

MEMORANDUM

TO: WSB Internal Affairs Committee

FROM: Steve Lantos, WSO Staff

DATE: May 5, 1992

RE: Material on the national and world chapters of the *Guide to Service*

I hope that this finds you relaxing after the conference. In keeping with the conference's action to pass motion #4, I am enclosing copies of the input we have on file regarding the national and world chapters of the 1990 edition of the *Guide*, as well as various drafts of those chapters that the committee has looked at since the Albuquerque meetings. If you should need a copy of the Guide itself, the Spring 1991 version is still available from the WSO.

Dave T., will be sending a memo about the attached material and information about deadlines, etc. sometime next week. If there is any additional information you need, please call me at your convenience.

WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951



TO: WSB Internal Affairs Committee

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

DATE: May 14, 1992

RE: Input to *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*

I hope that by now you have received the package of material on national and world services, mailed last week by Steve Lantos. If you have not, please notify Steve at the office immediately. That package contains the substance of our discussions regarding national and world services over the past few years. Please look it at carefully, paying special attention to the portions dealing with the trustees, the trustee-committee system, and the nominations committee.

The deadline for input from your committee on the national and world sections of the *Guide* has been extended to November 1, 1992. Please try to insure that your input is received at the office by that date. I am grateful for your help on this project and look forward to receiving your input. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Steve Lantos at the office.

NATIONAL SERVICES**INTRODUCTION**

The basic purpose of national services is the same in every country: they provide the national NA community with means of carrying out tasks which benefit the entire national community, and of maintaining an active voice and effective conscience concerning issues affecting the fellowship nationwide. The needs and abilities of national communities vary, as do the forms and specific activities of national service systems, but the purpose remains constant worldwide. Our steps, traditions, and concepts lay a foundation of solid principle for NA service at all levels; but they do not dictate precisely what the service structure must do, nor how it must organize itself. Those matters are left to the best judgment of each NA community, based on the needs and ability of the community itself.

Each national community is encouraged to develop its own services to meet its own needs, in accordance with its own national laws, and cognizant of its own cultural background, provided that the structure which is developed does not conflict with NA's essential principles. This chapter will look at the basics of national services, describing some of the kinds of structures and activities almost certain to be a part of any national service structure. For a look at the details of a fully developed model for national services in one country, see the addendum, "National Services in the United States," at the end of this book.

BASIC ORGANIZATION—NATIONAL CONFERENCES OR ASSEMBLIES

The primary element of any national service system is the national service conference or assembly, composed of delegates and other national-level trusted servants. In some countries, delegates are elected at state or regional assemblies; in countries not large enough to require the intermediate regional level of service, area assemblies of GSRs elect conference delegates.

27 National conferences and their service arms fulfill a wide range of tasks: the
28 translation of existing NA literature, the development of new recovery material and
29 service aids, and their publication; coordination of the fellowship's contacts with
30 the national government, with nationally-organized civic, professional, media, and
31 religious organizations, and with other twelve-step fellowships in the country; and
32 communication between the national community, other national NA communities,
33 and NA World Services.

34 NATIONAL SERVICE BOARD

35 Some national service assemblies or conferences meet only once a year;
36 some meet quarterly, or even monthly, depending on the amount of business
37 facing the entire conference. But the conference itself is usually capable only of
38 establishing priorities for national services. The responsibility of fulfilling national
39 services between conference meetings, in ways consistent with conference-
40 established priorities, is usually delegated to a smaller body of national-level
41 trusted servants, elected by the conference--a national service board.

42 The form of this smaller national executive body will differ from country to
43 country, depending on a number of factors. A national service system not
44 administering an office or publishing NA literature indigenously may well be able
45 to establish an unincorporated administrative body, composed of conference
46 officers and the chairpersons of the various national conference committees.
47 National communities which administer a national service office, distribute
48 significant quantities of literature, or publish NA literature in their own country may
49 well be required by their national law to incorporate their national board, or
50 establish some other kind of legal identity for their services. If you are unsure of
51 what kind of legal organization your national services require, consult with a local
52 attorney, your national government, or NA World Services.

53 Regardless of the legal form taken by your national service board, there are a
54 couple of things to consider concerning the extent and limitations of the board's
55 authority. In order for the board to fulfill the kinds of responsibilities any national

service system calls for, the board will have to be delegated substantial authority. To balance that authority, careful checks ought to be built into the working relationship between the conference and the national service board. A close examination of the needs of your national community, of the Twelve Concepts for NA Service, and of the group conscience of your conference should provide you with the guidance you need in crafting such an arrangement.

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICE

National offices in different countries provide a wide range of different services. Some national offices serve primarily as a central contact point for the national Narcotics Anonymous community, also storing literature purchased from NA World Services for distribution to area committees and groups. Others publish and distribute their own NA literature and service aids, coordinate the logistics of the national convention, produce the national fellowship journal, and employ special workers assigned to assist the national board. The need for a national office, and the kinds of services to be provided by that office, will be determined by the needs of the national community, the national service board's level of activity, and the community's ability to support the venture. For more information on operating a national service office, contact NA World Services.

NA LITERATURE

The availability of Narcotics Anonymous literature has been found to be of great importance in the development of any national NA community. In many countries, the first service work conducted on behalf of the entire national community, in cooperation with NA World Services, is the translation of basic NA literature into the local language. Once such translations are available, it may be a while before the country's national services are developed enough to support their own publishing operations; in some countries, indigenous publishing will

82 never be feasible. NA World Services is prepared to publish literature in
83 translation for national communities not able to publish it themselves...

84 *The committee has yet to make the decisions that would determine what kind*
85 *of discussion would appear here about indigenous publication of NA World*
86 *Services literary properties and of indigenously developed new literature. For*
87 *more information about the questions currently at issue, see page xviii in the*
88 *report at the front of this book.*

89 RELATIONS WITH NA WORLDWIDE

90 *Again, discussions continue in the committee on what should be said here.*
91 *See the report for more detail.*

92 NONADDICT TRUSTED SERVANTS

93 It often takes many, many years for a national NA community to develop
94 leaders with significant educational, business, and professional backgrounds. Yet
95 much needs to be done at the national level that requires just such backgrounds,
96 particularly in countries administering a national office and publishing their own
97 NA literature. Our nonaddict friends in government, business, the clergy,
98 community organizations, and the helping professions can provide our national
99 services with access to the kind of expertise we require, but are not yet able to
100 provide from among our own ranks. Nonaddict trusted servants, familiar with our
101 program and supportive of our aims, but not dependent on the Narcotics
102 Anonymous program for freedom from active drug addiction, can also offer a
103 degree of objectivity to our service discussions. For these reasons, most national
104 communities--and especially their national service boards--actively seek out
105 qualified nonaddict assistance in their service efforts. Once found, nonaddict
106 trusted servants are not asked to run our services for us; that would run counter
107 to the spirit of our tradition of self-support. Nonetheless, the value of their
108 assistance, carefully applied, cannot be denied.

109

MORE WILL BE REVEALED

110 Each national community is unique. The number of years the community has
111 been in existence, the number of groups, the form of government serving the
112 country, the nation's economic circumstances, the religious, cultural, linguistic,
113 and historic background of the people, the geographic setting, all combine to
114 make the needs addressed by NA national services in each country unique, and
115 all shape the specific form taken by the national service system. The brief
116 discussions in this chapter may help your national community focus on the
117 general areas that must be addressed in crafting a system capable of meeting the
118 needs of recovering addicts in your homeland--but only you and your fellow
119 members can actually answer all the questions involved. More specific guidance
120 may come from consultation with national service bodies in neighboring
121 countries, or with NA World Services, but, ultimately, the choice will be yours.

122 Our words of advice are few: Focus on needs, not formulas. Remain flexible,
123 able to adapt your services to the circumstances. Be prepared to make changes
124 as your national community grows and your service abilities expand. And,
125 through it all, remain grounded in the guiding principles of our fellowship--the
126 Twelve Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts for Service.

LOCAL SERVICE CENTERS

Local service centers--also called central offices, area service offices, or regional service offices--are established for a variety of reasons. Some serve merely as storage locations for the area committee's stockpile of NA books and pamphlets. Others fill local literature orders by mail, as well as making materials available for sale over the counter during business hours. Some area and regional service offices facilitate the operation of local NA phonelines. A few local service centers are large enough that they can make space available for service committee meetings and storage of committee records. Some even have special workers available to assist service committees with their projects. Regardless of what else they do, local service centers provide the NA community with a physical presence and a public identity, a specific point at which Narcotics Anonymous and the larger community can interact with one another.

Local service centers become incorporated in order to meet requirements of local and national law regarding business licenses, taxes, insurance, and employment. The local NA office corporation is managed by a board of directors. That board is *separate* from, but *responsible* to, the service committee which created the office, whether that be an area or regional service committee.

An NA community considering the possibility of opening a local service center will encounter a number of challenges. Local service centers require substantial business expertise in order to operate effectively. Legal problems often arise, most often associated with incorporation procedures, taxes, and personal liability. Offices are expensive, and usually do not generate enough net income from literature sales to support themselves. Offices also require a great deal of attention from the NA community's most knowledgeable and experienced trusted servants, who are usually called upon to serve on the office board.

Despite the numerous challenges to be overcome, some NA communities have managed to effectively integrate the local office into their overall service

29 delivery program without serious disruption. Those who have done so have
30 moved cautiously and carefully through the maze of questions about local
31 community strength, personnel and financial resources, business organization,
32 inter-service relations, and legal restrictions that must be answered before an
33 office can be opened. They have also given consistent attention to the
34 maintenance of office affairs once the service center has opened its doors for
35 business.

36 Because the needs of each community and each local service center vary so
37 greatly, it's not been possible to create a uniform handbook providing clear
38 direction on how to operate all local service centers. The national service office,
39 however, has substantial experience in advising local offices in many phases of
40 their work, and will be happy to lend assistance to area or regional committees
41 who may be considering the creation of a local service center. In addition, the
42 NSO regularly conducts workshops around the country on local service center
43 operations, bringing board members and special workers from a number of area
44 and regional offices together with national service office staff for the purpose of
45 sharing information and brainstorming problem topics. For information, contact
46 the national service office.

WORLD (A)
[NATIONAL SERVICES USA]

This addendum describes how the general concepts, purpose, and structure examined earlier in the *Guide to Service* chapter on NA national services are specifically applied by the NA Fellowship in the United States. The American national community is the world's oldest, and, as of this writing, also the largest. Because of that, many of the arrangements described in this addendum will be of use only in the U.S. However, with appropriate adaptation, many of the specifically American elements shown here can be used by any national community in developing and fine-tuning the kind of service structure that will help the country's groups, areas, and (where they exist) regions more effectively carry the NA message to the addict seeking recovery.

AMERICAN NATIONAL SERVICES—CONFERENCE AND BOARD

The purpose of NA's national services is the same in the United States as in any country: to provide the national community with a collective voice on issues affecting all its local elements, and to coordinate those services administered on behalf of the entire national community. The National Service Conference of the United States, composed of trustees (as National Service Board members are known) and delegates, meets annually to review the work of the U.S. National Service Board, elect new board members, and establish NSB priorities for the coming year. Between conferences, the board is responsible to carry out the actual work involved in administering national services in a way consistent with conference-established priorities.

24 **NSB, INC.—ACCOUNTABLE TO THOSE IT SERVES**

25 Earlier, we talked in general terms about the need to establish a service
26 corporation or some other kind of legal identity when certain kinds of activities are
27 being conducted--handling large sums of money, for instance, publishing
28 literature, or conducting national conventions. A corporation provides continuity
29 for the body engaging in such activities, stability not afforded by the comings and
30 goings of individual trusted servants. It provides a clearly recognizable, legally
31 binding structure of accountability. And it provides protection for the fellowship at
32 large; liability related to actions of the service body is limited to the service body
33 itself, and cannot spread outward to the entire fellowship. For these reasons, the
34 U.S. National Service Board has been registered as a California public benefit
35 corporation.

36 The level of national services required in the United States is tremendous.
37 Consequently, the U.S. National Service Board is an active, hands-on service
38 body, administering substantial responsibilities and granted substantial delegated
39 authority by the national community. Because of the nature of corporations, the
40 conference should not make a regular habit of directing the day-to-day details of
41 the board's operations; if it does, the conference will be held responsible for those
42 operations, and not the board. But the National Service Conference does have a
43 number of means of tempering the authority delegated to the National Service
44 Board without itself assuming the board's responsibilities. Conference delegate
45 panels review all trustee activities on a regular basis. Delegates and trustees
46 together establish the board's priorities each year at the conference meeting. The
47 conference itself elects trustees to the National Service Board, and has the ability
48 to either remove individual trustees or replace the entire board. These abilities
49 serve as the American national service system's checks and balances.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS--SETTING PRIORITIES FOR NATIONAL SERVICES

"Policy cannot be created on the conference floor," one former delegate has said, "but priorities can." In the American national service system, the trustees are charged with actively fulfilling services affecting the fellowship nationwide; the conference develops the priorities underlying the board's policy decisions concerning the fulfillment of those services. The conference defines those priorities in motions called *conference advisory actions*. These actions describe the kinds of things the conference wants the board to do, but they do not dictate how the board is to do them. A conference advisory action might say, we want the board to have a book on NA's steps and traditions developed; the action would then leave the details of how to produce such a book to the board and its literature committee. Proposed advisory actions can come from any of a number of sources: a trustee committee or subsidiary corporation, a delegate review panel, the National Service Board itself, or an individual trustee or delegate. However, they generally come either from NSB committees and sub-corporations or the delegate review panels attached to them.

The National Service Board and its committees and subsidiary corporations have substantial authority in their defined areas of service, but not unlimited authority. The Seventh Concept states, "Our service boards and committees ought to be given the ability to determine which decisions fall within their own defined authority and which will be brought back to the delegating body for further consultation." In their regular reports, trustee committees and subsidiary corporations consult with the full National Service Board on questions they may have concerning their "defined authority." Depending on the nature of the question, the board may itself be able to offer the necessary direction. In matters of policy, finance, or NA tradition likely to seriously affect the national fellowship community, however, the board will seek the advice of the National Service Conference. Sometimes, that advice will be sought by proposing a conference advisory action.

80 Before being submitted to the full conference, the proposal will be reviewed by
81 the delegate review panel attached to the trustee committee or sub-corporation
82 involved. The panel may simply agree with the proposal, sending it on verbatim
83 for the conference's concurrence. It may disagree, sharing its reasons with the
84 conference. Or the delegate review panel may modify the trustees' proposed
85 conference advisory action, explaining its reasons for doing so when the modified
86 proposal is presented to the full body. If the panel suggests either rejection or
87 modification, their recommendation will be presented to the conference side-by-
88 side with the trustees' original proposal, leaving the choice between the two to the
89 full conference.

90 Delegate review panels often propose conference advisory actions on their
91 own. As we'll see later in this addendum, panel members are kept completely up-
92 to-date on the affairs of their related trustee committee or subsidiary board. Being
93 familiar with, yet distant from, the responsibilities associated with their particular
94 service areas, delegate panels often see some of the priorities for those areas
95 more clearly than their related committees do. Panel-proposed conference
96 advisory actions, independently establishing new priorities for the National Service
97 Board, help remedy the shortsightedness which sometimes occurs when a
98 trustee committee gets too close to its work to be able to see the larger service
99 picture. When problems arise which the trustee committees and sub-
100 corporations seem unable to correct for themselves, panel-proposed actions can
101 help the National Service Conference correct those problems for them.

102 The National Service Conference seeks to establish a substantial consensus
103 among its members when considering whether to approve a proposed
104 conference advisory action. In order to pass such actions, two-thirds of the
105 conference must approve them.

106 APPROVAL OF LITERATURE

107 The primary purpose of an NA group, according to our traditions, is "to carry
108 the message to the addict who still suffers." Both the identity of Narcotics

Anonymous and the nature of the NA message are fundamentally dependent on our literature. For this reason, it seems appropriate to offer a few words about how new NA literature may be approved for use by our fellowship.

