

Trustee and Board Action on 2007 Council on Legislation Items

Article 10, Section 6 of the RI Constitution requires the RI Board to notify all district governors of any Board action taken in regard to resolutions adopted by the Council. The 2007 Council on Legislation asked the RI Board and the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation to review certain items of legislation that were either passed by the Council, or simply referred to the RI Board for further study and action. The Trustees reviewed those items referred to them at their October 2007 meeting. The RI Board reviewed those items referred to it at its June and November 2007 meetings. What follows are excerpts from the minutes of those meetings regarding these Council items. Please note that pursuant to RI Bylaw 5.020., minutes of RI Board meetings and actions will be posted on rotary.org within 60 days of such meeting or action. Rotarians should consult the official minutes when they become available.

Council Number

Decision

07-01 To Allow Clubs to Meet Either Weekly or Twice Per Month (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 259)

Statement: Rotary clubs are required to hold regular meetings once each week. Proposed Enactment 07-01 sought to amend the standard Rotary club constitution to allow clubs to hold regular meetings either weekly or twice per month.

DECISION: The Board, in response to proposed enactment 07-01 (To allow clubs to meet either weekly or twice per month), advises that the RI Board is conducting a new pilot project beginning 1 July 2007 and running through 30 June 2013, to gather more information on how meeting frequency impacts Rotary clubs.

07-39 Rotary Foundation Alumni as Rotary Club Guests (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 231)

Statement: Recognizing the importance of involving Foundation alumni in Rotary clubs, Council Resolution 07-39 requested the Board to encourage clubs to welcome Foundation alumni as guests at regular meetings.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-39 (To encourage clubs to welcome Rotary Foundation alumni as guests at club meetings), amends *Rotary Code of Policies* section 7.080. as follows:

7.080. Visitors and Guests

7.080.1. Guests at Club Meetings

Clubs should encourage members to invite guests to regular club meetings so that non-Rotarian members of the community may be better informed about the function of the club and its aims and objects.

7.080.2. Students as Club Guests

Clubs are encouraged to invite students to be guests at club meetings. Clubs are encouraged to take an active interest in students at universities and schools and to see that they are familiar with the ideals and principles of Rotary.

7.080.3 Guests of Visiting Rotarians

Rotary clubs are encouraged to welcome guests, including spouses, of visiting Rotarians at

their club meetings; however, clubs have discretionary authority in determining guests of visiting Rotarians.

7.080.4 TRF Alumni as Guests

Clubs are encouraged to welcome Rotary Foundation alumni as guests at their meetings, particularly alumni who have recently moved to the locality of the club. The alumni will be expected to pay the same costs of attendance as paid by visiting Rotarians.

07-68 To endorse and affirm that the eradication of polio is a goal of the highest order of Rotary International (October 2007 Trustees Mtg., Dec. 9)

Statement: At the request of the Trustees, the RI Board of Directors proposed a resolution to the 2007 Council to endorse and affirm that polio eradication is a goal of the highest order of RI.

DECISION: The Trustees express their appreciation to the 2007 Council on Legislation for adopting this resolution that reaffirms that the Rotary world wants to maintain its focus on achieving the goal of the certification of the eradication of polio.

07-70 To Focus on Safe Drinking Water and Endorsing the Blue Planet Run Foundation's Blue Planet Run and Water Project Activities (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 232)

Statement: Council Resolution 07-70 proposed making safe drinking water a primary focus of RI, and recommended endorsing the Blue Planet Run Foundation by encouraging Rotarians to participate in Blue Planet Run Foundation water projects.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-70 (To focus on safe drinking water and endorse the Blue Planet Run Foundation's Blue Planet Run and Water Project Activities),

1. thanks the Rotary Club of Telluride, Colorado, USA and District 5470 (USA) for their resolution and for their support of water projects;
2. does not agree to endorse the Blue Planet Run Foundation's Blue Planet Run;
3. requests the 2007-08 Water Resource Group to take into consideration the Blue Planet Run Foundation and associated activities as an opportunity for service for Rotary clubs and districts.

