



May 23, 2017

Dear Presidents, Presidents-Elect, and Conference Executive Secretaries:

With Conference meetings approaching, I expect that many people may be wondering about what the next steps will be IF the remits pass. As you know, the deadline for voting on Remits 1 – 4 is June 30, 2017.

I am writing to let you know of decisions made by the sub-executive of the General Council this week, which will apply IN THE EVENT that the remits, particularly Remit 1, passes. I will set this out here in brief form, and more complete information would be contained in the notice that would go out to GC 42 Commissioners in early July.

If Remit 1 (Three Council Model) is passed by an absolute majority of presbyteries and pastoral charges:

- The 42nd General Council will be reconvened by electronic means on September 30, 2017.
- The principal business before the September 30, 2017 meeting would be to:
 1. Appoint a Boundaries Commission to determine the boundaries of the Regions. The Commission would be directed to consult widely, to issue an interim report by January 15, 2018, and after receiving feedback to that report, a final report by March 15, 2018
 2. Direct and empower the Nominations Committee of the 42nd General Council Executive to prepare for GC43 recommendations for 15 members to serve along with the Moderator and the General Secretary, as the Executive of the General Council from January 1, 2019, until the next Executive is installed by the 44th General Council.
 - a. Note that this process would involve Conferences being asked for 3 – 5 names for consideration by the Nominations Committee who would assemble a group reflecting diversity of lay / ministry personnel, geography, age, culture and language, as well as possessing competencies in theology, governance, finance and vision.
 3. Identify January 1, 2019 as the effective date for the Comprehensive Renewal changes flowing from the remits, with the current GC 42 Executive being extended to December 31, 2018.



Meanwhile, the Scenario Planning group of four Conference Executive Secretaries, and four senior staff from the General Council Office, co-chaired by Peter Hartmans and Alan Hall, continues to work on “next steps” if each remit passes, AND if each remit doesn’t pass.

God is leading out church in new, exciting, and sometimes daunting ways. I am grateful to be serving alongside you through these times.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nora Sanders". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nora Sanders
General Secretary, General Council