

Towards a Clearer Missions Operating Policy

The GC Model Local Mission/Field/Section Model Operating Policy, which is in GC Working Policy, has the following preamble:

D25 Local Mission/Section Model Operating Policy

D25 05 Local Mission/Field/Section Model Operating Policy—The following Local Mission/Field/Section Model Operating Policy shall be followed as closely as possible by all missions/fields/sections. Those sections of the model operating policy that appear in bold print are essential to the unity of the Church worldwide and shall be included in the operating policy for each mission/field/section. Other sections of the model operating policy may be modified as set out in Article XIV, provided they continue to be in full harmony with the provisions of this model. Where specific cases require modification to text in bold print, final approval for such modifications to any text in bold print must be studied and approved by the General Conference Executive Committee after receiving a recommendation from the division executive committee and the General Conference Administrative Committee. Amendments to the Mission/Field/Section Model Operating Policy shall be made by action of the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at any Annual Council of that Committee.

Note: For readability, **bold** print has been replaced with highlighted yellow. Purple shows where we are changing or deleting the **bold**

GC Model Mission Operating Policy (2020) (including Annual Council revisions)	Proposed Missions Operating Policy (2021)
<p>Operating Policy Article I—Name</p> <p>This organization shall be known as the _____ Mission/Field/Section of Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as the mission/field/section.</p> <p>Operating Policy Article III—Relationships</p> <p>The _____ Mission/Field/Section is a member unit of the _____ Union Conference or Union Mission/Section and is located in the territory of the _____ Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The purposes, policies, and procedures of this mission/field/section shall be in harmony with the working policies and procedures enacted by the executive committee of the _____ Division or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This mission/field/section shall pursue the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs, programs, initiatives, and actions adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at its sessions.</p>	<p>Article 1 – Name & Relationships</p> <p>This organisation shall be known as the _____ Mission/Field/Section of Seventh-day Adventists, hereinafter referred to as "this Mission".</p> <p>The This Mission is a member unit of the British Union Conference or Union Mission/Section and is located in the territory of the Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists ("Trans-European Division"). The purposes, policies, and procedures of this Mission/field/section shall be in harmony with the working policies and procedures enacted by the executive committee of the Trans-European Division or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists ("General Conference"). In fulfilment of the Purpose, this Mission shall pursue the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination ("the Church") in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs, programmes, initiatives, and actions adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at its sessions.</p>
<p>Article IV—Geographic Territory</p> <p>The territory of this mission/field/section shall consist of _____.</p> <p>Article IV—Principal Office</p> <p>The principal office for the transaction of the business of the _____ Mission/Field/Section is fixed and located at_____, _____. The executive committee of the _____ Conference or Union Mission/Section may change the location of the principal office.</p>	<p>Article 2 – Territory & Principal Office</p> <p>The territory of this Mission shall consist of _____ ("the Territory"). The principal office for the transaction of the business of this the Mission/Field/Section is fixed and located at_____, _____. In an emergency the executive committee of the British Union Conference or Union Mission/Section may change the location of the principal office on a temporary basis.</p>
<p>Article II—Purpose</p> <p>The purpose of this mission/field/section is to call all people within its territory to become disciples of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the everlasting gospel embraced by the three angels' messages (Revelation 14:6-12), and to prepare them for Christ's soon return.</p>	<p>Article 3 – Purpose</p> <p>(a) The purpose of this Mission/field/section, ("the Purpose"), is to proclaim and teach the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ (as embraced by the three angels' messages (Revelation 14:6-12)), by but not</p>

	<p>limited to, calling all people within the Territory to become disciples of Jesus Christ and to preparing them for Christ's soon return.</p> <p>(b) In furtherance of the Purpose but not further or otherwise this Mission shall have the following powers, exercisable subject to the direction of the British Union Conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To employ and remunerate such ministers, officers, teachers and other employees and to engage such volunteers as may be necessary; (ii) To provide or assist in the provision of housing accommodation for such employees and volunteers, to enable them to carry out their duties, and in cases of need for retired employees, and their families; (iii) To provide or assist (by means of grants, loans or otherwise) in the provision or improvement of churches and other buildings for use for the work of local congregations of Seventh-day Adventists; (iv) To establish, conduct and provide financial assistance for schools for the education of children in which religious instruction according to the doctrines and principles of Seventh-day Adventists is given and to provide financial assistance to students pursuing education according to those doctrines and principles; (v) To publish or assist the publication of religious literature; (vi) To carry out the social mission of the Gospel by the provision of humanitarian aid to those in need in any part of the world; (vii) To establish, operate and provide financial assistance for convalescent, retirement and nursing homes, conducted in accordance with the doctrines and principles of Seventh-day Adventists. (viii) To provide or assist in the provision of services and facilities (including buildings) for health education and medical treatments in harmony with the doctrines and principles of Seventh-day Adventists. (ix) To acquire and dispose of property of any description and wherever situated (subject to such consents as may be required by law); (x) To borrow money with or without giving security (subject to such consents as aforesaid); (xi) To raise money by any lawful means other than by permanent trading and to accept gifts either for furtherance of the work of this Mission or for any specific object within or connected with the Purpose; (xii) To invest funds in any manner permitted by law other than by means of loans to individuals, firms, or private companies, and for that purpose to obtain and consider professional advice from a person or firm of good repute having the requisite knowledge and experience; (xiii) To provide security for the liabilities of The Seventh-day Adventist Association Limited (company number 00089953) incurred at the request and for the benefit of this Mission. Any such security shall be signed by at least two members of the executive committee of this Mission ("Executive Committee") as authorised by resolution. (xiv) Otherwise to further the religious mission and charitable work of Seventh-day Adventists in the Territory.
<p style="text-align: center;">Article V—Membership/Constituency</p> <p>The membership/constituency of this mission/field/section shall consist of such churches as have been or shall be properly organized in any part of the territory served by the mission/field/section and accepted by vote of the delegates assembled at any regular or special mission/field/section constituency session.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Article 4 –Constituency</p> <p>The membership/constituency of this Mission/field/section shall consists of such the churches as that have been or shall be properly organised in any part of the Territory served by the mission/field/section and accepted by vote of the delegates assembled at any regular or special mission/field/section</p>

constituency session under the Mission's jurisdiction, as represented by their delegates (see Article 6 below), where 'properly organised' means formally approved for membership of the Mission by vote of the delegates at any regular or special Mission constituency meeting ("organised churches").