07-71 Corporate Projects and Campaigns (November 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 57)
07-73

Statement: Council Referred Resolutions 07-71, 07-73, and 07-79 each requested the Board to consider supporting new programs or campaigns on a corporate level. In decision 258, June 2007, the Board deferred consideration of these proposals to this meeting.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Referred Resolutions 07-71 (To conduct clean water and sanitation programs after polio eradication), 07-73 (To support a program called "Let's Watch the Water" after polio eradication), and 07-79 (To support a campaign to stop the practice of child slavery),

1. reaffirms *Rotary Code of Policies* section 40.040.1. that states "until the PolioPlus program has been successfully completed, no other International program will be considered;"
2. reaffirms decision 45, November 2005, in which it agreed to the criteria and timeline for selecting a new corporate project, recognizing that it will not be initiated until polio has been eradicated;

3. encourages Rotary clubs and districts interested in supporting water projects to work through existing RI programs such as World Community Service, the presidential resource groups, or Rotarian Action Groups to support water projects of their interest;
4. thanks the Rotary Club of Riverside, California, USA and the Rotary Clubs of Ciudad de Mexico, D.F., Mexico and San Rafael, D. F., Mexico for their interest in and support of water projects;
5. thanks the General Council of RIBI for its interest in a campaign to stop the practice of child slavery and encourages those Rotary clubs and districts aware of the existence of such practice to work toward its elimination.

07-74 To Request the RI Board to Consider Including the Issue of Hunger and Poverty in the Strategic Plan of Its Service Program and To Request the RI Board to Consider Creating a Committee to Study the Issue of Reducing Poverty (November 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 58)

Statement: Council Referred Resolution 07-74 sought to make poverty and hunger a priority in the strategic plan of RI's service program. Council Referred Resolution 07-169 requested the Board to consider creating a committee of experts to study reducing poverty in all countries of the world. In decision 258, June 2007, the Board deferred consideration of these proposals to this meeting.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Referred Resolution 07-74 (To consider including the issue of poverty and hunger in the strategic plan of its service program) and Council Adopted Resolution 07-169 (To consider creating a committee to study the issue of reducing poverty),

1. thanks the Rotary Club of Rosario Oeste, S.F., Argentina, and District 4880 (Argentina), for their interest in and support of hunger and poverty projects;
2. notes that poverty and hunger are included on the *Menu of Service Opportunities*;
3. thanks the Rotary Club of Medellín, Ant., Colombia, and District 4280 (Colombia), for their interest in and support of a poverty reduction study committee;
4. does not agree to create a committee to study the issue of reducing poverty.

07-76 To request the Trustees to consider a program to combat the spread of tuberculosis (October 2007 Trustees Mtg., Dec. 10)

Statement: Proposed Council Resolution 07-76 requested the RI Board "to request the Trustees to consider a program to combat the spread of tuberculosis."

DECISION: The Trustees

1. thank the RI Board of Directors for referring Council Proposed Resolution 07-76: "To request the Trustees to consider a program to combat the spread of tuberculosis";
2. agree that, in accordance with the 2007 Council Resolution 07-68 affirming that "no other corporate project should be adopted until the certification of the eradication of the wild poliovirus," the Trustees will not consider any new global programs until polio eradication is achieved.

07-77 To Request the RI Board to Consider Creating a Rapid Response Task Force (November 2007

Board Mtg., Dec. 59)

Statement: Council Referred Resolution 07-77 requested the Board to create a Rapid Response Task Force of volunteer Rotarians to travel to disaster sites to help in recover efforts. In decision 258, June 2007, the Board deferred consideration of this proposal to this meeting.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Referred Resolution 07-77 (To consider creating a Rapid Response Task Force),

1. thanks the Rotary Club of Vijayawada Midtown, And. Pr., India and District 3020 (India) for their interest in rapid disaster response;
2. recognizing that RI's strengths are in long-term rebuilding efforts, does not support a rapid disaster response task force, but encourages Rotarians to work with established disaster relief organizations instead.

07-78 To Consider Establishing a Formal Relationship with the Audiology Foundation of America (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 233)

Statement: Council Resolution 07-78 proposed adding hearing health care to the list of “tangible and effective means of furthering the objective of The Rotary Foundation” as listed in the *Manual of Procedure*, and recommended RI formalize a relationship with a professional organization such as the Audiology Foundation of America for the promotion, development, and coordination of international hearing conservation programs.

