

WSC '99 ABBREVIATED MOTIONS LIST

For reference only

Motion 1: To select two issue discussion topics from the following list for discussion at the 2000 World Service Conference:

Presented according to conference policy, page 3

Motion 2: That Narcotics Anonymous World Services add the following Identity Statement as part of the Group Readings inventory item offered by the World Service Office.

Maker: Carolina and North East Atlantic Regions, page 5

Motion 3: To publish an illustrative pamphlet about "different types of formats for recovery meetings" through which the groups can be stimulated to establish an important time/space in their regular meetings for sharing and informing about service and other issues that affect NA as a whole.

Maker: Colombia Region, page 7

Motion 4: To allow the sale of alternate merchandise from registered NA groups, service boards, or committees during the World Convention in conjunction with the sale of World Convention Merchandise.

Maker: Mid-Atlantic Region, page 7

Motion 5: To change in the *Narcotics Anonymous White Booklet* under the section "What is the Narcotics Anonymous Program?" on page 2, second to last sentence, the language "and are under no surveillance at any time" to "and participate in no surveillance at any time."

Maker: Lone Star Region, page 8

Motion 6: That NA World Services publish the *Conference Agenda Report* a minimum of 180 days prior to the World Service Conference. Further, that translations as currently done to German, Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Swedish be completed prior to the release on that date. This policy to take effect in conjunction with the 2 year conference cycle.

Maker: New Jersey Region, page 8

Motion 7: That the price of literature sold by NAWS to registered groups, areas, or regions outside of the United States be indexed or formulated to ensure a fixed maximum currency exchange rate.

Maker: North East Atlantic Region, page 9

Motion 8: That regions be allowed up to 150 words to describe the reasoning behind and consequences of their regional motions in the *Conference Agenda Report*.

Maker: San Diego/Imperial Region, page 10

Motion 9: To create a new bullet, which would be included in the *Temporary Working Guide to our World Service Structure*, page 18, Guidelines for the Unified Budget for NA World Services between existing bullets 7 and 8. Bullet shall read, "All proposed projects pertaining to the creation of new recovery literature and service material as defined in The Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT) on page 13, will be presented through the *Conference Agenda Report*."

Maker: South Florida Region, page 10

Motion 10: To revise the NA World Services Vision Statement to: "That no addict seeking recovery need ever die."

Maker: Chesapeake/Potomac Region, page 11

Motion 11: That the World Board have one vote collectively during new business and elections at the World Service Conference, as expressed by the World Board Chair or Vice Chair in the absence of the Chair. This would be accomplished by amending the *Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure*, 1998 edition, as follows:

Maker: Chesapeake/Potomac Region, page 12

Motion 12: That during the 1999 World Service Conference the Human Resource Panel (HRP) will interview the nominees presented by the conference participants for the world board elections, by asking them the following questions listed below. This information will be

distributed to conference participants along with the resums. Any nominee not present will be interviewed by phone if available. The HRP can ask any other questions they feel pertinent.

Maker: Region of the Virginians, page 13

REGIONAL MOTIONS

The following motions have been considered by the World Board or the Human Resource Panel. *A Temporary Working Guide to our World Service Structure*, on pages 12 and 13, contains the following points about input to the World Service Conference:

- Regions are strongly encouraged to work through the World Board with their input. Experience has shown that the utilization of the broader base and experience of the conference committees allows for more adequate discussion and consideration of fellowship concerns. It should be stressed that two-way communication between the World Board and the fellowship is essential."
- Input for consideration at the conference must be submitted to the World Board one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the conference, and distributed to the fellowship for review ninety (90) days prior to the conference.

New project proposals can also be made to the WSC, and a process for these is described in the Unified Budget Section on pages 17-19. Recommendations on each of these motions by the World Board or the Human Resource Panel are listed following each motion.

Motion 2: That Narcotics Anonymous World Services add the following Identity Statement as part of the Group Readings inventory item offered by the World Service Office.

IDENTITY STATEMENT

In Narcotics Anonymous, we are presented with a dilemma. When NA members identify themselves as "addicts and alcoholics," "cross-addicted," or talk about living "clean and sober," the clarity of the NA message is blurred. To speak in this manner suggests that there are two diseases; that one drug is separate from the rest. Narcotics Anonymous makes no distinction between drugs. Our identification as addicts is all-inclusive, allowing us to concentrate on our similarities, not our differences.

The above statement is offered in the spirit of NA unity. Please remember this request is not made to rule, censor, or dictate behavior. We make this request in order to provide an atmosphere of recovery, where we can hear the simple, non-confusing, and life-saving message of Narcotics Anonymous.

