

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS AT THE 2023 BIENNIAL MEETING OF DELEGATES

In order to provide a fair and orderly procedure for the conduct of all business which comes before this meeting, the Biennial Mission Summit Planning Team, after consultation with the ABCUSA General Secretary and legal counsel, recommends to the Delegates the following Rules of Procedure, to be adopted by a majority vote of the votes cast:

1. The procedures used for election of ABCUSA officers and At-Large members of the Board of General Ministries shall follow the provisions in the ABCUSA Bylaws (Article IV, Section 3(b) and 3(e); Article XV, Section 1; and Article XVIII, Section 9). No nominations from the churches having been received, delegates shall vote Yes or No on each slate.
2. Because the Board of General Ministries is recommending Bylaw Amendments for adoption, each amendment will be subject to an approve/disapprove vote but may not be amended from the floor. Delegates wishing to speak for or against a proposed amendment shall complete and turn in a “Speaker Registration Form.” Forms may be obtained between 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on June 23 and 24, 2023, and 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM on June 25, 2023 at the Office of the General Secretary Resource Desk located in the Level II Lobby of the Puerto Rico Convention Center. Completed forms must be turned in to the Office of the General Secretary Resource Desk by 12:00 PM, Sunday, June 25, 2023. Speakers shall be recognized in the order in which their forms were received. Following a short explanation of the proposed amendments, debate of not more than 30 minutes total, by speakers who have registered will be allowed prior to voting. There shall be a maximum of 2 speeches “for” the amendment and 3 speeches “against.” Each speaker may speak for no longer than 2 minutes. Amendments to Article IV, X, XIII, XV, & XIX require a 2/3 majority vote. Amendments to Article VII and XVII require a simple majority vote.
3. The Delegates by at least two-thirds vote may recommend amendments to the Bylaws (“Future Amendments”) for consideration at the next Biennial Meeting (ABCUSA Bylaws Article XIX, Section 1). Notice of intent to move to recommend Future Amendments for consideration at the next Biennial Meeting shall be given in writing to the ABCUSA President, in care of the Office of the General Secretary Resource Desk in the Puerto Rico Convention Center, by 12:00 PM, Sunday, June 25, 2023. The notice shall be written on an “Intent to Move to Amend” form, which can be obtained between 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on June 23 and 24, 2023, and 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM on June 25, 2023 at the Office of the General Secretary Resource Desk.
4. Discussion of any proposed future amendments will begin with an explanatory presentation of not more than five minutes. In addition, not more than 10 minutes for debate on any proposed Future Amendment prior to voting (see #2 above). Up to 5 speakers will be recognized—2 for and 3 against—beginning with an against speaker and alternating between for and against, with 2 minutes for each speaker. The vote will be taken electronically.
5. Roberts’ Rules of Order (newly revised) shall be the manual to guide the Biennial Meeting in all matters of parliamentary practice not prescribed in the ABCUSA Bylaws or the foregoing Rules of Procedure or the intent thereof.