The proposers of the resolution wished to amend their proposal from the floor of the Council to remove reference to the Audiology Foundation of America, but were unable to do so. They wished to shift the focus on their initiative towards hearing health care, assisting hearing disabled children, and partnering with foundations and corporations to support these projects.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-78 (To request the Board to consider a formal relationship with the Audiology Foundation of America),

1. thanks the Rotary clubs of Bozeman, Montana, USA and Missoula, Montana, USA, and District 5390 (USA) for their support of hearing health care projects;
2. noting that the Humanitarian Programs guidelines are sufficiently broad to allow Rotary clubs to receive funding for projects related to hearing health care, does not refer this resolution to the Trustees to consider adding hearing health care to the programs of The Rotary Foundation;
3. requests the Health and Hunger Resource Group and the Hearing Regeneration Rotarian Action Group to review the amended proposal from District 5390 to consider their suggestions.

07-79 Corporate Projects and Campaigns (November 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 57)

Statement: Council Referred Resolutions 07-71, 07-73, and 07-79 each requested the Board to consider supporting new programs or campaigns on a corporate level. In decision 258, June 2007, the Board deferred consideration of these proposals to this meeting.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Referred Resolutions 07-71 (To conduct clean water and sanitation programs after polio eradication), 07-73 (To support a program called “Let’s Watch the Water” after polio eradication), and 07-79 (To support a campaign to stop the practice of child slavery),

1. reaffirms *Rotary Code of Policies* section 40.040.1. that states “until the PolioPlus program has been successfully completed, no other International program will be considered;”
2. reaffirms decision 45, November 2005, in which it agreed to the criteria and timeline for selecting a new corporate project, recognizing that it will not be initiated until polio has been eradicated;
3. encourages Rotary clubs and districts interested in supporting water projects to work through existing RI programs such as World Community Service, the presidential resource groups, or Rotarian Action Groups to support water projects of their interest;
4. thanks the Rotary Club of Riverside, California, USA and the Rotary Clubs of Ciudad de Mexico, D.F., Mexico and San Rafael, D. F., Mexico for their interest in and support of water projects;
5. thanks the General Council of RIBI for its interest in a campaign to stop the practice of child slavery and encourages those Rotary clubs and districts aware of the existence of such practice to work toward its elimination.

07-81 **Special Months** (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 234)

07-82

07-83 *Statement:* Council Resolutions 07-81, 07-82, 07-83, and 07-84 proposed designating special months to water, humanity, the environment, women in Rotary, and friendship.

07-84

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolutions 07-81, 07-82, 07-83, and 07-84, all requesting the Board to dedicate certain months to particular causes,

1. thanks district 1650 and 1790 (France) for their support of water projects;
2. does not agree to dedicate the month of May to Water;
3. thanks the Rotary Club of São José do Rio Preto, S.P., Brazil and District 4480 (Brazil) for their efforts to value humanity through Rotary ideals and to support Rotary club projects related to the environment;
4. does not agree to dedicate the month of July to Preserve Planet Earth;
5. does not agree to dedicate the month of July to Humanity;
6. thanks the Rotary Club of Recife-Apipucos, Pe., Brazil and District 4500 (Brazil) for their efforts to support women in Rotary;
7. does not agree to dedicate the month of July to women in Rotary;
8. thanks the Rotary Club of Saint-Avold, Moselle, France and District 1790 (France) for their recognition of the importance of friendship in Rotary;
9. does not agree to dedicate the month of May to friendship.

07-85 **To Request the RI Board to Consider Dedicating One Day a Year to Organ Donation Education** (November 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 60)

Statement: Noting the disparity between the need for organ donors and the number of actual

available donors, Council Referred Resolution 07-85 requested the Board to consider dedicating one day a year to organ donor education. In decision 258, June 2007, the Board deferred consideration of this proposal to this meeting.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Referred Resolution 07-85 (To dedicate one day a year to organ donation education),

1. thanks District 2120 (Italy) for its interest in and support of organ donation education projects;
2. does not agree to dedicate one day a year to organ donation education.

07-96 To Change the Name of the New Generations Exchange to the Young Adults Exchange (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 235)

Statement: Council Resolution 07-96 sought to change the name of the New Generations Exchange to something more descriptive, proposing “Young Adults Exchange.”

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-96 (To consider changing the name of the New Generations Exchange to the Young Adults Exchange), requests the general secretary to conduct a survey of 2007-08 district Youth Exchange chairs to seek their input on potential names of the segment of the Youth Exchange program targeting adults ages 18-25, for report to the Board at its January 2008 meeting.