Article VII—Membership/Constituency Meetings

Sec. 1. Regular Meetings: This mission/field/section shall hold a regular quinquennial membership/constituency meeting at such time and place as the executive committee of the mission/field/section, in counsel with the officers of the union conference or union mission/section, shall designate. In the event that the mission/field/section executive committee fails to call a regular constituency meeting within the quinquennial period, the _____ Union Conference or Union Mission/Section Executive Committee, or General Conference Executive Committee in the case of missions/fields/sections directly attached to the General Conference, may give notice for such a meeting and designate the time and place. In case regional conditions make it imperative to postpone the calling of the constituency meeting, the union conference executive committee, in a regular or special meeting, shall have authority to make such postponement, not to exceed one year, giving notice to all constituent organizations. In the event that the executive committee exercises its authority to postpone a constituency meeting, it shall also have the authority to set the subsequent regular constituency meeting at such time and place as it shall see fit, not to exceed five calendar years from the date of the postponed constituency meeting. Notice of the time and place of the meeting of the delegates representing the members shall be given by:

- a. A notice printed in the official publication of the mission/field/section at least four weeks before the date of the session, or
- b. A method approved by the _____ Mission/Field/Section Executive Committee, provided all member units receive notice with sufficient time to select delegates, or
- c. A method approved by the _____ Union Executive Committee, in the event of inaction or failure to call a constituency meeting by the _____ Mission/Field/Section Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. Special Meeting: a. The executive committee of this mission/field/section shall call a special constituency meeting when:

- 1) It is voted by the executive committee, or
- 2) It is voted by the delegates at any constituency meeting, or
- 3) It is requested by _____ percent of the churches through their business meetings, or
- 4) It is voted by the union executive committee, division executive committee, or General Conference Executive Committee.

The date for such a meeting in response to paragraphs 3) and 4) above shall not be more than 90 days from the date when the actions described in paragraphs 3) and 4) above are communicated to the officers/executive committee of the mission/field/section.

- b. In the absence of a timely response by the mission/field/section executive committee to paragraphs 2) through 4) in Sec. 2. a. above, the _____ Union Executive Committee or the Division Executive Committee may call a special constituency meeting of the mission/field/section and designate the time and place for such a meeting.
- c. The agenda for special constituency meetings shall be included in the notice of the meeting.
- d. Notice as to the time and place of special constituency meetings shall be given in the same manner as for regularly scheduled constituency meetings.

Article 5 – Constituency Meetings

(a) Regular Constituency Meeting: This Mission/field/section shall hold a regular _____ membership/constituency meeting at such time and place as the Executive Committee of the mission/field/section, in counsel with the officers of the British Union Conference or union mission/section, shall designate. In the event that the mission/field/section Executive Committee fails to call a regular constituency meeting within the _____ period, the executive committee of the British Union Conference or Union Mission/Section Executive Committee, may give notice for such a meeting and designate the time and place. In case regional conditions make it imperative to postpone the calling of the constituency meeting, the executive committee of the British Union Conference, in a regular or special meeting, shall have authority to make such postponement, not to exceed one year, giving notice to all constituent organisations. In the event that the executive committee of the British Union Conference exercises its authority to postpone a constituency meeting, it shall also have the authority to set the subsequent regular constituency meeting at such time and place as it shall see fit, not to exceed _____ calendar years from the date of the postponed constituency meeting. Notice of the time and place of the constituency meeting shall be given by:

- (i) A notice printed in the official publication of the British Union Conference at least eight weeks before the date of the constituency meeting;
- (ii) A method approved by the Executive Committee, provided all organised churches receive notice with sufficient time to select delegates; or
- (iii) A method approved by the executive committee of the British Union Conference Executive Committee, in the event of inaction or failure to call a constituency meeting by the Mission/Field/Section Executive Committee.

(b) Special Constituency Meeting:

(i) The Executive Committee of this mission/field/section shall call a special constituency meeting when:

- (1) It is voted for by the Executive Committee, or;
- (2) It is voted for by the delegates at any constituency meeting, or;
- (3) It is requested by fifty-one percent (51%) of the organised churches through their business meetings; or
- (4) It is voted for by the union executive committee of the British Union Conference executive committee, the executive committee of the Trans-European Division executive committee, or the executive committee of the General Conference Executive Committee.

The date for such a meeting in response to paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 above, (unless in the case of paragraph 2 above the date for the meeting was also decided by the delegates of the constituency meeting) shall not be more than 90 days from the date when the actions described in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 above are communicated to the officers/Executive Committee of the mission/field/section.

- (ii) In the absence of a timely response within 45 days by the mission/field/section Executive Committee to paragraphs 2 through 4 in 5 (b) (i) above, the Union executive committee of the British Union Conference or the Division executive committee of the Trans-European

Sec. 3. Virtual Attendance at Constituency Meetings: Generally, regular and specially called constituency meetings are to be held in person and onsite. However, delegates when requested by the executive committee, and if permitted by local law, may participate by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons can hear each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person and attendance at such a meeting.

Sec. 4. Chair and Secretary for Constituency Meetings: The president of this mission/field/section shall serve as chair and the secretary of this mission/field/section shall serve as secretary for constituency meetings of this mission/field/section. The president may designate other individuals to assist in chair duties from time to time. In the event that the president's office is vacant or that the president is unavailable to serve as chair, the ranking union officer present shall serve as chair for the meeting. Arrangements may be made for a secretary pro tem if the secretary's office is vacant or the secretary is unavailable to serve at the constituency meeting.

Sec. 5. Regular Meeting Business: The business of the regular constituency meeting will include the election/appointment of personnel for various positions (see Sec. 11. below), the receipt of reports from the president, secretary, treasurer/chief financial officer (report based on audited statements), departmental directors, and the auditor. In addition, the constituency meeting shall review/create plans for moving the mission/field/section toward conference status. It shall also endorse/approve/develop plans for the conduct of the work as are desirable and in harmony with the policies of the _____ Division.

Sec. 6. Quorum: At least _____ percent of the delegates authorized hereinafter under Sec. 1. and 2. of Article VIII must be present at the opening of any regular or special constituency meeting to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Once the meeting is declared open, the delegates remaining shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 7. Proxy Voting: All delegates must be present in person at any constituency meeting, or participating by electronic means, in order to be eligible to vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

Sec. 8. Voting Rights of the Delegates: Each delegate appointed to act on behalf of the members of this mission/field/section shall be entitled to one vote on each question to be decided by the body. The voting rights of the individual delegates representing the members as hereinafter provided shall be limited to the particular constituency meeting of the mission/field/section in which they have been designated to represent a local church, institution, the Union, the Division, or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Sec. 9. Voting: The voting on matters of business shall normally be by viva voce. The chair may call for the vote by other means, including a secret ballot, when it is deemed advisable or is requested by the membership. Votes cast remotely shall have the same validity as if the delegates met and voted onsite.

