

**Motion 1: Change the World Service Conference Charter to North America World Service Conference Charter**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Annual S-Anon Senior World Service Conference, July 30, 2022**

**MOTION:** Move that the following changes be made to the World Service Conference Charter (WSC Charter), most recently revised in July 2021, to reflect and clarify service structure decisions made at previous Conferences:

WSC Charter dated July 2021	Suggested Change
Title: S-Anon World Service Conference Charter	Title: S-Anon <b>North America</b> World Service Conference Charter
Introduction	Introduction
".... Certain countries of the world, for language or geographic considerations, have established or may desire to establish their own General Service Office and national conference. This World Service Conference is now the senior conference." (July 2016)	".... Certain countries of the world, for language or geographic considerations, have established or may desire to establish their own General Service Office and national conference. <b>Therefore, the current "World Service Conference" will now be formally designated as the North America World Service Conference, and is understood to be the senior conference.</b>
Footnote 1 to the Introduction: Currently there is no footnote to include this information.	<b>1 For S-Anon's purposes, "North America" currently refers to the United States and Canada. (Appears after Introduction)</b>
Footnote 2 to the Introduction: Currently there is no footnote to include this information.	<b>2 All references to "the Conference" included in this document are understood to refer to the North America World Service Conference, that is, the "senior conference." In addition, all references to "S-Anon," "the World Service Office," "Delegates," "S-Anon groups," "the Board of Trustees," the World Service Conference Committee," "S-Anon International Family Groups, Inc.," etc. should be understood to pertain to the <i>North America</i> conference, charter, and service structure participants. (To appear after footnote 1, above)</b>
Article II. Composition	Article II. Composition
A. Area Delegates or Alternate Area Delegates (to be seated for the current WSC only if the Area Delegate is unable to attend) from the United States and Canada elected by the Area or selected by the Area and registered with the World Service Office. (July 2017)	A. Area Delegates or Alternate Area Delegates from <b>North America</b> (United States and Canada) elected by the Area or selected by the Area and registered with the North America World Service Office. (If the Area Delegate is unable to attend, the Alternate Area Delegate <b>may</b> be seated for the current <b>North America WSC</b> only.)

**INTENT AND BACKGROUND:** The intent of this motion is two-fold. First, the language of the World Service Conference Charter should accurately reflect the existing S-Anon service structure. The International Service Structure Ad Hoc Committee (ISSAC), comprised of Area Delegates and Board of Trustee (BOT) members, met From November 2014–April 2015. The ISSAC resulted in a set of recommendations for a proposed International Service Structure. In July 2016, the WSC approved a motion to change the WSC Charter to incorporate several of the recommendations arising from the ISSAC. Those changes are shown in the table below. Second, wording of the Charter should clarify that decisions made by the WSC only apply to S-Anon in North America. The service structures in other countries are free to accept and incorporate the policies and procedures decided upon by the senior conference (North America) into their own governing documents, but they are not obliged to do so. This change naturally arises from differentiating the North America service structure from service structures that may be formed in other countries.

Actions Taken by the BOT and the WSC related to S-Anon Outside North America	
Date	Action
Nov 2014-Apr 2015	The International Service Structure Ad Hoc Committee (ISSAC) comprised of Trustees and Delegates explored how the S-Anon service structure could accommodate groups outside North America (United States and Canada). "The ISSAC recommends that S-Anon follow AI-Anon's lead by encouraging the development of an international service structure that provides maximum autonomy to groups in a given country or geographic area..."
July 2016	The WSC voted to establish the WSC held annually in North America as the "senior conference, and ... [to allow] representatives from other countries to attend the North American WSC with a voice, but not a vote."
July 2017	Recommendations of the ISSAC committee accepted by the BOT; Global Coordination Subcommittee (GCSC) (under the Public Information & Outreach Committee) established to create lines of communication to assist countries outside of North America that wish to create a service structure of their own.

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<b>Actions Taken by the BOT and the WSC related to S-Anon Outside North America</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>
2018-2021	The GCSC has been in contact with over 30 countries, providing assistance by telephone and virtual meetings. In July 2021 the BOT voted to renew and extend the mission of the GCSC as a subcommittee of the PI&OC. Plans include creating “how to” literature and determining if and when it is possible or desirable to convene gatherings of representatives from around the world.

**SUPPORTING PRINCIPLES:** Traditions One, Four, and Seven support this recommendation by encouraging the development of an international service structure that provides maximum autonomy (Tradition Four) to groups in a given country or geographic area, while preserving the unity of S-Anon as a whole (Tradition One). This approach also sets the stage for groups outside North America to be fully self-supporting both financially and through the service of its members in its service structure (Tradition Seven).

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** There is no financial impact to this change. Changes to written material will be made gradually, as it goes through the normal review process.

**ARGUMENT PRO:** S-Anon is beginning to implement the recommendations submitted by the ad hoc subcommittee (ISSAC, referenced above) dedicated to exploring this issue and accepted by the North America World Service Conference; i.e., to follow the example of the AI-Anon fellowship and separate the North America service structure from those of other countries. The changes suggested in this motion are a step toward this implementation. By revising the way in which we refer to the WSC, Delegates, etc., our documents will state clearly that we are referring only to the North America WSC.

**ARGUMENT CON:** Incorporating these changes throughout our literature will be an ongoing process requiring World Service Office (WSO) and BOT committee resources. As our CAL and Service Literature is revised and reprinted, these changes in language will be incorporated gradually.

**ACTION ITEMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION:** If this motion is approved, the changes will be made to the currently existing Charter. The revised version, including the date of revision, will be posted on the S-Anon website within the S-Anon/S-Ateen Service Manual (SSSM) Appendix G, replacing the currently existing document, and to the World Service Conference page of [member.sanon.org](http://member.sanon.org). In addition, the Policy and Service Communications Committee (PSCC) will review other sections of the SSSM, specifically, Part 3, Fellowship-wide Decision Making, to determine if additional changes are necessary. Necessary changes will be made by the PSCC which will send the updates to the WSO, and a WSO staff member will make the changes to the online SSSM.

**RESPONSIBLE PARTY:** The World Service Conference Committee will coordinate with the WSO to ensure that any changes to the World Service Conference Charter passed by the WSC are incorporated in the official version of the Charter and posted as appropriate on the S-Anon website. The WSO will communicate any Charter updates to the PSCC to ensure that any WSC Charter changes passed by the WSC are recorded in the online SSSM.

**DOCUMENTATION:** All decisions will go into the Decision Database maintained by the WSO staff. As mentioned, approved changes will be incorporated into the WSC Charter and posted to the online SSSM Appendix G and to the World Service Conference page of [member.sanon.org](http://member.sanon.org). In addition, the PSCC will review the SSSM to see if the approved changes will require that other sections of the SSSM be changed as well.

Submitted by: Julie S., Literature Committee Chair