law, may participate by
 7 means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons can hear
 8 each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in
 9 person and attendance at such a meeting.
 10

11 ~~Sec. 3.~~ **Sec. 4. Chair and Secretary for Constituency Meetings:** The president of
 12 **this mission/field/section shall serve as chair and the secretary of this**
 13 **mission/field/section shall serve as secretary for constituency meetings of this**
 14 **mission/field/section. The president may designate other individuals to assist in chair**
 15 **duties from time to time. In the event that the president’s office is vacant or that the**
 16 **president is unavailable to serve as chair, the ranking union officer present shall serve as**
 17 **chair for the meeting.**
 18

19 ~~In a similar manner, arrangements~~ **Arrangements** may be made for a secretary
 20 ***pro tem* if the secretary’s office is vacant or the secretary is unavailable to serve at the**
 21 **constituency meeting.**
 22

23 ~~Sec. 4.~~ **Sec. 5. Regular Meeting Business:** The business of the regular constituency
 24 **meeting will include the election/appointment of personnel for various positions (see Sec.**
 25 **11. Sec. 10.** below), the receipt of reports from the president, secretary, treasurer/chief
 26 **financial officer (report based on audited statements), departmental directors, and the**
 27 **auditor. In addition, the constituency meeting shall review/create plans for moving the**
 28 **mission/field/section toward conference status. It shall also endorse/approve/develop**
 29 **plans for the conduct of the work as are desirable and in harmony with the policies of**
 30 **the _____ Division.**
 31

32 ~~Sec. 5.~~ **Sec. 6. Quorum:** At least _____ percent of the delegates authorized hereinafter
 33 **under Sec. 1. and 2. of Article VIII ~~Article VI~~ must be present at the opening of any regular or**
 34 **special constituency meeting to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Once the**
 35 **meeting is declared open, the delegates remaining shall constitute a quorum.**
 36

37 ~~Sec. 6.~~ **Sec. 7. Proxy Voting:** All delegates must be present in person at any
 38 **constituency meeting meeting, or participating by electronic means, in order to be**
 39 **eligible to vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.**
 40

41 ~~Sec. 7.~~ **Sec. 8. Voting Rights of the Delegates:** Each delegate appointed to act on
 42 **behalf of the members of this mission/field/section shall be entitled to one vote on each**
 43 **question to be decided by the body. The voting rights of the individual delegates representing**
 44 **the members as hereinafter provided shall be limited to the particular constituency meeting of**
 45 **the mission/field/ section in which they have been designated to represent a local church,**
 46 **institution, the Union, the Division, or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.**
 47

1 **Sec. 8. Sec. 9. Voting:** The voting on matters of business shall normally be by *viva*
 2 *voce*. The chair may call for the vote by other means, including a secret ballot, when it is
 3 deemed advisable or is requested by the membership. Votes cast remotely shall have the
 4 same validity as if the delegates met and voted onsite.

5
 6 **Sec. 9. Sec. 10. Parliamentary Authority:** The parliamentary authority for
 7 constituency meetings pertaining to all rules and procedures not covered by its bylaws shall
 8 be based on those published in the *General Conference Rules of Order*, and any adaptation or
 9 supplement approved by the division executive committee, unless otherwise determined by a
 10 two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the constituency meeting.

11
 12 **Sec. 10. Sec. 11. Elections/Appointments and Term of Office: a. Elections:** The
 13 president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer of this mission/field/section
 14 shall be elected by the union constituency meeting ~~constituency/executive committee~~
 15 ~~rather than by the session of this mission/field/section.~~ The election of departmental
 16 directors, associate departmental directors, associate secretaries, or associate treasurers
 17 for this mission/field/section, if not determined by the delegates at the union
 18 constituency meeting, shall be referred to the union executive committee for
 19 appointment. ~~is normally done during the constituency session. If personnel for~~
 20 ~~available positions are not all elected during the session, their appointment shall be~~
 21 ~~referred to the executive committee.~~ The union constituency meeting shall also elect the
 22 members (other than ex officio) of the mission/field/section executive committee and,
 23 where required by the governance documents of mission/field/section institutions, the
 24 chief administrator(s) and board members of such entities.

25
 26 b. **Term of Office:** Persons elected at the constituency meeting and
 27 those appointed by the executive committee normally serve until the next regular
 28 constituency meeting. However, their period of service may be shorter due to
 29 resignation, voluntary retirement, retirement in situation where a mandatory retirement
 30 age policy is in effect, or removal from office, for cause, by the executive committee or a
 31 special constituency meeting.

32
 33 The phrase “for cause” when used in connection with removal from an elected or
 34 appointed position, or from employment, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence;
 35 2) persistent failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and
 36 with relevant employment and denominational policies; 3) actions which may be the subject
 37 of discipline under the *Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual*; 4) failure to maintain regular
 38 standing as a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; 5) theft or embezzlement; or 6)
 39 conviction of or guilty plea for a crime.

40
 41 **Article VIII—Representation at Constituency Meetings**

42
 43 **Sec. 1. Regular Delegates: All delegates duly accredited by any one of the**
 44 **organized churches of the mission/field/section.** Each church shall be entitled to one
 45 delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each _____ members or major
 46 fraction thereof and who hold membership in the local church which accredits them. Such
 47 **delegates shall be chosen by the business meeting of the respective local church and**
 48 **include males and females.** ~~Sec. 1. Regular Delegates: Regular delegates to a~~



~~mission/field/section session shall be such delegates as shall be duly accredited by the organized churches of the mission/field/section, on the basis of one for each local organized church, and one additional for each _____ members or major fraction thereof. Such delegates shall be chosen by action of the business meeting of each respective local church and include males and females.~~

Sec. 2. Delegates At-Large: Delegates at-large to a constituency meeting of this mission/field/section session shall be: include:

a. The current members of the executive committee of this mission/field/ section.

b. Members of the General Conference, the _____ Division and the _____ Union Mission/Section or Union Conference Executive Committees who may be present at any ~~session~~ constituency meeting of this mission/field/section. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of delegates otherwise provided for.

c. All employees holding credentials or ministerial licenses issued by the _____ Union or the mission/field/section. All ordained and licensed ministers, and those holding missionary credentials from the _____ Union or the mission/field/section.

d. Such other persons as may be recommended by the executive committee and accepted by the delegates in session. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of delegates otherwise provided for.

e. A person who is not elected to a new term of office at a constituency meeting does not thereby lose delegate status at the current constituency meeting.

Sec. 3. Church Membership Requirement: All delegates appointed to represent the members of this mission/field/section at any constituency meeting shall be members in regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Article IX—Constituency Meeting Committees

(Note: Division executive committees may authorize a process whereby the session organizing and nominating committees may be selected and empowered to perform their tasks in advance of the session. The process to select such committees for a session shall involve constituency representation rather than being accomplished by the executive committee alone. Unless a division executive committee has approved other arrangements as described above, the following provisions shall apply for the appointment and functioning of session committees.)

Prior to each mission/field/section constituency meeting, ~~meeting of this mission/field/section~~, the executive committee shall provide for such temporary committees as may be necessary to conduct the preliminary work for the session.

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1 To facilitate the business of the session, constituency meeting committees may
2 convene by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all
3 persons participating can hear each other at the same time. **These committees include:**
4 ~~Committees that facilitate the business of the session include:~~

5
6 **Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee shall be constituted as**
7 **follows: Each church represented at the constituency meeting shall choose, or empower**
8 **its delegation to choose, one member plus one additional member for**
9 **each _____ members or a major fraction thereof. In addition, the at-large delegates to**
10 **the constituency meeting shall select _____ persons from the at-large delegate group to**
11 **serve on the organizing committee.** a. An organizing committee shall be constituted as
12 follows: Each church represented at the constituency meeting shall choose, or empower its
13 delegation to choose, one member plus one additional member for each _____ members or a
14 major fraction thereof. In addition, the at-large delegates to the constituency meeting shall
15 select _____ persons from the at-large delegate group to serve on the organizing committee.
16

17 **b. Members of the organizing committee shall be chosen at or prior to**
18 **the constituency meeting.** Members of the organizing committee shall be chosen at or prior
19 to the constituency meeting.
20

21 **c. If the organizing committee is to meet prior to the constituency**
22 **meeting, the time and place of the meeting shall be given in the official notice of the meeting.**
23

24 **d. The chair of the organizing committee shall be the president of the**
25 **Union or his designee.**
26

27 **e. The organizing committee shall nominate, and the constituency**
28 **shall elect:**
29

30 **1) A nominating committee.**

31 **2) Other committees as may be necessary.**
32
33

34 **Sec. 2. Nominating Committee: The nominating committee shall consist of at**
35 **least _____ and not more than _____ members, including the president of**
36 **the _____ Union, or his designee, who shall serve as chair. The membership of the**
37 **committee shall be balanced, as nearly as possible, between denominational workers and**
38 **laypersons representing various segments of the work and territories of the**
39 **mission/field/ section.**
40

41 **a. Those chosen as members of the Nominating Committee must be**
42 **duly appointed delegates in attendance at the constituency meeting.**
43

44 **b. Persons holding elective office, as outlined in Article VII, Sec. 11,**
45 **Sec. 10, in the current term, excluding non-ex officio members of the executive committee,**
46 **shall not be eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee.**
47

1 c. The Nominating Committee shall limit its nominations to those
 2 positions for which persons are to be elected at the constituency meeting and for which
 3 budgetary provisions have been made.

4
 5 d. The Nominating Committee shall also nominate members
 6 ~~members, other than ex officio members,~~ for the mission/field/section executive
 7 committee and for the boards of mission/field/section institutions whose bylaws indicate
 8 that board members for the entity are elected at a mission/field/section constituency
 9 meeting.

10
 11 Article X—Executive Committee

12
 13 **Sec. 1. Membership of the Executive Committee: The executive committee of**
 14 **the Mission/Field Section of Seventh-day Adventists shall be elected at its**
 15 **regularly scheduled constituency meeting and shall consist of from five to fifteen**
 16 **members, as determined by the union executive committee. The president, secretary,**
 17 **and treasurer/chief financial officer shall be ex officio members of the executive**
 18 **committee. The officers of the Union Mission/Section or Union Conference,**
 19 **the Division, and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are**
 20 **members ex officio of the mission/field/section executive committee; however, their**
 21 **membership shall be in addition to the number detailed above. Any such officers**
 22 **exercising their voting rights at any one meeting shall not make up more than ten**
 23 **percent of the committee membership present. The mission/field/section executive**
 24 **committee, of which the president shall be the chair and the secretary/secretary-**
 25 **treasurer shall be the secretary, shall consist of from five to fifteen members, as**
 26 **determined by the union conference or union mission/section executive committee. The**
 27 **mission/field/section president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer shall be ex**
 28 **officio members of the executive committee. The officers of the Union**
 29 **Mission/Section or Union Conference, the Division, and the General**
 30 **Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are members ex officio of the mission/field/section**
 31 **executive committee; however, their membership shall be in addition to the number**
 32 **detailed above. Any such officers exercising their voting rights at any one meeting shall**
 33 **not make up more than ten percent of the committee membership present.**

34
 35 *(Note: The union may indicate in this operating policy the minimum percentage of*
 36 *laypersons on the mission/field/section executive committee.)*

37
 38 **Sec. 2. Delegated Authority: The executive committee of this mission/field/section**
 39 **mission/field/section, unless replaced at a special constituency meeting, is delegated the**
 40 **authority to act on behalf of the constituents between constituency meetings, including**
 41 **the authority to remove, for cause (see definition of “for cause” in Article VII, Sec. 11. See:**
 42 **10: above), persons who have been elected at a mission/field/section constituency meeting**
 43 **including directors of departments/services, chief administrators of institutions, and**
 44 **members of boards and committee whose election or appointment is a result of a**
 45 **constituency meeting or executive committee meeting action; and to fill, for the**
 46 **remaining portion of the term, any vacancies thus created. (The offices of**
 47 **mission/field/section president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer are always**
 48 **filled by action of the union executive committee.) The removal of those named under**

1 Article VII, Sec. 11. shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting
 2 at a mission/field/section executive committee meeting where a majority of members is
 3 present, including: directors of departments/services; chief administrators of
 4 institutions; and board/committee members whose election or appointment is a result of
 5 a constituency meeting or executive committee meeting action; and to fill, for the
 6 remaining portion of the term, any vacancies thus created.

7
 8 **Sec. 3. Administrative Authority: The executive committee shall have full**
 9 **administrative authority:**

10
 11 a. To fill for the current term of office any vacancies that may occur by
 12 death, resignation, or otherwise, in its boards, committees, departments, or in offices which
 13 have been filled by mission/field/section constituency meeting election. ~~To fill for the~~
 14 ~~current term any vacancies that may occur by death, resignation, or otherwise, in its~~
 15 ~~boards, committees, departments, or in offices which have been filled by~~
 16 ~~mission/field/section constituency meeting election.~~

17
 18 b. To appoint committees, such as an administrative committee, with their
 19 terms of reference. ~~To appoint committees, such as an administrative committee, with~~
 20 ~~their terms of reference.~~

21
 22 c. To employ such personnel as may be necessary to execute its work
 23 effectively. ~~To employ such personnel as may be necessary to execute its work~~
 24 ~~effectively.~~

25
 26 d. To grant and withdraw credentials and licenses. The withdrawal of
 27 credentials shall require the consent of two thirds (2/3) of those voting at a
 28 mission/field/section executive committee meeting where a majority of members is present.
 29 ~~To grant and withdraw credentials and licenses. The withdrawal of credentials shall~~
 30 ~~require the consent of two thirds (2/3) of those voting at an executive committee meeting~~
 31 ~~where a majority of members is present.~~

32
 33 **Sec. 4. Meetings of the executive committee may be called at any time or place by the**
 34 **president, or in his absence by the secretary upon the written request of any three members, or**
 35 **twenty-five percent (whichever is more), of the executive committee. ~~Meetings of the~~**
 36 **mission/field/section executive committee may be called at any time or place by the president,**
 37 **or should he be absent from the field, such meetings may be called by the secretary upon the**
 38 **written request of any three members of the mission/field/section executive committee.**

39
 40 **Sec. 5. Attendance at Meetings: Where allowed by local law, executive committee**
 41 **members may participate in meetings by means of an electronic conference or similar**
 42 **communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same**
 43 **time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at such a**
 44 **meeting.**

45
 46 **Sec. 6. Notice of Meetings: Notice as to time and place, and any other**
 47 **requirements under this operating policy, ~~these bylaws~~, shall be provided to all members**
 48 **in a reasonable manner at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if the meeting is to take**

1 place by electronic conference or similar communications, or at least 96 hours if the
 2 meeting is to take place in person.

3
 4 **Sec. 7. Quorum:** Unless otherwise required in the Operating
 5 Policy, _____ members, including the president, of the mission/field/section executive
 6 committee ~~executive committee~~, shall constitute a quorum.

7
 8 **Article XI—Officers and Their Duties**

9
 10 **Sec. 1. Executive Officers:** The executive officers of this mission/field/section shall
 11 be a president, a secretary, and a treasurer/chief financial officer. The secretary and
 12 treasurer/chief financial officer may be one individual known as the secretary-treasurer. It is
 13 the duty of these officers, in consultation with one another, to carry forward the work
 14 according to plans, policies, and programs voted by the union executive committee, the
 15 constituency in session, and/or the mission/field/section executive committee. These
 16 plans, policies, and programs shall be in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs and
 17 actions adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in
 18 its quinquennial sessions.

19
 20 The mission/field/section executive officers ~~of this mission/field/section~~ shall be
 21 appointed by the union at the time of its sessions, or by the union executive committee
 22 between union sessions and shall hold office for the period of _____ years or until their
 23 successors are appointed and enter upon their duties. ~~sessions. The executive officers~~
 24 ~~shall be members of the local mission/field/section executive committee.~~ Vacancies in
 25 such offices shall be filled by action of the union executive committee.

26
 27 a. **President:** The president, who shall be an ordained minister of
 28 experience, is the first officer and shall report to the executive committee of the mission/
 29 field/section in consultation with the secretary and the treasurer/chief financial officer.
 30 He shall act as chair of constituency meetings and of the mission/field/section executive
 31 committee and serve in the general interests of the mission/field/section as the
 32 constituency and the ~~mission/field/section~~ executive committee shall determine. In his
 33 leadership he shall adhere to the policies of the _____ Union,
 34 the _____ Division, ~~Division~~ and of the General Conference of Seventh-day
 35 Adventists, work in harmony with the union executive ~~committee~~, committee and in
 36 close counsel with the union officers. When a local mission/field/section president is to be
 37 absent from the field for prolonged periods of time, the mission/field/section executive
 38 committee shall be authorized, in counsel with the union officers, to appoint an individual to
 39 act as chair during such absence.