Once a new, revised, or translated literary item is completed by the NSB Literature Committee, it is submitted for the acceptance of the National Service Board. At that point, the board must consider whether to ask for a direct ballot of the nation's NA groups, to consult with the National Service Conference, or to publish the piece on its own authority. Book-length pieces are always submitted for the groups' approval, while booklets and pamphlets are usually submitted to the conference for its consent prior to publication; only rarely does the board decide to publish an item on its own authority.

RECALL AND REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD BY THE CONFERENCE

Earlier, we described the checks and balances built into the American national service system, devices designed to insure that the National Service Board's delegated authority is adequately tempered by the conference. In electing trustees, the conference should choose candidates it feels are worthy of its trust. Regular review of board activities by delegate panels is meant to assure both the trustees and the fellowship at large that board projects cannot go awry unnoticed. Should the trustees not make suitable adjustments on their own, the conference has the ability to redirect trustee priorities by means of advisory actions. And, should all else fail, the National Service Conference has the ability to recall individual trustees from service on the National Service Board, or, in the most extreme circumstance, to replace the entire board with new members.

Proposed recall actions must be approved by two-thirds of all eligible participants attending that year's National Service Conference meeting. In the United States, the National Service Board has half the number of members in any given year as the number of delegates at the conference, up to a maximum of thirty trustees. Since delegates and trustees together compose the voting body of the conference, the delegate block must be in virtually unanimous agreement

on a proposal to replace the entire board in order for such a proposal to pass, as is appropriate for such radical action. It is possible for the conference to enforce drastic corrective measures should the National Service Board go completely haywire; but it is extremely unlikely that simple dissatisfaction can severely disrupt the board's administration of its substantial responsibilities.

THE "SINGLE BOARD" MODEL IN AMERICAN SERVICES

The Fourth Concept for NA Service says, "For each responsibility, a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined." While the annual conference meeting establishes priorities for national services, the day-to-day responsibilities of actually administering American national services are delegated to the National Service Board. But the board, per se, cannot itself manage all the details of all the projects necessary for responsible administration of those services. To do that, the board has created five committees and three wholly-owned subsidiary corporations, each with its own sphere of responsibility, each with its own Seventh Concept rights of decision, but all coordinated by and ultimately accountable to the full membership of the National Service Board.

The board coordinates the activities of its committees and subsidiary corporations with one another, insuring that the board's total resources can be made available for high-priority services. Just as checks and balances are built into the relationship between the conference and the board, so are they built into the single board model. One of these checks allows the board to maintain responsibility for the composition of its committees and sub-corporations. Each year, the board elects some of its members to serve as general officers (chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary, and treasurer), others to serve as directors of its subsidiary corporations; two-thirds of the members of each subsidiary corporation's board of directors must be trustees. Following the annual election, the National Service Board chair and vice chairperson together appoint each remaining trustee to a committee; the remainder of each committee's members are then selected by the trustees appointed to that

committee. Remaining members of sub-corporate boards of directors, on the other hand, are elected by the full National Service Board. In the course of the year, the board maintains the ability to replace committee members and subsidiary corporation directors.

Non-trustee committee members and subsidiary corporation directors are chosen on the basis of relevant talents, experience, and interest. They may be drawn from anywhere: delegates, former delegates, non-delegate NA members, former trustees, former review panel members, even an occasional nonaddict friend of Narcotics Anonymous. The conference nominations panel, described later, is often consulted for additional candidates; they'll know of a number of people with a variety of qualifications. Regional committees are also asked for recommendations. Non-trustee members of NSB committees and subsidiary corporation boards are selected according to the needs of the particular committee or sub-corporation, so that the committee or subsidiary corporation can be of the greatest possible service to the fellowship.

TRUSTEE COMMITTEES

Trustee committees handle a large portion of the actual work delegated to the National Service Board by the conference: conducting workshops and creating service aids, developing new NA literature, interacting with professionals interested in Narcotics Anonymous, keeping the media and the general public informed about NA, and serving as the fellowship's contact with federal government agencies interested in our program.

Committee on the conference and forums

This committee is responsible for the conference program and agenda. It develops a program of opening addresses, presentation sessions, and mid-week discussion session topics for the annual meeting of the National Service Conference. The committee also considers questions relating to conference policies and procedures, prepares the final report of the annual conference

meeting, and reviews conference advisory actions passed at the annual meeting, developing appropriate revisions to all relevant national service documents on the basis of those actions.

Several times a year, *regional forums* bring members of trustee committees together with members of local service committees and other NA members for a weekend of presentations, service workshops, question-and-answer exchanges, and open sharing sessions addressing national and local service topics. The NSB Committee on the Conference and Forums is responsible for developing the programs for these events.

Literature committee

The NSB Literature Committee takes a careful look at the needs of the NA community in the United States for new recovery literature, and goes about developing that literature for publication. The committee uses any of a variety of practical and appropriate means in developing its drafts, depending on the nature of each project.

Public information committee (PI)

This committee is charged with the broad responsibility of informing the national media, federal government agencies, and the general public of the existence and purpose of Narcotics Anonymous. By doing so, the PI committee helps prevent misunderstandings of our fellowship, and encourages the kind of broad-based awareness of NA recovery that leads more and more addicts to our meetings nationwide.

Hospitals and Institutions committee (H&I). This committee focuses its attention on how better to carry the NA message into treatment and correctional facilities. The committee serves as the national NA community's representative to federal correctional and judicial authorities, national societies of treatment professionals, national correctional and judicial associations, and treatment industry organizations.

223 Budget and finance committee

224 Budgets for all trustee operations are coordinated through this committee.
225 Chaired by the NSB treasurer, the committee reviews income forecasts, activity
226 plans, and anticipated expenses for each trustee committee and subsidiary
227 corporation, developing recommendations for approval by the whole National
228 Service Board.

229 The budget and finance committee is also responsible for maintaining
230 communications with local NA service committees and with the fellowship at large
231 concerning the needs of the National Service Board. The NSB Budget and
232 Finance Committee regularly provides information on national service finances in
233 the national newsletter, and in mailings to groups, area committees, and regional
234 committees.

235 NSB SUBSIDIARY CORPORATIONS

236 The U.S. National Service Board organizes subsidiary corporations to handle
237 some of its responsibilities, particularly those requiring specialized business
238 expertise and separate financial accounting.

239 National Convention Corporation

240 This subsidiary corporation is responsible for all the work involved in
241 organizing our annual national convention. Among its tasks are the selection of
242 sites and speakers for upcoming conventions. The National Convention
243 Corporation also provides logistical support for regional forums, local convention
244 and office workshops, and the annual meeting of the National Service
245 Conference.

246 National Service Office Corporation

247 The National Service Office serves as home base for all National Service Board
248 operations. The board of directors of the NSO Corporation provides oversight for

the business affairs and day-to-day activities of the office, including personnel management and the publication and distribution of Narcotics Anonymous literature in the United States.

The National Service Office also manages four staff departments responsible to assist trustee committees, correspond with local service committees, and produce service aids and periodicals at the direction of their related committees. NSO service departments include:

Group services. This department tracks and responds to new group registrations and requests for general information, produces and updates the various group services bulletins, provides liaison and support for local NA service centers, coordinates the NA Loner Group service, and publishes a newsletter for isolated addicts. The group services department assists the NSB Committee on the Conference and Forums.

Literature, assisting the trustee literature committee.

Public information, aiding the trustee PI committee.

Hospitals and Institutions, which works with the trustee H&I committee.

National Magazine Corporation

This subsidiary corporation produces the American NA community's fellowship journal, *The NA Way Magazine*. The magazine provides a forum in which NA members nationwide can share their experience and ideas concerning recovery, unity, and service in Narcotics Anonymous. *For more on why the National Magazine Corporation has been designated as one of NSB, Inc.'s three wholly-owned subsidiaries, see page xxiv in the committee report at the front of this book.*

DELEGATE REVIEW PANELS

The conference empowers the National Service Board to perform certain necessary tasks, and provides for sensible review, through the delegate review panels, of how those tasks are administered. Each trustee committee and each

of the NSB's subsidiary corporation boards has a corresponding delegate review panel.

To insure that each delegate review panel has enough members to perform its duties, and to assure balance in the membership of each panel, panel composition is determined by appointment of the NSB Committee on the Conference and Forums. Shortly after a conference delegate's election at his regional assembly, he should send a service resume to the trustee committee on the conference, describing the kinds of NA service activities he's taken part in. The trustee conference committee selects some delegates for review panel membership on the basis of experience in particular fields of service, others for broad service exposure, seeking a balance between the two in the overall membership of each panel. Once assigned to a particular panel, a conference delegate will serve his entire delegate term on the same review panel.

The relationship between a trustee committee or sub-corporation board and its related delegate review panel is a relatively straightforward one. The committee or sub-board is charged with the responsibility for administering certain services; the review panel is responsible to carefully review the committee or subsidiary corporation's work, and to report and comment on it for the benefit of other conference participants. This does not mean that their relationship is an adversarial one. Delegate review panel members are often asked for their advice, particularly when questions arise requiring broader perspective than that offered by committee or board members alone. At critical stages in the development of committee or subsidiary corporation projects, panel members may be asked for their recommendations on how the committee or board should proceed. Delegate panels, while providing the conference with independent, objective oversight of NSB operations, also provide the National Service Board year-round contact with a cross-section of Narcotics Anonymous members, each well-informed of trustee activities, yet sufficiently detached to be able to provide a fresh outlook on things.

306 In the course of the year, delegate review panel members receive
307 comprehensive reports of the activities of their corresponding trustee committee
308 or subsidiary corporation. Between conferences, each delegate review panel
309 meets at least once with its related committee or sub-corporate board to review
310 the group's work. Reports on these meetings, prepared by each delegate panel
311 chair, are mailed to conference participants. And at the annual conference
312 meeting, the panels process the conference advisory actions which ultimately will
313 guide the National Service Board in the coming year.

314 At the first delegate panel meeting during the conference, panel members
315 select one delegate who will serve as panel chairperson that year. The panel
316 chair will moderate the review panel meetings, and present a report of the panel's
317 conclusions to the full conference.

318 In the first panel session, delegates meet face to face with committee or sub-
319 corporation board members and related staff. Each panel reviews the details of
320 the annual report of its respective committee or subsidiary corporation. Special
321 attention is given to significant matters which the committee or board felt it could
322 not act upon without clear direction from the conference. Other matters relevant
323 to the subsidiary corporation or committee's work are raised by delegates
324 themselves in the course of the first panel session, while the committee or board
325 members are present to answer questions and share their thoughts.

326 During the second delegate review panel session, only delegates attend (with
327 the exception of the staff member assigned to assist the panel). The delegate
328 panel members discuss among themselves the affairs of the committee or
329 subsidiary corporation their panel is attached to. The session concludes when
330 the panel has reached a substantial consensus on the issues at hand.

331 At the third panel session during the conference, review panel members,
332 committee members or subsidiary corporation directors, and staff come together
333 again to consider the panel's recommendations. If, during its delegates-only
334 session, the panel found itself at odds with either the report or the proposals of its

335 related trustee body, all parties have a chance to discuss those differences before
336 the panel chair makes his report to the full conference.

337 **THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEETING**

338 In the United States, conference delegates and trustees meet annually to
339 review the state of national services and to chart a course for the coming year.
340 Early in the conference, annual reports are presented to the entire conference
341 body by the trustee committees. These reports cover every aspect of national
342 service work over the previous year: projects completed and problems
343 encountered, with full facts and figures. The complete written reports are mailed
344 to all conference participants before the annual meeting, giving them time to study
345 the reports thoroughly. Summaries of each report are given orally to the
346 conference, pointing up the year's highlights as well as raising subjects for which
347 the board is seeking additional direction.

348 Following each report, the microphone is made available so that participants
349 can ask questions and offer general comments. The conference dialogue
350 following opening reports gives the entire body a chance to begin forming a
351 consensus on national service issues at the heart of conference deliberations.
352 Thorough discussion of the trustee committee and subsidiary corporation reports
353 follows, when the delegate review panels meet.

354 The annual meeting of the National Service Conference spends much, but not
355 all, of its time in reports, delegate review panel meetings, elections, and the
356 consideration of conference advisory actions. The conference also gives its time
357 to a variety of sharing sessions, activities designed to help shape the group
358 conscience of the conference. And while "group conscience is not a decision-
359 making mechanism," as the essay on our Fifth Concept for Service reminds us, it
360 "is the spiritual means by which a loving God influences our decisions." Even
361 though these discussions may not always appear to have much of anything to do
362 with the reports and motions that may be on the agenda, the conference values
363 them as much as the specific conference advisory actions approved at the

meeting's end. The conference meeting serves, to a great extent, as a channel through which a loving God influences the formation of a direction, a tone, a *conscience* for NA's national services, and the conference sharing sessions do much to facilitate the development of that conscience.

One of the final items on the annual National Service Conference agenda is the election of a current conference participant to serve as the presiding officer for the next year's meeting. The conference presiding officer has a limited, but critical, role. The presiding officer's responsibility is to moderate the plenary sessions of the annual conference meeting, helping the conference proceed through its business in an orderly fashion. A good presiding officer can make all the difference in the world to the quality of discussions and decisions made at the annual meeting. For this reason, the conference considers carefully when selecting the next year's presiding officer.

In the weeks following the annual meeting, a full report on the proceedings is developed by the NSB Committee on the Conference and Forums. The full report is supplied to all conference members. A condensed report--a special issue of the national service newsletter--is sent to all NA groups in the country registered with the National Service Office.

CONFERENCE ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

As noted earlier, the U.S. National Service Board has half the number of members at any one time as there are registered national conference delegates, up to a maximum of thirty trustees. Two of those NSB members are nonaddict trustees elected by the National Service Board itself for two-year terms. The presence of these two NSB-elected nonaddict trustees on the board does not preclude the conference from electing additional nonaddict trustees; it only insures that the board has at least two nonaddicts, familiar with our principles, supportive of our aims, bringing a certain objectivity to the deliberations of the National Service Board. These two trustees may serve no more than two terms consecutively. Once elected by the board, the conference may disapprove them.

393 Following their presentation to the National Service Conference, the remaining
394 vacancies on the board are filled by direct election of the conference.

395 Because of the hefty responsibilities assigned to the National Service Board,
396 and the degree of delegated authority vested in the trustees, NA's Sixth Concept
397 is considered more seriously in their election, perhaps, than in elections held at
398 any other level of service. The conference selects trustees on the basis of some
399 combination of the following qualifications: understanding of NA service and
400 principles; personal maturity; in the case of addict-trustees, at least ten years
401 clean; good judgment, objectivity, and the courage of their convictions; sound
402 business or professional background; and availability for vigorous service
403 involvement. To better assure the conference that trustee candidates meet these
404 qualifications, it has created a nominations panel to search out and screen
405 potential candidates.

406 The *conference nominations panel* is composed of five former trustees, drawn
407 annually by lot from among all former members of the National Service Board who
408 have expressed their willingness to serve on the panel. The nominations panel
409 consults with the National Service Board to determine what kinds of individuals,
410 with what sorts of backgrounds, talents, and training might be especially needed
411 on the board. During the year, the panel actively seeks the very best potential
412 trustees, not those who simply meet the basic qualifications. The panel accepts
413 individual recommendations of potential trustees from anyone at all--the more
414 possibilities they have, the more likely they are to find the kinds of people worthy
415 of the conference's trust. Especially sought are recommendations from regional
416 committees. Using resumes and personal interviews to assess the background
417 and abilities of those under consideration, the panel is able to nominate trustee
418 candidates it can wholly vouch for. The nominations panel includes its
419 recommendations on trustee candidates with the national service reports mailed
420 to conference participants prior to the annual meeting.

421 Trustee nominees must be approved by two-thirds of all eligible participants
422 attending the year's conference meeting. Should more candidates gain two-

thirds approval than there are trustee vacancies, the top vote-getters will be placed on the National Service Board. Trustees elected by the conference serve four-year terms, and may serve no more than two terms consecutively.

NATIONAL SERVICE BOARD MEETINGS

The trustees meet regularly to coordinate an overall strategy for the national service responsibilities delegated to them by the conference. First, the trustee committees and the directors of the NSB's subsidiary corporations meet to consider their particular fields of responsibilities. After the committees and sub-boards have met, the full National Service Board comes together. First, they hear reports on the activities of each committee and sub-board. Then, it's on to business discussions, sometimes dealing with matters referred to the NSB for broader discussion by a committee or subsidiary corporation, and sometimes offering guidance, support, or redirection to a committee or sub-board.