07-98 Adopt the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) as an Official RI Program (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 236)

Statement: Model United Nations programs are organized in many countries to help youth understand how the UN operates. Council Resolution 07-98 recommended adopting the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) as an official RI program.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-98 (To consider adopting the Model United Nations Assembly as an Official RI program)

1. does not agree to adopt the Model United Nations Assembly as an official RI program;
2. reaffirms its long-standing position of encouraging clubs to support international understanding and peace, and recognizes the efforts of Rotary clubs supporting Model UN programs in investing these values in youth through education.

07-107 Consider Mentioning the Rotary Emblem and Service Above Self in the RI Constitution (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 237)

Statement: Council Resolution 07-107 requested the Board to consider proposing legislation to the 2010 Council on Legislation that would include mention of the Rotary wheel and motto in RI’s constitutional documents.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-107 (To request the RI Board to consider proposing legislation to the next Council on Legislation to mention the Rotary Emblem and Service Above Self in the RI Constitution),

1. recognizes the importance of the Rotary emblem and the motto “Service Above Self” to Rotarians;

2. encourages RI and Rotarians to continue to reference the Rotary emblem and the motto “Service Above Self” whenever possible;
3. does not agree to include further references to the Rotary emblem in the constitutional documents or to reference the motto “Service Above Self” in the constitutional documents.

07-109 To Amend the RI Secondary Motto (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 238)

Statement: At the 2004 Council on Legislation the RI secondary motto was changed from “He Profits Most Who Serves Best” to “They Profit Most Who Serves Best.” Council Resolution 07-109 proposed amending the motto again to reflect the philosophy that vocational service is guided by an individual’s actions, and thus recommended the motto read, “He/She Profits Most Who Serves Best.”

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-109 (To request the RI Board to consider amending the RI secondary motto), tentatively agrees to propose a resolution to the 2010 Council on Legislation to modify RI’s secondary motto as follows: They One Profits Most Who Serves Best

07-113 To Consider Organizing a World Contest to Compose a New Rotary Anthem (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 239)

Statement: In decision 222, November 1999, the Board adopted an arrangement from “Egmont,” opus 84, by Ludwig van Beethoven as the official Rotary anthem. Council Resolution 07-113 proposed organizing a worldwide contest to compose a new Rotary anthem.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-113 (To consider organizing a world contest to compose a new Rotary anthem), does not agree to hold a world contest to compose a new Rotary anthem.

07-118 Council Resolutions Pertaining to the Future Vision Plan (October 2007 Trustees Mtg., Dec. 11)

07-120
07-121

Statement: The 2007 Council on Legislation adopted a series of resolutions containing proposals currently under study by the Future Vision Committee.

DECISION: The Trustees

1. thank the RI Board for referring Council Resolution 07-118: “To request the Trustees to consider allowing districts to access up to 30% of their District Designated Funds to be used for District Simplified Grants,” and Resolution 07-120: “To request the Trustees to consider reducing the minimum amount for Matching Grants to US\$2,500”;
2. note that the above resolutions have been addressed in the Type A Grants structure in the Future Vision Plan adopted by the Trustees at this meeting;
3. thank the RI Board for referring Council Resolution 07-121: “To request the Trustees to consider authorizing the construction of buildings using Matching Grants” and note that this matter was previously referred to the Future Vision Committee for further analysis and report to the Trustees at their April 2008 meeting;
4. thank the RI Board for referring Council Resolution 07-130: “To request the Trustees to consider establishing a Group Study Exchange Partner Request section under “Group Study

Exchange” on the RI Web site”;

5. note that the general secretary provides a “Group Study Exchange Discussion Forum” located on the RI Web site and an internet “secure site” for GSE, both of which can be used by Rotarians to establish Group Study Exchange Program district pairings;
6. thank the RI Board for referring Council Resolution 07-132: “To request the Trustees to consider reducing the amount of time that scholarship applications are processed,” and Resolution 07-134: “To request the Trustees to consider increasing the amount of project information posted on the Rotary Web site”;
7. note that the above resolutions 07-130, 07-132, and 07-134 are under consideration within the context of the business process review of The Rotary Foundation.