Maker: Carolina Region and North East Atlantic Region

Intent by Carolina Region: To provide NA groups with an approved piece of literature to use as a tool to foster unity of purpose in their meetings.

Intent by North East Atlantic Region: To help promote unity through a clear NA message.

Financial Impact: The typesetting of the changes to the new reading cards, the *Guide to Local Services in Narcotics Anonymous*, and the *Group Booklet*.

Policy Affected: This motion would amend the following WSC policies:

A Guide to Local Services in Narcotics Anonymous

The reading "Identity Statement" would be added to the following list of readings:

Page 43, Sample Meeting Format, 2nd section, Leader:

Select people before the meeting to read one or more of the following short pieces.

These readings can be found in our White Booklet, the Basic Text, IP No. 1, or the group reading cards.

- Who Is An Addict?
- What Is The NA Program?
- Why Are We Here?
- How It Works
- The Twelve Traditions
- Just For Today

The Group Booklet

The reading "Identity Statement" would be added to the following list of readings:

Page 25, Sample Meeting Format, 3rd section, Leader:

Select people before the meeting to read one or more of the following short pieces.

These readings can be found in our White Booklet, the Basic Text, IP No. 1, or the group reading cards.

- Who Is An Addict?
- What Is The NA Program?
- Why Are We Here?
- How It Works
- The Twelve Traditions
- Just For Today

World Board Recommendation: no consensus

The World Board could not reach consensus to oppose or support this motion, or what recommendation to make although a majority were in favor to oppose. Some of the points made during our discussion included: a) that the motion could help clarify our program for the newcomer and support our unity, b) that the motion could infringe upon our groups' autonomy and should not become world services policy, c) that all of our current group readings come from approved recovery literature which has received extensive review, input, and approval by the fellowship, and d) that this is only one of many versions of this type of statement that are currently being used by our groups around the world. The World Board did agree that regardless of the action by the WSC that groups who choose to use this type of statement in their meetings should exercise their group autonomy and continue to do so. The board also believes that if the conference wants to pursue this idea, the statement should go through the input and review process used for recovery literature and be developed and approved as a piece of recovery literature.

Motion 3: To publish an illustrative pamphlet about “different types of formats for recovery meetings” through which the groups can be stimulated to establish an important time/space in their regular meetings for sharing and informing about service and other issues that affect NA as a whole.

Maker: Colombia Region

Intent: “To get” to more members, with matters of common interest, since most of them, do not attend the groups’ service meetings, nor workshops, nor service forums.

Financial Impact: It is not possible to project a financial impact without having more information about the development of this piece.

Policy Affected: This motion would not amend any WSC policies.

World Board Recommendation: To not adopt.

The World Board believes that each group should determine their meeting format and those groups who choose to discuss service information and issues during their meeting should do so. Since *A Guide to Local Services in Narcotics Anonymous* already includes many descriptions of meeting formats, we believe world services already provides ideas and that specific formats should be left to each groups discretion.

Motion 4: To allow the sale of alternate merchandise from registered NA groups, service boards, or committees during the World Convention in conjunction with the sale of World Convention Merchandise.

Maker: Mid-Atlantic Region

Intent: To have alternate merchandise available for sale throughout the World Convention instead of just on Sunday.

Financial Impact: No specific financial impact can be projected. The cost would vary from event to event and would involve significant administrative and logistical support.

Policy Affected: This motion would not amend any WSC policies.

World Board Recommendation: To not adopt

This issue has become so difficult for world services to manage that the former World Convention Corporation devoted much of its 1997 Annual Report to presenting the challenges associated with this activity to conference participants. Our world convention has grown to the point that we are now primarily dealing with convention centers with specific requirements for union labor to move material and for charging and paying sales tax for all material sold. We have been able to avoid the typical requirement for paying a percentage of sales to a convention center by limiting ourselves to merchandise that commemorates the specific event. The alternate merchandise store at the world convention has far exceeded its original intent of providing a space for regions, areas, and groups to dispose of remaining merchandise from their events and has turned into a reason to create merchandise to sell at the world convention for fundraising. We cannot support the expansion of this activity for administrative and logistical reasons, as well, as for philosophical reasons. The conference has had lengthy discussions over several years that supports our refocusing our financial efforts from relying on conventions and the sale of merchandise to being supported by group contributions.

Motion 5: To change in the *Narcotics Anonymous White Booklet* under the section “What is the Narcotics Anonymous Program?” on page 2, second to last sentence, the language “and are under no surveillance at any time” to “and participate in no surveillance at any time.”

