



World Service Conference Report

Volume 1 • Number 3

November 1991

NOVEMBER 1991 WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE REPORT

To: The Fellowship

From: Barbara Jorgensen, Chairperson
World Service Conference

Most of this report will focus on information about next year's World Service Conference. Although it is still five months away, I know that regions need enough time to plan for RSR attendance, and to discuss issues that will be addressed at the conference.

The 1992 World Service Conference will be held in Dallas, Texas April 25 thru May 2. A reservation form with specific hotel details and room rates will be sent out soon. This report includes a draft of the agenda so that prospective participants can get an idea of how we hope to conduct the conference, what process to use to insure that their region's issues will be addressed, and how to avail themselves of the information available at the World Service Conference on matters of importance to their regions.

There will be one day at next year's conference during which two events will be occurring simultaneously. I believe that we must try something different to facilitate more discussion without killing ourselves conducting business, having discussions when we are past the point of exhaustion, or having discussions in empty rooms. The reactions we have received thus far, to this idea, have been evenly mixed.

I have to tell you that I have not reacted well to cries that everyone wants to be able to be present for all discussions when I remember that, last year, many panels took place with most RSRs out of the room. I do believe that part of that was due to a schedule that did not allow for enough breaks to rest or eat, and the participants' needed to take advantage of what time they could.

In an attempt to meet all these needs, the WSC Administrative Committee has decided to do just one day of split-panels, and to split them in the following way:

One panel will discuss motions which are in the *Conference Agenda Report* from that board or committee. There will be no presentations made by the panel unless there is new information to be given. Instead, the panel will respond to questions and comments from the participants. *All amendments, substitute motions, or any other action a participant plans to introduce relating to the motion being discussed should be brought up for discussion during this panel period.* It is hoped that consensus can be achieved prior to the business sessions. If consensus cannot be achieved, groups of participants will be sent out from the panel session to report back to the appropriate business session with the results of their work.

The other panel, conducted by the same board or committee, will be on projects or related areas which are not in the *Conference Agenda Report*. Again, the participants will not have presentations as such, but will respond to questions or engage in discussions with participants.

The WSC H&I and PI Committees do not have simultaneous panels scheduled because they have no items of business for the *Conference Agenda Report* this year.

Every effort will be made to include regional issues in discussions. Since we have no idea what issues or how many we will receive, this cannot be guaranteed at this time.

Regional issues submitted for inclusion in the January *Conference Report* will be included on both types of panels, depending on whether or not it relates to an item in the *Conference Agenda Report*.

It is our hope that this division will address the belief of some regional representatives that RSR Alternates are not prepared to deal with the conference alone and need training. It should be possible to fully participate in the non-agenda report panels with nothing but knowledge of one's region and the ability to listen. Of course, attendance at either panel is voluntary, and each RSR and RSR Alternate will decide who should be where and when.

Regional motions will appear in the back of the *Conference Agenda Report* as usual. As stated in the *Temporary Working Guide to our Service Structure*, each motion must be referred to a conference board or committee before it can be brought to the floor for business. It is hoped that regions will write papers about issues for inclusion in the January *Conference Report*, rather than limiting themselves to making motions.

Past members of the WSC Administrative Committee have felt frustrated by opposing voices demanding fewer *Conference Agenda Report* items and more access to the *Conference Agenda Report* for regional motions. We continue to ask boards and committees to limit their items of business. They have dramatically decreased the number of motions they present. The number of regional motions, however, has not decreased significantly during the same period. It is hoped that by increasing the ability of regions to have their issues addressed and their concerns heard, they will also be able to decrease the number of motions submitted.

Each conference board or committee's business session will be self-contained. In each session, old business will be addressed before new business. "Old" or "new" will be determined by whether or not the conference has previously dealt with the motion or if it appears in the *Conference Agenda Report*. The source of the motion is not relevant. Hopefully, we can move through the actual business sessions fairly quickly, but this will only be possible if the participants support the plan to discuss issues fully during the panel sessions.

This schedule allows for meal breaks and some early evenings. We plan on having NA meetings before the start of each day. The schedule will allow for several evening meetings later in the week, but only if we can stay on schedule. Some of this is up to the body of participants. If, together, we determine that we will not tolerate motions being "sprung" on us that were not mentioned during the panel discussions, then we should be able to keep to the plan.

The Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust, the *Twelve Concepts for NA Service* booklet, and *Just For Today--Daily Meditations for Recovering Addicts* will be mailed before the *Conference Agenda Report* is published and will also appear in the *Conference Agenda Report*. The boards and committees concerned wanted the fellowship to have as much time as possible to consider these lengthy items. We felt that we could not avoid printing them in the *Conference Agenda Report* as

well, since the conference will be asked to vote on them. While this will result in a weighty and expensive *Conference Agenda Report*, it seems to be unavoidable.

The *Conference Agenda Report* will contain:

1. Board/committee motions
2. Reports pertaining to those motions
3. Regional motions
4. Motions committed last year, for which there is a recommendation of "no action," will be listed in the back. A note referring to the pertinent committee's or board's annual report (to be published in March) will also be included.
5. Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust
6. *Twelve Concepts for NA Service* booklet
7. *Just for Today--Daily Meditations for Recovering Addicts*
8. 1992-93 WSC spending proposal (fixed and discretionary expenses)

The January *Conference Report* will contain:

1. Regional issues
2. Board/committee issues

The March *Conference Report* will contain:

1. Board/committee annual reports (without motions for conference consideration)
2. Reports on committed motions for which no action is recommended
3. Regional reports
4. Proposals and works in progress

The participants orientation package, which will be mailed in March, will include:

1. WSC rules of order
2. New agenda information
3. Restaurant lists, etc.
4. Motion forms, copying directions, etc.
5. Service resume forms, nomination forms

We hope that the information above will clarify how you may expect to receive information in the coming months. Our goal for the World Service Conference is to provide more time for discussion and less need for parliamentary procedure. We made great strides in this direction last year and believe we can go even farther this time. Attaining our goal will require commitment from all concerned. Participants will have to be resolved that the process is important; that the goal of discussion has as much meaning as any particular issue. If we can agree to this, and to not letting any group or individual sway us from our resolve, we can continue to make the conference different and meaningful.

