
Conference Agenda Report

All of the efforts
of Narcotics
Anonymous are
inspired by the
primary purpose
of our groups.



**Upon this
common ground
we stand
committed.**



WSC 2018

29 April – 5 May

WE WILL PROVIDE AN EVENT AT WHICH:

PARTICIPANTS PROPOSE and *gain* fellowship consensus on **initiatives** that further the *vision for na service;*

THE FELLOWSHIP, through an exchange of *experience*, **STRENGTH**, and **hope**, collectively expresses itself on matters affecting Narcotics Anonymous *as a whole;*

NA GROUPS have a **MECHANISM** to **GUIDE** and *direct* the activities of **NA World Services;**

PARTICIPANTS ENSURE that the various elements of **NA World Services** are ultimately *responsible* to the **GROUPS** they serve;

PARTICIPANTS are *inspired* with the **JOY** of **selfless service**, and the **KNOWLEDGE** that our efforts make a *difference.*

World Service
Conference

MISSION STATEMENT

The World Service Conference brings all elements of NA World Services together to further the common welfare of NA. The WSC's mission is to unify NA worldwide.



Finding common ground takes talking and time. Some of us are more articulate than others. We work hard to hear each other and to help each other express ideas. We show patience, encouragement, and gratitude to our fellows for their involvement, and remember that no voice is greater than any other. We never know where answers will come from or what new solution we might find together.

Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions, Tradition One

Conference Agenda Report

WSC 2018

**29 April – 5 May
Woodland Hills, California**

2018 Conference Agenda Report
World Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous

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Table of Contents

UPON THIS COMMON GROUND	7
FUTURE OF THE WSC	15
THE FELLOWSHIP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY TRUST	23
NAWS STRATEGIC PLAN	28
ISSUE DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR 2016–2018	30
LITERATURE, SERVICE MATERIAL, AND IDT SURVEY	31
REGIONAL MOTIONS	36
MOTIONS & SURVEY TALLY SHEET	67
GLOSSARY	77

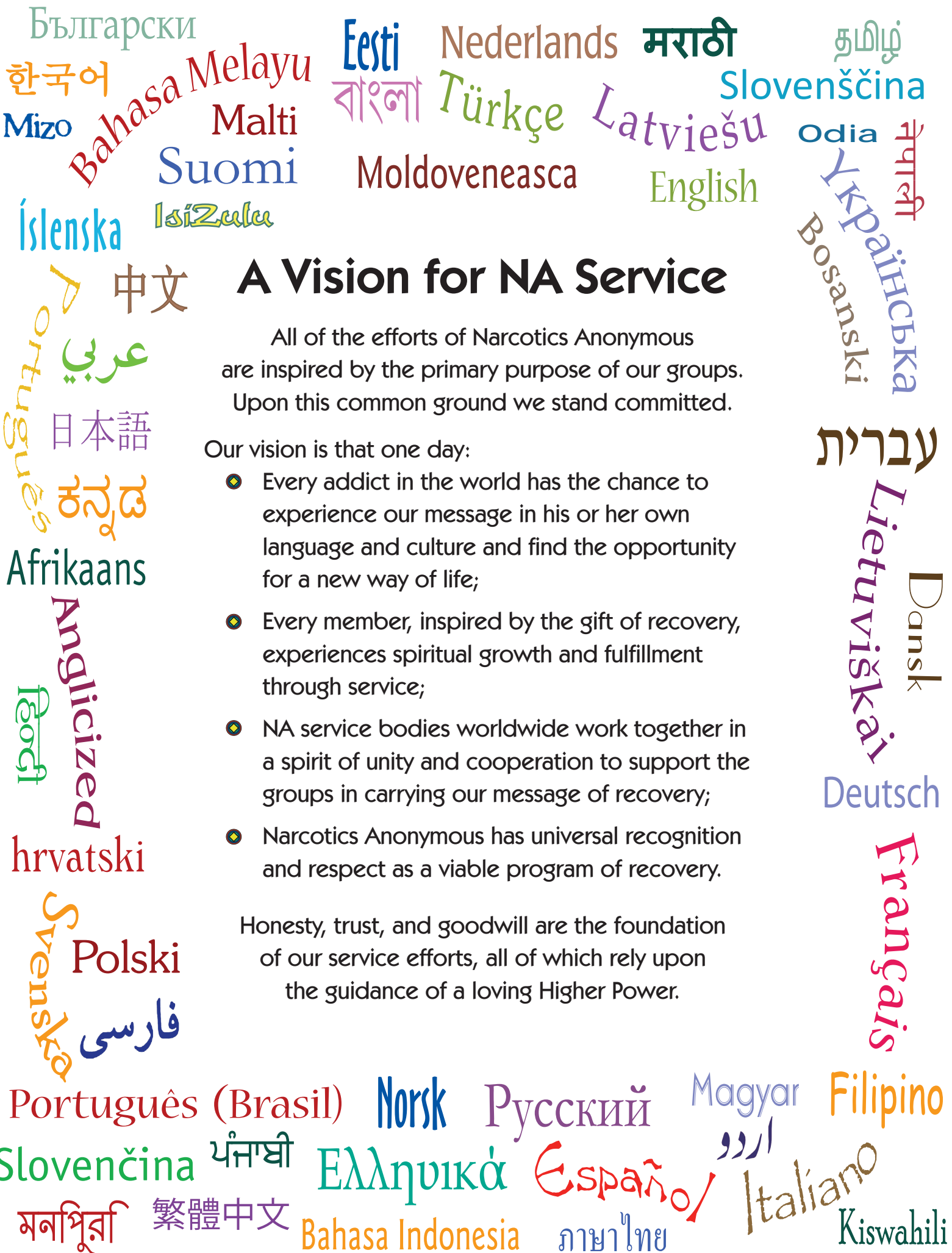
A Vision for NA Service

All of the efforts of Narcotics Anonymous are inspired by the primary purpose of our groups. 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;
- Every member, inspired by the gift of recovery, experiences spiritual growth and fulfillment through service;
- NA service bodies worldwide work together in a spirit of unity and cooperation to support the groups in carrying our message of recovery;
- Narcotics Anonymous has universal recognition and respect as a viable program of recovery.

Honesty, trust, and goodwill are the foundation of our service efforts, all of which rely upon the guidance of a loving Higher Power.



Upon This Common Ground

Hello from your World Board

Once again, the theme of this year's World Service Conference and the cycle ahead comes from A Vision for NA Service. As we prepare for the World Service Conference, it's important to remember and lean on what unifies us. We all have the same passion, the same desire to reach addicts in need to make sure they can hear our message and have a chance for a new way of life. We are all deeply committed to Narcotics Anonymous and the primary purpose of our groups. Whatever other differences we may have, we stand on common ground.

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

A Vision for NA Service

At the 2008 World Service Conference we asked participants to imagine the Conference in ten years and write a letter to the member who would hold their position at WSC 2018. In preparing for the upcoming Conference, we reread those letters from a decade ago. We were

reminded of our optimism as a Conference. Participants at WSC 2008 unanimously passed the Sixth Edition Basic Text. Many of those same people will be attending 2018—some as delegates again, others as a Cofacilitator or Board member or even, in one case, as a member of NAWS staff. Others have passed away. As we read the words in these letters from Bob G or Big Ed, we are reminded of how finite our time really is and what a privilege it is to spend that time in service to our common welfare. We hope this WSC serves to honor the spirit of these two and others who are no longer with us, and that we can work together as a Conference with love and common purpose.

Dear Delegate of 2018,

I am writing this letter to you because I was requested to do so at the WSC 2008. I hope and pray that NA has become truly the worldwide Fellowship that we at the WSC 2008 have envisioned NA to be.

The work that you do will be hard but sweet, knowing that an addict some place in the world could hopefully get clean, change their life, find hope, feel loved, and one day help another addict do the same.

I might not be alive today, but I am thankful that someone did the work, had the time, gave the love, and showed me how to live a life without the use of drugs. They also gave me the encouragement to get into service and try to do something positive for the program that saved my life.

In fellowship,

Ed B, Mid-Atlantic Region

Overview of the past cycle

We have accomplished a lot this cycle. We published *Guiding Principles* after its approval at WSC 2016, and one of the Issue Discussion Topics this cycle is focused on introducing the book and discussing questions from the first three Traditions.

We also published [Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication-Assisted Treatment](#), a PR pamphlet for professionals who prescribe medication to treat addiction. Before finalizing the pamphlet, we released a draft to delegates for review. That input improved the piece and reaffirmed how needed

it is. We know many of you are seeing increased numbers of addicts in your meetings arriving on drug replacement therapy, confused about what NA is and what we have to offer. We've heard from many of you that this pamphlet has helped in your PR efforts. We expect to talk more at this Conference about what else we can do to ensure that addicts who need us can hear our message.

For the first time in some years, we have an active service material project that we expect to ask the Conference to approve for another cycle. Our last major service material project was the [PR Handbook](#). Since then, we've taken a slightly different approach to service material, trying to break things down into smaller pieces. The "basics" that we publish—[PR Basics](#), [H&I Basics](#), [Planning Basics](#), and [Translation Basics](#)—are easier to translate and are less overwhelming for many members. This cycle we have focused on two main areas for service material—a local service toolbox and a toolbox for conventions and events. We have released draft material on convention/event programs and consensus-based decision making for delegate review. After that review, we will post both as approval drafts, pending a Conference discussion about the approval process. For more information and the drafts, see the project pages: www.na.org/conventions and www.na.org/toolbox. We will continue to work on new draft material up until the Conference.

Input from members around the world has also helped us frame two literature project plans—a mental health IP and a meditation book—that we will be offering in this year's Conference Approval Track material. Thank you to the thousands of members who took the time to send your ideas. Your words have not only helped shape the project plans, but they will be a tremendous resource when drafting the texts if the Conference approves the projects. NA literature has always been by addicts, for addicts, and technology has made it even easier for us to work together no matter where in the world we live and recover.

We on the World Board are privileged to witness recovery around the world. Each cycle, on your behalf, we visit each zonal forum that asks for our participation and as many other events that put in a request as we are able. We include a complete list of communities we have visited in the *Conference Report* before each WSC. As we have been reporting, we have made a particular commitment to focus on Fellowship development efforts, including literature availability, in Africa, India, the Middle East, Russia, and Southeast Asia. These are expensive and time-consuming commitments, but they are worth it. With time and consistent support, NA grows. In Africa, for instance, we fund and help organize an annual zonal gathering of delegates from all of the communities where we know NA exists. The zone also meets regularly via Skype throughout the year. Our goal is always to help show communities how to support one another and develop sustainable strategies for local Fellowship development. Just as we grow in our personal recovery when we know we are not alone, NA communities throughout Africa have grown and matured since they have been connected to each other. They are doing PR work, starting meetings, forming service bodies, even inventing new service positions like group librarian!

We can learn a lot from the spirit of innovation that animates service efforts in many young NA communities. One of our biggest focuses this cycle was on the Future of the WSC. Objective Four of the NAWS Strategic Plan reads, "Continue work to make the WSC a more effective resource to help achieve the Vision for NA Service." We had three main strategies to work toward this objective: develop options for seating, refine WSC processes, and make better use of the time between meetings. We have been able to have productive discussions, as a Board and with other Conference participants, about the latter two strategies, but building consensus on ideas for changes to Conference seating has been more challenging. We will continue to discuss the future of the WSC at this Conference. As you will see, a number of regional motions deal with the issue of seating, as well. This CAR also contains an essay on the Future of the WSC.

Another essay in this CAR focuses on the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust*. The *FIPT* was a topic at the last WSC, and the 2016 CAR also included a *FIPT* essay. Our role as trustees of the Fellowship's intellectual property is a focus for us each Conference cycle. This time, however, the needs have been different. As we reported in the most recent *NAWS News* and in an August 2017 email to Conference participants, the Operational Rules of the *FIPT* describe a process whereby a regional service committee can request to inspect the records and operations of the Trust, and this cycle a region has made such a request, much of which we believe may not fall within the bounds of a *FIPT* inspection. We describe the situation in more detail beginning on page 23 of this *Conference Agenda Report*. We hope to reach a resolution before the WSC. If we have any updates before the Conference, we will report them in *NAWS News* or the *Conference Report*. We expect to discuss the *FIPT* with Conference participants regardless of the status of this particular request.



We have been working on improving our ability to talk together as a body when the Conference is not in session, and technology has helped us to connect with one another throughout the cycle. Holding web meetings has become a major part of our regular ongoing services. They have become so central this cycle that we want to “talk them up” a bit here. During the 2016–2018 cycle, we started having Conference participant web meetings with small-group discussions, and the results have been very positive. Technology is also allowing us to bring together interested members who do similar kinds of service in various places around the world, so they can see each other and talk together about what’s working. We hold regular web meetings for PR, H&I, inmate step writing, rural and isolated service, and regional service offices. This cycle we increased our use of virtual meetings for projects as well. The Delegates Sharing Workgroup and the workgroups for *The NA Way* and *Reaching Out* have been working and/or meeting online for some time. We are also using web meetings for several other projects: Zonal Fellowship Development and PR, and the two focuses of the Service Material Project: Conventions and Events and Local Service Toolbox. Our process has always been collaborative, but we are finding more ways to use technology to make it easier for any interested member to participate. We used an online survey to establish priorities for our work in the Service Material Projects and we have scheduled several web meetings open to all for each service material piece. We have posted drafts in each stage of development with online input forms. And of course we always welcome thoughts about the projects via email or phone.

Accessibility has always been an ethic for NA World Services. Although new uses of technology are enhancing our ability to gather input and hear ideas from members around the world, we have always made efforts to include as many voices as possible. Before the internet existed, we would field calls and faxes, receive letters, and make trips. We still do all of those things, but now we are able to email back and forth without delay and connect members face-to-face instantaneously. One of the motions in this CAR deals with connecting participants who are unable to attend the World Service Conference, and we are excited about the possibility of trying something new for those delegates. We do what we can to make the Conference accessible to participants—from funding to help with visas to hiring interpreters and translating material for participants who need it. All of this takes effective communication, so if you are a Conference participant, please let us know if you have

a need or an idea that NA World Services may be able to help with. Some years ago, we started putting out workshop material for members doing CAR workshops, and in 2014 we turned those into videos

as well. We go to great lengths to make information accessible and easy to understand. We are always open to your ideas about how to do a better job.

These past few pages only begin to touch on World Services' work over the course of this cycle. For more information on all of our work, see *NAWS News*, the *NAWS Annual Report*, and the upcoming *Conference Report*. If you don't already have an electronic subscription to *NAWS News*, you can sign up online at www.na.org/subscribe.

Preparing for WSC 2018

One of the biggest changes in WSC 2018 is that, for the first time, zones that wish to will be able to send a delegate to the Conference as a non-voting participant. We know of four zones that have elected delegates so far, and we expect more zones will do so as the Conference grows closer. Another big change is that we are hoping to be able to offer some sort of connection to the Conference for delegates who are not able to attend because of visa challenges. (See page 66 for more information.) We are also holding a couple of web meetings to help orient participants to the Conference before they arrive. By the time this *Conference Agenda Report* is published, we will have already held the first Conference participant web meeting focused on WSC 2018.

Most members will never attend a WSC, but anyone can participate in the collection of a conscience on CAR issues. Regions take a variety of approaches to collecting a conscience on CAR motions and issues. If you aren't sure how it's done in your region, ask a local member who has service experience, or contact NA World Services and we will connect you with your regional delegate.

The *Conference Agenda Report* is the first of three main Conference mailings. The Conference Approval Track mailing is the second. It comes out in January and is described in more detail below. The third is the *Conference Report*, which walks through the Conference week, day by day, and includes the regional reports from which we draw and report data for the next two years, as well as essays from regions that wish to submit them. We mail and post the *Conference Report* not long before the WSC. All of the Conference publications and related material are posted on this webpage: www.na.org/conference.

CAR distribution and contents

We mail copies of the CAR at our cost to all Conference participants and regional service committees. Any other member or service body who wants a hard copy can purchase one from NA World Services for \$7.50. The price includes shipping and handling, but not taxes. Members can also download the CAR for free from www.na.org/conference. The English-language CAR is always published 150 days before the WSC, and the translated versions (French, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swedish) are published a month later—this time by 29 December 2017.

The CAR can be intimidating the first time you pick one up. There is a glossary at the end to help familiarize you with terms, and a tally sheet to record your vote on motions and the survey. In 2014, we started making videos of the CAR content and posting them on www.na.org/conference to help people put on or prepare for CAR workshops. It's still not light reading, we know. Thank you for taking the time to stay engaged and involved.

This *Conference Agenda Report* is a bit different from those of recent years. For the first time since 2006, the World Board is forwarding no CAR motions. There are, however, 25 motions from regions. It's been 20 years since we had so many regional motions. To help make it easier to read and workshop them, we have grouped regional motions by topic this year and included some links to background material at the beginning of each section of motions.

We are including a survey in this *CAR*, as we did in 2016, for members to prioritize recovery literature, service material, and Issue Discussion Topics. Delegates will use the survey results to help shape the project plans approved at the Conference. The 2016 survey results helped establish a direction for the work of World Services during this Conference cycle, so please fill out the survey to help us in the cycle ahead. As we did in 2016, we will post the survey online for members to fill out, and we will also collect the regional results from Conference participants. What we found at WSC 2016 was that individual member responses collected through the online survey were very similar to regional responses, with the same top one or two priorities in most categories. The biggest variation between regional and member survey responses in 2016 was in the category of booklet- or pamphlet-length recovery material, and the passage of a *CAR* motion for an IP project plan helped delegates decide upon a focus. You can see the result of the 2016 survey, beginning on page 111 of the 2016 WSC draft minutes posted at www.na.org/conference.

We also have essays on issues that participants have been engaged with throughout the cycle. The *CAR* is perhaps the most widely distributed single report we publish, and we include these essays to help keep everyone informed. Unfortunately, many members seem to regard the *Conference Agenda Report* as just a motion delivery vehicle and never read the essays. Then, at some later date, they may say, “Hey, I never heard about that.” The Service System Project is a great example. There was an essay on the project in the 2010 *CAR*, as well as an essay on the Issue Discussion Topic that preceded the project in the 2008 *CAR*, but many members were unfamiliar with the project and its ideas until the resolutions were included in the 2012 *CAR*. This year we have essays on the Future of the WSC and the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust*, among other topics. We know that it is tough to find the time to process information beyond dozens of motions, but we urge you to make the effort and find the time. These issues are important, and any member active enough in NA service to vote on the motions in the *CAR* will also want to stay up to date and involved in the other important conversations affecting NA as a whole.

Because of time pressure, we haven’t addressed every topic we would like to in this *Conference Agenda Report*. We talked about including a *What Is World Services?* essay here and another piece on finances, but this *CAR* is weighty even without those essays. It will be challenging as it is to workshop all of the content of this *CAR*. The publications that follow the *CAR*—the Conference Approval Track material, the 2017 *NAWS Annual Report*, the *Conference Report*, and *NAWS News*—will have more information on these topics and many others.

Delegate preparations for WSC 2018

Delegates and alternates do a massive amount of work throughout the cycle, with the lion’s share coming in the five months between the publication of the *CAR* and the end of the WSC. There is a tremendous amount to read, process, synthesize, explain to others, and gather a conscience on.

We will have a WSC orientation web meeting for Conference participants, which we will record and make available to those who cannot attend. And of course, as with anything in NA, reaching out to more experienced members can be a huge help. If your alternate or delegate has Conference experience, they can be a great resource, and if you attend a zone or multiregional event, get numbers and email addresses of other participants. Post questions on the Conference participant bulletin board, <http://disc.na.org/wsc2012/forum.php>. Chances are, if you have a question, someone else is wondering the same thing.

Here are some things to look out for that you will need to pay attention to and complete:

Travel and rooming memo: You should have received that with this *CAR* mailing. It’s also posted on www.na.org/conference. This memo explains how to register for the Conference and

how to make hotel and flight reservations. You must fill out the form for hotel and WSC registration by 1 March 2018, and you must book your flight by 15 March 2018.

Regional reports: The deadline for regional reports is 15 February 2018. Regional reports paint the best picture of NA service efforts worldwide that we know of. Not only do we use the information from these reports to help plan Conference sessions, but they also serve as a historical record for the future. The reports we receive by the deadline are summarized and printed in their entirety in the *Conference Report* and posted online at www.na.org/conference. For the past several Conferences, almost all seated regions submitted their reports by the deadline. Thank you for that! Let's not break the streak.

CAR survey: When it gets closer to Conference time, we will post the *CAR* survey online for delegates to submit regional priorities for recovery literature, service material, and Issue Discussion Topics. We will email participants when the survey form is posted.

WSC topics survey: We will be surveying all participants to see what you want to discuss at WSC 2018. Again, we will email you when the survey is posted.

Thank you all for your service! Please let us know if we can help in any way.

What happens at the Conference

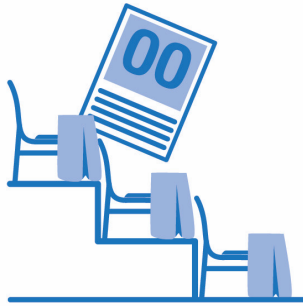
The Conference marks the end of one planning cycle and the beginning of the next. As such, part of the job of participants is to approve the work that has been done since the last WSC and to help frame the two years ahead. The beginning of the week is spent orienting and welcoming participants and then in *CAR*-related discussion and decisions (what we have historically called “old business”). Throughout the week, there are presentations, discussions in small groups, and decision-making sessions. Toward the end of the week, the Conference makes decisions about the budget and project plans for the cycle ahead.



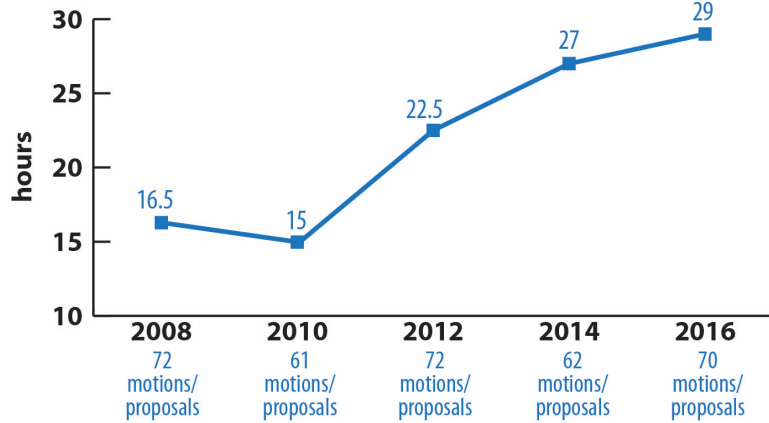
For many consecutive Conference cycles, the *CAR* has been describing our transition to a “discussion-based Conference,” but for some time now, the Conference has actually seemed to be moving away from that goal. We are recommending some changes to the business sessions at WSC 2018 that should give us more time to talk together around tables and less time debating parliamentary procedure in the risers. The Future of the WSC essay on page 15 in this *CAR* describes those recommendations and gives a brief description of some of the sessions that are held at each WSC, and the ways we have spent our time at the last five Conferences.

