



**Narcotics Anonymous
World Service Conference**

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To: All Conference Participants
From: The World Services Transition Group
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Subject: World Service Conference 1997

The purpose of this report is to recap the outcome of the discussions held at WSC 1997 about our work and to remind you of our plans for the first part of this conference year. We wish to thank all of you for the time, attention, and input that you provided to us during the conference.

Resolution A, "To approve *in principle* a change in participation at a new WSC to achieve the following objectives:

1. to reduce the total number of representatives,
2. to provide equal representation from all geographic entities; and,
3. to encourage a consensus-based decision-making process,"

As we reported to you at the conference, we do not plan to present any final work about this resolution in the 1998 *Conference Agenda Report*. We will be developing preliminary proposals that take into consideration the input we have received. We plan to have this to you by the end of 1997.

We are currently compiling and collating the information from the small group discussions and our three full conference sessions. The information that we presented to you at the end of the conference in graphs was meant to represent initial trends. It is not statistically accurate for a variety of reasons and it was never meant to be. The small group information, by design, was meant to indicate preference and provide us with direction which it accomplished.

The model to address Resolution A that conference participants stated will best serve the needs of the fellowship now was varied. Over 30% said none or no change, approximately 11% preferred Model One, 16% wanted Model Two, 24% would like to see Model Three, 7% for Model Four, and another 7% would like to see some combination of the models. Although this question was not discussed in all of the small groups, 11% of the participants expressed a desire to freeze the US and Canadian regions at their current level. One conclusion that might be drawn from this information would be that, while over 30% said none or no change, a majority of conference participants were in favor of change of some sort.

The model you preferred to serve our fellowship's needs in the future seemed to have a little more focus. Only 9% wanted no change, over 2% wanted Model Two, 30% preferred Model Three, 15% stated Model 3.5 (which could be either more than three or less than four), and 38% wanted Model Four.

We also heard additional comments from some of the members in over half of the small groups about issues that were not covered by the questions that we asked. That input asked us to look into a two year conference cycle, allow evolution and give accommodation to the other levels of our structure, the desire to keep alternates involved at the conference, a desire to have the conference focused on issues and sharing of experience, a concern for how we would fund ourselves and requests to focus on our current financial difficulties and address structural changes in the future.

The small group discussions about the World Board and the original role of the World Service Board of Trustees stated that approximately 20% of conference participants want to see this role assigned to the World Board as a whole, 5% wanted this assigned to another World Board committee, and 32% wanted to see this role assigned to a specific group within the World Board. Additionally, we received input from some of the groups who wanted to see this specific group directly elected by the WSC. Twenty-four percent of the active participants assigned to small groups favored this idea. But since all groups did not discuss this issue, we did not display this data with the percentages from the three standardized questions.

The primary focus of our work this year will be to finalize our work on Resolutions B, C-2, E, F, and G for presentation in the 1998 *Conference Agenda Report*. These resolutions pertain to the World Board, significantly downsized standing committees directly responsible to the World Board, a unified budget for all of world services, a human resource panel and a world pool. We will complete drafts on these five resolutions for mailing to you by August 15th. Further discussion and input on these resolutions will occur at the World Services Meeting, August 29th and 30th in Providence, Rhode Island.

We will use all of the information that we received at the conference, the input that many of you have sent us since, and any additional input that we receive to assist us in framing these proposals. We will continue to communicate often with all of world services, particularly with the WSB during the development of these proposals. We have two meetings scheduled prior to the World Services Meeting; June 5-7 and July 17-19. We encourage participants to forward their input to us in care of the WSO. It will take all of us working together to develop a service delivery system that will best meet the needs of our fellowship.