Sec. 10. Parliamentary Authority: The parliamentary authority for constituency meetings pertaining to all rules and procedures not covered by its bylaws shall be based on those published in the General

Division may call a special constituency meeting of the mission/field/section this Mission and designate the time and place for such a meeting.

(iii) The agenda for special constituency meetings shall be included in the notice of the meeting.

(iv) Notice as to the time and place of special constituency meetings shall be given in the same manner as for regularly scheduled constituency meetings.

(c) **Virtual Attendance at Constituency Meetings:** Generally, regular and specially called constituency meetings are to be held in person and onsite. However, delegates when requested by the Executive Committee, and if permitted by local law, may participate by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons can hear each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person and attendance at such a meeting.

(d) **Chair and Secretary for Constituency Meetings:** The president of this Mission/field/section shall serve as chair and the secretary of this Mission/field/section shall serve as secretary for constituency meetings of this Mission/field/section. The president may designate other individuals to assist in chair duties from time to time. In the event that the president's office is vacant or that the president is unavailable to serve as chair, the ranking union officer present (meaning, in order of precedence, the president, executive secretary and treasurer of the British Union Conference) shall serve as chair for the meeting. Arrangements may be made for a secretary pro tem if the secretary's office is vacant or the secretary is unavailable to serve at the constituency meeting.

(e) **Regular Meeting Business:** The business of the regular constituency meeting will include the election/appointment of personnel for various positions (see (k) below), the receipt of reports from the president, secretary, treasurer/chief financial officer (report based on audited statements), departmental directors, and the auditor. In addition, the constituency meeting shall review/create plans for moving the Mission/field/section toward conference status. It shall also endorse/approve/develop plans for the conduct of the work in fulfillment of the purpose as are desirable and in harmony with the policies of the Trans-European Division.

(f) **Quorum:** At least fifty-one percent (51%) of the delegates authorized hereinafter under Article 6 must be present, or participating by electronic means, at any regular or special constituency meeting to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(g) **Proxy Voting:** All delegates must be present in person at any constituency meeting, or participating by electronic means, in order to be eligible to vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

(h) **Voting Rights of the Delegates:** Each delegate appointed to act shall be entitled to one vote on each question to be decided at a constituency meeting. The voting rights of the individual delegates shall be limited to the particular constituency meeting of this Mission in which they have been designated to represent an organized church, institution, the British Union Conference, the Trans-European Division, or the General Conference.

(i) **Voting:** The voting on matters of business shall normally be by viva voce (live voice). The chair may call for the vote by other means, including a secret ballot, when it is deemed the chair deems it advisable or is requested by the membership the delegates pass a resolution requiring voting to be held by other means. Such a resolution can be tabled by any delegate. Votes cast remotely shall have the same validity as if the delegates met and voted onsite.

(j) **Parliamentary Authority** Rules and Procedures: The rules and procedures for constituency meetings not covered in this constitution shall be based on the published General Conference Rules of Order, and any adaptation or supplement approved by the executive committee of the Trans-European Division, unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the constituency

<p>Conference Rules of Order, and any adaptation or supplement approved by the division executive committee, unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the constituency meeting.</p> <p>Sec. 11. Elections/Appointments and Term of Office: a. Elections: The president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer of this mission/field/section shall be elected by the union constituency meeting rather than by the session of this mission/field/section. The election of departmental directors, associate departmental directors, associate secretaries, or associate treasurers for this mission/field/section, if not determined by the delegates at the union constituency meeting, shall be referred to the union executive committee for appointment. The union constituency meeting shall also elect the members (other than ex officio) of the mission/field/section executive committee and, where required by the governance documents of mission/field/section institutions, the chief administrator(s) and board members of such entities.</p> <p>b. Term of Office: Persons elected at the constituency meeting and those appointed by the executive committee normally serve until the next regular constituency meeting. However, their period of service may be shorter due to resignation, voluntary retirement, retirement in situation where a mandatory retirement age policy is in effect, or removal from office, for cause, by the executive committee or a special constituency meeting.</p> <p>The phrase “for cause” when used in connection with removal from an elected or appointed position, or from employment, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence; 2) persistent failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and with relevant employment and denominational policies; 3) actions which may be the subject of discipline under the Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual; 4) failure to maintain regular standing as a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; 5) theft or embezzlement; or 6) conviction of or guilty plea for a crime.</p>	<p>meeting provided always that if there is any conflict between this constitution and the General Conference Rules of Order, this constitution shall take precedence.</p> <p>(k) Election/Appointment and Term of Office:</p> <p>(i) Elections: The president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer of this Mission/field/section shall be elected by the constituency meeting of the British Union Conference rather than by the session constituency meeting of this Mission/field/section. The election of departmental directors, associate departmental directors, associate secretaries, or associate treasurers for this Mission/field/section, if not determined by the delegates at the union constituency meeting, shall be referred to the union Executive Committee for appointment. The Mission constituency meeting shall also elect the members (other than ex officio) of the mission/field/section Executive Committee and, where required by the governance documents of Mission/field/section institutions, the chief administrator(s) and board members of such entities.</p> <p>(ii) Term of Office: Persons elected at the constituency meeting and those appointed by the Executive Committee normally serve until the next regular constituency meeting. However, their period of service may be shorter due to resignation, voluntary retirement, retirement in situation where a mandatory retirement age policy is in effect, death, or removal from office, for cause, by the Executive Committee or a special constituency meeting. The phrase “for cause” when used in connection with removal from an elected or appointed position, or from employment, shall include but not be limited to 1) incompetence; 2) persistent failure to cooperate with duly constituted authority in substantive matters and with relevant employment and denominational policies; 3) actions which may be the subject of discipline under the Seventh-day Adventist Church Manual; 4) failure to maintain regular standing as a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; 5) theft or embezzlement; or 6) conviction of or guilty plea for a crime.</p>
<p>Article VIII—Representation at Constituency Meetings</p> <p>Sec. 1. Regular Delegates: All delegates duly accredited by any one of the organized churches of the mission/field/section. Each church shall be entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each members or major fraction thereof and who hold membership in the local church which accredits them. Such delegates shall be chosen by the business meeting of the respective local church and include males and females.</p>	<p>Article 6 – Representation at Constituency Meetings</p> <p>(a) The delegates at any constituency meeting of this Mission shall be regular delegates and delegates at large (known collectively as “delegates”). The total number of delegates shall not exceed 100. Not less than seventy percent (70%) of the delegates shall be regular delegates.</p> <p>(i) Regular Delegates: All delegates duly accredited by any one of the organized churches of the mission/field/section.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Each organised church shall be entitled to one (1) regular delegate without regard to the size of its membership. (2) To be appointed as a regular delegate a person must hold membership in the organised church which appoints them. Such regular delegates shall be chosen by the business meeting of the respective local organised church, and where possible the appointment of regular delegates shall include males and females. (3) Each organised church shall be entitled to additional regular delegates within the quota allocated to regular delegates based on the proportion of the organised church’s membership to that of this Mission as a whole. (4) The membership of each organised church shall be as reported at the end of the calendar year immediately preceding the date of the regular or special constituency meeting.