Maker: Lone Star Region

Intent: To clarify a misleading statement in our literature.

Financial Impact: Typesetting and administrative expense of coordinating changes into all languages currently in inventory (29 items) or development

Policy Affected: This motion would amend the following WSC policies:

Narcotics Anonymous Basic Text

The following sentence would be revised:

Chapter Two, What is the Narcotics Anonymous Program?, page 9, second paragraph, the sentence: We are not connected with any political, religious, or law enforcement group, and are under no surveillance at any time.

IP #1, Who, What, How, and Why

The following sentence would be revised:

Under heading, What is the Narcotics Anonymous Program?, second paragraph, the sentence: We are not connected with any political, religious, or law enforcement group, and are under no surveillance at any time.

World Board Recommendation: To commit to the World Board

Last year the WSC adopted Motion #21: “That all motions, amendments, and any other input regarding revisions or additions to the Basic Text or the booklet *Narcotics Anonymous* (The Little White Book), be committed to the World Board who will compile and forward to the conference, in two years, a detailed proposal including options, budgets, and timelines for those options.” We believe that this material should be committed to the Motion #21 process, since it seeks to change the Little White Book, along with any other input the fellowship may have.

Motion 6: That NA World Services publish the *Conference Agenda Report* a minimum of 180 days prior to the World Service Conference. Further, that translations as currently done to German, Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Swedish be completed prior to the release on that date. This policy to take effect in conjunction with the 2 year conference cycle.

Maker: New Jersey Region

Intent: To increase the available workshop time for the *Conference Agenda Report* from 90 to 180 days. Further, to provide regions whose primary language is other than English the same amount of workshop time.

Financial Impact: There is no way to reasonably project a financial impact for this motion since we do not know all of the parameters required in a two-year system.

Policy Affected: This motion would amend the following policies:

*Temporary Working Guide to our World Service Structure**The following sentences would be revised:*

Page 12, Guidelines of the World Service Conference, Item C., Last sentence, "The actual agenda is then prepared and sent out to all WSC participants ninety (90) days in advance of the meeting."

Page 13, Guidelines of the World Service Conference, Item K., "Input for consideration at the conference must be submitted to the World Board 150 days prior to the conference, and distributed to the fellowship for review ninety (90) days prior to the conference."

Page 15, V. WSC Recovery-Literature Process, B. Approval form literature Item 1., "Approval-form literature is prepared by the World Board and is distributed for a period of time, considering translations, determined by the World Board of not less than ninety (90) days."

Page 25, Addendum 2: *The Conference Agenda Report*, First sentence, "The *Conference Agenda Report* is distributed ninety (90) days prior to the opening day of the conference."

FIPT*The following sentences would be revised:*

Page 15, Section 3, Item 1. "Proposals must be distributed to the NA groups via their regional delegates no less than ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting of the World Service Conference at which the proposals will be considered."

Page 18, Section 8, First sentence. "The Trustee must notify the Trustor at least ninety (90) days prior to any given annual World Service Conference meeting of the Trustee's intent to publish or otherwise manufacture a product based on an alteration of any trust property."

World Board Recommendation: To commit to the World Board

All of the specifics for the two-year conference cycle will be included in the 2000 *Conference Agenda Report*. This motion should be committed to the World Board who is already mandated to present this information next year. This will allow the conference to consider all of the changes to the entire system at the same time.

Motion 7: That the price of literature sold by NAWS to registered groups, areas, or regions outside of the United States be indexed or formulated to ensure a fixed maximum currency exchange rate.

Maker: North East Atlantic Region*Intent:* To ensure that addicts around the world are not burdened by increasing literature prices due to a strong US currency.*Financial Impact:* It is not possible to determine the financial impact to world services or local communities until a specific index is established.*Policy Affected:* This motion would not amend any WSC policies.*World Board Recommendation: To not adopt*

The former WSO board did extensive research into the possibility of developing an index for pricing literature worldwide. Often the country by country indexes reflected only general economic conditions not necessarily the conditions of the NA communities in those countries which could be strikingly different. (Most economic indexes would raise

pricing for some as well as lowering pricing for others.) The WSO board eventually developed continental policies that were designed to handle divergent economic conditions through discount schedules, exchange rates, shipping rates, etc. The WSO board also recognized that economic conditions change and empowered WSO Executive Management to make exceptions to the policy on a case by case basis when necessary. Because the pricing issue is so complex the conference has always left these types of issues to its responsible boards and/or committees. The sales policy is scheduled to be revisited in January 2000.

Motion 8: That regions be allowed up to 150 words to describe the reasoning behind and consequences of their regional motions in the *Conference Agenda Report*.