40
 41 b. **Secretary:** The secretary, associated with the president as an
 42 executive officer, shall serve under the direction of the executive committee and shall act
 43 as vice-chair of the executive committee. The secretary shall report to the executive
 44 committee of the mission/field/section after consultation with the president. It shall be
 45 the duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the constituency meetings ~~sessions~~ and of
 46 the executive committee meetings, and to furnish copies of such to all members of the
 47 executive committee and to the union officers. ~~officers of the _____ Union~~
 48 ~~Mission/Section or Union Conference.~~ The secretary shall also be responsible for



1 providing information as may be requested by the president or the ~~union and local~~
2 ~~mission/field/section~~ mission/ field/section, union, or division committees and shall
3 perform such other duties as pertain to the office.

4
5 c. ~~Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer: The treasurer/chief~~ **Treasurer/Chief**
6 **Financial Officer: The treasurer/chief** financial officer, associated with the president as
7 an executive officer, shall serve under the direction of the executive committee. The
8 treasurer/chief financial officer shall report to the executive committee of the
9 mission/field/ section after consultation with the president. The treasurer/chief financial
10 officer shall be responsible for providing financial leadership to the organization which
11 will include, but shall not be limited to, receiving, safeguarding, and disbursing all funds
12 in harmony with the actions of the executive committee, for remitting all required funds
13 to the union/ division/General Conference in harmony with the _____ Division
14 policy, and for providing financial information to the president and to the executive
15 committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall also be responsible for furnishing
16 copies of the financial statements to the union officers. ~~the _____~~ Union officers.

17
18 **Sec. 2. Other Officers:** Other individuals may serve as officers of the
19 mission/field/section, such as associate secretary and associate treasurer.

20
21 **Article XII—Directors of Departments/Associations/Services**

22
23 **Sec. 1. Advisory Role:** The directors of departments/associations/services of this
24 mission/field/section shall work under the direction of the executive committee and the
25 president and shall serve in an advisory relationship to the field.

26
27 **Sec. 2. Departments/Associations/Services Structure: Mission/Field/Section**
28 departments, associations, and services shall be organized in harmony with the
29 department/association/service structure of the General Conference but shall not necessarily
30 duplicate the departments/ associations/services at the division or the General Conference of
31 Seventh-day Adventists. ~~Departments/Services Structure: Mission/Field/Section departments,~~
32 ~~associations, and services shall be organized in harmony with the department, association,~~
33 ~~service structure of the General Conference, but shall not necessarily duplicate the~~
34 ~~departments, associations, and services of the _____ Union or the Division.~~

35
36 **Article XIII—Finance**

37
38 **Sec. 1. Tithes and Offerings:** The church funds managed by this mission/field/
39 section shall be:

40
41 a. **Such portion of tithe as it shall be assigned by policy and as**
42 **received from all churches and isolated members in the mission/field/section**

43
44 b. Appropriations from the _____ Union Mission/Section or Union
45 Conference or the _____ Division.

46
47 c. Special donations and funds, legacies, gifts, devises, and bequests made
48 to it. ~~donations.~~



1
2 **Sec. 2. Policies:** The portion of title which is reserved for this
3 mission/field/section, as specified by policy, and all other funds shall be used in harmony
4 with the policies of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day
5 Adventists; Conference; and in the case of donations, their use shall be in harmony with
6 the specifications of donors and in compliance with government regulations. Tithe is
7 shared with the union and division on fixed percentages as set by the division executive
8 committee and with the General Conference on fixed percentages as set by the Annual
9 Council of the General Conference Executive Committee. This mission/field/section shall
10 pass on monthly to the _____ Union Mission/Section or Union Conference the
11 specified tithe percentage, all mission/field/section offerings, and such other funds as
12 may be called for by the policies of the union and division organizations.

13
14 **Sec. 3. Bank Accounts:** The funds of this mission/field/section shall be
15 safeguarded in harmony with the financial policies of the _____ Division of the
16 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Moneys shall be deposited in the name
17 of the _____ Mission/Field/Section of Seventh-day Adventists in regular or special
18 accounts in such banks or savings institutions as the mission/field/section executive
19 committee shall designate and shall be withdrawn only by persons authorized by
20 resolution of the mission/field/section executive committee.

21
22 **Sec. 4. Financial Statements:** The _____ Mission/Field/Section shall
23 regularly prepare statements of income and fund balances and shall be responsible for
24 the filing of copies of the annual financial statement with the _____ Union, Union
25 Conference or Union Mission/Section and the Division and, to the extent required by
26 law, with any branch of local or national government.

27
28 **Article XIV—Budget, Employee Compensation Review, and Financial Audit**

29
30 **Sec. 1. Budget:** The _____ Mission/Field/Section shall prepare an annual
31 budget in harmony with the policies of the _____ Division of the General
32 Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

33
34 **Sec. 2. Employee Compensation and Expense Review:** The executive committee
35 shall appoint an employee compensation and expense review committee, including a
36 union officer or one or more representatives appointed by the union executive
37 committee. The tasks of this committee are outlined in General Conference *Working*
38 *Policy*.

39
40 **Sec. 3. Independent Audit:** ~~A financial audit~~ The financial statements of this
41 mission/field/section shall be audited at least annually ~~conducted at least annually~~ by an
42 auditor chosen in harmony with General Conference *Working Policy*; and the records of
43 this mission/field/section or any of its subsidiaries, agencies, or institutions shall at all
44 times be open to said auditor.

45
46 **Article XV—Dissolution and Disposition of Assets**

47
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1 IBE/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to HMM(DIV)

2
3 210-20G AFFILIATION WITH OTHER SCHOOL SYSTEMS -
4 POLICY AMENDMENT

5
6 VOTED, To amend GC FE 50, Affiliation with Other School Systems, to read as
7 follows:

8
9 FE 50 Affiliation with Other School Systems

10
11 Schools owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church shall secure
12 approval from the union/division board of education and in the case of higher education,
13 through to the International Board of Education, prior to effecting any affiliation or
14 memorandum of understanding for coursework or a joint degree with a non-Adventist school
15 system (elementary, junior high, senior high school, or higher education). The affiliation or
16 memorandum of understanding will ensure alignment of Seventh-day Adventist philosophy, a
17 biblical worldview, ensure legal protections as a faith-based institution, and provide evidence
18 of significant benefit to the Adventist institution. ~~No Seventh-day Adventist school should~~
19 effect any affiliation for course work with a non-Adventist school system (elementary, junior
20 high, or senior high school) until approval has been obtained from the union board of
21 education.
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1 YOU/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to HMM(DIV)

2
3 220-20G PUBLIC CAMPUS MINISTRIES - POLICY DELETION

4
5 VOTED, To delete GC FA 55, Public Campus Ministries, which reads as follows:

6
7 FA 55 Public Campus Ministries

8
9 FA 55 05 Objectives—Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries collaborates with Youth
10 Ministries and Education in providing support to Seventh-day Adventists who, for a variety of
11 reasons, attend public colleges and universities around the world. Working under the
12 supervision of a General Conference-appointed committee on Adventist Ministry to College
13 and University Students (AMiCUS) and in coordination with the world divisions, these three
14 departments promote and support initiatives designed to meet the spiritual, intellectual, and
15 social needs of Adventist students on public campuses worldwide. In cooperation with leaders
16 at various church levels, AMiCUS endeavors to (1) strengthen the faith commitment of
17 students to Seventh-day Adventist beliefs and mission, (2) prepare students to deal with the
18 intellectual challenges that arise in a secular environment, (3) develop the leadership abilities
19 of students, (4) provide students with opportunities for Christian fellowship, and (5) train
20 students for outreach, service, and witness on the campus, in the community, and in the world
21 at large.

22
23 FA 55 10 Responsibilities—The AMiCUS Committee provides overall supervision
24 and coordination of this global ministry and, in consultation with leaders in world divisions,
25 promotes initiatives designed to:

- 26
27 1. Organize associations of Adventist students in public campuses and hold
28 special meetings for them,
29
30 2. Publish and distribute *College and University Dialogue*, a handbook, and other
31 materials that support this ministry, and
32
33 3. Train campus chaplains, lay leaders, and pastors in university centers.

34
35 The committee also develops an annual budget to carry out its international ministry.

36
37 Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries focuses on fostering the organization and activities of
38 student associations in college or university centers, training students for leadership and
39 outreach, and holding regional student conventions and retreats.

40
41 FA 55 15 Role of the World Divisions—Each world division shall assign to one or
42 two Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries-qualified department directors the responsibility of
43 leading in the ministry to Adventist students on public college and university campuses, with
44 support from the General Conference-appointed AMiCUS Committee and in coordination
45 with union leaders in their territory. This ministry seeks to:

- 46
47 1. Foster the organization and activities of Adventist student associations on
48 public campuses and maintain a current list of them,

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- 1 2. Hold regional meetings for these students,
- 2
- 3 3. Budget funds for the free distribution of *Dialogue* and other needed materials,
- 4
- 5 4. Offer specialized training for campus chaplains, lay leaders, and pastors in
- 6 university centers,
- 7
- 8 5. Train students for outreach, service, and evangelism on their campuses, their
- 9 communities, and beyond,
- 10
- 11 6. Promote the involvement of Seventh-day Adventist university professors and
- 12 other professionals as mentors in this ministry.
- 13
- 14 7. Connect these students with Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities as
- 15 potential transfer students, where possible, and eventually as faculty members,
- 16
- 17 8. Assist local leaders in establishing and maintaining good relations with
- 18 administrators of public colleges and universities at which Adventists are students,
- 19
- 20 9. Engage the services of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty in preventing or
- 21 solving Sabbath observance issues related to Seventh-day Adventist students ~~in~~ on public
- 22 campuses, and
- 23
- 24 10. Provide coordination and guidance for this ministry to their counterparts in the
- 25 unions and local fields, as well as periodic assessment.

26
27 FA 55 20 Role of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries—Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries
28 focuses on three primary tasks as its part in supporting students:

- 29
- 30 1. Endorsing Adventist campus chaplains;
- 31
- 32 2. Providing professional development training for campus chaplains; and
- 33
- 34 3. Developing materials to support their chaplains’ ministry.
- 35
- 36
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- 47

1 TRS/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to HMM(DIV)

2
3 215-20G LEGAL ASSOCIATION AND TRUST SERVICES—
4 DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES - POLICY AMENDMENT

5
6 VOTED, To amend GC FT, Legal Association and Trust Services, to read as follows:

7
8 FT LEGAL CORPORATION/ASSOCIATION AND PLANNED GIVING AND TRUST
9 SERVICES MINISTRY—DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES
10 ASSOCIATION AND TRUST SERVICES—DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

11
12 FT 05 Mission Statement

13
14 Planned Giving and Trust Services helps individuals experience the joy of lifelong
15 giving. Our goal is to connect a donor’s passion with the mission and work of the Seventh-
16 day
17 Adventist Church to expand the kingdom of heaven. (See also S 40.)

18
19 FT 10 Statement of Purpose

20
21 A recognition of the sovereignty of God, by right of creation and redemption, enables
22 Seventh-day Adventist Christians to enjoy a sense of security and a relationship with their
23 heavenly Father that surpass all other considerations. A contemplation of Calvary prompts
24 them to dedicate themselves and all that they have to God. To do less would mean the loss of
25 spiritual and temporal blessings that come only to those who recognize that God is the owner
26 of all things and that each person is His steward. This concept of stewardship is recognized by
27 the Christian community; therefore, unique approaches should be taken to achieve the goal of
28 securing to the Lord the material blessings bestowed upon the members of His Church.

29
30 The Seventh-day Adventist Church in its Planned Giving and Trust Services, offered
31 through the conference legal corporations/associations ~~assœiations~~ and denominational
32 institutions, teaches this profound truth and provides the means whereby individuals and
33 families may, through the avenues of special gifts, trusts, annuities, and bequests, give their
34 continuing whole-hearted support to God’s work.

35
36 In the fulfillment of this purpose, the Legal Corporation/Association ~~Assœiation~~
37 through its Planned Giving and Trust Services also seeks to minimize the cost of
38 administering and closing the estates of donors; attempts to utilize every lawful means to hold
39 income, gift, and estate tax consequences to a minimum; and proclaims, as Heaven’s standard
40 of stewardship, the principles set forth in the Bible and amplified in the Spirit of Prophecy.

41
42 FT 15 Definition of Planned Giving and Trust Services

43
44 Planned Giving ministry encourages members to respond to God’s grace in the
45 crowning act of stewardship with the preparation of an estate plan by every church member
46 family. Estate planning responsibility involves more than just money and possessions.
47 Planning includes, but is not limited to, parents planning to give their faith in God and values



1 to their children, and the proper education of children to be the next generation of faithful
 2 stewards.

3
 4 Planned Giving promotes that each church member should have their own plan that
 5 will honor God and give glory to Him. Honoring God will include providing for the needs of
 6 family, partnering with God in completing His mission through the proper utilization of all
 7 His gifts and resources. A God honoring plan will pass on faith in God, possessions, and
 8 values to the generations to follow.

9
 10 “And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, ‘This one shall not be your
 11 heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir.’” (Gen 15:4 NKJV)

12
 13 “They feel that they are stepping upon forbidden ground when they introduce the
 14 subject of property to the aged or to invalids in order to learn what disposition they design to
 15 make of it. *But this duty is just as sacred as the duty to preach the word to save souls. . . .*
 16 Should not Christian men feel interested and anxious for that man’s future good as well as for
 17 the interest of God’s cause, that he shall make a right disposition of his Lord’s money, the
 18 talents lent him for wise improvement?” (CS 323-324, emphasis supplied.)

19
 20 Trust Services ministry is the process of receiving from Seventh-day Adventist
 21 members or friends of the church, cash or non-cash gifts for the support of the mission of the
 22 Seventh-day Adventist Church. This includes due diligence to determine the sustainability of
 23 gifts to be received and the professional processing of an acceptable gift.

24
 25 “. . . [A]nd they built and finished [the temple], according to the commandment of the
 26 God of Israel, and according to the command of Cyrus, Darius, and Artaxerxes king of
 27 Persia.” (Ezra 6:14 NKJV)

28
 29 “Just as long as we are in this world, and the Spirit of God is striving with the world,
 30 we are to receive as well as to impart favors. We are to give to the world the light of truth as
 31 presented in the Sacred Scriptures, and *we are to receive from the world that which God*
 32 *moves upon them to do in behalf of His cause.* The Lord still moves upon the hearts of kings
 33 and rulers in behalf of His people, and it becomes those. . . . not to cut off any favors or
 34 withdraw themselves from the help that God has moved men to give, for the advancement of
 35 His cause.” (CS 183, emphasis supplied.)

1 YOU/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to HMM(DIV)

2
3 219-20G YOUTH MINISTRIES—DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES -
4 POLICY AMENDMENT

5
6 VOTED, To amend GC FY, Youth Ministries—Departmental Policies, to read as
7 follows:

8
9 FY YOUTH MINISTRIES—DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

10
11 FY 05 Purpose

12
13 Youth Ministries of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is a
14 department of the Church that works for and with the youth. The purpose of Youth Ministries
15 is to lead young people into a saving relationship with Christ by winning, training, retaining,
16 and reclaiming the youth. The department is to assist the world Church—in consultation with
17 administration and in cooperation other departments—by involving divisions in forming
18 objectives and goals as well as developing plans to equip the body of the Church to engage
19 with its youth and prepare them to strategically take the gospel to all the world.

20
21 ~~Youth Ministries of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is a~~
22 ~~department of the Church which works for and through its youth. Youth Ministry is defined as~~
23 ~~that work of the Church, operated through this department, that is conducted for, with, and by~~
24 ~~young people. The primary focus is the salvation of youth through Jesus Christ and their~~
25 ~~acceptance and involvement in the mission of the church.~~

26
27 ~~The purpose of Youth Ministries is to facilitate and support the ministry of the Church~~
28 ~~in winning, training, holding, and reclaiming its youth. The department shares the~~
29 ~~responsibility for developing a global evangelistic strategy in consultation with administration~~
30 ~~and in cooperation with other departments of the Church. It is to assist the world Church in~~
31 ~~forming objectives, goals, and plans, and to provide training that will equip the body of the~~
32 ~~Church to save its youth and prepare them to take the gospel to all the world. All of its~~
33 ~~activities are to be coordinated into a master strategy for soul winning and soul conservation.~~

34
35 FY 10 Objectives

36
37 FY 10 05 Objectives of the Department—1 . To help youth develop their full
38 potential physically, mentally, spiritually, and socially.

39
40 2. To lead youth to understand their individual worth in Christ and provide them
41 with a Bible-based foundation that will enable them to develop a life-long relationship and
42 commitment to Christ and His Church.

43
44 3. To help youth discover and develop their spiritual gifts and abilities for the
45 benefit and growth of God’s church and the community.