07-124 To request the Trustees to consider reviewing the expenses and procedures related to audits and review of individual grants and projects (October 2007 Trustees Mtg., Dec. 12)

Statement: The 2007 Council on Legislation resolved “to request the Trustees to consider reviewing the expenses and procedures related to audits and review of individual grants and projects.”

DECISION: The Trustees

1. thank the Board of Directors for referring Council Resolution 07-124: “To request the Trustees to consider reviewing the expenses and procedures related to audits and review of individual grants and projects”;
2. reaffirm their commitment to the proper stewardship of Foundation funds and agree to continue conducting financial reviews and audits in a cost-effective manner;
3. recognize that, for the last ten years, the Humanitarian Grants Cadre of Technical Advisors has provided the service of auditing and monitoring Humanitarian Grants and other Foundation projects on a volunteer basis to ensure proper stewardship;
4. reaffirm their practice of appointing technical advisors from nearby areas for auditing and monitoring of Humanitarian Grants whenever appropriately qualified technical advisors are available nearby.

07-130 Council Resolutions Pertaining to the Future Vision Plan (October 2007 Trustees Mtg., Dec. 11)

07-132

07-134

Statement: The 2007 Council on Legislation adopted a series of resolutions containing proposals currently under study by the Future Vision Committee.

DECISION: The Trustees

1. thank the RI Board for referring Council Resolution 07-118: “To request the Trustees to consider allowing districts to access up to 30% of their District Designated Funds to be used for District Simplified Grants,” and Resolution 07-120: “To request the Trustees to consider reducing the minimum amount for Matching Grants to US\$2,500”;
2. note that the above resolutions have been addressed in the Type A Grants structure in the Future Vision Plan adopted by the Trustees at this meeting;

3. thank the RI Board for referring Council Resolution 07-121: “To request the Trustees to consider authorizing the construction of buildings using Matching Grants” and note that this matter was previously referred to the Future Vision Committee for further analysis and report to the Trustees at their April 2008 meeting;
4. thank the RI Board for referring Council Resolution 07-130: “To request the Trustees to consider establishing a Group Study Exchange Partner Request section under “Group Study Exchange” on the RI Web site”;
5. note that the general secretary provides a “Group Study Exchange Discussion Forum” located on the RI Web site and an internet “secure site” for GSE, both of which can be used by Rotarians to establish Group Study Exchange Program district pairings;
6. thank the RI Board for referring Council Resolution 07-132: “To request the Trustees to consider reducing the amount of time that scholarship applications are processed,” and Resolution 07-134: “To request the Trustees to consider increasing the amount of project information posted on the Rotary Web site”;
7. note that the above resolutions 07-130, 07-132, and 07-134 are under consideration within the context of the business process review of The Rotary Foundation.

07-137 To request the Trustees to consider itemizing fund development expenses in annual reports (October 2007 Trustees Mtg., Dec. 13)

Statement: The 2007 Council on Legislation resolved “to request the Trustees to consider itemizing fund development expenses in annual reports.”

DECISION: The Trustees

1. thank the RI Board for referring Council Resolution 07-137: “To request the Trustees to consider itemizing fund development expenses in annual reports”;
2. acknowledge the importance of being transparent and accountable to Rotarians and other supporters of the Foundation;
3. note that a detailed breakdown of fund development expenses is included in the Foundation’s audited financial statements and on the Internal Revenue Service Federal Tax Form 990, and that both documents are available to the public on RI’s Web site or upon request to the general secretary.

07-143 To Change the Spanish Translation of the First Part of the Object of Rotary (November 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 62)

Statement: Council Resolution 07-143 recommended revising the Spanish translation of the first part of the Object of Rotary to avoid possible confusion in its interpretation. Board decision 240, June 2007, requested the general secretary to review this translation with senior Spanish-speaking Rotary leaders as to any problem inherent in its current usage, for report to the Board at this meeting.

DECISION: The Board

1. amends the Spanish translation of the first part of the Object of Rotary to read:
El desarrollo del conocimiento mutuo como ocasión de servir;

2. requests the general secretary to advise the Spanish-speaking Rotary world magazine press of the change in the translation for dissemination to clubs and districts;
3. requests the general secretary to incorporate the new translation into publications as they are revised.