Maker: San Diego Imperial Region

Intent: To improve fellowship communication by allowing regions to more fully and clearly describe the reasons for making the motion and the consequences the motion entails.

Financial Impact: The financial impact would be the additional typesetting, production, and translations costs for the extra pages in the CAR that this motion would create.

Policy Affected: This motion would not amend any WSC policies.

World Board Recommendation: To adopt

We are recommending adoption of this motion to allow the conference to determine if this information is helpful in making decisions regarding motions in the CAR. However, our discussions were that this issue would best be part of the discussion about a two-year conference cycle to be considered next year, so that all policies concerning the World Service Conference and the *Conference Agenda Report* can be discussed at the same time. The conference system and the unified budget process are both predicated on the assumption that ideas will be sent to the World Service Conference for consideration and development before being sent to the fellowship for a decision. We would encourage all regions to continue to use the system as it was designed in order to make world services as effective as possible. Our hope is that the motions that regions choose to place in the CAR have gone through this process. If a region does not agree with the recommendation from world services they have the right to ask the fellowship, through the CAR, to consider their idea. Once this has occurred, we believe regions should also have the ability to explain the intent, background, and desired outcome of motions that they are offering.

Motion 9: To create a new bullet, which would be included in the *Temporary Working Guide to our World Service Structure*, page 18, Guidelines for the Unified Budget for NA World Services between existing bullets 7 and 8. Bullet shall read, "All proposed projects pertaining to the creation of new recovery literature and service material as defined in The Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT) on page 13, will be presented through the *Conference Agenda Report*."

Maker: South Florida Region

Intent: This will guarantee that proposal of new recovery literature and service material coincides with the FIPT on page 12, which explains how these decisions are made by the

Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as given voice by its groups through their regional delegates at the World Service Conference.

Financial Impact: No specific financial impact can be determined at this time.

Policy Affected: This motion would amend the following WSC policies:

Temporary Working Guide to our World Service Structure

The following sentence would be revised:

Page 18, 6th bullet, 5th sentence: These will be forwarded to conference participants prior to the WSC for eventual prioritization at the conference.

World Board Recommendation: To not adopt

We have no experience with project planning or with a two-year conference cycle yet. The conference needs to allow the process for new projects adopted at WSC '98, to be implemented before making revisions. The unified budget process is not even scheduled to be fully implemented until after WSC 2000. We believe that this amendment could delay projects from two to five years. The conference always has the ability in this process to require that a project proposal be sent out in the next CAR.

Motion 10: To revise the NA World Services Vision Statement to: "That no addict seeking recovery need ever die."

Maker: Chesapeake & Potomac Region

Intent: To simplify and clarify our vision statement.

Financial Impact: Typesetting of the changes.

Policy Affected: This motion would amend the following WSC policies:

Temporary Working Guide to our World Service Structure

The following language would be replaced:

Page 1, NA World Services Vision Statement:

All of the efforts of Narcotics Anonymous World Services are inspired by the primary purpose of the groups we serve. Upon this common ground we stand committed.

Our vision is that one day:

- Every addict in the world has the chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture and find the opportunity for a new way of life;
- NA communities worldwide and NA world services work together in a spirit of unity and cooperation to carry our message of recovery;
- Narcotics Anonymous has universal recognition and respect as a viable program of recovery.

As our commonly held sense of the highest aspirations that set our course, our vision is our touchstone, our reference point, inspiring all that we do. Honesty, trust, and goodwill are the foundation of these ideals. In all our service efforts, we rely upon the guidance of a loving Higher Power.

World Board Recommendation: To not adopt

The conference adopted its vision statement in 1996. We have barely had the opportunity to try to live up to the wording of the statement as it is currently written. This statement is only a portion of what is written in the introduction to our Basic Text

and is incomplete as it is presented. This change would eliminate the vision statement as it is written and replace it with only a portion of a quote from our literature. We believe that this is too limited a statement for the vision statement for NA World Services and is impossible to fulfill as written.

Motion 11: That the World Board have one vote collectively during new business and elections at the World Service Conference, as expressed by the World Board Chair or Vice Chair in the absence of the Chair. This would be accomplished by amending the *Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure*, 1998 edition, as follows:

Page 4, Membership, by deleting the second and third sentence and replacing it with the following: "These conference-elected members will have equal participation rights during board meetings. During the World Service Conference they will have one (1) vote collectively as expressed through their chairperson. The chairperson may not, however, vote on items that have been submitted to the groups in the *Conference Agenda Report*, or on any other items of Old Business at the World Service Conference."