Elections have been problematic in the past. Actually, the real problem seems to lie in the nomination process. In the past, members who were willing to run for office were encouraged to stand for one position only. The "conventional wisdom" behind this approach seemed to be that it was not okay to run for more than one position because that meant that members just wanted to be elected to something, anything, and were title-happy or something. The idea was for members to state where they believed they could best serve the fellowship and run only for that position. Members of the WSC Administrative Committee reject this thinking. We intend to encourage members to run for more than one position if they believe they have the ability to serve in more

than one capacity. The conference will decide where they can best serve. This does not mean that we are advocating serving in more than one position, just accepting more than one nomination.

This problem has been most evident in trustee elections. Individuals, who ran only for trustee and were not elected, were not available to the conference for other positions because they accepted only one nomination. Often, it was thought that they could serve well in some other capacity and nominations were re-opened. This was time consuming and occasionally left a "bad taste" because some believed that it reflected poorly on other nominees to the second office. It is hoped that a new attitude toward multiple nominations will help us avoid the need to re-open nominations. Additional nominations can be made from the floor, of course, unless the conference refuses to re-open nominations. Hopefully, members will be more diligent in submitting resumes and making nominations in a timely manner. A service resume form will be included in the orientation package. It wouldn't hurt a bit for all participants, as well as those attending for the purpose of standing for election, to fill it out prior to the conference.

More information will be coming to you in the next few months. If there are questions about anything in this report, or in general, please feel free to write, in care of WSO, and ask. Thank you for letting me be of service.

Reminders:

1. Regional issues and WSC board/committee issues for inclusion in the January *Conference Report* must be received at WSO, by December 16 (previously reported in error as December 1).
2. Regional motions and WSC board/committee motions for inclusion in the *Conference Agenda Report* must be received at WSO, by December 23.
3. Letters of intent from new regions who will ask to be seated at WSC '92 must be received at the WSO, by December 23.

DRAFT WSC '92 FORMAT¹

SATURDAY

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Opening of conference

Introduction
Adoption of procedures
Seating of new regions

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. - Lunch

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Multinational forum

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Multinational forum

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. - Committee meetings

MONDAY

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - WSC Treasurer's report
Handout of budgetary consideration items

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - WSO financial report

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. - Lunch

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Interim report and interim business

6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - Dinner

7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. - WSO/WCC panels

1 *Notes*

Panel sessions will be divided into two simultaneous sessions. One session will be devoted to items which appear in the *Conference Agenda Report* and any relevant motions, amendments, etc. from regions. Conference participants will be *strongly encouraged* to bring all discussions which bear on these items to the panel sessions. If necessary, small groups will be sent out of the panel sessions to arrive at recommendations which will then be brought back to the business sessions. We hope that this process will significantly reduce the time needed for business sessions.

The other panel session is to be used for discussions which are not related to items in the *Conference Agenda Report*. This could include regional motions, items of a committee or board's continuing business, or dissemination of information.

Panels are not expected to present lengthy information, but rather to have included detailed written reports either in the *Conference Agenda Report*, the *January Conference Report*, or other reports made available to participants at the Conference. *It is hoped that panels will respond rather than make presentations, as much as possible.*

H&I and PI will not have simultaneous panels since it is not anticipated that they will have any motions in the *Conference Agenda Report*.

TUESDAY

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - WSC Administrative Committee panels
WSC Ad Hoc on NA Service, WSC Ad Hoc on Isolated Groups, RSR working groups

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - World Service Board of Trustees panels

1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. - Lunch

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - WSC Policy Committee panels

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - WSC Literature Committee panels

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - Dinner

6:30 p.m. - Deadline for nominations and service resumes to be turned in

8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. - WSC H&I Committee panel

9:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. - WSC PI Committee panel

WEDNESDAY

8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. - WSC Administrative Committee business

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - World Service Board of Trustees business

11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Nominations and questions

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Lunch

2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. - World Service Office/World Convention Corporation business

4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. - WSC Literature Committee business

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - WSC Policy Committee business

THURSDAY

9:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Multinational forum

12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. - Lunch

1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. - Budget

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. - Elections

FRIDAY

9:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Committee meetings

SATURDAY

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - New business

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Lunch

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - New business

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To: The Fellowship

From: Tom Rush
Interim Committee

The WSC Interim Committee met in Van Nuys during the morning and the evening of Friday, October 25, 1991. Members in attendance were Jack B. (chairperson for this meeting), Barbara J., Bob McD., and Tom R. Several WSO staff members and visitors were present, along with Becky M. and Dave T.

Current financial information shows that WSC donations for the previous three months were above expectations, and donations for September were about half of the projected amount. All expenses for August, September, and October have not been submitted yet, but it does look like we will be able to meet most projected expenses for November, December, January, and February. Due to the prudence of boards, committees, and WSO staff, several events have ended up costing less than estimated. Overall, the World Service Conference financial situation is "on budget."

We decided to try to hold \$40,000 in reserve for WSC '92 meeting expenses, and also keep \$15,000 (previously approved) in reserve for expenses directly related to the Multinational Development Forum which will occur at the annual meeting. (The \$15,000 was increased to \$20,000 as a result of discussions in late November). After allowing for other previously approved expenses which have not yet been paid (approximately \$31,000), we estimate disposable income for December, January, and February to be about \$70,000. We approved a total of \$67,620 in expenses for the upcoming quarter as indicated below.

We reminded board and committee leadership, and ourselves, of our June decision about encouraging combination mailings, and the necessity of Interim Committee approval for major expenses. We believe that this approach has resulted in substantial savings. Along with the priority lists established at WSC '91, it has also allowed for a more responsible approach to funding requests than we've had in the past.

