

## **RES. 252/1/GC 17/2533 (1990)**

The Finance Committee made the following proposals which were accepted:

- (1) The number of delegates and observers as well as a number of non-official observers for future conferences shall be considered by host Regional Centres.
- (2) (a) That in view of the tremendous activities the WFB is to undertake as inscribed in the various resolutions and in consideration of the on-going projects and programmes, the target of the WFB Foundation Fund established in B.E. 2507 (1964) (Resolution 108/2/GC 7/2507 (1964) be set a ten million U.S. dollars and to be achieved by the 2535 (1992) General Conference.
  - (b) In order to achieve this target, it is recommended that Regional Centres indentify potential sources of financing in their respective regions. This list of prospective sources of funds is to be submitted to the chairman of the Finance Committee by 31 January B.E. 2534 (1991). The Chairman shall draw up a master list of potential sources of funds and allocate to individual Regional Centres their respective tasks for securing the targeted funds.
  - (c) That a standardized appeal letter under the heading of the WFB incorporating its projects and activities required financing be drafted by the Executive Council by 31 January B.E. 2534 (1991), and extended to the Regional Centres for the purpose of this exercise.

The proposal to increase the Foundation Fund was accepted by the Plenary Session, however the meeting was of the view that the Standing Committee on Finance should study and recommend ways and means to attract donations to the WFB Foundation.

## **RES. 253/2/GC 17/2533 (1990)**

The Standing Committee on Publication, Publicity, Education, Culture and Arts made the following recommendations.

### **a) Buddhist Information Exchange Centre**

1. Recommended that the WFB set up a Buddhist Information Exchange Centre to gather information relating to various conferences being organized by various institutions throughout the world. A person shall be appointed to be in charge of this centre.
2. Recommended that the WFB set up a Buddhist Academic Research Translation Bureau.
3. Recommended that the WFB make a survey by way of questionnaires to gather information on the areas which have the facilities for the training of the members of Sangha.

### **b) Cultural/Academic Exchange Programme**

The Standing Committee accepted proposal No. 1 submitted by Han-Tzang Cultural Association of Taiwan to organize the Cultural and Academic Exchange Programme.

### **c) International Exchange Programme**

Recommended that the WFB organize an International Exchange Programme, initially on a short term and zones basis.

### **d) School Holiday Camp**

Recommended that the WFB organize a School Holiday Camp for Buddhist students.

### **e) Publication**

1. That the Regional Centre should submit to the WFB reviews of various information on their areas for publication.

2. That the WFB Review make provision for a column in the magazine to publish articles on Buddhist Education.
3. That the WFB publish books suitable for children.

**f) Publicity**

Recommended that the WFB appoint “Torch of Wisdom” News Agency (Weekly Issue) as an authorized news publisher. All Regional Centres are requested to submit their local news to the above for publication. Prof. Chen, the Chief Editor of the “Torch of Wisdom” has promised to send to all Regional Centres a copy of the above weekly newsletter free of charge of a period of two years.

**g) WFB UNESCO Committee**

Recommended that the WFB UNESCO Committee work with the United Nations to assist in the recognition of a religious community in a country where a request is made to the WFB for recognition.

- h) The Standing Committee accepted the Resolution submitted by the Sri Lanka Regional Centre and that it was agreed that the Sri Lanka Regional Centre look into the possibility of organizing the programme.
- i) Recommended that a special committee be set up to look into the feasibility of organizing programmes in conjunction with a resolution adopted on 8 December B.E. 2529 (1986) by the United Nations General Assembly on “World Decade for Cultural Development” operational B.E. 2531-2540 (1988-1997).

When the report was submitted to the Plenary Session for debate, most of the recommendations were accepted in principle; however, concern was expressed by some delegates on the ways and means, particularly on the financial aspects, to implement the recommendations. It was suggested that the Chairman of the Standing Committee should liaise with the WFB Secretariat in

Bangkok Headquarters on ways and means to implement the various suggestions.