Page 13, Guidelines of the World Service Conference, Section 1, by deleting Item F. 2. and replacing it with: "Chairperson of the World Board."

Page 13, Guidelines of the World Service Conference, Section 1, by adding a new item as F. 4. which would read as follows: "In the absence of the World Board Chair, the conference will recognize the World Board Vice Chair."

Page 13, Guidelines of the World Service Conference, Section 1, Item G, 2nd sentence by adding: "/WB chairperson" after "RDs" and "/WB vice chairperson" after "alternates".

Page 13, Guidelines of the World Service Conference, by adding a new item to be included after 2. H. which would read as follows: "All members of the World Board are allowed a seat on the floor of the WSC. Except for voting, all other conference participation privileges are granted to these members."

Maker: Chesapeake & Potomac Region

Intent: To change voting participation in new business and elections at the WSC.

Financial Impact: No direct financial impact other than typesetting the changes.

Policy Affected: This motion would amend the following WSC Policies:

Temporary Working Guide to our World Service Structure

The following sections would be revised:

Page 4, Membership, 2nd and 3rd sentence: These conference-elected members will have equal participation rights, including voting on the board and at the World Services Conference. Board members may not, however, vote on items that have been submitted to the groups in the *Conference Agenda Report*, or on any other items of Old Business at the World Service Conference.

Page 13, Guidelines of the World Service Conference, Section 1, Item F. 2.: Members of the World Board.

Page 13, Guidelines of the World Service Conference, Section 1, Item G, 2nd sentence: When RDs are not on the floor of the conference, duly elected alternates may vote, make motions, or address the conference.

World Board Recommendation: To not adopt

The new business and election sessions at the WSC concern motions which have not been previously presented to the fellowship for consideration. During these sessions all conference participants, including delegates and board members alike, share identical responsibilities for the decisions and actions taken at this point in the conference. Board members do not vote at all during old business sessions when issues contained in the *Conference Agenda Report* are presented.

We support the Seventh Concept which states that, "All members of a service body bear substantial responsibility for that body's decisions and should be allowed to fully participate in its decision making processes." World Board members are conference participants and should fully participate in new ideas and discussions during the conference week. To eliminate that ability or to try to assign one vote to World Board members limits the boards responsibility and participation. This motion would eliminate all members of the World Board, except the chairperson, as conference participants. The conference adopted a new system in 1998 that will not be fully implemented until 2000. We encourage the conference to allow this system to be implemented before we attempt to change it.

Motion 12: That during the 1999 World Service Conference the Human Resource Panel (HRP) will interview the nominees presented by the conference participants for the world board elections, by asking them the following questions listed below. This information will be distributed to conference participants along with the resumés. Any nominee not present will be interviewed by phone if available. The HRP can ask any other questions they feel pertinent.

Questions:

1. Do you go anywhere other than NA for your recovery? If so, why?
2. Do you believe that working the 12 steps is the way to recover in NA?
3. Do you have a relationship with a sponsor?
4. Do you sponsor?
5. Have you worked all 12 Steps with a sponsor?
6. Have you ever had an NA service commitment that you did not finish? If so, why?
7. Do you have the time and resources to fulfill the responsibilities of the position on the WB?

Maker: Region of the Virginians

Intent: To provide more information to conference participants on nominees standing for election to the World Board.

Financial Impact: The direct financial impact would be the expense of phone calls to nominees not present.

Policy Affected: This motion would amend the following WSC policies:

1999 WSC Election Procedures

HRP Recommendation: To not adopt.

The Human Resource Panel has been working on internal guidelines and procedures to handle the interview and reference checking process. These will be tested this year for the

nomination and election of the WSC Co-Facilitators. After the election is done, we hope to get feedback from the regional delegates to improve the process. In this way, we can methodically create the processes necessary to ensure that the delegates have all the information that they need to make an informed decision. This motion's proposal, interviewing of candidates at the conference or by phone, is not part of our plans. We intend to have all of the interviewing and nominations complete well before the conference is scheduled to meet.

The HRP has several other concerns with this motion:

1. It requires the HRP to make subjective judgements about a person's personal recovery and spiritual condition.
2. It includes several questions that are not pertinent to an individual's ability to serve or to meet the basic requirements of service.
3. It contains a cultural bias that implies addicts all around the world recover in the same way.
4. The HRP does not have any procedure to do last minute interviews at the conference.
5. The HRP does not have a vehicle to report its findings in these types of interviews.
6. Telephone interviews are not the same as face to face interviews and would introduce an unfair bias.
7. The HRP prefers to have all of its information gathering and standard candidate profile reports completed before the conference is scheduled to begin.