INPUT TO NATIONAL SERVICES

Suggestions for new national service projects, or comments on current projects, can come from individual NA members, local service boards or committees, conference delegates, members of the National Service Office staff-- anyone, anywhere. They are received at the NSO year 'round.

Once received at the office, each suggestion is forwarded to the staff member assigned to assist the trustee committee or subsidiary corporation which is responsible for the question being asked, and to that board or committee's chairperson. The staff member consults with the chairperson on how to address the suggestion. At the chairperson's request, the staff member may perform additional background research before including the suggestion on the subsidiary corporation or committee's agenda. If, after considering available information, the group feels prepared to act on the suggestion, they do so, including a report of

449 the action they've taken in the national service newsletter or in their next report to
450 the conference.

451 Sometimes, the committee or subsidiary corporation feels it needs to seek the
452 advice of others before it can decide what to do with a suggestion. It may ask the
453 entire National Service Board to discuss the suggestion during the board's next
454 sharing session. Or it may consult its delegate review panel. Depending on the
455 review panel's response, the suggestion may end up on the agenda of the
456 National Service Conference. *All* suggestions received by a committee or
457 subsidiary corporation, whether acted upon during the year, rejected, or
458 forwarded for further consideration, are reported to the sub-corporation or
459 committee's delegate review panel. The final disposition of each suggestion is
460 reported to the person or persons who initially took the time to offer it.

461

SAMPLE CONFERENCE AGENDA LISTING

462 **SUNDAY** Evening: Orientation for new participants.

463 **MONDAY** Morning:

464 1) Opening roll call.

465 2) Opening address.

466 3) First sharing session.

467 Afternoon:

468 1) Presentation session--2 or 3 short prepared topical talks, followed by open

469 mike time.

470 2) National service reports, discussion.

471 Evening: National service reports, discussion, continued.

472 **TUESDAY** Morning: National service reports, discussion, concluded.

473 Afternoon:

474 1) Presentation session.

475 2) Delegate review panel meetings.

476 Evening: Delegate review panel meetings, continued.

477 **WEDNESDAY** Morning: Delegate review panel meetings, continued.

478 Afternoon:

479 1) Presentation session.

480 2) Delegate review panel meetings, concluded.

481 Evening: Mid-week discussion sessions on current group-related topics.

482 **THURSDAY** Morning:

483 1) Second sharing session.

484 2) Trustee elections.

485 Afternoon:

486 1) Presentation session.

487 2) Delegate review panel reports, conference advisory action proposals.

488 Evening: Panel reports, proposals continued.

489 **FRIDAY** Morning: Panel reports, proposals continued.

490 Afternoon:

491 1) Presentation session.

492 2) Panel reports, proposals concluded.

493 3) Selection of next year's conference presiding officer.

494 4) Conference closing addresses.

WORLD (B)

Note: Throughout this draft, text in *italic characters* represents items that, according to staff recollection, have not yet been settled by the committee. *Italic characters are not used for any other purpose in this draft. Fundamental questions yet to be resolved are:*

1) *Should WSO be NA's worldwide publisher, or should most publishing be done by national movements?*

2) *Should the World Assembly be only a sharing session, or should it provide direct WSB oversight and either affirm or elect WSB members?*

3) *How often should the World Assembly meet?*

4) *Should the WSB itself be incorporated, or should the WSO be incorporated as the WSB's fiduciary?*

5) *Will there be a primary world service charter, including WSB organizational guidelines, new literature approval criteria, and primary bodies of doctrine (12x12x12, etc.)?*

Additionally, it should be noted that the committee's last decision concerning NA intellectual property was that the World Service Board--or its corporate fiduciary--would hold all NA trademarks. The WSB would also hold all NA literary copyrights, including those for new works developed by national movements.

PRIMARY FUNCTIONS

NA's world services have *five* primary functions:

1. Coordinating fellowship outreach to developing NA communities, by:

- * Linking those young communities with more mature ones,
- * Coordinating development workshops,
- * Assisting in the translation of NA literature, and

- 26 * When necessary, providing NA literature at reduced cost to national
27 communities;
- 28 2. Facilitating international fellowship communication, and the sharing of service
29 experience between national NA communities;
- 30 3. Safeguarding the integrity of the NA message and identity, by:
- 31 * Holding NA literature copyrights and NA trademarks in trust on behalf of
32 the NA Fellowship worldwide,
- 33 * Reviewing translations and adaptations of existing NA materials, as well
34 as new literature developed by national communities;
- 35 4. Providing international public information services, as the worldwide NA
36 fellowship's liaison with other international organizations; *and*,
- 37 5. *Providing NA literature publishing and distribution services for the worldwide*
38 *fellowship.*

39 HOW WORLD SERVICES ARE ORGANIZED

40 NA's world service organization has three elements: the World Service
41 Assembly, the World Service Board, and the World Service Office. The *triennial*
42 World Assembly serves as *both* a worldwide sharing session, a place where
43 national delegates can discuss with one another their experience in administering
44 services in their respective countries, *and an advisory body for the World Service*
45 *Board, providing national service input to, and oversight of, WSB activities.* World
46 Service Board members are *elected/nominated* by *(one of the two following*
47 *alternatives):*

- 48 1) *national boards serving the most-developed national NA communities, or*
49 2) *the World Service Assembly.*

50 The WSB provides year round direction for NA's international services. The staff
51 of the World Service Office provides daily, hands-on administrative services,
52 fulfilling the policies established by the World Service Board. These three
53 elements work together to fulfill the primary functions of NA's world services.

54

WORLD SERVICE ASSEMBLY

55 NA's World Assembly serves a *single/dual* purpose. *First*, by bringing
56 delegates together every *three years* from our fellowship's various national
57 communities, the assembly makes it possible for national-level trusted servants to
58 share their country's service challenges and solutions with one another, and to
59 discuss issues of broad importance to the development of Narcotics Anonymous
60 around the globe.

61 *Second, the World Assembly serves as the medium by which our World*
62 *Service Board is held accountable to the NA Fellowship as a whole. Assembly*
63 *resolutions give support and direction to WSB activities, and can check board*
64 *plans which the fellowship's representatives feel are ill-advised. The World*
65 *Service Assembly also has direct influence over the composition of the board.*
66 *The assembly confirms all World Service Board nominations, and has the ability to*
67 *suspend board members who violate the assembly's trust.*

68 The World Service Assembly is composed of the members of World Service
69 Board and the delegates of the various national NA communities. Each national
70 community is entitled to *one delegate*.¹

71

WORLD SERVICE BOARD

72 The World Service Board for Narcotics Anonymous *is a corporation which*
73 *serves on behalf of the entire NA Fellowship worldwide. The full board meets at*
74 *least once a year, though it may meet more often. The full World Service Board*
75 *establishes general policies concerning international development activities,*
76 *translation work, literature publication and distribution, and other WSB services.*
77 *Its executive officers--a chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary, and treasurer--*
78 *are elected annually by the board itself from among its own members.*
79 *Alternatives:*

¹ If the World Assembly is to be a voting body with authority over the World Service Board, the WSC Ad Hoc Committee will have to determine criteria for recognizing delegates.

- 80 1) *These officers serve between full board meetings as an executive*
81 *committee, overseeing the ongoing work of the World Service Office in*
82 *carrying out the board's policies.*
- 83 2) *Each year, the WSB also elects the five members of the World Service*
84 *Office Board of Directors, the WSB's corporate arm. WSO directors,*
85 *elected from among members of the WSB, meet quarterly.*

86 **Development support**

87 One of the primary responsibilities of the World Service Board is to provide
88 basic development services to young and growing national NA communities.
89 Sometimes, that means putting the trusted servants of young NA communities in
90 touch with the leaders of more developed national NA communities nearby, so
91 that service and recovery experience can be shared between them. The board
92 organizes workshops for new service committees forming in countries which do
93 not yet have their own national service structure. These workshops are usually
94 conducted by experienced NA members from neighboring countries.

95 The board also provides limited material support to developing national
96 communities. The WSB assists service committees in these countries in
97 translating and adapting existing NA recovery and service literature. *It keeps a*
98 *small stock of translated literature on hand at the World Service Office, and, when*
99 *necessary, provides such material to brand new NA communities at little or no*
100 *cost. When a national service structure approaches the point where it can print*
101 *and distribute literature itself, the World Service Board helps make the necessary*
102 *arrangements.*

103 **Translations**

104 Each national community is encouraged to translate and adapt existing
105 Narcotics Anonymous recovery literature and service aids to meet its own needs.
106 National service boards and committees engaging in the translation and
107 adaptation of existing NA materials should contact the WSB as early in the

108 process as possible. Translated and adapted literature, once complete, must be
109 submitted to the WSB for review prior to publication, to insure consistency with
110 the original material and with *the International Service Charter*.

111 National communities are also encouraged to develop new literature of their
112 own. The only requirement regarding development of such material is that it be
113 consistent with *the International Charter*. As is the case with translated and
114 adapted materials, new literature developed independently by the various national
115 communities must be submitted for review to the World Service Board prior to
116 publication, to insure consistency with *the charter*. Once reviewed, *the national*
117 *community which developed the new material is free to publish it. The World*
118 *Service Board will copyright the new material and hold it in trust for use by the*
119 *entire NA Fellowship.*

120 Other WSB services

121 The World Service Board serves as NA's liaison with other international
122 organizations, including professional, business, government, and press agencies.

123 The board hosts the World Convention for Narcotics Anonymous. Held every
124 five years, the convention is a fellowshipwide recovery celebration.

125 WSB membership²

126 Each national NA movement composed of more than 250 registered NA
127 groups may *nominate/elect* one member to the World Service Board. Countries
128 with more than 2000 registered groups may *nominate/elect* one additional WSB
129 member for every additional 2000 groups. *Nominations/elections* may be
130 conducted by whatever means each national movement sees fit. *Nominees are*
131 *confirmed by the World Assembly*. Members serve three-year terms, and may
132 serve more than one term.³

² The numbers in this paragraph have been chosen by staff as bases for committee discussion. The committee has not yet made any decisions concerning these numbers.

³ Attached to this draft is a count of the number of NA meetings outside the United States, listed by geographic zones. Also attached is a comparison of the number of meetings currently conducted by the various national movements. Numbers are taken from the September 28, 1990 world directory.

WSB funding

All NA literature, including the NA Basic Text, is copyrighted by *alternatives*:

1) *the World Service Board.*

2) *the World Service Office Board of Directors, as the fiduciary of the World Service Board.*

Copyrighted NA literature is held in trust by the board on behalf of the entire fellowship worldwide.⁴ *Alternatives*:

1) *The board charges a nominal royalty fee for the right to reprint NA literature. Those royalties fund the work of the WSB.*

2) *The board, through the World Service Office, serves as NA's worldwide publisher. Income from sales of NA literature funds the work of the World Service Board.*

WORLD SERVICE OFFICE

1. Executive director

a. **Liaison between WSO staff and WSB**

b. **Reports and newsletters**, to members of the various national conferences

c. **Public information**

d. **Direct supervision of administrative operations**

1) **Personnel**

2) **Accounting**

3) **Travel coordination**

4) **Logistical coordination for events** (WSB meetings, WSA meetings, development workshops)

2. Departments

Using these figures, the United States would be entitled to nominate or elect 10 WSB members. Six other nations, groups of nations, or linguistic communities would be entitled to nominate or elect additional WSB members, now or in the next couple of years: Europe (excluding the U.K.), the U.K., Australia, Spanish-Speaking America, Anglophone Canada, and Quebec. This would result in a 16-member World Service Board.

⁴ The World Service Board also maintains ownership of the fellowship's registered trademarks, including the name Narcotics Anonymous and its translated forms and the various NA logos.

a. Development services

- 1) respond to requests for information from new groups, new service committees
- 2) facilitate contacts between new communities and developed movements nearby
- 3) coordinate development workshops, conducted by various leaders from developed movements nearby

b. Translations and permissions

- 1) Assist national committees working on translations
- 2) Coordinate in-house translation work
- 3) Review translations for faithfulness to original
- 4) Review new material for faithfulness to NA message
- 5) Review use of NA trademarks

c. Publication production and distribution—typesetting, printing, binding, warehousing, sales, export of all NA literature

WORLD (C)
SHORT-TERM QUESTIONS:
WORLD SERVICES DEVELOPMENT

Affirmative answers to the following short-term questions would allow us to immediately consolidate world service administration and complete A Guide to Service as a narrative compilation of approved service policies. Answers to the long-term questions would give us a heading for planning beyond the five-year range.

Would you agree to the election of 15 district trustees to the World Service Board?

For one-year terms? Two years? Three?

Would you agree to the apportionment of 9 U.S. trustee districts, 2 Canadian districts, and 1 each for the U.K., Continental Europe (plus Ireland), Australasia, and Latin America?

Possible means of electing district trustees:

U.S. district trustees could be elected by district caucuses of RSRs at meetings of the World Service Conference.

The Canadian district trustees could be elected either by the Canadian Assembly itself, or by district caucuses of ASRs at meetings of the Canadian Assembly.

The U.K. Assembly could elect that country's district trustee.

The European district trustee could be elected by an ASR/RSR caucus at a European Conference and Convention, or by the European Service Board.

The Australasian trustee could be elected at a special meeting of the executive boards of the Australian and New Zealand RSCs.

The Latin American trustee could be elected at an ASR/RSR caucus at the Colombian National Convention/Latin American Convention.

Would you agree to the direct election of the chairperson, vice chairperson, and treasurer of the World Service Board by the conference? At the same time, would you agree to abolish the positions of *conference* chair, vice chairs, and treasurer?

Would you agree to abolish the WSC Administrative Committee with the WSC Policy Committee, and to create in their place a Committee on the Conference and Forums, as described in *GTS'91*, pp. 87-88? Would you agree to designate the chairperson of this committee as the presiding officer for annual meetings of the World Service Conference?

Would you agree to the creation of a Budget and Finance Committee and the consolidation of the world service budget, to be chaired by the WSB treasurer?

Would you agree to the redesignation and reorganization of the *NA Way* Editorial Board and Review Panel as a Fellowship Journal Committee?

Would you agree to the consolidation of the world service committees under the aegis of the World Service Board, the designation of committee chairpersons as *ex officio* voting members of the World Service Board, and the dissolution of the current trustee committees, provided committee chairpersons were elected directly to their positions by the conference?

Would you prefer that WSB officers and committee chairpersons be elected to one-year terms? Two-year terms? Three-year terms? Terms of different lengths for officers and committee chairs? Election by what margin--simple majority, or two-thirds?

Would you agree to the designation of the chairpersons of the boards of directors of the World Convention Corporation and World Service Office, Inc., as *ex officio* voting members of the World Service Board?

Would you agree to granting the World Service Board authority to give explicit direction to the World Convention Corporation and World Service Office, Inc., and to coordinate the affairs of these two corporations with the affairs of the various world service committees?

Would you agree to delegate to the World Service Board the authority to make decisions on behalf of the World Service Conference when the conference is not in session, with the exception that the WSB may not approve the publication of new or substantially revised *NA* recovery literature on its own?

Would you agree to having the full World Service Board meet twice (late August, early January) between each annual meeting of the World Service Conference?

Would you agree to the designation of a WSB Executive Committee, to be composed of World Service Board officers and the chairpersons of the Committee on the Conference and Forums, the World Convention Corporation, and World Service Office, Inc.? Would you agree to give this Executive Committee the power to make decisions on the WSB's behalf between WSB meetings, subject to further direction by the full WSB?

Would you agree to the designation of three key WSO staff members (the executive director and the two division directors) as non-voting *ex officio* members of the World Service Board?

Would you agree to allow this arrangement to maintain, without alteration, for five years from the adoption of this plan?

Upon adoption of this plan, would you ask current trustees whose terms have not yet expired to complete those terms, or would you ask them to resign?