07-169 To Request the RI Board to Consider Including the Issue of Hunger and Poverty in the Strategic Plan of Its Service Program and To Request the RI Board to Consider Creating a Committee to Study the Issue of Reducing Poverty (November 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 58)

Statement: Council Referred Resolution 07-74 sought to make poverty and hunger a priority in the strategic plan of RI's service program. Council Referred Resolution 07-169 requested the Board to consider creating a committee of experts to study reducing poverty in all countries of the world. In decision 258, June 2007, the Board deferred consideration of these proposals to this meeting.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Referred Resolution 07-74 (To consider including the issue of poverty and hunger in the strategic plan of its service program) and Council Adopted Resolution 07-169 (To consider creating a committee to study the issue of reducing poverty),

1. thanks the Rotary Club of Rosario Oeste, S.F., Argentina, and District 4880 (Argentina), for their interest in and support of hunger and poverty projects;
2. notes that poverty and hunger are included on the *Menu of Service Opportunities*;
3. thanks the Rotary Club of Medellín, Ant., Colombia, and District 4280 (Colombia), for their interest in and support of a poverty reduction study committee;
4. does not agree to create a committee to study the issue of reducing poverty.

07-174 To Realign the Zones, and To Realign the Zones so Each District Belongs to Only One Zone
07-175 (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 241)

Statement: The RI Bylaws requires the Board, no less than every eight years, to undertake a comprehensive review of the composition of the zones so as to maintain an approximately equal number of Rotarians in each zone. Proposed Council Resolution 07-174 asked the Board to consider realigning the zones to reestablish an equal number of Rotarians among the zones. Council Resolution 07-175 requested the Board to realign the zones along the border of the United States and Canada so that each district belongs to only one zone.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Proposed Council Resolution 07-174 (To request the RI Board to consider realigning the zones) and adopted Resolution 07-175 (To request the RI Board to consider realigning zones so that each district belongs to only one zone), agrees to review these requests as part of its next comprehensive review of the composition and boundaries of all the zones.

07-177 To Reorganize Zone 5 into Three Sections (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 242)

Statement: Zone 5 in India was divided into three sections by the Board in 2002, and then, on the recommendation of a director, back into two sections in 2003. Council Resolution 07-177 proposed Zone 5 be divided again into three sections.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-177 (To request the RI Board to

consider reorganizing Zone 5 into three sections) agrees to review this request as part of its next comprehensive review of the composition and boundaries of all the zones.

07-180 To Request the RI Board to Consider Finding More Efficient and Less Expensive Ways to Communicate with Rotary Clubs (November 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 61)

Statement: Citing the need to receive more timely and accurate information on a variety of Rotary topics, Council Resolution 07-180 requested the Board to find more efficient and less expensive ways to communicate with Rotary clubs. In decision 258, June 2007, the Board deferred consideration of this proposal to this meeting.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-180 (To request the RI Board to consider finding more efficient and less expensive ways to communicate with Rotary clubs),

1. thanks the Rotary Club of Stockholm-Skärholmen, Sweden for their proposal;
2. requests the general secretary to increase promotion of the various communication and information resources available to Rotarians.

07-183 To Consider Granting Rotarians Limited Access to Membership Information Via the RI Web Site (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 243)

Statement: With the belief that Rotarians should have access to their personal information stored on RI's database, Council Resolution 07-183 proposed granting Rotarians limited access to membership information via the RI Web site.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-183 (To consider granting Rotarians limited access to membership information via the RI Web site),

1. advises that within the next Rotary year, the Board will extensively upgrade the membership database, which will include the addition of "read-only access" for Rotarians using the Member Access Portal;
2. notes that the upgrade will also entail reviewing the feasibility of expanding this access to allow all Rotarians to update their own membership record among other "self-service" functions.

07-184 To Consider Improving Document Descriptions on the RI Web Site (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 244)

Statement: Most RI publications are identified by a unique code line that includes a document number, language, and occasionally a revision date. Council Resolution 07-184 proposed that all documents for download from the RI Web site include these code lines.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-184 (To consider improving document descriptions on the RI Web site), requests the general secretary to ensure that code lines are included, where applicable, with the description of documents in the download center on rotary.org.

07-186 To Consider Providing a Prominent Link to E-clubs on the Rotary Web Site (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 245)

Statement: Noting that Rotary e-clubs provide an opportunity for Rotarians to maintain attendance

requirements, Council Resolution 07-186 recommended placing a prominent e-club link on the home page of the RI Web site.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-186 (To consider providing a prominent link to e-clubs on the Rotary Web site), does not agree to provide a link to e-clubs on the front page of the Rotary Web site.

