

SECTION 3

OUTCOME OF TOPICS

OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE TOPICS 2015

TOPIC NO.	ORIGINAL TOPIC	OUTCOME
001	That the General Service Office. Introduce a standard pricing schedule for the freighting of literature to ALL CSOs in Australia.	Voted on but not Advisory Action
002	A national publication for the Australian Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, along the lines of the AA Grapevine in North America and in line with established AA fellowships worldwide.	Advisory Action #002/2015 + Voted on but not Advisory Action
003	That Conference considers that at all Conventions the Tea/Coffee be part of the registration cost IE: Tea and Coffee would be available at no charge and made available to all attending (includes visitors/observers).	Voted on but not Advisory Action
004	That the role of Office Manager for the GSO be a defined 5 year appointment with a possible 2 year extension only at the Board's discretion, and that no-one be in the role for more than 7 years.	Topic was referred to the General Service Board for reply to the topic submitter, as the Conference Agenda Committee believed it was the responsibility of the General Service Board to set terms of employment for its employees, not the responsibility of Conference. The General Service Board to be requested to supply current information regarding terms of employment of the GSO New York Manager.
005	Could the ID meeting label please be given the same priority as all the other meetings in the GSO data base and be allowed to be added into the GSO data base under the heading Type.	Advisory Action #005/2015
006	To have a register of treatment facilities (including local medical centres and alcohol and drug treatment centres) submitted on the National website under the area in which they exist. It should be made clear that this website is to encourage districts to continually undertake the responsibility of delivering literature to same.	Voted on but not Advisory Action
007	Issues with the National AA 1300 Help Line system not working as intended for the Intergroup.	Topic was referred to the General Service Board for reply. It was agreed the administration of the National 1300 number was the responsibility of the General Service Board, not the General Service Conference.

OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE TOPICS 2015

008	That the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia takes its Inventory on how our AA Structure works in AA Australia.	Advisory Action #008/2015
009	That the position of the National Office Manager of The General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous Australia not be allowed to vote at Conference or in any area that they vote now at the level of Board, Committees and Conference.	Topic was referred to the General Service Board for reply. The committee felt it was not an appropriate topic for Conference as the request to deny the GSO Manager a vote at Conference and Board level was contrary to Concept IV right of participation. The General Service Board be asked to provide information on Concept IV to the topic submitter and also on the voting rights of GSO New York staff members at their General Service Conference.
010	Clarify, determine, define and update the Guidelines for nomination and appointment of all Co-ordinators. This is currently covered by Guideline 30 – <i>PI & CPC and T & CF Co-ordinators and Forums</i>	Advisory Action #010/2015
011	That the Literature Committee review AA Guideline 22 for grammatical and other errors. There is reference in this Guideline to the AI Anon anonymity statement: “ <i>What you hear here...</i> ” AA has its own anonymity statement for AA meetings (available from GSO) Conference should only allow AA Statements within Conference approved literature.	Advisory Action #011/2015
012	Will Conference give guidance to Areas regarding action to take when a delegate is not carrying out his/her duties? For example, a delegate not attending Area Assemblies, not communicating with groups, not make an attempt to consult with groups for their views on Conference topics, not providing a delegate report to Conference, etc. We realise that in many cases, it would be an Area responsibility to set procedures. However, as delegates also hold a position at the General Service Conference, we believe Conference has	Advisory Action #012/2015

OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE TOPICS 2015

	a responsibility to clearly state the expected standard for the delegate position.	
013	That when an inaccurate/false/defamatory statement about the General Service Board, General Service Office or General Service Conference is published by an individual member or AA entity, this misinformation be immediately corrected by a statement from the General Service Board. Lack of reaction, with back up accurate information, is causing unnecessary confusion and mistrust in the Fellowship and damaging the individuals who are being targeted by malicious mischief makers.	Voted on but not Advisory Action
014	When AA exhibits at a professional event, as it does regularly, the AA co-ordinator must ensure that a list of contacts is obtained, so that the National PI&CPC Co-ordinator can follow up after the event. The AA co-ordinator should also provide a report to the National PI&CPC Co-ordinator, including information such as number who attended the event, amount of literature distributed, what professionals were/were not interested in, etc. The National PI&CPC Co-ordinator should provide the AA co-ordinator with a contacts list to be completed, and a template for producing a report.	Advisory Action #014/2015
015	Category 3. To reproduce cartoon You tube English conference approved. video based on a message to teenagers brochure using Australian voices and contact information.	Advisory Action #015/2015
016	I think it would be beneficial to have an overlap in the National PI & CPC Co-ordinators Position, even 6 months would be helpful	Voted on but not Advisory Action
017	NO TOPIC 017	

OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE TOPICS 2015

018	That all current AA Conference approved literature be made available in electronic form.	Topic be referred to the General Service Board so that information on copyright and our licencing agreement could be provided to the topic submitter. GSO did not have a licence to produce literature in electronic form.
019	AA Australia sets up a Virtual Online bookstore that members can order literature from and have it sent to them.	Advisory Action #019/2015
020	That Advisory Action #46/2014 which states "Conference resolved that, in future, the Chairperson of the General Service Board should open the Conference with an Acknowledgment of Country statement." be revoked. This advisory action is against the Traditions of the AA fellowship.	Voted on but not Advisory Action
021	That conference creates a new piece of literature on the topic of sponsoring into service. A book of suggestions and guidelines to help with the role of being a service sponsor.	Advisory Action #021/2015
022	That a National Technology and Social Media Coordinator position be created to assist the fellowship with the challenges we are facing in the new digital age.	Advisory Action #022/2015
023	Consider developing a new pamphlet for new women coming into AA.	Voted on but not Advisory Action
024	Category 3. The production of 2 new Public Information posters aimed at attracting young people with drinking problems into recovery in AA.	Advisory Action #024/2015
025	Regions and States are not part of our Fellowship's service structure. Using either expression in relation to Areas is confusing. It has diminished the importance of the Areas so that, being fixed in States or Regions, we have never properly developed Areas as they should be.	Advisory Action #025/2015
026	Conference endorses that for Public Information purposes a copy of the 2 nd Australian edition of the Big Book be donated to every council library and branch thereof within their area within the next 12 months	Conference suggests that for Public Information purposes a copy of the 2 nd Australian edition of the Big Book be donated to every council library and branch thereof within their area within the next 12 months.

OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE TOPICS 2015

027	National .Conventions not to be held over Easter or any weekend where a Public Holiday is involved.	Voted on but not Advisory Action
028	We are suggesting Additional wording in the guidelines for conventions to read "as a suggestion a table be made available, if possible, for Flyers for Rallies, roundups and tag-a longs.	Advisory Action #028/2015
029	The General Service Board recommends to Conference that two General Service Office staff members be listed as signatories of last resort to any group bank accounts set up with Bendigo bank. This is suggested so that groups can gain access to their bank account in the event that one or more group signatories cannot be located. The release of funds using the signatories of last resort would only be instituted at the written request of the group.	Advisory Action #029/2015
030	The General Service Board requests that the General Service Conference increase the annual current limits for bequests and donations by individuals to the General Service Board, as follows: Donations: Increase from \$6,050 to \$15,000 Bequests: Increase from \$14,850 to \$25,000.	Advisory Action #030/2015
031	The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the attached 'Self Support' card be printed and made available to groups as a Category 3 literature item.	Advisory Action #031/2015
032	The General Service Board recommends to Conference that when an Area bids at Conference to host a National event, such as the National PI&CPC Forum or the National T&CF Forum, an undertaking be given that it understood that the relevant National Co-ordinator is an ex officio member of the committee and, as such, will be contacted to be involved in the planning of the event and the production of the event programme.	Advisory Action #032/2015
033	The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the sum of \$2000 be contributed to the AOSM Secretariat. Contributions to the AOSM Secretariat are used to pay for the travel and	Advisory Action #033/2015

OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE TOPICS 2015

	<p>accommodation expenses for the AOSM Secretary and Chairman to attend the AOSM, website expenses and any shortfall there may be at the AOSM. These funds are not used to financially sponsor another country to attend. That responsibility lies with the secretary putting out the call for Country to Country sponsorship. It is recommended that no contributions be made until the current AOSM Financial Report has been received.</p>	
034	<p>The General Service Board recommends to the General Service Conference that a calendar of events be published on the service and national websites.</p>	Advisory Action #034/2015
035	<p>The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the attached Guideline for the Remote Communities Co-ordinator Role be adopted.</p>	Not voted on. Refer Advisory Action #055/2015
036	<p>The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the Conference Treatment Facilities Committee be renamed the Treatment & Special Needs Committee. All non-remote areas now listed under the scope of the Conference Remote Communities Committee to be transferred to the Treatment & Special Needs Committee. The General Service Board has implemented this change to the Trustees' Treatment Facilities Committee.</p>	Advisory Action #036/2015
037	<p>The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the Conference Remote Communities change their Composition, Scope & Procedure Document to reflect that this committee will focus only on carrying the message to people living in geographically remote communities in Australia.</p>	Advisory Action #037/2015
038	<p>The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the National Treatment & Correctional Facilities Forum incorporate sessions for people with special needs into their programme.</p>	Advisory Action #038/2015
039	<p>The General Service Board recommends to Conference that from 2016, the Conference Agenda be changed as per the attached suggestion. An analysis of</p>	Voted on but not Advisory Action

OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE TOPICS 2015

	topic categories over the last ten years has also been attached.	
040	The Fellowship is asked to provide feedback to the General Service Conference 2015 on whether non Area Delegate Conference Members (Trustees, World Service Delegates, GSO Manager) should have a vote at Conference Committee level.	Advisory Action #040/2015
041	<p>The General Service Board recommends to Conference that the following paragraph be added to the Area Delegate section of the Service Manual:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Two hats In AA it seems there are always more service positions than people to fill them. And if we do manage to fill them, we create still more. As a result, some members may feel pressure to shoulder more than one service role at a time. On the surface this may appear to be expedient. After all 'someone has to do it'. However, the following issues need to be considered by any member contemplating donning two hats;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding two service positions simultaneously deprives other members of the opportunity to serve. • Sometimes it's better to leave a position vacant for a while. Someone will decide to step up, or be encouraged to volunteer, if they understand the need. • When a member wears two hats, there is a real danger of a conflict of interest and an inclination to undue influence. <p style="padding-left: 40px;">When it comes to general service, experience shows it's</p>	Advisory Action #041/2015

OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE TOPICS 2015

	usually better to do one job well than two jobs poorly.	
--	---	--

There were additional Advisory Actions as follows: (see Advisory Actions section for details):

Advisory Action #042/2015 to Advisory Action #061/2015 inclusive.