**Agenda Questionnaire Summary**  
World Service Business Conference 2021

Please **DO NOT** return this summary. This summary is for tallying your members’ responses. Your intergroup or service board should return the Agenda Questionnaire available at oa.org or complete the online survey. Agenda Questionnaires should be postmarked by February 18, 2021. Questionnaires postmarked after this date will not be counted. Please review each New Business Motion and Bylaw Amendment in its entirety. This is a summarized version.

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<th>Proposal</th>
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<th>Bring to WSBC? Yes/No</th>
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| A        | San Francisco IG, R2 Aishlin O. | Move to amend WSBC Policy 1988b by striking and inserting the following:  
The following policy statement was adopted:  
The WSBC 2019 accepts the following definitions:  
1) Abstinence: The act of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors while working towards or maintaining a healthy body weight.  
2) Recovery: Removal of the need to engage in compulsive eating behaviors.  
Statement on Abstinence and Recovery  
Abstinence in Overeaters Anonymous is the action of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors while working towards or maintaining a healthy body weight.  
Spiritual, emotional, and physical recovery is achieved through working and living the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve Step program. | **Intent:** To revert to the earlier version of the Statement on Abstinence and Recovery.  
**Rationale:** Our concerns include  
1) The impact on and damage to Tradition One, the only requirement for membership in OA was the desire to stop eating compulsively. Anyone who came to the Fellowship was choosing to be in or to seek recovery. What now is the status of the fellows not conforming to this definition of recovery? They have membership status but are not in recovery? We have known members using both the Steps and the Tools and the desire has returned; this was one of the reasons underlying the “one day at a time” approach to recovery. There are members who continue to deal with the desire, especially newcomers, but with this new definition they could not consider themselves to be in recovery.  
2) The compulsion we have labored so to defeat is also now reclassified as “the need to engage in compulsive eating behaviors”. | Yes/No |
Move to amend WSBC Policy 1988b by inserting the following:

The WSBC 2019 accepts the following definitions:
1) Abstinence: The act of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors while working towards or maintaining a healthy body weight.
2) Recovery: Removal of the need to engage in compulsive eating behaviors.

Spiritual, emotional, and physical recovery is achieved through working and living in the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve Step program.

This policy shall be subject to change only in years ending in zero.

Intent: To provide stability, certainty, and substantial unanimity in the understanding around these key OA definitions by permitting changes only once every ten years.

Rationale: This change only affects WSBC Policy 1988b. WSBC Policy 1988b has been amended four times in the last twenty years. It does the Fellowship no service to change these definitions frequently. These are key definitions that take time to settle into our Fellowship. Let them take that time by subjecting them to change only once a decade.

Move to amend WSBC Policy 1988b by striking and inserting the following:

The WSBC 2019 accepts the following definitions:
1) Abstinence: The act of refraining from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors while working towards or maintaining a healthy body weight.
2) Recovery: Removal of the need to engage in compulsive eating behaviors. Relief from the compulsion to engage in self-destructive food behaviors.

Spiritual, emotional, and physical recovery is achieved through working and living the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve Step program. Working and living the Overeaters Anonymous Twelve Step program lead to spiritual, emotional, and physical recovery.

Intent: To a) use more accurate words to express the meaning of recovery and b) make the wording of the sentence following the recovery definition grammatically correct without changing the meaning expressed in the previous definition.

Rationale: “Removal” means “taking away”. “Relief” means “alleviation, ease, or deliverance through the removal of pain, distress, oppression, etc.” “Need” is defined as “to require (something) because it is essential or very important” and “expressing necessity or obligation”. “Compulsion” is defined as “a strong, usually irresistible impulse to perform an act, especially one that is irrational or contrary to one’s will”. The compulsion is what is removed, or from which we experience relief in recovery.

Move to amend WSBC Policy 2019c by inserting the following:

The following policy statement was adopted:
The World Service Business Conference established the following annual events.

Intent: To avoid confusion when the first of the month is on Sunday.

