

## THE ACA WSO ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT for Concepts 2 & 6 Ad-Hoc Study Committee April 2024

Committee
Concepts 2 & 6 Ad-Hoc Study Committee
Accountability and Updates structure:
<p>This Ad Hoc Committee is a committee of the WSO Board and is part of the WSO Policy &amp; Structure Collaboration Committee and is represented there by Kelle J.</p> <p>All final decisions about this committee’s work will be made by the delegates at a future Conference Business Meeting. When the committee completes its recommendations, it will request a significant block of time at an upcoming Conference Business Meeting for review and direction.</p>
Committee Meetings:
1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 5:30 PM ET. (Meeting ID: 834 2924 8013 Passcode: 90755)

Inception Date	Sunset Date
Mandate from ABC 2022 / First meeting 10/20/2022	currently May 2024

WSO Website - Repository URL of meeting minutes / reports
Homepage: <a href="https://acawso.org/concepts-study/">https://acawso.org/concepts-study/</a>
Reports: <a href="https://acawso.org/category/concept-ii-and-vi-study-group/">https://acawso.org/category/concept-ii-and-vi-study-group/</a>
Committee Contact information
You can contact the committee by email: <a href="mailto:concepts2and6@acawso.org">concepts2and6@acawso.org</a> . You can also reach us on Slack by contacting Charlie H. and/or Kelle J.

Chair / Vice Chair ( <i>First name, Last Initial; State or Country</i> )
The Committee has chosen not to have a standing Chair – rather we rotate the Chair position based on availability and group conscience.

Members (First name, Last Initial; State or Country)

Charlie H. VA, USA / Kelle J, FL, USA / Josh W. Wash DC, USA / Sue V. Toronto, CAN /  
Dove H , ARZ,USA / Buddy S. PA,USA / Kaz S. WA State,USA

Background

ACA's 12 Concepts of Service are twelve statements of principle (available on the adultchildren.org website and in the Big Red Book) that explain how the various pieces of world service fit together. This includes the roles of the Fellowship, the Conference, the ACA World Service Organization Board of Trustees, WSO committees, and WSO paid staff.

Concept 2 discusses how the voice of the fellowship guides world service. Concept 6 discusses various roles of the Conference and the Board of Trustees in World Service, and how those two entities interact. The Ballot Proposal that began this process sought to amend these two Concepts to bring greater clarity.

Statement of Purpose

2022 ABC Motion: To create an ad-hoc committee that will study Concepts 2&6 and report to the 2023 ABC on possible revisions. Delegates and the fellowship will be notified of the study and invited to join the ad-hoc committee.

2023 ABC Motion: We move to request a six month extension, with a detailed update at the next QDM, to complete proposed revisions to Concept 2 and 6, but to affirm that Concept 2 will define the Conference as the voice and conscience of the ACA fellowship-APPROVED by Conference

2024 QDM Feb.: extend the concepts 2&6 ad-hoc Study committee until May 2024 so that it can finalize recommendations to be presented at the 2024 ABC- APPROVED by Conference

Bullet list of committee activities since the last ABC

The committee continued its intensive study of Concepts 2 and 6, seeking to identify possible alternative language for more clarity. Based on study of the 12 Concepts of Service, including their history and practice in ACA, AA, and Al-Anon, the Committee has reached these preliminary conclusions:

1. Suggestion from our study group: to stop calling the events "Conferences" (Annual Business Conference, etc). Instead call the events "(annual/quarterly) business meetings of the Conference." Rationale being we think it's important for Delegates to understand the difference between the Conference as a meeting vs the Conference as a Service Body.

2. ACA`s Concept 2 is fundamentally flawed, and we intend to recommend that it be revised. As pointed out in the original ballot proposal, it does not state *who* is the actual voice and effective conscience of ACA`s fellowship. The committee will seek to assign these roles to the Conference, in line with Concept 2 in several other 12 step programs.
3. Draft Language to replace our current Concept 2 language: The committee has approved the following draft language for Concept II to be presented to the Conference at the 2024 ABC for Conference input and feedback:  
“ACA groups delegate to the World Service Conference the authority to act as their effective voice and conscience, and to represent the fellowship in world service matters.”
4. We are presenting our working draft language for Concept VI to the Conference at the 2024 ABC for Conference input and feedback. Please note the committee is still in active discussion on the highlighted sections below.

The World Service Organization is a service arm of the Conference [of Delegates], and the WSO Board functions as a trusted servant of the Conference. By tradition, the Conference has the final decision on large matters of policy and finance in world service matters, as determined by the Conference. By tradition, The Conference has the right to [may] specify of the board whatever transparency and other support [communication] it needs to conduct an Informed Group Conscience. The Conference recognizes that WSO has primary administrative and operational authority in world service matters. The Board, its committees, and special workers may use their initiative and discernment in carrying out WSO obligations, implementing Conference directives, and making recommendations for Conference consideration.

5. After further discussion we also understand that the wording of the Concepts might be influenced by a potential Conference Charter, and vice-versa. We believe that a Conference Charter seeks to identify the relationships within our service structure and is closely tied to the Concepts which explain how the various pieces of world service fit together. This includes the roles of the fellowship, the Conference (and any service bodies of the Conference created as per tradition 9), the ACA World Service Organization Board of Trustees ,WSO committees, and WSO paid staff.
6. We continue to make connections with the ABC Study subcommittee who are currently focused primarily on drafting a Charter, as the work of our two study groups is highly interrelated, and collaborating would help us accomplish our various tasks.

7. In our work examining potential changes to Concepts 2 & 6, we came to recognize that other Concepts might also merit potential changes.

Tasks Completed

Provisional recommendation for revised language for Concept 2

Detailed descriptions, as needed

Motions / Recommendations to the 2024 ABC

- Concept II:
  - After substantial discussion, research and review, the committee has a final recommendation for the update to Concept II.
  - **MOTION:** that, to support a Informed Group Conscience process, the following language be approved by the conference today for subsequent group consideration and a final vote at the 2025 ABC as a replacement for the current Concept II: "ACA groups delegate to the World Service Conference the authority to act as their effective voice and conscience, and to represent the fellowship in world service matters."
  
- **MOTION:** 1 yr extension of our time and an expansion of our scope to
  - refine recommended language for an update to Concept VI to be presented at the next business meeting of the Conference
  - include
    - considering updates to other Concepts
    - make recommendations to better integrate the Concepts into the World Service Conference and the World Service Organization
  
- **RECOMMENDATION:** to stop calling the events "Conferences" (Annual Business Conference, etc). Instead call the events "(annual/quarterly) business meetings of the Conference"

Goals for the year ahead

\*see motions

Develop process recommendations.