The committee discussed and approved approximately \$53,000 for fixed expenses over the next three months. These requests were from all WSC committees and the World Service Board of Trustees. Specific funding requests included were the publication of the *Conference Report* and the *Conference Digest*, translation of the *Conference Digest*, a January JAC meeting, one WSCLC meeting, two WSCLC Steps Ad Hoc Committee meetings, one WSB meeting, two WSB Traditions Ad Hoc Committee meetings, publication of the *PI News* and *Newsletter to Professionals*, H&I literature distribution, publication of *Reaching Out*, two PI working group meetings, and two policy working group meetings, seven conference calls, and postage and copying expenses for all of the above. A request to bring two new WSCLC members to their November meeting was denied.

The following requests (total of approximately \$14,500) for discretionary expenses were submitted and approved: two WSC Ad Hoc NA Service Committee workshops on metropolitan services, one WSC Ad Hoc NA Service Committee meeting, and possible participation by various world trusted servants in three multiregional/regional events and one additional needs workshop. Funds were also approved for a meeting of the PI video work group to interview three of the production companies which submitted bids. Travel for one member of the WSB Additional Needs Panel members to attend the February WSB meeting was approved. A request to fund attendance of two non-trustees to a WSB subcommittee meeting in February was denied.

The Unified Budget proposal, from WSC '91, was discussed briefly. Input has been received and will be incorporated into a revised draft for discussion at the next meeting of the committee. This will occur at the January JAC meeting.

Motions committed to the Interim Committee were also discussed. Of the four committed motions, the one from Tri-State about funding all conference committees has not yet been fully explored. A financial feasibility report from the WSC Treasurer will be examined within the next few weeks and we plan to discuss the idea in detail at that time.

The committee reviewed a previous decision to send a trustee to the International Federation of Nongovernmental Organizations conference in Manila during November. Concern was expressed about sending someone unaccompanied when the accepted policy is to send at least two trusted servants. Further discussion recognized this deviation from standard practice as being necessary because of funding shortages.

Examining the projected workload for the next few months led to a discussion of the WSO work plan. The WSO board chairperson indicated that staff assignments will definitely be made as soon as the projects are prioritized. These assignments will be communicated to other members of the Interim Committee so that knowledge of their impact will be shared.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Ivan Faske, Chairperson
WSC H&I Committee

The following is a brief overview of the progress and concerns of the WSC H&I Committee since our one and only quarterly meeting in Tulsa. Some of this may be repetitive from our last report, however, it needs emphasis. Because we do our best work when we are together, rather than by phone or mail, all the ad hoc subcommittees were formed geographically so, if necessary and if possible, they could meet once or twice between now and April.

The *Reaching Out* articles and subscription, as well as the workshop and learning days ad hoc subcommittees were disbanded in April, with the responsibility for the work placed on the chairperson and vice chairperson with assistance from the WSO H&I project coordinator. We are looking at revising the H&I workshop and learning day survey used to assess the quality of the work done by WSC H&I Committee representatives who are attending such events.

Soliciting of articles for the *Reaching Out* are the responsibility of the entire committee. In this capacity, we are doing fine. Although we have ninety-four subscriptions sold, twenty-seven of those over the last three months, we can never sell enough. Enough is when there isn't any more. We've asked all committee and pool members to approach their own areas and regions to subscribe to *Reaching Out*, and we are asking you to do the same. We believe this publication is an excellent representation of what our primary purpose is all about. You will find additional subscription cards for *Reaching Out* enclosed in this mailing.

We have appointed a WSC H&I committee member as the liaison to work with a liaison from WSC PI. We suggest that the WSC Policy Committee and the WSC Literature Committee join in and do the same. More and more, we are in need of each others support in completing projects appropriately and timely.

Guidelines

A number of suggested guideline revisions and additions were passed at the WSC workshop in Tulsa. New issues are being looked at, along with responsibilities of ad hoc subcommittee chairpersons, and appropriate amounts of timely input from committee and pool members.

Tape

A small ad hoc subcommittee of four members was given the task of completing the orientation/panel presentation tape. This tape is meant to supplement the *H&I Handbook*. This ad hoc subcommittee is going to schedule a workshop between now and January, and another between January and March. The tape is presently about fifty per cent complete. The question and answer segment needs a lot of work, and the orientation portion needs review and some direction. We hope to have this project very near completion by April.

Handbook

This ad hoc subcommittee will not be meeting before the conference, but there will be two input assignments due between now and March. An orientation segment for new H&I service commitments will be added to the section on workshop and learning days, as well as a description of the difference between the three. The few paragraphs on international concerns will hopefully be expanded to a new section on multinational concerns. We will continue to review and upgrade the resource section. We are taking our time with the project because we feel that expanding sections in the handbook should be done carefully, correctly, and very infrequently.

During the month of October, the ad hoc subcommittee mailed a request for information on forensic and psychiatric facilities to all area and regional subcommittees. All input or questions will be reviewed.

Multinational

This subcommittee is developing a survey to be sent to our fellowship outside of the U.S. to help establish H&I needs and concerns. A lot of the information gathered will be put to use by the WSC H&I Handbook Review Ad Hoc Subcommittee, as explained previously. The survey, although not entirely complete at this point, is being translated into several different languages. Once translated, we may begin to send it to members outside of the U.S. for further input in order to complete a well produced questionnaire that will address the needs of H&I subcommittees outside of the U.S.

External

Although a survey and a procedure for its distribution has been developed by the H&I committee, we are about to further simplify this project by focusing on correctional facilities to begin with. Therefore, we are going to ask fifteen to twenty state correctional facility administrators to assist us, through personal inquiries, in determining what questions are appropriate and helpful in gathering external information on NA services. We are also going to begin developing an internal survey to gather statistical information as well as an overall picture of how our H&I efforts are viewed within the U.S.

Outreach

This ad hoc subcommittee is scheduled to meet twice to assess the needs of NA members who are housed in facilities. Whether the facility has an H&I meeting or not is not a consideration at this point. This will be done with the aid of input from members who are incarcerated as well as our experienced H&I committee and pool members.

We are hoping that we will be able to complete a large portion of this work by the time we meet again in April. In closing, I would like to thank all those whose cards, thoughts, and prayers kept me going and getting better throughout the recovery from my accident. At this point, I'm off of disability and going back to work as a very grateful and blessed recovering addict, thanks to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Mary Jensen, Chairperson
WSC Literature Committee

It has been a real pleasure to hear from so many of you regarding our work this year. I believe that the communication level has been good, both in terms of letters and phone calls and in the amount of material we have received from you as input for our current literature projects.

