

201	Yes	87%	Proposal 2021 – 10	Submitted by The ABC/AWC Committee	10
29	No	13%			
32	No Opinion				

Issue: We propose creating a task force to investigate whether the ACA Annual Business Conference (ABC) should be restructured. This task force would report to the ABC Committee and include ABC Delegates, Standing Committee liaisons, and other interested volunteers. The goal would be to gather information about whether the needs of the Fellowship are being met with the current structure, and if not, to develop recommendations to be submitted to the 2023 ABC for consideration.

Background: We believe it is important that the ABC work for the greatest number, across the globe. Some of the concerns we believe need full consideration are:

- By the very nature of having a Fellowship that serves groups around the globe, the ABC is challenged to meet the needs of everyone due to time zone limitations. Does the timing of the ABC agenda, based on the location of the in-person ABC, allow for the actual voice and effective conscience of our fellowship to be heard?
- Because of the limitation of attending in-person due to travel costs, the request to accommodate non-English speaking Delegates, and potential technology barriers, are effective discussions and decision-making less effective?
- Does a two-day annual conference provide enough time to conduct the business of WSO?

Resources/Implementation: We suggest that the task force operate under the supervision of the ABC Committee. We propose that it have co-chairs from the ABC and Global Committees with a request for liaisons from the following:

- Representation Equity and Accessibility
- Operating Policy and Procedure Manual
- Ballot Prep Committee
- Board of Trustees
- Finance Committee
- Information Technology Committee
- Global Committee (with representation of Global Central/West and Global East)
- European Committee

A goal would be that the task force be composed primarily of delegates along with liaisons from the above committees that have experience in operating WSO. The target date for the initiation of this task force is June 1, 2022.

WSO Analysis: The ABC is an essential element of fellowship democracy, and new challenges have emerged as it has grown in recent years. The ABC AWC Committee and Board agree that a long-term study of both the ABC and AWC models is justified and timely. The board believes that one combined long-term study of all relevant ideas is more efficient, and will yield more comprehensive analysis, than conducting separate studies of ideas cited in Measures 10, 11 and 12. The ABC AWC Committee will contact sponsors of these ballot measures and assess whether there is an interest in preliminary discussions that could inform an expected in-depth delegate discussion at the 2022 ABC. If delegates at the ABC approve a combined study about the ABC and AWC's future, they will be

invited to participate in that process. If the board is instructed at the 2022 ABC to take a different approach, it will do so.

Comments: (Those greater than 50 words, per Ballot instructions, were truncated. Comments only referring to the group’s voting results were removed.)

- a) We hope proposals 10, 11, and 12 can be combined into one item.
- b) Proposal 10 is the most clear and descriptive of the challenges to international participation in ABC and AWC, who may participate, and how the task force will operate.
- c) to be discussed together with proposals 11 and 12
- d) KISS principle; no more task forces or ad-hoc committees to do what duly-elected representatives of the Regions to the WSO Board are fully capable of doing; it ain't rocket science
- e) 10, 11 and 12 should somehow be combined into one big study because they each impact the other two in some way.
- f) I hope that the wishes The ABC/AWC committee will be respected. With written communication, even a Japanese person (me) who is not good at English can do it.
- g) This meeting would like to have ballot items 10, 11 and 12 joined together.
- h) Our "Yes" indicates that we agree that 10, 11, 12 should be discussed, but we also feel that, as the WSO analysis indicates, they should be considered together
- i) Proposals 10, 11 and 12 should be combined as they are closely related. Addressing them together will be efficient re time and effort to address concerns that have merit.
- j) We follow the Analysis of the WSO to organise one long term combined study instead of the establishment of a task force.
- k) WSO has planned to address this already. THANK YOU!
- l) We are in favor of 10, 11 and 12--ie in discussing the structure.
- m) We believe that this should be discussed. That does not indicate our support for the approval of the proposal
- n) Comment: Combine 10, 11 & 12 into one study.
- o) Based on inclusion of discussion of proposals 11 and 12 in the discussion.
- p) We agree with the WSO analysis that a broader, more sweeping study of the organization is called for, not picking off endless individual changes.
- q) Our group would urge the ABC to prioritize 'Representation Equity and Accessibility' in this matter
- r) In agreement with WSO that a broad look into the ABC process, procedures, representation, etc., would make more sense than doing arbitrary changes as suggested in Proposals 11 and 12 (although certainly online alternatives should be discussed by the task force).