Rationale: When the first of the month is on a Sunday, there is confusion about whether
<table>
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<tr>
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<th>OA Birthday: The third two-day weekend of January as the annual celebration of the January 19, 1960 founding of Overeaters Anonymous.</th>
<th>to count that as the first weekend in that month.</th>
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<td>Unity Day: The last Saturday in February in even years and the last Sunday in February in odd years at 11:30 a.m. local time.</td>
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<td>Sponsorship Day: The third two-day weekend in August.</td>
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<td>International Day of Experience Abstinence (IDEA): The third two-day weekend in November.</td>
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| E | Ron P., GST  
*Contact WSO for maker’s contact information.* | Move to amend WSBC Policy 1984a by striking and inserting the following:  
Upon the recommendation of the Literature Committee, a preamble for Overeaters Anonymous was adopted to read:  
The Preamble of Overeaters Anonymous  
Overeaters Anonymous is a Fellowship of individuals who, through shared experience, strength, and hope, are recovering from compulsive eating and food behaviors. We welcome everyone who wants to stop eating compulsively, compulsive eating and other compulsive food behaviors. There are no dues or fees for members; we are self-supporting through our own contributions, neither soliciting nor accepting outside donations. OA is not affiliated with any public or private organization, political movement, ideology, or religious doctrine; we take no position on outside issues. Our primary purpose is to abstain from compulsive eating and compulsive food behaviors and to carry the message of recovery through the Twelve Steps of OA to those who still suffer. | Intent: To communicate that our shared disease is broader than compulsive eating.  
Rationale: “Overeaters Anonymous” and “compulsive overeater” do not reflect the whole spectrum of our disease and an under eater, bulimic, or over exerciser may go away or not even go to an OA meeting, thinking it will not apply to them. At the same time, this approach avoids mentioning multiple manifestations of our disease without leaving any out. |
| F | Ron P., GST  
*Contact WSO for maker’s contact information.* | Move to adopt the following policy statement.  
Diverse Voices Policy  
When developing new and updating existing literature published by Overeaters Anonymous World Service, the Literature Committee will make a concerted effort to include stories and/or quotes from members of diverse populations that are underrepresented in OA (i.e., reflect a | Intent: To build stronger unity through better understanding of our differences with more inclusive literature.  
Rationale: Including more diverse voices in our literature enables all members to better understand each other’s unique issues that frame our approach to achieving abstinence |
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<th>Board of Trustees Barb K.</th>
<th>Move to amend WSBC Policy 2010d by striking and inserting the following:</th>
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<td>It was adopted to: Establish an OA Young Persons’ Peoples’ Conference Committee.</td>
<td><strong>Intent:</strong> To bring the language of the policy manual up to date.</td>
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<td><strong>Rationale:</strong> The term “Young Persons” was discussed by the WSBC Young Persons’ Committee and they unanimously voted to write a motion to change the term to “Young People.”</td>
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<td>G</td>
<td>Board of Trustees Ron P.</td>
<td>Move to amend WSBC Policy 1992a by striking and inserting the following:</td>
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|   | **“Unity with Diversity” Policy**  
THE FELLOWSHIP of Overeaters Anonymous encourages and promotes acceptance and inclusivity. All are welcome to join OA and are not excluded because of race, creed, nationality, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other trait attribute. We welcome all who share our compulsion. Everyone with the desire to stop eating compulsively is welcome in Overeaters Anonymous.  
THE FELLOWSHIP of Overeaters Anonymous recognizes the existence of individual approaches and different structured concepts to working our Twelve-Step program of recovery; that the Fellowship is united by our disease and our common purpose; and that individual differences in approach(es) to recovery within our Fellowship need not divide us.  
THE FELLOWSHIP respects the rights of individuals members, groups, and service bodies to follow a particular concept of recovery within Overeaters Anonymous and encourages each member, group, and service body to also respect those rights as they extend the embracing hand of Fellowship to those who still suffer.  
THE FELLOWSHIP encourages each duly registered group and service body to affirm and maintain the Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous by allowing any | **Intent:** These changes seek to make the language consistent with existing OA content. |
|   | **Rationale:** “Overeaters Anonymous” and “compulsive overeater” do not reflect the whole spectrum of our disease and an under eater, bulimic, or over exerciser may go away or not even go to an OA meeting, thinking it will not apply to them. |
| I | Board of Trustees  
Letitia M.  
Dora P.  
Contact WSO for maker’s contact information. | Move to amend WSBC Policy 2019a by striking and inserting the following:  
It was adopted that:  
Groups known as hybrid meetings may register only once. The hybrid groups may be included on the oa.org meeting list under the appropriate meeting categories. The term hybrid is used to describe a group composed of members attending a single meeting where all can hear and share but may be present either in the same physical location (face-to-face) or through some form of electronic device (virtual).  
A hybrid group may register only once and is assigned one group number but may appear on oa.org in both the face-to-face listing and the virtual listing. | **Intent:** To define a hybrid group, which has become a part of the OA language as this type of meeting has become available to our members. To also ensure these meetings may be found.  
**Rationale:** As technology advances, so must we. We need to ensure that members find a meeting whether they wish to attend in person or through virtual means. We must, at the same time, to the best of our ability, retain the integrity of the number of meetings in our Fellowship. |
| J | HOW-OA Northern California IG, R2  
Margaret S.  
Contact WSO for maker’s contact information. | Move that the WSBC 2021 directs the Board of Trustees to make a policy that all BOT meetings and any BOT committee meetings become virtual meetings. The exceptions being 1) the meeting that takes place during the WSBC and 2) those meetings that might require the physical presence of the members of the BOT in exceptional and extenuating circumstances. This change can only be done by the BOT. This changes OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart A, Article V, Sections 6a and 11. | **Ruled out of order by the chair of the board.** OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart A, Article XI – Amendments, Section 1 – Board of Trustees states:  
Except as expressly stated in Subpart A, and provided there is no conflict in Subpart B, the bylaws of Subpart A may be amended by the Board of Trustees as follows:  
a) Two-thirds vote of the board provided the amendment has been given in writing to the board administrator twenty-five days prior to the next board meeting.  
b) Seventh-eighths vote of the board provided the amendment has been given in writing to the chair of the board at least one hour prior to the vote.  
Mandating specific changes to Subpart A is outside of the defined authority of the WSBC, its delegates, and/or its committees. |
The board will address and discuss taking action as they deem appropriate.