In this report, I would like to give you a brief update on our work and to begin discussing with you an item that I believe we will somehow need to address as a fellowship at the conference this year.

Steps Project

The WSCLC Steps Ad Hoc Committee has met once since my last *Conference Report*. During the September meeting, they recommended revisions on the second drafts of Steps Five and Six and first drafts of Steps Seven and Eight. They also prepared the staff team to write the first draft of Step Nine. Because the pre-review drafts of Steps One, Two and Three had been written by a different person, working groups of the ad hoc committee were formed to review and integrate input on them. Their drafts of Steps One and Three were also reviewed at the meeting. Input from each ad hoc member for Step Two was submitted to the staff team. The resulting re-drafting of the first three steps will be sent to the WSCLC and the WSB prior to the WSCLC November meeting.

The ad hoc group will meet again during the first weekend of November. At this time, third drafts of Steps Five and Six, second drafts of Steps Seven and Eight, and the first draft of Step Nine will be reviewed. If time permits, the staff team will be prepared to write first drafts of Steps Ten and Eleven.

Speaking for myself, I never dreamed that, when we lost our original writer for this project, we would end up not only moving right along, but pulling ahead of schedule. The WSCLC Steps Ad Hoc Committee continues to be pleased with the quality of the drafts.

Daily Book

The only remaining draft work on the daily book is currently in the hands of the final review panel. Their last set of recommendations to the editorial staff for revisions on the third fellowship review batch are due on November 7th. At that time, the editorial staff will be making these changes and preparing a current draft of the entire book to submit to the WSCLC for final revisions.

Based on input from the first review batch sent to the fellowship, we have altered our course in the work as a whole. Although actual changes in the drafts were relatively minor, we did reject one entry as a result of input received. The main change, though, related to features we had intended to use throughout the book. Based on your input, we will no longer be using original quotations for leads, will use the word "God" sparingly, will use "Just for Today" in the closing rather than "For Today," and will limit the use of the first person singular ("I") voice. We specifically asked about retaining this voice in the entries already produced (less than 10% of the total number of entries for the book) when we sent out the review form with the third batch. The WSCLC will need to look at this input and revise entries written in this voice if indicated by the fellowship.

At our November meeting, we will also decide what criteria to use in sequencing the entries and will approve the forward for the book. The format that the book will appear in for the *Conference Agenda Report* is not yet known, but in viewing a sample of what it would look like with four to a page (approximating the size of the book), it seems that the pages would be "busy" and hard to read. For greater ease of review, we may print the entries in a larger format--perhaps two to a page. I'll let you know how the decisions on all these matters come out after our November meeting.

I would like to share with you that the response from the fellowship toward the entries reviewed has been overwhelmingly positive. There are clearly some who are not fully satisfied with the work, and we are trying to alter it in ways so that it fills the needs of a wider audience. Yet the number of areas and regions who have said, "Keep going. We love it." and "Please finish this book!" has been very encouraging. We realize that area and regional literature committees have been in high gear while reviewing this project. Your timely responses to the daily book production schedule have been very responsible. I hope that your committees are thriving and growing as a result.

November WSCLC Meeting

The WSC Literature Committee will meet November 21-24. This four-day meeting is necessary because of the amount of work we need to do to get the first six steps and the daily book out to the fellowship. In addition to finalizing the steps and daily book drafts, we will also be discussing motions for the *Conference Agenda Report*. We plan to have two works up for approval at the conference: the daily book and *In Times of Illness*. Following reports from our evaluations and revisions subcommittees, we will finalize our work list for 1992. We will also have some preliminary discussions about possible changes needed in our handbook, production of the approval form for the steps portion of *It Works*, and the use of contract writers as a resource for producing NA literature.

An Issue to Consider

As has been reported earlier, a member who had been an employee of the WSO and part of the daily book editorial team last year was approached to continue writing first draft material for the daily book. The office established a contract with her. This contract was questioned by the World Service Board of Trustees, which recommended its termination to the WSO Board of Directors. With some reluctance, the WSO BOD terminated the contract.

The WSCLC was aware that a writer had been contracted to work on this project. We believe that the fellowship had been clear at the 1990 WSC in maintaining that any special worker writer needed to be a NA member and that any work done by a special worker writer needed to be under the creative control of the WSCLC. Both of these criteria were present with the writer in question.

What we need to know--not just the literature committee, but all of us involved in producing literature for Narcotics Anonymous--is how your area or region responds to this issue. I am currently talking with other members who are involved in world services so that we can, perhaps, find a good way to approach this topic at the conference. I'll be writing more about this to you later, but I wanted you to know that the topic is still on our minds.

In closing, I want to tell you about the positive working relationships that exist here. The chairperson of the WSO Board of Directors and our liaisons with the trustees and administrative committee have been very helpful and supportive in our work. The members of the literature committee are working hard this year to produce quality literature on schedule. It is clear that we can't do it alone. We are grateful for the assistance and good will of other boards and committees and for your continued support of our work.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Mitchell Soodak, Chairperson
WSC Policy Committee

In the past two months, some WSC Policy Committee members have met with the WSB Internal Affairs Committee, the WSC Administrative Committee, and the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service. Communication, interaction, and input resulting from these meetings have helped the WSC Policy Committee to focus its work. The committee is planning to have two conference calls for the purpose of finalizing the work to be included in the *Conference Agenda Report* (for conference action), and the *January Conference Report* (for conference discussion). The information in this report is pending full committee revision and approval on those calls.

