

Tuesday – 26 April 2016

Recovery is then Possible: Up late last night? A meeting this morning may be the perfect wake-up. There are meetings daily at the poolside at 7am and after the end of the Conference day.

Future of the WSC	9:00–10:30 am
Public Relations	11:00 am–12:30 pm
Lunch/Women’s Lunch	12:30–2:30 pm
HRP Report	2:30–4:00 pm
NAWS Report Part One	4:30–6:00 pm
Deadline for Challenges to Nominations	6:00 pm
Dinner	6:00–8:00 pm
NAWS Report Part Two	8:00–9:30 pm

Future of the WSC

This is the first of three sessions devoted to the topic “The Future of the WSC.” The good news is this conversation is happening because we are realizing NA’s vision in many ways. We are a success story. NA is growing, but as we grow, the Conference grows, and with no strategic approach to managing the size of the Conference, we face challenges in terms of our effectiveness (our ability to have discussions and move ideas forward) and our sustainability (the prudent use of our resources).

At the last Conference, we had five sessions devoted to “Planning Our Future.” We began by considering NA’s needs and then discussed how a worldwide body might best meet those needs. What might a future WSC look like and how can we get there? We don’t have the ability to devote five sessions to the subject this time, but we do have three, and we’re hopeful we can make good progress together. As was the case in 2014, these sessions are not intended to be decision-making sessions, but at some point soon, the Conference will need to make decisions about its future, and these sessions are intended to help pave the way for those

decisions. We want to talk together about the questions: What do we want the future of the WSC to look like, and how do we imagine we will get there?

Our hope is to leave this Conference with a shared idea about what we need to discuss, both together and with our home communities, as well as plans for forwarding ideas before the next World Service Conference.

Background

It would be impossible to do justice to the background of this issue—the debates over Conference seating—in the space we have here. We are including a document that briefly summarizes the last 20 years of discussions on the topic and provides links to source documents. You can find it on page 79 of this *Conference Report*.

We have been saying for so long that we need to move forward, but after the last WSC we have more cautious optimism that change may actually happen at some point. At the end of WSC 2014’s five sessions on Planning our Future, we seemed, as a Conference, to be moving toward some consensus—or if not consensus, we seemed to have some points of