How we spent our time

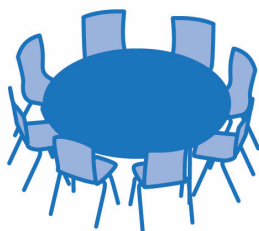
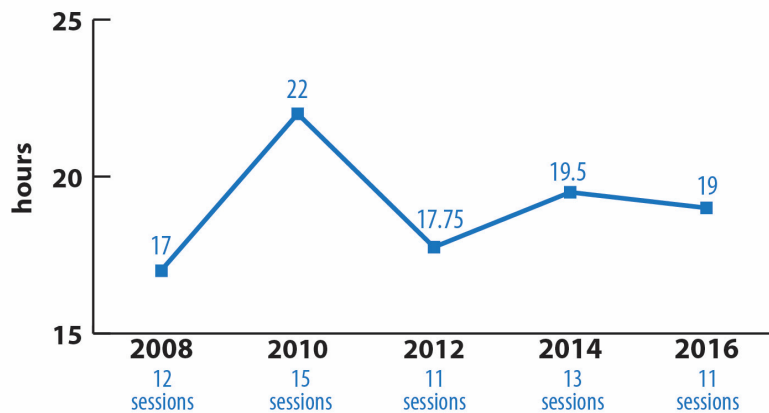
WSC 2008–2016



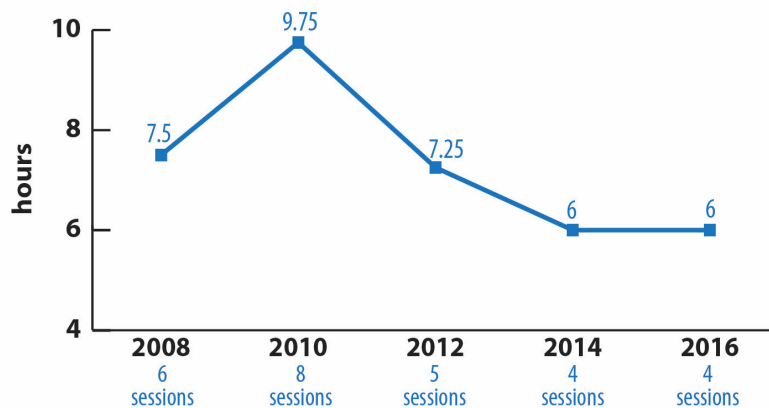
Discussions/decisions in risers



Presentations/discussions/Q&A



Small group discussions



We have not planned out the Conference week yet, but we know some of the items that will make up part of the agenda:

- ❖ A welcome session with introductions
- ❖ An orientation, giving an overview of what to expect for the week
- ❖ Public relations and fellowship development presentations for the activity of the last two years
- ❖ Reports from World Services and the Human Resource Panel
- ❖ A presentation of proposed budget and project plans for the cycle ahead
- ❖ CAR- and CAT-related discussion and decisions
- ❖ A session devoted to delegates sharing with delegates, planned by delegates
- ❖ Time and space for zones to meet if they wish
- ❖ Elections for World Board, HRP, and WSC Cofacilitators
- ❖ Discussions of prioritized new ideas submitted at the WSC
- ❖ Wrap-up session reviewing the work ahead

We are still early in the planning process, and this list is not complete. The *Conference Report*, which will be released shortly before the WSC, will lay out the Conference week in detail.

Conference Approval Track and other material

The Conference Approval Track material includes materials intended for committees or boards and comes out 90 days before the WSC. The CAT always contains the budget and project plans for WSC consideration, the NAWS Strategic Plan, and requests for WSC seating from regions, along with the Seating Workgroup recommendations and a report from the World Board. When there is service material for the Conference to approve, it is generally included with the Conference Approval Track.

This year we have no service material for approval in the 2018 CAT, but we will have a WSC conversation about the approval process for the two tools that are out for delegate review as of this writing: Conventions and Events' Program and Local Service Toolbox's CBDM Basics.

We began including material from regions that submitted ideas with the CAT mailing in 2016, and we will continue to do so for this Conference. The deadline to submit material to be included with the CAT mailing is 1 January 2018. The CAT will be available no later than 29 January 2018. We will mail copies to Conference participants and post the draft and any regional material included in the mailing online at www.na.org/conference.

Future of the WSC

The Future of the WSC is an ongoing project about improving the effectiveness and sustainability of the Conference. The project stems from an objective in the 2016–2018 NAWS Strategic Plan. We have issued three reports about these ideas and held several Conference participant web meetings. We don't want to spend a lot of space here reviewing all of the same ground. The focus of this essay is primarily on the Conference week itself and our recommendations for how to improve the effectiveness of the meeting. If you are curious and want to catch up on the other facets of the Future of the WSC, the reports and related material are posted at www.na.org/future.



OBJECTIVE 4 — Future of the WSC: Continue work to make the WSC a more effective resource to help achieve the Vision for NA Service

Strategies:

- A. Based on the results of the WSC discussions, continue to further the discussion about WSC sustainability and effectiveness, and frame viable options for WSC seating.**
- B. Improve the effectiveness of the WSC meeting by continuing to refine decision-making processes, discussion protocols, consensus-building strategies, and use of time during the week.**
- C. Improve the effectiveness of the time between meetings by working on processes to forward issues and have discussions on ideas between WSC meetings.**

As indicated above, the project is focused on (a) WSC seating, (b) the WSC week itself, and (c) better use of the time between Conferences.

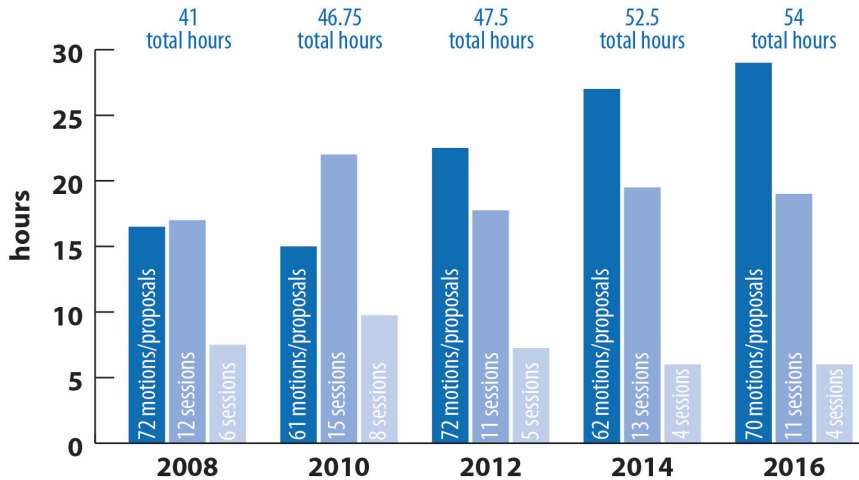
The seating part of the objective—who participates and is funded to the WSC—seems to be where we are challenged to reach consensus. The second Future report, released in May 2017, was about some very broad ideas related to seating and the Board's perception that the continuing growth of the Conference is unsustainable and undermines the effectiveness of the Conference meeting. The Conference participant web meeting we held to discuss that report was a challenging one and perhaps our least productive one this cycle. We committed last cycle to not making a recommendation about seating, and we have taken a step back from trying to frame seating options for the Conference to discuss. Our responses to the regional motions in this CAR are in harmony with that commitment and approach. This Conference will have zonal delegates attending as nonvoting participants, and we hope that brings some fresh voices and ideas to the conversation.

But *who* is only part of the picture. We seem to be able to reach an easier agreement when we talk about *what* we would like to accomplish at the WSC and *how* we want to conduct business. We have some fairly major suggestions for new approaches to this Conference. We introduced some of those ideas in the first Future of the WSC report, released in February 2017. The third Future of the WSC report, released in October, elaborates on some of those recommendations. We will review some of those recommendations, but first we want to give some background and context.

As the graphs on page 13 and those that follow show, we are logging more and more hours at each WSC, and we spend an increasing proportion of that time in business, with less time in small-group discussion and presentations.

How we spent our time

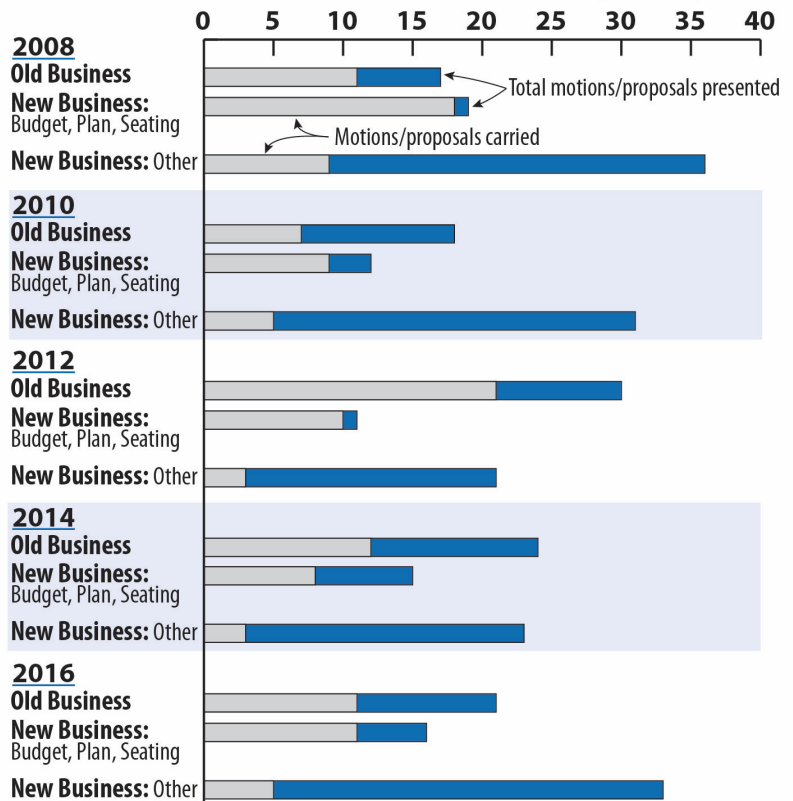
WSC 2008–2016



- discussions/decisions in risers
- presentations/discussions/Q&A
- small group discussions



Number of Motions/Proposals
(excludes those withdrawn or straw polled only)



Conference sessions

Most sessions at the WSC are 90 minutes long. Breaks are a half hour by necessity. This is the time it takes for over 200 members to take care of their physical needs, grab a coffee or a smoke, and/or run up to their room to pick up something they forgot. Lunch is 90 minutes for similar reasons. What that means is that each day has four 90-minute sessions unless we reconvene after dinner, which we sometimes do. We also break for half a day mid-week, which is the day that zones meet in the evening. So the Conference schedule has time for 24 sessions plus whatever evening sessions we schedule.

We believe we must make time for each of the items listed below at each Conference, with the number of sessions in parentheses after each:

Welcoming (1)

A week is a long time to sit together in one room, so it's important to begin by saying hello, meeting other participants, and being introduced to the newly seated regions and the elected trusted servants of the WSC. Ninety minutes is not as much time as we'd like to take for this, but it is the most time we feel we can spare before we have to get to work.

Orientation (1)

Many participants at each WSC are attending for the first time, and it can be intimidating not to know what to expect. In addition, some things change from year to year, so this session is also a time to review and discuss those elements. Although one session can't fully prepare participants for everything in the week to come, it does provide an overview and basic introduction that seems essential to helping participants have a successful week. We will be trying to improve this by also posting an orientation video before the Conference.

Community-Building (1)

To set the tone and establish a spiritual commonality for the week, we use this session to highlight and discuss the WSC theme. It is also an introduction to the large- and small-group workshop format that will be used throughout the Conference week, which may be new to many participants.

Human Resource Panel Presentation and Elections (2)

The HRP provides a review of its work during the previous cycle and explains the nomination and elections processes. On election day, part of a second, 90-minute session is then devoted to the actual elections process to ensure that participants clearly understand the procedure before casting their votes. The HRP sessions have time built in for participants to ask questions and offer feedback.

NAWS Report (2 NAWS- and 1 WB-focused)

There are several NAWS report sessions at each Conference. Generally, two of these sessions cover NAWS' operations, and one focuses more on the World Board. These sessions report on overall operations, the work of the past cycle, specific topics or pressing issues, and other activities. The sessions provide an opportunity for Conference participants to pose questions and provide input. In addition to question-and-answer sessions, these three time slots offer more in-depth face-to-face reporting detail than is available in any other forum, allowing the World Board and NAWS Executive Director to exercise their direct accountability to the Conference.

Budget and Project Plans—Presentation and Approval (2)

This session is, of course, crucial. The budget is a plan for how NAWS intends to receive income and allocate funds for expenses in the upcoming cycle/fiscal years. The proposed budget and

project plans are always included in the Conference Approval Track material along with cover material that explains the budget categories and terminology. This session gives an overview and highlights important points. A significant portion of our budget expenses relates to support of WSC activities and the project plans for the upcoming cycle. This session is the best opportunity for Conference participants to ask questions about the budget.

Fellowship Development (1)

Everything World Services does focuses on Fellowship development and the role we can play in helping to support our shared vision that “every addict in the world has a chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture.” Unfortunately, one session does not allow us the time to fully report on the multilayered FD efforts taking place around the world, but it does give a glimpse into some of the impact of the World Board’s face-to-face interactions during the past two-year cycle.

Public Relations (1)

It is almost impossible to talk about FD without also talking about public relations because PR efforts are a critical step in Fellowship development. Strides and progress made each cycle are highlighted in this session, usually connecting specific PR activities to FD advancements. The PR session is also when we report on the most recent Membership Survey results, which is key information for use in our PR and FD efforts.

Moving Forward and Closing (2)

After a very full week of business, it is essential for us to look back at our discussions and decisions to be sure that we close the Conference on the same page. The Moving Forward session on Saturday morning (and sometimes an additional session Saturday afternoon) is dedicated to reaching clarity on the week’s decisions and discussions, and coming to agreement on some yet-undecided issues.

Even without an ever-increasing amount of time in business sessions, the Conference agenda is clearly ambitious. The above list describes 14 essential sessions to include in the WSC without factoring in the time needed for CAR-related discussion and decisions, which took 18 hours at the 2016 Conference, and 13 1/2 hours in 2014. At the past two Conferences, we had to cancel several of the 14 sessions we just described and combine others to accommodate the time spent in business.

Of course, it takes time to make careful decisions, particularly in a body as large as the World Service Conference. However, the time we have been using for business does not seem to be productive. In fact, it often does not affect the decision at all. At the last Conference, for instance, we discussed one of the CAR motions for almost two and half hours after an initial straw poll where 88 percent of the Conference supported the motion. In the end, the motion was divided into three motions, all of which passed by more than 90 percent.



We are recommending several things for this Conference that we believe will help. We will go over these ideas during the orientation session of the Conference and ask participants to agree to try these ideas for WSC 2018. If the Conference likes how things went, participants can decide to make these ongoing changes in policies and procedures.

Getting rid of formal business

For more than a decade, we have been evolving toward a consensus-based process at the WSC. In 2004, we began scheduling “business discussion” prior to the formal decision-making sessions at the Conference. Many participants are unfamiliar with parliamentary procedure, and they wanted to be able to ask questions and express views without the limitations of the WSC Rules of Order. Then, in 2012, we began using proposals in addition to motions, and in 2014, we began deciding on those proposals in the business discussion portion of the Conference.

We believe there is a consensus to eliminate the formal business sessions of the WSC entirely and make all of the CAR- and CAT-related decisions in the discussion sessions. Attendees from the past two Conferences can no doubt attest to the fact that the formal business sessions have become somewhat redundant and consume time needlessly. Eliminating formal business will help with some of that redundant time, though it will not solve the challenge that the Conference spends more than a day discussing the items in the CAR, and that discussion results in very few participants changing their votes.

What was previously called “old business” would now be CAR-related discussion and decisions. These sessions would be used to address the motions in the CAR as well as proposals to change those motions, plus a motion to approve the minutes and any motions or proposals needed about business processes.

What was previously called “new business” would now be divided into two different types of sessions. The first type of session is CAT-related discussion and decisions, which would include motions or proposals to approve the budget and project plans, seat regions, and address any other decision items forwarded by the Board in the Conference Approval Track material. The second type of session is for proposals newly submitted at the WSC.

New proposals submitted at the WSC

The most exciting changes we are suggesting have to do with the proposals submitted at the WSC. Participants have many opportunities—some new this cycle or last—to share ideas or proposals with one another or publish them to a wider audience. Participants can submit motions to the CAR, forward proposals or ideas for inclusion with the CAT mailing or the *Conference Report*, and they can forward an idea at any time for posting to the Conference participant FTP site, which will then be announced to all Conference participants. Most of the new proposals submitted at the WSC are just that: new. The proposals typically haven’t been shared with other participants before the WSC.

The Conference doesn’t readily adopt new ideas that haven’t had the benefit of discussion and deliberation within the Fellowship or more extensively among participants. The second graph on page 16 above illustrates the number of proposals or motions we receive in each decision-making session and how many get passed. “New business: other” represents new proposals submitted at the WSC. As you see, very many are submitted but very few are passed. At the past two Conferences, new business ran so late that we had to reschedule the final day of the Conference. The effectiveness of the closing day’s sessions, which are crucial to making sure we all end the Conference with a shared understanding, was greatly undermined.

What we are suggesting, and have heard positive feedback about so far, is for all new proposals to be prioritized by Conference participants and then the highest rated would be discussed in small-group

breakout sessions. This would give the Conference a way to choose what it most wants to discuss and it would allow all different kinds of discussions, not just yes/no decisions about new ideas.

We are suggesting the following process. This description is excerpted from the Future 3 report:

1. Prioritize the list of new proposals submitted at the WSC.

- Participants will receive a packet of all proposals and a ballot.
- Each participant will be asked to identify—yes or no—the proposals they want to discuss.
- Responses will be tabulated. Proposals with the most “yes” votes will be prioritized for discussion in small groups.
- If it seems logical to do so, we will group proposals that have similar themes if those issues rise to the top. We will present the results and any proposed grouping to the Conference and seek concurrence on what proposals will be discussed.

The principal idea is to give the Conference a mechanism to talk about what participants really want to have dialog about. Participants will get to choose what they want to discuss.

2. Address only the number of proposals that can be addressed in the time allotted.

- New proposal discussions will take place in two 90-minute breakout sessions on Friday.
- If there are proposals that more than half of participants want to discuss that we do not have time to get to, we can make a collective decision, as a Conference, about how to carry those ideas or concerns forward after the WSC.

3. Breakout discussions.

- There will be two sessions for breakout discussions, which will take place in five rooms—two for RDs, two for ADs, and one for Spanish-speaking participants.
- Proposal discussions need not be decision oriented. Some could be about framing a discussion for the Fellowship or Conference participants. Some could be about focusing the work in the cycle ahead in some way. Others could lead to a decision in the Saturday Moving Forward session.
- There will be time at the end of each breakout session to get concurrence within each room on summary thoughts/synthesis/next steps recommended.

4. Conclude these sessions by 6:00 pm Friday. Full-group, wrap-up discussions will take place on Saturday.

- Saturday morning will be an opportunity to report back to the large group and cement a shared understanding.

Changing the voting threshold to two-thirds

One of the procedural issues we argued about the most at the last WSC was whether a given decision required a two-thirds majority or a simple majority. We are suggesting making a change to Conference processes and requiring a two-thirds majority for all decisions except elections, which will require the same percentages they do now. A higher threshold for decision making seems to be in concert with our evolution, as a Conference, in the direction of consensus-based decision making. We have recently made this same change for decisions made by the World Board.

Improving the use of time between Conferences

The Future of the WSC Project is not just focused on the way we use time at the Conference. We also have ideas about how to improve our use of time between meetings, which we covered in both the

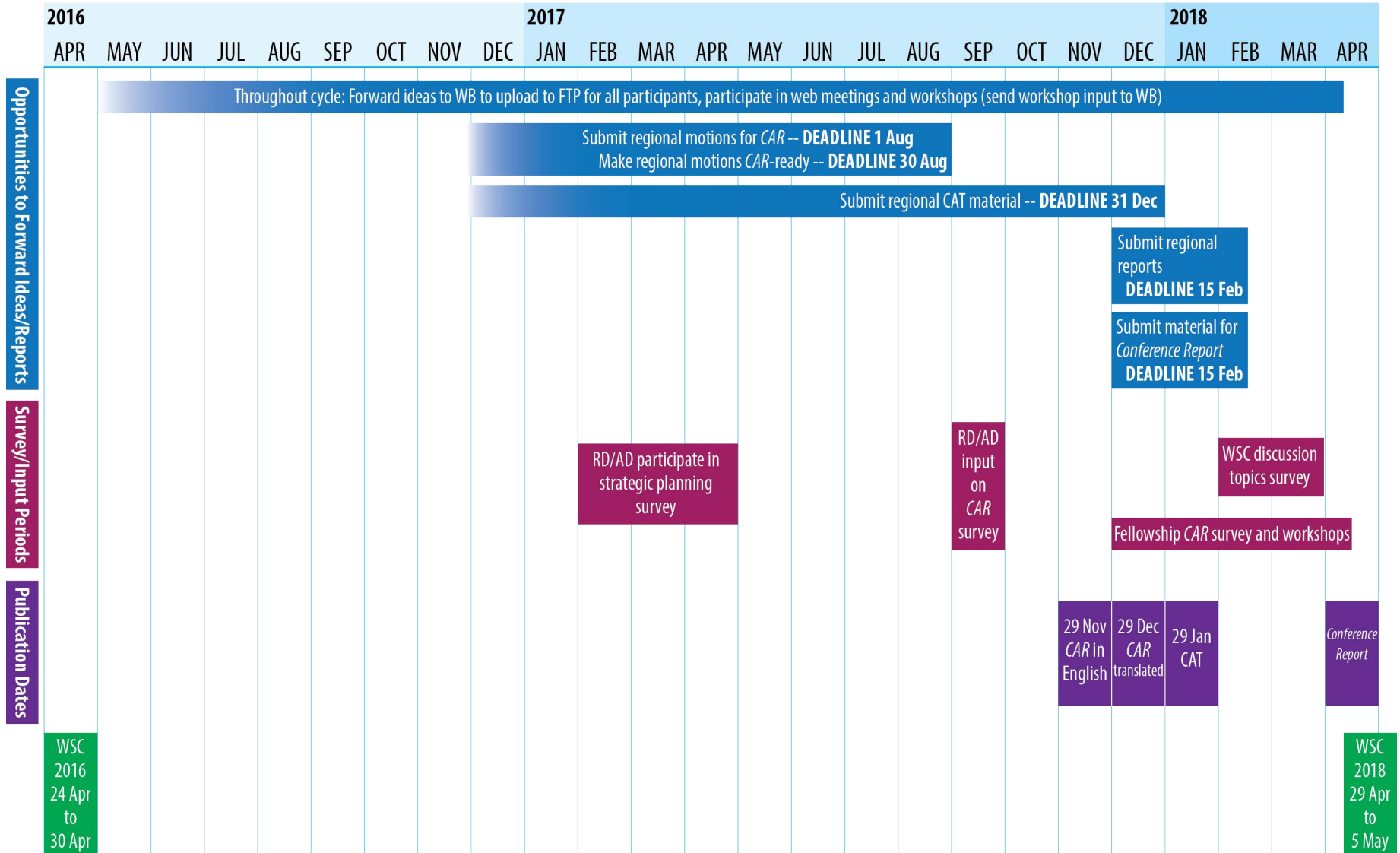
first and third Future reports. Communication continues to be a challenge for us as a Conference. As we mentioned earlier in this *CAR*, technology has made it easier, but we still struggle with how to develop ideas together throughout the cycle.