07-187 Internet-based Meetings Software for Club Use (November 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 63)

Statement: Council Resolution 07-187 requested the Board to consider providing Internet-based meetings software and platforms for use by clubs and districts. In decision 246, June 2007, the Board requested the general secretary to evaluate such software available in all official Rotary languages, for report at this meeting. The general secretary noted that more information on actual Rotarian usage requirements would help to more accurately determine the cost of implementing such a service.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-187 (To request the RI Board to consider providing Internet-based meetings software and platforms to be used by clubs),

1. requests the general secretary to conduct a needs analysis to determine support for this resolution from Rotary clubs;
2. defers a decision on this matter until the results of the analysis are known and an accurate cost analysis can be performed, for report to the Board at its November 2008 meeting.

07-203 To Clarify Ambiguous Vocabulary in the RI Constitution, RI Bylaws and the Rotary Code of Policies (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 247)

Statement: Believing that the RI constitutional documents contain several instances of contradictory or ambiguous vocabulary, Council Resolution 07-203 proposed removing any such vocabulary or, alternatively, to create a normative wordlist that defines any potentially ambiguous vocabulary.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-203 (To request the RI Board to consider clarifying ambiguous vocabulary in the RI Constitution, the RI Bylaws, and the Rotary Code of Policies),

1. recognizes the importance of clear and concise language in RI's constitutional documents and the *Rotary Code of Policies* to assist clubs in interpreting Board policy and avoid misunderstandings;
2. agrees to make every effort to avoid ambiguous terminology when amending the *Rotary Code of Policies*.

07-204 To Consider Establishing a Decimal System for Publications (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 248)

Statement: RI and Foundation publications are categorized using a numbering system according to program or function. Council Resolution 07-204 proposed establishing a decimal system for all RI and TRF publications.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-204 (To request the RI Board to consider establishing a decimal system for publications),

1. thanks the Rotary Club of Caxia do Sul, R.S., Brazil for its resolution;
2. supports the current system used for RI and Foundation publications using a numbering system, categorizing publications by program, or function;
3. recommends that each club and district use a system based on its own country's classification structure.

07-205 To Identify RI Programs and Activities in Each Language Recognized by RI (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 249)

Statement: RI commonly uses acronyms to refer to many of its programs. Because these acronyms are based on their English definitions (e.g. WCS for World Community Service), they are not always readily understood in other languages. Council Resolution 07-205 recommended establishing acronyms of RI programs and activities for each official Rotary language.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-205 (To identify RI programs and activities in each language recognized by RI),

1. thanks the Rotary Club of San Juan Capital, S. J., Argentina for its resolution;
2. supports the current practice of using English acronyms in all languages followed by a translation of the publication title in the appropriate language;
3. authorizes the general secretary to make exceptions as necessary based on local usage.

07-210 To Require the Personal Representatives of the President be Fluent in the Language of the Place to Which They are Assigned (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 250)

Statement: Noting communication challenges with some presidential representative appointments, Council Resolution 07-210 proposed that presidential representatives be fluent in the language of the place to where they are assigned.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-210 (To consider requiring that the personal representatives of the president be fluent in the language of the country where they will serve), recommends that, whenever feasible, the personal representatives of the RI president should be experienced in the language of the district where they will serve.

07-213 Review of Translation Policy (November 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 117)
07-219

Statement: Council Resolutions 07-213 and 07-219 proposed adding Hindi and Russian to the list of officially recognized RI languages. In decision 251, June 2007, the Board requested the general secretary to review RI's current policy for translation of RI publications and interpretation and to provide recommendations to the Board at this meeting. The general secretary reported that there are at least 40,000 Rotarians in each language group currently receiving translated materials from RI, and that there are approximately 42,000 Hindi-speaking Rotarians.

DECISION: The Board

1. re-affirms English as the official language of RI and agrees to continue providing translations in French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swedish;
2. agrees to begin providing translation into Hindi as of 1 July 2008 as publications are developed

and/or revised;

3. requests the general secretary to provide cost implications for the addition of Hindi to the Board at its January 2008 meeting;
- 4 recommends that language groups other than those listed above participate in the ongoing Translation Project (formerly known as the Pilot Translation Project) under which RI reimburses for the printing and distribution of publications translated by volunteers;
5. authorizes a 2007-08 budget variance of US\$70,000 to translate into other languages those selected documents essential for supporting extension into new Rotary countries and for those supporting membership development in young Rotary countries.