As of right now, the seating of regions proposal will be the only motion presented in the *Conference Agenda Report*. I reported in September that the WSC Policy Committee was also considering the presentation of a question about national/continental/zonal representation in the *Conference Agenda Report*. After many more discussions, we have concluded that the fellowship will be better served by including this with other related issues which have arisen from the seating discussions, and presenting them in narrative form in the *January Conference Report*. In this way, issues such as regional diversity, conference effectiveness, and multinational representation will be presented for a panel discussion at the WSC. Our hope is to have the panel consist of a combined

Daily Book

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The WSC Literature Committee will meet November 21-24. This four-day meeting is necessary because of the amount of work we need to do to get the first six steps and the daily book out to the fellowship. In addition to finalizing the steps and daily book drafts, we will also be discussing motions for the *Conference Agenda Report*. We plan to have two works up for approval at the conference: the daily book and *In Times of Illness*. Following reports from our evaluations and revisions subcommittees, we will finalize our work list for 1992. We will also have some preliminary discussions about possible changes needed in our handbook, production of the approval form for the steps portion of *It Works*, and the use of contract writers as a resource for producing NA literature.

An Issue to Consider

As has been reported earlier, a member who had been an employee of the WSO and part of the daily book editorial team last year was approached to continue writing first draft material for the daily book. The office established a contract with her. This contract was questioned by the World Service Board of Trustees, which recommended its termination to the WSO Board of Directors. With some reluctance, the WSO BOD terminated the contract.

The WSCLC was aware that a writer had been contracted to work on this project. We believe that the fellowship had been clear at the 1990 WSC in maintaining that any special worker writer needed to be a NA member and that any work done by a special worker writer needed to be under the creative control of the WSCLC. Both of these criteria were present with the writer in question.

What we need to know--not just the literature committee, but all of us involved in producing literature for Narcotics Anonymous--is how your area or region responds to this issue. I am currently talking with other members who are involved in world services so that we can, perhaps, find a good way to approach this topic at the conference. I'll be writing more about this to you later, but I wanted you to know that the topic is still on our minds.

In closing, I want to tell you about the positive working relationships that exist here. The chairperson of the WSO Board of Directors and our liaisons with the trustees and administrative committee have been very helpful and supportive in our work. The members of the literature committee are working hard this year to produce quality literature on schedule. It is clear that we can't do it alone. We are grateful for the assistance and good will of other boards and committees and for your continued support of our work.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Mitchell Soodak, Chairperson
WSC Policy Committee

In the past two months, some WSC Policy Committee members have met with the WSB Internal Affairs Committee, the WSC Administrative Committee, and the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service. Communication, interaction, and input resulting from these meetings have helped the WSC Policy Committee to focus its work. The committee is planning to have two conference calls for the purpose of finalizing the work to be included in the *Conference Agenda Report* (for conference action), and the *January Conference Report* (for conference discussion). The information in this report is pending full committee revision and approval on those calls.

As of right now, the seating of regions proposal will be the only motion presented in the *Conference Agenda Report*. I reported in September that the WSC Policy Committee was also considering the presentation of a question about national/continental/zonal representation in the *Conference Agenda Report*. After many more discussions, we have concluded that the fellowship will be better served by including this with other related issues which have arisen from the seating discussions, and presenting them in narrative form in the *January Conference Report*. In this way, issues such as regional diversity, conference effectiveness, and multinational representation will be presented for a panel discussion at the WSC. Our hope is to have the panel consist of a combined

membership of the WSC Policy Committee, WSB Internal Affairs Committee, and the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service.

Two committed motions from WSC '91, one on zonal trustees, the other on conference format, have been discussed by the committee. The WSC Policy Committee will continue to work with these ideas. The idea of zonal trustees is already slated for discussion by the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service next year, and the WSC Administrative Committee is currently working with an evolving conference format. We feel that it would be irresponsible to present specific motions about these important concepts at this time, and the committee will probably recommend that no action be taken on these at WSC '92.

The other projects of the committee for this year are RSR participation, rotation and continuity, and policy committee guidelines. At present, it is uncertain whether these will be *Conference Agenda Report* items, issues for discussion, or work in progress tabled back to the committee.

As always, this is a very hectic time of the year. Therefore, this report is brief by design. Thanks again for the opportunity to serve and also to WSO staff for being there.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Rogan Allen, Chairperson
WSC Public Information Committee

Greetings to everyone from the WSC PI Committee. Hopefully, this report will bring all interested members up to date on our work. This has been a somewhat frustrating year due to the funding shortage, which translated into cutbacks of workshops, conferences, and other non-NA events we like to attend, and also to less staff support for mailings and responses outside of the fellowship. However, we have continued on the projects we started in June, and have come up with a few new ones.

The NA video is moving the way a lot of our favorite projects move--slowly. Our next step will be to select three production companies from the six who submitted proposals. This will happen at our November meeting, after which a meeting in early 1992 will allow the six-member video committee to interview the remaining three video producers, and select one from those. If our office has continued on an upward sales trend, then we may be able to start the project itself. I'm keeping my fingers crossed and my prayers up to date on this one.

Other projects in progress are assessment of rural PI needs, development of a disaster plan, assessment of international PI needs, the development of our PI Policy, and revisions to *A Guide to Public Information*. These are moving forward, although slowly. It is difficult for our committee to communicate thoughts through the mail and on the phone, but we are learning. Previously, I reported to the conference that the revised *Guide to Phoneline Service* would be going into the *Conference Agenda Report*. Instead, this will be released in the *PI News*. The first draft will be published in the December issue, and a ninety-day input period will follow before the second draft is issued. This will be in accordance with established guidelines and will hopefully allow the many recipients of the *PI News* a quicker look at this project.

We are beginning to work on combining our efforts with the WSC H&I Committee and the WSB External Affairs Committee. Basically, we hope to find out through an internal H&I survey,

which institutions we currently have meetings in, and which institutions we are unable to service. We will target these institutions through our PI efforts, explaining how NA literature can benefit them. A step-by-step plan will be devised to guide local PI committees in approaching institution administrators and helping them to become more aware of our services. This may even include some guidance to the professionals on how to start and hold a regularly scheduled meeting when an H&I committee isn't available. This project will require research and development but will go a long way toward opening doors and giving NA much greater exposure. A trend seems to be developing with the number of correctional institutions starting treatment programs and we want to be a part of that growth.

