

RESOLUTION GROUP REPORT

Meeting of Dec. 1-3, 1995

The Resolution Group met over the weekend of December 1-3, 1995 to finalize our work for the *Conference Agenda Report* (CAR). That report will contain only the actual action items (motions & resolutions) which we are presenting for Conference consideration. It will be out the first part of January.

Present during the meeting were all Resolution Group members: Jeff Baker, Danette Banyai, Bob Ferri, Ron Hofius, Walter Johnson and Jeff Spencer. From the WSO present were Steve Lantos and Carol Kenney.

Our primary goal for the meeting was to incorporate input received during the November World Services Meeting and be sure that the finalized motions and resolutions represented our best work possible.

We agreed that the actual report in the CAR would be relatively short, 5-6 pages, with a simple introduction followed by the motions and resolutions relating to the vision statement, mission statement, and structure. We further agreed that the report which had been distributed for the November meeting would be revised and included as an addendum to the CAR minus the cross-reference tables. The original report has been modified in various places to include new text addressing the primary concerns, misunderstandings, and confusion we heard during the November meeting.

We had originally been under the impression that our final report would be included as an addendum to the CAR. It was our understanding that only the front portion of the CAR would be translated, therefore inclusion as an addendum would not create undue expense. However, we were informed on December 8 that the entire CAR was being translated, and that including our final revised report would be cost prohibitive. So it is being included with this mailing instead. We are very sorry for any inconvenience this might cause your region.

We feel strongly that the attached report is needed as background to understand our proposed motions and resolutions, so we urge you to reproduce this material and distribute it to anyone seeking group conscience on the CAR.

We began our work by factoring in specific input to the vision statement and developing a motion to adopt it. We then did the same with the mission statement. The following day we reviewed and finalized the work on the vision and mission statements. We next spent some time considering the request in November for our input regarding the ongoing work and the next group. We agreed to draft a memo to Interim with our suggestions. These include primarily the same things we mentioned in our original report -- an appointed group with specific skills.

We further recommend that an oversight group, at least as it was attempted during our existence, is expensive, difficult to manage and ultimately not necessary. However, if such a group is to be used, we recommend they be appointed rather than drawn from a hat, that they be fully funded to allow for face-to-face meetings, and that they have shared experience as well as familiarity with world service operations.

Most of the remainder of our time was spent going through our original report and finding ways and words to address members' concerns, questions, and confusions regarding some of our proposals. We made a number of specific word changes along with many additions of text at the beginning of sections in an attempt to better explain our thinking.

By the end of our meeting, there remained two items which we heard about over and over at the November World Service meeting. The first was the timeline. The timeline which we proposed referred to adopting our proposal in its entirety. Since the resolutions will be dealt with in a piecemeal fashion, a new timeline will be required. We suggest that developing the new timeline be a responsibility of the next group. We also believe that the timeline will have to be adjusted as ongoing work is done and as conference participants continue to give input about the nature and pace of structural changes.

The second outstanding item was a cost analysis. We are requesting that a cost analysis be prepared for conference participants with preliminary figures ready for the *March Conference Report*, with the more concrete numbers ready by the conference, and that such an analysis be included in that report. We are requesting that Tom Rush, Paul Hartman and Bob McDonough be consulted to 1) determine the present cost of the WSC and all its actions per conference year, and 2) estimate the financial impact if the resolutions which we have proposed were adopted and implemented. We understand that this task may be a formidable one, with many indefinite variables that may hinder such financial estimations. We nonetheless agree with the many conference participants in the November world services meeting that such a "guesstimate" is the responsible thing to do. At a minimum, the first estimate of these costs would appear in the March report but the final estimate might take until the conference to prepare. RG member Walter Johnson has agreed to be the liaison between the above members and the RG.

It's been a great honor to have been chosen to be a part of this project. We hope that our work continues to be taken in the spirit with which it is offered -- one of goodwill, trust and honesty.