46
47 4. To integrate, equip, and empower youth into all aspects of church life, service
48 and leadership in order that they might be full participants in the mission of the Church.



1 5. To be relevant and effective in ministry by focusing all ministry on the needs
2 of youth.

3
4 To accomplish its objectives, the department must listen to the voice of youth through
5 world divisions to be informed about their perceptions, concerns, needs, and suggestions in
6 order to achieve a balanced ministry by incorporating the biblical dynamics of fellowship,
7 nurture, discipleship, worship, empowerment, and mission.

8
9 ~~FY 10 05 Objectives of the Department—1. Provide youth with a Bible-based~~
10 ~~foundation that will enable them to develop a life long relationship and commitment to Christ~~
11 ~~and His Church.~~

12
13 ~~2. Lead youth to understand their individual worth in Christ and to discover and~~
14 ~~develop their spiritual gifts and abilities.~~

15
16 ~~3. Equip and empower youth for a life of service within God’s church and the~~
17 ~~community.~~

18
19 ~~4. Ensure the integration of youth into all aspects of church life and leadership in~~
20 ~~order that they might be full participants in the mission of the Church.~~

21
22 ~~To accomplish their objectives, the department is to achieve a balanced ministry by~~
23 ~~incorporating the biblical dynamics of fellowship, nurture, worship, and mission. It is to help~~
24 ~~the youth to develop their full potential physically, mentally, spiritually, and socially. Youth~~
25 ~~Ministries is committed to maintaining relevance and effectiveness in ministry by relating all~~
26 ~~its ministry to the needs of youth. To accomplish this, it must listen to youth and be informed~~
27 ~~as to their perceptions, concerns, and suggestions.~~

28
29 FY 15 Departmental Staffing

30
31 FY 15 05 Director and Associate Directors—Youth Ministries shall have a director
32 and associate directors as needed. Qualified personnel shall be elected on the basis of their
33 experience in ministering to youth and their expertise to care for the specialized ministries,
34 activities, and responsibilities encompassed by the work of the department. Specialists may be
35 appointed to meet specific needs of the department. Personnel shall be elected or appointed as
36 required to support the functions outlined in the *Church Manual* and as stipulated in the
37 General Conference Constitution and Bylaws.

38
39 The director works under the direction of the General Conference president and the
40 General Conference Executive Committee. ~~However, operationally~~ Operationally and
41 administratively, the department, through its director, is responsible to the president and
42 assists him and other officers in promoting plans and work outlined by the Executive
43 Committee.

44
45 FY 20 Programs and Activities

46
47 ~~FY 20 05 Programs and Activities—Youth Ministries—Youth Ministries serves the~~
48 ~~worldwide Church through the following specialized ministries: ministries and programs.~~

Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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- 1 1. Adventurer Ministry (4 to 9 years)
- 2
- 3 2. Pathfinder Ministry (10 to 15 years)
- 4
- 5 3. Ambassador Ministry (16 to 21 years)
- 6
- 7 4. Young Adult Ministry (22 to 30 years)
- 8
- 9 5. Public Campus Ministry (16 to 30+ years)
- 10
- 11 ~~1. Junior/Teen Ministry~~
- 12
- 13 ~~2. Senior Youth/Young Adult Ministry~~
- 14
- 15 ~~3. Local Church Youth Organizations~~
- 16
- 17 ~~a. Adventurer Clubs (6 to 9 years)~~
- 18
- 19 ~~b. Pathfinder Clubs (10 to 15 years)~~
- 20
- 21 ~~c. Ambassador Club (16 to 21+ years)~~
- 22
- 23 ~~d. Adventist Youth Societies (22 to 30+ years)~~

FY 20 10 Objectives—These local church youth organizations shall - No change

FY 25 Public Campus Ministry

FY 55 05 Objectives—Youth Ministries collaborates with Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries and Education in providing support to Seventh-day Adventists who, for a variety of reasons, attend public colleges and universities around the world. Working under the supervision of a General Conference-appointed committee on Adventist Ministry to College and University Students (AMiCUS) and in coordination with the world divisions, these three departments promote and support initiatives designed to meet the spiritual, intellectual, and social needs of Adventist students on public campuses worldwide. In cooperation with leaders at various church levels, AMiCUS endeavors to (1) strengthen the faith commitment of students to Seventh-day Adventist beliefs and mission, (2) prepare students to deal with the intellectual challenges that arise in a secular environment, (3) develop the leadership abilities of students, (4) provide students with opportunities for Christian fellowship, and (5) train students for outreach, service, and witness on the campus, in the community, and in the world at large.

FA 55 10 Responsibilities—The Adventist Ministry to College and University Students (AMiCUS) Committee provides overall supervision and coordination of this global ministry and, in consultation with leaders in world divisions, promotes initiatives designed to:

1. Organize associations of Adventist students in public campuses and hold special meetings for them,

Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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1
2 2. Publish and distribute *College and University Dialogue*, a handbook, and other
3 materials that support this ministry, and

4
5 3. Train campus chaplains (endorsed by Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries), lay
6 leaders, and pastors in university centers.

7
8 The committee also develops an annual budget to carry out its international ministry.

9
10 Public Campus Ministries focuses on fostering the organization and activities of
11 student associations in college or university centers, training students for leadership and
12 outreach, and holding regional student conventions and retreats.

13
14 FA 55 15 Role of the World Divisions—Each world territory shall assign to one or
15 two qualified Youth Ministries directors the responsibility of leading in the ministry to
16 Adventist students on public college and university campuses, with support from the General
17 Conference-appointed Adventist Ministry to College and University Students (AMiCUS)
18 Committee and in coordination with union leaders in their territory. This ministry seeks to:

19
20 1. Foster the organization and activities of Adventist student associations on
21 public campuses and maintain a current list of them,

22
23 2. Hold regional meetings for these students,

24
25 3. Budget funds for the free distribution of *Dialogue* and other needed materials,

26
27 4. Offer specialized training for campus chaplains, lay leaders, and pastors in
28 university centers,

29
30 5. Train students for outreach, service, and evangelism on their campuses, their
31 communities, and beyond,

32
33 6. Promote the involvement of Seventh-day Adventist university professors and
34 other professionals as mentors in this ministry,

35
36 7. Connect these students with Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities as
37 potential transfer students, where possible, and eventually as faculty members,

38
39 8. Assist local leaders in establishing and maintaining good relations with
40 administrators of public colleges and universities at which Adventists are students,

41
42 9. Engage the services of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty in preventing or
43 solving Sabbath observance issues related to Seventh-day Adventist students ~~in~~ on public
44 campuses,

45
46 10. Provide coordination and guidance for this ministry to their counterparts in the
47 unions and local fields, as well as periodic assessment,

1 11. Connect Public Campus Ministry groups with local churches for mentoring
2 purposes and maintaining global Church identity, and

3
4 12. Connect students with the Adventist Volunteer Service.

5
6 ~~FY 25 Public Campus Ministry~~
7 ~~{Repealed Annual Council 2016}~~
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1 TRS/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO20AC/20AC to HMM(DIV)

2
3 216-20G TRUST SERVICES - POLICY AMENDMENT

4
5 VOTED, To amend GC S 40, Trust Services, to read as follows:

6
7 S 40 Planned Giving and Trust Services

8
9 S 40 05 Deferred Gifts—1. ~~Scripture and Spirit of Prophecy Counsel—‘How much~~
10 ~~owest thou unto my Lord?’ Luke 16:5. . . . All Counsel—“How much do you owe my~~
11 ~~master?” (Luke 16:5 NKJV) “All that we have is from God. He lays His hand upon our~~
12 ~~possessions, saying, ‘I am the rightful owner of the whole universe; these are My goods.’ . . .~~
13 ~~God is testing every soul that claims to believe in Him. . . . The Lord has given men His~~
14 ~~goods upon which to trade. He has made them His stewards, and has placed in their~~
15 ~~possession money, houses, and lands.” (9T 245) lands.”—Testimonies, vol 9, p 245.~~

16
17 2. Present Gifts—Changing financial and economic conditions - No change

18
19 3. Deferred Gifts—In addition to making large immediate - No change

20
21 S 40 10 Gift Annuity Agreements—1. Approved Organizations—General - No change

22
23 2. Rate Schedules—Gift annuity agreement rate schedules are provided by the
24 division, or in the case of North America the General Conference Corporation. Corporation,
25 ~~to officers of union and local conferences or local missions/fields/sections and institutions and~~
26 ~~shall be strictly adhered to by all issuing organizations.~~

27
28 3. ~~Accounting—Gift annuity agreements shall be accounted for by generally~~
29 ~~accepted accounting principles for such agreements as set forth in accepted fund accounting~~
30 ~~manuals. The organization shall maintain a fund balance for each annuity which shall be~~
31 ~~equal to the difference between the original annuity amount and any applicable liabilities for~~
32 ~~each annuity (e.g. net present value of future annuity payments, any liabilities to other~~
33 ~~denominational organizations, and deferred income). Where the issuing organization is the~~
34 ~~intended done, when annuity earnings exceed the required annual payments, and when the~~
35 ~~annuity fund balance of each annuity exceeds the above required amount, these excess~~
36 ~~earnings may be used by the issuing organization. In all cases fund balances shall not be less~~
37 ~~than required by applicable law. Where an organization (managing organization)~~
38 ~~manages/administers an annuity for the benefit of some other intended donee(s) (benefitting~~
39 ~~organization(s)), excess earnings, which represent amounts held by the managing~~
40 ~~organization, in excess of the original amount of the annuity may be transferred to any~~
41 ~~benefitting organization(s) on a pro rata basis. The provisions in this paragraph for the use of~~
42 ~~excess earnings from gift annuities do not apply to deferred payment gift annuities.~~

43
44 4. ~~Signatures—The gift annuity agreements are made valid upon the signature of~~
45 ~~the duly elected officers of the organizations writing the agreements.~~

46
47 5. ~~Applicable Laws—Before local conferences or local missions/ fields/sections~~
48 ~~write cash Gift Annuity agreements in excess of USD 100,000 or write annuities to be funded~~

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1 ~~by assets other than cash, the local conference or local mission/field/section association~~
 2 ~~personnel shall obtain counsel from the Union Trust Services Director or Union Conference~~
 3 ~~officers regarding applicable laws and the capability of the local conference or local~~
 4 ~~mission/field/section to accept and administer the assets to be transferred.~~

5
 6 S 40 15 Trust Agreements—In addition to outright gifts, ~~gifts and the provisions made~~
 7 ~~for gift annuity agreements~~, General Conference, division, union and local conference or local
 8 mission/field/section associations ~~or corporations~~ and legally organized institutions are
 9 authorized to accept funds or property in trust, subject to the following conditions:

10
 11 ~~1. Maximum Interest Rates—The maximum specified rate payable to the trustor~~
 12 ~~used in revocable trust agreements shall not exceed the maximum interest paid by the union~~
 13 ~~revolving fund serving that union territory. General Conference institutions shall use the rate~~
 14 ~~paid within the union in which the institution is located. The net amount paid in irrevocable~~
 15 ~~trust agreements shall not exceed what the corpus of the trust actually earns except as~~
 16 ~~specifically provided for under the terms required by law in the writing of a unitrust or~~
 17 ~~annuity trust, or charitable gift annuity.~~

18
 19 ~~2. 1.~~ Approval of Agreements—All agreements shall be specifically - No change

20
 21 ~~3. 2.~~ Investments in Trusts—An organization or institution acting as - No change

22
 23 ~~4. 3.~~ Legal Counsel—Where trust agreements are entered into by - No change

24
 25 ~~5. 4.~~ Denominational Benefit—Organizations shall write trust agreements - No
 26 change

27
 28 S 40 20 Wills—While the writing of ~~gift annuity agreements and~~ trust agreements is
 29 encouraged, legally drawn wills should also be considered when making gifts to
 30 denominational organizations. As a general rule, such wills should be drafted by the donor’s
 31 attorney.

32
 33 S 40 25 Recording Maturity of Deferred Giving Instruments—A record - No change

34
 35 S 40 30 Administrator, Trustee, and Executor of Wills—Fees—A denominational -
 36 No change

37
 38 S 40 31 Power of Attorney/Fiduciary—Safeguards—Where there is a need - No
 39 change

40
 41 S 40 32 Executor Fee Charged to Beneficiary Organizations—When - No change

42
 43 S 40 33 Personal Representative, Conservator—Safeguards—When - No change

44
 45 S 40 35 Interorganizational Planned Giving and Trust Services Guidelines—The
 46 following interorganizational Trust Services Guidelines shall govern all organizations
 47 rendering Trust Services:



- 1 ~~1.~~ ~~Definition of Trust Services—The definition of Trust Services shall include~~
- 2 ~~wills, trust agreements, charitable gift annuities, unitrusts, annuity trusts, life income~~
- 3 ~~agreements, and life care agreements.~~
- 4
- 5 ~~2.~~ 1. Local Conferences or Local Missions/Fields/Sections—It is - No change
- 6
- 7 ~~3.~~ 2. Referrals—All referrals will be followed up in the regular - No change
- 8
- 9 ~~4.~~ 3. Alumni—Local conferences or local missions/fields/sections - No change
- 10
- 11 ~~5.~~ 4. Institutions—Educational and other institutions may operate Planned Giving
- 12 and Trust Services programs under specific written agreements with union conferences or
- 13 union missions/sections under whatever terms are approved by the controlling committees
- 14 and boards.
- 15
- 16 ~~6.~~ 5. Promotional Materials—Organizations have the privilege - No change
- 17
- 18 ~~7.~~ 6. Non-Seventh-day Adventists—No restrictions to be placed - No change
- 19
- 20 ~~8.~~ 7. Clarification of Membership Status—When it is not known - No change
- 21
- 22 ~~9.~~ 8. Approaches to Higher Organization—If a church member contacts the General
- 23 Conference or a union conference or union mission/section, the organization will call the
- 24 attention of the member to the possibility of the local conference or local mission/field/section
- 25 handling the matter; however, if the person still desires that the General Conference, union
- 26 conference, or union mission/section serve them, ~~as trustee~~, this will be respected.
- 27
- 28 ~~10.~~ 9. Church Members in Other Conferences or Missions/Fields/Sections—Should -
- 29 No change
- 30
- 31 ~~11.~~ 10. Cooperation—Conferences or Missions/Fields/Sections - No change
- 32
- 33 ~~12.~~ 11. Alumni of Educational Institutions—Educational institutions have - No change
- 34
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1 EDU/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO20AC/20AC to HMM(DIV)

2
3 226-20G GENERAL CONFERENCE GRADUATE (PHD/THD)
4 SCHOLARSHIP FUND - POLICY AMENDMENT

5
6 VOTED, To amend GC S 80, General Conference Graduate (PhD/ThD) Scholarship
7 Fund, to read as follows:

8
9 S 80 General Conference Graduate (PhD/ThD) Scholarship Fund

10
11 S 80 05 General Conference Graduate (PhD/ThD) Scholarship Fund—1. The General
12 Conference Graduate (PhD/ThD) Scholarship Fund has been established for the purpose of
13 sharing with all divisions the expense of providing an increased number of college and
14 seminary teachers with PhD and ThD degrees earned at Andrews University, the Adventist
15 International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS), or at the Adventist University of Africa
16 (AUA). ~~University or at the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies.~~

17
18 2. The General Conference and the divisions shall share the cost as follows:

19
20 a. The General Conference shall provide from its Graduate Scholarship
21 Fund one continuing doctoral scholarship at Andrews University or up to three continuing
22 doctoral scholarships at the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies or the
23 Adventist University of Africa, or a combination at AIAS and AUA not to exceed a total of
24 three, for each division to meet the following expenses:

- 25
26 1) Fifty percent of the living expenses for - No change
27
28 2) Full tuition and fees for the respective graduate - No change
29

30 b. The respective divisions shall be responsible to:

31
32 1) Select and nominate the qualified person(s) to receive the
33 scholarship(s) subject to approval by the General Conference and acceptance into the
34 respective doctoral program of the approved school, either Andrews ~~University or~~ University,
35 the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies, or the Adventist University of
36 Africa. Studies.

- 37
38 2) Provide for travel expense to and from the - No change
39
40 3) Provide for any additional expenses including - No change
41
42 4) Assist in securing visas and all other documents for entry into
43 the United States of America if the program is to be taken at Andrews University, ~~or~~ into the
44 Philippines if the program is to be taken at the Adventist International Institute of Advanced
45 Studies, or into Kenya if the program is to be taken in residence at the Adventist University of
46 Africa, and for return to the individual's home country/country of employment.

