

1 GCC(St. Louis)/05GCS to JP

2  
3 152-05GCS PROTOCOL STATEMENT ON ADDITIONS OR  
4 REVISIONS TO THE STATEMENT OF  
5 FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS  
6

7 VOTED, To approve a Protocol Statement on Additions or Revisions to the  
8 Statement of Fundamental Beliefs, which reads as follows:  
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10 In adding to and/or revising the Statement of Fundamental Beliefs it is imperative  
11 to involve the world church as much as possible in the process. Any suggestion should  
12 be based on a serious concern for the well-being of the world church and its message and  
13 mission, be biblically based, and informed by the writings of Ellen G White. Considering  
14 the importance and necessity of involving the world church in the process of additions  
15 and/or revisions to the Statement of Fundamental Beliefs, any suggestion for possible  
16 changes should reach the office of the President of the General Conference not later than  
17 two (2) years before a General Conference Session.  
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19 If the perceived need for additions and/or revisions to the Statement of  
20 Fundamental Beliefs is initiated by the world field, the matter should be carefully  
21 discussed at each administrative level. In the evaluation of the suggested change the  
22 governing body at each level shall establish an appropriate process for evaluation,  
23 seeking wide input. The process at each level shall result in the governing body either  
24 recommending the proposed change to the next level of administration, or abandoning  
25 any further consideration of it. In this way the recommendation for changes in the  
26 Statement of Fundamental Beliefs arrive at the General Conference. Once the  
27 suggestions reach the General Conference, or if the suggestions originated at the General  
28 Conference, it shall appoint an ad hoc committee to coordinate the process and facilitate  
29 the dialogue.  
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31 The following procedure shall be used by the General Conference in seeking the  
32 consensus of the world church in favor of or against the proposed change:  
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- 34 1. The General Conference will coordinate and facilitate the process of  
35 discussion through Presidential and the members of the ad hoc committee.  
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- 37 2. A preliminary draft approved by the Spring Meeting or Annual Council  
38 will be sent to the Divisions for reactions and comments. It should be discussed at the  
39 Union and Conference/Mission levels and printed in the local church papers.  
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- 41 3. Involve Theology/Religion Departments and Seminaries.  
42
- 43 4. Discuss it at the Biblical Research Institute Committee and other pertinent  
44 committees.  
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- 1           5.       Publish a draft in the *Adventist Review*, the *Ministry*, and place it on the  
2 Internet for comments and reactions from church members.  
3
- 4           6.       The GC ad hoc committee will receive all the suggestions from the world  
5 field and prepare the final draft to be submitted to the Annual Council for further  
6 discussion before it is placed on the agenda of the General Conference Session.  
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- 8           7.       Only the General Conference in session can approve additions or revisions  
9 to the Statement of Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.