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE DISTRICTS

1. **New England District (26.7 million)**
 - Maine (1.1)
 - New Hampshire (0.9)
 - Rhode Island (0.9)
 - Vermont (0.5)
 - Massachusetts (5.7)
 - New York (17.6)
2. **Middle Atlantic District (27.2)**
 - Connecticut (3.1)
 - Pennsylvania (11.9)
 - Maryland (4.2)
 - Delaware (0.6)
 - New Jersey (7.4)
 - Washington D.C. (unk)
3. **Southern Atlantic District (24.2)**
 - North Carolina (5.9)
 - South Carolina (3.1)
 - Georgia (5.5)
 - Florida (9.7)
4. **Midwest District (25.6)**
 - Ohio (10.8)
 - Indiana (5.5)
 - Michigan (9.3)
5. **Southern District (26.2)**
 - Virginia (5.3)
 - West Virginia (2.0)
 - Kentucky (3.7)
 - Tennessee (4.6)
 - Alabama (3.9)
 - Mississippi (2.5)
 - Louisiana (4.2)
6. **Central District (28.5)**
 - Illinois (11.4)
 - Iowa (2.9)
 - Missouri (4.9)
 - Arkansas (2.3)
 - Kansas (2.4)
 - Oklahoma (3.0)
 - Nebraska (1.6)
7. **Southern Pacific District (24.7)**
 - California (23.7)
 - Hawaii (1.0)
8. **Northwest District (19.5)**
 - Wisconsin (4.7)
 - Minnesota (4.1)
 - North Dakota (0.7)
 - South Dakota (0.7)
 - Montana (0.8)
 - Wyoming (0.5)
 - Idaho (0.9)
 - Oregon (2.6)
 - Washington State (4.1)
 - Alaska (0.4)
9. **Southwest District (23.6)**
 - Texas (14.2)
 - New Mexico (1.3)
 - Arizona (2.7)
 - Nevada (1.0)
 - Utah (1.5)
 - Colorado (2.9)

WORLD SERVICE BOARD COMPOSITION

WSB officers (3)

WSB chairperson (also Travel
Committee chair)
WSB vice chairperson
WSB treasurer (also Budget and
Finance Committee chair)

Committee chairpersons (6)

Committee on Conference, Forums
Literature Committee
Hospitals and Institutions Committee
Public Information Committee
Translation Committee
Fellowship Journal Committee

Corporation chairpersons (2)

World Service Office, Inc.
World Convention Corporation

U.S. district trustees (9)

New England
Middle Atlantic
Southern Atlantic
Midwest
Southern
Central
Southern Pacific
Northwest
Southwest

Non-U.S. district trustees (6)

Canada, District 1
Canada, District 2
Continental Europe
United Kingdom
Australasia
Latin America

Staff trustees, non-voting (3)

Executive Director
Fellowship Services Division Director
Support Services Division Director

LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Regional composition, delegate recognition

Would you support a resolution encouraging existing U.S. regions to re-form along state/territory boundaries, doing so at their own pace and by their own means?

If so, would you allow the most heavily populated states to form more than one region within their state boundaries? (The following apportionment would result in a maximum of 66 U.S. regions.)

Over 20 million, up to 4 regions: California (currently has 5 regions)

12.5-20 million, up to 3 regions: New York (currently has 2 regions), Texas (2 current)

7.5-12.5 million, up to 2 regions: Pennsylvania (currently 3 regions: TriState, MidAtlantic, Greater Philadelphia), Ohio (2 current), Illinois (2 current), New Jersey (2 current), Florida (2 current), Michigan (1 region, 1 metropolitan subregion)

Under 7.5 million, 1 region apiece: 41 remaining states, U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam.

Would you support a resolution declaring the intention of the World Service Conference, from passage of such a resolution forward, not to recognize additional RSRs coming from new U.S. regions *other* than those created in the re-formation process?

Metropolitan services

Would you support material in *A Guide to Service* describing the operations of metropolitan committees serving the common needs of multiple areas in large cities, but which do *not* tie in to the regional/world structure?

U.S. conference

Would you encourage the fellowship in the United States to devise a plan for the creation of its own national conference and service office during that five-year period?

If such a plan were to be devised, how should the physical, fiscal, and personnel assets of World Service Office, Inc., and the World Convention Corporation be divided?

How should WSO intellectual property rights be held?

Solely by WSO, Inc., on behalf of entire NA Fellowship?

Jointly by American service corporation and WSO, Inc.?

Solely by American service corporation?

If the Americans were to create their own service structure, what then should become of the World Service Conference?

What would the purpose of the conference be?

What kind of service apparatus would it need to fulfill that purpose?

From what units (national communities, multi-national communities, regions, whatever) would it draw its membership? How would those units elect conference delegates? What would the role of each of those units be in fulfilling the conference's purpose?

How frequently would the conference meet? Where?

How would the conference relate to the development of new literature?

Would the World Service Conference be solely responsible for creating new NA literature?

Would individual countries have primary responsibility for the creation of new literature for themselves that other countries could use if they chose and that, if appropriate, could be approved by the WSC for use worldwide?

Some mix of the two?

Would the literature a national community develops for itself need to be reviewed for consistency with NA principles by some world-level service body before it could be stamped with the NA logo?

NA literature, national publishing rights

Regardless of the future of the World Service Conference, would you grant national conferences (or their equivalents) authority to publish existing NA literature, in English or in translation, themselves?

If so, would you charge them royalties for the right to do so?

Regardless of the future of the World Service Conference, would you grant national conferences (or their equivalents) authority to develop and publish original, indigenously developed recovery literature themselves?

If so, would you require that such materials be approved by the World Service Board prior to publication as NA literature? By the World Service Conference?

CURRENT U.S. REGIONAL LAYOUT

Breakdown: 55 regions, 50 states

Single-State Regions (25 regions)

Multi-region states (16 regions, 7 states)

Multi-State Regions (4 regions, 12 states)

Mixed (10 regions involved): Pennsylvania, Delaware,
Nevada, Maryland, Washington State, Idaho

Single-State Regions (25 regions)

Alabama (3.9)—*Alabama-Northwest Florida*

Alaska Region (0.4)

Arizona Region (2.7)

Arkansas Region (2.3)

Colorado Region (2.9)

Connecticut Region (3.1)

Georgia Region (5.5)

Hawaii Region (1.0)

Indiana Region (5.5)

Iowa Region (2.9)

Kansas (2.4)—*Mid-America Region*

Kentucky (3.7)—*Kentuckiana Region*

Louisiana Region (4.2)

Michigan Region (9.3)

Mississippi Region (2.5)

Missouri (4.9)—*Show-Me Region*

Nebraska Region (1.6)

New Mexico Region (1.3)

Oklahoma Region (3.0)

Oregon (2.6)—*Together We Can Region*

Tennessee (4.6)—*Volunteer Region*

Utah Region (1.5)

Virginia (5.3)—*Region of the Virginians*

West Virginia (2.0)—*Mountaineer Region*

Wisconsin Region (4.7)

Multi-region states (16 regions)

California (23.7)

San Diego-Imperial Region

Southern California Region

Central California Region

California Mid-State Region

Northern California Region

Florida (9.7)

Florida Region (northern)

South Florida Region

Illinois (11.4)

Chicagoland Region (Chicago, upstate)

Greater Illinois Region (downstate)

New Jersey (7.4)

Northern New Jersey Region

New Jersey Region (southern)

New York (17.6)

Greater New York Region (NYC plus)

Upper New York Region

Ohio (10.8)

Ohio Region (southwest)

Buckeye Region (northeast)

Texas (14.2)

Best Little Region

Lone Star Region

Multi-State Regions (4 regions)

Upper Midwest Region

Minnesota (4.1)
North Dakota (0.7)
South Dakota (0.7)
(Also Manitoba Province)

Upper Rocky Mountain Region

Montana (0.8)
Wyoming (0.5)

New England Region

Maine (1.1)
Massachusetts (5.7) (part)
New Hampshire (0.9) (part)
Rhode Island (0.9)
Vermont (0.5)

Carolina Region

North Carolina (5.9)
South Carolina (3.1)

Mixed (10 regions involved)

Pennsylvania (11.9)

Tri-State Region, including:

Pittsburgh metropolitan area
Western Pennsylvania
Southeastern Ohio
Northern tip, West Virginia

Mid-Atlantic Region

Greater Philadelphia Region, including:

Philadelphia
Southeastern Pennsylvania
Delaware (0.6)

Mountain Valley Region

New Hampshire, parts
Western Massachusetts

Chesapeake-Potomac Region

District of Columbia (unk)
Maryland—part

Free State Region

Maryland (4.2)—part

Nevada (1.0)

Sierra Sage Region

Northern Nevada
Eastern North-Central California

Southern Nevada Region

Southern Nevada Area (Las Vegas)
C.A.N. (Bullhead City area)
River Valley Area (unk)

Washington-Northern Idaho Region

Washington State (4.1)
Northern Idaho

Southern Idaho Region (0.9)

PACIFIC	1990	1991
Aotearoa New Zealand	83	105
Australia	236	252
Malaysia	1	1
Philippines	9	9
TOTALS	329	367
EAST ASIA	1990	1991
Hong Kong	1	2
Japan	31	32
Singapore	1	1
South Korea	3	3
TOTALS	36	37
INDIAN SUBCONTINENT	1990	1991
Bangladesh	2	2
India	53	54
Pakistan	n/a	2
TOTALS	55	58
MIDDLE EAST	1990	1991
Bahrain	1	2
Egypt	2	2
Israel	23	24
TOTALS	26	28
AFRICA	1990	1991
Kenya	1	3
Nigeria	n/a	2
South Africa	6	14
TOTALS	7	19
CARIBBEAN	1990	1991
Bahamas	28	28
Barbados	3	3
Bermuda	4	5
Grenada	n/a	1
Jamaica	7	10
Netherlands Antilles	4	4
Saint Lucia	3	3
Trinidad and Tobago	18	23
TOTALS	67	77

CANADA	1990	1991
Alberta, Saskatchewan	118	137
British Columbia	117	165
Maritimes	74	58
Ontario	212	234
Quebec	207	243
Yukon Territory	3	3
TOTALS	731	840

SOUTH AMERICA	1990	1991
Argentina	3	16
Bolivia	7	7
Brazil	69	150
Colombia	86	89
Ecuador	8	8
Peru	28	47
Uruguay	1	3
Venezuela	1	1
TOTALS	203	321
CENTRAL AMERICA	1990	1991
Belize	n/a	2
Costa Rica	5	10
El Salvador	2	2
Guatemala	9	6
Honduras	1	4
Nicaragua	n/a	2
Panama	15	43
TOTALS	32	69
NORTH AMERICA	1990	1991
Canada	746	840
Mexico	50	44
USA	12,000	14,827
TOTALS	12,796	15,711
EUROPE	1990	1991
Belgium	7	10
Denmark	3	7
Finland	4	4
France	23	33
Germanspeaking Region	76	100
Greece	4	4
Iceland	n/a	1
Ireland	31	30
Italy	34	39
Netherlands	3	6
Norway	6	8
Portugal	18	19
Russia	2	5
Spain	21	35
Sweden	31	69
Ukraine	1	2
United Kingdom	226	231
TOTALS	490	603

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (14,827 meetings)
ALPHABETICALLY BY REGION, BY GROUPS**

Alabama/NW Florida	254
Alaska	51
Arizona.....	215
Arkansas.....	132
Best Little Region (W. Texas, SE New Mexico)	116
Buckeye (NE Ohio).....	156
CA Midstate.....	148
Carolinas	627
Central CA	122
Chesapeake-Potomac.....	454
Chicagoland	310
Colorado.....	175
Connecticut.....	157
Florida (N)	378
Free State (MD).....	403
Georgia.....	344
Greater Illinois (downstate).....	210
Greater New York (NYC)	636
Greater Philadelphia	411
Hawaii.....	93
Indiana.....	185
Iowa	181
Kentucky.....	168
Lone Star (E. Texas).....	942
Louisiana	169
MidAmerica (Kansas).....	183
MidAtlantic (SE Pennsylvania).....	187
Mississippi	112
Mountain Valley (Vermont, New Hampshire).....	123
Mountaineer (West Virginia)	60
Nebraska.....	55
New England (Massachusetts).....	481
New Jersey (S).....	234
New Mexico.....	73
No. CA	829
No. New England (Maine)	95
No. New Jersey.....	195
No. New York (upstate)	216
Oklahoma	244
Ohio (SW).....	264
Pacific Cascade (Oregon)	414
Puerto Rico.....	42
Virginia.....	272
San Diego/Imperial.....	315
Show Me (Missouri)	402
Sierra Sage (No. Nevada).....	82
So. Florida	404
So. California.....	505
So. Idaho.....	71
So. Nevada.....	75
TriState (SW Penna., No. WV, SE Ohio)	287
Upper Midwest (Dakotas, Minnesota, Manitoba) .	228
Upper Rocky Mountain (Wyoming, Montana)	156
US Virgin Islands.....	25
Utah	64
Volunteer (Tennessee).....	261
Washington/No. Idaho.....	535
Wisconsin	301

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (14,827 meetings)
BY GROUPS, BY REGIONS**

US Virgin Islands.....	25
Puerto Rico	42
Alaska	51
Nebraska.....	55
Mountaineer (West Virginia)	60
Utah.....	64
So. Idaho.....	71
New Mexico	73
So. Nevada.....	75
Sierra Sage (No. Nevada)	82
Hawaii.....	93
No. New England (Maine)	95
Mississippi.....	112
Best Little Region (W. Texas, SE New Mexico)	116
Central CA.....	122
Mountain Valley (Vermont, New Hampshire)	123
Arkansas.....	132
CA Midstate.....	148
Buckeye (NE Ohio).....	156
Upper Rocky Mountain (Wyoming, Montana).....	156
Connecticut.....	157
Kentucky	168
Louisiana.....	169
Colorado	175
Iowa.....	181
MidAmerica (Kansas)	183
Indiana.....	185
MidAtlantic (SE Pennsylvania)	187
No. New Jersey	195
Greater Illinois (downstate)	210
Arizona	215
No. New York (upstate)	216
Upper Midwest (Dakotas, Minnesota, Manitoba) .	228
New Jersey (S).....	234
Oklahoma	244
Alabama/NW Florida.....	254
Volunteer (Tennessee).....	261
Ohio (SW).....	264
Virginia.....	272
TriState (SW Penna., No. WV, SE Ohio).....	287
Wisconsin.....	301
Chicagoland.....	310
San Diego/Imperial	315
Georgia.....	344
Florida (N)	378
Show Me (Missouri)	402
Free State (MD).....	403
So. Florida	404
Greater Philadelphia	411
Pacific Cascade (Oregon)	414
Chesapeake-Potomac.....	454
New England (Massachusetts)	481
So. California.....	505
Washington/No. Idaho	535
Carolinas.....	627
Greater New York (NYC)	636
No. CA.....	829
Lone Star (E. Texas)	942

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (14,827 meetings)
BY STATE, BY GROUPS**

Alabama (plus NW Florida).....	254
Alaska.....	51
Arizona.....	215
Arkansas.....	132
California.....	1,919
No. California (829)	
So. California (505)	
San Diego/Imperial (315)	
California Midstate (148)	
Central California (122)	
Colorado.....	175
Connecticut.....	157
Florida.....	782
Florida (N) (378)	
So. Florida (404)	
Georgia.....	344
Hawaii.....	93
Illinois.....	520
Greater Illinois (downstate) (210)	
Chicagoland (310)	
Indiana.....	185
Iowa.....	181
Kansas (MidAmerica).....	183
Kentucky.....	168
Louisiana.....	169
Maine (No. New England).....	95
Massachusetts (New England).....	481
Maryland.....	857
Maryland (Free State) (403)	
Chesapeake-Potomac (454)	
Mississippi.....	112
Missouri (Show Me).....	402
Nebraska.....	55
Nevada.....	157
No. Nevada (Sierra Sage) (82)	
So. Nevada (75)	
New Jersey.....	429
New Jersey (S) (234)	
No. New Jersey (195)	
New Mexico.....	73
New York.....	852
No. New York (upstate) (216)	
Greater New York (NYC) (636)	
Oklahoma.....	244
Ohio.....	420
Ohio (SW) (264)	
Buckeye (NE Ohio) (156)	
Oregon (Pacific Cascade).....	414
Pennsylvania.....	885
MidAtlantic (SE Pennsylvania) (187)	
Greater Philadelphia (411)	
TriState (SW Penna., No. WV, SE Ohio) (287)	
Puerto Rico.....	42
Tennessee (Volunteer).....	261
Texas.....	1,058
Lone Star (E. Texas) (942)	
Best Little Region (W. Texas, SE NM) (116)	
US Virgin Islands.....	25
Utah.....	64
Virginia.....	272
West Virginia (Mountaineer).....	60
Wisconsin.....	301

