

1 Con&By/SEC/OGC/EOM/Con&By/SEC/OGC/EOM/ADCOM/GCDO/21SM to HMM(DIV)
 2
 3 132-21G SPECIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION PROPOSAL
 4

5 WHEREAS, Article V, Sec. 2. of the General Conference Constitution makes provision
 6 for the postponement of a General Conference Session not to exceed two years; and
 7

8 WHEREAS, The 2020 General Conference Session has already been postponed twice;
 9 and
 10

11 WHEREAS, It is possible that present world pandemic conditions will not improve
 12 significantly therefore making it impracticable to hold the twice-postponed General Conference
 13 Session as currently scheduled; and
 14

15 WHEREAS, Article V, Sec. 5. c. makes provision for the General Conference Executive
 16 Committee to take an action to reduce the maximum number of delegates to a particular General
 17 Conference Session in case of financial exigency or other major crisis with the Church or in the
 18 international arena; and
 19

20 WHEREAS, The 2020 Annual Council has already voted to recommend to the General
 21 Conference Session to amend the General Conference Constitution Article V, Sec. 4. to include
 22 electronic participation at a General Conference Session, it is
 23

24 VOTED, 1. To convene a Special General Conference Session on January 18, 2022,
 25 Silver Spring, Maryland, USA, for the sole purpose of amending the General Conference
 26 Constitution, Article V, by adding a new Sec. 4. to allow for electronic participation. The
 27 recommended language to read as follows:
 28

29 Sec. 4. Generally, regular or specially called General Conference Sessions are to be held
 30 in person and onsite. However, delegates when requested by the General Conference Executive
 31 Committee may participate by means of an electronic conference or similar communications by
 32 which all persons participating can hear each other at the same time, and participation by such
 33 means shall constitute presence in person and attendance at such a meeting. Votes cast remotely
 34 shall have the same validity as if the delegates met and voted onsite.
 35

36 2. To reduce the total number of regular and at-large delegates to that Special
 37 General Conference Session to 400 and to allocate that quota as follows:
 38

Entity	ECD	ESD	EUD	IAD	NAD	NSD	SAD	SID	SPD	SSD	SUD	TED	WAD	CHUM	MENA	GC*	Total
Total Number of Delegates	37	14	16	65	31	10	39	37	14	23	21	15	29	6	1	42	400

39
 40 *GC Exec Committee [15], GC ADCOM [11], GC Associate Departmental Directors [6], GC
 41 Appointed Staff [3], GC Institutions/Services [7]
 42

43 3. To request divisions, that will be unable to send their allotted quota of delegates
 44 to that Special General Conference Session due to travel restrictions or other reasons, to

1 reallocate their unused quota to the General Conference to be reallocated by the General
2 Conference Administrative Committee using primarily individuals from these divisions who are
3 currently working at the General Conference Headquarters/USA.

4
5 4. To confirm that the General Conference will not be reimbursing delegates for any
6 Session related travel, accommodation, per diem or any other expenses incurred for the Special
7 General Conference Session.

8
9 5. To request all 13 world division executive committees and 137 union executive
10 committees to discuss and vote on the proposal with positive affirmation received by simple
11 majority of those entities, recommending the constitutional amendment, and to report back to the
12 General Conference Secretariat no later than August 31, 2021.

13
14 *Suggested Timeline:*

- 15
16 1. Action taken at General Conference Spring Meeting: April 13, 2021
17
18 2. Action taken by divisions/unions at executive committee meeting: May-June 2021
19
20 3. Division/Union report sent to General Conference Secretariat: August 2021
21
22 4. First notice for Special General Conference Session sent out: September 2021
23
24 5. Special General Conference Session: January 18, 2022