We would like to have a forum where Conference participants can share their own ideas and ideas from within their regions, and decide which ideas to discuss and develop further. The Conference participant bulletin board doesn't seem to have enough participation to be an ideal place for that sharing. We offered the FTP site as an experiment this cycle—letting participants know we would post ideas they send in and notify participants when new ideas are posted, but we've only had one idea posted there, a motion that was submitted in December 2016 for inclusion in this *Conference Agenda Report*. A number of delegates have let us know they don't find the FTP site user-friendly, and we hope to be able to try something different next cycle. We just don't seem to have the right medium yet. Even with the right medium, we know that it is difficult to maintain focus and follow through over the course of many months.

Web meetings have certainly helped. With newer technology, we can see and hear each other and talk together in smaller groups. We are interested to see whether we can carry the ideas from WSC 2018 forward in Conference participant discussions throughout the cycle. Having discussions toward the end of the Conference week about new ideas submitted by participants may improve our ability as a Conference to carry those conversations forward. More will be revealed.

WSC Conference Cycle

Timeline for Forwarding Ideas & Discussion



The Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust

Progress and new challenges before WSC 2018

The *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT)* represents the collective decisions of the World Service Conference to preserve the integrity of NA's published message and the accountability of its publishing services.

The *FIPT* came about as a result of a lawsuit concerning the production and distribution of the Basic Text. It was a very difficult time for all involved, and the hope was that the Conference decisions would give the Fellowship common ground from which to move forward.

In the 1991 *CAR*, the World Service Office Board of Directors made clear that the Conference would discuss the fiduciary role of the WSO to the Fellowship. Their report in the *CAR* included the following:

The initial reasons for creating a fiduciary entity were twofold:

1. To establish, for N.A., the capacity to protect and secure all intellectual properties, trademarks, and copyrights of the N.A. Fellowship.
2. To provide an essential mechanism by which all N.A. literature, books, pamphlets, handbooks, etc., would be uniformly produced, printed, manufactured, sold, and distributed.

The intent was to adequately protect the fellowship's properties; and to have the ability to take sufficient action, should the rights of the fellowship be infringed upon by others; and to firmly secure the production and distribution of N.A.'s conference-approved written message in a single management point. Thus, the WSO was created and strengthened. As the WSO grew, additional functions were added, such as providing administrative, organizational, and logistical support to the World Service Conference, and the fellowship as a whole.

Certainly, the activities during this past year concerning the production and distribution of Book One of the Basic Text have caused us to place these issues in front of our members again.

Our choices are not simple, and require a great deal of discussion: To reaffirm our past decisions, modify them, or provide another mechanism to protect and hold the properties of our fellowship. We encourage you to consider the issues carefully, and be prepared to discuss them at length at the Conference.

If the fellowship wishes to continue to have the WSO act in this capacity, then the conference will need to discuss it thoroughly, and choose to act positively on the following statements:

1. To reaffirm that all of N.A.'s intellectual and physical properties are held in a fiduciary capacity by the WSO, Inc., on behalf of the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous.
2. To reaffirm that the World Service Office, Inc., is the exclusive publisher and distributor of all World Service Conference-approved literature, including all books, pamphlets, handbooks, and other intellectual and physical properties, as directed by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous through the World Service Conference.

As a result of those discussions, the 1991 World Service Conference passed the following motion:

“To reaffirm and ratify that the ownership of all of N.A.'s intellectual and physical properties prepared in the past, and to be prepared into the future, is held by WSO, Inc., which holds such title in trust on behalf of the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole, in accordance with the decisions of the World Service Conference.

This statement provided clear direction on the production and sale of NA literature. The WSO intellectual property attorney was present at that same Conference to answer questions and help ensure that participants understood the legal implications of their decisions. She explained that “This motion, if passed, will provide a written conference action which says that the WSC said very clearly ‘we want all the legal ownership rights to belong to the service office which acts on our behalf.’” She went on to say, “This needs to be done for the benefit of those people who do not have the time, energy, nor the interest to look back at what really happened and would rather argue that the past consists of what they believe should have happened.”

Delegates gathered at the 1991 WSC took further action in response to the questions resulting from the report in the *CAR* regarding illicit literature and the recent lawsuit by writing and adopting the following statement:

The voting participants of the 1991 World Service Conference, after much discussion and consideration of several motions, voted to issue the following statement to the fellowship:

“The Basic Text, Fifth Edition, is the only edition of the Basic Text that is currently approved by the World Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous for publication and sale. The World Service Office Board of Directors is entrusted with the responsibility for protecting the fellowship's physical and intellectual properties, including the Basic Text, and at the board of directors' discretion, shall take legal action to protect those rights against any and all persons who choose to infringe upon this literature trust.”

Along with the motions to approve a Sixth Edition Basic Text, the 2008 *CAR* explained, “If a Sixth Edition Basic Text is approved, a footnote will be added to this explaining that the Sixth Edition replaced the Fifth Edition in 2008.” *GWSNA* now includes this clarifying note under the 1991 statement:

WSC 2008 approved the Sixth Edition Basic Text. It is now the only edition approved for *NAWS* production with the exceptions called out in the Translations Policy.

In an attempt to create healing for an issue that had caused so much pain in the Fellowship, the Board of Trustees worked for two years with the WSO Board and an RSR Working Group to workshop and present to WSC 1993, the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust*. As stated in Article I, Section 4 of the *FIPT*:

The sole object and purpose of this Trust is to hold and administer all recovery literature and other intellectual properties of the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous in a manner that will help addicts find recovery from the disease of addiction and carry that message of recovery to the addict who still suffers, in keeping with the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of NA.

The *FIPT* provides the foundation for our stewardship of the NA message around the world. For example, newer NA communities benefit from *NAWS*' guidance and support for translations. The unity in local communities frequently grows strong as they take on the task of creating a glossary of translated NA terminology. The fidelity of the NA message is rooted in our singleness of purpose and our understanding of the nature of addiction. Coming to understand a key term like *addiction* in order to convey the concept in a member's native language strengthens their own recovery and their

NA communities, and the process ensures the fidelity of the NA message. Such scenarios play out again and again across the globe. Literature sales make this work possible, and support for translations ensures the clarity and integrity of the NA message everywhere you find it.

The *FIPT* was created to hold the Fellowship's property in trust. It was never envisioned as a financial management document but as a clear statement about how we handle any recovery literature with the NA logo—that literature must be approved by the WSC and published by the then-WSO. When the Board of Directors and the WSO became part of what is now NA World Services, Inc., in 1998, the financial management policies adopted focused on what and how NA World Services reports income and expense. No request was made or consideration given to separating what was *FIPT*-related revenue and expense from other revenue and expense. Approximately 68 percent of NA World Services income comes from literature held in trust as called out in the *FIPT*. In 2017, other literature income, such as service material, keytags, and specialty items, was approximately 19 percent of our net income, and contributions accounted for a record 13 percent. None of our expense categories makes any distinction based on the *FIPT*. The *FIPT* has never been discussed as a financially based document.

We have been able to keep NA literature affordable by controlling production costs. Saving on the production side has made it possible to offer literature at reasonable prices while investing any excesses back into the vital work of translations, public relations, support for existing NA groups and members, and Fellowship development, to name a few of the core services NAWS supports and provides. We report on these efforts and more in publications like *NAWS News* and the *NAWS Annual Report*.

Literature sales also support our practice of giving away literature. We send hundreds of Basic Texts to isolated or incarcerated members each year and routinely provide literature at little or no cost to developing communities. These efforts on our part supplement the efforts of groups and individuals who make it a priority to get a Basic Text into the hands of any addict who wants one.

The *FIPT* spells out the conditions under which a group can reproduce NA literature. Unfortunately, a small faction within our Fellowship continues to reproduce and distribute a version of the Basic Text that includes passages from earlier editions that were rejected and revised as directed by the WSC. These passages mischaracterize the very nature of NA and do not reflect the understanding of our currently approved NA literature. What's more, reproducing any version of the Basic Text outside of the group level goes against the group conscience as expressed by the World Service Conference on multiple occasions.

Experience tells us that a court battle would be unlikely to produce any real winners. We have relied instead on bringing this activity to members' attention. To their credit, NA communities have rallied to reject the unethical behavior of those involved and the publications they produce. The once-steady stream of inquiries about the illicit publication and its distribution attests to "the integrity and effectiveness of our communications" as discussed in Concept Eight and the strength of local efforts once armed with accurate information.

Despite this success, social media continue to stir up controversy in a way that is very difficult to gauge. New media often spread misinformation. In fact, most of the questions members raise about NAWS' financial operations can easily be put to rest by referencing the financial statements we publish; in particular, most information is readily available in the budget and cover sheet published in the Conference Approval Track material before each WSC and in the *NAWS Annual Report* available each spring. Nonetheless, memes and accusations circulating on social media create an atmosphere of suspicion in which the integrity of NAWS' operations are frequently called into question.

In this atmosphere, it's easy to understand why a region might pass a motion to "agree in principle . . . [to] request an inspection of the records and operations of NA World Services per the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT)*..." As we reported in the most recent issue of *NAWS News* (October 2017), we received such a request from a region and have responded to that request.

The requesting region adopted the motion "to agree in principle . . ." in December 2016. We received their request the day after our April 2017 meeting. The first time we could sit together as a Board was July 2017, and we took this request so seriously that we asked our corporate and intellectual property attorneys to attend our meeting and help us understand the issues. This was a request to invoke a legal inspection as called for in a trust document. Most of us are not attorneys, and we needed to understand clearly what we were being asked. We responded to the region, asking for clarification following our July meeting, and are now waiting to hear back from the region. Unfortunately, this motion and the request produced after its passage have led to some confusion and misunderstanding. We've tried to address some of the frequently asked questions regarding the request for inspection in what follows.

FAQs

Q: Doesn't the *FIPT* say that any region can request an inspection?

A: Yes, but the request, as submitted, may not conform to the guidelines laid out in the *FIPT*. To begin with, the motion passed by the requesting region appears only to have authorized that they agreed in principle that a request be drafted. To date, we have not been able to confirm that the region had the opportunity to review or approve the specific request that was submitted on their behalf. We have requested clarification from the region.

Q: Why did NAWS consult an attorney?

A: The *FIPT* is a legal document filed in the state of California. The request from the region relates directly to this document, so it seemed prudent to consult legal counsel. This is new territory for us. No region has ever called for an inspection, so there's no experience to draw on for enacting this provision.

Q: Why the delay? Is NAWS stonewalling?

A: Some people have incorrectly compared the inspection request and the time we're taking to fulfill that request to asking your home group's treasurer to see the group's records and being refused. We can see how this comparison could cause alarm. Others have noted that a more apt comparison would be a scenario in which a group member asks the treasurer to spend money and is told by the treasurer that she or he would need to consult with the rest of the group. We aren't stonewalling; we're simply trying to be responsible stewards of the Fellowship's resources. Put simply, it just takes time to work through all that's involved with this request. We've asked for clarification from the requesting region about the scope of their request for inspection. Some of the concerns listed seem unrelated to the *FIPT* and appear to extend to all financial matters. For example, the request raises questions about production decisions that are clearly the Board's responsibility according to the *FIPT*. Getting clarification is our first order of business. We don't believe that the region intended to initiate this large of a project—the estimated fees from our CPA are \$100,000 for their involvement alone—so we felt obliged to inform the region about the level of time and effort involved in the enterprise, as proposed, and the expense this labor would generate. It also seemed to us that the WSC would want a chance to discuss the matter, given the level of investment this request would require.

Q: Why don't you just give them what gets handed to the auditors?

A: We hire a reputable independent CPA firm to perform an annual audit of NAWS' finances. Their team spends weeks in the Chatsworth office each spring reviewing a myriad of randomly selected

documents and ledgers, independently contacting each of the banks we use, and comparing our practices and records to published policies and established accounting practices. This annual audit costs us between \$20,000 and \$30,000, and the results are reviewed by an audit committee, presented to the Board, and published in each *Annual Report*. The same firm is able to conduct an audit of most of our branches, but for Iran we have had to hire an additional CPA firm that operates in Iran and reports to our auditing firm. This process conforms to accounting industry standards and has not been called into question previously by the WSC. *Annual Reports* that include the independent auditor's report dating back to 2003 are posted online at www.na.org/ar.

Q. Why wait for the WSC to resolve this?

A. Given the resources required, we feel compelled to consult with the Conference. NAWS is moving forward with all deliberate speed while maintaining our commitment to integrity and accountability. At the time of this writing, we are waiting to hear back from the requesting region. It's an important matter, and it's worth taking the time to resolve this thoughtfully.

Even a scaled-back request would come at a substantial cost. Given the investment of Fellowship funds required, we want to give the WSC an opportunity to address this matter. Regional delegates have every right to raise legitimate concerns about trust-related activities. When and if an inspection is performed, we want to be sure it addresses the needs of NA as a whole. If the Conference shares the requesting region's concerns, we would immediately comply with a request.

Q. What's this talk about changing the *FIPT* as a result of this request?

A. The inspection provision in the *FIPT* has not been updated since the document was approved by the WSC in 1993. We were a much smaller Fellowship at that time, and our services and budgets were organized differently in those days. As part of a comprehensive review, World Services was restructured, and what had been three independent budgets was unified into a single budget. This took place years after the *FIPT* was approved. As a result of this restructuring, one Board—the World Board of NA—would be elected by and accountable to the World Service Conference. Instead of three separate budgets for the office, the Conference, and the convention, only one of which was in the purview of the Conference, a single unified budget was created. Prior to the restructuring, the office and convention budgets were not reviewed and approved by the Conference. Since restructuring, the Conference reviews and approves all our operating expenses in a unified budget.

And while all of that makes sense in terms of accountability, it does complicate matters in terms of a *FIPT* inspection. Expenses and income associated with the intellectual property held in trust are now mixed with other revenue streams at World Services, and none of our expenses are categorized as *FIPT* or non-*FIPT* expenses. Separating out trust-related funds from current ledgers would be no small task.

The resources that would be required to fulfill the request, as written, set off some alarm bells. We were not comfortable devoting that much time and money without consulting the WSC. The idea that a single region can initiate an inspection process, without regard to its cost, seems more aligned with the WSC of the early 1990s than with the collaborative, consensus-based body we have today. Given the nature of our Conference today, we feel obliged to give the WSC an opportunity to discuss the possibility of amending the *FIPT* in the future.

NAWS Strategic Plan

If you have read any of World Services' reports, you've probably heard us refer to the NAWS Strategic Plan. Here is a bit of background for those of you who have wondered, "What is that strategic plan thing, and how does it work?" First, it's important to note that the strategic plan primarily addresses areas in which our work grows and changes; much of our work throughout each two-year cycle remains relatively consistent from year to year, and is not specifically outlined in the plan.

The NAWS Strategic Plan addresses activity related to changes and improvements. Every two years, the World Board takes a fresh look at A Vision for NA Service to guide how we will focus our energy and resources during the upcoming two-year cycle in our efforts toward our long-term goals. The unfortunate reality is that we can never do all we would like to do. Because we cannot do it all, we have to create a list of priorities each cycle that we believe will best serve the Fellowship and the Conference in the two years ahead.

Input from several sources influences the development of the strategic plan. Discussions at the past World Service Conference, interactions with members around the world at workshops and other events, and correspondence with NA members all play a part of the first step of the planning process called the *environmental scan*. We look at factors within and outside of NA that may affect us. For example, we may consider the state of our relationships with the public and organizations we interact with in our efforts to make NA available to addicts seeking recovery, and look at how our groups and service bodies are doing in carrying the NA message and providing services.

This past cycle, for the first time, we asked delegates and/or regions to help us with the environmental scan. In November 2016, we distributed a survey asking regions to help us map the trends the plan should address. We received responses from 66 regions, and those responses are helping to shape the 2016–2018 NAWS Strategic Plan. The Conference Approval Track (CAT) material will include a summary of the regional input to the environmental scan in addition to the plan itself.

The Board uses information gathered in the environmental scan to determine goals we want to accomplish in the two years ahead. Those goals are the plan's *objectives*. Along with the objectives, the plan lists the *strategies* we think will help us accomplish those goals in the upcoming cycle.

The project plans that are included in the CAT material with the proposed budget all stem from these objectives and strategies. The strategic plan always contains more goals than we know we can achieve in a cycle, and usually there are more projects proposed than we expect to complete. This allows flexibility to utilize resources where and when they are available while still remaining accountable to the Fellowship.

And so, for instance, the 2016–2018 Strategic Plan included ten objectives. One of those objectives addressed Recovery Literature: "Develop new recovery literature and/or revise existing literature to meet Fellowship needs." The two strategies to work toward that objective last cycle were (a) publish *Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions*, and (b) identify and pursue development of recovery literature priorities, based on the results of the 2016 CAR Fellowship survey on recovery literature.

This first strategy is a concrete goal that has been accomplished: The 2016 World Service Conference approved *Guiding Principles* and the book was published a few months later and is now available in English, Farsi, and Spanish, with many additional translation efforts underway.

The second strategy describes a broader goal, and the work we have done this cycle will shape two project plans that will be included in the 2018 CAT material. At the 2016 WSC, delegates reviewed the results of the CAR survey, and decided to focus on framing two projects with the highest priority

in the survey—a new meditation book and an IP on recovery and mental health/mental illness. The Conference had also passed a motion submitted by a region during old business to “develop a project plan which includes a budget and timeline to create an informational pamphlet specifically about mental illness and recovery for consideration at the 2018 World Service Conference.”

During this two-year cycle, we have collected thousands of pieces of input from NA members around the world about these potential pieces of literature. The input will help us frame the project plans and the focus of the pieces, and will provide some material to begin a draft.

In short, the strategic planning process looks like this:

Environmental scan (internal and external trends that could affect NA) → Objectives (goals) → Strategies (approaches to work toward that goal) → Project Plans

Continuing with the example of literature items discussed above, if the 2018 WSC approves project plans for a meditation book and an IP on mental health/illness, those are two projects we will work on during the 2018–2020 cycle. During the course of the cycle, we will seek Fellowship input on the project, begin work on drafts, provide updates, and seek Fellowship feedback through a review and input process. When the work is completed, the approval drafts will be published in the *Conference Agenda Report* for Fellowship approval at the WSC.

We are grateful for the thoughtful input from members and service bodies around the world that help to frame the World Services Strategic Plan. Your participation ensures that World Services is working toward the goals that are most important to the Fellowship and toward achieving A Vision for NA Service.

Issue Discussion Topics for 2016–2018

Issue Discussion Topics (IDTs) are subjects that recovering addicts in NA communities around the world focus on in discussions and workshops throughout each two-year Conference cycle. Beginning in 2016, the *Conference Agenda Report* contains a survey for members to prioritize the topics they would most like to discuss in the upcoming cycle.

Each new cycle ushers in new IDTs for members to workshop, whether at the group, area, regional, or zonal level. These conversations encourage each of us to think more deeply about relevant topics and help build unity within our groups and service bodies. In addition, sending the results of your discussions to worldboard@na.org can help shape future Fellowship resources and services. The topics for this cycle were:

How to Use Guiding Principles

As has been our practice in recent cycles, one of the IDTs serves to introduce a new piece of literature. The resources for this topic focused on the questions from the “In Service” section of the first three Tradition essays in *Guiding Principles: The Spirit of Our Traditions*. Communities have also been adapting the workshop materials to discuss some, or all, of the Twelve Traditions. This has proven to be one of the most popular workshop sessions in recent cycles, with standing room only reported at several events. The value of this IDT has been that our principles, as described in our Traditions, address most issues we face, and this book seems to help frame those discussions in a helpful way.

Applying Our Principles to Technology and Social Media

This topic was one of the two prioritized in the 2016 CAR Survey. It addresses applying NA principles in the use of technology and social media by both members and service bodies. The session encouraged attendees to consider some of the available resources relevant to this topic and to discuss potential principle-based solutions to some of the challenges encountered by members and service bodies.

Atmosphere of Recovery in Service

This is another topic that was prioritized by the 2016 CAR Survey. The final focus of the discussion topic was influenced by a regional proposal asking that it be based on the second bullet point from A Vision for NA Service: “Every member, inspired by the gift of recovery, experiences spiritual growth and fulfillment through service.” The resulting session is simple; it provides attendees a chance to discuss ways to nurture an atmosphere of recovery and inspire more members to serve. The session has also proven popular at many types of Fellowship events.