Sec. 2. Delegates At-Large: Delegates at-large to a constituency meeting of this /field/section include:

- a. The current members of the executive committee of this mission/field/ section.
- b. Members of the General Conference, the Division and the Union Mission/Section or Union Conference Executive Committees who may be present at any constituency meeting of this mission/field/section. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of delegates otherwise provided for.
- c. All employees holding credentials or ministerial licenses issued by the Union or the mission/field/section.
- d. Such other persons as may be recommended by the executive committee and accepted by the delegates in session. The number of such delegates shall not exceed ten percent of the total number of delegates otherwise provided for.
- e. A person who is not elected to a new term of office at a constituency meeting does not thereby lose delegate status at the current constituency meeting.

Sec. 3. Church Membership Requirement: All delegates appointed to represent the members of this mission/field/section at any constituency meeting shall be members in regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

- (5) The allocation of the number of additional regular delegates (if any) to each organised church will be made by the Executive Committee based on the numbers reported in accordance with subclause (4) above.
- (6) Regular delegates are appointed as representatives of the organised church
- (ii) Delegates at Large:
Subject to Article 6 (b) the delegates at large entitled to attend and vote at a constituency meeting of this Mission/field/section include consist of:
 - (1) The current members of the Executive Committee of this Mission/field/section.
 - (2) Members of the General Conference, the Trans-European Division and the Union Mission/Section British Union Conference executive committees who may be present at any constituency meeting of this Mission/field/section. The number of such delegates shall These committees shall ensure that their delegates do not exceed ten five percent (5%) of the total number of delegates otherwise provided for.
 - (3) Such employees holding credentials, ministerial licenses, or commissioned minister licences, issued by this Mission, as may be recommended by the Executive Committee and accepted by the delegates at the constituency meeting.
 - (4) Such other persons as may be recommended by the Executive Committee (if any) and approved by a resolution of the delegates in session at the constituency meeting. The Executive Committee shall ensure that the number of such delegates shall not exceed ten five percent (5%) of the total number of delegates otherwise provided for.
 - (5) A person who is not elected to a new term of office at a constituency meeting does not thereby lose delegate status at the current constituency meeting.
- (b) Church Membership Requirement: All delegates appointed to represent the members of this mission/field/section at any constituency meeting shall must be members in regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
- (c) Lists of delegates to a constituency meeting shall be made available to delegates at that constituency meeting.

Article IX—Constituency Meeting Committees

(Note: Division executive committees may authorize a process whereby the session organizing and nominating committees may be selected and empowered to perform their tasks in advance of the session. The process to select such committees for a session shall involve constituency representation rather than being accomplished by the executive committee alone. Unless a division executive committee has approved other arrangements as described above, the following provisions shall apply for the appointment and functioning of session committees.)

Prior to each mission/field/section constituency meeting, the executive committee shall provide for such temporary committees as may be necessary to conduct the preliminary work for the session.

To facilitate the business of the session, constituency meeting committees may convene by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same time. These committees include:

Sec. 1. Organizing Committee: a. An organizing committee shall be constituted as follows: Each church represented at the constituency meeting shall choose, or empower its delegation to choose, one member

Article 7 – Constituency Meeting Committees

- Prior to each the Mission’s constituency meeting, the Executive Committee shall provide for such temporary committees as may be necessary to conduct the preliminary work for the session constituency meeting.
- To facilitate the business of the constituency meeting, constituency meeting committees may convene by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same time. These committees include:
- A recommendations committee
 - A nominating committee
 - Other committees as may be necessary.
- (a) Organizing Recommendations Committee: An The organising recommendations committee which nominates the members of standing committees to be appointed for the constituency meetings of this Mission shall be constituted made up as follows:
- (i) Each church represented in the delegation at to the constituency meeting shall choose, or empower its delegation to choose, through and from its delegation, one (1) member plus one additional member for each _____ members or a major fraction thereof of the

<p>plus one additional member for each members or a major fraction thereof. In addition, the at-large delegates to the constituency meeting shall select persons from the at-large delegate group to serve on the organizing committee.</p> <p>b. Members of the organizing committee shall be chosen at or prior to the constituency meeting.</p> <p>c. If the organizing committee is to meet prior to the constituency meeting, the time and place of the meeting shall be given in the official notice of the meeting.</p> <p>d. The chair of the organizing committee shall be the president of the Union or his designee.</p> <p>e. The organizing committee shall nominate, and the constituency shall elect:</p> <p>1) A nominating committee.</p> <p>2) Other committees as may be necessary.</p> <p>Sec. 2. Nominating Committee: The nominating committee shall consist of at least and not more than members, including the president of the Union, or his designee, who shall serve as chair. The membership of the committee shall be balanced, as nearly as possible, between denominational workers and laypersons representing various segments of the work and territories of the mission/field/ section.</p> <p>a. Those chosen as members of the Nominating Committee must be duly appointed delegates in attendance at the constituency meeting.</p> <p>b. Persons holding elective office, as outlined in Article VII, Sec. 11. in the current term, excluding non-ex officio members of the executive committee, shall not be eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee.</p> <p>c. The Nominating Committee shall limit its nominations to those positions for which persons are to be elected at the constituency meeting and for which budgetary provisions have been made.</p> <p>d. The Nominating Committee shall also nominate members for the mission/field/section executive committee and for the boards of mission/field/section institutions whose bylaws indicate that board members for the entity are elected at a mission/field/section constituency meeting.</p>	<p>recommendations committee. In addition, the at-large delegates to the constituency meeting shall select two (2) persons from the at-large delegate group to serve on the organizing recommendations committee.</p> <p>(ii) Each church with a membership of at least fifty (50) shall be further empowered to choose through and from its delegation, one (1) additional member of the recommendations committee.</p> <p>(iii) Members of The delegates to serve on the organizing recommendations committee shall be chosen selected by the churches from among their chosen delegates, at, or prior to, the commencement of the constituency meeting.</p> <p>(iv) The chair of the organizing recommendations committee shall be the president of the British Union Conference or his designee.</p> <p>At, or prior to, the constituency meeting, the organizing recommendations committee shall nominate from the delegation, and the constituency shall elect by personal vote, postal ballot or other method, the following standing committees:</p> <p>A Nominating Committee</p> <p>Other committees as may be necessary.</p> <p>(b) Nominating Committee: The nominating committee shall consist of at least nine (9) and not more than eleven (11) members, including the president of the British Union Conference, or his designee, who shall serve as the chair. The membership of the committee shall be balanced, as nearly as possible, between denominational workers and laypersons representing various segments of the work and territories of the mission/field/ section of this Mission throughout the Territory.</p> <p>(i) Those chosen as members of the nominating committee must be duly appointed delegates in attendance at to the constituency meeting.</p> <p>(ii) Persons holding elective office, as outlined in Article 5 (k) (i) and (ii), in the current term, excluding non ex officio members of the Executive Committee, shall not be eligible to serve on the nominating committee.</p> <p>(iii) The nominating committee shall meet at, or prior to, the constituency meeting, and shall report its nominations to all delegates. It shall meet again to hear any objections from delegates.</p> <p>(iv) The nominating committee shall limit its nominations to those positions for which persons are to be elected at the constituency meeting and for which budgetary provisions have been made.</p> <p>(v) The nominating committee shall also nominate members for the mission/field/section Executive Committee and for the boards of Mission/field/section institutions whose bylaws constitutions, operating policies, or articles of association indicate that board members for the entity are elected at a Mission/field/section constituency meeting.</p>
<p>Article X—Executive Committee</p> <p>Sec. 1. Membership of the Executive Committee: The executive committee of the Mission/Field Section of Seventh-day Adventists shall be elected at its regularly scheduled constituency meeting and shall consist of from five to fifteen members, as determined by the union executive committee. The president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer shall be ex officio members of the executive committee. The officers of the Union Mission/Section or Union Conference, the Division, and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are</p>	<p>Article 8 – Executive Committee</p> <p>(a) Membership of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee of the Mission/Field Section of Seventh-day Adventists shall be elected at its regularly scheduled a regular constituency meeting (or if necessary at a special constituency meeting) and shall consist of from five to fifteen members, as determined by the union executive committee twelve (12) members, at least five (5) of whom shall be lay members. The president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer shall be members ex officio of the Executive Committee. The officers president, executive secretary and treasurer of the British Union Mission/Section or Union Conference are also members ex officio of</p>