MULTISTATE REGIONS:

Carolinas (North and South).....	627
Mountain Valley (Vermont, New Hampshire).....	123
Upper Rocky Mountain (Wyoming, Montana).....	156
Upper Midwest (Dakotas, Minnesota, Manitoba).....	228
Washington/No. Idaho.....	535
So. Idaho.....	71

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (14,827 meetings)
BY GROUPS, BY STATE**

US Virgin Islands.....	25
Puerto Rico.....	42
Alaska.....	51
Nebraska.....	55
West Virginia (Mountaineer).....	60
Utah.....	64
So. Idaho.....	71
New Mexico.....	73
Hawaii.....	93
Maine (No. New England).....	95
Mississippi.....	112
Mountain Valley (Vermont, New Hampshire).....	123
Arkansas.....	132
Upper Rocky Mountain (Wyoming, Montana).....	156
Connecticut.....	157
Nevada.....	157
No. Nevada (Sierra Sage) (82)	
So. Nevada (75)	
Kentucky.....	168
Louisiana.....	169
Colorado.....	175
Iowa.....	181
Kansas (MidAmerica).....	183
Indiana.....	185
Arizona.....	215
Upper Midwest (Dakotas, Minnesota, Manitoba).....	228
Oklahoma.....	244
Alabama (plus NW Florida).....	254
Tennessee (Volunteer).....	261
Virginia.....	272
Wisconsin.....	301
Georgia.....	344
Missouri (Show Me).....	402
Oregon (Pacific Cascade).....	414
Ohio.....	420
Ohio (SW) (264)	
Buckeye (NE Ohio) (156)	
New Jersey.....	429
New Jersey (S) (234)	
No. New Jersey (195)	
Massachusetts (New England).....	481
Illinois.....	520
Greater Illinois (downstate) (210)	
Chicagoland (310)	
Washington/No. Idaho.....	535
Carolinas (North and South).....	627
Florida.....	782
Florida (N) (378)	
So. Florida (404)	
New York.....	852
No. New York (upstate) (216)	
Greater New York (NYC) (636)	
Maryland.....	857
Maryland (Free State) (403)	
Chesapeake-Potomac (454)	
Pennsylvania.....	885
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Texas.....	1,058
Lone Star (E. Texas) (942)	
Best Little Region (W. Texas, SE NM) (116)	
California.....	1,919
No. California (829)	
So. California (505)	
San Diego/Imperial (315)	
California Midstate (148)	
Central California (122)	

N.A. world services

A GUIDE TO SERVICE IN NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

With this chapter of A Guide to Service, we enter into almost entirely uncharted territory. Narcotics Anonymous has had groups since its founding, and local service committees for more than twenty-five years. We even have some experience with the structure and operation of national services, though our primary example--the World Service Conference--has also attempted to meet the needs of N.A. worldwide. But the idea of a truly world level of service, dedicated solely to projects and issues affecting the fellowship in every country, is a new one for us. We don't even have a model for such a level of service in other Twelve Step fellowships with which to compare our ideas, because none exists.

Necessarily, then, this chapter provides only an outline of our ideas concerning the essential elements of the world level of service in Narcotics Anonymous: the definition of each element, its purpose, its composition, and a thumbnail sketch of its activities. The kinds of details we find in the other chapters will need to be filled in by whatever body is selected by the World Service Conference to prepare a transition plan. The responsibility of that transition team will be to describe how we get from where we are today, to where we hope we'll be tomorrow. We believe, however, that we have provided sufficient detail in this chapter to complete the presentation of our vision for the future of service in Narcotics Anonymous.

The WSC Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service

INTRODUCTION

N.A. world services are just that: services which benefit the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous worldwide. They draw recovering addicts together for the purpose of fostering greater understanding and unity among N.A. members. They bring trusted servants from around the globe together so that they can share their experience with one another. They lend the strength of well-established national N.A. movements to emerging N.A. communities in other countries. They help keep Narcotics Anonymous whole by insuring that the N.A. message remains consistent around the world, despite differences of culture, religion, language, and law. And N.A. world services act as our fellowship's liaison with other international organizations concerned with drug addicts, addiction, and recovery, as well as with the international press.

Our world services function through three different entities. First, and most active, is the N.A. **World Service Board**. Composed of representatives of the national service boards in countries where N.A. is well-established, it performs three basic tasks. First, the World Service Board (WSB) coordinates assistance for emerging N.A. communities, either by linking those young communities with more mature ones, coordinating development workshops, or making translation and production services for N.A. literature available for those communities which are not capable of supporting their own. Second, the board helps safeguard the integrity of the N.A. message, both in the course of reviewing translations and adaptations of existing N.A. materials, and in reviewing new materials developed by national movements on their own authority. And third, the world board serves as a liaison between N.A. as a whole and other international organizations, whether they be professional, business, government, or press agencies. The World Service Board is assisted in its work by the staff of the World Service Office, for which the board is responsible.

1 More on how the board is organized and how it works is detailed in the following sections of this
2 chapter.

3 The second element of our world service system is the **World Service Meeting**. Every three
4 years, delegates from the various national service conferences around the world, along with
5 representatives of less-developed national movements, meet to share their service experience with
6 one another, and to discuss issues of broad importance to the development of Narcotics
7 Anonymous around the globe. The World Service Meeting is an event distinct from the operations
8 of the World Service Board, but the two--along with our World Convention--are complementary
9 parts of a whole: our world service system. While the World Service Board administers direct
10 services on behalf of all the national movements, the World Service Meeting brings national
11 representatives together so that they can share their experience with one another. In that sharing
12 of challenges and solutions, each national movement's ability to carry the recovery message in its
13 own country is strengthened.

14 The third element of N.A.'s world service system is the **World Convention**. Held every six
15 years in conjunction with the World Service Meeting, the convention is a fellowshipwide recovery
16 gathering, designed to increase understanding among N.A. members from various countries and
17 to encourage the unity upon which the personal recovery of each one of us is based. Together,
18 the three elements of N.A. world services--the World Convention, the World Service Meeting, and
19 the World Service Board--nurture N.A. recovery, unity, and service in our growing international
20 effort to carry the message, "that no addict need die without the chance to find a better way of life."

21 THE WORLD SERVICE BOARD--HOW IT'S ORGANIZED, AND HOW IT WORKS

22 The World Service Board for Narcotics Anonymous is organized in much the same way as are
23 national service boards. It is a corporation established to serve on behalf of the entire N.A.
24 Fellowship. The full board meets at least once a year, though it may meet more often. Its
25 members are drawn from the service boards of the various national N.A. movements, and its
26 general officers are elected by the board itself from among those members. The officers serve
27 between full board meetings as an executive committee, overseeing the ongoing work of the World
28 Service Office in carrying out the board's policies.

29 Every national service board is entitled to seat three members on the WSB. Countries with
30 more than ten regions are entitled to seat one additional member on the world board for every ten
31 additional regions served by the national board.

32 The world board has the ability to recognize *associate members*--representatives of those
33 national N.A. movements which have not yet developed to the point of being able to support a
34 national service system of their own. Though associate members do not vote in meetings of the
35 World Service Board, they do have a voice and may share the concerns of the fellowship in their
36 countries.

37 The authority to perform services affecting N.A. worldwide is delegated to the World Service
38 Board by the various national boards, and the board is directly accountable to them by virtue of
39 their ability to select world board members. However, in the words of our Seventh Concept of
40 Service, the WSB has "the ability to determine which decisions fall within [its] own defined authority
41 and which will be brought back to the delegating body for further consultation." The board reports
42 its activities in its newsletter, the *World Service Quarterly*, mailed to registered participants of all
43 the national service conferences.

SERVICES TO DEVELOPING NATIONAL MOVEMENTS

One of the primary responsibilities of the World Service Board is to provide basic development services to young and growing national N.A. movements. Sometimes, that means putting trusted servants in young N.A. communities in touch with more developed national N.A. movements nearby, so that service and recovery experience can be passed along. The board organizes workshops for new service committees forming in countries without a national service structure. These workshops are usually conducted by experienced N.A. members from neighboring countries.

The board also provides limited material support to developing national movements. The WSB assists service committees in these countries in translating and adapting existing N.A. recovery and service literature. It keeps a small stock of translated literature on hand, and, when necessary, provides such material to brand new N.A. communities at little or no cost. When a national service structure approaches the point where it can print and distribute literature itself, the World Service Board helps make the necessary arrangements.

THE AUTONOMY OF NATIONAL MOVEMENTS

The International Basis for N.A. Service describes the foundations upon which our fellowship maintains its identity from country to country. The Basis offers simple descriptions of each element of the service structure, from group to world, broadly applicable to the way Narcotics Anonymous conducts itself in any country. Also included in the Basis are the philosophical cornerstones of the N.A. Fellowship: our Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts for Service. The International Basis describes the barest essentials which a national recovery movement must abide by in order to be recognized as a part of our worldwide fellowship. Beyond what is described in the Basis, a national N.A. movement is entirely free to develop on its own, in a way consistent with its national culture, geography, language, and law.

**TRANSLATING AND ADAPTING EXISTING N.A. LITERATURE,
AND DEVELOPING NEW MATERIAL**

Each national movement is encouraged to translate and adapt existing Narcotics Anonymous recovery literature and service aids to meet its own needs. The basic inventory of N.A. literature--including the N.A. Basic Text, *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*, and our book on the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, *It Works: How and Why*--is copyrighted by the World Service Board, and is held in trust by the board on behalf of the entire fellowship worldwide.¹ The board charges a nominal royalty fee for the right to reprint these items; those royalties provide the vast majority of the funds the WSB needs for its development work.

Other materials, developed and published by various national movements, may also be translated and adapted for use in other countries, providing the board serving the nation of origin grants its permission. In such cases, the World Service Board acts as agent for the copyright transaction between the nation of origin and the national movement which wishes to translate and adapt the material.

To insure that challenges in the translation process can be met before they develop into crises, indigenous service boards and committees engaging in the translation and adaptation of existing

¹ The World Service Board also maintains ownership of the fellowship's registered trademarks, including the name Narcotics Anonymous and its translated forms and the various N.A. logos.

1 N.A. materials are encouraged to contact the WSB through the World Service Office as early in the
2 process as possible. Translated and adapted literature, once complete, must be submitted to the
3 WSB for review prior to publication, to insure consistency with the original material and with the
4 International Basis for Service.

5 National movements are also encouraged to develop new recovery and service literature of
6 their own. The only requirement regarding development of such material is that it be consistent
7 with the International Basis. As is the case with translated and adapted materials, new literature
8 developed independently by the various national movements must be submitted for review to the
9 World Service Board prior to publication, to insure consistency with the Basis. Once reviewed, the
10 national movement which developed the new material is free to publish it under its own copyright.

11 From time to time, conflicts may arise from a World Service Board decision concerning the
12 consistency of a new or translated piece of N.A. literature with the International Basis. In such
13 cases, a special arbitration panel will attempt to settle the conflict. The panel, whose members are
14 selected at the World Service Meeting, is composed of five national delegates, each from a
15 different country. Should the panel's attempts at reconciliation prove unsuccessful, the matter will
16 appear on the agenda of the next World Service Meeting, and the decision then arrived at will be
17 final.²

18
19
20 world1: May 5, 1992 at 1:23 PM

² At this point, mention of ultimate "doctrinal enforcement" through withdrawal of the right to use the name, Narcotics Anonymous, might be mentioned. However, the very idea of writing such enforcement language into the Guide would seem to run contrary to the spirit of the rest of the document. And since we hope the WSB will never have to apply such enforcement authority, it seems prudent only to note the fact of the board's trademark ownership, leaving potentially "rebellious" elements to draw their own conclusions, rather than alarm the vast majority of the fellowship's members with a disturbing discussion that will never apply to them.

**Revision Notes:
NATIONAL AND WORLD SERVICES
November 11-12, 1989**

At the work group meeting November 11th and 12th, 1989, a plan for American and world services was developed which differs substantially from that described in the International Basis, the chapter on the Fellowship Service Conference, and the chapter on the Fellowship Service Board. What follows is an attempt at organizing the weekend's discussions into a working text outline. The first section is based substantially on the FSC chapter (11/8/89 draft); the third, on the FSB chapter (7/3/89 draft). In addition to the notes below, it appears that the chapter, "Developing National Movements," would have no place in the book under these arrangements. The International Basis--or whatever it ends up being called when we're through with this--will be revised to reflect decisions made on the notes below.

Because of the nature of the discussions held last weekend, and the newness of the ideas, staff found itself faced with a number of questions as it attempted to coherently describe what the alternate system would look like and how it would work. Those questions appear in the outline itself, at the points where staff felt they need to be answered. Attached, you'll find a separate paper representing the staff's attempt at answering those questions themselves. NOTE: FOR PRE-COMMITTEE REVIEW PURPOSES, THE "ANSWERS" DO APPEAR IN THE BODY HERE TO MAKE FOR EASIER TRACKING; THEY'LL BE SEPARATED OUT AND APPROPRIATELY REFERENCED TO LINE NUMBERS PRIOR TO DISTRIBUTION TO THE COMMITTEE ITSELF.

* * * * *

**General Service Conference
American Service Meeting**

Introduction

General Service Conference (GSC) is "...the active voice...of our fellowship..." etc.

The GSC is charged with addressing the needs of N.A. as a whole. It does this by conducting two separate meetings, convened to address two different kinds of needs and services: the American Service Meeting (ASM), and the World Service Meeting (WSM). ASM deals with those services affecting the entire American movement, and only the American movement. WSM deals with those issues which affect N.A.

worldwide, including the development and translation of N.A. recovery literature.
This chapter deals with the ASM; WSM, next.

QUESTIONS: Does the committee believe that this arrangement is a transitional one.
and that a more distinct structural separation between American and world service
agencies will occur in the future? If so, how long does the committee believe this
arrangement might last? And does the committee want to present material
describing a longer-range arrangement in the book after this material?

Conference advisory actions.

Right of decision.

American Service Meeting composition

Voting participants are all American delegates and ASM-nominated trustees;
WSM-nominated trustees are non-voting participants.

Delegates always maintain 2/3s majority of body of registered voting participants.
General Service Board (GSB) may expand as the number of recognized delegates
grows.

Participants are servants of N.A. as whole. Delegate travel expenses paid from
GSB General Fund.

Annual American Service Meeting

Meets once a year. Every other year, is followed immediately by the WSM.
(Remainder of lead-in to description of conference the same.)

Reports

Pretty much the same as before.

Note that the work group dismissed the idea of having three distinct GSB
subsidiary operating divisions (publishing/business. convention. magazine).

QUESTION: Does someone or some body need to issue a report on General Service
Office (GSO) operations--particularly those not reported through a trustee
committee, such as publishing, distribution, and general operations--to make up for
the absence of reports from these entities?

ANSWER: SEE STAFF REMARKS RELATED TO GSB SUBSIDIARY DIVISIONS.

Delegate review panels, assignments

American panels:

Conference

Cooperation with the professional community

Public information

Correctional facilities

Treatment facilities

Regional forums

Nominations

Admissions (the status of this is unclear)

World panels:

International services (combining international outreach, adaptation of American service materials, WSM trustee nominations processing, and planning and reporting for the WSM)

Literature development and translation

The N.A. Way Magazine

Budget and finance

World convention (the status of this is unclear)

QUESTION: It's not clear whether American delegates are to be assigned to both American and World panels, or only to American. Or are non-American delegates supposed to completely fill the World panels?