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1 GCAS/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO20AC/SEC/ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to
 2 HMM(DIV)

3
 4 222-20G PRINCIPLES OF REMUNERATION PLAN
 5 DEVELOPMENT - POLICY AMENDMENT

6
 7 VOTED, To amend GC Y 05 25, Principles of Remuneration Plan Development, to
 8 read as follows:

9
 10 Y 05 25 Principles of Remuneration Plan Development—Wide variations in national
 11 economies and employment environments make it impossible to establish a single
 12 remuneration plan that is equitable and appropriate everywhere. For this reason, the General
 13 Conference and each of the divisions are responsible for establishing a remuneration plan(s),
 14 including various allowances, that is sensitive to the local environments within its territory.
 15 The General Conference and each division executive committee shall establish a remuneration
 16 committee with representation from denominational employee groups such as ministers,
 17 educators, and accountants, along with significant (and where possible a majority)
 18 representation from laypersons with appropriate skills who have an understanding of
 19 denominational policy and practice. The remuneration committee shall recommend to a major
 20 meeting of the division executive committee, and in the case of the General Conference, to a
 21 Spring Meeting or Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee, a
 22 remuneration plan(s) and remuneration levels to be used within its territory.

23
 24 In the preparation of a remuneration plan(s), the committee shall bear in mind that
 25 denominational employment is a call to service and is therefore characterized by a different
 26 set of standards or references than is prevalent in society or in merely business and
 27 commercial enterprises. All employees—pastors, administrators, and support staff—
 28 participate in a ministry on behalf of the Church. Remuneration plans should thus promote
 29 and maintain a sense of collegiality among all employees.

30
 31 The General Conference office and General Conference institutions shall use the
 32 remuneration plan structure of the division/country where they are located as the basis for
 33 calculating their remuneration plans. Any variation from the structure of the host division
 34 remuneration plan shall be reviewed by the General Conference Remuneration Committee
 35 and referred to the General Conference Administrative Committee prior to implementation.

36
 37 Remuneration plans addressed in Y 05 25 incorporate the following features and, prior
 38 to their adoption, shall be reviewed by the General Conference Administrative Committee to
 39 determine adherence to these broad principles and guidelines.

40
 41 1. Unity and consistency in job classification and relative ranking - No change

42
 43 2. Preference for a single remuneration plan in the division for all employees that
 44 encourages employee collegiality, especially between pastoral workers and administration.
 45 Accordingly, the maximum remuneration of a division president shall not exceed by more
 46 than 25 percent the remuneration of the highest classification of a local church pastor
 47 (multiply pastor’s maximum remuneration by 1.25 representing 25 percent more) in the local
 48 area. In the case of the General Conference president, it shall not exceed by more than five

1 percent the remuneration of the host division president (multiply host division president's
2 remuneration by 1.05 representing five percent more). ~~president.~~

- 3
- 4 3. Alternate Remuneration Plans—Although the main remuneration - No change
- 5
- 6 4. A clearly defined method and time frame for determining how - No change
- 7
- 8 5. Remuneration levels that do not discriminate on the basis - No change
- 9
- 10 6. Remuneration factors for the area applied to the various levels - No change
- 11
- 12 7. Government regulations concerning employee remuneration - No change
- 13
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1 SEC/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/SecC/GCDO20AC/20AC to HMM(DIV)

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223-20G USE OF "REELECT" - POLICY DIRECTIVE

VOTED, To approve a directive to amend the General Conference *Working Policy*, where appropriate, by deleting “reelect” and replacing it with “elect to a new term of office.”



1 TRE/PolRev&Dev/ADCOM/TreC/GCDO20AC/SEC/ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to
 2 HMM(DIV)

3
 4 221-20Ga FINANCIAL RATIOS - POLICY AMENDMENT

5
 6 RATIONALE: The current policy provision regarding working capital is impacted by the
 7 following:

8
 9 1. Receiving Restricted Funds—An organization improves its apparent
 10 compliance to the recommended minimum working capital if it receives (and holds) restricted
 11 income such
 12 as a Global Mission grant, Thirteenth Sabbath project funding, or a restricted donation. This is
 13 true even though it is not in a better position to deal with a financial emergency. The opposite
 14 is also true. If an organization spends restricted net assets it appears to be in a worse working
 15 capital position in terms of the policy when in fact it is not in a worse position to handle an
 16 emergency.

17
 18 2. Spending Allocated and Restricted Funds—The recommended minimum
 19 working
 20 capital increases when the organization spends allocated or restricted funds. Allocated or
 21 restricted funds are for special purposes. Spending from them does not increase the amount of
 22 working capital that the organization needs. However, the current policy calculation of a
 23 recommended minimum working capital includes these expenditures to determine what that
 24 amount should be. Therefore, the current policy calculation penalizes an organization if it
 25 spends to fulfill the intentions of allocated funds or terms of the restricted funds and could
 26 create an incentive to improperly retain these funds.

27
 28 3. Allocating for Financial Contingencies—An organization appears less
 29 compliant or more compliant with the recommended working capital when it increases or
 30 decreases, respectively, allocations for some financial contingency (e.g., exchange rate
 31 fluctuation). Neither the increase nor decrease in such allocations changes the ability of an
 32 organization to address financial emergencies.

33
 34 *Guiding Principles*

35
 36 The following six principles guide the proposed revision to the working capital and
 37 liquidity policies:

38
 39 1. Simplicity—The calculation for recommended working capital and liquidity
 40 should be simple to understand and apply. This proposal does so by not providing for every
 41 conceivable consideration. Instead, the focus is on the most significant concerns.

42
 43 2. Responsiveness—Organizations can and should make adjustments in response
 44 to a financial crisis. For example, they can lay off workers or reduce appropriations. However,
 45 adjustments require time and this policy looks at the working capital and liquidity reserves
 46 primarily as giving the organization breathing room to make such adjustments in an orderly
 47 and worker sensitive approach. The recommended working capital and liquidity is not
 48 intended to be the complete response to financial threats.

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1 This proposal removes the distinction between whether an organization pays a worker
 2 from allocated resources or regular operating resources. In both cases, and at least in the
 3 initial period of a financial emergency, an organization needs to continue paying all its
 4 workers—no matter the source of its funding.

5
 6 3. Availability of Board Allocated Net Assets—Board allocated net assets should
 7 be
 8 available in times of economic emergencies. As such, no distinction is made between board
 9 allocated net assets and unallocated net assets, except allocations made by the board to meet
 10 constitutional or constituent requirements. The proposed policy does not exclude board
 11 allocated net assets, except allocations made by the board to meet constitutional or constituent
 12 requirements, from assessing the readiness of an organization to handle financial
 13 emergencies.

14
 15 4. Maintaining Donor Confidence—Since maintaining donor confidence is of
 16 crucial
 17 importance, donor-restricted net assets are not considered part of the resources available to
 18 weather a financial emergency. Similarly, appropriations for special projects from other
 19 organizations (e.g., Global Mission grants) require the same care.

20
 21 5. Minimal Provision—An organization should make at least the minimal
 22 provision to ensure it can continue paying employment and contractual obligations during an
 23 economic downturn or financial emergency. These obligations include payroll, rents,
 24 mortgage payments, taxes, etc.

25
 26 6. Provision for Allocated Net Assets—An organization should only make
 27 allocations of net assets that are matched with available resources. Allocations without
 28 matching to available resources misrepresents the financial condition of an organization. This
 29 proposal does not include allocated net assets, except allocations made by the board to meet
 30 constitutional or constituent requirements, in calculating the recommended minimum
 31 available working capital and liquid assets for an organization.

32
 33 VOTED, To amend GC S 24, Financial Ratios, to read as follows:

34
 35 S 24 Financial Ratios

36
 37 S 24 05 Use of Ratios—Financial ratios are useful indicators of - No change

38
 39 S 24 10 Working Capital—Economic downturns and financial emergencies are part of
 40 the routine cycle of organizational life. Church organizations would do well in being prepared
 41 for such downturns and emergencies by ensuring resources are in place to prevent or
 42 minimize any disruption to its mission. Being prepared would include having sufficient
 43 resources to cover operational expenses and appropriations to subsidiary or related
 44 organizations for a predetermined period of time. Each organization should be mindful to
 45 build up reasonable reserves of working capital in preparation for unfavorable financial times.
 46 It would be prudent for an organization to hold a significant portion of its available working
 47 capital in liquid assets. Capital—In order that adequate financial resources will be available
 48 for the sound and effective operation of all organizations, the following provisions are based

49

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1 ~~on what has been considered historically adequate for denominational entities and are outlined~~
 2 ~~below:~~

3
 4 S 24 14 Definitions—1. Working Capital—The amount of current assets in excess of
 5 current liabilities (current assets minus current liabilities).

6
 7 2. Current Assets Held for Donor Restrictions—The current assets necessary to
 8 comply with the restrictions stipulated by donors or other organizations (restricted net assets
 9 minus those specifically related to identifiable noncurrent assets).

10
 11 a. Donor restricted donations still in hand (e.g., assets restricted to an
 12 evangelism project).

13
 14 b. Restrictions placed on funds by grants from other organizations (e.g.,
 15 Global Mission grants).

16
 17 3. Current Assets Held for Mandated Purposes—The current assets associated
 18 with
 19 resources set aside in response to mandates imposed upon an organization. These
 20 requirements include legal, denominational, constitutional, and constituent requirements.
 21 Specifically, these are current net asset allocations made by the board for the purpose of
 22 complying with these mandated requirements (allocated net assets that meet these criteria
 23 minus those specifically related to identifiable noncurrent assets).

24
 25 Note: This is a small subset of all allocated net assets. Specifically excluded from this
 26 category are any allocated net assets that an executive committee can unallocate without
 27 being in violation of these mandated requirements.

28
 29 a. Funds set aside to comply with constitutional requirements (e.g.,
 30 constituency session funding).

31
 32 b. Resources set aside by action of a constituency (e.g., student
 33 scholarship funding in hand).

34
 35 c. Resources set aside to comply with denominational-wide policy. (e.g.,
 36 T 25 25, Currency Exchange Gains or Losses).

37
 38 4. Available Working Capital—The working capital remaining after removing
 39 donor
 40 restricted current assets and current assets held for mandated purposes (working capital minus
 41 current assets held for donor restrictions and current assets held for mandated purposes).

42
 43 5. Recommended Minimum Available Working Capital—The minimum available
 44 working capital that an organization should maintain in normal economic and financial
 45 conditions.

1 6. Operating Expenses—Expenses for basic operations. This includes salaries,
 2 allowances, administrative expenses, departmental expenses, and depreciation expense. It
 3 does not include appropriations and capital expenses.

4
 5 7. Net Outgoing Appropriations—The excess of outgoing operating
 6 appropriations over incoming operating appropriations. (Outgoing appropriations minus
 7 incoming appropriations. If incoming exceed outgoing, net outgoing operating appropriations
 8 is
 9 zero.)

10
 11 8. Core Expenses—Operating expenses plus net outgoing appropriations.

12
 13 9. Available Working Capital Percentage—Actual available working capital
 14 shown as a percentage of the recommended minimum available working capital (available
 15 working capital divided by recommended minimum available working capital). Percentages
 16 above 100 percent indicate that available working capital is above the recommended
 17 minimum. A percentage below 100 percent indicates the degree to which available working
 18 capital is less than the recommendation.

19
 20 10. Available Working Capital in Months—This is the number of months that the
 21 available working capital could support a predetermined period of core expenses. This policy
 22 is recommending a minimum of six months.

23
 24 11. Available Liquid Assets—The liquid assets remaining after removing current
 25 liabilities, current assets held for donor restrictions, and current assets held for mandated
 26 purposes (liquid assets minus current liabilities, current assets held for donor restrictions, and
 27 current assets held for mandated purposes).

28
 29 12. Recommended Minimum Available Liquid Assets—The minimum available
 30 liquid assets that an organization should maintain in normal economic and financial
 31 conditions.

32
 33 13. Available Liquid Assets Percentage—Actual available liquid assets shown as a
 34 percentage of the recommended minimum available liquid assets (available liquid assets
 35 divided by recommended minimum available liquid assets). Percentages above 100 percent
 36 indicates that available liquid assets are above the recommended minimum. A percentage
 37 below 100 percent indicates the degree to which available liquid assets are less than the
 38 recommendation.

39
 40 14. Available Liquid Assets in Months—This is the number of months that the
 41 available liquid assets could support a predetermined period of core expenses. This policy is
 42 recommending a minimum of three months.

43
 44 ~~1. Working Capital Definition—Working Capital shall be defined as the amount~~
 45 ~~of current assets in excess of current liabilities.~~

46
 47 ~~2. Formulas—The recommended working capital of organizations shall be as~~
 48 ~~follows:~~



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a. ~~General Conference—40 percent of the latest fiscal year’s unrestricted income or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual unrestricted income, adding 1 percent per year, commencing in 2009, until a maximum of 50 percent is reached, plus 100 percent of long-term payables, gross allocated funds, and Capital Additions Functions Balances.~~

b. ~~Divisions—30 percent of the latest fiscal year’s total operating expense or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense plus 15 percent of operating appropriations to subsidiary organizations for the latest complete fiscal year, plus allocated funds. Some divisions may require a larger working capital.~~

c. ~~Union Conferences or Union Missions/Sections—30 percent of the latest fiscal year’s total operating expense, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense, plus allocated funds.~~

d. ~~Local Conference or Local Missions/Fields/Sections—20 percent of the latest fiscal year’s total operating expenses, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense, plus allocated funds.~~

e. ~~Conference or Mission/Field/Section Associations/Corporations—10 percent of the current fund assets; and further, that one half of such working capital be maintained in liquid assets.~~

f. ~~Home Health Education Service—Equivalent of net accounts receivable, merchandise inventories, and allocated net worth (reserves) based on the balance sheet for the latest complete fiscal year.~~

g. ~~Adventist Book Centers—Equivalent of net accounts receivable, inventories, and allocated net worth (reserves).~~

h. ~~Universities, Colleges, and Junior Colleges—20 percent of the operating expense, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense, of the latest complete fiscal year, plus allocated net worth (reserves).~~

i. ~~Academies—15 percent of the operating expense of the latest complete fiscal year, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense.~~

j. ~~Health Care Institutions—20 percent of the operating expense of the latest complete fiscal year, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense, plus allocated net worth (reserves).~~

k. ~~Publishing Houses—Equivalent of net accounts receivable (excluding receivables from higher organizations), inventories and allocated net worth (reserves) based on the balance sheet for the latest complete fiscal year.~~

1 l. ~~Adventist Risk Management, Incorporated, Including Branch Offices—~~
 2 ~~40 percent of the annual operating expense (for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual~~
 3 ~~operating expense), or as required by any relevant regulatory authorities.~~

4
 5 m. ~~Adventist Media Centers—20 percent of annual operating expense~~
 6 ~~based on the Income Statement for the latest complete fiscal or for interim statements, the~~
 7 ~~latest 12-month actual operating expense.~~

8
 9 n. ~~Adventist World Radio Institution—20 percent of the operating expense~~
 10 ~~of the latest complete fiscal year, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual~~
 11 ~~operating expense, plus allocated net worth (reserves).~~

12
 13 o. ~~Hope Channel International, Inc—20 percent of the operating expense~~
 14 ~~of the latest complete fiscal year, or from interim statements, the latest 12-months actual~~
 15 ~~operating expense, plus allocated net worth (reserves).*~~

16
 17 S 24-15 Liquidity—~~In order that adequate cash and cash equivalents will be available~~
 18 ~~for meeting short-term financial obligations, the following provisions are based on what has~~
 19 ~~been considered historically adequate for denominational entities and are outlined below:~~

20
 21 1. ~~Liquid Assets—Liquid assets equivalent to the current liabilities and certain~~
 22 ~~allocated funds identified in the specific accounting manuals shall be maintained in the~~
 23 ~~following:~~

24
 25 a. ~~Cash~~

26
 27 b. ~~S 85-35, S 85-40 items~~

28
 29 c. ~~General Conference or other authorized unitized investment funds~~

30
 31 d. ~~Accounts receivable from the next higher organization.~~

32
 33 2. ~~General Conference Liquidity Formula—The liquidity formula to be used by~~
 34 ~~the General Conference shall be: Cash and Banks plus Securities and Investments divided by~~
 35 ~~the total of current liabilities and gross allocated funds.~~

36
 37 3. ~~Exception to Liquidity Requirement—In unusual situations such as excessive~~
 38 ~~and rampant inflation or highly unstable and rapidly devaluing currencies, substantial loss can~~
 39 ~~result from holding cash or similar liquid assets in excess of basic minimal levels required for~~
 40 ~~operating. Under these exceptional circumstances, and in counsel with and subject to approval~~
 41 ~~from the division, or by the General Conference in the case of General Conference~~
 42 ~~institutions, the strict liquidity provisions outlined in this policy may be temporarily~~
 43 ~~suspended.~~

44
 45 4. ~~Allocations—Excess working capital at the end of the year may be transferred~~
 46 ~~to allocated funds for specific purposes by action of the controlling board or executive~~
 47 ~~committee, taking into consideration its source, whether tithed or non-tithed.~~

1 S 24 20 Calculation of Working Capital and Liquidity—Recommended Minimum
 2 Available Working Capital and Liquid Assets—The sum of six months and three months of
 3 core expenses for available working capital and liquid assets, respectively. The technical
 4 provisions are as follows:

5
 6 1. The six months and three months calculations equal 50 percent and 25 percent
 7 of the total of core expenses from the twelve months prior to the report for determining the
 8 recommended minimums of available working capital and available liquid assets,
 9 respectively.