186	Yes	78%	Proposal 2021 – 11	11
53	No	22%		
13	No Opinion			
			Submitted by IG729, TEL0411, WEB0616, WEB0609, WEB0615	

Issue: We propose that We propose that the Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families (ACA) World Service Organization (WSO) host an in-person/hybrid International Convention every five years. Furthermore, we propose WSO continue to host an Annual World Convention (AWC) virtually in the years between in-person/hybrid events. This proposed schedule is intended to encourage participation from all members, Intergroups, and Regions including those outside of North America and Europe.

Background: We acknowledge:

- Attending an in-person convention is a wonderful opportunity to meet people we have only seen in virtual rooms.
- Annually scheduling time away from home/job can be difficult and cost prohibitive, especially for those traveling outside their geographic area.
- Planning an annual in-person or hybrid event is time consuming, labor intensive, and logistically taxing on the small number of active volunteers within the WSO and the host committee.
- Global membership is growing exponentially.
- It is important to eliminate barriers to global participation. This includes the cost and challenges of acquiring necessary travel documents. It also requires proactive solutions to the problem of time zone differences.

We believe implementing this proposal will:

- Foster fellowship unity by reducing the number of in-person events and coordinating more virtual events; allowing all groups within our global community to host events.
- Save money on travel and boarding costs for the Board of Trustees.
- Save money on contracts and equipment needed for annual in-person conventions.
- Allow additional funds for ACA to invest in fellowship development such as: literature, translation services for global members, technology, engagement, etc.
- Allow additional planning time for consideration, group conscience agreement and collaboration between Meetings, Intergroups, Regions and WSO.
- Provide regular, consistent virtual experiences for the entire fellowship.

We have no opinion on outside issues, and this will be a more environmentally friendly alternative to an annual in-person convention.

Resources/Implementation: Implementation of this proposal will encourage collaboration between Intergroups, Regions, Global members, and WSO. To assure the greatest success for this new format, the following is recommended for consideration:

- The creation of a sub-committee of the ABC/AWC committee, dedicated to both the annual virtual events and the Five-Year In-Person Convention/hybrid event.
- To promote global participation and thus fellowship-wide success of the new format, it is recommended that the ABC delegates form a working group to coordinate with the following committees:
 - Global
 - European
 - Representation, Equity and Accessibility (REA)
 - Annual Business Conference/Annual World Convention (ABC/AWC)
 - Operating Policy and Procedures Manual (OPPM)
- Define time frames for recruitment of Intergroups and Regions to host both the in-person/virtual convention and the annual virtual events.

WSO Analysis: Both the Annual World Convention and Annual Business Conference have grown dramatically in the last six years, and each now has global participation. The ABC AWC Committee and Board agree that a long-term study of both the ABC and AWC models is justified and timely. The board believes that one combined long-term study of all relevant ideas is more efficient, and will yield more comprehensive analysis, than conducting separate studies of ideas cited in Measures 10, 11 and 12. The ABC AWC Committee will contact sponsors of these ballot measures, and assess whether there is an interest in preliminary discussions that could inform an expected in-depth delegate

discussion at the 2022 ABC. If delegates approve a combined study about the ABC and AWC's future, delegates will be invited to participate in that process. If the board is instructed at the 2022 ABC to take a different approach, it will do so.