members ex officio of the mission/field/section executive committee; however, their membership shall be in addition to the number detailed above. Any such officers exercising their voting rights at any one meeting shall not make up more than ten percent of the committee membership present.

(Note: The union may indicate in this operating policy the minimum percentage of laypersons on the mission/field/section executive committee.)

Sec. 2. Delegated Authority: The executive committee of this mission/field/section, unless replaced at a special constituency meeting, is delegated the authority to act on behalf of the constituents between constituency meetings, including the authority to remove, for cause (see definition of "for cause" in Article VII, Sec. 11. above), persons who have been elected at a mission/field/section constituency meeting including directors of departments/services, chief administrators of institutions, and members of boards and committee whose election or appointment is a result of a constituency meeting or executive committee meeting action; and to fill, for the remaining portion of the term, any vacancies thus created. (The offices of mission/field/section president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer are always filled by action of the union executive committee.) The removal of those named under Article VII, Sec. 11. shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting at a mission/field/section executive committee meeting where a majority of members is present.

Sec. 3. Administrative Authority: The executive committee shall have full administrative authority:

- a. To fill for the current term of office any vacancies that may occur by death, resignation, or otherwise, in its boards, committees, departments, or in offices which have been filled by mission/field/section constituency meeting election.
- b. To appoint committees, such as an administrative committee, with their terms of reference.
- c. To employ such personnel as may be necessary to execute its work effectively.
- d. To grant and withdraw credentials and licenses. The withdrawal of credentials shall require the consent of two thirds (2/3) of those voting at a mission/field/section executive committee meeting where a majority of members is present.

Sec. 4. Meetings of the executive committee may be called at any time or place by the president, or in his absence by the secretary upon the written request of any three members, or twenty-five percent (whichever is more), of the executive committee.

Sec. 5. Attendance at Meetings: Where allowed by local law, executive committee members may participate in meetings by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons participating can hear each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at such a meeting.

Sec. 6. Notice of Meetings: Notice as to time and place, and any other requirements under this operating policy, shall be provided to all members in a reasonable manner at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if the meeting is to take place by electronic conference or similar communications, or at least 96 hours if the meeting is to take place in person.

the mission/field/section Executive Committee; however, their membership and these shall be in addition to the number detailed above. Any such officers exercising their voting rights at any one meeting shall not make up more than ten percent of the committee membership present.

- (b) **Delegated Authority:** The Executive Committee of this Mission/field/section, unless replaced at a special constituency meeting, is delegated the authority to act on behalf of the constituents between constituency meetings, including the authority to remove, for cause (see definition of "for cause" in Article 5 (k) (ii) above), persons who have been elected at a Mission/field/section constituency meeting including directors of departments/services, chief administrators of institutions, and members of boards and committee whose election or appointment is a result of a constituency meeting or Executive Committee meeting action; and to fill, for the remaining portion of the term, any vacancies thus created. (The offices of Mission/field/section president, secretary, and treasurer/chief financial officer are always filled by action of the union executive committee.) The removal of those named under Article 9 (a) shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those voting at an mission/field/section Executive Committee meeting where a majority of members is present.
- (c) **Administrative Authority:** The Executive Committee shall have full administrative authority:
 - (i) To fill for the current term of office any vacancies that may occur by death, resignation, or otherwise, in its boards, committees, departments, or in offices which have been filled by Mission constituency meeting election.
 - (ii) To appoint committees, (other than those specified in Article 7), such as an administrative committee, with their terms of reference.
 - (iii) To employ such personnel as may be necessary for the work of this Mission.
 - (iv) To grant and withdraw credentials and licenses in respect of employees of this Mission. The withdrawal of credentials shall require the consent of two thirds (2/3) of those voting at a meeting of the Executive Committee where a majority of members is present.
- (d) **Meetings:** Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called at any time or place by the president or, in his absence, by the secretary. A special meeting shall also be called by the secretary in response to the written request of a majority of the members of the Executive Committee.
- (e) **Attendance at Meetings:** Executive Committee members may participate in meetings by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by which all persons participating can hear and speak to each other at the same time, and participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at such a meeting. If a member of the Executive Committee has three consecutive absences without, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, a valid apology, the other members of the Executive Committee may resolve by a simple majority to remove that member from the Executive Committee.
- (f) **Notice of Meetings:** Subject to Article 8 (j), notice as to time and place of meetings of the Executive Committee, and any other requirements under this constitution, shall be provided to all members of the Executive Committee in a reasonable manner at least 48 hours prior to the meeting if the meeting is to take place by electronic conference or similar communications, or at least 96 hours if the meeting is to take place in person.
- (g) **Quorum:** Unless otherwise required in the Operating Policy Subject to Article 8 (j), fifty-one percent (51%) of the Executive Committee members, including the president, of the mission/field/section shall constitute a quorum for meetings of the Executive Committee and shall be empowered to transact any necessary business.