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<td>1</td>
<td>San Francisco IG, R2 Aishlin O.</td>
<td>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X – Meetings of Delegates, Section 5 – Voting by inserting the following: No delegate shall have more than one vote. Votes may be taken by notice, by show of hands, by ballot, or as called for by the presiding officer of any meeting, provided that the delegates may prescribe the method of voting desired on any question without regard to the method called for by the presiding officer. In any circumstance where a vote must be counted at the Conference floor, the board shall vote last.</td>
<td><strong>Intent:</strong> To have WSBC delegates vote without undue influence. <strong>Rationale:</strong> The San Francisco IG would like to request that the order of public voting allow the general public to have their vote counted prior to the trustees. Concept Four states, “The right of participation ensures equality of opportunity for all in the decision making process.” Visuals are very powerful. At the 2019 WSBC, there were more than forty new delegates voting. By seeing the trustees vote first from the dais, it could have the unintended consequence of setting a tone and effecting the outcome of a vote.</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>MetroWest IG, R6 Steve M.</td>
<td>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 3 – Term of Office by striking and inserting the following: Trustees shall be elected at the annual World Service Business Conference for a period of three years. Regional and general service trustees may be elected at any annual Conference in order to fill the remaining term created by a vacancy except as specified in Section 7. Trustees shall serve no more than eight consecutive years. A candidate may not run for election at WSBC if serving the full term of the proposed office would result in that candidate serving on the Board of Trustees for more than eight consecutive years total service as a trustee. Terms of office for regional trustees shall be staggered according to the following rotation: Regions One, Four, and Seven Regions Three, Six, Nine, and Virtual</td>
<td><strong>Intent:</strong> To encourage new voices and new points of view through rotation of trustee service. <strong>Rationale:</strong> This change affects only OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 3 – Term of Office. Rotation of service is an essential element for the well being of any OA group or service body, and OA’s Board of Trustees is certainly no exception. New trustees bring new experience, strength, hope, and new energy to the board. Trustees are elected at WSBC, and today, there is no limit on the total number of years a trustee may serve. A trustee who has served eight consecutive years followed by a break, then running for a new term, will have an advantage over the newcomer. As a Fellowship, we can be grateful that we have members willing to...</td>
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| Region One | Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 4 – Qualifications by striking, inserting, and renumbering the following:

d) In addition, regional trustees:
   1) Are to physically reside in be a permanent resident of the region represented no less than the six months immediately prior to election.
   2) Elected regional trustees will maintain physical residency in the regions represented for two thirds of each year of their terms, excluding OA-related business travel.

**Intent:** To replace a time-based requirement for residency with a simple requirement for residency for region trustees.

**Rationale:** This simplifies the requirements for qualification of regional trustees by making residency requirements consistent and reasonable. More and more we are able to work as a group virtually, without actually being in the same room. Thus, the physical presence of a trustee within the regional boundaries is less necessary. Therefore, it makes sense to allow a region trustee to be out of the region and yet not be out of touch.

| WSBC Bylaws Committee | Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VII – Regions, Section 2- Composition by striking and inserting the following:

a) There shall be ten eleven regions: one virtual region and ten geographic regions each composed of intergroups, groups, within each region, and service boards that fall within regional boundaries, and plus one virtual region its region. Subject to regional and BOT approval, language service boards that span more than one region may choose to affiliate with one of the regions that it spans any single region or choose not to be affiliated with any a region.

**Intent:** To clarify the makeup of the regions.

**Rationale:** The Virtual Region is a region but differentiated from the other ten because they are geographic regions and the Virtual Region is not.

| WSBC Bylaws Committee | Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X – Meetings of Delegates, Section 3 – Delegates by striking the following:

c) Qualifications/Selection
   2) Each intergroup or service board shall be entitled to have one qualified delegate for up to the first fifteen groups it represents and one for each additional fifteen groups or any fraction thereof, as per the January Service Body Information Report from WSO, except that the service board shall not

**Intent:** To clarify this section of the bylaws by removing the redundancy.

**Rationale:** The definition of groups is covered elsewhere in the OA, Inc. Bylaws.
A group shall be recognized and represented by an intergroup or service board.

| 6 | WSBC Bylaws Committee  
Mary T.  
Karen B.  
Contact WSO for maker’s contact information. | Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X – Meetings of Delegates, Section 1 – World Service Business Conference by striking and inserting the following:  
a) Annual Meeting. The corporation shall sponsor an annual meeting of the delegates of the members, which shall be known as the World Service Business Conference (hereafter may be referred to as the “Conference”). The Conference shall serve as the collective conscience of the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous as a whole.  
b) Time and Location. The annual Conference shall be held during the month of May or on such dates as the Board of Trustees may determine. The Conference shall be held in the Albuquerque, New Mexico area or at such place as the Board of Trustees may designate.  
c) In the event of an emergency, as determined by the Board of Trustees, the board may call the Conference, or any part of it, by virtual method(s).  

**Intent:** In 2020, in the face of a global pandemic and official health agency orders that people not meet in groups or in person, the BOT had to modify the 2020 Conference agenda. Under Robert’s Rules of Order and current bylaws, the BOT does not currently have the authority to hold a Conference, or any part of it, by virtual methods. This would give the BOT the ability to do this.  

**Rationale:** This gives the WSBC the ability to meet its obligation to hold an annual meeting. |  

| 7 | WSBC Bylaws Committee  
Mary T.  
Karen B.  
Contact WSO for maker’s contact information. | Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X – Meetings of Delegates, Section 3 – Delegates by striking and inserting the following:  
The delegates to the World Service Business Conference shall be as follows:  
a) Voting delegates shall consist of the following persons chosen in accordance with OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX, Section 6 or Article X, Section 3(c)1:  
5) A region that was represented at the last WSBC by fewer than 40 percent of its intergroups and other eligible service bodies may send up to five additional delegates from the region. Preference shall be given to delegates selected from intergroups and service bodies which would not otherwise be represented by delegates. When selecting these delegates, the region shall give preference to delegates from intergroups and service bodies.  

