

To: N.A. Fellowship

From: Jim Wymore, Chairperson
World Service Office

The principal issue that the WSO has for Fellowship consideration concerns the language in the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* that describes the World Service Office.

The section of the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* that describes the WSO was written approximately ten years ago. It contains information that is confusing, misleading and incorrect. The WSO Board has wanted to have the whole section replaced. However, the Board had intended to wait patiently until the Select Committee on the Service Structure had completed its work, so that a completely new chapter would be written about the WSO.

It now appears that action to complete the *Guide to Service in N.A.* will not be completed or approved for a few years. Part of the intent for waiting was to avoid amending the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* each year, while work continued on *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*. Unfortunately, part of the information that needs to be deleted is causing controversy in some parts of the Fellowship.

In order to correct this particular problem, the WSO recommends adoption of the following motion:

27. **To delete from the *Temporary Working Guide to Our Service Structure* (1987 edition) the following two paragraphs of the section on the WSO, beginning on page 21, and ending on page 22, including the footnote, and insert the replacement paragraphs below:**

Delete the following: "All these functions make it necessary for our World Service Office to be more of a 'business' than a part of the Fellowship. WSO is separate from N.A., but works for N.A. WSO, Inc. functions as a non-profit corporation, with managers, departments, administrators, paid employees, subsidiaries, and the like. The corporation has five (5)* regular members who act as the Board of Directors of WSO and are its officers: president, vice-president, treasurer, director, and secretary. WSO, Inc. operates under a standard set of corporate bylaws with this amendment: 'The Board of Directors and any additional boards or committees shall be subject to and abide by the Twelve Traditions as stated in the book entitled *Narcotics Anonymous*.'

"Our office is administered by our World Service Board of Directors and acts upon the directives of our World Service Conference. WSO is truly a business: Its raw material is the program, its product is recovery and its function is service.

***Notg.** The corporation has changed its bylaws and added seven member/directors since this paragraph was adopted by the WSC."

Insert the following as replacement language:

The World Service Office is our Fellowship's main service center and as such is the focal point of our worldwide service activities. To meet our needs as a growing Fellowship, our services need to operate as efficiently and effectively as possible within the spiritual principles of the N.A. Program.

The WSO is a registered, non-profit corporation in accordance with the laws of the State of California and the United States Federal Government. Within the by-laws there are specific sections which state the purpose and relationship of the WSO to the World Service Conference of N.A. and our Twelve Traditions. These by-laws further acknowledge the right of the Conference to make specific recommendations to the WSO regarding its general operations.

The WSO Board of Directors is made up of 12 members who are directly (3) and indirectly (WSC elected pool members) elected at the annual meeting of the WSC by the participants gathered from throughout the Fellowship. The three directors elected annually serve one-year terms, while those members drawn from the pool serve alternating three-year terms. The terms of those members from the pool are rotated so there are always members serving with previous experience.

The Directors of the WSO are responsible for the direct management of the Office: selection of principal workers, establishment and implementation of operational policies and procedures, and supervision of the overall operations. The Office provides a detailed annual report to the Conference in addition to providing periodic reports and studies requested by the Conference. The WSO also serves as the general secretary of the Conference and its committees and boards.

Intent: To replace a description generated ten years ago that does not accurately portray the WSO as part of and subject to the actions of the World Service Conference. The WSO has decided to seek change in order to avoid ongoing misconceptions. This proposal displays the Ninth Tradition relationship of the Office, an Eighth Tradition service center, to the WSC and the Fellowship.