We participated in the World Federation Conference of Therapeutic Communities in Montreal last September and it was a success. This conference brought together leaders and policy-makers from "addiction" agencies around the world. We not only had the opportunity to make a presentation to the conference, but met with influential professionals to discuss NA and how we could be of service to them. It is clear that Narcotics Anonymous is gaining more acceptance. When people outside our fellowship are able to talk with us on a personal level, many of the misconceptions seem to subside. We gathered names and addresses of many professionals and will communicate with them through letters and mailings.

Again, I wish to express my appreciation to the NA Fellowship for allowing me the opportunity to be of service, and also my deeply felt gratitude to a loving God who continues to show me I am only part of a greater whole. This collection of members that work together in NA continues to amaze me with the results we produce when guided by selfless motives.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Dave Tynes, Chairperson
WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service

Well, it's time for another report. It has been a busy quarter for me.

We had our first meeting in September during which we reviewed the input received from the fellowship on the Twelve Concepts, and made what the committee felt were appropriate changes. Our second meeting occurred in November at which time we finalized the approval form of the Twelve Concepts. As this report reaches you, the approval-form of the *Twelve Concepts for NA Service* booklet will have been received by all conference participants.

At the October meeting of the Interim Committee, our funding request to hold two metro workshops, in New York and San Francisco, was approved. The workshop in New York will take place on Saturday, January 11th, at St. Mark's Church, 82nd Street and 34th Avenue, Jackson Heights, Queens, New York. The second workshop will take place on Saturday, February 1st, at Trinity Episcopal Church, San Francisco, California.

The primary focus of the workshops will be on shared services being delivered by more than one area service committee in a metropolitan setting. It is our hope that the dialogue at these workshops will not only aid our committee in its work, but will also provide some help to areas and regions who are experiencing problems related to the delivery of services in a metropolitan setting.

At at our last meeting, the committee also discussed our plans for next year. I have had some discussions with the chairperson of the WSC Policy Committee and the WSB Internal Affairs Committee about having their committees input different chapters of the *Guide to Service* next year, and they are in favor of this. There was some concern voiced during those discussions about the present membership of the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service being able to complete the *Guide*. We discussed this at our last meeting also and developed a plan to present to the World Service Conference for completion of the *Guide to Service*. Please refer to our report in the 1992 *Conference Agenda Report* for specifics regarding this plan.

The other thing I wanted to report on was that communication between the different parts of world service continue to be problematic, but I am pleased with our desire to work these things out.

I continue to be grateful for the opportunity to be of service.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Vivianne Ronneman, Chairperson
WSC Translation Committee

Greetings to everyone. This is the first report from the WSC Translation Committee. This committee was approved at the April 1991 World Service Conference; however, because of the WSC's financial position, we were unable to meet until October. Our first meeting was held October 18, 19, and 20 in Van Nuys, California. Our committee is composed of ten members. They are: Teresa Alves-Mendez, Brazil-bilingual in Portuguese/English, Andree LaFontaine, Canada-WSC Literature Committee member-bilingual in French/English, Becky Meyer, USA-trustee, Donna Markus, USA-trustee, Chris Chambliss, USA-WSO director-bilingual in English/Spanish, Walter Johnson, Canada-WSO director, Ursula Mueller-WSO staff, trilingual in German/English/French, George Hollanhan-WSO staff, Mary VanEvery, WSO-staff, and myself Vivianne Ronneman, Sweden-multi-lingual in English/Italian/Swedish/French.

The passion and sensitivity behind the labor of love called translations, conceptual fidelity, and the inevitable financial aspects concerning translations were woven into the fabric of the weekend agenda.

The translation policy and its parameters were discussed with the feeling that wherever possible, policy needed to be accommodating, yet maintain integrity, in order to encourage rather than prohibit the birth and development of NA translations. Simple preparatory guidelines began to take shape. The committee noted several areas where assistance could be given:

- a. Glossary of terms - Differences in language, dialects, culture, and academic backgrounds were acknowledged through our discussions. Frequently, they are principle factors in determining the terms, chosen in our translations. We plan to provide a list of terms that normally cause concern in the translation process, to local translation committees so they can review them and make the necessary word choices prior to beginning their work.

- b. Writing and editing of personal stories - It seemed to be generally agreed upon by the committee that language groups should have the option to develop and approve personal stories that reflect their perspective.
- c. Development plans - We want to encourage local translation committees to send us approximate schedules of work they anticipate developing, including time factors.
- d. Appropriate use of professional translators - A translator is used when a committee requests one to produce a first draft, or when the local NA community lacks the ability to develop translations themselves.
- e. Ongoing communication - We believe this to be an important concern and expect to engage in specific correspondence and phone calls as well as routine reports and updates. All of these can help the monumental process of translations.

Due attention was given to a specific area, that being translations versus embellishments. The committee was vociferous in expressing hope that issues disguised as translations would not impede, or distract us from, the tasks at hand. Prioritizing all the translation projects and requests became of paramount importance. We feel that translation of recovery literature for emerging NA communities supersedes that of service material. There are twenty-six translation works-in-progress at this time. They are divided into three categories--current, pending and future. The committee found these numbers both elating and daunting, and it became evident that a methodical approach, subject to committee review, was necessary.

Three items received support from the committee. One was a written request from the Swedish translation committee for permission to produce a booklet consisting of chapters four and six from the Basic Text. The WSO will handle matters relating to the copyright and publishing aspects. Our reply to them was in the affirmative with two stipulations: a) translation work would continue on the Basic Text and b) upon publication of a Swedish Basic Text the booklet may be withdrawn. Committee discussion was supportive because we felt sure that this particular request (which the German fellowship had made some years earlier with differences regarding copyright) could act as a positive precedent for emerging international NA communities. The second request came from the Danish fellowship seeking approval for publication of IP #1, *Who, What, How and Why*. We were pleased to respond favorably to this as well. The WSO has been asked to make arrangements regarding this project. Our third request came from New Zealand. They are interested in translating some information pamphlets into Maori. While financial assistance would only be minimal, we feel our support in shared experience will prove more valuable to them. We look forward to communicating with them about their efforts.

