

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE- OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

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DATE: February 1, 1993

TO: Inventory Planning Meeting Participants
Becky M. Tim B. Rogan A.
Garth P. Walter J. Bud K.
Mary Kay B. Stu T. Mary J.
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Mitchell S. Bob McK.
Ron S.

FROM: Dave T.

The Interim Committee has given much thought to developing a proposal for a year of inventory. The two page excerpt from the CAR is enclosed for your easy reference. Support for the idea has continued to grow. If motion #1 in the 1993 CAR is passed, a fully developed inventory process will need to be implemented. Everyone in world services will be called upon to identify fellowship needs and examine our processes for meeting those needs.

At the last meeting of the Interim Committee, we developed an inventory year budget proposal (enclosed). We were successful as far as we went. The discussions were very difficult, requiring all of us to project needs from a different perspective. Your participation in this process will help us go farther.

I believe that all of us have become skilled at planning and completing projects, and I'm counting on those skills to serve us well. Please bring your thoughts and ideas because I know it will take all of our best thinking. Some members have already expressed concerns, encouraging us all to guard against addressing personal, committee, or board needs. I, too, believe that our greatest challenge is to rise above our personal perspectives, "stepping out" of our service positions to do so. I also believe that we can meet that challenge and go on to establish practical goals and objectives.

In preparation for the meeting, I am hoping that we will ask ourselves "tough questions": *What services are actually provided? Who is served? How effective are we at doing it? Do the established processes work? Do the established procedures work? Why or why not?* I'm sure there are other or better questions.

An inventory of world services will be very demanding. I am convinced that this may very well be the most valuable service we can provide to the Fellowship at this time. I look forward to seeing you at 9:00 AM, February 19, at the WSO.

Tentative Agenda for Planning Meeting

- I. Review of CAR proposal
- II. Review of budget proposal
- III. Inventory Process
 - A. What will be inventoried by each committee and board?
 - B. What process?
 - C. Who?
 - D. When?
- IV. How to measure our progress?
- V. What will be done with the results?

PROPOSED 1993-94 WSC BUDGET

After much discussion at the January 8-9, 1993 Interim Committee meeting, we developed the following proposed budget:

	Each	Total
(2) Interim	5,245	10,490
(2) WSB (17)	11,455	22,910
(2) Translations	12,255	24,710
	Qtr.	
Admin Expenses	9,000	36,000
Publications-CAR, etc.	4,000	16,000
Conf. Report, Reaching Out		
Lit Stockpile	2,250	9,000
PI News, NA Update		4,000
Non NA events		5,000
Additional Needs		4,000
WSC	<u>12,085</u>	<u>48,341</u>
Development Forum		15,000
Mtg. Space - Workshop		2,500
Chair and Vice Chair x 4 comm.		6,535
Admin to Quarterly		2,460
4 Inter. Forums (Combine 2 So.Am.trips)		21,000
4 US Forums		<u>11,840</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$239,786</u>

The Interim Committee also noted that \$39,360 of additional funds would be required to facilitate full conference committee participants at the Quarterly. Limiting attendance to five members from each conference committee would require \$11,900 in additional funding.

INTERIM COMMITTEE

"If not me, who? If not now, when?" This quote came to mind as I wrote this report for the Interim Committee. For some time now, we've had discussions in hallways and over dinner tables about the workload and pace we set for ourselves in world service. The Interim Committee felt that this discussion needed to be brought out to the fellowship for further exploration. I have no clear-cut definition as to whose responsibility it is to address this issue--but *if not us, who? If not now, when?*

Our World Service Conference met for the first time as an event in its own right in 1978. In the fifteen years since, we've been moving and growing so rapidly that we've barely had time to breathe. Each year has brought new issues, new challenges, and new projects. Each new response to each new demand, in and of itself, has made perfect sense--yet, taken all together, there's been no overall sense of focus in the growth of NA's world services. World services have grown to the point where we are overwhelming our world-level trusted servants, leaving numerous volunteers burnt out and disillusioned. We have become so focussed on our own internal bureaucracy in world services that we focus almost none of our attention on the fellowship-at-large anymore. As often as not, what we do today serves the needs of NA world services more than the needs of NA as a whole. Adding insult to injury, our overgrown bureaucracy has substituted a deluge of detail for true communication.

It's time to slow the spinning world service juggernaut long enough to look at what we're doing and why we're doing it in light of our fellowship's primary purpose. We need to take the time to consider the real needs of the NA Fellowship and how effective our services actually are at addressing those needs. After fifteen years of WSC meetings, we need to pause in our service life and inventory our needs and determine the kind of service organization necessary to address those needs so that we can chart a course for our next period of growth. Are we utilizing our resources in the best way possible? Do we evaluate how and what is being done? Are we addressing the needs of our fellowship? What valuable information and resources have we already researched and filed for future reference only to be "lost in the shuffle?" What worked very well and could be shared with others? These questions and many more come to mind.

The idea of taking a pause in the normal routine of world service for a serious, overall inventory was discussed at the WSC workshop last October in Cincinnati, where RSR response to the proposal was positive. Since then, it has been discussed in depth by the Interim Committee, the World Service Board of Trustees, and the leaders of each of the WSC committees. We find ourselves

now at the end of several major tasks being completed. This could be an excellent time to begin the inventory process. The Interim Committee therefore submits the following motion:

1. That the World Service Conference engage in an inventory process, taking on no new projects during CY 1993-94.

Intent: To allow NA's world services to evaluate and inventory its processes that we may find a more productive way of pursuing our primary purpose.

At the January 1993 meeting of the Interim Committee, we began discussing how such an inventory could actually be carried out and what services would *have* to be administered in the meantime. We came up with five "must do" categories, things we would have to do even while an inventory was under way:

1. Preparation for the WSC annual meeting, including the development forum
2. Written communication with the fellowship (*Conference Report* and *Digest*)
3. Basic committee and board administration, including at least one meeting of each
4. Forums and workshops, including regular, face-to-face interactions with the fellowship about the inventory process from all elements of world service
5. Basic services, including literature sales, group services, the H&I literature stock, translation work, continuing world public relations, and support for work with addicts who have additional needs

To further clarify what a world inventory year would look like, we've scheduled a meeting between the Interim Committee, the WSB Steering Committee, and the chairpersons of the WSC committees for late February so that we can develop a detailed plan to include in the March *Conference Report*.