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- c) to be discussed together with proposals 11 and 12
- d) KISS principle; no more task forces or ad-hoc committees to do what duly-elected representatives of the Regions to the WSO Board are fully capable of doing; it ain't rocket science
- e) 10, 11 and 12 should somehow be combined into one big study because they each impact the other two in some way.
- f) I hope that the wishes The ABC/AWC committee will be respected. With written communication, even a Japanese person (me) who is not good at English can do it.
- g) This meeting would like to have ballot items 10, 11 and 12 joined together.
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- j) Proposals 10, 11 and 12 should be combined as they are closely related. Addressing them together will be efficient re time and effort to address concerns that have merit
- k) We follow the Analysis of the WSO to organise one long term combined study instead of the establishment of a task force.
- l) WSO has planned to address this already. THANK YOU!
- m) We are in favor of 10, 11 and 12--ie in discussing the structure
- n) We believe that this should be discussed. That does not indicate our support for the approval of the proposal
- o) Comment: Combine 10, 11 & 12 into one study.
- p) Based on inclusion of discussion of proposals 11 and 12 in the discussion.
- q) We agree with the WSO analysis that a broader, more sweeping study of the organization is called for, not picking off endless individual changes.
- r) Our group would urge the ABC to prioritize 'Representation Equity and Accessibility' in this matter
- s) In agreement with WSO that a broad look into the ABC process, procedures, representation, etc., would make more sense than doing arbitrary changes as suggested in Proposals 11 and 12 (although certainly online alternatives should be discussed by the task force).

189	Yes	81%	Proposal 2021 – 12	12
44	No	19%		
19	No Opinion			
			Submitted by IG729, TEL0411, WEB0616, WEB0609, TEL0411 WEB0615	

Issue: We propose that To decrease financial costs and increase equitable access to the decision-making process at the ABC, we propose the creation of an ad-hoc committee to investigate the following changes to the ABC: splitting it from the AWC, holding it on weekends only, and holding

it online only. We believe holding the ABC in the manner described will aid in hearing the effective conscience of our fellowship by providing more equitable access for all delegates.

Background: There are benefits to attending an ABC in person. However, in the interest of fairness regarding the business of the fellowship and the voice of the delegates, we believe it is of the utmost importance to ensure that all delegates have a similar conference experience. Hybrid conferences create a two-tiered system of participation whereby those participating in person versus online have different experiences. For example, in-person attendance creates more opportunities for politicking and influence, not available to those participating online.

While a hybrid format allows participation from delegates who are unable to travel for various reasons, we believe splitting ABC from AWC and holding it online on weekends will allow greater participation from diverse members across the globe while reducing costs to the fellowship. Currently, the middle-of-the-week hybrid format is better suited to those able to take time off from work and caregiving duties, which may not represent the majority of our fellowship.

In 2020 and 2021, ABCs were conducted online on Zoom due to the pandemic. Previously, ABCs were conducted in-person with a virtual component and were held on consecutive days starting on Thursday. The plan for the future is to hold hybrid ABCs at a host location with support sufficient to facilitate participation by delegates on Zoom.

ABC-AWCs cost from \$21992.01 to \$54736.21 from 2017-19, compared with \$1250.95 and \$1556 in 2020-21. The AWC offsets some of the costs of the ABC, however, an online-only model alleviates the need for such cost offsetting.

Resources/Implementation:

- We ask that WSO suggest a board member to become an interim chair of the ad-hoc committee until a suitable candidate is found.
- The ad-hoc committee will provide a detailed report by March 2023 to the fellowship so delegates can make an informed decision at the 2024 ABC.
- The report should include:
 - A cost/benefit analysis of hybrid versus online ABC and of splitting the ABC from the AWC
 - The results of a survey, sent to groups, intergroups, and regions, regarding barriers to participation at the ABC
- Should a weekends-only online-only model be adopted, we submit the following for consideration:
 - We do not anticipate additional costs to be associated with hosting the ABC only online as the software/equipment for large Zoom meetings is already in regular use by the WSO.
 - Hosting ABC online would remove logistical issues associated with hybrid ABCs.
 - Hosting the ABC online would allow more flexibility in the time zones for conducting business. Currently, the start and end of the ABC is dictated by the host's location, which limits participation from delegates in distant areas.
- We request that a host intergroup or region assist in hosting the virtual business conference each year, to provide support to the WSO committees that plan and implement the ABC.
 - By rotating host locations and time zones, we have the opportunity to provide a more equitable experiences to members outside of North America and Europe.