10
 11 2. The organization can reduce the actual operating expenses used in the
 12 calculation by the portion paid by current assets held for donor restrictions and current assets
 13 held for
 14 mandated purposes.

15
 16 3. If incoming appropriations exceed outgoing, net outgoing appropriations is
 17 zero. The excess of incoming over outgoing appropriations does not reduce operating
 18 expenses.

19
 20 S 24 25 Reporting on Working Capital and Liquidity—Each organization must
 21 include in its financial reporting (see S 19) a schedule calculating the available working
 22 capital and liquid assets as an amount, in terms of months, and as percentages or
 23 recommended minimums. The organization may add notes to clarify changes in
 24 circumstances that might assist in clearer analysis.

Sample Reporting—Working Capital and Liquid Assets Report for 31 December 20XX

<u>Core Expenses:</u>	
<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>80,000</u>
<u>Net Outgoing Appropriations</u>	<u>50,000</u>
<u>Total Core Expenses</u>	<u>130,000</u>
<u>Available Working Capital:</u>	
<u>Current Assets</u>	<u>140,000</u>
<u>Minus: Current Liabilities</u>	<u>(60,000)</u>
<u>Working Capital</u>	<u>80,000</u>
<u>Minus: Current Assets Held for Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>
<u>Minus: Current Assets Held for Mandated Purposes</u>	<u>(4,000)</u>
<u>Available Working Capital</u>	<u>70,000</u>
<u>Recommended Minimum Available Working Capital:</u>	
<u>Six months of Core Expenses (50% of 130,000)</u>	<u>65,000</u>
<u>Surplus/(Shortfall) in Recommended Minimum Available Working Capital</u>	<u>5,000</u>
<u>Available Working Capital in Months (a minimum of six months recommended)</u> <u>(70,000 divided by 130,000 x 12)</u>	<u>6.5 Months</u>
<u>Available Working Capital Percentage (a minimum of 6 months recommended)</u> <u>(70,000 divided by 65,000)</u>	<u>108%</u>

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<u>Available Liquid Assets:</u>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4,000
Cash Held for Agency	1,000
Investments	40,000
Receivable from Higher Organizations	15,000
Total Liquid Current Assets	60,000
Minus: Current Liabilities	(10,000)
Minus: Current Assets Held for Donor Restrictions	(6,000)
Minus: Current Assets Held for Mandated Purposes	(4,000)
 <i>Available Liquid Assets</i>	 <u>40,000</u>
<u>Recommended Minimum Available Liquid Assets:</u>	
Three Months of Core Expenses (25% of 130,000)	32,500
 <i>Surplus/(Shortfall) in Recommended Minimum Available Liquid Assets</i>	 7,500
 <i>Available Liquid Assets Percentage in Months (a minimum of three months recommended)</i>	 3.7 Months
<i>(40,000 divided by 130,000 x 12)</i>	
 <i>Available Liquid Assets Percentage (of recommended minimum of three months)</i>	 123%
<i>(40,000 divided by 32,500)</i>	

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S 24 30 Analysis of Working Capital and Liquidity—During economic downturns or financial emergencies, available working capital and liquid assets may fall below the recommended minimum amounts. During periods of normal economic conditions, available working capital and liquid assets should be growing in preparation for the next downturn. The controlling board or executive committee for each organization should evaluate and determine what amounts in excess of the required minimums are appropriate for its organization. Included in this evaluation should be a consideration of inflationary influences that would make use of past information an unreliable source for making the calculations. Organizations should also be careful to avoid holding excessive working capital and liquid assets for financial emergencies.

1 TRE/GCAS/ADCOM(Steering)/20AC to HMM(DIV)

2
3 221-20Gb FINANCIAL RATIOS - NEW POLICY APPENDIX

4
5 VOTED, To adopt a new policy appendix, GC Appendix A, Financial Ratios, to read
6 as follows:

7
8 Financial Ratios

9
10 *This policy (formerly GC S 24) is being preserved in the Appendix until the 2022*
11 *Annual Council.*

12
13 Use of Ratios—Financial ratios are useful indicators of an organization’s performance
14 and financial situation. In order to have a basic measure of financial health, the Church has
15 placed emphasis on comparing the actual working capital of an organization and amount of
16 liquid assets on hand to a predetermined recommendation for various types of organizations.
17 There are several other types of ratios that could prove useful for organizations in their
18 process of performing financial statement analysis. Organizations are encouraged to
19 determine and apply any relevant ratio that would be beneficial to that process. Financial
20 ratios can be grouped into at least four categories:

21
22 1. Liquidity Ratios—Provides information about an organization’s ability to meet
23 its short-term financial obligation.

24
25 2. Asset Turnover Ratios—Provides information on how efficiently an
26 organization uses its assets.

27
28 3. Financial Leverage Ratios—Provides information about the long-term
29 solvency of the organization.

30
31 4. Profitability Ratios—Provides information regarding the success of the
32 organization at generating operating gains.

33
34 Working Capital—In order that adequate financial resources will be available for the
35 sound and effective operation of all organizations, the following provisions are based on what
36 has been considered historically adequate for denominational entities and are outlined below:

37
38 1. Working Capital Definition—Working Capital shall be defined as the amount
39 of current assets in excess of current liabilities.

40
41 2. Formulas—The recommended working capital of organizations shall be as
42 follows:

43
44 a. General Conference—40 percent of the latest fiscal year’s unrestricted
45 income or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual unrestricted income, adding 1
46 percent per year, commencing in 2009, until a maximum of 50 percent is reached, plus 100
47 percent of long-term payables, gross allocated funds, and Capital Additions Functions
48 Balances.



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b. Divisions—30 percent of the latest fiscal year’s total operating expense or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense plus 15 percent of operating appropriations to subsidiary organizations for the latest complete fiscal year, plus allocated funds. Some divisions may require a larger working capital.

c. Union Conferences or Union Missions/Sections—30 percent of the latest fiscal year’s total operating expense, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense, plus allocated funds.

d. Local Conference or Local Missions/Fields/Sections—20 percent of the latest fiscal year’s total operating expenses, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense, plus allocated funds.

e. Conference or Mission/Field/Section Associations/ Corporations—10 percent of the current fund assets; and further, that one half of such working capital be maintained in liquid assets.

f. Home Health Education Service—Equivalent of net accounts receivable, merchandise inventories, and allocated net worth (reserves) based on the balance sheet for the latest complete fiscal year.

g. Adventist Book Centers—Equivalent of net accounts receivable, inventories, and allocated net worth (reserves).

h. Universities, Colleges, and Junior Colleges—20 percent of the operating expense, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense, of the latest complete fiscal year, plus allocated net worth (reserves).

i. Academies—15 percent of the operating expense of the latest complete fiscal year, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense.

j. Health Care Institutions—20 percent of the operating expense of the latest complete fiscal year, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense, plus allocated net worth (reserves).

k. Publishing Houses—Equivalent of net accounts receivable (excluding receivables from higher organizations), inventories and allocated net worth (reserves) based on the balance sheet for the latest complete fiscal year.

l. Adventist Risk Management, Incorporated, Including Branch Offices—40 percent of the annual operating expense (for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense), or as required by any relevant regulatory authorities.

m. Adventist Media Centers—20 percent of annual operating expense based on the Income Statement for the latest complete fiscal or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual operating expense.



1 n. Adventist World Radio Institution—20 percent of the operating expense
2 of the latest complete fiscal year, or for interim statements, the latest 12-month actual
3 operating expense, plus allocated net worth (reserves).

4
5 o. Hope Channel International, Inc—20 percent of the operating expense
6 of the latest complete fiscal year, or from interim statements, the latest 12 months actual
7 operating expense, plus allocated net worth (reserves).*

8
9 Liquidity—In order that adequate cash and cash equivalents will be available for
10 meeting short-term financial obligations, the following provisions are based on what has been
11 considered historically adequate for denominational entities and are outlined below:
12

13 1. Liquid Assets—Liquid assets equivalent to the current liabilities and certain
14 allocated funds identified in the specific accounting manuals shall be maintained in the
15 following:

16
17 a. Cash

18
19 b. S 85 35, S 85 40 items

20
21 c. General Conference or other authorized unitized investment funds

22
23 d. Accounts receivable from the next higher organization.
24

25 2. General Conference Liquidity Formula—The liquidity formula to be used by
26 the General Conference shall be: Cash and Banks plus Securities and Investments divided by
27 the total of current liabilities and gross allocated funds.
28

29 3. Exception to Liquidity Requirement—In unusual situations such as excessive
30 and rampant inflation or highly unstable and rapidly devaluing currencies, substantial loss can
31 result from holding cash or similar liquid assets in excess of basic minimal levels required for
32 operating. Under these exceptional circumstances, and in counsel with and subject to approval
33 from the division, or by the General Conference in the case of General Conference
34 institutions, the strict liquidity provisions outlined in this policy may be temporarily
35 suspended.
36

37 4. Allocations—Excess working capital at the end of the year may be transferred
38 to allocated funds for specific purposes by action of the controlling board or executive
39 committee, taking into consideration its source, whether tithe or non-tithe.
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1 WAD HEADQUARTERS EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT BENEFIT (POLICY AMENDMENT Z40 05:10)

2
3 VOTED, To amend WAD Policy Z40 05:10 Monthly Rates—WAD Headquarters
4 Employees—Retirement Benefit, to read as follows:

5
6 10. ~~WAD Headquarters Employees—Retirement Benefit—Beginning January 2019,~~
7 ~~employees at the Division Headquarters who put in ten years or more service at the~~
8 ~~Headquarters will receive retirement benefits as other headquarters employees irrespective of~~
9 ~~their union of origin.~~ Effective January 2021, WAD Headquarters employees, will receive
10 retirement benefits from the WAD retirement Fund, prorated according to the years served and
11 added to the benefit received at the local Field.

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1 TRE/SP&B15SM/15SM/101-15Gi/SP&B16AC/16AC/101-16Ga/101-
 2 17Ga/SP&B18AC/18AC/ 101-18Ga/SP&B19AC/19AC/101-19Ga/SP&B20AC/20AC to
 3 JRW(DIV)

4
 5 101-20Ga CALENDAR OF THIRTEENTH SABBATH
 6 OFFERINGS—WORLD 2021-2027

7
 8 VOTED, To record the Calendar of Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings—World 2021-
 9 2027, which reads as follows:

			Proj Selection Deadline	Visit to
	<u>Division</u>			
10	2021			
11	First Quarter	Euro-Asia Division	Mar 2019	Jun
12		2019		
13	Second Quarter	Inter-American Division	Jun 2019	Sep
14		2019		
15	Third Quarter	North American Division	Sep 2019	Dec
16		2019		
17	Fourth Quarter	Northern Asia-Pacific Division	Dec 2019	Mar
18		2020		
19	2022			
20	First Quarter	Southern Asia-Pacific Division	Mar 2020	Jun
21		2020		
22	Second Quarter	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division	Jun 2020	Sep
23		2020		
24	Third Quarter	South American Division	Sep 2020	Dec
25		2020		
26	Fourth Quarter	South Pacific Division	Dec 2020	Mar
27		2021		
28	2023			
29	First Quarter	East-Central Africa Division	Mar 2021	Jun
30		2021		
31	Second Quarter	Inter-European Division	Jun 2021	Sep
32		2021		
33	Third Quarter	Trans-European Division	Sep 2021	Dec
34		2021		
35	Fourth Quarter	West-Central Africa Division	Dec 2021	Mar
36		2022		
37	2024			
38	First Quarter	Southern Asia Division	Mar 2022	Jun
39		2022		
40	Second Quarter	Euro-Asia Division	Jun 2022	Sep
41		2022		

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1	Third Quarter	Inter-American Division	Sep 2022	Dec
2		2022		
3	Fourth Quarter	North American Division	Dec 2022	Mar
4		2023		
5				
6	2025			
7	First Quarter	Northern Asia-Pacific Division	Mar 2023	Jun
8		2023		
9	Second Quarter	Southern Asia-Pacific Division	Jun 2023	Sep
10		2023		
11	Third Quarter	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division	Sep 2023	Dec
12		2023		
13	Fourth Quarter	South American Division	Dec 2023	Mar
14		2024		
15				
16	2026			
17	First Quarter	South Pacific Division	Mar 2024	Jun
18		2024		
19	Second Quarter	East-Central Africa Division	Jun 2024	Sep
20		2024		
21	Third Quarter	Inter-European Division	Sep 2024	Dec
22		2024		
23	Fourth Quarter	Trans-European Division	Dec 2024	Mar
24		2025		
25			Proj Selection	Visit to
26			<u>Deadline</u>	
27	<u>Division</u>			
28	2027			
29	First Quarter	West-Central Africa Division	Mar 2025	Jun
30		2025		
31	Second Quarter	Southern Asia Division	Jun 2025	Sep
32		2025		
33	Third Quarter	Euro-Asia Division	Sep 2025	Dec
34		2025		
35	Fourth Quarter	Inter-American Division	Dec 2025	Mar
36		2026		

Distribution summary among divisions from 2021 through 2027:

41	East-Central Africa	2	
42	Euro-Asia	3	
43	Inter-American	3	
44	Inter-European	2	
45	North American	2	
46	Northern Asia-Pacific		2
47	South American	2	
48	South Pacific	2	

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1	Southern Africa-Indian Ocean	2	
2	Southern Asia	2	
3	Southern Asia-Pacific		2
4	Trans-European	2	
5	West-Central Africa	2	

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Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1 TRE/SP&B19AC/19AC/101-19Gf/20SM/SP&B20AC/20AC to JRW(DIV)

2
3 101-20Gc CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS—WORLD 2021

4
5 VOTED, To adopt the Calendar of Offerings—World 2021, which reads as follows:

6
7 January

8 2 Outreach/Church Budget

9 9 Division

10 16 Church Budget

11 23 Conference/Union

12 30 Church Budget

13
14 February

15 6 Outreach/Church Budget

16 13 Division

17 20 Church Budget

18 27 Conference/Union

19
20 March

21 6 Outreach/Church Budget

22 13*+ Adventist World Radio

23 20 Church Budget

24 27 Conference/Union

25
26 April

27 3 Outreach/Church Budget

28 10*+ Hope Channel International

29 17 Church Budget

30 24 Conference/Union

31
32 May

33 1 Outreach/Church Budget

34 8*+ Disaster and Famine Relief (Program provided for NAD only)

35 15 Church Budget

36 22 Conference/Union (Offering received at GC Session will be for One Year in
37 Mission)

38 29 Church Budget

39
40 June

41 5 Outreach/Church Budget

42 12 Division

43 19 Church Budget

44 26 Conference/Union

Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1	<u>July</u>	
2	3	Outreach/Church Budget
3	10*+	World Mission Budget
4	17	Church Budget
5	24	Conference/Union
6	31	Church Budget
7		
8	<u>August</u>	
9	7	Outreach/Church Budget
10	14	Division
11	21	Church Budget
12	28	Conference/Union
13		
14	<u>September</u>	
15	4	Outreach/Church Budget
16	11*+	World Mission Budget (Unusual Opportunities)
17	18	Church Budget
18	25	Conference/Union
19		
20	<u>October</u>	
21	2	Outreach/Church Budget
22	9	Division
23	16	Church Budget
24	23	Conference/Union
25	30	Church Budget
26		
27	<u>November</u>	
28	6	Outreach/Church Budget
29	13*+	Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)
30	20	Church Budget
31	27	Conference/Union
32		
33	<u>December</u>	
34	4	Outreach/Church Budget
35	11	Division
36	18	Church Budget
37	25	Conference/Union
38	<u>Summary of Offerings</u>	
39	General Conference	6
40	Division	6
41	Conference/Union	12
42	Church	28
43		
44	Total	52

45
 46 *Program provided by the General Conference
 47 +Worldwide offering
 48

Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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1 PRE/ADCOM/GCDO19AC/19AC/101-
 2 19Gg/GCDO20SM/20SM/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to ESS(DIV)
 3
 4 101-20Ge CALENDAR OF SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS—
 5 WORLD 2021
 6