<p>Sec. 7. Quorum: Unless otherwise required in the Operating Policy, _____ members, including the president, of the mission/field/section executive committee shall constitute a quorum.</p>	<p>(h) Conflict of Interest: Any member of the Executive Committee who has any personal or financial interest in any matter to be discussed or determined at a meeting thereof (whether direct or indirect) must declare their interest in advance of any discussion thereon and absent themselves from the discussion and that part of the meeting, and may not vote nor be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting.</p> <p>(i) Remuneration: Subject to paragraph (a) above and Article 13, no member of the Executive Committee may receive remuneration or any other financial benefit (excepting reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses) for their service on the Executive Committee at the cost of this Mission.</p> <p>(j) Electronic Consent Agendas: Electronic consent agendas (written resolutions) may be used to record and approve matters such as the routine applications of policy, travel authorisations, service requests and employment items and any other routine matters that the Executive Committee gives approval for. Fifty-one percent (51%) of Executive Committee members are required to respond in favour for such actions to stand.</p> <p>(k) Sub-committees: The Executive Committee may delegate any of its functions or powers to subcommittees of three (3) or more committee members appointed by them. Additional non-voting persons may be invitees on such sub-committees. The Executive Committee must determine the terms of reference for its sub-committees and may at any time alter those terms of reference. All proceedings of sub-committees must be reported promptly to the Executive Committee.</p> <p>(l) Advisory Committees: The Executive Committee may appoint committees consisting of three (3) or more persons to advise it on any matter and may authorise them to co-opt non-voting members. All recommendations of advisory committees must be reported promptly to the Executive Committee for its consideration and decision.</p> <p>(m) Plans: The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of plans and policies made by this Mission at its constituency meeting and shall report to the next constituency meeting concerning the implementation of those plans. Copies of plans voted at the previous constituency meeting, and minutes, shall be made available to delegates at least fourteen (14) days prior to the constituency meeting.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Article XI—Officers and Their Duties</p> <p>Sec. 1. Executive Officers: The executive officers of this mission/field/section shall be a president, a secretary, and a treasurer/chief financial officer. The secretary and treasurer/chief financial officer may be one individual known as the secretary-treasurer. It is the duty of these officers, in consultation with one another, to carry forward the work according to plans, policies, and programs voted by the union executive committee, the constituency in session, and/or the mission/field/section executive committee. These plans, policies, and programs shall be in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs and actions adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in its quinquennial sessions. The mission/field/section executive officers shall be appointed by the union at the time of its sessions, or by the union executive committee between union sessions and shall hold office for the period of _____ years or until their successors are appointed and enter upon their duties. Vacancies in such offices shall be filled by action of the union executive committee.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Article 9 – Officers and Their Duties</p> <p>(a) Executive Officers: The executive officers of this Mission/field/section shall be a president, a secretary, and a treasurer/chief financial officer ("executive officers"). It is the duty of these officers, in consultation with one another to act in the best interests of the Mission to fulfil the Purpose, which may include carrying carry forward the work according to plans, policies, and programmes, that have been voted by the union executive committee of the British Union Conference, the constituency in session at a constituency meeting, and/or the mission/field/section Executive Committee. These plans, policies, and programmes shall be in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs and actions adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in at its quinquennial sessions.</p> <p>The Mission/field/section executive officers shall be appointed by the union at the time of its sessions constituency meetings, or by the union executive committee between union sessions constituency meetings and shall hold office for the period of _____ years or until their successors</p>

a. President: The president, who shall be an ordained minister of experience, is the first officer and shall report to the executive committee of the mission/field/section in consultation with the secretary and the treasurer/chief financial officer. He shall act as chair of constituency meetings and of the mission/field/section executive committee and serve in the general interests of the mission/field/section as the constituency and the executive committee shall determine. In his leadership he shall adhere to the policies of the Union, the Division, and of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, work in harmony with the union executive committee and in close counsel with the union officers. When a local mission/field/section president is to be absent from the field for prolonged periods of time, the mission/field/section executive committee shall be authorized, in counsel with the union officers, to appoint an individual to act as chair during such absence.

b. Secretary: The secretary, associated with the president as an executive officer, shall serve under the direction of the executive committee and shall act as vice-chair of the executive committee. The secretary shall report to the executive committee of the mission/field/section after consultation with the president. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the constituency meetings and of the executive committee meetings, and to furnish copies of such to all members of the executive committee and to the union officers. The secretary shall also be responsible for providing information as may be requested by the president or the mission/field/section, union, or division committees and shall perform such other duties as pertain to the office.

c. Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer: The treasurer/chief financial officer, associated with the president as an executive officer, shall serve under the direction of the executive committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall report to the executive committee of the mission/field/section after consultation with the president. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall be responsible for providing financial leadership to the organization which will include, but shall not be limited to, receiving, safeguarding, and disbursing all funds in harmony with the actions of the executive committee, for remitting all required funds to the union/division/General Conference in harmony with the Division policy, and for providing financial information to the president and to the executive committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall also be responsible for furnishing copies of the financial statements to the union officers.

Sec. 2. Other Officers: Other individuals may serve as officers of the mission/field/section, such as associate secretary and associate treasurer.

are appointed and enter upon their duties. Vacancies in such offices shall be filled by action of the union executive committee.

(i) President: The president, who shall be an ordained minister (where 'ordained' means ordained in accordance with the rules of the Church) of experience, is the first officer and shall report to the Executive Committee of the Mission/field/section in consultation with the secretary and the treasurer/chief financial officer. He shall act as chair of constituency meetings and of the mission/field/section Executive Committee and serve in the general interests of the this Mission/field/section as the constituency and the Executive Committee shall determine. In his leadership he shall adhere to the policies of the British Union Conference, the Trans-European Division and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, work in harmony with the union executive committee and in close counsel with the union officers. When a Mission president is to be absent from the field for prolonged periods of time, the Executive Committee shall be authorised, in counsel with the union officers, to appoint an individual to act as chair during such absence.

(ii) Secretary: The secretary, associated together with the president as an executive officer, shall serve under the direction of the Executive Committee and shall act as vice-chair of the Executive Committee. The secretary shall report to the Executive Committee of the mission/field/section after consultation with the president. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the Mission constituency meetings and of the Executive Committee meetings, and to furnish copies of such these minutes to all members of the Executive Committee and to the union officers of the British Union Conference. The secretary shall also be responsible for providing information as may be requested by the president or by the mission/field/section, union, or division committees Executive Committee, or by the executive committees of the British Union Conference or Trans-European Division, and shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to the office.