Resources for all of the 2016–2018 IDTs can be found at www.na.org/idt in English and in six additional languages to help hold these discussions locally. A summary of the input received by NA World Services will be included with the *Conference Report*. We received more input this cycle than we have in the last few cycles, so thank you to all who sent us the results of your workshops!

Literature, Service Material, and IDT Survey

In 2016, we included a survey in the *Conference Agenda Report* to help set priorities for recovery literature, service material, and Issue Discussion Topics (IDTs). The survey results helped the 2016 Conference select Issue Discussion Topics and focus the recovery literature and service material projects it approved.

The 2016 survey seemed like such an effective way to get input from the Fellowship about priorities that we are including another survey in this *CAR*. This survey is longer than the previous one because we received so many ideas from Conference participants for what should be on the lists, and we tried to include most of those thoughts.

Members brought the items in this survey to our attention through input from their delegates, regional input to our strategic planning process, emails and calls to World Services, workshop results, conversations with Board members, and Conference participant input on an initial draft of this survey.

We're interested in knowing what the Fellowship believes are priorities for work on new recovery literature and/or service material. If any of these items gain traction—as did the possibilities for a new meditation book and an IP on mental health/mental illness in 2016—the WSC may approve taking next steps. This might involve collecting front-end input through surveys or web meetings in order to shape a project plan for consideration at WSC 2020.

The work of the literature projects for this past cycle has included collecting preliminary input on two potential pieces of recovery literature: a book of daily meditations and a pamphlet on mental health/mental illness. This preliminary input will shape the project plans that will be in the 2018 Conference Approval Track to be decided by the 2018 World Service Conference. Should these project plans be approved, work on these two pieces of literature will be a priority in the 2018–2020 cycle.

The work of the service material project this past cycle has been ongoing with two focuses—conventions/events and local service tools. As of this writing, delegates are reviewing the first two pieces from these projects, and the drafts are posted online at www.na.org/conventions and www.na.org/toolbox. We intend to include project plans to continue the work of the service materials project in the 2018 Conference Approval Track material, and the results of this survey may help shape the local service toolbox work, depending on what the Fellowship prioritizes.

Recovery Literature

Unless otherwise directed by WSC 2018, we are planning to prioritize work on:

A meditation book

An IP on mental health/mental illness

Both of these focuses were agreed upon by WSC 2016, and we had a survey during the 2016–2018 cycle to collect ideas to help frame and start putting together these pieces

The options below are a chance to prioritize possible future work/project plans. Any of these ideas that rank highly may lend themselves to a survey during the upcoming Conference cycle to help frame the project plan and gather front-end input, like we've done with the meditation book and mental health survey this cycle.

Recovery Literature—Pick Two

Adapt <i>Social Media and Our Guiding Principles</i> to an IP from an SP	
An IP for members: NA and addicts on DRT/MAT	
Booklet of Step study questions taken from “How It Works” in the Basic Text	
Booklet of Step study questions from <i>It Works: How and Why</i> and/or <i>Living Clean</i>	
Step working booklet focused mainly on Steps 1–3 aimed primarily for new members and those in treatment and drug courts	
Step working guide aimed at members not new to the Steps, as a follow-up set of Steps	
Concepts book similar to <i>Guiding Principles</i>	
List and definition of spiritual principles	
The spiritual benefits of service	
Members’ experience, strength, and hope on trustworthiness and trusting	
Atmosphere of recovery in service	
Appropriate meeting behavior	
Pamphlet on the First Tradition	
Literature targeted to: Younger members	
Literature targeted to: Older members	
Literature targeted to: Experienced members/“oldtimers”	
Literature targeted to: LGBTQ members	
Literature targeted to: Women in recovery	
Literature targeted to: First nations/indigenous members	
Literature targeted to: Members who are professionals	
Literature targeted to: Members who are veterans	
Literature targeted to: Atheists and members with non-mainstream spiritual beliefs	
An IP: Regardless of age, race, sex, sexual identity, creed, religion, or lack of religion	
What does it mean that NA is a spiritual, not religious, program?	

Revise the <i>Sponsorship</i> book	
Revise <i>The Loner</i>	
Revise <i>H&I Service and the NA Member</i>	
Revise <i>PI and the NA Member</i>	
Revise another piece of NA literature:	
Other:	
No new recovery lit	

Service Material

As with the recovery literature category, work is already underway on previously prioritized service material. We began work on two service material project focuses after WSC 2016: Local Service Toolbox and Conventions and Events.

Unless otherwise directed by the WSC, we plan to continue developing pieces for a Conventions and Events Toolbox. So far, we have worked on two smaller pieces—one piece on Program, and one on Money Management—which are meant to be part of the larger Toolbox.

The Local Service Toolbox pieces we have drafted, on the other hand, can function as stand-alone pieces. So far, we have worked on CBDM Basics and a piece on Serving in Rural and Isolated Communities. Most of the items below could easily fit into a Local Service Toolbox along with those two pieces already in development.

Service Material—Pick Two

Carrying the NA message	
Principles in service	
Atmosphere of recovery in service	
Applying the Concepts—videos of members sharing in their own words how they applied each Concept	
What is NA World Services and how does it work?	
Our public image: dealing with loss of confidence in NA	
More social media guidelines above and beyond the service pamphlet	
More short, focused PR resources	
Tools to assist PR efforts to reach the medical community	
Literature for justice department professionals/referrers	
Sponsorship behind the walls basics	
Fellowship development basics	
FD—it's not just something that happens "somewhere else"	
Collaborating among service bodies	
When service bodies split or reunify	
How to hold a virtual service meeting	
Facilitation basics	

How to plan a learning day	
Best practices for service workshops	
How to put on a planning assembly (including sample agendas)	
Getting started with project-based services	
Revise <i>Planning Basics</i>	
Regional inventory process/questions	
Description of service commitments at areas and regions [Note: We already have a service pamphlet on group trusted servants. If this piece is prioritized, it might make sense to somehow combine this information.]	
Effective report writing	
GSR orientation material	
Literature on mentorship, including as it relates to service bodies and new meetings	
Service system basics	
Local service conference and local service board basics	
Role of zones in the service structure	
Policy in NA—different kinds of policy styles and approaches	
Information for creating legal entities/incorporating	
The <i>Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT)</i> and local websites	
Dealing with banks and government financial regulations	
Dealing with misappropriation of NA funds	
Area treasurers' basics	
Area budgeting basics	
Revise <i>Translation Basics</i>	
Revise and update <i>PR Handbook</i>	
Other:	

Issue Discussion Topics

The Issue Discussion Topics are just that—issues that are discussed throughout the Fellowship for the two years between Conferences. The results of those discussions can contain some of NA's best practices and have created the foundation for several service pamphlets and other tools and literature, including the Building Strong Home Groups worksheet, service pamphlets such as *Principles and Leadership in NA Service* and *Disruptive and Violent Behavior*, the *Money Matters IP*, and more.

This past cycle's Issue Discussion Topics are described on page 30 of this CAR.

Issue Discussion Topics—Pick Two

Our Symbol—a closer look	
Group conscience	
Carrying the NA message and making NA attractive	

Remaining nonprofessional and carrying the NA message	
PR 101	
Simplicity and flexibility in service	
Empathy in service	
Attracting members to service	
Getting youth and newcomers involved	
Becoming a better sponsor	
Creating community in NA	
Mentorship and how members learn in service	
Leadership in NA	
The integrity and effectiveness of our communications	
Eleventh Concept	
Respecting our differences and building our unity	
Regardless of . . . race, ethnicity, culture	
Retaining members	
<i>In Times of Illness</i> and what our literature says about illness and medication	
Other:	

Regional Motions

There are 25 regional motions in this *Conference Agenda Report*, the most in 20 years. To make it easier for members, groups, and service bodies to read through and workshop the *CAR*, the motions have been grouped into categories. Most of the categories begin with some basic background material and links to relevant documents.

A Guide to World Services in NA explains that “items that appear in the *Conference Agenda Report* are ideally the result of lengthy discussion and input at the previous Conference and throughout the Conference cycle.” (GWSNA, p. 12) A number of the motions that follow could meet that description. They relate to issues that have been actively discussed throughout the cycle—the role of zones, the increasing numbers of potential members prescribed drug replacement therapy, what the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* says about the rights of regions and groups, and so on.

The *CAR* is not the ideal place, however, to handle production decisions. There are so many complicating factors to production issues—translations, digital rights management, intellectual property issues, minimum orders and warehousing needs, availability of materials, customs and duties, and more. As *A Guide to World Services* explains, “The conference has repeatedly voted to not have production issues related to literature, keytags, and medallions decided through the *CAR*. These types of issues should be sent directly to the World Board. A regional motion should only be used when all other avenues have been tried and exhausted.” (p. 13) One way to request products is through a project idea form. This is how we started producing the *Just for Today* calendar, for instance. If the motion to create a poster from the prayer in the Introduction to the Basic Text didn’t involve a wording change, this is the sort of idea that could be accomplished using a project idea form.

As we try to move toward consensus-based decision making, it’s hard not to wonder whether dozens of *CAR* motions is possibly a step backward. How can we have effective discussions together, throughout the Fellowship, that move ideas forward? As a Board, we’ve asked ourselves this question, and we aren’t sure. But we know that yes/no motions aren’t the whole picture. We recognize that the avenues to discuss ideas between Conferences could be better. Improving communication among Conference participants between WSCs has been a focus of ours this cycle and will continue to be so in the cycle ahead. Sometimes a motion in the *CAR* feels like the only way to get an idea discussed, and that’s something we need to work together, as a Conference, to change.

Every motion in the *CAR* gets translated into a number of languages to be considered by thousands of groups around the world. Addicts on every continent (except Antarctica), in countless richly varied places, all come together to discuss the same issues and listen for the will of a Higher Power as it may be expressed in their group conscience. That process is really amazing, nothing short of miraculous. We are at our best as a Fellowship when this degree of international time and focus is taken up with issues related to how to more successfully carry the message to the addict who still suffers.

LITERATURE AND PRODUCTS

Some background information and links related to this topic can be found below. These may be helpful when considering some of the motions related to literature and products.

Social Media and Our Guiding Principles service pamphlet:

<https://www.na.org/?ID=servicemat-svc-pamphlets>

IP #27: *For the Parents or Guardians of Young People in NA:*

<https://www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/files/EN3127.pdf>

A description of approval processes for NA material begins on page 39 of *A Guide to World Services in NA*:

https://www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/pdf/conference/2016-18%20GWSNA_Web.pdf

Motion 1: To direct the World Board to create a project plan for consideration at WSC 2020 to convert the service pamphlet *Social Media* and our Guiding Principles into a recovery IP that includes fellowship input and review.

Intent: To have a fellowship approved IP that is available for use in NA groups on this topic.

Makers: Ohio Region and Michigan Region

Financial Impact: There is minimal cost in creating a project plan. The cost to NAWS would be in the project itself if the plan were adopted by the WSC. The initial cost of producing this service pamphlet has already been incurred.

Rationale by Region: Although the SP *Social Media* and our Guiding Principles has been available for a few years, it never went out to the fellowship for neither input nor review and was distributed as Board Approved material. In keeping with our long-standing practice of only using fellowship approved material in NA group meetings it would only make sense to have this valuable resource available to groups particularly in this age of hashtags, re-tweets, tags, etc. that sometimes affects a member's anonymity unbeknownst to them and at times resulting in negative consequences to that "ousted" member.

World Board Response: It seems to us that there are advantages and disadvantages to converting *Social Media and Our Guiding Principles* to an informational pamphlet.

Though not as commonly available as informational pamphlets (IPs), service pamphlets (SPs) are stocked by many groups and kept on the literature table for reference. However, they are clearly marked *Service pamphlets should be used by members, groups, and service committees as a resource rather than being read in an NA meeting*. Converting *Social Media and Our Guiding Principles* to an IP would mean it has Fellowship approval and could be read in meetings. More members would likely be exposed to the piece, as IPs generally have greater distribution than service pamphlets. On the other hand, were this to become an IP, any potential revisions or changes to the piece would have to appear in the *Conference Agenda Report* and be approved at the Conference before being made.

If this motion passes, we would create a project plan to be considered at WSC 2020. The project itself, if approved, would take place in the 2020–2022 cycle, and we do not anticipate it would require a workgroup. We would send out the existing service pamphlet or a similar draft for a 90-day review and input period, timed to coincide with other Fellowship mailings. We foresee minimal expense with this idea. We undertook a similar process when we worked on the project to convert the service pamphlet *An Introduction to NA Meetings* to an informational pamphlet. We have also added this idea to the literature survey, which is included in this *Conference Agenda Report* and online at www.na.org/conference.

Policy Affected: None

Motion 2: Remove from the NAWS catalog and inventory IP 27 *For The parents or Guardians of Young People in NA*

Intent: Take this pamphlet out of the NA product list and literature materials, approved by the NA fellowship.

Maker: Venezuela Region

Financial Impact: Revenue from sales of IP #27 would be lost, which amounts to roughly \$10,000 a year. We would also have to destroy the IPs in stock as of the time of the Conference.

Rationale by Region: It would make us focus more on our primary purpose of carrying the message to addict who still suffers, and not doing so directly to their families, friends or acquaintances. We could soon fall on the temptation of creating recovery literature materials for spouses of addicts and for their employers, etc. Even though this pamphlet has been requested in previous new literature creation surveys and it was approved, we believe that it does not deal with an NA matter. We also don't consider it a PR or PI pamphlet for professionals or for the public in general, as the Narcotics Anonymous: A Resource in your Community, Information About NA, Membership Survey, Narcotics Anonymous and People Who Received Medical Assisted Treatment and now Narcotics Anonymous and Mental Health and Mental Illness.

World Board Response: WSC 2006 approved a project for targeted literature, and the focus was young people. In addition to a workgroup, we brought in a group of very young members who were minors or had gotten clean when they were minors. That group of members spoke strongly of the need for a piece of literature to go along with the youth IP that would help explain the program to addicts' parents or guardians. *For the Parents or Guardians of Young People in NA* grew out of that discussion with our younger members. The IP does not seek to counsel parents and guardians in any way. It is simply informational about NA. The IP was approved at the 2008 World Service Conference after being released to the Fellowship in the *Conference Agenda Report*. It is currently translated into twelve languages, and we have distributed over 700,000 copies since it was published.

The passage from the 2008 CAR essay reflects how we continue to feel about the IP:

For the Parents or Guardians of Young People in NA is a pamphlet that explains NA to parents or guardians of young members, with an emphasis on information that is particularly relevant to their situations. While some of us have been reserved about the idea of creating literature that speaks to non-addicts, workgroup members felt that it would be important to give parents and guardians relevant information about who and what we are. This is not unlike what we have done in other pieces, such as *Information about NA*, and it could make the difference between whether or not a young addict is permitted to attend NA meetings.

We believe having this IP available may mean the difference between being able to get to a meeting and being prohibited from attending NA for some of our young members.

Publishing the material as an informational pamphlet rather than a PR pamphlet means that more groups are likely to stock it, it has Fellowship approval, and it's more likely to get into the hands of the parents or guardians for whom it is intended. It still seems appropriate to us that we describe what NA is and is not to this audience, rather than potentially having an outside organization take on this responsibility.

Policy Affected: None

Motion 3: To direct the World Board to create a project plan for a Step Study booklet containing questions derived only from sentences in the Basic Text chapter 'How It works', for consideration at WSC 2020.

Intent: To create a fellowship approved, inexpensive, NA Step study questions booklet that relates directly back to the Basic Text without additional interpretation required.

Maker: Baja Son Region

Financial Impact: There is minimal cost in creating a project plan. The cost to NAWS would be in the project itself if the plan were adopted by the WSC.

Rationale by Region: The purpose of this motion is to make the NA Back to the Basic, Basic Text Step Study Questions available from the World Service Office. These questions have been in use in Canada and the United States for over 30 years and in Spanish are familiar to many Spanish speakers in recovery in North, Central and South America. Our Basic Text provides our fellowship definitions of NA recovery terms and understandings. When treatment center clients study our Basic Text they are learning about NA from NA literature, not some other interpretation. The beauty of these Basic Text Step Study questions is that the answer is always the original line in the Basic Text from which the question was created. Because the response is not personality based, these questions work well in developing communities, isolated communities and across distances via telephone and internet. This is not a request to develop a new book. There are 483 questions in the complete Twelve Steps of Basic Text Step Study Questions and the result of this motion would be a stapled booklet about the size of the Group Booklet. The NA Introductory Guide combined with these Basic Text Step Study Questions is an inexpensive way to bring the NA program into both the incarceration and addiction rehabilitation environments. A first time through the Steps with the Basic Text provides a strong foundation for all members and facilitates future study with other NA literature. Having these questions Conference approved would make these NA Step study questions available from the WSO for fellowship dissemination and purchase.

World Board Response: The intention here, as expressed in the motion's rationale, is to reproduce an already-existing set of questions as Fellowship-approved literature. We recommend not to adopt this motion because it is not policy or practice to forward an already-developed text for approval without allowing Fellowship input to impact the project and the draft. Fellowship ideas and input frame each literature project from the beginning, before any writing even begins to take place. Fellowship review and input on the draft work can then further impact the direction and content of the piece. For example, the idea for a Traditions guide originally came from a particular region and zone, but the book that was ultimately developed and approved through the literature process took a much different approach than their initial draft. When we began that project, we asked the Fellowship what they would like to see in a Traditions workbook. Fellowship input shaped the initial direction of the project and then further refined the draft after the review process.

Any project plan would be developed with that creative, collaborative, international process in mind. The process for creating NA literature begins by collecting input from the Fellowship as a whole and reflecting those ideas back in the draft piece of literature. That process could create a very different result from what this motion is seeking.

That said, this idea as well as another idea for a step working guide for new members and those in treatment or incarcerated are both part of the recovery literature survey in this CAR. We feel this process better allows the Fellowship to decide what they would like to prioritize.

Policy Affected: The following policies would be affected by the adoption of this motion.

A Guide to World Services in NA, p. 32:

Guidelines for the NA World Services Budget

No project proposal will be considered for prioritization or action during the same WSC as it was originally proposed.

GWSNA, pp. 39–40:

Approval Process for NA Material

Fellowship-Approved

As covered in the following section on the approval process for recovery literature, all NA recovery material is Fellowship-approved. This means that it is developed by NA World Services, sent out to the Fellowship for review and input, and ultimately sent out for approval by the Fellowship in the *Conference Agenda Report*. The specifics for each piece of Fellowship-approved recovery literature are covered in the project plan for each piece that is presented and approved by the World Service Conference before work is begun.

Motion 4: To direct NAWS to produce and add to inventory an MP3 digital download of the Basic Text Fifth Edition in Spanish, previously in inventory on audio cassette. By conference policy, NAWS is not authorized to publish a fifth edition once a sixth edition is available. This motion would provide for a one-time waiver of the policy for NAWS until the Spanish Sixth edition is completed.

Intent: To have an audio MP3 version of the Spanish Basic Text in NAWS inventory.

Maker: Eastern New York Region

Financial Impact: The cost to convert the existing cassettes to MP3 format is relatively minor. However the cost of the technology to distribute the files is a much more complicated question that we cannot accurately estimate at this time.

Rationale by Region: To make a Fellowship approved Basic Text immediately available through the transfer of the media cassette version to a cost-effective media technology for members to access through digital download, according to the spiritual goals encompassed in our vision statement.

World Board Response: Producing and distributing an MP3 version of the Spanish-language Fifth Edition Basic Text is a complicated project for a couple of reasons. As the motion indicates, to do so would require a Conference decision to set aside policy that the Sixth Edition is the only edition approved for NAWS production.

The cassette version of the Spanish-language Fifth Edition Basic Text was first published in 2001. We have not sold a copy since 2008 when the Sixth Edition Basic Text was published, but we still occasionally include copies with sea freight orders to RSOs in Latin America to deplete our stock. Prior to 2008, we distributed fewer than 100 copies a year. In the last five years, we have distributed fewer than ten per year.

We are currently working with the approval panel for Spanish translations, which is part of the Latin American Zonal Forum (LAZF), to get an audio version of the Sixth Edition completed. However, even if the audio translation were complete, current technology would create challenges for us in terms of online distribution. The primary digital rights management company for audiobooks mandates that they themselves set the pricing of items, and well-known commercial distribution channels retain about 70 percent of the purchase price for themselves. If we don't distribute the MP3s through these channels and make them available as a free download, for instance, we still need to work

through the details of how to distribute the files responsibly and in line with our fiduciary responsibility as the trustees of the *FIPT*.

In short, we would like to make this happen, but we still have a number of unanswered questions. We will continue to work on how to best make audio versions of our texts available,

Policy Affected: The following policies would be affected by the adoption of this motion.

GWSNA, p. 47:

1991 WSC New Business

- The voting participants of the 1991 World Service Conference, after much discussion and consideration of several motions, voted to issue the following statement to the fellowship: “The Basic Text, Fifth Edition, is the only edition of the Basic Text that is currently approved by the World Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous for publication and sale. The World Service Office Board of Directors is entrusted with the responsibility for protecting the fellowship's physical and intellectual properties, including the Basic Text, and at the board of directors’ discretion, shall take legal action to protect those rights against any and all persons who choose to infringe upon this literature trust.”

WSC 2008 approved the Sixth Edition Basic Text. It is now the only edition approved for NAWS production, with the exceptions called out in the Translations Policy.

GWSNA, p. 39:

World Services Translation Policy

Basic Text and Little White Book Personal Stories

We will continue to publish translated Fifth Edition versions of the Basic Text until the local community has translated and signed off on the new material in the Sixth Edition for publishing. These versions now include a variety of material, from no personal stories to some selection of Fifth Edition personal stories, to locally developed and World Board–approved local stories. These versions will continue to be published as Fifth Edition Basic Texts. NA communities that wish to have the first ten chapters now titled “Our Program” published while they work on translating some or all of the Sixth Edition personal stories will continue to be able to do so. These partial translations would also be published as Fifth Edition Basic Texts.

Motion 5: To approve an NA Service Prayer, utilizing the language that is already in the intro of the Basic Text, substituting the word write with the word serve, including it in the set of posters of the meetings for NA groups, as shown here:

“GOD, grant us knowledge that we may ~~write~~serve according to Your Divine precepts. Instill in us a sense of Your purpose. Make us servants of your will and grant us a bond of selflessness that this may truly be your work, not ours, in order that no addict, anywhere, need die from the horrors of addiction.”