7 VOTED, To approve the Calendar of Special Days and Events—World 2021, to read
 8 as follows:
 9

	<u>MATERIALS</u>		<u>OFFERING</u>
10			
11			
12	<u>January</u>		
13	2	Day of Prayer and Fasting	--- R&RCom
14	6-16	Ten Days of Prayer	--- GC-MIN
15	9	#Health Ministries	--- GC-HM/DIV
16	16	Religious Liberty Day	<i>Liberty</i> GC/NAD-
17	PARL		
18	23		
19	30		
20			
21	<u>February</u>		
22	6	<i>Reach the World: Personal Outreach</i>	--- GC-SSPM
23	13-20	Christian Home and Marriage Week	--- GC-FM
24	20		
25	27		
26			
27	<u>March</u>		
28	6	Women’s Day of Prayer	--- GC-WM
29	13	Adventist World Radio	Adventist World Radio* GC-AWR
30	20-27	Youth Week of Prayer	--- GC-YOU
31	20	Global Youth Day/Global Children’s	--- GC-
32	YOU/CHM		
33		Day	
34	27	#Christian Education	--- Divisions
35			
36	<u>April</u>		
37	3	Day of Prayer and Fasting	--- R&RCom
38	3	#Youth Spiritual Commitment	--- Divisions
39		Celebration (Northern Hemisphere)	
40	10	Friends of Hope Day (Visitor’s	--- GC-SSPM
41		Day)	
42	10	Hope Channel International	Hope Channel International* GC-HCI
43			

44 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan

45 #Divisions to prepare materials

46
 47 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at
 48 <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

49

Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
1			
2	<u>April</u> contd		
3	17-23	#Literature Evangelism Rally Week ---	Divisions
4	17	World Impact Day—for Distribution ---	Divisions
5		of Missionary Book	
6	24	Possibility Ministries Day ---	GC-APM
7			
8	<u>May</u>		
9	1-29	Drug Awareness Month ---	GC-HM
10	1	<i>Reach the World</i> : Using ---	GC-COM
11		Communication Channels	
12	8	<i>Reach the World</i> : In the Community #Disaster/Famine Relief* ---	GC-
13	PM/DIV		
14	15	Global Adventurer’s Day ---	GC-YOU
15	22	World Day of Prayer for Children ---	GC-CHM
16		at Risk	
17	29		
18			
19	<u>June</u>		
20	5	<i>Reach the World</i> : Bible Study: ---	GC-SSPM
21		Sabbath School and	
22		Correspondence Courses	
23	12	Women’s Ministries Emphasis Day ---	GC-WM
24	19	<i>Reach the World</i> : Nurturing Other ---	GC-SSPM
25		Members and Reclaiming	
26	19	Adventist Church World ---	ADRA
27		Refugee Day	
28	26		
29			
30	<u>July</u>		
31	3	Day of Prayer and Fasting ---	R&RCom
32	10	Missions Promotion World Mission	GC-AM
33	17	<i>Reach the World</i> : Media Ministry ---	GC-COM
34	24	Children’s Sabbath ---	GC-CHM
35	31		
36			

37 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan

38 #Divisions to prepare materials

39
 40 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at
 41 <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

1			<u>OFFERING</u>	
2		<u>MATERIALS August</u>		
3	7	#Global Mission Evangelism	---	Divisions
4	14	<i>Reach the World: Church Planting</i>	---	GC-AM
5	21	Education Day	---	GC-EDU
6	28	enditnow Day	---	GC-WM
7	28	#Lay Evangelism	---	Divisions
8				
9		<u>September</u>		
10	4	#Youth Spiritual Commitment	---	Divisions
11		Celebration (Southern Hemisphere)		
12	5-11	Family Togetherness Week	---	GC-FM
13	11	Family Togetherness Day of Prayer	---	GC-FM
14	11	Mission Promotion	Unusual Opportunity*	GC-AM
15	18	Pathfinder Day	---	GC-YOU
16	25	#Sabbath School Guest Day	---	Divisions
17				
18		<u>October</u>		
19	2	Day of Prayer and Fasting	---	R&RCom
20	2	<i>Adventist Review</i> Subscription	---	GC-
21		ARMies		
22		Promotion		
23	9	Pastor Appreciation Day	---	GC-MIN
24	16	Spirit of Prophecy and	---	GC-White
25		Estate		
26		Adventist Heritage		
27	23	Creation Sabbath	---	Faith&ScCou
28	30			
29				
30		<u>November</u>		
31	6-13	Week of Prayer	---	GC-
32		ARMies		
33	13-19	e-Week of Prayer for Youth and	---	GC-YOU
34		Young Adults		
35	13		Annual Sacrifice*	GC-AM
36	20	World Orphans-Vulnerable	---	GC-APM
37		Children Day		
38	27	HIV/AIDS Awareness	---	GC-AAIM

39
40 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan
41 #Divisions to prepare materials

42
43 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at
44 <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

1			<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
2	<u>December</u>			
3	4	#Stewardship	---	Divisions
4	11	#Health Emphasis	---	GC-HM/DIV
5	18			
6	25			

7
8 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan
9 #Divisions to prepare materials

10
11 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at
12 <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

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Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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1 PRE/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to ESS(DIV)

2
3 101-20Gf CALENDAR OF SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS—
4 WORLD 2022

5
6 VOTED, To approve the Calendar of Special Days and Events—World 2022, to read
7 as follows:

	<u>MATERIALS</u>		<u>OFFERING</u>
11	<u>January</u>		
12	1	Day of Prayer and Fasting	--- R&RCom
13	5-15	Ten Days of Prayer	--- GC-MIN
14	8	#Health Ministries	--- GC-HM/DIV
15	15	Religious Liberty Day	<i>Liberty</i> GC/NAD-
16	PARL		
17	22		
18	29		
19			
20	<u>February</u>		
21	5	<i>Reach the World: Personal Outreach</i>	--- GC-SSPM
22	12-19	Christian Home and Marriage Week	--- GC-FM
23	19		
24	26		
25			
26	<u>March</u>		
27	5	Women’s Day of Prayer	--- GC-WM
28	12	Adventist World Radio	Adventist World Radio* GC-AWR
29	19-26	Youth Week of Prayer	--- GC-YOU
30	19	Global Youth Day/Global Children’s	--- GC-
31	YOU/CHM		
32		Day	
33	26	#Christian Education	--- Divisions
34			
35	<u>April</u>		
36	2	Day of Prayer and Fasting	--- R&RCom
37	2	#Youth Spiritual Commitment	--- Divisions
38		Celebration (Northern Hemisphere)	
39	9	Friends of Hope Day (Visitor’s	--- GC-SSPM
40		Day)	
41	9	Hope Channel International	Hope Channel International* GC-HCI
42			

43 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan

44 #Divisions to prepare materials

45
46 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at
47 <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

48



		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
1			
2	<u>April</u> contd		
3	16-22	#Literature Evangelism Rally Week ---	Divisions
4	16	World Impact Day—for Distribution --- of Missionary Book	Divisions
5			
6	23	Possibility Ministries Day ---	GC-APM
7	30		
8			
9	<u>May</u>		
10	7-28	Drug Awareness Month ---	GC-HM
11	7	<i>Reach the World</i> : Using --- Communication Channels	GC-COM
12			
13	14	<i>Reach the World</i> : In the Community #Disaster/Famine Relief* ---	GC-
14	PM/DIV		
15	21	Global Adventurer’s Day ---	GC-YOU
16	28	World Day of Prayer for Children --- at Risk	GC-CHM
17			
18			
19	<u>June</u>		
20	4	<i>Reach the World</i> : Bible Study: --- Sabbath School and	GC-SSPM
21		Correspondence Courses	
22			
23	11	Women’s Ministries Emphasis Day ---	GC-WM
24	18	<i>Reach the World</i> : Nurturing Other --- Members and Reclaiming	GC-SSPM
25			
26	18	Adventist Church World --- Refugee Day	ADRA
27			
28	25		
29			
30	<u>July</u>		
31	2	Day of Prayer and Fasting ---	R&RCom
32	9	Missions Promotion World Mission ---	GC-AM
33	16	<i>Reach the World</i> : Media Ministry ---	GC-COM
34	23	Children’s Sabbath ---	GC-CHM
35	30		
36			

37 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan

38 #Divisions to prepare materials

39
40 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at
41 <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

1			<u>OFFERING</u>	
2		<u>MATERIALS August</u>		
3	6	#Global Mission Evangelism	---	Divisions
4	13	<i>Reach the World:</i> Church Planting	---	GC-AM
5	20	Education Day	---	GC-EDU
6	27	enditnow Day	---	GC-WM
7	27	#Lay Evangelism	---	Divisions
8				
9		<u>September</u>		
10	3	#Youth Spiritual Commitment	---	Divisions
11		Celebration (Southern Hemisphere)		
12	4-10	Family Togetherness Week	---	GC-FM
13	10	Family Togetherness Day of Prayer	---	GC-FM
14	10	Mission Promotion	Unusual Opportunity*	GC-AM
15	17	Pathfinder Day	---	GC-YOU
16	24	#Sabbath School Guest Day	---	Divisions
17				
18		<u>October</u>		
19	1	Day of Prayer and Fasting	---	R&RCom
20	1	<i>Adventist Review</i> Subscription	---	GC-
21		ARMies		
22		Promotion		
23	8	Pastor Appreciation Day	---	GC-MIN
24	15	Spirit of Prophecy and	---	GC-White
25		Estate		
26		Adventist Heritage		
27	22	Creation Sabbath	---	Faith&ScCou
28	29			
29				
30		<u>November</u>		
31	5-12	Week of Prayer	---	GC-
32		ARMies		
33	12-18	e-Week of Prayer for Youth and	---	GC-YOU
34		Young Adults		
35	12		Annual Sacrifice*	GC-AM
36	19	World Orphans-Vulnerable	---	GC-APM
37		Children Day		
38	26	HIV/AIDS Awareness	---	GC-AAIM
39				
40		*For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan		
41		#Divisions to prepare materials		
42				
43		Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at		
44		https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days .		

Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

		<u>OFFERING</u>	<u>MATERIALS</u>
1			
2	<u>December</u>		
3	3 #Stewardship	---	Divisions
4	10 #Health Emphasis	---	GC-HM/DIV
5	17		
6	24		
7	31		

8
9 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan
10 #Divisions to prepare materials

11
12 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found at
13 <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

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Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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1 PRE/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to ESS(DIV)

2

3 101-20Gg CALENDAR OF SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS—WORLD 2023

4

5 VOTED, To approve the Calendar of Special Days and Events—World 2023, to read as
6 follows:

7

8 OFFERING MATERIALS

9 January

- 10 7 Day of Prayer and Fasting --- R&RCom
- 11 11-21 Ten Days of Prayer --- GC-MIN
- 12 14 #Health Ministries --- GC-HM/DIV
- 13 21 Religious Liberty Day LibertyGC/NAD-PARL
- 14 28

15

16 February

- 17 4 Reach the World: Personal Outreach--- GC-SSPM
- 18 11-18 Christian Home and Marriage Week --- GC-FM
- 19 25

20

21 March

- 22 4 Women’s Day of Prayer --- GC-WM
- 23 11 Adventist World Radio Adventist World Radio* GC-AWR
- 24 18-25 Youth Week of Prayer --- GC-YOU
- 25 18 Global Youth Day/Global Children’s --- GC-YOU/CHM
- 26 Day
- 27 25 #Christian Education --- Divisions
- 28

29

30 April

- 30 1 Day of Prayer and Fasting --- R&RCom
- 31 1 #Youth Spiritual Commitment --- Divisions
- 32 Celebration (Northern Hemisphere)
- 33 8 Friends of Hope Day (Visitor’s --- GC-SSPM
- 34 Day)
- 35 8 Hope Channel International Hope Channel International* GC-HCI
- 36

37

38 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan

39 #Divisions to prepare materials

40

41 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found
42 at <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

43

44 OFFERING MATERIALS

45 April contd

- 45 15-21 #Literature Evangelism Rally Week --- Divisions
- 46 15 World Impact Day—for Distribution--- Divisions
- 47 of Missionary Book
- 48 22 Possibility Ministries Day --- GC-APM

Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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1 29
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 3 May
 4 6-27 Drug Awareness Month --- GC-HM
 5 6 Reach the World: Using --- GC-COM
 6 Communication Channels
 7 13 Reach the World: In the Community #Disaster/Famine Relief* GC-PM/DIV
 8 20 Global Adventurer’s Day --- GC-YOU
 9 27 World Day of Prayer for Children --- GC-CHM
 10 at Risk

11
 12 June
 13 3 Reach the World: Bible Study: --- GC-SSPM
 14 Sabbath School and
 15 Correspondence Courses
 16 10 Women’s Ministries Emphasis Day --- GC-WM
 17 17 Reach the World: Nurturing Other --- GC-SSPM
 18 Members and Reclaiming
 19 17 Adventist Church World --- ADRA
 20 Refugee Day

21 24
 22
 23 July
 24 1 Day of Prayer and Fasting --- R&RCom
 25 8 Missions Promotion World Mission GC-AM
 26 15 Reach the World: Media Ministry --- GC-COM
 27 22 Children’s Sabbath --- GC-CHM
 28 29

29
 30 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan
 31 #Divisions to prepare materials

32
 33 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found
 34 at <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

35 OFFERING MATERIALS August
 36 5 #Global Mission Evangelism --- Divisions
 37 12 Reach the World: Church Planting --- GC-AM
 38 19 Education Day --- GC-EDU
 39 26 enditnow Day --- GC-WM
 40 26 #Lay Evangelism --- Divisions

41
 42 September
 43 2 #Youth Spiritual Commitment --- Divisions
 44 Celebration (Southern Hemisphere)
 45 3-9 Family Togetherness Week --- GC-FM
 46 9 Family Togetherness Day of Prayer --- GC-FM
 47 9 Mission Promotion Unusual Opportunity* GC-AM
 48 16 Pathfinder Day --- GC-YOU



- 1 23 #Sabbath School Guest Day --- Divisions
- 2 30
- 3
- 4 October
- 5 7 Day of Prayer and Fasting --- R&RCom
- 6 7 Adventist Review Subscription --- GC-ARMies
- 7 Promotion
- 8 14 Pastor Appreciation Day --- GC-MIN
- 9 21 Spirit of Prophecy and --- GC-White Estate
- 10 Adventist Heritage
- 11 28 Creation Sabbath --- Faith&ScCou
- 12
- 13 November
- 14 4-11 Week of Prayer --- GC-ARMies
- 15 11-17 e-Week of Prayer for Youth and --- GC-YOU
- 16 Young Adults
- 17 11 Annual Sacrifice* GC-AM
- 18 18 World Orphans-Vulnerable --- GC-APM
- 19 Children Day
- 20 25 HIV/AIDS Awareness --- GC-AAIM
- 21

22 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan

23 #Divisions to prepare materials

24

25 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found

26 at <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

27 OFFERING MATERIALS

- 28 December
- 29 2 #Stewardship --- Divisions
- 30 9 #Health Emphasis --- GC-HM/DIV
- 31 16
- 32 23
- 33 30
- 34

35 *For divisions not on the Combined Offering Plan

36 #Divisions to prepare materials

37

38 Promotional materials for events sponsored by General Conference departments can be found

39 at <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/special-days>.