(iii) Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer: The treasurer/chief financial officer, associated together with the president as an executive officer, shall serve under the direction of the Executive Committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall report to the Executive Committee of the mission/field/section after consultation with the president. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall be responsible for providing financial leadership to the organization this Mission which will include, but shall not be limited to, receiving, safeguarding, and disbursing all funds in harmony with the actions of the Executive Committee, for remitting all required funds to the union/division/General Conference British Union Conference, Trans-European Division and the General Conference in harmony with the Trans-European Division policy, and for providing financial information to the president and to the Executive Committee. The treasurer/chief financial officer shall also be responsible for furnishing copies of the financial statements to the union British Union Conference officers.

(b) Other Officers: Other individuals may serve as officers of this Mission, such as associate secretary and associate treasurer.

<p style="text-align: center;">Article XII—Directors of Departments/Associations/Services</p> <p>Sec. 1. Advisory Role: The directors of departments/associations/services of this mission/field/section shall work under the direction of the executive committee and the president and shall serve in an advisory relationship to the field.</p> <p>Sec. 2. Departments/Associations/Services Structure: Mission/Field/Section departments, associations, and services shall be organized in harmony with the department/association/service structure of the General Conference but shall not necessarily duplicate the departments/associations/services at the division or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Article 10 – Directors of Departments/Associations/Services</p> <p>(a) Advisory Role: The directors of departments/associations/services of this Mission/field/section shall work under the direction of the Executive Committee and the president and shall serve in an advisory relationship to the field constituency.</p> <p>(b) Departments/Associations/Services Structure: This Mission's departments, associations, and services shall be organised in harmony with the department/association/service structure of the General Conference but shall not necessarily duplicate the departments/associations/services in the British Union Conference, Trans-European Division, or the General Conference.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Article XIII—Finance</p> <p>Sec. 1. Tithes and Offerings: The church funds managed by this mission/field/ section shall be:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Such portion of tithe as it shall be assigned by policy and as received from all churches and isolated members in the mission/field/section</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Appropriations from the Union Mission/Section or Union Conference or the Division.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">c. Special donations and funds, legacies, gifts, devises, and bequests made to it.</p> <p>Sec. 2. Policies: The portion of tithe which is reserved for this mission/field/section, as specified by policy, and all other funds shall be used in harmony with the policies of the Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; and in the case of donations, their use shall be in harmony with the specifications of donors and in compliance with government regulations. Tithe is shared with the union and division on fixed percentages as set by the division executive committee and with the General Conference on fixed percentages as set by the Annual Council of the General Conference Executive Committee. This mission/field/section shall pass on monthly to the Union Mission/Section or Union Conference the specified tithe percentage, all mission/field/section offerings, and such other funds as may be called for by the policies of the union and division organizations.</p> <p>Sec. 3. Bank Accounts: The funds of this mission/field/section shall be safeguarded in harmony with the financial policies of the Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Moneys shall be deposited in the name of the Mission/Field/Section of Seventh-day Adventists in regular or special accounts in such banks or savings institutions as the mission/field/section</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Article 11 – Finance</p> <p>(a) Tithes and Offerings: The church funds managed by this Mission/field/section shall be: consist of such portion of tithe as it shall be assigned by policy in accordance with Article 11 (c) and as received from all the organised churches within the Territory and isolated members in the mission/field/section, and such gifts, legacies, bequests, appropriations, reverted funds, and other donations as may be made to it.</p> <p>(b) Other Sources of Funds: Other sources of funds of this Mission shall be, without limitation, any:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(i) other grants made to this Mission by Seventh-day Adventist organisations and receivable by this Mission;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(ii) rents arising from property owned by or on behalf of this Mission;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(iii) returns from investments made by this Mission out of its own resources;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(iv) income arising out of the day-to-day operations of this Mission;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(v) gifts, donations, legacies, or similar moneys made or payable to this Mission; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(vi) other income in cash or in kind received by this Mission, it being understood that all such income must be used in the furtherance of the Purpose.</p> <p>(c) Policies: The portion of the tithe which is reserved for this Mission/field/section, as specified by policy, and all other funds shall be applied in furtherance of the Purpose, and be used in harmony with the financial policies of the Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists provided that this is in accordance with the law and regulations governing the Mission; and in the case of donations, their use shall be applied in furtherance of the Purpose, in harmony with the specifications of donors and in compliance with government the law and regulations governing the Mission. In fulfilment of the Purpose tithe is shared with the British Union Conference and the Trans-European Division on fixed percentages as set by the division executive committee of the Trans-European Division and shared with the General Conference on fixed percentages as set by the Annual Council of the General Conference executive committee of the General Conference.</p> <p>(d) Bank Accounts: Subject at all times to compliance with the law and regulations governing the Mission, the funds of this Mission/field/section shall be safeguarded in harmony with the financial policies of the Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Subject to Article 11 (g), moneys shall be deposited in the name of 'the Mission/Field/Section of Seventh-day Adventists' in regular or special accounts, in such banks or</p>