Intent: Create an NA Service Prayer *of this type* that it is not directly related to the NA Service Vision.

Maker: Venezuela Region

Financial Impact: It would take minimal staff time and production costs to add this poster to our inventory.

Rationale by Region: It is used in several regions in their service meetings and service bodies without having been approved, which creates controversies because it's not in the literature with the word serve but instead it's used with the word write. The idea is to approve it without any inconveniences, and to use it formally and not because someone decide it.

World Board Response: Service bodies have been adapting the prayer in the Basic Text Introduction in this way for decades, and we can easily carry out this request if the Fellowship approves the word change and use. We do not foresee a problem with adding this to our set of posters.

Policy Affected: None

Motion 6: To direct NAWS to produce and add to inventory keytags that reflect the growth of years clean in Fellowship Worldwide; specifically, Granite for one Decade, Purple for Decades Clean and Pink for 25 Years Clean.

Intent: To add the option of items indicating longer cleantime to the keytags available from NAWS.

Maker: Eastern New York Region

Financial Impact: It is hard to estimate the financial impact. The dye costs for a new keytag are relatively minimal. However, we publish keytags in more than 50 languages, and even a minimal cost multiplied by 50 begins to add up. The more significant cost comes from producing the items in bulk, warehousing the item in four locations, and managing the inventory, particularly in language groups where the demand may be minimal.

Rationale by Region: Celebration of clean time is an expression of the effectiveness of our program. The motion proposes these cleantime designations based on the percentages of years drug-free in our worldwide Fellowship (re: Membership Survey 2016), which can be adjusted by NAWS production accordingly. The hope is that this approach would address the issue of financial prudence so that production could be tied to actual Fellowship growth. Members of the Fellowship who would like to purchase these keytags for NA Regions, Areas or Groups for distribution and personal celebration of clean time can do so in implicit compliance with the FIPT and in the assurance that 100% of the members' purchases will support our Fellowship to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.

World Board Response: We are not opposed to producing and distributing any recovery-related items the Fellowship wants, including various keytags, but we would like to avoid producing and warehousing items for which there is no real demand. We have a couple of concerns—one is that so many of these keytags are in circulation already that we are not sure there remains enough of a need or desire to warrant their production. The second concern is that there are numerous language groups where the demand may be quite minimal and yet we will be expected to produce these keytags as part of the complete set of keytags. We currently produce keytags in more than 50 languages.

As we explain in the introductory essay to the regional motions section of this *CAR*, the Conference has repeatedly reaffirmed the idea that production issues related to literature, keytags, and medallions should not be decided through the *CAR*. We would prefer that these types of issues be sent directly to the World Board, but we also know that we do not have a good mechanism to assess Fellowship desire. We welcome your ideas on how we can improve this part of our communication process.

Policy Affected: None

FELLOWSHIP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY TRUST

Some background information and links related to this topic can be found below. These may be helpful when considering the motions related to the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust*.

The *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT)* describes in detail how NA's name, trademarks, and recovery literature are protected and administered by Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc., so that NA's name, trademarks, and recovery literature will always be available to fulfill our primary purpose.

Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust and related documents, including *FIPT Bulletin #1*: <https://www.na.org/fipt>

Service pamphlets: <https://www.na.org/?ID=servicemat-svc-pamphlets>

The WSC 2016 Draft Conference Minutes and *Conference Report* are both available from the Conference page: <https://www.na.org/conference>

Motion 7: To direct the World Board to create a Service Pamphlet (SP) that clearly and simply outlines the rights of groups to reprint Narcotics Anonymous recovery literature covered under the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* and its bulletins.

Intent: To make a clear, simple, and easily accessible Service Pamphlet that groups can purchase or download that makes clear groups' rights in reprinting Narcotics Anonymous literature as defined by the FIPT.

Maker: Northern New York Region

Financial Impact: The cost of creating a service pamphlet is relatively minimal. It requires staff time to put together the information, World Board review and approval, and Conference participant review and input. The review draft could be combined with a regular Conference participant mailing to save postage.

Rationale by Region: We addicts spent much of our lives living without choice, and we have fought hard in our recovery to regain choice. When there's even the perception that we are having our choice taken from us, as members and as groups - especially from what is often perceived as an authority figure (NAWS), our rebellious nature shines. There is a great deal of misinformation and misunderstanding around the FIPT and the rights that groups have to reprint unaltered NA-Approved literature. With misinformation and misunderstanding comes disunity. The hope is that with a simple and clear Service Pamphlet that members and groups can download or purchase, this can help dispel some of the fog of misinformation and misunderstanding, and in doing so help both encourage NA unity while at the same time reinforcing group autonomy and choice.

World Board Response: *FIPT Bulletin #1* already simply explains the guidelines for reproduction of NA recovery literature, including the rights and responsibilities of NA groups. A service pamphlet can't go beyond the scope of this information without requiring WSC approval. It would be a relatively simple matter, however, to repackage the information from *FIPT Bulletin #1* in service pamphlet form. All service pamphlets go through a 90-day delegate review, and then after delegate input is incorporated, they are added to the list of service pamphlets. Service pamphlets are more widely distributed than World Service Bulletins, and making the information available this way would likely mean more members are exposed to it.

It is worth noting, however, that this bulletin does not address many of the *FIPT*-related issues that groups have told us they struggle with, including but not limited to the reproduction of illicit literature.

For a service pamphlet about the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* to be most useful to groups, we believe the scope would need to be expanded to include responsibilities as well as rights.

Policy Affected: None

Motion 8: To replace the first paragraph under "What kinds of literature should we use:" in the group booklet as follows:

Original Paragraph

NA World Services produces a number of different kinds of publications. However, only NA-approved literature is appropriate for reading in Narcotics Anonymous meetings. Selections from NA-approved books and pamphlets are usually read at the beginning of an NA meeting, and some meetings use them as the core of their format. NA-approved literature represents the widest range of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous.

Replacement Paragraphs (split)

NA World Services produces a number of different kinds of publications. However, only NA-approved literature is appropriate for reading in Narcotics Anonymous meetings, *and then only NA-approved edition(s) of literature that conveys a unified message as the most current edition(s). For Basic Texts, this would be the 3rd Edition Revised and newer. Older editions of our literature as well as approval drafts, while valid in history, and while they carry a message of recovery, all carry a message that in some way or ways contradict our current edition(s) of literature and are no longer in unity with the fellowship's conscience regarding our message of recovery.*

Selections from NA-approved books and pamphlets are usually read at the beginning of an NA meeting, and some meetings use them as the core of their format. NA-approved literature represents the widest range of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous. *It is suggested that meetings that utilize older editions of NA-approved literature acknowledge the current editions of NA-approved literature for the sake of NA unity.*

Intent: To set a standard of appropriate NA literature that is based in unity of message while reinforcing group autonomy to use literature other than the current approved edition(s).

Maker: Northern New York Region

Financial Impact: The most significant financial impact would be the loss of our existing inventory of the *Group Booklet* as well as the cost to make the changes to the translated versions.

Rationale by Region: At the WSC 2016, the question came up regarding what is appropriate literature for NA meetings? Where do we draw the line? How do we balance group autonomy with NA unity? After discussion inside and outside the region, we have agreed that the unity must start with our message and that our message of recovery remains unified back to the 3rd Edition Revised Basic Text. It carries the same message as more current editions of literature, just grammatically different.

Editions prior to the 3rd Edition Revised have one or more contradictions to our current message contained within and while they each have a powerful message contained within, they are no longer in unity with our fellowship's conscience regarding the NA message of recovery. By acknowledging literature back to the 3rd Edition Revised, we reinforce group autonomy to choose to previous edition(s) of NA-approved literature – while at the same time reinforcing NA unity through unity of our message.

World Board Response: As the regional rationale notes, the questions of what literature is acceptable to be read at the group level and whether or not the description in *The Group Booklet* is sufficient were topics related to the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* discussed at the last Conference. The Conference discussion centered around whether the six points describing “What is an NA group?” should be revised to include the idea that NA groups only read NA-approved literature, a point made later in *The Group Booklet*.

This motion takes on the question of whether “NA-approved literature” in this context includes editions of literature that have been subsequently revised. We appreciate the motion’s effort to explain what can be used on a group level and clarify the language in *The Group Booklet*. Were such a revision to be made, however, we believe that it would be simpler and clearer to express that groups should utilize currently approved literature rather than distinguishing between different editions of previously approved literature.

The revisions suggested in this motion may raise questions for members who are unfamiliar with the distinctions between the different editions of the Basic Text and the major shift in terminology that took place with the Third Edition Revised. Without the kind of explanation in the motion’s rationale, it would be difficult for many members to understand why a distinction is made for previous editions of the Basic Text and not, for instance, informational pamphlets that have been revised, such as the *Sponsorship IP* or *Youth and Recovery*, which was replaced with *By Young Addicts, For Young Addicts*.

There doesn’t seem to be much utility in approving the reading of literature such as the Third Edition Revised Basic Text that has not been available for purchase for more than 20 years. If newcomers and newer members cannot purchase the literature, reading it in meetings may not be providing a good or even a needed service to the most important people in the room.

Of course, members can use whatever editions they wish to in their personal recovery. But the Conference decided in 1991 and reaffirmed in 2008 that only the most current edition of the Basic Text is approved for publication and sale by NA World Services.

From *A Guide to World Services in NA*, p. 47:

The voting participants of the 1991 World Service Conference, after much discussion and consideration of several motions, voted to issue the following statement to the fellowship:

“The Basic Text, Fifth Edition, is the only edition of the Basic Text that is currently approved by the World Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous for publication and sale. The World Service Office Board of Directors is entrusted with the responsibility for protecting the fellowship's physical and intellectual properties, including the Basic Text, and at the board of directors’ discretion, shall take legal action to protect those rights against any and all persons who choose to infringe upon this literature trust.”

WSC 2008 approved the Sixth Edition Basic Text. It is now the only edition approved for NAWS production with the exceptions called out in the Translations Policy.

We are concerned that it would be confusing to include in our literature an explanation that groups can utilize literature that is not currently approved for production and sale.

Policy Affected: The following policies would be affected by the adoption of this motion.

GWSNA, p. 47:

- The voting participants of the 1991 World Service Conference, after much discussion and consideration of several motions, voted to issue the following statement to the fellowship:
 “The Basic Text, Fifth Edition, is the only edition of the Basic Text that is currently approved by the World Service Conference of Narcotics Anonymous for publication and sale. The World Service Office Board of Directors is entrusted with the responsibility for protecting the fellowship's physical and intellectual properties, including the Basic Text, and at the board of directors’ discretion, shall take legal action to protect those rights against any and all persons who choose to infringe upon this literature trust.”
 WSC 2008 approved the Sixth Edition Basic Text. It is now the only edition approved for NAWS production with the exceptions called out in the Translations Policy.

DRUG REPLACEMENT THERAPY/MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT

Some background information and links related to this topic can be found below. These may be helpful when considering the motions related to drug replacement therapy and medication-assisted treatment.

This past Conference cycle, we asked regions to give us an idea of the challenges they were facing so that we could address those issues in the upcoming cycle’s strategic plan. Not all regions responded (we heard from 66), but 86 percent of those that did respond identified increased use of drug replacement therapy and/or medication to treat addiction as affecting NA in their region. Of those regions, more than half indicated that the impact of drug replacement therapy is high. A complete report on the regional input we received will be available by the time of the Conference Approval Track mailing and will be posted online.

Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication-Assisted Treatment is the last link on this page: <https://www.na.org/pr>. Direct link to *Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication-Assisted Treatment*:

https://www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/pdf/pr/2306_NA_PRMAT_1021.pdf

Bulletin #29, *Regarding Methadone and Other Drug Replacement Programs*, is the last link on this page: <https://www.na.org/?ID=bulletins-bulletins-main>

Motion 9: To direct the World Board to create a project plan for consideration at WSC 2020 to create or revise one piece of recovery literature to directly address Drug Replacement Therapy (DRT) and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) as it relates to NA.

Intent: To begin the discussion on how to address DRT/MAT in a piece of recovery literature as it relates to our message and program and have a unified fellowship position.

Maker: Northern New York Region

Financial Impact: There is minimal cost in creating a project plan. The cost to NAWS would be in the project itself if the plan were adopted by the WSC.

Rationale by Region: The reality nowadays is that more and more newcomers come into NA after first having gone through some form of treatment or medical assistance where they are prescribed

DRT/MAT. That of itself is not right or wrong, and per our 10th Tradition NA does not have an opinion on whether that is right or wrong. However, NA does have opinions on the nature of clean time and recovery. Newcomers are prescribed DRT/MAT and often find their lives improve, then are directed to or voluntarily find NA only to often face controversy, judgment and sometimes outright rejection. This unaddressed issue has alienated countless newcomers who may not ever find a home in NA as a result. This issue created enough rifts, alienations, and negative public relations in recent years to merit a pamphlet for professionals called "Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication-Assisted Treatment". We feel this issue needs to be addressed at the group and recovery level in a way that reaches newcomers and old timers alike. What addressing this looks like and where it goes in our literature will be up to the fellowship. Whether it focuses on the newcomers that come in on DRT/MAT, or the less tolerant members, or emphasizes and clarifies specific traditions - all to be decided through the literature review process.

PS: In the month that this motion has been worked on to make it CAR ready, at least 5 former members overdosed in one rural area within the Northern New York Region. Last known statistic at the time of this motion was over 140 addicts per day are now dying of overdose in the US alone. How many of those didn't find a home in NA due to the alienation of this unaddressed issue?

World Board Response: NA has no opinion on outside methods of treating addiction. However, our meetings are affected when large numbers of potential members come to our rooms not understanding our definition of *clean* or our program of recovery. In turn, when those addicts feel unwelcome and do not stay long enough to hear our message, we miss an opportunity to share our way of life.

There are only two places in our recovery literature that explicitly mention drug replacement therapy, the Basic Text and IP #29, *An Introduction to NA Meetings*. The Basic Text story, "The Only Requirement" is about a member who found NA while still on drug replacement therapy and who subsequently got clean over time. Our newest IP, *An Introduction to NA Meetings*, says "Our program of recovery begins with abstinence from all drugs, including alcohol. Sometimes people come to NA meetings while still using drugs, detoxing from drugs, or on drug replacement therapy. Regardless of what you may be taking when you first come to NA, you are welcome."

We have recently published a PR pamphlet, *Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication Assisted Treatment*, so that we can clarify to professionals what we have to offer addicts. The PR pamphlet explains the distinction between NA's approach and that of drug replacement therapy and medically assisted treatment:

As we stated previously, NA has no opinion on the practices of any organizations or practitioners outside NA. However, within the context of NA and its meetings, we have generally accepted principles, and one is that NA is a program of complete abstinence. By definition, medically assisted therapy indicates that medication is being given to people to treat addiction. In NA, addiction is treated by abstinence and through application of the spiritual principles contained in the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous.

There is nothing in our recovery literature that is as clear as the PR pamphlet. We believe the message in our PR pamphlet reflects the common understanding of our Fellowship, and we would like to see this understanding more clearly reflected in our recovery literature, not just in our PR material, so that these potential members feel welcome. The recovery literature survey in this CAR includes an option to prioritize an IP for members: NA and addicts on DRT/MAT.

Policy Affected: None

Motion 10: Remove Bulletin #29, (WORLD SERVICE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BULLETIN #29, Regarding Methadone and Other Drug Replacement Programs) from publication and use.

Intent: To remove Bulletin #29 from NA World Services inventory.

Maker: Upper Midwest Region

Financial Impact: None

Rationale by Region: That Narcotics Anonymous does not take a stand or discriminate against any person on the basis of their health status or on the basis of information about their health status.

World Board Response: We do not believe Bulletin #29 discriminates against people on the basis of their health status. The bulletin is not about a health issue; it is about being clean or not.

Bulletin #29 was written in 1996 by the World Service Board of Trustees. The tone may not reflect our current emphasis on being welcoming to potential members, but we still believe the bulletin reflects the views of some of our members. The recovery literature survey in this CAR includes an option to prioritize an IP for members: NA and addicts on DRT/MAT. If the Fellowship does decide to produce a piece to better address the issue and reflect our current approach, that might be a more appropriate time to make a decision about the use of this bulletin.

Policy Affected: None

Motion 11: Remove "Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication Assisted Treatment" from publication and use.

Intent: To remove "Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication Assisted Treatment" from World Services inventory.

Maker: Upper Midwest Region

Financial Impact: None

Rationale by Region: That Narcotics Anonymous does not take a stand or discriminate against any person on the basis of their health status or on the basis of information about their health status.

Narcotics Anonymous chooses to meet and exceed the highest international standards of respect for personal autonomy and privacy in these matters.

World Board Response: *Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication-Assisted Treatment* is a recently published PR pamphlet targeted to professionals who prescribe medication to treat drug addiction. The pamphlet was distributed to delegates for a 90-day review and input period before publication, and the feedback since then has been almost entirely positive. This pamphlet is not concerned with a health issue. It is about being clean or not being clean. We fail to see what may be discriminatory in such a piece.

As we explain in the introductory remarks to this section (page 46) and in the response to Motion 9 (page 47), many of our groups and service bodies are experiencing an impact from the increasing use of drug replacement therapy and medication-assisted treatment. We believe there is a clear and pressing need for communication with professionals explaining what NA is, what we have to offer their clients, and how our approach may differ from theirs. The demand for the pamphlet makes it clear that it is meeting a need. From the time it was published in November 2016 through the end of June of this year, it was downloaded 7,174 times. By mid-June we had distributed 20,720 hard

copies, compared to 8,936 copies of *Information about NA*, 4,962 copies of the *Membership Survey*, and 681 of the *European Membership Survey*.

Policy Affected: None

CREATING EVENTS

Motion 12: Assign a week each year as an NA PR week, beginning in 2019. NAWS would establish the dates and would have information available for the whole NA fellowship a minimum of 90 days prior and also have available the possible contents of the program or the suggested agenda for such week.

Intent: Establish a common week of this type, to be held permanently every year, so the whole NA fellowship can hold events for this important service for NA worldwide.

Maker: Venezuela Region

Financial Impact: The financial impact is difficult to determine at this time. It would require staff and Board time to frame the contents and distribution costs to get this material out to the Fellowship.

Rationale by Region: This would motivate regions, zones and NAWS to work more unity and in cooperation and collaboration, working together and simultaneously as a team, in PR and PI concrete activities for at least 7 consecutive days, once a year, serving together to carry a better message of recovery, love, strength, faith, hope and freedom to the addict who still suffers and to the community and society as a whole. We consider that this would be an excellent initiative filled with a lot of creativity, for NA as a whole!

World Board Response: We love the idea of generating interest and enthusiasm for public relations. The Board believes focusing on topics such as those outlined in the *PR Handbook*—carrying the NA message into correctional facilities, building relationships in healthcare settings, best practices with internet technology, and so on—can help us more effectively carry the message.

Policy Affected: This would create a policy for an annual PR week.

Motion 13: To authorize the World Board to define more special days, like unity day, in the yearly calendar.

Intent: To have special days for topics like sponsorship, service, etc.

Maker: Iran Region

Financial Impact: None

World Board Response: Unity Day was created through a Conference motion in 1992. This motion seems like an evolution of that idea to connect us all worldwide by focusing on the things that are important to all of us.

Policy Affected: None

ISSUE DISCUSSION TOPICS

Some background information and links related to this topic can be found below. These may be helpful when considering the motion related to Issue Discussion Topics.

The selection process for Issue Discussion Topics is described in Addendum E of *A Guide to World Services in NA* (p. 71):

https://www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/pdf/conference/2016-18%20GWSNA_Web.pdf

Beginning in 2016, we started using a Fellowship survey in the *Conference Agenda Report* to prioritize ideas for decision by the World Service Conference, including IDTs for the upcoming cycle. The 2016 survey begins on page 19 of the CAR:

<https://www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/pdf/conference/CAR/2016CARv2.pdf>

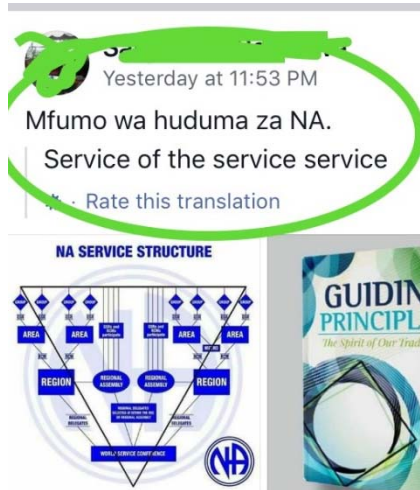
This webpage lists the current Issue Discussion Topics and those of previous years: www.na.org/idt

Motion 14: Fellowship Issue Discussion Topics (IDTs) will be selected based on the following process: By August 1 following the World Service Conference (WSC), NAWS will create a section on na.org for IDT submissions. The poll should be translated via available software into as many languages as possible. Any member, group, area, region or zone will be able to add an item to the poll. Beginning February 1 in the year before the WSC the process of voting on the poll will start. Any member, group, area, region or zone will be able to vote on the choices in the poll. The poll will close on the final day as set by the Guide to World Services (GTWS) for regional motion submissions. The top six Issue Discussion Topics in the poll will be placed in the Conference Agenda Report and voted on in old business at the World Service Conference with the top three being the Issue Discussion Topics for that next conference cycle.

Intent: To have more direct and specifically defined fellowship involvement in the creation and selection of Fellowship Issue Discussion Topics.

Maker: South Florida Region

Rationale by Region: Between 1998 and 2002, a list of possible Issue Discussion Topics were provided in the CAR. The two favored by the most regions became the IDT's for the conference cycle. This was discontinued after the 2002 WSC. With the increased usage of the internet and the widespread availability of free polling software, we feel that direct, identifiable fellowship involvement in the creation of topics can be achieved. We believe that this grassroots involvement, along with participation available for members of all languages at the inception of the IDT process, will yield increased local participation in the discussion topics selected, and provide results of greater value to the fellowship as a whole.



World Board Response: This is the second cycle that we have used a simple survey, included in the *Conference Agenda Report* and posted online, to determine the Issue Discussion Topics. This survey process seems to have a high level of Fellowship participation, and we are recommending that we continue to use it, rather than the process outlined in this motion. The process outlined in this motion seems more complicated, and machine translation is fraught with peril. The picture to the left from a recent social media screenshot is just one example of the challenges of machine translation for NA language.