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1 TRE/SP&B20AC/20AC to JRW(DIV)

2

3 101-20Gh CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS—WORLD 2022

4

5 VOTED, To adopt the Calendar of Offerings—World 2022, which reads as follows:

6

7 January

8 1 Outreach/Church Budget

9 8 Division

10 15 Church Budget

11 22 Conference/Union

12 29 Church Budget

13

14 February

15 5 Outreach/Church Budget

16 12 Division

17 19 Church Budget

18 26 Conference/Union

19

20 March

21 5 Outreach/Church Budget

22 12*+ Adventist World Radio

23 19 Church Budget

24 26 Conference/Union

25

26 April

27 2 Outreach/Church Budget

28 9*+ Hope Channel International

29 16 Church Budget

30 23 Conference/Union

31 30 Church Budget

32

33 May

34 7 Outreach/Church Budget

35 14*+ Disaster and Famine Relief (Program provided for NAD only)

36 21 Church Budget

37 28 Conference/Union

38

39 June

40 4 Outreach/Church Budget

41 11 Division

42 18 Church Budget

43 25 Conference/Union

Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1	<u>July</u>	
2	2	Outreach/Church Budget
3	9*+	World Mission Budget
4	16	Church Budget
5	23	Conference/Union
6	30	Church Budget
7		
8	<u>August</u>	
9	6	Outreach/Church Budget
10	13	Division
11	20	Church Budget
12	27	Conference/Union
13		
14	<u>September</u>	
15	3	Outreach/Church Budget
16	10*+	World Mission Budget (Unusual Opportunities)
17	17	Church Budget
18	24	Conference/Union
19		
20	<u>October</u>	
21	1	Outreach/Church Budget
22	8	Division
23	15	Church Budget
24	22	Conference/Union
25	29	Church Budget
26		
27	<u>November</u>	
28	5	Outreach/Church Budget
29	12*+	Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)
30	19	Church Budget
31	26	Conference/Union
32		
33	<u>December</u>	
34	3	Outreach/Church Budget
35	10	Division
36	17	Church Budget
37	24	Conference/Union
38	31	Church Budget

Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1 Summary of Offerings
2 General Conference 6
3 Division 6
4 Conference/Union 12
5 Church 29
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7 Total 53
8
9 *Program provided by the General Conference
10 +Worldwide offering
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1 TRE/SP&B20AC/20AC to JRW(DIV)
 2
 3 101-20Gi CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS—WORLD 2023
 4

5 VOTED, To adopt the Calendar of Offerings—World 2023, which reads as follows:
 6

7 January

8 7 Outreach/Church Budget
 9 14 Division
 10 21 Church Budget
 11 28 Conference/Union
 12

13 February

14 4 Outreach/Church Budget
 15 11 Division
 16 18 Church Budget
 17 25 Conference/Union
 18

19 March

20 4 Outreach/Church Budget
 21 11*+ Adventist World Radio
 22 18 Church Budget
 23 25 Conference/Union
 24

25 April

26 1 Outreach/Church Budget
 27 8*+ Hope Channel International
 28 15 Church Budget
 29 22 Conference/Union
 30 29 Church Budget
 31

32 May

33 6 Outreach/Church Budget
 34 13*+ Disaster and Famine Relief (Program provided for NAD only)
 35 20 Church Budget
 36 27 Conference/Union
 37

38 June

39 3 Outreach/Church Budget
 40 10 Division
 41 17 Church Budget
 42 24 Conference/Union

Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1	<u>July</u>	
2	1	Outreach/Church Budget
3	8*+	World Mission Budget
4	15	Church Budget
5	22	Conference/Union
6	29	Church Budget
7		
8	<u>August</u>	
9	5	Outreach/Church Budget
10	12	Division
11	19	Church Budget
12	26	Conference/Union
13		
14	<u>September</u>	
15	2	Outreach/Church Budget
16	9*+	World Mission Budget (Unusual Opportunities)
17	16	Church Budget
18	23	Conference/Union
19	30	Church Budget
20		
21	<u>October</u>	
22	7	Outreach/Church Budget
23	14	Division
24	21	Church Budget
25	28	Conference/Union
26		
27	<u>November</u>	
28	4	Outreach/Church Budget
29	11*+	Annual Sacrifice (Global Mission)
30	18	Church Budget
31	25	Conference/Union
32		
33	<u>December</u>	
34	2	Outreach/Church Budget
35	9	Division
36	16	Church Budget
37	23	Conference/Union
38	30	Church Budget

Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1 Summary of Offerings
2 General Conference 6
3 Division 6
4 Conference/Union 12
5 Church 28
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7 Total 52
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9 *Program provided by the General Conference
10 +Worldwide offering
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1 SEC/ADCOM/GCDO15SM/15SM/ADCOM/GCDO15AC/15AC/ADCOM/102-15Gf/
 2 ADCOM/GCDO16SM/16SM/ADCOM/GCDO16AC/16AC/102-
 3 16Ge/GCDO17SM/17SM/ ADCOM/GCDO17AC/17AC/102-
 4 17Gd/ADCOM/GCDO18SM/18SM/GCDO18AC/18AC/ 102-
 5 18Gc/ADCOM/GCDO19SM/19SM/ADCOM/GCDO19AC/19AC/102-19Gb/ADCOM/
 6 GCDO20SM/20SM/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to KJP(DIV)

7
 8 102-20Ga AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2020

9
 10 VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2020, with the
 11 understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the
 12 administration of each entity, as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 2020</u>			
6-14	Tue	Annual Council	Online Meeting
15-18	Thu	Global Healthcare Conference	Online Meeting
16-18	Fri	Global Public Campus Ministries Weekend	Online Meeting
18-19	Sun	Consortium of Adventist Med Educ Ldrs (CAMEL)	Online Meeting
19-22	Mon	Adventist Chaplains World Congress	Online Meeting
19-20	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Online Meeting
21-22	Wed	Faith and Science Council	Online Meeting
22	Thu	Ellen G White Estate World Advisory	Online Meeting
23(pm)	Fri	Andrews University Governance Committee	Online Meeting
25	Sun	Andrews University Subcommittees	Online Meeting
25(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Online Meeting
26-27	Mon	Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries World Advisory	Online Meeting
26	Mon	Andrews University Board	Online Meeting
<u>November 2020</u>			
30-Dec 3	Mon	GAiN 2020	Online Meeting
<u>December 2020</u>			
2(pm)	Wed	Adventist Risk Management Board Committees	Silver Spring MD
3(am)	Thu	Adventist Risk Management Board	Silver Spring MD
9-12	Wed	Global Mission Center Directors Meeting	_____
14-15	Mon	Loma Linda University Board and Committees	Loma Linda CA

1 SEC/ADCOM/GCDO18AC/18AC/ADCOM/102-18Gd/GCDO19SM/19SM/ADCOM/
 2 GCDO19AC/19AC/102-19Gc/ADCOM/GCDO20SM/20SM/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to
 3 KJP(DIV)

4
 5 102-20Gb AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2021

6
 7 VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2021, with the understanding
 8 that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as
 9 follows:

10
 11 DATE DAY MEETING LOCATION

12
 13 January 2021

14 6(am) Wed PREXAD and Division Presidents Online Meeting
 15 8-9 Fri Ellen G White Estate Board Consultation Grasonville MD
 16 18-Feb 6 Mon IWM Mission Institute Chiang Mai THAILAND

17
 18 February 2021

19 1-3 Mon Global Leadership Summit (WAD) _____
 20 1-2 Mon Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee Collegedale TN
 21 22-23 Mon Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees Loma Linda CA

22
 23 March 2021

24 22-25 Mon Prime Time Silver Spring MD
 25 25(am)Thu General Conference Leadership Council Online Meeting
 26 28-30 Sun Division Officer Interviews Online Meeting
 27 29(pm)Mon IRLA Board Online Meeting
 28 30(am)Tue IBE Programs Review Committee Online Meeting
 29 31(pm)Wed Adventist World Radio Board Online Meeting

30
 31 April 2021

32 1(am) Thu International Board of Education Online Meeting
 33 1(am) Thu International Board of Min & Theol Ed Online Meeting
 34 4 Sun Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll & Univ Online Meeting
 35 5(am) Mon Presidents Council Online Meeting
 36 5(am) Mon Secretaries Council Online Meeting
 37 5(am) Mon Treasurers Council Online Meeting
 38 6-7 Tue Global Mission Issues Committee Online Meeting
 39 8(am) Thu GC & Division Officers Online Meeting
 40 8(am) Thu Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee Online Meeting
 41 11(am)Sun Hope Channel International Board Online Meeting
 42 11(pm)Sun Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board Online Meeting
 43 12(am)Mon General Conference Mission Board Online Meeting
 44 13 Tue Spring Meeting Online Meeting
 45 14(am)Wed ADRA International Board Online Meeting
 46 15(am)Thu ASI Coordinating Committee Online Meeting

47 DATE DAY MEETING LOCATION

48

Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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- 1 April 2021 contd
- 2 19-May 8 Mon IWM Mission Institute Istanbul TURKEY
- 3 19-20 Mon Biblical Research Institute Committee Loma Linda CA
- 4
- 5 May 2021
- 6 17-18 Mon Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees Loma Linda CA
- 7 20-25 Thu General Conference Session Indianapolis IN
- 8
- 9 June 2021
- 10 7-10 Mon Prime Time Silver Spring MD
- 11 13 Sun Andrews University Executive Committee Berrien Springs MI
- 12 13(pm)Sun Andrews University Governance Committee Berrien Springs MI
- 13 14(pm)Mon Andrews University Board Berrien Springs MI
- 14 21-27 Mon IWM Re-entry (Family & Teen) Berrien Springs MI
- 15
- 16 July 2021
- 17 12-31 Mon IWM Mission Institute Berrien Springs MI
- 18
- 19 August 2021
- 20 9-10 Mon Youth Ministries World Advisory Online Meeting
- 21 11-12 Wed Education World Advisory Online Meeting
- 22 16-17 Mon Publishing Ministries World Advisory Online Meeting
- 23 16-17 Mon Women’s Ministries World Advisory Online Meeting
- 24 18-19 Wed Secretariat World Advisory Online Meeting
- 25 18-19 Wed Children’s Ministries World Advisory Online Meeting
- 26 23-24 Mon Ministerial Association World Advisory Online Meeting
- 27 23-24 Mon Public Affairs & Religious Liberty World Advisory Online Meeting
- 28 24-25 Tue Adventist Mission World Advisory Online Meeting
- 29 30-31 Mon Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees Loma Linda CA
- 30 30-31 Mon Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries World Advisory Online Meeting
- 31
- 32 September 2021
- 33 1-2 Wed Planned Giving & Trust Services World Advisory Online Meeting
- 34 1-2 Wed White Estate World Advisory Online Meeting
- 35 6-7 Mon Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee Berrien Springs MI
- 36 6 Mon Adventist Possibility Ministries World Advisory Online Meeting
- 37 8-9 Wed Archives, Statistics, and Research World Advisory Online Meeting
- 38 8-9 Wed Sabbath School/Personal Min World Advisory Online Meeting
- 39 13-16 Mon Prime Time Silver Spring MD
- 40 13-14 Mon Family Ministries World Advisory Online Meeting
- 41 14-15 Tue Adventist Volunteer Service World Advisory Online Meeting
- 42 DATE DAY MEETING LOCATION
- 43
- 44 September 2021 contd
- 45 15-16 Wed Communication World Advisory Online Meeting
- 46 20-21 Mon Health Ministries World Advisory Online Meeting
- 47 22-23 Wed Stewardship Ministries World Advisory Online Meeting
- 48 28 Tue Presidential Advisory Silver Spring MD

Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1	29	Wed	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD	
2	29	Wed	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD	
3	29	Wed	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD	
4	30(am)	Thu	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD	
5	30(pm)	Thu	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee		Silver Spring MD
6					
7	October 2021				
8	1(am)	Fri	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD	
9	3	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD	
10	4(am)	Mon	Church Manual Committee	Silver Spring MD	
11	4(pm)	Mon	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD	
12	4(am)	Mon	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD	
13	4(eve)	Mon	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board		Silver Spring MD
14	5(am)	Tue	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD	
15	5(pm)	Tue	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD	
16	5(eve)	Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD	
17	5(eve)	Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed	Silver Spring MD	
18	6-7	Wed	General Conference Auditing Service Board		Silver Spring MD
19	6(am)	Wed	Hope Channel International Board	Silver Spring MD	
20	6(pm)	Wed	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll & Univ	Silver Spring MD	
21	6(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD	
22	6(pm)	Wed	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD	
23	7(am)	Thu	Adventist University of Africa Board		Silver Spring MD
24	7(am)	Thu	Institute for the Prevention of Addictions Board		Silver Spring MD
25	7(pm)	Thu	AIIAS Board	Silver Spring MD	
26	7(pm)	Thu	ASI Coordinating Committee		Silver Spring MD
27	7(eve)-8	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD	
28	7(eve)-13	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD	
29	18-19	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee		Berrien Springs MI
30	22(pm)	Fri	Andrews University Governance Committee		Berrien Springs MI
31	24	Sun	Andrews University Board Committees		Berrien Springs MI
32	24(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com		Berrien Springs MI
33	25(am)	Mon	Andrews University Board		Berrien Springs MI

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35 November 2021

36 DATE DAY MEETING LOCATION

37

38 December 2021

39 13-14 Mon Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees Loma Linda CA

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1 SEC/ADCOM/GCDO18AC/18AC/ADCOM/102-18Ge/GCDO19SM/19SM/ADCOM/
 2 GCDO19AC/19AC/102-19Gd/ADCOM/GCDO20SM/20SM/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to
 3 KJP(DIV)

4
 5 102-20Gc AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2022

6
 7 VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2022, with the understanding
 8 that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as
 9 follows:

10
 11 DATE DAY MEETING LOCATION

12
 13 January 2022

14 17-Feb 5 Mon IWM Mission Institute Chiang Mai THAILAND

15
 16 February 2022

17 1-3 Tue Global Leadership Summit (WAD) _____
 18 7-8 Mon Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee Collegedale TN
 19 28-Mar 1 Mon Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees Loma Linda CA

20
 21 March 2022

22 6(pm) Sun Andrews University Executive Committee Berrien Springs MI
 23 7(am) Mon Andrews University Board Committees Berrien Springs MI
 24 7(pm) Mon Andrews University Seminary Executive Com Berrien Springs MI
 25 8 Tue Andrews University Board Berrien Springs MI
 26 8(pm) Tue Andrews University Membership Berrien Springs MI
 27 21-24 Mon Prime Time Silver Spring MD

28
 29 April 2022

30 4 Mon Presidents Council Silver Spring MD
 31 4 Mon Secretaries Council Silver Spring MD
 32 4 Mon Treasurers Council Silver Spring MD
 33 4(am) Mon IBE Programs Review Committee Silver Spring MD
 34 5-6 Tue Global Mission Issues Committee Silver Spring MD
 35 5(eve) Tue International Board of Education Silver Spring MD
 36 5(eve) Tue International Board of Min & Theol Ed Silver Spring MD
 37 6(pm) Wed ADRA International Board Silver Spring MD
 38 6(eve) Wed Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll & Univ Silver Spring MD
 39 7(am) Thu GC & Division Officers Silver Spring MD
 40 7(pm) Thu Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee Silver Spring MD
 41 8(am) Fri Division Officer Interviews Silver Spring MD
 42 10 Sun Division Officer Interviews Silver Spring MD
 43 10(eve) Sun Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board Silver Spring MD
 44 11(am) Mon General Conference Mission Board Silver Spring MD

45 DATE DAY MEETING LOCATION

46
 47 April 2022 contd

48 11(pm) Mon Adventist World Radio Board Silver Spring MD

Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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1	11(pm)Mon	ASI Coordinating Committee	Silver Spring MD
2	11(pm)Mon	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
3	11(eve)	Mon Hope Channel International Board	Silver Spring MD
4	12-13 Tue	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
5	14(am)Thu	Loma Linda University Health Constituency Mtg	Loma Linda CA
6	14(pm)Thu	Loma Linda University Health Organizing Boards	Loma Linda CA
7	18-May 7	Mon IWM Mission Institute	
8	18-19 Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
9			
10	May 2022		
11	11-14 Wed	Intl Leadership Conf for CHM, WM, and FM	Bangkok THAILAND
12	23-24 Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
13			
14	June 2022		
15	6-9 Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
16	12 Sun	Andrews University Executive Committee	Berrien Springs MI
17	12(pm)Sun	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
18	13(am)Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
19	20-26 Mon	IWM Re-entry (Family & Teen)	Berrien Springs MI
20			
21	July 2022		
22	11-30 Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Berrien Springs MI
23			
24	August 2022		
25	29-30 Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
26			
27	September 2022		
28	5-6 Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	Berrien Springs MI
29	12-15 Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
30	27 Tue	Presidential Advisory	Silver Spring MD
31	28 Wed	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
32	28 Wed	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
33	28 Wed	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
34	29(am)Thu	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
35	29(pm)Thu	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
36	30(am)Fri	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
37	DATE DAY	MEETING	LOCATION
38			
39	October 2022		
40	2 Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
41	3(am) Mon	Church Manual Committee	Silver Spring MD
42	3(am) Mon	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
43	3(pm) Mon	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
44	3(eve) Mon	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Silver Spring MD
45	4(am) Tue	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
46	4(pm) Tue	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
47	4(eve) Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
48	4(eve) Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed	Silver Spring MD

Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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- 1 5-6 Wed General Conference Auditing Service Board Silver Spring MD
- 2 5(am) Wed Hope Channel International Board Silver Spring MD
- 3 5(pm) Wed Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll & Univ Silver Spring MD
- 4 5(pm) Wed Adventist World Radio Board Silver Spring MD
- 5 5(pm) Wed IRLA Board Silver Spring MD
- 6 6(am) Thu Adventist University of Africa Board Silver Spring MD
- 7 6(am) Thu Institute for the Prevention of Addictions Board Silver Spring MD
- 8 6(pm) Thu AIIAS Board Silver Spring MD
- 9 6(pm) Thu ASI Coordinating Committee Silver Spring MD
- 10 6(eve)-7 Thu LEAD Conference Silver Spring MD
- 11 6(eve)-12 Thu Annual Council Silver Spring MD
- 12 17-18 Mon Biblical Research Institute Committee Berrien Springs MI

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14 November 2022

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16 December 2022

17 12-13 Mon Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees Loma Linda CA