- Intergroups and regions that are less able to host an in-person conference would have the opportunity to host a virtual conference, potentially resulting in more engagement by our global fellowship.
- We worked with members of the ABC/AWC committee, IT Committee, Representation, Equity, and Accessibility Committee, Global Members Committee, Delegates Subcommittee, and received information from the Finance Committee in developing this proposal.

WSO Analysis: Both the Annual World Convention and Annual Business Conference have grown dramatically in the last six years, and each now has global participation. The ABC AWC Committee and Board agree that a long-term study of both the ABC and AWC models is justified and timely. The board believes that one combined long-term study of all relevant ideas is more efficient, and will yield more comprehensive analysis, than conducting separate studies of ideas cited in Measures 10, 11 and 12. The ABC AWC Committee will contact sponsors of these ballot measures, and assess whether there is an interest in preliminary discussions that could inform an expected in-depth delegate discussion at the 2022 ABC. If delegates approve a combined study about the ABC and AWC's future, delegates will be invited to participate in that process. If the board is instructed at the 2022 ABC to take a different approach, it will do so.

Comments: (Those greater than 50 words, per Ballot instructions, were truncated. Comments only referring to the group's voting results were removed.)

- a) We hope proposals 10, 11, and 12 can be combined into one item.
- b) We struggled understanding this proposal due to the length of the proposal. Keeping proposals under 500 words, including the WSO response and written more concisely would be preferred.
- c) We don't need an in person ABC with all its rush and expense! Better to do all "business" online and work from smaller, more frequent gatherings with a flexible time frame. We are a fellowship, not a corporation.
- d) similar to 10 and 11
- e) to be discussed together with proposals 10 and 11
- f) Do Not Merge the Proposed Committee with other proposed committees in other ballots. This committee specifically focuses on virtual ABC. Ballot 11 focuses on the Convention every 5 years; Ballot 10 focuses on the ***structure*** of the ABC. Keep them separate so each can focus on the details...
- g) No more ad-hoc committees "to study" anything; there is no need for an AWC since Regions and Intergroups are the service boards in place to host recovery events in-person and virtually. Distribution of videos from Intergroups and Region conferences and retreats may be a different story...
- h) 10, 11 and 12 should somehow be combined into one big study because they each impact the other two in some way.
- i) East Asia Inter is a wonderful people.
- j) This meeting would like to have ballot items 10, 11 and 12 joined together.
- k) This meeting would like to have ballot items 10, 11 and 12 joined together.
- l) Our "Yes" indicates that we agree that 10, 11, 12 should be discussed, but we also feel that, as the WSO analysis indicates, they should be considered together.
- m) Proposals 10, 11 and 12 should be combined as they are closely related. Addressing them together will be efficient re time and effort to address concerns that have merit.
- n) NOTE: the sense of our group is that items 11 and 12 should be considered by the task force created under #10 and not be considered separately or by a separate committee
- o) WSO has planned to address this already. THANK YOU
- p) In favor of discussing the structure; we don't have an opinion on what the structure should look like

- q) We believe that this should be discussed. That does not indicate our support for the approval of the proposal
- r) Combine 10, 11 & 12 into one study.
- s) Discussed in proposal 10
- t) We agree with the WSO analysis that a broader, more sweeping study of the organization is called for, not picking off endless individual changes.
- u) A delegate from last year explained that changes are already being discussed regarding the issues in proposals 10 11 and 12
- v) The program is growing in Asia. We would like to be represented.