Policy Affected: This motion would change Addendum E (Issue Discussion Topics—Selection and Discussion) of *A Guide to World Services in NA*, p. 71.

ROLE OF ZONES

Some background information and links related to this issue can be found below. These may be helpful when considering the motions related to the Role of Zones.

A Guide to World Services in NA (pp. 1–2) describes zonal forums this way:

Zonal forums are service-oriented sharing and/or business sessions that provide the means by which NA communities can communicate, cooperate, and grow with one another. Although not a part of NA's formal decision making system, World Services and zonal forums interact in many ways. Zonal forums are encouraged to provide written reports to the WSC and may also provide short videos that are shown at the WSC and distributed to conference participants following the WSC. In order to improve communications, they are provided with conference participant mailings and are requested to send their minutes to World Services. World Services typically attends zonal forum meetings, and may provide funding for some participants' attendance at zonal forums. Maintaining effective communication between the zonal forums and World Services is a high priority. In order to more effectively serve the Fellowship, World Services and zones should develop a partnership for the planning and conducting of the worldwide workshop system, and by assisting each other in the coordination of a variety of service efforts such as professional events and fellowship development activities.

In practice, zones vary a great deal. During the 2014–2016 Conference cycle, one of the Issue Discussion Topics was the Role of Zones. The workshop materials and results are all posted at www.na.org/future. The webpage also contains a zonal map and zonal survey data.

We are currently collecting updated information from zones about their roles and functions and will post that data when we receive it from all of the zones.

Motion 15: To hold a 3 day meeting of 2 representatives from each of the existing zonal forums. The meeting will be planned by NA World Services who will also cover the expenses for the meeting itself. The zonal forums or their regions will cover the cost of travel and meals for the representatives with financial assistance from NA World Services if necessary.

This meeting will occur in the 2018-2020 conference cycle.

Intent: To create an opportunity for zonal forums to get in touch, present themselves, discuss how they work and talk about possible future zonal representation at the WSC, its advantages, and challenges.

Maker: Portugal Region

Financial Impact: There are currently fifteen zones, which would mean thirty representatives. We estimate the cost of the space for a three-day meeting together with travel costs, per diem, and lodging for the representatives and some Board members could be less than \$100,000. The cost to World Services would be less depending on which zones and how many funded their own travelers.

Rationale by Region: We believe that zonal representation is the way forward for seating at WSC. We feel that promoting a meeting between the 15 existing Zonal Forums can lead to a more efficient use of NA funds, enable NA to carry the message to addicts in their own languages more effectively, improve accountability and conscience at WSC. A gathering of the zones will allow for an exchange of ideas and information between zones. In the parts world where FD is important having zones with the resources to meet some of these requests locally can be more efficient than leaving everything to the WSO. The combination of geographic proximity and sometimes language skills can make zones an important tool for helping smaller fellowships grow offering more addicts the chance to experience the NA message in their own language. As NA grows more and more regions have asked to be seated at the WSC if Iran follows the pattern of Brazil the WSC may be faced with many request for more seated regions. A key opportunity of having a zonal gathering is to look at the way towards a WSC that is attended by zones instead of regions. This would lead to a WSC with less delegates making to easier for a dialog between members to occur and making it easier for a clear conscience of the fellowship to form.

World Board Response: We support this idea to have a single three-day meeting where a different group of people can come together to talk about the role of zones and possibilities for zonal seating. There has never been an international face-to-face meeting of different zones. This would give a group of people who are deeply experienced with zones but have never sat around a table together a chance to meet in person and exchange ideas. One way to get new ideas is to hear from a new body. We also believe this meeting could be supplemented with additional work and meetings done online.

This is a meeting we could budget for, though to commit to spending this money would be an exception to the policy cited below. Typically a project idea coming from a region in the CAR would result in a project plan being developed for consideration at the next WSC. The situation here is a bit different, however. We have a Future of the WSC Project currently, and have been asking for ideas throughout the cycle. Because we will again be proposing a Future of the WSC Project for the 2018–2020 cycle, if this motion passes, the funds spent for the meeting would come from the Future of the WSC Project and likely account for the majority of the funding for that project. This group would function much like any other NA World Services workgroup, but the choice of participants would

come from the zones. World Services would be responsible for decisions related to funding delegates and determining which zones receive financial assistance.

Policy Affected: The following policies would be affected by the adoption of this motion.

GWSNA, p. 32:

Guidelines for the NA World Services Budget:

New project proposals can be forwarded from the Fellowship and from the Board itself. (See the Ideas for World Service Projects Submission Form in Addendum B.) One of the duties of the World Board is to develop project plans, which include budgets and timelines for all prospective non-routine World Services projects. The World Board reports to the conference on all ideas that they receive and chooses to propose some of those ideas to the conference for further discussion and eventual prioritization. The Board decides which items they believe are desirable, practical, and achievable, and develops project plans for these items. These are forwarded to conference participants prior to the WSC for eventual prioritization at the conference. No project proposal will be considered for prioritization or action during the same WSC as it was originally proposed.

Motion 16: That the WB develop a project plan, including budget and timeline, for presentation at WSC 2020 on the role of Zones, their relationship to the wider fellowship, including integrating Zonal Delegate participation into the decision making process at WSC.

Intent: To better understand the diverse nature of zones, help inform discussions at the 2020 WSC and lead to well considered changes to representation that can be applied to any Zone.

Maker: Australia Region and Aotearoa NZ Region

Financial Impact: The cost to put together a project plan for Conference decision is minimal. The actual cost would come were the project to be approved at the 2020 WSC. Without knowing more of the specifics about the work (e.g., whether a workgroup will be required), it's impossible to estimate the cost of the potential project this far in advance. How the Conference chooses to take action on Motion 15, for instance, could radically affect this project and its cost.

Rationale by Region: Before moving forward to Zonal representation, we need to properly understand the Role of Zones, the services they provide, and their relationships with both their member communities and the wider Fellowship. This will enable us to create viable change if necessary. We will have a better understanding of Zones, and of how they may formally fit into the WSC.

World Board Response: The Future of the WSC has been a project focus for World Services for the last two Conference cycles, and this project would be in concert with that focus. If the Conference supports Motion 15, the information from that meeting of zonal representatives would inform the frame of this project plan and, most likely, the work itself, were the project plan to be approved.

Policy Affected: None

ZONAL SEATING

The following five motions are all related to zonal seating. As we have expressed throughout the cycle, we do not see it as our role to lead the WSC toward a specific model of seating. We do believe that change is necessary in order for the Conference to be effective and sustainable, but at the close of WSC 2016 we explained that we would not make a specific recommendation for seating this cycle, and we continue to hold to that commitment. We believe this is a decision the Fellowship needs to

make, and if the Conference can build or express consensus around a vision for change in the future of the WSC, we will support that direction.

This is an issue we have talked about and reported on for many cycles. You can find more information at the sources listed below.

The resources listed in the introduction to the previous section of this report (p. 51) give some basic background information on the role of zones.

The 2016 *Conference Report* (pp. 80–89), which is posted at www.na.org/conference, contains a collection of sources related to WSC seating, running from 1996 to 2016. Direct link to the *Conference Report*:

https://www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/pdf/conference/ConfReport/2016_CR_8Apr16.pdf

The May 2017 Future of the WSC report, which is posted at www.na.org/future is focused on the need for change in representation at the World Service Conference. Direct link to the Future report:

https://www.na.org/admin/include/spaw2/uploads/pdf/conference/project/pof/Future_of_the_WSC_%20seating.pdf

Motion 17: To approve a change in the description of World Service Conference participants from regional delegates to zonal delegates. This change will occur over 3 conference cycles from 2018 to 2024 with the choice of representation left to the seated regions during this transition period. These three conference cycles will be used to develop details for the future. Any policies or ideas developed will be presented back to the fellowship in the CAR. Zonal delegates attending the WSC will carry a vote for all of their seated regions that are not represented by a regional delegate. No new regional seating requests will be considered during the transition.

Intent: To allow for a transition to zonal representation with the choice of representation left to the seated region during the transition.

Maker: Portugal Region

Financial Impact: It is not possible to estimate the financial impact of the motion without more details. We do not see anything in this motion that would increase expense from current levels.

Rationale by Region: We believe that the current WSC is not as effective as it could be. We hope to move forward in the direction of zonal seating. The challenges of organizing a meeting of 118 RDs, 88 Alternates and 15 World board members has lead a lot of procedural discussions at WSC. The 200+ attendance has limited the involvement of many delegates in the meeting and its discussions. This has led to a WSC that many members find frustrating and ineffectual. We believe that moving towards Zonal representation and having less members at the WSC meeting would better allow a conscience to form increasing the accountability and effectiveness of world services thus hopefully developing the connection between WSO and the regions. We understand that some zones would be ready to move straight to having zonal representation and others would need time to make changes. If we can agree where we want to go then we can work out how to get there. This would also enable the cost of the WSC to decrease and lead to money being freed for our primary purpose. Zonal seating would also mean that all NA communities are represented at the WSC because they adhere to a zone and thereby make the WSC a truly inclusive body.

World Board Response: See the introduction to this section of Zonal Seating motions on page 53.

Policy Affected: See Policy Affected for motions 18, 19, 20, and 21.

Motion 18: That any Zonal Forum with two or more zonally seated regions or communities that are not seated at the World Service Conference, may choose to send one Zonal Delegate to the World Service Conference to represent those regions or communities.

Intent: To provide representation at the World Service Conference for the numerous unseated NA communities around the world.

Maker: Australia Region and Aotearoa NZ Region

Financial Impact: This motion by itself does not have a direct financial impact to NA World Services. Increasing the size of the WSC has a potential increase in expense but we are unable to estimate that future impact at this time.

Rationale by Region: Zones outside of the USA have a significant number of Regions or communities not seated at WSC. In APF 20 of 29 are not seated; Afri-Can 13 of 14 are not seated; EDM 14 of 30; Brazil 7 of 9; Latin America 5 of 21; CANA 2 of 8; Russia 4 of 5. Many of those Regions may not meet the seating criteria due to size or evolution of their fellowship, or have the support of WSC to be seated. Collectively though these unseated communities represent thousands of NA meetings and a significant percentage of the world's population. Yet the number of meetings is disproportionately under-represented compared to places where NA is well established. The World Service Conference is therefore far from a forum that truly represents the world wide fellowship and perspectives of Narcotics Anonymous in the 21st century. This alteration to representation provides an interim method for incorporating our diversity, until ongoing changes to representation are agreed and implemented. Zonal Forums such as APF and EDM are directly providing services through Fellowship Development efforts in their member communities. As a result of these efforts a lot of communities are now experiencing growth. However more support for translations or workshops are needed in addition to the limited resources of the Zones. Currently there is no direct way for these communities to share their needs and views to the global NA Platform.

World Board Response: See the introduction to this section of Zonal Seating motions on page 53.

Policy Affected: The following policies would be affected by the adoption of this motion.

GWSNA, p. vii:

Introduction

Regional motion deadline

Motions must be received by 1 August and be in CAR-ready form by 30 August 2017. Regions are encouraged to send their motions as early as possible.

Regional report deadline 15 February 2018

GWSNA, p. 1:

Zonal Forums

Zonal forums are serviced-oriented sharing and/or business sessions that provide the means by which NA communities can communicate, cooperate, and grow with one another. Although not a part of NA's formal decision making system, World Services and zonal forums interact in many ways. World Services typically attends zonal forum meetings, and may provide funding for some participants. Zonal forums are encouraged to provide written reports to the WSC and may also provide short videos that are shown at the WSC and distributed to conference

participants following the WSC. In order to improve communications, they are provided with conference participant mailings and are requested to send their minutes to World Services.

GWSNA, p. 2:

World Service Conference

Every two years, regional delegates, the members of the World Board, and the executive director of the World Service Office meet to discuss questions of significance to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole.

GWSNA, p. 3:

The Regional Delegate

Page 2 and 3 includes all kinds of conference participants. If motion 01 is adopted this section will include another participant: Zonal Delegate with their roles and relations with WSC.

GWSNA, pp. 4 & 5:

Service structure charts

GWSNA, p. 7:

The Meeting of the World Service Conference

Regional Delegates, together with members of the World Board and the executive director of the World Service Office, meet to discuss questions of significance to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole. In addition, the conference meeting includes members of the Human Resource Panel and up to two WSC Cofacilitators. All are fully funded to attend the weeklong meeting.

For the purposes of decision making, conference participants are defined as regional delegates and World Board members.

During the opening session, regions seated at the prior conference are welcomed and afforded the opportunity to address the meeting about their activities and growth.

GWSNA, p. 16:

NAWS News

It is distributed to areas, regions, and conference participants in multiple languages.

GWSNA, p. 16:

NA World Services, Inc., Annual Report

It is distributed to regions and conference participants.

GWSNA, p. 16:

The Conference Report

Regional delegates may also write articles to be included, subject to editorial review by the World Board.

Regional reports are distributed in the *Conference Report*. These reports are submitted by delegates and contain information about their regions such as number of meetings and groups, types of PR efforts, and number of H&I panels; service activities being conducted by the region and/or the areas; challenges that the region is facing; and any specific experiences that may benefit another region and/or World Services. This information is important to the overall purpose and mission of the World Service Conference, and all delegates are encouraged to submit their reports before the published deadline. Zonal forums are also welcome to submit written reports for distribution.

GWSNA, pp. 16–17:

The Conference Agenda Report (CAR)

(Regional motions will be included in their own section and have the same number or letter when presented on the conference floor.) Regional motions must be submitted two hundred

and forty (240) days prior to the opening of the conference. All motions will include a written intent. Regions should briefly (in approximately 250 words) describe the reasoning behind, and consequences of, their regional motions in the *Conference Agenda Report*.

GWSNA, p. 17:

The Conference Approval Track (CAT)

Having a separate approval track from the *CAR* allows for materials intended for committees and boards, such as handbooks or service manuals, to be distributed directly to conference participants 90 days before the WSC, allowing time for the regional delegates to workshop it in a manner that fits within their local community. Each local community can determine for itself how the material will be reviewed and how to direct their regional delegate.

GWSNA, pp. 22–23:

The World Service Office

One of the most important functions of the WSO is to link our widespread groups and members into a single, cohesive fellowship. The WSO stays in close contact with our groups, areas, and regions.

These files include letters to and from those who have contacted the WSO; a file of all correspondence with each NA group; a record of all starter kits sent out; the name, address, and telephone number of all GSRs, RCMs, and RDs; and the addresses of all general service committees and their officers.

GWSNA, pp. 25–26:

The World Pool

The World Board is not limited to using the World Pool for its projects and assignments, and may ask for input from Regional Delegates regarding the identification of potential candidates.

GWSNA, p. 28:

Nominations

3. In addition to the HRP, seated regions can make a nomination, and conference participants can make or second nominations.

b) Regional nominations require the recognized conference participant of that region to sign their regional nomination.

c) An Alternate Delegate cannot make or second nominations except when serving as a Regional Delegate.

GWSNA, p. 30:

Challenging a Nomination

3) A WSC Cofacilitator will request one member be assigned from the Human Resource Panel and one member be assigned from the World Board, and will assign a Regional Delegate or Alternate to participate in a mediation panel.

GWSNA, pp. 30–32:

Criteria for Recognition of New Conference Participants

This whole section will be affected.

GWSNA, pp. 39–40:

Approval Processes for NA Material

Conference-Approved

Establishing Conference-approved material as a separate approval track means that materials intended for committees and boards, such as handbooks or service manuals, are distributed directly to conference participants 90 days before the WSC, allowing time for the regional delegates to workshop it in a manner that fits within their local community. Each local

community can determine for itself how the material will be reviewed and how to direct their regional delegate.

GWSNA, p. 71:

Issue Discussion Topics—Selection and Discussion.

The World Board can come to WSC with a variety of topics, derived from many sources, for participants to either rank or choose from. The sources for topics would include reports from the worldwide workshops, WSO Fellowship Services' correspondence, topics submitted from regions or members, world convention workshops, etc.

Finalization:

The approach outlined above delivers what is hoped to be an inclusive process that has a definable outcome. It outlines the selection of Issue Discussion Topics, and the initiation and finalization of discussions. It allows for the Board to draw from staff, worldwide workshops, convention workshops, member ideas, regional submissions, and Board correspondence.

Motion 19: If motion 18 is not adopted then the following will not be offered. That Zonal Delegates are voting members when in attendance at the World Service Conference. These Zonal Delegates would have one vote.

Intent: To provide voting rights to Zonal Delegates, equivalent to Regional Delegates.

Maker: Australia Region and Aotearoa NZ Region

Financial Impact: None

Rationale by Region: As attendees at WSC, Zonal Delegates are participating in the same way as any Regional Delegate, and indeed may be carrying the conscience of several unseated Regions/Communities, increasing the diversity of the Conference. The 7th Concept reminds us 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”. Any Delegate not being able to vote at WSC is not fully participating and therefore is not fulfilling the responsibility of the Zone they represent nor are they a full participant of the WSC.

World Board Response: See the introduction to this section of Zonal Seating motions on page 53.

Policy Affected: The following policies would be affected by the adoption of this motion.

GWSNA, p. 1:

Zonal Forums

Although not a part of NA’s formal decision making system, World Services and zonal forums interact in many ways.

GWSNA, p. 7:

The Meeting of the World Service Conference

Regional delegates, together with members of the World Board and the executive director of the World Service Office, meet to discuss questions of significance to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole. In addition, the conference meeting includes members of the Human Resource Panel and up to two WSC Cofacilitators. All are fully funded to attend the weeklong meeting.

For the purposes of decision making, conference participants are defined as regional delegates and World Board members. Regional delegates vote and make motions or proposals in all business sessions at the conference.

GWSNA, pp. 12–13:

The Work Cycle between Conferences

Delegates should not delay submitting their ideas until the deadline for the *Conference Agenda Report*. Using a regional motion to forward an idea is not the most effective way to have an idea discussed, and will likely postpone full consideration of their ideas as projects for at least two years. The conference has repeatedly voted to not have production issues related to literature, keytags, and medallions decided through the *CAR*. These types of issues should be sent directly to the World Board. A regional motion should only be used when all other avenues have been tried and exhausted.

GWSNA, p. 15:

Diagram of 2016–2018 Conference Work Cycle

(Regional Motion Deadlines, Regional Reports)

GWSNA, pp. 16–17:The *Conference Agenda Report (CAR)*

The *Conference Agenda Report* includes items for fellowship discussion and decision, including reports, proposals, and motions from the World Board and any motions submitted from regions. (Regional motions will be included in their own section and have the same number or letter when presented on the conference floor.) Regional motions must be submitted two hundred and forty (240) days prior to the opening of the conference. All motions will include a written intent. Regions should briefly (in approximately 250 words) describe the reasoning behind, and consequences of, their regional motions in the *Conference Agenda Report*.

. . . NAWS will try to help in any way we can. We encourage you to share any ideas a region might have well before the *CAR* deadline.

. . . If a region wishes to submit a motion for the 2018 *CAR*, it must meet the deadlines listed in the beginning of this document and follow existing conference policy described below.

. . . It is important to note that motions often require a number of changes to become *CAR*-ready. Regions wishing to make a motion for the *CAR* may want to consider some sort of process to allow for necessary changes to their motion(s). Some have suggested that the deadline for regional motions be extended in order to help with this process but we do not believe that the deadline is the challenge here. We believe that improving communication is the key to a successful process, and we are committed to do our part. We are ready to help a delegate at any time in the cycle to help to craft their motion—there is no need to wait for the deadline. Extending the regional motion deadline would mean that delegates would need to have their motions *CAR*-ready even earlier, so we are leaving the existing deadlines in place.

GWSNA, pp. 17–18:

The Conference Approval Track (CAT)

Having a separate approval track from the *CAR* allows for materials intended for committees and boards, such as handbooks or service manuals, to be distributed directly to conference participants 90 days before the WSC, allowing time for the regional delegates to workshop it in a manner that fits within their local community. Each local community can determine for itself how the material will be reviewed and how to direct their regional delegate.

GWSNA, p. 41:

Approval Process for Recovery Literature

C. WSC Approval

2. All literature submitted to the conference for approval requires a two-thirds majority vote of regional delegates, and it also takes a two-thirds majority vote to withdraw current NA literature from the category of approved literature.

GWSNA, p. 52:

2014 WSC

Agreements Reached without Motions

3. That only motions from seated regions or the World Board appear in the *Conference Agenda Report* and those motions are what will be considered in the formal old business session.

GWSNA, p. 65:

WSC Rules

1. Each conference participant has only one vote. RD alternates are considered to be the same “member” as their respective RD when acting as a participant.

GWSNA, p. 66:

8. Adoption of Motions

c. Regarding the addition of property to the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust*, deletion of property from the Trust, or the revision of the contents or nature of Trust Properties, only NA groups through their Regional Delegates may vote. To adopt, affirmative votes are required of two-thirds of the Regional Delegates recorded as present at the most recent roll call.

GWSNA, pp. 66, 67:

Voting

7. Only Regional Delegates are eligible to vote on Old Business motions.

8. Regional Delegates and World Board members are eligible to vote on New Business motions.

GWSNA, p. 73:

“NA Fellowship Approved” trademark

The “NA Fellowship Approved” trademark is used to indicate that a piece of recovery literature has been approved by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as given voice by its groups through their regional delegates at the World Service Conference. The “NA Fellowship Approved” trademark may not be used on any other materials.

Motion 20: If motion 18 is not adopted then the following will not be offered. Zonal Delegates are eligible to receive the same funding from NA World Services as regional delegates when attending the WSC. This funding includes travel, lodging, and meal expenses only.

Intent: Zonal delegates have the same eligibility for funding by NA World Services as other WSC participants.

Maker: Australia Region and Aotearoa NZ Region

Financial Impact: The average cost to fund an international delegate is ten days of a shared room and meals and travel. We use \$2,500 as an average for international travelers and \$1,600 for US travelers. If there were six international zonal delegates attending the WSC, the cost to fund them would be approximately \$15,000.

Rationale by Region: Delegates from some parts of the world have significant distances to travel to the WSC. The cost of air fares, hotel accommodation and visas to send a Zonal Delegate (Regional or Zonal) residing in the Asia Pacific zone to the World Service Conference can be up to US\$3,000. The variable part of this is the airfare, which could account for more than half of this amount for a delegate traveling longer distances. This is the same cost to NAWS as any currently funded Regional Delegate’s attendance from a similar location. The impact for a Zone could be significant. For

example this is approximately 10% of APF's annual budget. Current APF expenditure is prioritized for hosting the annual APF meeting, funding any member community to attend if they are unable to do so themselves, and for fellowship development. As is the case with RD costs, any Zone that is able to would be free to contribute as much as they could towards these total costs or individual components thereof.