**Intent:** To clarify the intent of the selection of delegates.  

**Rationale:** The previous wording could be misinterpreted, implying somehow that the WSBC gives preference and this change makes clear that it is the region that is responsible for giving preference to those members who would not otherwise have been represented previously. |
| 8 | Board of Trustees  
Karen B.  
*Contact WSO for maker’s contact information.* | Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX –  
Board of Trustees, Section 1 – Composition by striking and inserting the following:  
The Board of Trustees shall consist of twelve trustees. Whenever possible, a minimum of two trustees shall come from outside of North America.*  

*Proviso: Until WSBC 2022, the board consists of seventeen members. No member of the board shall be removed by virtue of this change. The reduction of the board shall be done when terms of office come to an end. The schedule to reduce the board to a membership of twelve is as follows:  
a) 2022: 6 terms end; elect 5 (16 members)  
b) 2023: 5 terms end; elect 4 (15 members)  
c) 2024: 5 terms end; elect 4 (14 members)  
d) 2025: 5 terms end; elect 4 (13 members)  
e) 2026: 5 terms end; elect 4 (12 members)  

Should there be insufficient applicants to fill positions, the board may accelerate this schedule. | Intent: To restructure the Board of Trustees.  
Rationale: These restructuring motions were approved by the Board of Trustees to be placed on the WSBC 2020 agenda. This motion was supported for discussion by 95 percent of the responders to the Agenda Questionnaire. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this motion, along with all other non-literature motions, were not addressed in 2020. This bylaw specifies an encouragement for participation on the Board of Trustees by OA members who live outside of North America. However, it also allows the delegates to elect a full board of qualified members from those submitting applications for any term of office if needed.  

Please note that should this motion fail, the remaining motions and conforming motions will be withdrawn. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Board of Trustees  
Karen B.  
*Contact WSO for maker’s contact information.* | Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX –  
Board of Trustees, Section 4 – Qualifications by striking and inserting the following:  
a) Qualifications for trustee shall be:  
1) Seven years in the Fellowship;  
2) Five years of service beyond the meeting level;  
3) Attendance as a delegate to at least two World Service Business Conferences; and  
4) Participation at the region level (the extent of participation to be determined by each region); and  
5) Five years of continuous recovery in Overeaters Anonymous as evidence by:  
(i) five years of current continuous abstinence;  
| Intent: To restructure the Board of Trustees.  
Rationale: These restructuring motions were approved by the Board of Trustees to be placed on the WSBC 2020 agenda. This motion was supported for discussion by 94 percent of the responders to the Agenda Questionnaire. Since most trustees will, in theory, be assigned as region liaisons, experience at the region level becomes more of a requirement than in the past. It will be up to each region to determine for themselves how to define what level of participation they want to adopt as part of their bylaws and policies. |
(ii) current maintenance of a healthy body weight for at least two years; and
(iii) emotional and spiritual growth as a result of incorporating into their lives the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions as a new way of living.

b) Qualifications for trustee must be met at the time the application for trustee is submitted to the WSO. Specifically, such trustee nominees must also have:
1) Worked through all Twelve Steps;
2) Declared themselves as practicing the Twelve Steps to the best of their ability;
3) Declared themselves as committed to the Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous; and
4) Affirmed these additional qualifications on their trustee application forms.

c) Upon election, each trustee shall make a commitment of:
1) Adherence to the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of OA Service.
2) Continual recovery including abstinence and maintenance of a healthy body weight throughout the entire term(s) of office. Each person shall be the judge of his or her own recovery, including abstinence and maintenance of a healthy body weight.
3) Compliance with all the terms and provisions of the prevailing Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Bylaws.

d) In addition, regional trustees:
1) Are to physically reside in the region represented no less than the six months immediately prior to election.
2) Elected regional trustees will maintain physical residency in the regions represented for two-thirds of each year of their terms, excluding OA-related business travel.
3) If a change of status of physical residency of a regional trustee occurs following election of office, said trustee will notify the Board of Trustees of the change in status immediately. The trustee will vacate the position at the next World Service
Business Conference, where elections will be held to fill the incomplete term.
4) Additional qualifications for regional trustee may be set by each region.

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article IX – Board of Trustees, Section 5 – Nomination of Trustees by striking and inserting the following:

a) Regional Trustees
   1) a) At least one-hundred twenty days prior to the scheduled opening of the annual Conference of Overeaters Anonymous, all groups within a region eligible to submit trustee nominees shall be notified by the regional officers of the forthcoming Conference, with a request to all qualified members of the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous for the region to submit nominations to the region.
   b) An incumbent trustee serving as liaison to a region different from the one from which they were originally nominated may submit an application for re-election through either the region in which they regularly attend meetings, or the region they serve as a trustee liaison.
   2) c) At least ninety days prior to the annual Conference of Overeaters Anonymous, the regional representatives of each region shall choose from the nominees submitted to it no more than three qualified nominees from that region. Resumes of these nominees must be sent to the Board of Trustees within one week of their selection. Copies of these resumes must be sent to all delegates at least forty-five days prior to the annual meeting. (See exception, Section 7.)
   d) The (no more than three) nominees for regional trustees chosen by the regional assembly or affirmed by the currently registered region representatives shall be submitted to the Conference for election.
   e) Copies of resumes must be sent to all Conference delegates at least forty-five days prior to the annual Conference (see exception, Section 7).

Intent: To revise the process for nomination of trustees to support restructuring.

