

Proposal to add a nonvoting staff member from American Baptist Women's Ministries to the World Relief Committee.

ABW Ministries has requested a change in the ABCUSA Standing Rules in order to send a staff person to the World Relief Committee. The rationale behind the request is that, "BGM, ABHMS, and IM are allowed to bring a staff person along with board members. The staff persons are often more knowledgeable of daily organizational activities and thus, better able to contribute to the meeting as well as disseminate information from the meeting back to their respective organization." The National Executive Council (NEC) supports this request.

The current wording of the ABCUSA Standing Rules is as follows...

14.7.1 Membership. There shall be a World Relief Committee consisting of ten (10) members including:

(a) seven (7) voting members to be elected by the Board of General Ministries:

(1) two (2) persons nominated by the Board of Directors of ABFMS from among its membership;

(2) two (2) persons nominated by the Board of Directors of ABHMS from among its membership;

(3) two (2) persons nominated by the ABCUSA President from among Board of General Ministries membership, with one of those person to be appointed chair of the Committee by the ABCUSA President; and

(4) one (1) person nominated from the American Baptist Women Executive Committee from among that Committee's membership.

(b) three (3) non-voting members, one (1) each from the staffs of ABCUSA, ABFMS, and ABHMS appointed by the General Secretary in consultation with the appropriate respective ABCUSA National Secretary from ABFMS and ABHMS.

(c) The World Relief Officer shall staff the Committee.

(d) Any vacancy shall be filled by nomination and election or appointment as aforesaid.

The new wording of the ABCUSA Standing Rules is as follows...

14.7.1 Membership. There shall be a World Relief Committee consisting of **eleven (11)** members including:

(a) seven (7) voting members to be elected by the Board of General Ministries:

(1) two (2) persons nominated by the Board of Directors of ABFMS from among its membership;

(2) two (2) persons nominated by the Board of Directors of ABHMS from among its membership;

(3) two (2) persons nominated by the ABCUSA President from among Board of General Ministries membership, with one of those person to be appointed chair of the Committee by the ABCUSA President; and

(4) one (1) person nominated from the American Baptist Women Executive Committee from among that Committee's membership.

- (b) four (4) non-voting members, one (1) each from the staffs of ABCUSA, ABFMS, ABHMS, and American Baptist Women's Ministries ("ABWM") appointed by the General Secretary in consultation with the appropriate respective members of the National Executive Council.
- (c) The World Relief Officer shall staff the Committee.
- (d) Any vacancy shall be filled by nomination and election or appointment as aforesaid.

The complete standing rules for the WRC are attached.

The process to amend the Standing Rules is attached.

The policy manual for the WRC is also attached.