World Board Response: See the introduction to this section of Zonal Seating motions on page 53.

Policy Affected: The following policies would be affected by the adoption of this motion.

GWSNA, p. 7:

The Meeting of the World Service Conference

Regional delegates, together with members of the World Board and the executive director of the World Service Office, meet to discuss questions of significance to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole. In addition, the conference meeting includes members of the Human Resource Panel and up to two WSC Cofacilitators. All are fully funded to attend the weeklong meeting.

GWSNA, p. 28:

Operational Guidelines of the WSC

3. The World Service Conference funds the attendance of a delegate from each seated region to the meeting of the WSC, which is held every two years. This funding includes travel, lodging, and meal expenses only. This policy would cover all previously seated regions that have attended one of the past three conferences

Motion 21: If motion 18 is not adopted then the following will not be offered. Alternate Zonal Delegates may attend the WSC with the same rights and limitations as is currently offered to Alternate Regional Delegates.

Intent: To allow an Alternate Delegate to be present, serve alongside and support the Zonal Delegate so they may function as a team in the same way as RD and AD teams can. The cost of attending the WSC for the Alternate Zonal Delegate would be the responsibility of the zone and each zonal delegate is limited to one alternate.

Maker: Australia Region and Aotearoa NZ Region

Financial Impact: As with Motion 18, it is not possible to estimate the financial impact at this time. Adding six more alternates to the number of Conference participants may necessitate changes to the WSC—either in room layout or perhaps in the venue itself—that may have a financial impact that we are unable to estimate at this time.

Rationale by Region: It is common practice amongst seated Regions to have both the RD and AD attend WSC, as a delegate team. An Alt Delegate is typically seen as a training role, and attendance at the World Service Conference in an integral part of this training. Most Regions who, because of their location and easy ability to travel to Woodland Hills, or who have sufficient financial resources, will make the choice to send their Alternate Delegate to WSC. Attendance at WSC for a week, with some of the days being very long, is undoubtedly one of the most demanding service roles in NA. This is even more challenging where a Delegate is from a different culture and/or must travel significant distances around the globe, as may often be the case for a Zonal Delegate. The attendance of an Alternate Delegate is the best way to provide this support.

World Board Response: See the introduction to this section of Zonal Seating motions on page 53.

Policy Affected: The following policies would be affected by the adoption of this motion.

GWSNA, p. 2:

World Service Conference

Unlike all other service bodies of NA service, the conference is not an entity, it is an event—the coming together. Every two years, regional delegates, the members of the World Board, and the executive director of the World Service Office meet to discuss questions of significance to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous as a whole.

GWSNA, p. 3:

The Regional Delegate

The regional delegate (RD) serves as the primary contact between NA's World Services and the local NA community (etc.).

GWSNA, p. 7:

The Meeting of the World Service Conference

For the purposes of decision making, conference participants are defined as regional delegates and World Board members. Regional delegates vote and make motions or proposals in all business sessions at the conference. World Board members vote only in election and new business sessions but may make motions or proposals in all sessions. The executive director of the World Service Office does not have a vote or the ability to make motions or proposals at the conference meeting. [Note: The chart on page 8 lists the different business sessions at the conference and what types of items (proposals or motions) are decided on in each.]

GWSNA, p. 16:

The *Conference Agenda Report (CAR)*

One copy of the report is mailed to each voting participant of the conference, each RD alternate, and the mailing address of each region.

GWSNA, p. 28:

Nominations

c) An Alternate Delegate cannot make or second nominations except when serving as a Regional Delegate.

GWSNA, p. 30:

Challenging a Nomination

2. A WSC Cofacilitator will request one member be assigned from the Human Resource Panel and one member be assigned from the World Board, and will assign a Regional Delegate or Alternate to participate in a mediation panel. This panel will review the request and meet with the petitioner to establish clarity, discuss his/her concerns, and assess if further action is appropriate.

GWSNA, p. 65:

WSC Rules Addendum D

1. Each conference participant has only one vote. RD alternates are considered to be the same "member" as their respective RD when acting as a participant.

OTHER WSC-RELATED

Motion 22: To discontinue the WSC Conference Participants Discussion Board hosted and maintained by NA World Services

Intent: To no longer have NAWS host and maintain a conference participant discussion board.

Maker: Washington North Idaho Region

Financial Impact: There will be some cost-savings from removing the board and associated staff support.

Rationale by Region: In the early 2000s a suggestion was made at the World Service Conference to create a conference participants online discussion board. Conference participants suggested that having such a board hosted and maintained by NA World Services might lead to useful service discussions online.

Since the Conference Participants Discussion Board was created, social media sites like Facebook have dramatically increased in use. There are many groups on Facebook, including some limited to conference participants that have much more participation and discussion than the site hosted by NA World Services.

While Internet technology is an excellent way for members to interact, the lack of participation and need to moderate an “official NA” board only open to some service members suggests this board has outlived its usefulness. Facebook groups, and the recent conference participant webinars using video technology seem much better ways to communicate online the conference discussion board.

World Board Response: We see this as an issue for the Conference to decide. Certainly the rationale suggests some important questions about how to effectively communicate among Conference participants and how to have an inspired discussion and share new ideas productively.

The Conference participant board takes human resources to maintain, and it’s not really possible to enforce the values participants have agreed upon, such as not cutting and pasting posts into other forums. We know there is a need for a forum where Conference participants can share information and ideas, but we have yet to find a productive way to do that. Conversation on the Conference participant board takes place among only a relatively small number of participants. During the period following WSC 2014 to the writing of this CAR, there were 10,200 posts and 292 eligible participants. About half of those eligible participants posted once or not at all, while the top ten posters accounted for almost three-quarters of the posts.

- Total posts (from post-WSC 2014 to 20 October 2017): 10,200
- Eligible participants: 292 (219 current, 73 former)
- Number of participants with 0 posts: 118
- Number of participants with 1 post: 25
- Number of posts by top 10 posters: 7,482

However, we have no other collective forum. We do have other options, such as web meetings and sharing ideas to the FTP site, and we would like to continue exploring more productive and positive ways for participants to talk to each other between Conferences. In the meantime, as its name indicates, the Conference participant bulletin board is for the Conference, and the Conference should decide whether to continue its use.

Policy Affected: The Conference would no longer have a Conference participants’ discussion board.

Motion 23: Direct the World Board to develop plans to move to a three-year conference cycle. This plan would include quarterly web meetings, longer review time for the Conference Agenda Report, and would be developed in a way to provide an opportunity to include other ideas from conference participants.

Intent: To study a change in the conference cycle to every three years.

Maker: Argentina Region

Financial Impact: None

Rationale by Region: To have more time to work and discuss during the time in between the meetings of the WSC conference cycle.

We propose a solution which would provide us the possibility of maintaining a more fluid contact, dealing with the topics of the cycle and the different motions in a more practical manner and arrive to the conference with the topics and proposals after they have been worked by the regions, and to have the CAR available a few months in advance.

In regards to the economic impact and according to the financial reports, it directly reduces it in a very significant amount and at the same time it allows regions to generate funds to finance its delegates.

Due to the different proposals to change the size of the WSC, which we believe are not the most appropriate ones, we are proposing a solution that would give us the possibility to maintain a more fluid contact, so we can deal with the topics of the cycle and the different motions and in a more practical manner so we can arrive to the conference after having worked these topics and proposals in the regions, and so we can receive the CAR several months in advance and financially we can reduce cost substantially which we would allow us not to reduce the representation and the conscience of the regions.

World Board Response: This motion is really about creating a project plan to explore this issue and develop plans. We do not see a three-year cycle as a solution to the issue of the size of the WSC. Regardless of the timing of the Conference, we still see the WSC as too large to be effective. We are also concerned about the effect this might have on the work cycle and our ability to connect together as a body. In short, this issue needs more study, and it is just one piece of the larger picture already being explored by the Future of the WSC Project. It feels premature to us to “develop plans” to move toward a decision about the timing of the Conference cycle, but it should remain as one of many ideas for the Future of the WSC Project.

Policy Affected: No policy is affected by developing a plan for the Conference to consider.

Motion 24: In new business the World Board will have one collective vote represented by the World board chair. Each World Board member votes only in Elections and may make motions in all sessions.

Intent: This motion would change World Board voting in new business from (up to) 15 individual votes to one collective

Maker: Israel Region

Financial Impact: None

Rationale by Region: In new business session every region has 1 vote and so does every WB member. WB members don't represent any region and yet they consist of up to 15 votes. This means that in new business the WB consists of more than 10% of the votes.

Giving WB members who represent only themselves so much power in votes, does not go side by side with the spiritual principle of anonymity which is a cornerstone of the N.A way.

"Though we may *not all participate in every decision made in our fellowship*, we all have the right to participate fully and equally in the decision making processes..." (12 concepts booklet, 7th concept).

Following the 7th service concept we are free to limit the vote of the WB, just as we limit the voting of other WSC participants such as alternate delegates, facilitators and NAWS members. By limiting the WB to one vote, we are enabling the fellowship a balanced and experienced opinion of all the WB members while still keeping a proportional weight of the WB in the voting process.

Since the establishment of the WB, in the vast majority of WSCs that were held, motions were submitted to limit the WB's voting rights in different ways. In the last WSC (2016) a similar motion was submitted (motion 13). The results of the votes were 42% for, 52% against, 6% other. These results show that this voice is not of a small minority anymore but more close to half of the fellowship. It is the conscience of the fellowship showing us an injustice that wishes to be amended.

World Board Response: The Seventh Concept explains 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." We are compelled to follow the Concepts, and we believe full participation includes voting.

The purpose of the World Service Conference is "to be supportive of the Fellowship as a whole and to define and take action according to the group conscience of Narcotics Anonymous." (*A Guide to World Services in NA*, p. 2) As Conference participants, the World Board members are in the unique position of being elected to serve the Fellowship as a whole. They are the only voting members of the Conference elected by the Conference, not by a local service body. In its role as the chosen leadership of World Services, the Board is delegated to perform work on behalf of the Conference. The World Board suggests direction, provides services, and oversees Conference projects. Members of the Board travel to and communicate with service bodies around the world, some of whom may not have representation at the Conference. They serve the Fellowship as a whole, and their thinking is global and strategic in nature.

The Board does not vote on old business at the Conference. (Old business consists of CAR motions like this one and proposals to change those motions, as well as some procedural items about the rules of order.) As we move toward consensus-based decision making, it is our hope that there will be less voting on new business, but to the degree that there is voting, it seems contrary to our Seventh Concept to limit the participation of Board members.

Policy Affected: The following policies would be affected by the adoption of this motion.

GWSNA, p. 7:

The Meeting of the World Service Conference

For the purposes of decision making, conference participants are defined as regional delegates and World Board members. Regional delegates vote and make motions or proposals in all business sessions at the conference. World Board members vote only in election and new business sessions but may make motions or proposals in all sessions. The executive director of the World Service Office does not have a vote or the ability to make motions or proposals at the conference meeting. [Note: The chart on page 8 lists the different business sessions at the conference and what types of items (proposals or motions) are decided on in each.]

GWSNA, p. 20, World Board External Guidelines:

Membership

These conference-elected members will have equal participation rights, including voting on the Board and at the World Service Conference.

GWSNA, p. 67, WSC Rules of Order:

Voting

8. Regional Delegates and World Board members are eligible to vote on New Business motions.

Motion 25: To authorize the World Board to investigate and pursue ways for conference participants who are unable to attend the WSC due to visa and other issues beyond their control, to engage in sessions of the WSC.

Intent: To not miss and voice and conscience and provide an opportunity for these delegates to be involved with the WSC

Maker: Iran Region

Financial Impact: It is not possible to estimate the financial impact of the motion without more information and details.

No Rationale Provided by Region

World Board Response: We would like to try something for WSC 2018 so that we can connect delegates regardless of their visa status or political issues that may prevent their WSC attendance. We will research what is possible and report more information prior to the Conference—with updates in *NAWS News* and/or the *Conference Report* as we have more to report—and at the WSC. We believe that Conference agreement would be all that is needed in order to allow seated delegates who are unable to attend the WSC to participate virtually in some manner. It will be up to the delegates present to decide whether to adapt the rules to allow voting. Regardless of that decision, we hope to be able to connect in some way with delegates who are unable to attend this Conference.

Policy Affected: No policies are affected to investigate this idea. If voting is eventually involved, those policies would need to be clarified.

Motions & Survey Tally Sheet

We created this tally sheet for you to collect responses on the *Conference Agenda Report* motions and survey. The *CAR* (and summary videos which will be available soon after the release of the *CAR*) are available for download from the Conference webpage: www.na.org/conference. In addition to the motions and survey, the *CAR* contains essays on the future of the World Service Conference, the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust*, the strategic planning process and the Issue Discussion Topics, and more. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with all of the content.

#1	<p>Maker: Ohio Region and Michigan Region</p> <p>To direct the World Board to create a project plan for consideration at WSC 2020 to convert the service pamphlet Social Media and our Guiding Principles into a recovery IP that includes fellowship input and review.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#2	<p>Maker: Venezuela Region</p> <p>Remove from the NAWS catalog and inventory IP 27 <i>For The parents or Guardians of Young People in NA</i></p>	Yes	No	Abs
#3	<p>Maker: Baja Son Region</p> <p>To direct the World Board to create a project plan for a Step Study booklet containing questions derived only from sentences in the Basic Text chapter 'How It works', for consideration at WSC 2020.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#4	<p>Maker: Eastern New York Region</p> <p>To direct NAWS to produce and add to inventory an MP3 digital download of the Basic Text Fifth Edition in Spanish, previously in inventory on audio cassette. By conference policy, NAWS is not authorized to publish a fifth edition once a sixth edition is available. This motion would provide for a one-time waiver of the policy for NAWS until the Spanish Sixth edition is completed.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#5	<p>Maker: Venezuela Region</p> <p>To approve an NA Service Prayer, utilizing the language that is already in the intro of the Basic Text, substituting the word write with the word serve, including it in the set of posters of the meetings for NA groups, as shown here:</p> <p>"GOD, grant us knowledge that we may write-serve according to Your Divine precepts. Instill in us a sense of Your purpose. Make us servants of your will and grant us a bond of selflessness that this may truly be your work, not ours, in order that no addict, anywhere, need die from the horrors of addiction."</p>	Yes	No	Abs

#6	<p>Maker: Eastern New York Region</p> <p>To direct NAWS to produce and add to inventory keytags that reflect the growth of years clean in Fellowship Worldwide; specifically, Granite for one Decade, Purple for Decades Clean and Pink for 25 Years Clean.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#7	<p>Maker: Northern New York Region</p> <p>To direct the World Board to create a Service Pamphlet (SP) that clearly and simply outlines the rights of groups to reprint Narcotics Anonymous recovery literature covered under the <i>Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust</i> and its bulletins.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#8	<p>Maker: Northern New York Region</p> <p>To replace the first paragraph under "What kinds of literature should we use:" in the group booklet as follows:</p> <p><u>Original Paragraph</u></p> <p>NA World Services produces a number of different kinds of publications. However, only NA-approved literature is appropriate for reading in Narcotics Anonymous meetings. Selections from NA-approved books and pamphlets are usually read at the beginning of an NA meeting, and some meetings use them as the core of their format. NA-approved literature represents the widest range of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous.</p> <p><u>Replacement Paragraphs (split)</u></p> <p>NA World Services produces a number of different kinds of publications. However, only NA-approved literature is appropriate for reading in Narcotics Anonymous meetings, <i>and then only NA-approved edition(s) of literature that conveys a unified message as the most current edition(s). For Basic Texts, this would be the 3rd Edition Revised and newer. Older editions of our literature as well as approval drafts, while valid in history, and while they carry a message of recovery, all carry a message that in some way or ways contradict our current edition(s) of literature and are no longer in unity with the fellowship's conscience regarding our message of recovery.</i></p> <p>Selections from NA-approved books and pamphlets are usually read at the beginning of an NA meeting, and some meetings use them as the core of their format. NA-approved literature represents the widest range of recovery in Narcotics Anonymous. <i>It is suggested that meetings that utilize older editions of NA-approved literature acknowledge the current editions of NA-approved literature for the sake of NA unity.</i></p>	Yes	No	Abs

#9	<p>Maker: Northern New York Region</p> <p>To direct the World Board to create a project plan for consideration at WSC 2020 to create or revise one piece of recovery literature to directly address Drug Replacement Therapy (DRT) and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) as it relates to NA.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#10	<p>Maker: Upper Midwest Region</p> <p>Remove Bulletin #29, (WORLD SERVICE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BULLETIN #29, Regarding Methadone and Other Drug Replacement Programs) from publication and use.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#11	<p>Maker: Upper Midwest Region</p> <p>Remove "Narcotics Anonymous and Persons Receiving Medication Assisted Treatment" from publication and use.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#12	<p>Maker: Venezuela Region</p> <p>Assign a week each year as an NA PR week, beginning in 2019. NAWS would establish the dates and would have information available for the whole NA fellowship a minimum of 90 days prior and also have available the possible contents of the program or the suggested agenda for such week.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#13	<p>Maker: Iran Region</p> <p>To authorize the World Board to define more special days, like unity day, in the yearly calendar.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#14	<p>Maker: South Florida Region</p> <p>Fellowship Issue Discussion Topics (IDTs) will be selected based on the following process: By August 1 following the World Service Conference (WSC), NAWS will create a section on na.org for IDT submissions. The poll should be translated via available software into as many languages as possible. Any member, group, area, region or zone will be able to add an item to the poll. Beginning February 1 in the year before the WSC the process of voting on the poll will start. Any member, group, area, region or zone will be able to vote on the choices in the poll. The poll will close on the final day as set by the Guide to World Services (GTWS) for regional motion submissions. The top six Issue Discussion Topics in the poll will be placed in the Conference Agenda Report and voted on in old business at the World Service Conference with the top three being the Issue Discussion Topics for that next conference cycle.</p>	Yes	No	Abs

#15	<p>Maker: Portugal Region</p> <p>To hold a 3 day meeting of 2 representatives from each of the existing zonal forums. The meeting will be planned by NA World Services who will also cover the expenses for the meeting itself. The zonal forums or their regions will cover the cost of travel and meals for the representatives with financial assistance from NA World Services if necessary.</p> <p>This meeting will occur in the 2018-2020 conference cycle.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#16	<p>Maker: Australia Region and Aotearoa NZ Region</p> <p>That the WB develop a project plan, including budget and timeline, for presentation at WSC 2020 on the role of Zones, their relationship to the wider fellowship, including integrating Zonal Delegate participation into the decision making process at WSC.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#17	<p>Maker: Portugal Region</p> <p>To approve a change in the description of World Service Conference participants from regional delegates to zonal delegates. This change will occur over 3 conference cycles from 2018 to 2024 with the choice of representation left to the seated regions during this transition period. These three conference cycles will be used to develop details for the future. Any policies or ideas developed will be presented back to the fellowship in the CAR. Zonal delegates attending the WSC will carry a vote for all of their seated regions that are not represented by a regional delegate. No new regional seating requests will be considered during the transition.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#18	<p>Maker: Australia Region and Aotearoa NZ Region</p> <p>That any Zonal Forum with two or more zonally seated regions or communities that are not seated at the World Service Conference, may choose to send one Zonal Delegate to the World Service Conference to represent those regions or communities.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#19	<p>Maker: Australia Region and Aotearoa NZ Region</p> <p>If motion 18 is not adopted then the following will not be offered.</p> <p>That Zonal Delegates are voting members when in attendance at the World Service Conference. These Zonal Delegates would have one vote.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#20	<p>Maker: Australia Region and Aotearoa NZ Region</p> <p>If motion 18 is not adopted then the following will not be offered.</p> <p>Zonal Delegates are eligible to receive the same funding from NA World Services as regional delegates when attending the WSC. This funding includes travel, lodging, and meal expenses only.</p>	Yes	No	Abs

#21	<p>Maker: Australia Region and Aotearoa NZ Region</p> <p>If motion 18 is not adopted then the following will not be offered. Alternate Zonal Delegates may attend the WSC with the same rights and limitations as is currently offered to Alternate Regional Delegates.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#22	<p>Maker: Washington North Idaho Region</p> <p>To discontinue the WSC Conference Participants Discussion Board hosted and maintained by NA World Services</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#23	<p>Maker: Argentina Region</p> <p>Direct the World Board to develop plans to move to a three-year conference cycle. This plan would include quarterly web meetings, longer review time for the Conference Agenda Report, and would be developed in a way to provide an opportunity to include other ideas from conference participants.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#24	<p>Maker: Israel Region</p> <p>In new business the World Board will have one collective vote represented by the World board chair. Each World Board member votes only in Elections and may make motions in all sessions.</p>	Yes	No	Abs
#25	<p>Maker: Iran Region</p> <p>To authorize the World Board to investigate and pursue ways for conference participants who are unable to attend the WSC due to visa and other issues beyond their control, to engage in sessions of the WSC.</p>	Yes	No	Abs

Recovery Literature—Pick Two

Adapt <i>Social Media and Our Guiding Principles</i> to an IP from an SP	
An IP for members: NA and addicts on DRT/MAT	
Booklet of Step study questions taken from “How It Works” in the Basic Text	
Booklet of Step study questions from <i>It Works: How and Why</i> and/or <i>Living Clean</i>	
Step working booklet focused mainly on Steps 1–3 aimed primarily at new members and those in treatment and drug courts	
Step working guide aimed at members not new to the Steps, as a follow-up set of Steps	
Concepts book similar to <i>Guiding Principles</i>	
List and definition of spiritual principles	
The spiritual benefits of service	
Members’ experience, strength, and hope on trustworthiness and trusting	
Atmosphere of recovery in service	
Appropriate meeting behavior	
Pamphlet on the First Tradition	
Literature targeted to: Younger members	
Literature targeted to: Older members	
Literature targeted to: Experienced members/”oldtimers”	
Literature targeted to: LGBTQ members	
Literature targeted to: Women in recovery	
Literature targeted to: First nations/indigenous members	
Literature targeted to: Members who are professionals	
Literature targeted to: Members who are veterans	
Literature targeted to: Atheists and members with non-mainstream spiritual beliefs	
An IP: Regardless of age, race, sex, sexual identity, creed, religion, or lack of religion	
What does it mean that NA is a spiritual, not religious, program?	