Rationale: These restructuring motions were approved by the Board of Trustees to be placed on the WSBC 2020 agenda. This motion was supported for discussion by 94 percent of the responders to the Agenda Questionnaire. This motion supports restructuring.
b) Regional Trustees for Newly Appointed Regions

1) Appointment
   (i) The board shall appoint the first regional trustee for the region.
   (ii) Each region may submit one nominee for the new regional trustee appointment in accordance with the provisions of Section 5, a) and b) with the exception of the new region who may submit three nominees.

2) Elections
   (i) The first election of the regional trustee shall occur at the World Service Business Conference the year following approval of the new region.
   (ii) Applicants for the first elected regional trustee who live within the new region shall submit their resume to the Board of Trustees ninety days prior to the annual Conference.
   (iii) If there are at least three qualified nominees from the new region, nominees from other regions shall not be accepted. One nominee for the elected regional trustee position may also be submitted from each other region in accordance with the provisions of Section 5a) and b) except as otherwise provided in Section 5b) 2) (ii).

3) Copies of resumes must be sent out to all Conference delegates at least forty-five days prior to the annual Conference.

c) General Service Trustees

1) All applicants for open position(s) of general service trustee must submit their resume to the Board of Trustees ninety days prior to the annual Conference. Such resumes must be affirmed by a majority vote of the applicant’s intergroup/service board or a region in which the applicant has recently served, or a majority vote of the Board of Trustees if the applicant is a sitting trustee.

2) The Board of Trustees, acting as a nominating committee, shall submit a list of nominees for the open position(s) with copies of the nominees’
Board of Trustees
Dora P.
Vasiliki T.
Letitia M.

Contact WSO for maker’s contact information.

Move to combine OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Intergroups, Article VII – Regions, and Article VIII – Service Boards into Article VI. Subsequent sections will be renumbered as necessary.

Article VI – Intergroups
Article VII – Regions
Article VIII – Service Boards

Article VI – Service Bodies
Service bodies are formed to support the groups in matters the group cannot accomplish on their own.

There shall be four types of service bodies to provide services beyond the group level. Service bodies provide support and representation of the groups and intergroups from which they are formed and act as guardians of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of OA Service.

Service Bodies
a) Intergroups
b) National Service Boards
c) Language Service Boards
d) Regions

Section 1 – Composition
a) Intergroups are composed of two or more groups that have formed a service body for the purpose of supporting and representing these groups that are affiliated with it. Each state/province/country may have at least one service body (intergroup/national service board). In a state/province/country having only one group, that group may function as an intergroup.
b) National service boards are composed of groups and intergroups who share a common purpose; to deal with issues that require a combination of membership and financial resources of intergroups and groups established within a single country.

Intent: To replace the existing three articles that define the service structure with a single consolidated section that covers all levels of service. It shows the relationship of each service level to one another and clarifies how these service bodies operate, where they are similar, and where they differ. This new section eliminates the need for multiple motions when making a change that impacts each service level.

Rationale: With the establishment of the Virtual Region and the Spanish Language Service Board, it has become clear that the actual relationships of service bodies are different in practice than the current bylaws reflect. There is a desire to ensure relationships between service levels can be determined by the service bodies involved. Within the records maintained by the WSO, only one affiliation per level is allowed, thus ensuring that each group, intergroup, service board, and region continues to have equitable representation at the Conference.
c) Language service boards are composed of groups, intergroups, and national service boards to serve the common needs of a language group, regardless of geographic proximity.
d) Regions. There shall be eleven regions each composed of intergroups, groups, and service boards. The regions shall be as follows:
2) Region No. 2 shall be the Pacific Southwest Region composed of California, Hawaii, Reno/Tahoe area of Nevada, and Mexico.
3) Region No. 3 shall be the Southwest Region composed of Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah.
4) Region No. 4 shall be the West Central Region composed of Illinois (except the Greater Chicago area and Central Illinois Intergroup), Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Manitoba, Northwestern Ontario, and the territory of Nunavut.
5) Region No. 5 shall be the Central Region composed of the Greater Chicago area and Central Illinois Intergroup, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Southwestern Ontario.
6) Region No. 6 shall be the Northeast Region composed of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Bermuda.
7) Region No. 7 shall be the Eastern Region composed of Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.
8) Region No. 8 shall be the Southeast Region composed of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, the Virgin Islands, Central America, and South America.
9) Region No. 9 shall be composed of countries and territories in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and Western Asia, including all of Russia.

10) Region No. 10 shall be composed of countries and territories in Australia, East Asia, New Zealand, South East Asia, and the Western Pacific Basin.

11) Virtual Region is nongeographic and is primarily composed of virtual groups and virtual intergroups. Should states/provinces/territories/countries within a region, or intergroups/national/language service boards within a state/province/territory/country wish to transfer to a region that is more convenient, the body notifies its current region, the region it would like to join, and the Board of Trustees of its desire to transfer. The BOT then submits a motion to WSBC to amend Subpart B, Article VI, Section 1d of the bylaws.

Section 2 – Registration

a) Each service body shall be duly registered with the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous by submitting:
   1) a completed registration form;
   2) bylaws and/or a summary of its purpose and operating procedures, neither of which shall be in conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws. At a minimum, such bylaws or summary of purpose shall include a statement indicating that its primary purpose is to aid those having problems with compulsive eating through the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service, and to serve and represent the OA groups from which it is formed; and
   3) complete registration information on:
      (i) intergroups—each affiliated group;
      (ii) national service boards—each affiliated intergroup and group; and
      (iii) language service boards—each participating group, intergroup, and/or national service board.
b) Each service body shall submit a copy of its bylaws and/or summary of purpose to the WSO whenever either is updated or revised.

c) Each service body shall evaluate its bylaws upon receipt of notification from the World Service Office of amendments to OA, Inc. Bylaws adopted at the World Service Business Conference to ensure that their bylaws do not conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws. Notices shall be deemed to have been given if sent by electronic transmission to the registered contact for each service body. Any updated bylaws shall be submitted to the World Service Office pursuant to OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI, Section 2a) 2 above.