On a personal note, I was both surprised and honored at the nomination and unanimous vote I received for chairperson of the WSC Translation Committee. Thank you. I hope I may serve the conference and the fellowship with neutrality. The entire committee looks forward to serving the translation needs of our growing fellowship, and believes that this effort can be viewed as a very positive action. As chairperson, I feel that NA translations can be summed up in four words: Passionate, Sensitive, Explosive and Expensive!

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To: The Fellowship

From: Jack Bernstein, Chairperson
World Service Board of Trustees

Over the weekend of October 24-27, we held our regularly scheduled meeting. This report will cover the high points of the meeting.

We held elections for officers of the board at this meeting. Becky Meyer (Northern CA) was affirmed as chairperson, and Garth Popple (Australia) was elected as vice chairperson. They will assume office on the first of January, to comply with the present policy in the *Temporary Working Guide to our Service Structure*. There was considerable discussion regarding when we should hold our elections, resulting in a motion being passed that calls for holding elections at the first trustee meeting after the World Service Conference. This policy will be included in the internal guidelines of the board, which leads into the next item.

As most of you are aware, over the past couple of years many discussions have been held about including board and committee policies and guidelines in the *Temporary Working Guide to our Service Structure*. At last year's World Service Conference, both the WSC Public Information Committee and the WSC Literature Committee presented motions to divide conference policy from the internal working guidelines of their committees. These motions were approved by the conference participants. The WSB Internal Affairs Committee has spent considerable time during the past two years reviewing and revising the guidelines presently included in the *Temporary Working Guide to our Service Structure*. A final review and input was completed at this meeting. A motion was approved to include the trustee policies in the *Conference Agenda Report*, along with a motion to delete the existing policies and guidelines from *TWGSS*.

The WSB Internal Affairs Committee also spent considerable time discussing regional seating at the conference with members of both the WSC Policy Committee working group and the chairperson of the WSC Ad Hoc Committee on NA Service. Work is continuing on the response papers for the referred motions concerning zonal trustees, direct donations to translations, and direct group contributions. In addition, papers are being developed on the relationship between the WSB and WSC committees, and on voting participation at the conference.

Also to be included in the *Conference Agenda Report*, as presented from the trustees, is the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust. This document formalizes the agreement whereby the fellowship entrusts the World Service Office with fiduciary responsibility for our intellectual properties and trademarks. Essentially, this document serves to formalize the process for protecting our properties, and replace the less formal process which has been in place since the formation of the conference and the office. During development of this document, input was gathered from the World Service Office Board of Directors, the WSC Administrative Committee, the World Service Board of Trustees and several members with past world level service experience. During our meeting, we finalized the document and it was accepted for inclusion in the *Conference Agenda Report* by the directors, the trustees, and the conference administrative committee members during our joint session Saturday afternoon. An approval version of this document will be sent out under separate cover in November and will also be included in the *Conference Agenda Report*.

Our WSB Literature Review Committee is continuing work on the position paper regarding the referred motion on gender specific language and the word "God" in our literature. Further discussion of this paper occurred during the full board meeting on Sunday morning. The resulting input will be factored in prior to our next meeting. The WSB Literature Review

Committee reviewed the position paper on fundraising and the Seventh Tradition. Also, review and input of Traditions Seven, Eight and Nine were completed since most of the members of the WSB Traditions Ad Hoc Committee were in attendance at this meeting.

The WSB External Affairs Committee meeting included the WSC PI chairperson and vice chairperson and a member of the WSC H&I International Ad Hoc Subcommittee. Unfortunately, Darwyn L., one of the WSB Additional Needs panel members, was unable to attend the meeting, but a conference call was held to discuss his recent attendance at a multiregional event in Canada. Darwyn indicated that this workshop was a huge success with good attendance from several regions in Canada and the U.S. He also indicated that progress is being made on the video translation of the Little White Booklet into American Sign Language. A change in membership on the additional needs panel was also discussed, resulting in with a decision to replace one of the members. Funding was also approved by the Interim Committee for attendance by the new panel member at a multiregional Additional Needs Awareness Weekend to be held February 28 - March 1, 1992, in Johnson City, Tennessee. Efforts to continue coordination of long-term planning with the WSC PI and H&I Committees will not occur during the remainder of this year as we will be unable to fund attendance by these committee chairpeople to our February 1992 meeting. Hopefully, the inclusion of these members as non-trustee members of the WSB External Affairs Committee can occur during the next conference year.

We are continuing work on the Multinational Development Forum which will be part of the World Service Conference next April. The Interim Committee has approved funding to provide transportation and lodging for up to eleven representatives from countries outside of North America whose fellowships are unable to provide funds for attendance. During a combined meeting of the WSB Internal Affairs and External Affairs Committees, selection of the countries was made. Letters of invitation will be sent by the Interim Committee to these fellowships, asking that they begin the selection process for a representative to attend. This letter is also being translated into French, German, Spanish, and Portuguese for mailing to members who do not understand or read English. Preliminary discussions on the agenda for the event were also begun, with two areas identified as being of primary importance. "How we can help NA communities grow," from the countries where NA is non-existent to the countries where NA is already established, was identified as a topic last year during the International Development Forum. Of ongoing interest to many members is the question of where world services is going, along with whether or not we can develop into a worldwide fellowship supporting worldwide growth. Input on these topics is being solicited from members outside of the American fellowship.

We held a joint meeting with the WSO board on Saturday afternoon, during which we held discussions on the tax alternatives for NA and on the Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust, dissolved the Fellowship Services Evaluation Team (which was formed in April to oversee the empowering of WSO's new Executive Director), and reviewed the WSO work plan. An opportunity was also provided for members of both boards, WSC administrative members, and WSO staff members to share some of their concerns and perceived problems with each other, much of which dates back over a several year time period. Since much of the focus of world services this past year has been on open, honest communication, it seemed that we should take advantage of the time and attempt to clear the air. Most of the members agreed that it was time well spent, as it is difficult to work with each other without having the trust such open sharing engenders.