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Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1 SEC/ADCOM/GCDO20AC/20AC to KJP(DIV)

2
3 102-20Gd AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2023

4
5 VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2023, with the
6 understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration
7 of each entity, as follows:

9	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
10	<u>January 2023</u>			
11	23-Feb 11	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Chiang Mai
12	THAILAND			
13	<u>February 2023</u>			
14	6-7	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	_____
15	7-9	Tue	Global Leadership Summit (TED)	_____
16	24-26	Fri	Loma Linda University Board Retreat	Loma Linda CA
17	27-28	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
18	27-28	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
19	<u>March 2023</u>			
20	20-23	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
21	<u>April 2023</u>			
22	3(am)	Mon	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
23	3	Mon	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
24	3	Mon	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
25	3	Mon	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
26	4-5	Tue	Global Mission Issues Committee	Silver Spring MD
27	4(eve)	Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
28	4(eve)	Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed	Silver Spring MD
29	5(eve)	Wed	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll & Univ	Silver Spring MD
30	5(pm)	Wed	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
31	6(am)	Thu	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
32	6(pm)	Thu	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
33	7(am)	Fri	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
34	9(eve)	Sun	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Silver Spring MD
35	9	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
36	10(pm)	Mon	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
37	10(pm)	Mon	ASI Coordinating Committee	Silver Spring MD
38	10(am)	Mon	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
39	10(eve)	Mon	Hope Channel International Board	Silver Spring MD
40	10(pm)	Mon	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
41	11-12	Tue	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
42	13(am)	Thu	Loma Linda University Health Constituency Mtg	Loma Linda CA
43	13(pm)	Thu	Loma Linda University Health Organizing Boards	Loma Linda CA
44	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>

Program	General Agenda	Policy Agenda	Con & By Agenda	Consent Agenda
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1	<u>April 2023</u> contd			
2	17-May 6	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	
3	17-18	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
4				
5	<u>May 2023</u>			
6	22-23	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
7				
8	<u>June 2023</u>			
9	5-8	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
10	19-25	Mon	IWM Re-entry (Family & Teen)	Berrien Springs MI
11	21-28	Wed	BRI Fifth International Bible Conference	
12				
13	<u>July 2023</u>			
14	10-29	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Berrien Springs MI
15	21-27	Fri	FPWG Strategic Planning Retreat	
16				
17	<u>August 2023</u>			
18	28-29	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
19				
20	<u>September 2023</u>			
21	4-5	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	Berrien Spring MI
22	11-14	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
23	26	Tue	Presidential Advisory	Berrien Spring MI
24	27	Wed	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
25	27	Wed	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
26	27	Wed	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
27	28(am)	Thu	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
28	28(pm)	Thu	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
29	29(am)	Fri	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
30				
31	<u>October 2023</u>			
32	1	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
33	2(eve)	Mon	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Silver Spring MD
34	2(am)	Mon	Church Manual Committee	Silver Spring MD
35	2(pm)	Mon	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
36	2(am)	Mon	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
37	3(am)	Tue	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
38	3(pm)	Tue	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
39	3(eve)	Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
40	3(eve)	Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed	Silver Spring MD
41	4-5	Wed	General Conference Auditing Service Board	Silver Spring MD
42	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
43				
44	<u>October 2023</u> contd			
45	4(pm)	Wed	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll & Univ	Silver Spring MD
46	4(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
47	4(am)	Wed	Hope Channel International Board	Silver Spring MD
48	4(pm)	Wed	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD

Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1	5-11	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
2	5-6	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD
3	5(am)	Thu	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
4	5(pm)	Thu	AIIAS Board	Silver Spring MD
5	5(pm)	Thu	ASI Coordinating Committee	Silver Spring MD
6	5(am)	Thu	Institute for the Prevention of Addictions Board	Silver Spring MD
7	16-17	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Spring MI

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9 November 2023

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11 December 2023

12	11-12	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
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Program

General Agenda

Policy Agenda

Con & By Agenda

Consent Agenda

1 WAD AUTHORIZED MEETINGS —2020

2
 3 RECOMMENDING, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2020,
 4 with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the
 5 administration of each entity, as follows:

6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48							
<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>																																															
<u>October 2020</u>				contd																																													
8(pm)	Thu	AIIAS Board		Silver Spring MD																																													
8(eve)-9(am)	Thu	LEAD Conference		Silver Spring MD																																													
8(eve)-14	Thu	Annual Council		Silver Spring MD																																													
15-18	Thu	Global Healthcare Conference		Loma Linda CA																																													
19-23	Mon	WAD Prime Week		Abidjan, CI																																													
26-28	Mon	Division-Union/Inst. Officers Consultation		Abidjan, CI																																													
29	Thu	BOE Meeting		Abidjan, CI																																													
30	Fri	BMTE Meeting		Abidjan, CI																																													
<u>November 2020</u>																																																	
1	Sun	Strategic Planning/Budgeting Session		Abidjan, CI																																													
2-5	Mon	Division Council		Abidjan, CI																																													
22-24	Mon	NGUM Year-end Meeting		Kumasi, Ghana																																													
22-24	Mon	ESUM Year-end Meeting		Lomé, Togo																																													
22-24	Mon	WAUM Year-end Meeting		Monrovia, Liberia																																													
26	Thu	Advent Press Meeting		Accra, Ghana																																													
29-Dec1	Sun	SGUC Year-end Meeting		Accra, Ghana																																													
29-Dec1	Sun	WSUM Year-end Meeting		Libreville, Gabon																																													
29-Dec1	Sun	WNUC Year-end Meeting		Lagos, Nigeria																																													
<u>December 2020</u>																																																	
6-8	Sun	ENUC Year-end Meeting		Aba, Nigeria																																													
6-8	Sun	CAUM Year-end Meeting		Libreville, Gabon																																													
6-8	Sun	NNUC Year-end Meeting		Abuja, Nigeria																																													
7-18	Mon	Beginning of the first Cohort for CPE																																															
<u>January 2021</u>																																																	
		BU																																															
		VVU																																															

1 WAD AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 2021

2
3 VOTED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 2021, with the understanding that
4 attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity, as
5 follows:

DATE	DAY	MEETING	LOCATION
6			
9 January 2021			
10 6(am)	Wed	PREXAD and Division Presidents	Online Meeting
11 8-9	Fri	Ellen G White Estate Board Consultation	Grasonville MD
12 18-Feb 6	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Chiang Mai
13 THAILAND			
14			
15 February 2021			
16 1-3	Mon	Global Leadership Summit (WAD)	_____
17 1-2	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	Collegedale TN
18 22-23	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
19			
20 March 2021			
21 22-25	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
22 25(am)	Thu	General Conference Leadership Council	Online Meeting
23 28-30	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Online Meeting
24 29(pm)	Mon	IRLA Board	Online Meeting
25 30(am)	Tue	IBE Programs Review Committee	Online Meeting
26 31(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Online Meeting
27			
28 April 2021			
29 1(am)	Thu	International Board of Education	Online Meeting
30 1(am)	Thu	International Board of Min & Theol Ed	Online Meeting
31 4	Sun	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll & Univ	Online Meeting
32 5(am)	Mon	Presidents Council	Online Meeting
33 5(am)	Mon	Secretaries Council	Online Meeting
34 5(am)	Mon	Treasurers Council	Online Meeting
35 6-7	Tue	Global Mission Issues Committee	Online Meeting
36 8(am)	Thu	GC & Division Officers	Online Meeting
37 8(am)	Thu	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Online Meeting
38 10-17	Sat	WAD Impact Week of Prayer	All Churches
39 11(am)	Sun	Hope Channel International Board	Online Meeting
40 11(pm)	Sun	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Online Meeting
41 12(am)	Mon	General Conference Mission Board	Online Meeting
42 13	Tue	Spring Meeting	Online Meeting
43 14(am)	Wed	ADRA International Board	Online Meeting
44 15(am)	Thu	ASI Coordinating Committee	Online Meeting
45 17	Sat	Missionary Book Distribution Day	All Churches
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1	DATE	DAY	MEETING	LOCATION
2				
3	April 2021 contd			
4	19-May 8	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Istanbul TURKEY
5	19-20	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
6	26-28	Mon	International Adventist Chaplains Congress	Babcock University
7				
8	May 2021			
9	3-5	Wed	WAD Mid-Year Meeting	Online Meeting
10	17-18	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
11	20-25	Thu	General Conference Session	Indianapolis IN
12				
13	June 2021			
14	7-10	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
15	13	Sun	Andrews University Executive Committee	Berrien Springs MI
16	13(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
17	14(pm)	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
18	21-27	Mon	IWM Re-entry (Family & Teen)	Berrien Springs MI
19				
20	July 2021			
21	12-31	Mon	IWM Mission Institute	Berrien Springs MI
22				
23	August 2021			
24	9-10	Mon	Youth Ministries World Advisory	Online Meeting
25	11-12	Wed	Education World Advisory	Online Meeting
26	16-17	Mon	Publishing Ministries World Advisory	Online Meeting
27	16-17	Mon	Women's Ministries World Advisory	Online Meeting
28	18-19	Wed	Secretariat World Advisory	Online Meeting
29	18-19	Wed	Children's Ministries World Advisory	Online Meeting
30	23-24	Mon	Ministerial Association World Advisory	Online Meeting
31	23-24	Mon	Public Affairs & Religious Liberty World Advisory	Online Meeting
32	24-25	Tue	Adventist Mission World Advisory	Online Meeting
33	30-31	Mon	Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees	Loma Linda CA
34	30-31	Mon	Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries World Advisory	Online Meeting
35				
36	September 2021			
37	1-2	Wed	Planned Giving & Trust Services World Advisory	Online Meeting
38	1-2	Wed	White Estate World Advisory	Online Meeting
39	6-7	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Ethics Committee	Berrien Springs MI
40	6	Mon	Adventist Possibility Ministries World Advisory	Online Meeting
41	8-9	Wed	Archives, Statistics, and Research World Advisory	Online Meeting
42	8-9	Wed	Sabbath School/Personal Min World Advisory	Online Meeting
43	13-16	Mon	Prime Time	Silver Spring MD
44	13-14	Mon	Family Ministries World Advisory	Online Meeting
45	14-15	Tue	Adventist Volunteer Service World Advisory	Online Meeting
46	DATE	DAY	MEETING	LOCATION
47				
48	September 2021 contd			

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1	15-16	Wed	Communication World Advisory	Online Meeting
2	20-21	Mon	Health Ministries World Advisory	Online Meeting
3	22-23	Wed	Stewardship Ministries World Advisory	Online Meeting
4	28	Tue	Presidential Advisory	Silver Spring MD
5	29	Wed	Presidents Council	Silver Spring MD
6	29	Wed	Secretaries Council	Silver Spring MD
7	29	Wed	Treasurers Council	Silver Spring MD
8	30(am)	Thu	GC & Division Officers	Silver Spring MD
9	30(pm)	Thu	Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
10				
11	October 2021			
12	1(am)	Fri	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
13	3	Sun	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
14	4(am)	Mon	Church Manual Committee	Silver Spring MD
15	4(pm)	Mon	Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
16	4(am)	Mon	IBE Programs Review Committee	Silver Spring MD
17	4(eve)	Mon	Adventist AIDS International Ministry Board	Silver Spring MD
18	5(am)	Tue	ADRA International Board	Silver Spring MD
19	5(pm)	Tue	General Conference Mission Board	Silver Spring MD
20	5(eve)	Tue	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
21	5(eve)	Tue	International Board of Min & Theol Ed	Silver Spring MD
22	6-7	Wed	General Conference Auditing Service Board	Silver Spring MD
23	6(am)	Wed	Hope Channel International Board	Silver Spring MD
24	6(pm)	Wed	Accred Assoc of SDA Sch, Coll & Univ	Silver Spring MD
25	6(pm)	Wed	Adventist World Radio Board	Silver Spring MD
26	6(pm)	Wed	IRLA Board	Silver Spring MD
27	7(am)	Thu	Adventist University of Africa Board	Silver Spring MD
28	7(am)	Thu	Institute for the Prevention of Addictions Board	Silver Spring MD
29	7(pm)	Thu	AIAS Board	Silver Spring MD
30	7(pm)	Thu	ASI Coordinating Committee	Silver Spring MD
31	7(eve)-8	Thu	LEAD Conference	Silver Spring MD
32	7(eve)-13	Thu	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
33	18-19	Mon	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Berrien Springs MI
34	22(pm)	Fri	Andrews University Governance Committee	Berrien Springs MI
35	24	Sun	Andrews University Board Committees	Berrien Springs MI
36	24(pm)	Sun	Andrews University Seminary Executive Com	Berrien Springs MI
37	25(am)	Mon	Andrews University Board	Berrien Springs MI
38				
39	October 2021 contd.			
40	18-22	Mon	WAD Prime Week	Abidjan, CI
41	25-28	Mon	Division-Union/Inst. Officers Consultation	Abidjan, CI
42	29(am)	Thu	BOE Meeting	Abidjan, CI
43	29(pm)	Fri	BMTE Meeting	Abidjan, CI
44	31	Sun	Strategic Planning/Budgeting Session	Abidjan, CI
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1	November 2021				
2	1-4	Mon	Division Year-End Council	Abidjan, CI	
3	21	Sun	Orphans and Vulnerable Children’s day	All Churches	
4	22-24	Mon	NGUM Year-end Meeting	Kumasi, Ghana	
5	22-24	Mon	ESUM Year-end Meeting	Lomé, Togo	
6	22-24	Mon	WAUM Year-end Meeting	Monrovia, Liberia	
7	26	Thu	Advent Press Meeting	Accra, Ghana	
8	29-Dec1	Sun	SGUC Year-end Meeting	Accra, Ghana	
9	29-Dec1	Sun	WSUM Year-end Meeting	Libreville, Gabon	
10	29-Dec1	Sun	WNUC Year-end Meeting	Lagos, Nigeria	
11					
12	December 2021				
13	6-8	Sun	ENUC Year-end Meeting	Aba, Nigeria	
14	6-8	Sun	CAUM Year-end Meeting	Libreville, Gabon	
15	6-8	Sun	NNUC Year-end Meeting	Abuja, Nigeria	
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18	January 2022				
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Christian Service
Chapter 9, pp 106-107

The Christian’s Watchwords

There are three watchwords in the Christian life, which must be heeded if we would not have Satan steal a march upon us; namely, Watch, Pray, Work.—Testimonies for the Church 2:283. Every soul that has made a profession of Christ has pledged himself to be all that it is possible for him to be as a spiritual worker, to be active, zealous, and efficient in his Master’s service. Christ expects every man to do his duty; let this be the watchword throughout the ranks of His followers.—Testimonies for the Church 5:460.

A Spiritual Paralytic

Strength comes by exercise. All who put to use the ability which God has given them, will have increased ability to devote to His service. Those who do nothing in the cause of God, will fail to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the truth. A man who would lie down and refuse to exercise his limbs, would soon lose all power to use them. Thus the Christian who will not exercise his God-given powers, not only fails to grow up into Christ, but he loses the strength which he already has; he becomes a spiritual paralytic. It is those who, with love for God and their fellow men, are striving to help others, that become established, strengthened, settled, in the truth. The true Christian [107] works for God, not from impulse, but from principle; not for a day or a month, but during the entire period of life.—Testimonies for the Church 5:393.

The Sure Remedy

For the disheartened there is a sure remedy,—faith, prayer, work. Faith and activity will impart assurance and satisfaction that will increase day by day. Are you tempted to give way to feelings of anxious foreboding or utter despondency? In the darkest days, when appearances seem most forbidding, fear not. Have faith in God. He knows your need. He has all power. His infinite love and compassion never weary. Fear not that He will fail of fulfilling His promise. He is eternal truth. Never will He change the covenant He has made with those who love Him. And He will bestow upon His faithful servants the measure of efficiency that their need demands.—Prophets and Kings, 164, 165.

There is but one genuine cure for spiritual laziness, and that is work,—working for souls who need your help.—Testimonies for the Church 4:236.

This is the recipe that Christ has prescribed for the fainthearted, doubting, trembling soul. Let the sorrowful ones, who walk mournfully before the Lord, arise and help some one who needs help.—Testimonies for the Church 6:266.

Christians who are constantly growing in earnestness, in zeal, in fervor, in love,—such Christians never backslide.—The Review and Herald, June 7, 1887.

It is those who are not engaged in this unselfish labor who have a sickly experience, and become worn out with struggling, doubting, murmuring, sinning, and repenting, until they lose all sense as to what constitutes genuine religion. They feel that they cannot go back to the world, and so they hang on the skirts of Zion, having petty jealousies, envyings, disappointments, and remorse. They are full of fault finding, and feed upon the mistakes and errors of their brethren. They have only a hopeless, faithless, sunless experience in their religious life.—The Review and Herald, September 2, 1890.