ANSWER: AMERICAN DELEGATES ARE ASSIGNED AT THE ASM TO ALL OF THESE: ADDITIONAL NON-AMERICAN DELEGATES ARE ASSIGNED TO THE WORLD PANELS AT THE WSM.

QUESTION: Do all these panels meet at the ASM, or only the American panels? If all meet, do all report? If all report, do all present conference advisory action proposals? If only American panels present conference advisory action proposals at the ASM, does the ASM nonetheless have the authority to address urgent matters facing the World panels?

ANSWER: IN YEARS WHEN ONLY THE ASM MEETS, THE AMERICAN MEMBERS OF ALL THE PANELS MEET WITH THE CORRESPONDING TRUSTEE COMMITTEES AND STAFF; AMERICAN AND WORLD PANELS REPORT, BUT ONLY AMERICAN PANELS OFFER PROPOSED CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTIONS, EXCEPT IN CASES OF SERIOUS URGENCY.

IN YEARS WHEN THE ASM IS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY THE WSM, ONLY AMERICAN PANELS MEET, REPORT, AND PROPOSE ACTION AT THE ASM; AMERICAN AND NON-AMERICAN DELEGATES MEET IN THE WORLD PANELS AT THE WSM, AND REPORT AND PROPOSE ACTION THERE.

Functions of delegate review panels

Same, with adjustments in terms, except as follows.

Page 14, line 18 (14.18): All panel members--American and non-American--receive committee reports and correspondence.

QUESTION, 14.20: Do non-American delegate review panel members take part in mid-year meetings with their corresponding committee?

ANSWER: ONLY AMERICAN DELEGATE MEMBERS OF AMERICAN AND WORLD REVIEW PANELS MEET WITH COMMITTEES BETWEEN ASMs; THE PARTICIPATION OF NON-AMERICAN WORLD PANEL MEMBERS IS SOLICITED YEAR 'ROUND BY MAIL AND, WHEN POSSIBLE, BY PHONE.

Panel meetings and reports at the American Service Meeting

Virtually the same, except around 15.23 re. conference advisory action proposals.

QUESTION: Which panels--American, and/or World--are meeting and reporting at the ASM, and which are proposing conference advisory actions (as asked earlier)?

Input to general services

Adjust terminology.

Trustee nominations

ASM nominates 24 trustees; WSM nominates 4 additional trustees. Perhaps note allowance for expansion ratio in later years.

QUESTION: The July 3rd FSB draft noted six trustee slots being reserved for non-addicts. Does the committee want to say anything about non-addict participation in the General Service Board?

Closing the American Service Meeting

Adjust.

American Service Meeting reports

.Adjust.

Relations with N.A. worldwide

Delete section.

* * * * *

**General Service Conference
World Service Meeting**

Introduction

General Service Conference provides "general" services to the entire fellowship. The annual ASM, discussed in the previous chapter, deals only with issues specific to America. The biennial WSM deals only with issues affecting entire fellowship.

Composition

All delegates--American and non-American--and *all* GSB members. Same 2/3s balance; expansion ratio.

Biennial World Service Meeting

Order of events at WSM substantially the same as at ASM; different focus. (Summary description only.) Select presiding officer for the meeting after first roll call. Then, reports from those trustee committees having world responsibilities (International Services, Literature Development and Translation, The N.A. Way Magazine, Budget and Finance, *World Convention*). AGAIN, REPORT ON GSO

1 OPERATIONS, PUBLISHING? Meetings of World panels. Return to general session to
2 hear panel reports and consider proposed conference advisory actions.

3 Interspersed, same variety of sharing sessions with same general function as at
4 ASM, but with broader scope: *world* conscience for general services.

5 QUESTION: Any reason to note the availability of simultaneous translation services
6 at WSM?

7 World panels

8 List, describe.

9 QUESTION: Per question in ASM chapter, how are non-American delegates
10 assigned to panels?

11 Conference advisory actions.

12 Trustee nominations

13 Four seats on the GSB are elected from nominations by the WSM. GSB
14 International Services Committee develops roster. QUESTION: Does ISC delegate
15 panel also develop a roster?

16 World Service Meeting reports

17 Coordinated by GSB International Services Committee, with panel participation.
18 QUESTION: What sort of panel participation?

19 QUESTION: To whom is the WSM Final Report distributed?

20 ANSWER: THE WSM FINAL REPORT IS DISTRIBUTED TO ALL REGIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEES
21 REGISTERED WITH THE GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE.

22 A condensed report of WSM proceedings appears in a special edition of the
23 *Fellowship Report*.

24 * * * * *

25 **General Service Board**

26 Introduction

27 21.15, 16: GSB administers all "general" services on behalf of the GSC, services
28 affecting the entire American movement and world services as well.

29 General Service Board composition

30 28 members, 24 elected from ASM nominations, 4 elected from WSM
31 nominations. Expansion ratio. Regardless of source of nomination, serve on GSB
32 as equal members with equal rights. 4-year terms. (Note: No staff trustees.)

1 QUESTION: Should there be any remarks here on rotation and continuity?

2 Conference ability to replace trustees directly.

3 **General officers**

4 General officers are chair, vice chair, treasurer, and chairperson of GSB
5 International Services Committee, all elected from current trustees; continue to
6 serve as trustees. These serve as registered officers of GSB, Inc. GSO Executive
7 Director serves as general secretary to the board.

8 **General Service Board meetings**

9 Same, with deletion of reference to subsidiary boards.

10 **Trustee committees**

11 QUESTION, 23.5: Should there be additional specifications on how committees are
12 composed? If so, what?

13 23.13: Update discussion of the role of delegate panels.

14 AMERICAN SERVICES: Conference, Regional Forums, CPC, P.I., Correctional
15 Facilities, Treatment Facilities, Nominations.

16 WORLD SERVICES: International Services, Literature Development and Translation,
17 Budget and Finance, *World Convention*, The N.A. Way Magazine.

18 **Subsidiary divisions**

19 Delete; where appropriate, discuss functions under committees, above.

20 28.7: No comments to appear regarding editorial independence of The N.A. Way
21 Magazine.

22 WITH THE DELETION OF THE SUBSIDIARY DIVISION MODEL FROM THE DRAFT, THE COMMITTEE IS
23 LEFT TO EXPLAIN HOW SPECIALIZED BUSINESS OPERATIONS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH QUALIFIED
24 VOLUNTEER OVERSIGHT.

25 **General Service Office**

26 Departments: International Services, Group Services, H&I, P.I., CPC, Literature,
27 *World Convention*, The N.A. Way Magazine, Executive Director's office.

28 **GSB funding**

29 QUESTION: Scrap?

30 **World service**

31 Delete.

Working outline

WORLD SERVICES

October 30, 1990

PRIMARY FUNCTIONS

1. **Outreach.** Coordinates assistance for emerging N.A. communities, by:
 - a. Linking those young communities with more mature ones,
 - b. Coordinating development workshops,
 - c. Assisting in the translation of N.A. literature, and
 - d. When necessary, providing N.A. literature at reduced cost to national communities.
2. **World sharing session.** Facilitates the sharing of national service experience.
3. **Integrity of identity.** Helps safeguard the integrity of N.A.'s identity by:
 - a. Holding N.A. literature copyrights, and N.A. trademarks, in trust on behalf of the N.A. Fellowship worldwide,
 - b. Reviewing translations and adaptations of existing N.A. materials, and
 - c. Reviewing new materials developed by national communities.
4. **Public information.** Serves as a liaison between N.A. as a whole and other international organizations, whether they be professional, business, government, or press agencies.
5. **Worldwide publishing and distribution.**

WORLD SERVICE ASSEMBLY

1. **Purpose, primary functions**
 - a. World sharing session
 - b. *Review, oversight for World Service Board*
2. **Membership**
 - a. WSB members
 - b. Delegates
3. **Triennial meeting**
4. **Reports and resolutions**
 - a. *Fellowship*
 - b. *WSB*
5. *Affirmation of WSB nominations made by various national service boards*

WORLD SERVICE BOARD

1. **Purpose, primary activities**--establish policies to be administered by WSO
 - a. Development issues and services
 - b. Translations and permissions
 - c. Public information
 - d. WSA agenda
2. **Membership**
 - a. Base ratio--how many from which countries
 - b. Nominations procedures
 - c. Elections
 - d. Terms
 - e. Rotation

- f. Suspension, removal
- 3. **Annual meetings**
- 4. **Executive committee**
- a. **Meets quarterly**
- b. **Fellowship communications**
- c. **WSO administrative oversight**
 - 1) Fiscal policy
 - 2) Personnel
 - 3) Publication and distribution

WORLD SERVICE OFFICE

- 1. **Executive director**
- a. **Liaison between WSO staff and WSB**
- b. **Reports and newsletters**, to members of the various national conferences
- c. **Public information**
- d. **Direct supervision of administrative operations**
 - 1) Personnel
 - 2) Accounting
 - 3) Travel coordination
 - 4) Logistical coordination for events (WSB meetings, WSA meetings, development workshops)
- 2. **Departments**
- a. **Development services**
 - 1) respond to requests for information from new groups, new service committees
 - 2) facilitate contacts between new communities and developed movements nearby
 - 3) coordinate development workshops, conducted by various leaders from developed movements nearby
- b. **Translations and permissions**
 - 1) Assist national committees working on translations
 - 2) Coordinate in-house translation work
 - 3) Review translations for faithfulness to original
 - 4) Review new material for faithfulness to N.A. message
 - 5) Review use of N.A. trademarks
- c. **Publication production and distribution**--typesetting, printing, binding, warehousing, sales, export of all N.A. literature

ALBUQUERQUE-2 REVIEW MATERIAL

World Service Board

INTRODUCTION

The World Service Board (WSB) has three primary functions. First, it coordinates assistance for emerging N.A. communities, either by linking those young communities with more mature ones, coordinating development workshops, or making translation and production services for N.A. literature available for those communities which are not capable of supporting their own. Second, the board helps safeguard the integrity of the N.A. message, both in the course of reviewing translations and adaptations of existing N.A. materials, and in reviewing new materials developed by national communities. And third, the world board serves as a liaison between N.A. as a whole and other international organizations, whether they be professional, business, government, or press agencies. The World Service Board is assisted in its work by the staff of the World Service Office, for which the board is responsible.

INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS

The World Service Board hosts N.A.'s **World Assembly**, a world sharing session, every three years. Attending are delegates from the various national service conferences around the world, along with representatives of less-developed national communities. Participants share their country's service challenges and solutions with one another, and discuss issues of broad importance to the development of Narcotics Anonymous around the globe.

The board also hosts the **World Convention** for Narcotics Anonymous. Held every five years, the convention is a fellowshipwide recovery celebration. Proceeds from the convention go to support the World Service Board's international development activities.

HOW THE BOARD IS ORGANIZED, AND HOW IT WORKS

The World Service Board for Narcotics Anonymous is a corporation established to serve on behalf of the entire N.A. Fellowship. The full board meets at least once a year, though it may meet more often. Its members are elected from nominees offered by established national N.A. communities, and its general officers are elected by the board itself from among those members. The officers serve between full board meetings as an executive committee, overseeing the ongoing work of the World Service Office in carrying out the board's policies.

The world board has a minimum of twelve voting members. Members serve three-year terms, and may serve more than one term. Each established national

service conference is entitled to nominate at least one voting member to the World Service Board.¹ A newly-established national conference may send a non-voting representative to the board; once that national conference has been in existence for five years, it may nominate a voting member to the World Service Board.² The participation of non-voting representatives of new conferences on the board helps the WSB better support these new service bodies as they develop into full maturity.

The world board has the ability to recognize *associate members*--representatives of those national N.A. communities which have not yet developed to the point of being able to support a national service system of their own. Though associate members do not vote in meetings of the World Service Board, they do have a voice and may share the concerns of the fellowship in their countries.

The authority to perform services affecting N.A. worldwide is delegated to the World Service Board by the various national conferences, and the board is directly accountable to them. However, in the words of our Seventh Concept of Service, the WSB has "the ability to determine which decisions fall within [its] own defined authority and which will be brought back to the [national conferences] for further consultation." The board reports its activities in its newsletter, the *World Service Quarterly*, mailed to registered participants of all the national service conferences.

SERVICES TO DEVELOPING NATIONAL COMMUNITIES

One of the primary responsibilities of the World Service Board is to provide basic development services to young and growing national N.A. communities. Sometimes, that means putting trusted servants in young N.A. communities in touch with more developed national N.A. communities nearby, so that service and recovery experience can be passed along. The board organizes workshops for new service committees forming in countries without a national service structure. These workshops are usually conducted by experienced N.A. members from neighboring countries.

The board also provides limited material support to developing national communities. The WSB assists service committees in these countries in translating and adapting existing N.A. recovery and service literature. It keeps a small stock of translated literature on hand at the World Service Office, and, when necessary, provides such material to brand new N.A. communities at little or no cost. When a national service structure approaches the point where it can print and distribute literature itself, the World Service Board helps make the necessary arrangements.

¹ Should only four national communities have established national service conferences by the time the Guide goes into effect, then each of the four will nominate three candidates for service on the world board. Should six conferences exist, each will nominate two members. Should twelve or more exist, each member-conference will have only one seat on the board.

² All national service conferences existing at the time the International Service Charter goes into force will be eligible to nominate at least one voting member of the World Service Board. The provision for a probationary period for new national conferences shall apply only to conferences established after the charter goes into effect.

THE AUTONOMY OF NATIONAL COMMUNITIES

The International Service Charter for N.A. describes the foundations upon which our fellowship maintains its identity from nation to nation. The charter offers simple descriptions of each element of the service structure, from group to world, broadly applicable to the way Narcotics Anonymous conducts itself in any country. Also included in the charter are the philosophical cornerstones of the N.A. Fellowship: our Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts for Service. The International Charter describes the barest essentials which a national recovery community must abide by in order to be recognized as a part of our worldwide fellowship. Beyond what is described in the charter, a national N.A. community is entirely free to develop on its own, in a way consistent with its national culture, geography, language, and law.

TRANSLATING AND ADAPTING EXISTING N.A. LITERATURE, AND DEVELOPING NEW MATERIAL

All N.A. literature--including the N.A. Basic Text, *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*, and our book on the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, *It Works: How and Why*--is copyrighted by the World Service Board, and is held in trust by the board on behalf of the entire fellowship worldwide.³ The board charges a nominal royalty fee for the right to reprint N.A. literature; those royalties provide the vast majority of the funds the WSB needs for its development work.

Each national community is encouraged to translate and adapt existing Narcotics Anonymous recovery literature and service aids to meet its own needs. To insure that challenges in the translation process can be met before they develop into crises, indigenous service boards and committees engaging in the translation and adaptation of existing N.A. materials are encouraged to contact the WSB through the World Service Office as early in the process as possible. Translated and adapted literature, once complete, must be submitted to the WSB for review prior to publication, to insure consistency with the original material and with the International Service Charter.

National communities are also encouraged to develop new literature of their own. The only requirement regarding development of such material is that it be consistent with the International Charter. As is the case with translated and adapted materials, new literature developed independently by the various national communities must be submitted for review to the World Service Board prior to publication, to insure consistency with the charter. Once reviewed, the national community which developed the new material is free to publish it. The World

³ The World Service Board also maintains ownership of the fellowship's registered trademarks, including the name Narcotics Anonymous and its translated forms and the various N.A. logos.

Service Board will copyright the new material and hold it in trust for use by the entire N.A. Fellowship.

From time to time, conflicts may arise from a World Service Board decision concerning a new or translated piece of N.A. literature and its consistency with the International Charter. In such cases, a special arbitration panel will attempt to settle the conflict. The panel, whose members are selected at the World Assembly, is composed of five national delegates, each from a different country. Should the panel's attempts at reconciliation prove unsuccessful, the matter will appear on the agenda of the next World Assembly, and the decision then arrived at will be final.

world2.doc, December 10, 1989

INPUT ON NATIONAL SERVICES FROM 1990 GTS WORKSHOPS

PHILADELPHIA

Discussion stemmed around the Conference publishing on its own authority. What can or cannot be published?

Member: By offering the option of this it's assuming that these members see the concerns of the fellowship around the world and this shows more than trust. We're depriving ourselves of the input of our fellowship.

