

CHAPTER VII: COMMITTEES AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

1. Establishment of Committees

1. Conference has authority to establish committees for matters including:
(a) the Colleges; (e) Sunday Schools and other schools; (f) publications; (h) overseas mission work; (i) financial administration; and (k) any other matter for which Conference considers a committee necessary.

The committees and boards include:

1. Senior Trustees;
2. Conference Committee;
3. Ministers' Conference Committee;
4. Regional Advisory Committees for Vava'u, Ha'apai, 'Eua, Niua Toputapu and Niua Fo'ou;
5. Education and Scholarship Committee;
6. Sia'atoutai and Continuing Education Committee for Ministers and Stewards;
7. Development Committee;
8. Property and Lands Committee;
9. Constitution Committee;
10. Department of Christian Education Committee;
11. Department of Evangelism Committee;
12. Finance Committee;
13. Building Committee;
14. Communications Committee;
15. Taulua Board;
16. Bookshop Board;
17. Council of Churches;
18. Music Committee;
19. Women's Department Committee;
20. Taulama Committee;
21. Overseas Mission Board;
22. Tungi Arcade Board.
23. The President, Regional Chairperson or Regional Superintendent shall chair the relevant committees. Each committee shall elect a Secretary to keep its minutes and shall submit its report to Conference.

2. Conference Committee

1. Each Annual Conference shall establish an **Inter-Conference Committee** to attend to matters arising between annual Conferences. Its authority begins when Conference closes.
2. The Committee shall attend to and have authority concerning:
 - (a) matters not already governed by a decision of Conference or by existing Laws;
 - (e) implementation of decisions and work entrusted to it by Conference;
 - (f) determining an appropriate method for auditing the financial books of the Church and presenting a report to each Annual Conference.
3. Decisions specifically concerning Ministers shall be made only by the ministerial members of the Committee. The Ministers' Conference Committee consists of those Ministers who are members of the Conference Committee for that year.
4. The Conference Committee shall be elected at the Annual Conference. A person who has previously served as a Conference representative may be elected to it.
5. The Committee shall report to Conference all work undertaken between Conferences. Ministerial matters shall likewise be reported to the Ministers' Conference.
6. Conference may review the work and decisions of the Committee and may confirm them or make a different decision.
7. Regional Committees shall also be established in the other Regions to advise Regional Chairpersons or Regional Superintendents.

3. Educational Institutions

(a) Colleges and Intermediate Schools

1. A Management Committee shall supervise and administer the property, resources and financial affairs of the educational institutions. Matters relating directly to curriculum, teaching and the residential life of students are entrusted to the President of Education, the Education Committee and the Principals.

The purpose of the Church's Education Department is to prepare its students for every dimension of life in accordance with the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. In particular, it seeks:

- (a) to support and strengthen the development and committed practice of Christian values, faith and aspirations in every dimension of human work and life;
- (e) to provide all students with knowledge sufficient to guide their learning and to open them to broader and higher forms of thought and knowledge that will assist them in responding to changes in life;
- (f) to equip students with adequate knowledge: 1. of the skills needed to engage constructively with a changing world; and 2. to enable their diverse talents to develop fully so that they may live useful lives and contribute through worthwhile work.

2. The Committee shall meet not less than once in each quarter. Reports shall be presented concerning work already undertaken, and the Committee shall authorise work to proceed. It shall exercise particular care over financial procedures, and no expenditure shall be incurred except by its authority.
3. (a) The Committee shall be known as the **Management Committee of the Colleges**. In Tongatapu it shall cover Tupou High School, Tupou College, Queen Sālote College and the Intermediate Schools.

(e) Its membership shall include the President, General Secretary, President of Education, Principals, Senior Tutors, the two Inspectors, Ministers and representatives as determined by Conference.

(f) In the other Regions, the local Advisory Committee shall act as the Management Committee for the Colleges and Intermediate Schools.
4. The Committee shall consult the Conference Committee on matters of major importance and may advise that Committee concerning an appropriate course of action. In particular:

(a) any increase in school fees shall be determined only by Conference;

(e) the Colleges in Ha‘apai and Vava‘u shall be Conference Colleges;

(f) the closure of any school shall be determined only by Conference after the matter has proceeded through the appropriate Church meetings.
5. The meeting shall use the following questions:

(a) Who is present?

(e) What is the condition of the buildings and educational resources?

(f) What are the financial reports of the educational institutions?

(h) What may be done to improve the work, and what proposed work should be authorised?

(i) Is there any other matter requiring attention?

(k) Where and when shall the next meeting be held?

(e) Preparatory Schools

1. Matters relating to curriculum and educational work shall be the responsibility of the President of Education and the Education Committee.
2. The Trustees of the Circuit in which a preparatory school is located shall hold responsibility for the school site, school buildings and associated residences, and shall share in maintaining them in good condition.
3. A Circuit Education Committee shall assist the Principal Teacher and Trustees. It shall include the Principal Teacher and two Trustees from each town. The Minister may appoint one additional person from each town. The Minister shall chair the Committee, which shall meet at least once each quarter.

4. The Committee's support shall be directed particularly towards educational resources and financial arrangements, and it shall also consider ways of improving educational work.
5. Where repairs, improvements or construction of a new building are required, the Committee shall determine the financial arrangements. If costs are apportioned among the Trustees within the Circuit, the apportionment shall ordinarily be based on the number of Wesleyan people in each town, unless the Committee agrees to another method.
6. All expenditure shall be confirmed by the President of Education, who may refer matters at his or her discretion to the Education Committee and the Conference Committee.
7. The meeting shall use the following questions:
 - (a) Who is present?
 - (e) What is the condition of the buildings and educational resources?
 - (f) What is the financial report?
 - (h) What may be done to improve the work, and what work should be authorised?
 - (i) Is there any other matter requiring attention?
 - (k) Where and when shall the next meeting be held?

(f) Theological College

1. Conference shall appoint the Committee of the Theological College. Its membership shall include the President, General Secretary, Principal of the College, Deputy Principal, Senior Tutor, President of Education, Director of the Department of Christian Education, Superintendent Minister of Tongatapu, Minister of Kolomotu'a, Regional Superintendents, representatives of the Church, representatives of graduates, and representatives of current students of the Theological College.
2. The Committee shall supervise:
 - (a) courses of study, College work, and all matters concerning the residential life of students at Sia'atoutai;
 - (e) buildings and financial affairs;
 - (f) selection of persons for admission to the College;
 - (h) advice to Conference concerning selection of Trainee Ministers and the education of Trainee and Probationary Ministers.
3. The Committee shall meet not less than once each quarter.
4. Its meetings shall use the following questions:
 - (a) Who is present?
 - (e) What is the condition of the buildings and educational resources?

- (f)** What is the financial report?
- (h)** What may be done to improve the work, and what work should be authorised?
- (i)** Whom do we recommend to Conference for Trainee Ministry?
- (k)** Do we have any advice for the Regional Meeting and Conference concerning the education of Trainee and Probationary Ministers?
- (l)** Is there any other matter requiring attention?
- (m)** Where and when shall the next meeting be held?