Section 3 – Affiliation and Participation

Purpose of Affiliation: To facilitate the count of the groups and service bodies of the Fellowship and to encourage the flow of support and information to all.

Purpose of Participation: To facilitate the support and the flow of information within groups and service bodies that have a common need.

For the purpose of registration and WSBC representation:

a) An intergroup may affiliate with one national service board if it exists, shall be affiliated with one region, and may participate in one or more language service boards.

b) A national service board is affiliated with the region where their nation exists and may participate in one or more language service boards.

c) A language service board may affiliate with one region. When the language service board spans more than one region, it may choose which region to affiliate with. Should a language service board choose to not affiliate with a region, the BOT chair shall assign a trustee to serve as liaison to that language service board. The service bodies and groups acting as service bodies, that participate in a language service board retain their original affiliation.
Should a virtual group choose to affiliate with a land-based intergroup or national service board, or a land-based group choose to affiliate with a virtual intergroup, that group shall be affiliated with that service body’s region.

Should a virtual intergroup choose to affiliate with a national service board, that intergroup shall be affiliated with the region of that national service board.

Groups that are not affiliated with an intergroup shall be affiliated with a national service board (if one exists) or shall be affiliated with the region where the group exists, either the geographic region or the Virtual Region.

Any group or service body may participate in the activities (including voting) of another intergroup, national service board, and/or language service board and region with their permission.

Section 4 – Functioning and WSBC Representation

a) Service bodies may conduct their business by any method they choose.

b) Minimal requirement for registered service bodies to maintain their registration at the WSO:

1) Intergroups shall convene at least once a year, after prior notice has been given to all affiliated member groups and for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of delegate(s) to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.

2) National service boards shall convene at least once a year, after prior notice has been given to all affiliated member groups and intergroups for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of delegate(s) to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.

3) Language service boards shall convene at least once a year, after prior notice has been given to all member groups, intergroups, and national service boards for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of one delegate/alternate to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.
4) Regional assemblies whose members shall be called “regional representatives” or “RRs” shall convene at least once a year, after prior notice has been given to all intergroups, national/language service boards, and unaffiliated registered groups, for the election of officers and/or the selection of nominees for regional trustee for that region.

c) To send delegates to the WSBC, a service body must be formally registered, along with its delegate information, thirty days prior to Conference opening. (See Article X, Section 3c for qualifications and selection of delegates.)

d) In order to deregister, a service body must submit a written request to the World Service Office, region chair, and region trustee; or in the case of a language service board that is not affiliated with a region, the World Service Office and the trustee liaison.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12</th>
<th>Board of Trustees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Letitia M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dora P.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Contact WSO for maker’s contact information.*

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article V – Overeaters Anonymous Groups, Section 2 – Composition by inserting the following:

a) A group may be formed, as set forth in Article V, Section 1, by two or more persons meeting together, either
   1) in the same physical location (land-based);
   2) through some form of electronic device (virtual); or
   3) both (hybrid).

b) Groups compose the intergroups and service boards set forth in Articles VI and VIII thereof.

c) Affiliation/Participation:
   1) A group may affiliate with only one intergroup or national service board.
   2) However, groups may also participate in the activities (including voting) of another service body (intergroup, national service board, language service board, and/or region) with their permission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>13</th>
<th>Caledonian IG, R9</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sandra M.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article I – Twelve Steps by striking and inserting the following:

*Intent: To define hybrid groups that include both face-to-face and virtual attendance meeting components, so they are considered and can be registered as a single group.*

*Rationale: To clarify how this type of group/meeting is registered so it is managed in the Find a Meeting database.*

*Intent: To remove the gender identity with reference to God within the Steps.*
The Twelve Steps suggested for recovery in the Fellowship of Overeaters Anonymous are as follows:

1) We admitted we were powerless over food—that our lives had become unmanageable.
2) Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3) Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him Them.
4) Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5) Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6) Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7) Humbly asked Him Them to remove our shortcomings.
8) Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9) Made direct amends to such people whenever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10) Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.
11) Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him Them, praying only for knowledge of His Their will for us and the power to carry that out.
12) Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to compulsive overeaters and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

**Rationale:** The rationale is to remove any gender prejudice that was historically created when the concept of God was deemed to be male. The Steps are such a fundamental part of our recovery that if we are truly trying to be inclusive, then we should not be alienating people by pushing a gender identity on any member’s concept of a Higher Power.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>14</th>
<th>Caledonian IG, R9 Sandra M.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article II – Twelve Traditions by striking and inserting the following:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous are:</td>
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<td>1) Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon OA unity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2) For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He They may express Himself Themselves in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3) The only requirement for OA membership is a desire to stop eating compulsively.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Intent:** To remove the gender identity with reference to God within the Traditions.

**Rationale:** The rationale is to remove any gender prejudice that was historically created when the concept of God was deemed to be male. The Traditions are such a fundamental part of our recovery that if we are truly trying to be inclusive, then we should not be alienating people by pushing a gender identity on any member’s concept of a Higher Power.
4) Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.
5) Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the compulsive overeater who still suffers.
6) An OA group ought never endorse, finance or lend the OA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7) Every OA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8) Overeaters Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9) OA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10) Overeaters Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence, the OA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11) Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television and other public media of communication.
12) Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all these Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

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Vasiliki T., R9 Trustee
Letitia M., R10 Trustee
Karen B., R7 Trustee

Contact WSO for maker’s contact information.

Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article X – Meetings of Delegates, Section 3 – Delegates by striking and inserting the following:

c) Qualifications/Selection
2) Each intergroup or national service board shall be entitled to have one qualified delegate for up to the first fifteen groups it represents and one for each additional fifteen groups or any fraction thereof, as per the January Service Body Information Report from WSO, except that the service board shall not represent the same groups as intergroups represent. A group shall be recognized as registered and represented by an intergroup or service board.

**Intent:** To have fair representation at WSBC of and prevent multiple representation from the same service bodies.

**Rationale:** Article VII – Regions, Article VIII – Service Boards (for consistency)  
To increase inclusivity and opportunities for service bodies to participate at all levels. This motion was asked to be discussed by 97 percent of the service bodies that responded to the 2020 Agenda Questionnaire.
Each language service board is entitled to have one qualified delegate only, regardless of the number of groups or service bodies that compose the language service board.

3) Countries without intergroups or national/language service boards which seek representation at the annual Conference shall have at least one delegate. Larger representation shall be determined by the Board of Trustees, with the delegate approval in accordance with the number of groups in that country.

Vasiliki T., R9 Trustee
Letitia M., R10 Trustee
Karen B., R7 Trustee

Contact WSO for maker’s contact information.

Move to combine OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI – Intergroups, Article VII – Regions, and Article VIII – Service Boards into Article VI. Subsequent sections will be renumbered as necessary.

**Article VI – Intergroups**

**Article VII – Regions**

**Article VIII – Service Boards**

**Article VI – Service Bodies**

Service bodies are formed to support the groups in matters the group cannot accomplish on their own.

There shall be five types of service bodies to provide services beyond the group level. Service bodies provide support and representation of the groups and intergroups from which they are formed and act as guardians of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of OA Service.

**Service Bodies**

a) **Intergroups**

b) **National Service Boards**

c) **Language Service Boards**

d) **Special Focus Service Boards**

e) **Regions**

**Section 1 – Composition**

a) Intergroups are composed of two or more groups that have formed a service body for the purpose of

**Intent:** To replace the existing three articles that define the service structure with a single consolidated section that covers all levels of service. It shows the relationship of each service level to one another and clarifies how these service bodies operate, where they are similar and where they differ. This new section eliminates the need for multiple motions when making a change that impacts each service level. Finally, this version differs from the one submitted by the Board of Trustees by including a suggested new service body—special focus service boards. They will operate in the same manner as a language service board with only participating groups and shall be entitled to a single delegate at the annual WSBC.

**Rationale:** There has been interest expressed regarding forming service bodies to support special focus groups, specifically men and what are currently referred to as atheist/agnostic meetings. This and other motions proposed for WSBC open the discussion of whether the Fellowship feels that this is a worldwide concept.
supporting and representing these groups that are affiliated with it. Each state/province/country may have at least one service body (intergroup/national service board). In a state/province/country having only one group, that group may function as an intergroup.

b) National service boards are composed of groups and intergroups who share a common purpose; to deal with issues that require a combination of membership and financial resources of intergroups and groups established within a single country.

c) Language service boards are composed of groups, intergroups, and national service boards to serve the common needs of a language group, regardless of geographic proximity.

d) Special focus service boards are composed to serve the common needs of groups with the same special focus, regardless of geographic proximity.

e) Regions. There shall be eleven regions each composed of intergroups, groups, and service boards. The regions shall be as follows:


2) Region No. 2 shall be the Pacific Southwest Region composed of California, Hawaii, Reno/Tahoe area of Nevada, and Mexico.

3) Region No. 3 shall be the Southwest Region composed of Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah.

4) Region No. 4 shall be the West Central Region composed of Illinois (except the Greater Chicago area and Central Illinois Intergroup), Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Manitoba, Northwestern Ontario, and the territory of Nunavut.

5) Region No. 5 shall be the Central Region composed of the Greater Chicago area and Central Illinois Intergroup, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Southwestern Ontario.
6) Region No. 6 shall be the Northeast Region composed of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Bermuda.

7) Region No. 7 shall be the Eastern Region composed of Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.

8) Region No. 8 shall be the Southeast Region composed of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, the Virgin Islands, Central America, and South America.

9) Region No. 9 shall be composed of countries and territories in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and Western Asia, including all of Russia.

10) Region No. 10 shall be composed of countries and territories in Australia, East Asia, New Zealand, South East Asia, and the Western Pacific Basin.

11) Virtual Region is nongeographic and is primarily composed of virtual groups and virtual intergroups. Should states/provinces/territories/countries within a region, or intergroups/national/language service boards within a state/province/territory/country wish to transfer to a region that is more convenient, the body notifies its current region, the region it would like to join, and the Board of Trustees of its desire to transfer. The BOT then submits a motion to WSBC to amend Subpart B, Article VI, Section 1d of the bylaws.