Member: It's about trust period and anonymity that everybody is equal. I will not not trust. I do want to see literature. We need to free up the literature committee to do this. We need a change to get literature.

Member: It's my experience that I'm told we don't want to give this trust and it's not spiritual if we don't. The challenge we have is it makes perfect sense to delegate authority everywhere else in the world but they don't have a disease. We have a responsibility to police ourselves. We have a challenge to set up our own service structure. I would say my challenge to you on the committee is one of your responsibilities is to think positively and think about the worse case scenario. There's a balance that's not the result of fear but considerations.

Member: This is going to be with us for a long time. I've seen motions with the best of intent when the intent doesn't mean a thing when it's passed like the H&I handbook. I can't leave things so wide open. I can't go by what I hear. I have to go by what I read. We've talked about dealing with guidelines later after this has been applied and that scares me.

Member: I'd like to reiterate our responsibility to protect those we serve selflessly. We need to have more in place to do this.

Member: I hear you saying black or white.

Member: It's just a concept that I want to keep at the forefront of everything. I've seen people get burnt out.

Member: I don't think it's fair that you as a committee who have served for years and you tell us, that have been together for a weekend, "What else?" This fellowship didn't teach me to trust you it taught me to trust God. That's the problem that keeps coming up. What's in the middle will take time to input on.

Member: Let me see if I have this straight. blah, blah, blah. This isn't going to fly in the Greater Philadelphia region. I feel confident that I'm speaking for my region. A lot of members feel that world services at the present time is incestuous. This scenario presents something that could make this much worse and perpetuate itself for a long time. Is it appropriate for five members to be the only ones who nominate a board that will be in trust of our world services? All other points of the Guide are negotiable up to this point except this one. This brings back the point of literature. I have a problem with the nomination committee and the makeup. If it was made up of the same proportion of 2/3, 1/3 I'd be able to think about that.

Member: I see this as making it even more personality.

Member: I'd want a lot of rotation on this committee.

Member: Regarding trust, you're asking for something you've already taken and done what you want to with. There's some good points in here but there's too many loose ends.

Member: I still say some things in here I like and then there's some things that are real iffy and some things are no way. There doesn't seem to be any compromise, understanding not everyone will like everything. I don't see my home group doing a lot of these things. Like the nomination board of trustees, we already think it's a personality contest and your talking about a small circle of people.

Member: I think it's incumbent on us to let our people speak their minds. The nomination process is a valid concern. I'd like my region to look at a way to include other groups into this.

Member: I look at this and I'm wondering if it's just my home group that feels this way. Through your travels how many people are for this?

Member: How critical is the one we have now? And it's still in existence? At what level is it non-functional the worse?

Member: (Dave) I've heard people make assertions that some places are already implementing this. What steps has the world service body taken against the unapproved application of this? It seems the world services needs to take some steps against the premature application of this. Can the previous input on this guide be made available to the general fellowship? There is a motion that the WSO maintain an archive file and you call there and you can't get it.

Member: (Dave) If we implement this system and it changes then we'll have everyone going back to relearn.

Member: (Dave) Reuben made a report that this is not to be used but that was buried in a lot of other things. I think the committee should explain this again.

Member: Now I'm depressed. I came to learn about twelve concepts. I thank you people but I still don't know if I should bring this back for review. I can bring it to the region and what happens after the region is not up to me. A lot of us want to get this thing over with and find out what's going on.

Member: I was listening to Becky say that it was more critical at the world, then how much of this changes what they do at the world now? I think it was a good job done in the areas and groups. You took out parts between the world and the regional assembly, but what's to prevent it from happening the same way again?

Member: Yesterday what concept gives the ability to the board or committee.(???) The only change I see is it takes it away from **one** of the boards and gives it to **the** board. So what's to prevent it from happening again?

Member: Let's just change that system.

COLUMBUS**National Services in the United States**

Member: If we are going to be task oriented then the board should be tasked oriented. (This is discussion about non-addict trustees.) Why limit the non-addict trustees? Whether it is a trustee or board of director--why not look at the way the rest of the world finds there trustees and directors. Are we limiting ourselves? The same question comes up from the generic section.

Member: The literature process, I got some real concerns on how this is presented. What comes back and what doesn't. In the study guide it talks about the development of literature. I think we have problems in the past with just a committee developing literature. How is this going to be developed. Will there be a specific plan for the development of literature that will be included in the guide down the line?.

Member: Could you explain how the delegate review panels will work? I read this but I didn't understand it. Are they responsible to the conference? Is it like a steering committee?

Member: I need clarification. Non addict trusted servants. Do special workers get voting rights because they are special workers or that they are trusted servants? On page 70 under Trusted servants line 28-31. What is the response to this? Does this conflict with our seventh tradition? There seems to be conflict with self-support and the non-addict. In discussion at the world level, in the area of subcommittees, on page 88. Is part of the service board made up of trustees? On subcommittees listed on page 89 are these two subcommittees? Is the BOT PI or the Conference PI? The BOT subcommittee directs the national board? The office should only do what the conference directs it to do. They don't have any say then in what is done?

Member: On three corporations, office, magazine, and convention --do you think that the united states we would keep the services we have now? Would we keep national service office and the world service office--both of these at the same place it is now? Do you for see a lot of little branches of the national offices springing up? Under the national magazine would we own it?

Member: How are all the trustee committees placed? How are the rest of the committees placed? By appointment? How do we staff trustee committees? There is almost certain non-addict trustees will be elected? I foresee the same servants serving is there adequate rotation? How are delegate review panels funded? If they are not funded by the NSB, then you will have those that can not attend. What would be the make-up of the finance committee? Are those people appointed by the NSB? That hasn't really been fleshed out by the committee? The conference advisory actions, p. 84 line 19-21. Too closed ended. Will it be addicts or non-addicts involved in the writing of our literature. There are those times that it is vital to know what process is being used. More qualifying information here.

Member: page 83, line 31-32, Is there any way to come this to what we are doing know?

Member: In Arlington some one talk about creating a position for an auditor that would have access to all of the records as a system of checks and balances? Do we have that?

Member: Page 89-90, as far as a delegate they serve in two capacities, correct? If the conference doesn't feel comfortable with an appointment could they over turn that decision?

Member: The yearly meeting will be funded by the national service conference?

Member: Trustee committees directing the work and staff doing the work sounds better. In the literature process, I am thrilled that major works will go back to the groups. Lets have an I.P. "What's the staff for?"

Member: The international part has a gapping hole. Do you want input on that? Metroservice, special workers, the national magazine, world services could use more input?

Member: Who decides how much assistance we want to get our international fellowship? Perhaps maybe we need to decide what level the national conference is going to function on?

Member: Has there been discussion on how this would work? example 2 U.S., 3 days international. National service conference is talking about being funded as far as transportation, have there been any plans to figure what that would be implemented? National autonomy primarily within the U.S., we are talking financial decision making? It is murky about what autonomy means? Are we a national or U.S. fellowship?

Member: The question I heard in Arlington, should we continue to be involve in international fellowship concerns? By staying involved are we helping them grow to fast before they are ready? Maybe AA has made the right decision by deciding not to get involved. We have a hell of a mark up on our literature. We by literature cheaper from Hazeltine than the WSO.

Member: We spend 288,000 we approve a budget of 400,000--if this would be implemented has anyone decided what a ball park figure would be?

SEATTLE

NATIONAL SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

Member: I'd like to see the portion on national services in the United States added to this chapter.

Member: There is a plan for developing one in the United States?

Member: There's a lot of faith implied in this thing.

AMERICAN NATIONAL SERVICES CONFERENCE AND BOARD

Member: Was this idea before Canada came up with their own national conference? Does anyone want to see a United States conference?

Member: So the board of directors will be swallowed up? So will there be more trustees because isn't the board of directors more of a hands on thing? So the board of trustees will change to compensate these?

Member: It seems like this would take a more regular meeting.

Member: One of the concerns I have is your placing a lot of responsibility on one body. First of all they're not paid and second of all they don't meet regular enough. How many will there be and how many will be non-addicts? Personally I have nothing against non-addict trustees to be used as needed.

Member: Why did you decide to keep the BOT and have them as the governing body over the office while everybody else is away rather than the BOD?

Member: With the BOT having approximately 30 members, how many of those need to be at a particular meeting to conduct business?

Member: Regarding the BOD being members of the BOT, will they still be a separate board?

Member: With the BOD being a subcommittee what will their purpose be? Basically the same thing they do now with also being a member of the BOT who oversees everything.

Member: Under the plan now the BOD elect 2/3 of their members. Will this be the same? All the members of the BOT will be elected by the conference and the BOT amongst themselves will elect the BOD and all of the subcommittees? Will all the subcommittee chairs come out of the BOT? So a chair of a subcommittee first needs to be elected to the BOT? And you don't need to be a conference participant to be elected to the BOT?

Member: We asked a while ago what a non-addict trustee would be able to offer and we were answered they didn't know.

Member: I think ten non-addicts on our BOT would be too much.

NSB INCORPORATED ACCOUNTABLE TO THOSE IT SERVES

Member: What system are you basing this on?

Member: I want to admit that I'm a little boggled and I would like to see some information on what this really means, the delegate review panel.

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTION

Member: So it's to be assumed that if the national conference wants a book on whatever they would give it to the trustees?

Member: Has there been any talk about incorporating our own printing system?

Member: How would you see that coming back if someone said the trustees screwed up?

Member: We would only see that at the conference level only? That's the only time of the year for redress?

Member: Are there still going to be individual reports from each committee without being washed by the BOT? There just won't be one report from the BOT?

Member: Will the delegates come from the conference?

Member: Where is priority set?

Member: So the trustees can direct staff?

Member: Once again I can see a whole lot being learned after the first year of implementation and probably there will be revisions to this.

APPROVAL OF LITERATURE

Member: Maybe the biggest functions would be the review process. I strongly support that there should be a final look see by the WSC.

Member: In this whole thing there seems to be a certain element of fear that is or isn't justified in this issue and turning some of this stuff over.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD BY THE TRUSTEES

Member: Once you are elected from the body would that region have to replace you? You couldn't be a delegate and serve on the BOT but you don't have to be a delegate first to be on the BOT?

Member: Did you discuss a minimum number of trustees?

Member: Are you going to sit and discuss guidelines for these committees? Will there be more books on how the BOT and subcommittees will redo their guidelines? Hasn't a lot of the WSC committees been tied up writing guidelines?

Member: Is there a set number of members that can be on a subcommittee?

TRUSTEE COMMITTEES

NSB SUBSIDIARY CORPORATIONS

Member: Is the idea that we in the U.S. will absorb the expenses of those nations that can handle their own?

Member: There will be a director for the magazine and convention corporations?

Member: If you're going to set up a corporation to protect N.A. why not just have one. Why would you need to set up all these separate ones?

Member: The executive director is just an employee, not a member of the board of trustees?

DELEGATE REVIEW PANEL

Member: It would meet right along with the committee?

Member: It said the NSB would appoint those delegates to the review panel?

ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEETING

CONFERENCE ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Member: I see there are two non-addicts elected by the board itself. What was the purpose of that? It's saying the board itself must elect two. You kind of got rigid there. Wouldn't it be better if it said the board can elect up to two. I thought the requirement for clean time was also rigid when you said you wanted to leave it as open as possible previously.

Member: About the nominations panel being formed of prior trustees, they will just be an advisory-type thing? Since you were getting more specific, was there any discussion of how many will be elected to the trustees each year?

Member: When will we see some of the transition plan?

Member: Everytime it mentions NSB you are talking about the BOT?

Member: All of the things regarding number of trustees and when elected, etc. will have to be included in bylaws?

Member: Does that mean if a region nominates someone the rest of the nation might not know because the nominations panel might not nominate them. I'd like them to list everyone that was nominated and then list their recommendations.

Member: It doesn't say the nominations panel is the only place a nomination can come from. Nominations could be put forth and then this nomination panel could review them. Maybe nominations would be possible through the year by mail. Maybe nominations could be made from the floor by the delegates. Does it need to be spelled out that there is a possibility of a vacancy on such a date and this review member is a possibility.

NSB MEETINGS

Member: How soon do the agendas go out?

INPUT TO NATIONAL SERVICES

Member: I like it. I like that they spelled it out.

Member: It means that every year there won't be a conference agenda item list to go through.

ATLANTA

NATIONAL SERVICES IN THE UNITED STATES

CONFERENCE ADVISORY ACTION

APPROVAL OF LITERATURE

Member: Can you read that last line again, please. [Only rarely does the NSB decide to publish something on their own authority.] ATTN: AD HQC COMMITTEE!!! What does this mean, I.P.'s, articles, manuals, etc.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD BY THE TRUSTEES

Member: Maybe you could put in here some of the grounds for doing this.

Member: Would trustees be voting on recalling themselves? In light of the still smoldering embers of Motion 11, I just have to bring this up.

SINGLE BOARD MODEL

Member: So we're combining WSC, WSB, & WSO Board into one board, the NSB?

TRUSTEE COMMITTEES

Member: So there's going to be a lot of workshops going on to inform the delegates, the RCM's, etc.

Member: Are these to write literature or adopt policy?

Member: What is sounds like is what happened at the last quarterly, sharing sessions and stuff. Is the same thing going to happen in October in Van Nuys? Will you guys be there?

NSB SUBSIDIARY CORPORATIONS

Member: How many trustees are we electing?

Member: This is a different entity than the world convention? Is there any thought about making the world convention less than an annual event?

DELEGATE REVIEW PANELS

Member: What would be the process for developing and approving literature? I'm really going to have a problem with the Florida Region. They want to input, come up with ideas, and maybe be in control. They feel like they get a better feel of the fellowship if they have some control.

Same Member: I wanted to ask you about that, since I'd heard the Trustees have the traditions project now.

Member: I want to share that I'm involved in lit review committees, and I like this idea presented here. We've been working on "Living Clean" since probably before I was born and we're never going to have it approved if we keep using this process.

Member: I don't think there's a problem with who writes it as long as it's good.

KANSAS CITY

NATIONAL SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

Dave gave a description of World Services as it is now, the three-headed monster, etc.

Member: How would the National Convention Corporation work?

Member: When you refer to the NSB, that's the trustees and stuff. Is there going to be a WSB? I'm having trouble envisioning the trustees as a national board. What is their job description anyway?

Member: So the Board of Trustees would be changed to the NSB and the committees will be trustee committees?

Member: So we won't have conference committees? Are we going to have more trustees? I'm not sure that's the reason we're having trouble electing trustees.

Member: Will we have world trustees, like maybe national trustees from all over serving on this board?

Member: Can you put the groups at the top of that chart?

Member: Can you put the addict who still suffers over the groups?

TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

Member: I'm not much for math, but that's not the way the first part of that reads.

Member: I have a hard time accepting that these people can be reelected where in everything else we're stressing rotation. One term and they should be out of there. The committee's pretty secure about having the same person for 8 years?

Member: Isn't there a simpler way to say this 1/3-2/3 thing? What happens when... How often are all delegates present at the NSB? Is this available votes or real numbers?

Same Member: The trustees get their way paid for, though!

Same Member: So in practicality, the trustees could have more than 1/3 of the votes? What's the ratio now?

Member: I'm not sure what the WSC policy is, so if you're trying to change to the policy on what these guys do, you'd have to have 100% of the regions voting to pass something by a 2/3 vote.

Member: (Expressed concern about the trustees voting in a block)

Same Member: How can a trustee be removed? If it will take 2/3 to remove a trustee or the whole board, well.....

Member: It's not that big of a deal, but I can see the concern. There's a lot of things that require 2/3 and if 2/3 are delegates.... I just have to believe that if all the delegates voted one way and all the trustees voted the other, that something is really wrong. I don't think that would happen unless we elect thirty assholes to be trustees.

Dave explained that people will need to look at the rest of this material and talk about such issues as trust. Dave thanked everyone for coming and expressed gratitude, love and good will.

Input for Restructure of the World Service Conference

The purpose of this input is an idea of structuring the WSC to have an even or equal service conference of a global nature.

A more balanced representation of a global equality could be accomplished through continental representation of the following nature.