Our next meeting will be over the Valentine's Day weekend, February 13 - 16, 1992. Since our world services community, in general, has been prudent in our use of donations received from the fellowship, we will once again be able to hold our February meeting outside of Van Nuys. We have decided to meet in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. We are hopeful that members from the

central, eastern, and northeastern areas of the United States will be able to attend this meeting, along with members of the fellowship in Canada. Preliminary plans for the agenda call for an open forum all day Saturday. Members are invited to attend and observe during the rest of the meeting including the individual trustee committee meetings. Hopefully, time can be allotted for question and answer periods during committee meetings. Facilities have not yet been secured for the meeting but an announcement will be sent to all conference participants when the location is set.

Once again, we thank you for allowing us to be of service.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Bill Winterfeld, Chairperson
World Convention Corporation

The Convention Corporation board will be holding its annual meeting on November 15, 16, and 17, in Toronto, Canada. This will be the first formal meeting we have had since last year. This will be a very busy meeting for the board and we are looking forward to accomplishing a great deal. Our financial situation has not improved dramatically. Therefore, I do not anticipate that our next meeting will be held before June, 1992.

WCNA-21 Sydney, Australia:

I am sure, that by now, many of you have heard what a success this convention was. The total number of registered participants was 1500. We believe that this number is very close to the total number attending because participants had to be register in order to attend each and every event, other than recovery meetings. This policy, suggested by the host committee and approved by the board, met only slight resistance from some of the local members who were not familiar with this practice. We sense that the board will continue this practice in an effort to have attendees share the cost of the event more equitably.

The Sydney Convention was the smallest world convention, in terms of number of registrations, since WCNA-16 in London, England. Although it was small in size, its success in attracting members from around the world was quite apparent. The high cost of traveling half-way around the world prohibited many North American members from attending, however, it gave those who did attend the opportunity of a lifetime. The closing meeting included speakers representing nine different countries.

The overall format of this convention was a bit different than what many of us are accustomed to. A cruise of Sydney took place Friday during registration hours. The opening meeting that evening was followed by a dance. Saturday's schedule included ten meetings as well as a "Gong and Hook Show" and, another dance. Sunday, unlike other conventions, had a full schedule of activities. Eight meetings, including a main meeting and a gratitude meeting, were held.

The culmination of the convention was an original play, "The Gift of Oz." It was written, cast and produced by some very talented Australian members. There was no doubt by any of those who attended that this convention was a huge success.

WCNA-21 was also a financial success, primarily due to stringent budgeting and other expense reductions. The previous experience gained by the board with the London Convention and our conservative projections paid off. Two years ago, we anticipated leaving Australia with a deficit but in the end we wound up with a small profit. Our hope is that WCNA-22, in Toronto, will put us in a much stronger financial condition.

WCNA-22 Toronto:

Planning for this event has shifted into high gear. Strong participation by members worldwide will be continued in Canada in 1992, which will be the first bilingual World Convention (French/English). Toronto offers the North American fellowship the ambiance of an international event without the travel expense and Visa difficulties that we experienced "down under." It is easily accessible by car from most Northeast U.S. cities and has many direct domestic and international flights into its airport.

The board has noticed that many members plan their vacations around the world convention. We believe that this will be especially true of the Canadian event which will offer many of our members the opportunity to share recovery in a different country. An expanded pre- and post- convention activity plan is being reviewed by the board. This would offer our members discounts on planned trips before and after the convention with a group of recovering addicts. More information on this will be included (if approved) with the registration information. We are planning to distribute the flyer for WCNA-22 before the first of the year.

WCNA-23 Chicago:

The preparations are continuing for this convention. The host committee elected Cary S. as its chairperson. Cary will become a member of the WCC board as of our November meeting. Most of the facility contracts have been negotiated and the Chicago fellowship is anxious to roll up their sleeves and get to work.

WCNA-24 Northeast U.S.:

Four cities have submitted bids to be the site for the 1994 convention. These are Niagara Falls, Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York City. All have qualified and have been visited by a site inspection team. Each year the site selection seems harder and 1994 is no exception.

The board will be including some questions in the *Conference Agenda Report*. One topic that we will seek conference direction on is the possibility of changing the convention from an annual event to one which occurs every two or possibly every three years. This would have to take place after the 1995 event if approved, as the bid committees in Europe have already secured tentative dates during that time. A full report on all of our activities will be forthcoming.

On behalf of the World Convention Corporation board, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve.

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To: The Fellowship

From: Bob McDonough, Chairperson
World Service Office Board of Directors

The October board of directors meeting was scheduled for three days, including a half-day combined meeting with the board of trustees and the WSC Administrative Committee. The Interim Committee also met during the weekend, so we sat in meetings from eight o'clock Friday morning until after midnight Friday night, then from eight o'clock Saturday morning until nine o'clock Saturday night, and another half-day on Sunday. It was a demanding schedule, and I must compliment the members attending for their commitment to getting the work done.

The WSO financial condition is still precarious, as it takes time for the effects of our cost-saving measures to be realized. We are beginning to receive orders for some of the new inventory items, although the message of their availability is slow to reach the fellowship. The *Introductory Guide to NA* and the Basic Journal are being sold and our supply of Basic Calendars have nearly all been sold. We also will be taking orders for the Basic Mugs.

Despite rising production costs and increased demand for services, our literature and merchandise prices have not changed in over eight years and have never been adjusted to keep up with inflation. With the leveling off of sales over the past two years, our income from the sale of literature no longer supports the services we provide to the fellowship. In fact, the shortfall is over \$400,000 for this year. The board of directors was therefore faced with the decision of either cutting services or increasing the price of merchandise. After thorough discussion, the board voted unanimously to approve the following motion: "A 10% uniform increase on all items in WSO inventory as of October 1, 1991 be proposed for implementing at the January 1992 meeting of the board of directors with a proposed effective date of February 1, 1992.

The Spanish and Portuguese Basic Texts will be available for purchase in mid-November 1991. Both of these translations and the French Basic Text will be sold for \$5.00, and the normal discount structure will apply.

The combined world services meeting formed an ad hoc working group to further investigate the ramifications of seeking a group tax-exemption for the entire fellowship. We anticipate that conference participants will have a number of questions about our tax status at the World Service Conference in April, so we are addressing the traditions and risk issues in preparation for that discussion.

On behalf of the WSO Board of Directors, I want to thank you for allowing us to be of service.