Revise the <i>Sponsorship</i> book	
Revise <i>The Loner</i>	
Revise <i>H&I Service and the NA Member</i>	
Revise <i>PI and the NA Member</i>	
Revise another piece of NA literature:	
Other:	
No new recovery lit	

Service Material—Pick Two

Carrying the NA message	
Principles in service	
Atmosphere of recovery in service	
Applying the Concepts—videos of members sharing in their own words how they applied each Concept	
What is NA World Services and how does it work?	
Our public image: dealing with loss of confidence in NA	
More social media guidelines above and beyond the service pamphlet	
More short, focused PR resources	
Tools to assist PR efforts to reach the medical community	
Literature for justice department professionals/referrers	
Sponsorship behind the walls basics	
Fellowship development basics	
FD—it's not just something that happens "somewhere else"	
Collaborating among service bodies	
When service bodies split or reunify	
How to hold a virtual service meeting	
Facilitation basics	
How to plan a learning day	
Best practices for service workshops	
How to put on a planning assembly (including sample agendas)	
Getting started with project-based services	
Revise <i>Planning Basics</i>	
Regional inventory process/questions	
Description of service commitments at areas and regions [Note: We already have a service pamphlet on group trusted servants. If this piece is prioritized, it might make sense to somehow combine this information.]	
Effective report writing	
GSR orientation material	

Literature on mentorship, including as it relates to service bodies and new meetings	
Service system basics	
Local service conference and local service board basics	
Role of zones in the service structure	
Policy in NA—different kinds of policy styles and approaches	
Information for creating legal entities/incorporating	
The <i>Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT)</i> and local websites	
Dealing with banks and government financial regulations	
Dealing with misappropriation of NA funds	
Area treasurers' basics	
Area budgeting basics	
Revise <i>Translations Basics</i>	
Revise and update <i>PR Handbook</i>	
Other:	

Issue Discussion Topics—Pick Two

Our Symbol—a closer look	
Group conscience	
Carrying the NA message and making NA attractive	
Remaining nonprofessional and carrying the NA message	
PR 101	
Simplicity and flexibility in service	
Empathy in service	
Attracting members to service	
Getting youth & newcomers involved	
Becoming a better sponsor	
Creating community in NA	
Mentorship & how members learn in service	
Leadership in NA	
The integrity and effectiveness of our communications	
Eleventh Concept	
Respecting our differences and building our unity	
Regardless of . . . race, ethnicity, culture	
Retaining members	
<i>In Times of Illness</i> and what our literature says about illness and medication	
Other:	

Glossary

Area Service Committee (ASC)

The area committee is the primary means by which the services of a local NA community are administered. The area committee is composed of group service representatives, administrative officers (chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary, treasurer), subcommittee chairpersons, and the area's regional committee members. The area committee elects its own officers, subcommittee chairpersons, and RCMs.

Biennial

Occurring every two years. (Biannual means occurring twice a year.)

Candidate Profile Report (CPR)

A packet containing information (individual reports) on each candidate nominated by the Human Resource Panel for consideration for election by the WSC. These reports are intended to assist Conference participants in their evaluations of candidates.

CBDM

Consensus-based decision making. Consensus refers to the consent of the group, meaning the willingness on the part of all members of a group to move forward with a decision. The Conference uses a form of CBDM that is based on respect for all persons involved in the decision being considered, but does not necessarily mean the final decision is unanimous.

Conference Agenda Report (CAR)

A publication that consists of business and issues that will be considered during the biennial WSC meeting. The CAR is released a minimum of 150 days prior to the opening of the Conference, with translated versions released a minimum of 120 days prior. The CAR, in all the languages in which it is published, is available at no charge on the Web at www.na.org/conference.

Conference Approval Track (CAT)

A term used to describe items sent to Conference participants 90 days prior to the World Service Conference. Included are the WSC seating report, the draft budget, the NAWS Strategic Plan and proposed project plans for the upcoming Conference cycle, material being presented for consideration under the service material approval process, and any regional ideas submitted for Conference consideration.

Conference-Approved

There are three different approval tracks for NA material: Conference-approved, Fellowship-approved, and World Board-approved. Conference-approved material includes NA handbooks and service booklets that tend to convey NA's fundamental ideas about certain areas of service. These pieces may or may not have been sent out for review and input according to the specifics of the project plan presented to the WSC. Conference-approved material is included in the Conference Approval Track material for approval at the upcoming WSC, unless the Board decides there is enough interest to include the material in the *Conference Agenda Report*. Both Conference-approved and World Board-approved material are intended to show how to implement, or put into practice, the principles established by core NA philosophy and Fellowship-approved literature.

Conference Cycle

The two years between World Service Conferences. For the current Conference cycle, that refers to the two fiscal years running from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2018.

Conference Participants (CP)

For the purposes of decision making, Conference participants are defined as regional delegates and World Board members. Only delegates vote on old business items that have appeared in the *Conference Agenda Report*.

Conference Report

This report is sent to WSC participants shortly before the World Service Conference to help them prepare for the WSC. Regional reports are distributed or posted online along with the *Conference Report*, and delegates and regions may also have articles published.

Conventions and Events Tools

Part of the Service Tools Project Plan approved at WSC 2016. Developing new tools that reflect the Fellowship's current best practices and experience related to conventions and events service was one of two areas prioritized in the 2016 CAR survey. For more information, see www.na.org/conventions. See also **Local Service Toolbox**.

Environmental Scan

An environmental scan is part of a strategic planning process. In NAWS every two years, preliminary to the creation of our strategic plan, we look at internal and external factors that might influence the work we are able to accomplish or that we wish to take on or prioritize. Conference participants were asked to submit input to the NAWS environmental scan for the first time in the 2016–2018 Conference cycle.

Fellowship-Approved

As explained in GWSNA: “All NA recovery material is Fellowship-approved. This means that it is developed by NA World Services, sent out to the Fellowship for review and input, and ultimately sent out for approval by the Fellowship in the *Conference Agenda Report*. . . . This applies to all recovery books, recovery booklets, and recovery pamphlets as well as material that establishes or changes philosophical position or NA principles.”

Fellowship Development (FD)

We engage in a large variety of activities that are directed to members and/or designed to help NA communities in their efforts to carry the NA message and to further our primary purpose and vision. This includes, but is certainly not limited to, producing publications like *The NA Way Magazine* and *Reaching Out*, putting on and helping with Fellowship workshops, participating in public relations activities, answering emails and calls from members, and providing free or reduced-cost literature for communities in need. We refer to all of this activity as Fellowship development, since that is its purpose.

Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust (FIPT)

A legal trust that serves as custodian for NA's recovery literature and logos (trademarks). The FIPT's purpose is to ensure that NA's property is held in trust for all of NA and kept safe for members yet to come, in keeping with our primary purpose. The document creating the FIPT is called a *trust instrument*; it explains how NA's literature and trademarks are managed and protected for the benefit of the Fellowship as a whole. Approved by the Fellowship in April 1993. For more information, see www.na.org/fipt.

Future of the WSC Project

An ongoing project focused on the future of the World Service Conference and how we can ensure the Conference best meets the needs of NA now and in the years to come. For more information, see www.na.org/future.

Group Support Forum (GSF)

A discussion-oriented body focused on the needs of the groups. Group support forums are open to all members and oriented toward group issues, orientation, and training.

Guide to Local Services in Narcotics Anonymous, A (GLS)

A service handbook, approved in 1997, intended to serve as a resource for NA groups, areas, regions, and their subcommittees in establishing and providing local services.

Guide to World Services in Narcotics Anonymous, A (GWSNA)

A compilation of policy decisions that have been approved by the World Service Conference, including WSC guidelines. The name was changed from *A Temporary Working Guide to Our World Service Structure (TWGWSS)* in 2002. TWGWSS, its precursor, was first published in 1983 as the temporary successor to the *NA Service Manual* (aka *The NA Tree*), which in turn was first published in 1976.

Human Resource Panel (HRP)

Provides the World Service Conference with a list of qualified candidates for election to the World Board, the Human Resource Panel, and the WSC Cofacilitator positions. Is also responsible to administer the World Pool. Consists of four members elected by the WSC.

IP

Acronym for informational pamphlet.

Issue Discussion Topics (IDTs)

Specific topics that concern the Fellowship as a whole, to be discussed by the Fellowship during the Conference cycle. For more information, see www.na.org/idt.

Local Service Board (LSB)

An administrative body overseen by the local service conference. The LSB is responsible for administering the work prioritized by the LSC and coordinating its meetings.

Local Service Conference (LSC)

A strategic, planning-oriented service body. LSCs deliver services through a mixture of project-based workgroups, ongoing services performed by committees, and services organized by coordinators, depending on local need. They primarily utilize consensus-based decision making.

Local Service Toolbox

Part of the Service Tools Project Plan approved at WSC 2016. Developing new tools that reflect the Fellowship's current best practices and experience related to local service was one of two areas prioritized in the 2016 CAR survey. For more information, see www.na.org/toolbox. See also **Conventions and Events Tools**.

NA Way Magazine, The

Published quarterly, *The NA Way Magazine* currently offers articles about service, recovery-oriented stories, and entertainment, as well as a calendar of international NA events. Available by request in English, Farsi, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish, and posted at www.na.org/naway.

NAWS

Acronym for Narcotics Anonymous World Services.

NAWS Annual Report

An annual publication providing an overview of NAWS activities and finances for each fiscal year.

NAWS News

A newsletter sent out by the World Board after each Board meeting reporting on their current activities. Published in English, French, German, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swedish. Sent to all Conference participants, registered areas, and regions, and posted at www.na.org.

Project Plan

Developed by the World Board for all prospective, non-routine World Service projects. Includes the proposed scope of the project, budget, and timeline. Included in the Conference Approval Track material as part of the budget, and approved by delegates at each Conference.

Public Relations

Creating and maintaining relationships with members, potential members, and the general public, including professionals, families, and loved ones, in an effort to more effectively carry the NA message of recovery.

RBZs

Candidates for nomination to World Service positions who have been put forward by regions, the World Board, or zones. These potential candidates are interviewed by the Human Resource Panel.

Reaching Out

A quarterly World Services publication to help incarcerated addicts connect to the NA program and to enhance H&I efforts.

Regional Assembly

A gathering of group service representatives (GSRs) and regional committee members (RCMs) conducted by the regional service committee, to discuss regional issues and those affecting NA worldwide, usually in preparation for the biennial WSC meeting. The regional delegate is sometimes elected at the assembly.

Regional Delegate (RD)

Attends the WSC as a voting participant from an NA region (or equivalent service body). Is responsible to help communicate between the region and World Services throughout the Conference cycle.

Regional Service Committee (RSC)

A body that draws together the combined service experience of a number of adjoining areas for mutual support of and service to those areas. Composed of RCMs, the regional delegate, alternate delegate, and others as needed.

Service Pamphlets (SPs)

Pamphlets intended for use as a resource for groups and service bodies covering some topics related to service in NA. These pamphlets are developed, released for a 90-day delegate review, and approved by the World Board, who can also revise them if the need arises. They are the Board's best attempt at collecting some of the more successful practices in our Fellowship in dealing with sensitive or difficult topics.

Service System

The service system in NA consists of four main components: people, processes, resources, and structure. The Service System Project was created to take an overall view of how to improve local services and address some of the long-standing challenges in service delivery. For more information, see the project page at www.na.org/servicesystem.

Service System Proposals

A series of documents produced by the World Board that includes ideas and recommendations for changes or innovations to the NA service system. The service system essay from the 2014 *Conference Agenda Report* offers an explanation of the main ideas from the project, along with background information on the project itself.

Strategic Plan

A long-term strategy for World Services to provide new or improved services and support that facilitates the continuation and growth of Narcotics Anonymous worldwide. The project plans stem from the objectives in the strategic plan.

Straw Poll (see also Vote)

A non-binding vote conducted to gauge the general sentiment of the Conference toward a particular topic or idea. Often motions or proposals are straw polled more than once during the business discussion sessions. Straw polls are also used during the closing session of the Conference to ensure that the Conference has a common understanding of the week's decisions and discussions.

Twelve Concepts for NA Service

Fundamental NA principles guiding our groups, boards, and committees in service affairs. Fellowship-approved in 1992; published as a booklet with essays and study questions as a self-titled booklet.

Vision for NA Service, A

A view of what our services are striving to accomplish that serves to guide and inspire us. Approved unanimously by WSC 2010 after being included in that year's *Conference Agenda Report*.

Vote

A vote happens when the body makes a decision on an item. Motions are voted on during formal business. Proposals are voted on during the sessions that come immediately before formal business.

Webinars/Web Meetings

Virtual meetings or workshops. Sometimes webinars consist of a presentation followed by questions and answers. Sometimes they are more interactive, in which case we refer to them as "web meetings." World Services hosts web meetings related to PR, H&I, service offices, inmate step writing committees, regional service offices, ongoing projects, and rural and isolated communities. Virtual workgroups also meet through web meetings, and the Board holds web meetings for Conference participants.

Workgroups

Small working bodies responsible to the World Board, created for a specific purpose.

World Board

The World Board is the service board of the World Service Conference. The Board provides support to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous in the Fellowship's effort to carry the message of NA. Oversees the activities of NA World Services, including our primary service center, the World Service Office. The Board also holds in trust for the NA Fellowship the rights for all its physical and intellectual properties (which include literature, logos, trademarks, and copyrights) in accordance with the will of the Fellowship as expressed through the WSC.

World Board–Approved

Service-related informational pamphlets and tools approved and published by the World Board after a 90-day delegate review period. This material contains practical experience gathered from the Fellowship about how to apply some of the principles contained in NA Fellowship- and Conference-approved material.

World Pool

A pool of members' service résumés (World Pool Information Forms) demonstrating a variety of recovery- and service-related experience as well as any skills necessary for the successful completion of world-level service assignments. All NA members with over five years clean are eligible and encouraged to complete the information form.

World Service Conference (WSC)

The Conference is not an entity; it is an event—the coming together of the NA Fellowship from around the globe. Every two years regional delegates, the members of the World Board, and the executive director of the World Service Office meet to discuss questions of significance to the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. The World Service Conference is the one point in our structure where the voice of NA as a whole can be heard regarding issues and concerns affecting our worldwide Fellowship. The Conference is a vehicle for Fellowship communication and unity: a forum where our common welfare is itself the business of the meeting.

World Service Office (WSO)

The name of the physical location of the primary worldwide service center for NA World Services. The headquarters is located in Chatsworth (Los Angeles), California, USA, with branch facilities in Canada, Belgium, Iran, and India. The WSO prints, stocks, and sells NA Fellowship-, Conference-, and World Board-approved literature, service handbooks, and other materials; provides support for NA groups and communities; and serves as a clearinghouse for information about NA. “The basic purposes of our world services are communication, coordination, information, and guidance.” (GWSNA, p. 2)

WSC Cofacilitator(s)

Two individuals who preside over the business and pre-business discussion sessions of the World Service Conference. Elected by the World Service Conference.

Zonal Delegate (ZD)

A non-voting, non-funded delegate to the WSC from a zonal forum in existence at the time of the 2016 WSC. ZDs were given the ability to participate only at the 2018 WSC as the result of Motion 11 carried at the 2016 WSC.

Zonal Forums

Service-oriented sharing and/or business sessions comprised of multiple regions that provide means by which NA communities can communicate, cooperate, and grow with one another.

Moldoveneasca Slovenčina মনপ্রীতি ODIА 한국어
 தமிழ் Mizo Türkçe Latviešu Afrikaans
 ಕನ್ನಡ Bahasa Melayu Filipino 中文
 Русский

TWELVE STEPS OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

1. We admitted that we were powerless over our addiction, that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. We came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. We made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him*.
4. We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. We admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. We humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. We made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. We made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. We continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. We sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God *as we understood Him*, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to addicts, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

TWELVE STEPS REPRINTED FOR ADAPTATION BY PERMISSION OF AA WORLD SERVICES, INC.

日本語
MAGYAR

عربي

Portugues

हिन्दी

Anglicized

Deutsch

Svenska

Polski

বাংলা

Українська

Dansk

IsiZulu

Eesti

Bahasa Indonesia

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ

Português (Brasil)

Slovenščina

Nederlands

Български

Malti

繁體中文

Ελληνικά

Bosanski
Suomi

עברית

मराठी

Norsk

Lietuviškai

فارسی

Français

English

Español

Kiswahili

islenska
Italiano

मराठी

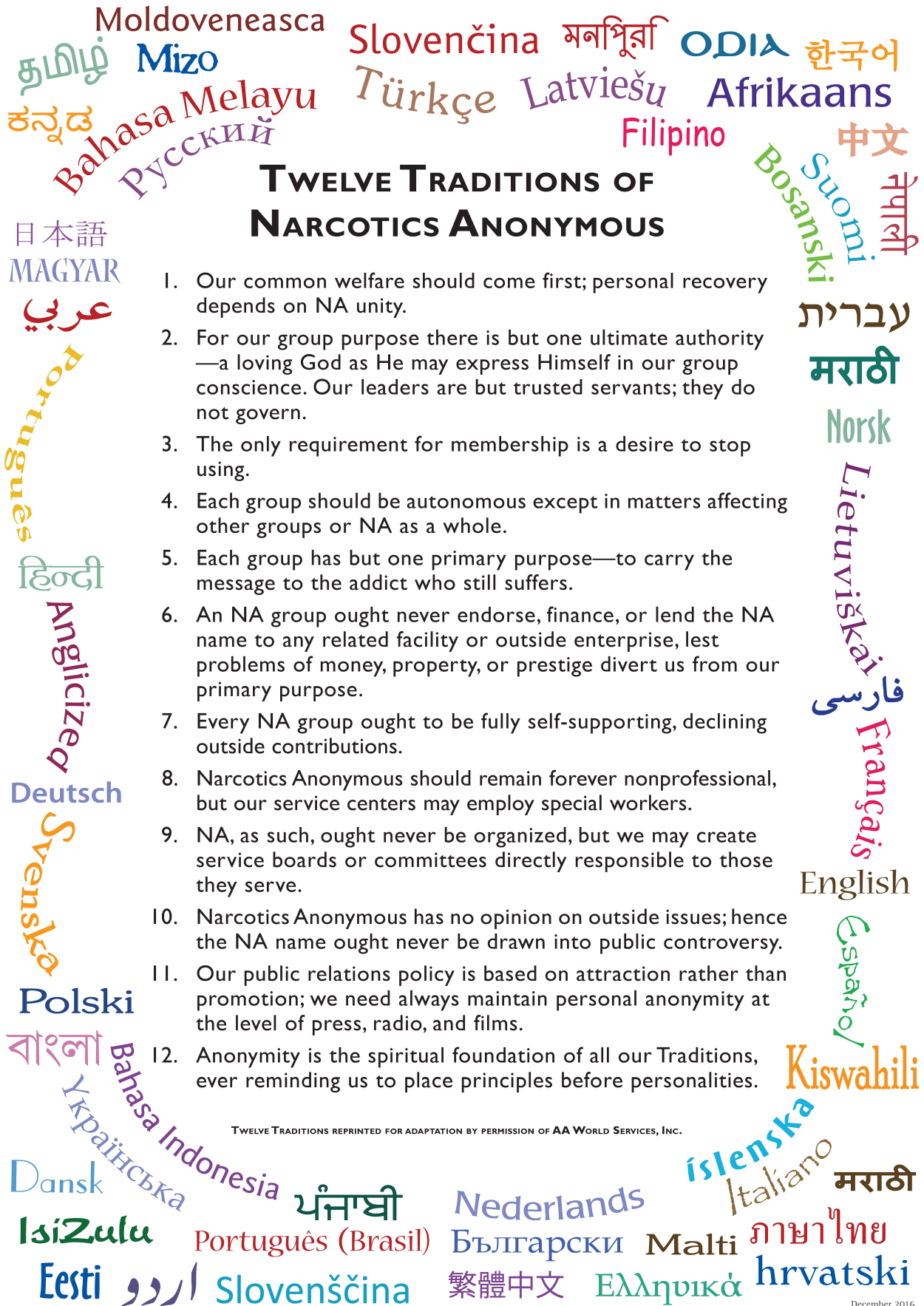
ภาษาไทย

hrvatski

TWELVE TRADITIONS OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on NA unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or NA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.
6. An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every NA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Narcotics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. NA, as such, ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Narcotics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the NA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

TWELVE TRADITIONS REPRINTED FOR ADAPTATION BY PERMISSION OF AA WORLD SERVICES, INC.



Moldoveneasca Slovenčina মনপ্রিয়া ODIÀ 한국어
 தமிழ் Mizo Türkçe Latviešu Afrikaans
 ಕನ್ನಡ Bahasa Melayu Filipino 中文
 Русский

TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR NA SERVICE

1. To fulfill our fellowship's primary purpose, the NA groups have joined together to create a structure which develops, coordinates, and maintains services on behalf of NA as a whole.
2. The final responsibility and authority for NA services rests with the NA groups.
3. The NA groups delegate to the service structure the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to it.
4. Effective leadership is highly valued in Narcotics Anonymous. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.
5. For each responsibility assigned to the service structure, a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined.
6. Group conscience is the spiritual means by which we invite a loving God to influence our decisions.
7. 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.
8. Our service structure depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communications.
9. All elements of our service structure have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision-making processes.
10. Any member of a service body can petition that body for the redress of a personal grievance, without fear of reprisal.
11. NA funds are to be used to further our primary purpose, and must be managed responsibly.
12. In keeping with the spiritual nature of Narcotics Anonymous, our structure should always be one of service, never of government.

日本語
MAGYAR

عربي
Portugues

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Anglicized

Deutsch
Svenska

Polski

বাংলা
Українська

Dansk
IsiZulu

Eesti

Bosanski
Suomi

עברית
मराठी

Norsk

Lietuviškai

فارسی
Français

English

Español

Kiswahili

islenska
Italiano

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 TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR NA SERVICE WERE MODELED ON AA'S TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE,
 PUBLISHED BY ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS WORLD SERVICES, INC.
 AND HAVE EVOLVED SPECIFIC TO THE NEEDS OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS.

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ
Português (Brasil)
Slovenščina

Nederlands
Български
繁體中文
Ελληνικά

Malti