<p>executive committee shall designate and shall be withdrawn only by persons authorized by resolution of the mission/field/section executive committee.</p> <p>Sec. 4. Financial Statements: The Mission/Field/Section shall regularly prepare statements of income and fund balances and shall be responsible for the filing of copies of the annual financial statement with the Union Conference or Union Mission/Section and the Division and, to the extent required by law, with any branch of local or national government.</p>	<p>savings institutions as the mission/field/section Executive Committee shall designate and shall be withdrawn only by persons authorised by resolution of the mission/field/section Executive Committee.</p> <p>(e) Financial Statements: The This Mission/Field/Section shall regularly prepare statements of income and fund balances and shall be responsible for the filing of copies of the annual financial statement with the British Union Conference or Union Mission/Section and the Trans-European Division and, to the extent required by law, with any branch of local or national government.</p> <p>(f) Payments to Individuals: Subject to Article 3 (b) (i) and Article 13, funds shall not in any circumstances be paid or lent for the benefit of individuals, firms or private companies.</p> <p>(g) Organised Church Accounts & Audits. Organised churches will operate their own bank accounts but this Mission shall be responsible for the auditing of the books of account of the organised churches at least once each calendar year.</p> <p>(h) Acquisition and Disposal of Church Property: The Seventh-day Adventist Association Limited shall be the regular holding trustee for this Mission to acquire, hold, manage, dispose of or deal with real estate and (if required by the Executive Committee) personal property for and on behalf of or for the use and benefit of this Mission, but subject to any specific trusts relating to such property and generally to conform with such directions, if any, as are from time to time given to it by or on behalf of this Mission.</p>
<p>Article XIV—Budget, Employee Compensation Review, and Financial Audit</p> <p>Sec. 1. Budget: The Mission/Field/Section shall prepare an annual budget in harmony with the policies of the Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.</p> <p>Sec. 2. Employee Compensation and Expense Review: The executive committee shall appoint an employee compensation and expense review committee, including a union officer or one or more representatives appointed by the union executive committee. The tasks of this committee are outlined in General Conference <i>Working Policy</i>.</p> <p>Sec. 3. Independent Audit: The financial statements of this mission/field/section shall be audited at least annually by an auditor chosen in harmony with General Conference <i>Working Policy</i>; and the records of this mission/field/section or any of its subsidiaries, agencies, or institutions shall at all times be open to said auditor.</p>	<p>Article 12 – Budget, Employee Compensation Review, and Financial Audit</p> <p>(a) Budget: The This Mission/Field/Section shall prepare an annual budget in harmony with the policies of the Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.</p> <p>(b) Employee Compensation and Expense Review: The Executive Committee shall appoint an employee compensation and expense review committee, including a union officer or one or more representatives appointed by the union executive committee. The tasks of this committee are outlined in General Conference working policy.</p> <p>(c) Independent Audit: The financial statements of this Mission/field/section shall be audited at least annually by an auditor chosen in harmony with General Conference working policy; and the records of this Mission/field/section or any of its subsidiaries, agencies, or institutions shall at all times be open to the said auditor.</p>
<p>Article XVI—Indemnification</p> <p>Sec. 1. To the extent permitted by law, this mission/field/section shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, because he/she is or was a member of the mission/field/section executive committee or an officer, employee, or agent of the mission/field/section against expenses (including legal fees), judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him/her in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding if he/she acted in good faith and in a manner he/she reasonably believed to be in or not</p>	<p>Article 13 – Indemnification</p> <p>(a) To the extent permitted by law and subject to Article 14 (c), this Mission shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, because he/she is or was a member of the Executive Committee or an officer, employee, or agent of this Mission, against expenses (including legal fees), judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him/her in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding if he/she acted in good faith and in a manner he/she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best</p>

<p>opposed to the best interest of the mission/field/ section, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his/her conduct was unlawful.</p> <p>Sec. 2. This right of indemnification shall be in addition to, and not exclusive of, all other rights to which such member of the executive committee, officer, or department director may be entitled.</p>	<p>interest of this Mission, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his/her conduct was unlawful.</p> <p>(b) This right of indemnification shall be in addition to, and not exclusive of, all other rights to which such member of the Executive Committee, officer, or department director may be entitled.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Article 14 – Remuneration</p> <p>(a) Not more than half the members of the Executive Committee may be employees of this Mission.</p> <p>(b) The remuneration of any Executive Committee members who are employees of the Mission shall be determined annually in accordance with Article 14 (d).</p> <p>(c) The Executive Committee has the power to provide indemnity insurance for themselves out of the income of the Mission. The insurance shall not extend to:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(i) any claim arising from any act or omissions which:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(1) the members of the Executive Committee knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty; or</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(2) was committed by the members of the Executive Committee in reckless disregard of whether it was a breach of trust or a breach of duty or not; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(ii) the costs of an unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the members of the Executive Committee in their capacity as trustees of the Mission.</p> <p>(d) The Executive Committee, shall determine annually and may from time to time adjust the remuneration of all employees of the Mission for the ensuing year within the parameters set by the employee compensation review committee (established in accordance with Article 12 (b)), provided that in respect of any decision concerning the remuneration of a member of the Executive Committee or anyone connected to that member, such member must absent themselves from the discussion and that part of the Executive Committee meeting, and may not vote nor be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Article XVII—Amendments</p> <p>At any annual meeting of the Union Mission/Section or Union Conference Executive Committee, this operating policy may be amended by a majority vote (unless local law requires a higher majority), provided that such amendments shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the General Conference and the working policy of the Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and with the spirit of the Mission/Field/Section Model Operating Policy. However, those portions of this operating policy which are essential to the unity of the Church worldwide and are designated in bold print shall only be amended or revised from time to time by the Union Mission/Section or Union Conference Executive Committee in order to comply with changes to the Mission/Field/Section Model Operating Policy as voted by the General Conference Executive Committee in its annual meetings.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Article 15 – Amendments</p> <p>(a) At any annual meeting of the British Union Mission/Section or Union Conference executive committee, this operating policy may be amended by a majority vote (unless local law requires a higher majority), provided that such amendments shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the General Conference and the working policy of the Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and with the spirit of the Mission/Field/Section Model Operating Policy. However, those portions of this operating policy which are essential to the unity of the Church worldwide and are designated in bold print shall only be amended or revised from time to time by the British Union Mission/Section or Union Conference Executive Committee in order to comply with changes to the Mission/Field/Section Model Operating Policy as voted by the General Conference Executive Committee in its annual meetings.</p>

	<p>(b) No amendment shall be made which would alter the Purpose as set forth in Article 3 (a) and no amendment shall be valid if its effect would be that this Mission or the British Union Conference ceased to be a charity according to English or Welsh/Scottish law.</p> <p>(c) Notification of all amendments to this constitution shall be given to the British Union Conference and to the Charity Commission (or OSCR) whose prior written approval must be obtained for any amendment which would confer any benefit on any of the members of the Executive Committee.</p>
<p>Article XV—Dissolution and Disposition of Assets</p> <p>This mission/field/section may be dissolved only by action of the union executive committee.</p> <p>In the event of the dissolution of this mission/field/section and unless otherwise required by local law, all assets remaining after all claims have been satisfied shall be transferred to a legal entity authorized by the Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.</p>	<p>Article 16 – Dissolution and Disposition of Assets</p> <p>This Mission/field/section may be dissolved only by action of the union executive committee of the British Union Conference.</p> <p>In the event of the dissolution of this Mission and unless otherwise required by local law, all assets remaining after all claims have been satisfied shall be transferred to a the British Union Conference (which is the legal entity authorised by the Trans-European Division of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists), for application in harmony with the Purpose.</p>
	<p>Article 17 – Interpretation</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt the system of law governing this constitution is the law of England and Wales and in this constitution:</p> <p>(a) references to the singular include the plural and vice-versa and to the masculine include the feminine and neuter and vice-versa;</p> <p>(b) references to legislation, regulations, determinations and directions include all amendments, replacements or re-enactments and references to legislation (where appropriate) include all regulations, determinations and directions made or given under it; and</p> <p>(c) headings are not to affect the interpretation of the constitution.</p> <p>(d) the expression ‘meeting’ includes, except where inconsistent with any legal obligation:</p> <p>(i) a physical meeting;</p> <p>(ii) a video conference, an internet video facility or similar electronic method allowing simultaneous visual and audio participation; and</p> <p>(iii) telephone conferencing.</p>