Section 2 – Registration

a) Each service body shall be duly registered with the World Service Office of Overeaters Anonymous by submitting:

1) a completed registration form;

2) bylaws and/or a summary of its purpose and operating procedures, neither of which shall be in conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws. At a minimum, such bylaws or summary of purpose shall include a statement indicating that its primary purpose is to
aid those having problems with compulsive eating through the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous, guided by the Twelve Concepts of OA Service, and to serve and represent the OA groups from which it is formed; and

3)  complete registration information on:
   (i)  intergroups—each affiliated group;
   (ii)  national service boards—each affiliated intergroup and group;
   (iii)  language service boards—each participating group, intergroup, and/or national service board; and
   (iv)  special focus boards—each participating group.

b)  Each service body shall submit a copy of its bylaws and/or summary of purpose to the WSO whenever either is updated or revised.

c)  Each service body shall evaluate its bylaws upon receipt of notification from the World Service Office of amendments to OA, Inc. Bylaws adopted at the World Service Business Conference to ensure that their bylaws do not conflict with OA, Inc. Bylaws. Notices shall be deemed to have been given if sent by electronic transmission to the registered contact for each service body. Any updated bylaws shall be submitted to the World Service Office pursuant to OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VI, Section 2a) 2 above.

Section 3 – Affiliation and Participation

Purpose of Affiliation: To facilitate the count of the groups and service bodies of the Fellowship and to encourage the flow of support and information to all.

Purpose of Participation: To facilitate the support and the flow of information within groups and service bodies that have a common need.

For the purpose of registration and WSBC representation:

a)  An intergroup may affiliate with one national service board if it exists, shall be affiliated with one region, and may participate in one or more language service boards,
b) A national service board is affiliated with the region where their nation exists and may participate in one or more language service boards.

c) A language service board may affiliate with one region. When the language service board spans more than one region, it may choose which region to affiliate with. Should a language service board choose to not affiliate with a region, the BOT chair shall assign a trustee to serve as liaison to that language service board. The service bodies and groups acting as service bodies, that participate in a language service board retain their original affiliation.

d) A special focus service board may affiliate with one region. When the special focus service board spans more than one region, it may choose which region to affiliate with. Should a special focus service board choose to not affiliate with a region, the BOT chair shall assign a trustee to serve as liaison to that special focus service board. The groups that participate in a special focus service board retain their original affiliation.

A group may choose to affiliate with an intergroup. The group shall be affiliated with the intergroup’s region.

Should a group choose not to affiliate with an intergroup, but affiliates with a national service board, that group shall be affiliated with that national service board’s region.

Groups that choose not to affiliate with an intergroup or a national service board shall be affiliated with the region where the group exists, either the geographic region or the Virtual Region.

Any group or service body may participate in the activities (including voting) of another intergroup, national service board, and/or language service board and region with their permission.

Section 4 – Functioning and WSBC Representation

a) Service bodies may conduct their business by any method they choose.
b) Minimal requirement for registered service bodies to maintain their registration at the WSO:
   1) Intergroups shall convene at least once a year, after prior notice has been given to all affiliated member groups and for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of delegate(s) to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.
   2) National service boards shall convene at least once a year, after prior notice has been given to all affiliated member groups and intergroups for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of delegate(s) to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.
   3) Language service boards shall convene at least once a year, after prior notice has been given to all member groups, intergroups, and national service boards for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of one delegate/alternate to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.
   4) Special focus service boards shall convene at least once a year, after prior notice has been given to all member groups for election of officers and selection, when necessary, of one delegate/alternate to the World Service Business Conference of Overeaters Anonymous.
   5) Regional assemblies whose members shall be called “regional representatives” or “RRs” shall convene at least once a year, after prior notice has been given to all intergroups, national/language service boards, and unaffiliated registered groups, for the election of officers and/or the selection of nominees for regional trustee for that region.

c) To send delegates to the WSBC, a service body must be formally registered, along with its delegate information, thirty days prior to Conference opening. (See Article X, Section 3c for qualifications and selection of delegates.)

d) In order to deregister, a service body must submit a written request to the World Service Office, region chair, and region trustee; or in the case of a language or
special focus service board that is not affiliated with a region, the World Service Office and the trustee liaison.

|     | Vasiliki T., R9 Trustee  
Letitia M., R10 Trustee  
Karen B., R7 Trustee  

*Contact WSO for maker’s contact information.* | Move to amend OA, Inc. Bylaws, Subpart B, Article VIII – Service Boards, Section 1 – Definition and Section 2 – Composition by striking and inserting the following:

**Section 1 – Definition**
For the purpose of this document, a service body is defined as a service entity that provides services beyond the group level. A service board shall be a duly registered service body. The purpose of a service board is to deal with issues that require a combination of membership and financial resources of intergroups and groups not otherwise served within the existing service structure. The service board shall serve and be responsible and accountable to these groups and intergroups. These service boards may be known as national service boards or language service boards.

**Section 2 – Composition**

a) National service boards may be registered in countries outside the US and Canada in which the intergroup serves the entire country or the groups/intergroups within a country have formed a service board to serve the entire country. In cases in which there are common needs that exceed the boundaries of one country, the national service board may serve more than one country or special focus service boards.

b) Language service boards may be registered to serve the common needs of a language group, regardless of geographic proximity.

c) Special focus service boards may be registered to serve the common needs of groups with the same special focus, regardless of geographic proximity. | **Intent:** This motion is in response to the need for connections between special focus groups of the same type in the Fellowship. The aim is to add a new service body that fits with our current service structure.

**Rationale:** There is a desire among the Fellowship to find a way to support connections between special focus groups across all regions. These groups wish to remain affiliated with their current intergroups and/or national service boards, but they also desire to be connected with other similar special focus groups in a way similar to the connections within the language service board. This will facilitate a group of interested participants in their efforts to support their special focus members and encourage diversity in OA. Should this motion be adopted and incorporated into the motion that joins all service bodies into one article, then participation/representation would fall in line with that of the language service board.