The actual delegates in its entirety from each continent would be comprised of 8 continental representatives, 2 trustees, 2 administrators, 2 representatives of all standing subcommittees of the WSC. As needs of the fellowship and or service structure changes, addition or elimination of committees could be implemented.

There seems to be a disparity of representation at the World Service Conference.

It's been a U.S. Service Conference since its inception with invitations from any other countries to form a service structure.

There's been no clear definition of what a service body i.e., country, state or area is comprised of.

In years gone by, a country with one group had a voice at the conference. That was a noble gesture on behalf of the conference that year, but was it practical or fair, or was it just an emotional decision of the moment?

Some of the issues of discussion at the World Service Conference have little or no regard to a growing fellowship that has an entirely different way of life i.e., political systems, cultural, or societal background.

In the past this was the responsibility of the board of the trustees to look out for the concerns of those who have not been informed of recovery through the spiritual fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. However experienced in recovery through NA our past and existing trustees are, are they also experienced in these sometimes obstacles i.e., language, laws of other nations, cultures of other nations, to look out for their best interests?

As the formation of WSC evolved, our service arms of the fellowship have gained in experience through trial and error, through some good, brilliant and, not sometimes so good decisions during conference week.

At that particular conference week of that particular year, the best attempt of serving the requests, needs and desires of the fellowship are met with the representation as we know it. However, representation with a vote on the floor has been a majority of North Americans, the U.S. being the greatest.

The continental representation would resolve this issue. The means of determining who would represent would be up to that continent's conscience. All group conscience would still be through those continental representatives.

The means of collection of the conscience of groups would lie in what would work for that continent.

The length of position would have to be uniform to allow rotation of trusted servants. There should be a limit to service in any position at the World Service Conference.

All tasks, assignments, new literature would be based on donations, income sales that are accrued through calendar year. A review of budgets in regards to funds would be received for 90 days by either the entire participants or the administrative committee to determine what is to be accomplished. The need of subcommittees and the boards to meet would be up to the availability of funds prior to the conference.

There would be times when desires of some would not be accomplished due to a lack of funding, however, future conferences might be provided with the means.

The World Service Conference should be an annual event. The continental assembly or conference would not necessarily meet annually. That is in accord with their own autonomy.

The voice and representation of what we now know as a region would be up to the autonomy of that continental assembly.

Those more experienced in length of time as far as service in NA now might find fault with this new concept - that a majority of the conference would be inexperienced in NA service as they understand it. However, in those sparsely populated continents there are needs that only those residents have experience in.

Do we allow equality at the WSC based on a spiritual fellowship evolving during that conference year to the point that they are required to have a certain population of recovering addicts? A certain amount of years of service experience to be heard at the WSC to help with the growth of NA as a whole?

There are sometimes unspoken things that are felt by all the participants. When this has been broached (the disparity of outside of WS participants at the conference) have we not all felt, are we doing the right thing? It is a question all past, present and future participants must ask until equality is attained.

This proposed conference would be equal in representation, a fair and equitable system of participation globally.

In the temporary working guide to our service structure, the WSC is described as "an event - the coming together". The new representation previously described would be a true coming together.

It is not known how this falls in line in regards to the twelve concepts or a guide to service and is offered for consideration when these are written or rewritten for inclusion. This previously described WSC would not evolve without a degree of difficulty. A lot of obstacles could be invented to hamper equal efforts. A lot would have to be "laid on the table" besides motions. Representatives would have to leave a variety of detrimental characteristics, such as bias, prejudice, preconceived conclusions, ego, etc. before entering the conference room. This type of "coming together" might create a resounding growth that might not be achieved for generations.

WSC Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service Report to the 1991 World Service Conference

The following is our report to the 1991 annual meeting of the World Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous. Since the last conference, we held six multi-regional workshops on our work, and have made significant changes to the Twelve Concepts for N.A. Service. As a result of our discussions and the input we have received at the multi-regional workshops, we have also revised our schedule for the completion of the *Guide*.

This year, the committee was chaired by Reuben Farris, who has served four years on the committee. Others on the committee were Chuck Lehman (four years on the committee), Dave Tynes (five years), Debbie Ott (three years), Becky Meyer (two years plus), David Taylor (two years plus), Walter Johnson (one year), Jon Thompson (one year), and Mario Tesoriero (one year). David Taylor and Mario Tesoriero attended one meeting each. During the rest of the year, they were corresponding members of the committee. Leo Smothers, a member of our committee for three years, stepped down after last year's conference. We extend our appreciation for his years of dedication to our work.

The committee held seven meetings and six multi-regional workshops this year. Six of the seven committee meetings were held in Van Nuys, and one was held in Arlington during the first quarterly meeting of the conference. The following lists our meetings and workshops: **(Note: The dates for which no location is listed represent committee meetings held in Van Nuys.)**

1990: June 16-17, July 13-15 (Arlington), August 24-26 (Philadelphia Workshop), September 7-9 (Columbus Workshop), September 14-16 (Seattle Workshop), September 21-23 (Atlanta Workshop), October 5-7 (Kansas City Workshop), October 12-14, October 26-28 (Southern California Workshop), November 17-18, December 8-9.

1991: January 12-13, March 22-24.

We have worked very hard this year. The workshops and the input received have given us much helpful guidance in revising the Twelve Concepts. This has been a year for us to reconsider some of our previous decisions, and to reaffirm some others.

Progress of our work

During this past year, we have received a considerable amount of input on the Spring '90 edition of *A Guide to Service in Narcotics Anonymous*, including the Twelve Concepts. In keeping with the schedule contained in last year's version, we focused primarily on the Twelve Concepts. Our task was to **consider** the input we've received and prepare the approval version of the concepts. In doing so, we quickly saw that a fairly major revision was in order. This revision would not only affect the essays accompanying the concepts, but the wording and order

of the concepts themselves. We realized that, with those changes, we could not in good conscience release this draft as the approval version. We felt strongly that the fellowship needed to have another chance to review the Twelve Concepts and provide input prior to our **preparing** the approval form. As a result, we are releasing the Twelve Concepts for fellowship review and comment until September 1, 1991. After that date, we will **consider** in the input received and **prepare** the approval version for the January 1992 *Conference Agenda Report* for action at the 1992 World Service Conference.

Other sections of the *Guide* that we discussed at some length included the regional and world chapters, and the issue of metro-services. We will discuss the world services chapter later in this report. We have not as yet had the opportunity to address the input on the group, area, and national sections of the *Guide*.

Some of our discussions about regional service centered on regional assemblies, the need for some regions to have subcommittees, and specific terminology for trusted servants at the area and regional level. As a result of the input received, we realized that the Spring 1990 chapter appears to discourage regions from having subcommittees. We still strongly believe that regional committees should be essentially a forum for the exchange of information by the various areas within that region. However, there are instances where subcommittees would have to exist on a regional level to deal with the coordination of state or provincial relations and, in some cases, to offer direct services where the delivery of such services may not be handled by area subcommittees. Another example not previously mentioned is that of services being provided in rural and geographically isolated territories. In those cases, a regional outreach committee may need to be formed to provide services that the member-areas may not be able to provide.

Our discussions regarding terminology for trusted servants at the regional level focused on the input received from the workshops and other sources, which stated that many of the participants at the workshops and other respondents were either confused about the terminology or objected to the similarity between these terms and those used by other fellowships. **We will continue to review the appropriateness of the terminology used in our future discussions regarding this section.**

On the topic of **delegate recognition by a national conference**, we held to our original thought of having geopolitical boundaries. **For example, it would be possible to form** state assemblies and state committees in the U.S., with these entities having the same general purpose as the regional level of service described in the current draft of the *Guide*. In regard to the recognition of conference delegates, one option discussed was that each state would have one delegate, and those states which have very large numbers of groups would have more than one conference delegate. We felt that the manner of determining which states would qualify for additional delegates, and how many delegates they may be entitled to, would be determined by the **American national conference**. **However, these discussions were of a preliminary nature. We will need to have extensive discussion on this and other areas before completing the regional chapter.**

In discussing the revisions to **this** chapter, we talked at some length about metro or shared services. We discussed the idea that, if state assemblies and committees were to be formed, then metropolitan areas could go ahead and form "regions" for the sole purpose of delivering direct services citywide. However, we still do not feel that we have sufficient information to provide answers to those areas and regions that are experiencing difficulties in this area. Some of the questions that have come up include: How do you provide services in a metro area when there is more than one ASC? How do you deal with ASC meetings that have in excess of 60-100 GSRs present? How do you meet the needs of groups in such areas? The primary answer thus far has been that when N.A. grows in large areas, a split occurs. However, the way to coordinate services among all the areas involved has not been answered sufficiently. **We feel that the problem experienced by such areas is one of the major problems facing our service structure today, and will need to be focused on at some length.** As a result, we are proposing to have a workshop later in the **1991-1992 conference year**, and invite representatives from six or seven of these areas and regions to provide us with information. **Additionally, if you have any information that may be helpful to us in this area, please mail it to us in care of the WSO.**

World services

One of our tasks for this past year was the completion of this section of the *Guide*. However, as we started to address the world services chapter, we came up against some questions that we could not answer ourselves, questions that needed to be answered before we could proceed with our work. The primary questions were listed in the November 1990 *Fellowship Report* and the 1991 *Conference Agenda Report*. In this report we will list those questions again and discuss some of the difficulties we experienced in trying to answer them.

1. *What do we want world services to do?*

Some of our discussions included the purpose, function, and composition of various proposed world service bodies and their relationships to the proposed national entities as well as with each other. One major area of discussion about this topic that we were divided on is the function of the proposed World Service Assembly. Some of us held that the Assembly should be a sharing session, a place where national delegates can discuss with one another their experience in administering services in their respective countries. There were others of us who held that in addition to being a sharing session, the World Service Assembly should also be the body which provided direction and oversight to the World Service Board of Trustees. They held that if the World Service Assembly was a deliberative body as well as a sharing session, then they would have to meet more regularly than triennially to fulfill their function.

In other discussions, some committee members held that the new World Service Board of Trustees would be essentially a body holding philosophical discussions, while some members felt that world services had a responsibility to **actively** carry the message worldwide. When the discussions turned to the functions of a national/world service office, the committee ran into some of the same difficulties it faced in the past. One area was the responsibility of production

and sale of literature--is it the function of a national service office or a world service office? This brought up some aspects of the next question.

2. *What "control" is the U.S. fellowship willing to give up?*

In our discussions, we did not know whether the N.A. community in the U.S. would be willing to have the World Service Office control the publishing, and distribution of N.A. literature and therefore the control of the funding for the majority of world services, without having a significant presence in the World Service Assembly and on the World Service Board of Trustees. Would the American N.A. community be willing to be equal to other national movements? Or would the N.A. fellowship in the U.S. want a representation-by-population type of administration in world services? Would the American N.A. community still wish to oversee the process that maintains the integrity of the N.A. message during translation of existing literature or the development of new pieces of literature, **regardless of its origin**? Would the term "conference-approved" mean U.S.-approved or World Service Conference/Assembly-approved? Would the N.A. fellowship in the U.S. be willing to pay royalties for **the right to publish** literature?

We recognized that answers to these questions could only come from the WSC or the American N.A. community, and probably only after considerable discussion about their implications.

3. *What financial support is the U.S. fellowship willing to provide to emerging N.A. communities?*

In discussing the world services chapter, we reached consensus that one of the functions of the proposed world level of service should be the coordination of fellowship outreach to developing N.A. communities. We also felt that **some** national communities **may never** reach the point at which they could contribute financially at the same level as the U.S. The U.S. community **will** need to provide the **majority of the** funds necessary for development services, such as providing literature at reduced **or no** cost to emerging N.A. communities, coordinating development workshops, and assisting in the translation of literature, among others. We did not, however, know how to proceed in this area, as it has not been discussed at any length by the WSC or the fellowship.

4. *What do we all understand as "self-support?"*

This question arose out of discussions about "self-support" as implied by the Seventh Tradition. Does this tradition apply to the fellowship as a whole, including the service structure, or **only** to individual groups, areas, regions, and national communities? **Is each group, area, region, and national community supposed to fund itself only?** Or, does this tradition just simply mean that **N.A. at any level ought not accept contributions of any type from non-N.A. sources?**

5. *Should one N.A. community subsidize another?*

As we talked about "self-support," we began to discuss the propriety of subsidization of one N.A. community by another. Should an N.A. group subsidize--that is financially support--another N.A. group? What about areas, regions, and national entities? **Does the fulfillment of our primary purpose**

imply that we are supposed to subsidize one another to help carry the message? In some sections of the fellowship, it is generally held that non-financial support of an N.A. entity by another is acceptable, but that subsidization is not in keeping with the Seventh Tradition. What is the opinion of the WSC and the fellowship on this issue?

In discussing the previous questions, it soon became obvious to us that we needed to ask the following question:

6. *Is a structural change needed for the WSC, or merely a change in format?*

We have had lengthy discussions during the past few years about this section of the *Guide*, particularly at our November and December '89 meetings. Some of us felt that, until the N.A. community in the U.S. forms a national conference, a structural change for the WSC would be unnecessary, and that a **change in the format of the agenda, separating U.S.-specific and non-U.S.-specific issues for deliberation**, would be sufficient. Others felt that we needed to write a world services section that would show how a new structure may be configured with a separate U.S. national conference. During our meetings this past year, when our discussions focused on the world services chapter, this same question came up. And once again, we could not arrive at a consensus. Therefore, we ask the conference to discuss this, and the other questions listed above, to help us complete our work on this chapter. We are hopeful that the International Development Forum hosted by the World Service Board of Trustees will also provide some much needed input on these questions.

Another major reason that we did not complete the world services section is related to the Twelve Concepts. Many of us felt that until the fellowship **made a decision through the WSC** about the ideas contained in the concepts--such as delegation, single point of decision, and final group authority--we would only be guessing about the type of structural arrangement the fellowship wants implemented at both the national and world levels of service.

Next year's schedule

The following list, presented here in its order of priority, contains our tasks for the next conference year:

1. Complete the approval version of Twelve Concepts for N.A. Service, in time for conference action at WSC 1992.
2. **Continue** our work on metropolitan services.
2. **Continue our work on** the approval version of the group, area, and region chapters of the *Guide*.

We feel very strongly about this list of priorities. We hold that the Twelve Concepts are the foundation upon which the Guide is based. As a result, it is extremely difficult, perhaps even presumptuous, to continue working on the Guide until the fellowship has made a decision about the Concepts. Additionally, we feel that the issues surrounding metro services have a great impact on the area and regional chapters.

In order to accomplish these tasks, we are proposing to have seven meetings. **These meetings include two meetings with the World Service Board of Trustees and the WSO Board of Directors to discuss the Twelve Concepts, a workshop on metropolitan services, and an open forum at the first WSC quarterly meeting.**

We do not, at this time, feel that we can **continue our work** on the national and world services chapters until there is a considerable amount of discussion on the questions raised in the report, and the conference acts on the Twelve Concepts in 1992. At that time, those chapters as well as a transition plan can be completed.

Conclusion

Our fellowship is undergoing incredible growth inside and outside of the U.S., and our service structure is experiencing corresponding growing pains. We see an explosion of N.A. groups in urban settings, with nothing in print to guide them in their growth. We have N.A. communities with trustees but no area level of service. Various national and continental N.A. communities are engaging in discussions vital to their growth and development, once again with no written guidance. Should we be proactive or reactive in our approach to these issues? Should we present guidance to these entities, or follow the old attitude of "Go ahead and do it, and let us know how it turns out?" Should we write a guide for our service structure that is visionary and takes into account these problems, or a guide that reflects a historical perspective, written after the struggles have occurred? We ask the conference to consider these questions in its deliberations about our work.

The Twelve Concepts for N.A. Service are in their final review stage. We plan to start working on the approval version at our September 1991 meeting. Please provide any and all input on the Concepts by September 1, 1991. We are hopeful that the level of interest we have witnessed and the nature of the comments and input we have received will continue.

We look forward to meeting you at the annual meeting in April, where we will be able to discuss the progress of our work, **and the questions raised in this report**, in a more detailed manner. We wish to take this opportunity to thank the conference for the confidence it has shown in allowing us to continue our work through completion.

In service to Narcotics Anonymous,
WSC Ad Hoc Committee on N.A. Service