

REPORT OF THE ACA WSO CONCEPTS STUDY AD-HOC COMMITTEE GROUP FOR THE FEBRUARY 2025 QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING OF THE WORLD SERVICE CONFERENCE

Date: 02/01/25

Name of Committee: Concepts Study Ad Hoc Committee

Inaugural Meeting: October 20, 2022

Service Positions: The Committee has chosen not to have a standing committee chair. Rather, we rotate the Chair position and operate by group conscience **Committee**

Meetings: We have been meeting weekly but will resume the following schedule as of the month of February 2025: 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 5:30 PM ET. (Meeting ID: 834 2924 8013 Passcode: 90755)

Homepage: <https://acawso.org/concepts-study/>

Contact: You can contact the committee by email: conceptstudy@acawso.org. You can also reach us on ACA WSO Slack in the [#concepts_questions_feedback](#) channel

Committee Members: Charlie H, Kelle J, Josh W, Sue V, Dove H , Kaz S **WSO accountability structure:** This Ad Hoc Committee reports at every business conference meeting including the QDMs & the ABC. All recommendations for revisions to any of the 12 Concepts of Service will need final approval from The Conference.

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 and general responsibilities of each.

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 Original Ballot Proposal (Proposal 2022 – 4) that began this process sought to amend these two Concepts to bring greater clarity.

BACKGROUND: How This Committee Came To Be And Its History Since 1.

The Concepts 2 and 6 Ad Hoc Study Committee was authorized by the 2022 Annual Business Conference. The ABC's exact motion was:

To create an ad-hoc committee that will study Concepts 2 and 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.

2. The following motion passed at the 2023 ABC:

We move to request a six-month extension, with a detailed update at the next Quarterly Business Meeting, to complete proposed revisions to Concepts 2 and 6, but to affirm that Concept 2 will define the Conference as the voice and conscience of the ACA fellowship.

3. The following motion was passed at the February 2024 QDM : *To extend the end date of the Concepts 2 & 6 Study group until May 31, 2024 so that it can finalize recommendations to be presented at the ABC 2024.*

4. The following 2 motions passed at the 2024 ABC:

a. *To support an informed Group Conscience process, the following language be approved by the Conference today for subsequent consideration and a final vote at the 2025 ABC as a replacement for the current Concept 2 “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”.*

AND

b. *We propose a 2-3 year extension of the time , and an expansion of its scope of The Concepts Study Group.*

There was a request from the committee to the Board made in June 2024 and approved in July 2024 , based on the 2024 motions, to change the name of the Ad- Hoc committee to : “Concepts Study Ad-Hoc Committee”, to better reflect the expanded focus and purpose.

STATUS UPDATE: current as of this QDM 02/01/2025

Concept 2

As the 2025 ABC is approaching we want to remind everyone that ***the following revision to Concept 2 will be on the ABC Agenda for a final vote as a replacement of the current Concept 2***

“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”.

Current Concept 2 (for reference):

“Authority for the active maintenance of our world services is hereby delegated to the actual voice, the effective conscience for our whole Fellowship.”

We will be scheduling a second Town Hall in the month of March (exact date and time TBD) to review Concept 2 with the fellowship again. This will allow for much more time for your Questions and comments prior to the ABC vote. The goal is to be able to answer any questions and hear your thoughts which we hope in turn will provide a more informed vote when the time comes. We held the first Town Hall on September 7th 2024, at 1 PM ET and again at 9 PM ET, to accommodate different time zones. We hope to do the same as we schedule the next one.

If the recommendation for revision of Concept 2 passes at the 2025 ABC, we believe this change needs to go out to World Wide Fellowship voting. We would like to hear your thoughts on this at the upcoming Town Hall, our open slack channel, by email and at the QDM breakout session. As the decision becomes clear, we may add an additional Motion at the 2025 ABC to include this process for final approval.

Concept 6:

We presented draft language for Concept 6 at the May 2024 ABC (see below). Based on delegate feedback, we are exploring ways to make Concept 6 shorter and perhaps clearer. Please keep in mind this is a rough draft, NOT being presented as a recommendation at this time.

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. 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.

GOING FORWARD:

We will continue our focus on Concept 2 and Concept 6 to completion before branching out to address the extended scope of this committee which is:

- *to review and consider updates to the remaining Concepts for possible revisions*
- *Make recommendations to better integrate the concepts into the World Service Organization and the World Service Conference*

For the full power point presentation which goes into depth as to the work that has taken

place in this committee over the past 2.5 years please visit our committee link at <https://acawso.org/concepts-study/> .