07-222 To Consider Recommending that the RI Convention End No Later than 14/16 June (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 252)

Statement: To avoid potential conflicts with club and district changeover ceremonies and other local events of interest to Rotarians, Council Resolution 07-222 recommended future conventions be scheduled to end no later than 16 June.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-222 (To request the RI Board to consider recommending that the annual convention end no later than 14/16 June), amends *Rotary Code of Policies* section 57.030. as follows:

57.030. Dates

If the Board, when determining the International Convention city, does not name the dates on which the International Convention shall be held, the Executive Committee of the Board is authorized to name the dates. The convention should not be held during the last half of June, effective 2015.

07-224 Report of the Board Committee to Study Convention Committee Recommendations (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 289)

Statement: In decision 166, February 2007, the Board requested the president and president-elect to appoint a committee of directors to work with the general secretary in analyzing the financial and operational implications of suggestions made by the Ad-Hoc Committee to Review RI Conventions. The committee met on 18-19 April 2007, in Evanston, Illinois, USA, and made numerous recommendations to the Board regarding convention financial and operational matters.

DECISION: The Board

1. thanks the Board Committee to Study Convention Committee Recommendations for its report;
2. amends *Rotary Code of Policies* section 31.040. and article 57 as shown in Appendix K.

07-268 To Revise the RI Election Complaint Procedures (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 253)

Statement: Current RI election complaint procedures do not allow for a Rotary club that has initiated a complaint to reply to any response made by the candidate against whom the complaint was filed. Council Resolution 07-268 proposed to revise election complaint procedures to allow such a reply.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-268 (To request the RI Board to consider revising its election complaint procedures), agrees as part of the next comprehensive review of RI's election complaint rules and procedures to consider revising the procedures so as to allow a Rotary club that initiates a complaint to receive a copy of any response provided by the party against whom the complaint is made as well as an opportunity to reply to any such response.

07-295 To Request the RI Board to Consider Appointing a Cost Reduction Team (November 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 124)

Statement: In response to Council Resolution 07-295 (To request the RI Board to consider appointing a cost reduction team), the Board, in decision 254, June 2007, referred the matter to the RI Finance Committee for report to the Board at this meeting. The committee agreed that costs at the Secretariat undergo continued review to ensure that operations are conducted efficiently and effectively. The committee noted that contracts for goods and services at RI undergo regular review, and that major contracts are routinely sent out for bidding. The committee further noted that RI recently engaged two consulting firms to review operations of The Rotary Foundation, and that the Secretariat has initiated process improvement projects recommended by the consultants that will further reduce costs and improve efficiencies at RI.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-295 (To request the RI Board to consider appointing a cost reduction team),

1. thanks the Rotary Club of Bayreuth-Eremitage, Germany and District 1880 (Germany) for their resolution;
2. notes that the Board and RI committees continually address cost effectiveness and efficiency;
3. notes that the Secretariat continuously seeks and implements opportunities for cost effectiveness and operating efficiencies without adversely affecting service levels;
4. does not agree to appoint a cost reduction team.

07-316 To Consider Requiring that Enactments be Reproduced Exactly as Adopted by the Council (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 255)

Statement: Concerned that in the past, enactments adopted by the Council had not been reproduced in RI's constitutional documents exactly as they had been adopted, Council Resolution 07-316 proposed requiring all Council enactments be reproduced in RI's constitutional documents exactly as adopted by the Council.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-316 (To request the RI Board to consider requiring that enactments be reproduced exactly as adopted by the Council on Legislation),

1. notes that the Council Operations Committee works carefully to preserve the language in adopted enactments as much as possible;
2. agrees that adopted enactments should be reproduced exactly as adopted by the Council and only modified as necessary to give full effect to all adopted enactments.

07-348 To Consider Amending the RI Travel Policy (June 2007 Board Mtg., Dec. 256)

Statement: Council Resolution 07-348 recommended amending the RI travel policy to require past directors and trustees to fly coach class upon conclusion of their term on the Board or as a member of the trustees.

DECISION: The Board, in response to Council Resolution 07-348 (To consider amending the RI travel policy), amends the RI travel policy as shown in Appendix E.