### **Education**

When the report as thrown open for the discussion by the Plenary Session it was decided the recommendation under A) Education needed further clarification on the purpose and intentions of the recommendations. It was suggested that the chairman of the Standing Committee should liaise with Headquarters on this particular issue. The meeting noted that the Han Tzang Cultural Association would be taking steps to implement the recommendations in respect of Cultural and Exchange Programs.

### **Publication**

The meeting agreed with the recommendation that regional centres should submit materials to the WFB Review, particular relating to that of Buddhist education for publication. With reference to the suggestion that the WFB publish books suitable for the children, the Congress of Vietnamese Buddhists of the USA informed the meeting they would be taking steps to publish Buddhist books suitable for children within the next six months.

### **Publicity**

The recommendations made by the Standing Committee under Item F on Publicity that the “Torch of Wisdom” be appointed the “authorized news publisher” for WFB news items was not accepted by the Plenary Session. It was suggested that all Regional Centres should channel whatever WFB news items they have to WFB Headquarters for use by the WFB Review. The “Torch of Wisdom” may contact WFB Headquarters for whatever WFB news items that may be released to them.

### **WFB Committee**

The recommendation that the WFB UNESCO Committee works with the UN in regard to any problems that may arise in connection with application for recognition was accepted by the Plenary Session.

## **RES. 254/3/GC 17/2533 (1990)**

The Dhammaduta Activities Committee urged the cooperation of all Regional Centres to make a concerted effort to encourage, promote and further ethical understanding and practice among Buddhists.

In order to achieve this objective, the Plenary session accepted the following steps recommended by the Committee. The WFB Secretariat was requested to circulate it to all Regional Centres for implementation wherever possible.

- (a) Familiarize Buddhists, especially Buddhist children, with ethical teachings with the use of modern sciences such as psychology and sociology and also with the use of aids.
- (b) Use of temples as well as other appropriate existing venues as centers to impart such knowledge and practice.
- (c) Establish meditation centers in order to give opportunity to both young and old to learn and practice meditation.
- (d) Promote and help publications related to ethical teachings of Buddhism.
- (e) Train teachers, both lay and clergy, in ethics and Dhamma and make their services available to all regional centres that require such services.
- (f) Request, when appropriate, respective governments to include ethical teachings of Buddhism as a subject in the educational curriculum of schools.
- (g) Encourage community activities that will enhance the practice of Buddhist ethics.
- (h) Send teams of Buddhist delegates, when possible, to countries where there is a Buddhist minority of find out the prevailing conditions of the Buddhists there and affect solutions to their problems.
- (i) Every Regional Centre should be encouraged to start a WFB Dhammaduta Activities Fund of its own, and the Dhammaduta Activities Committee (Standing Committee) of the WB should help in all possible ways to foster this Fund.

### **RES. 255/4/GC 17/2533 (1990)**

The Humanitarian Standing Committee proposed that to keep up with the great changes going on in the world, we Buddhists should take more active part in the improvement and betterment of the world situation strictly in accordance with the teaching of the Lord Buddha; to show in words and deeds, where we always think of our suffering brothers and sisters wherever they are and to find ways and means to relieve their suffering.

Be it resolved that a Goodwill Mission be set up to visit those countries as advised by the WFB to look into the situation of the Buddhist in the affected areas. The mission should submit a report of the situation with appropriate recommendations for suitable action and assistance. To achieve this purpose and to keep in liaison with WFB, this committee recommends to form a Humanitarian Sub-committee on a regional level of three to five members headed by the Chairman of this committee and members of the committee to be nominated by the chairman.

It was agreed that the suggestion of a Goodwill Mission of such a nature was acceptable by the Plenary Session. However, the funding aspect for the mission would have to be born by the individual members on a voluntary basis. It was also suggested that mission of such a nature should be formed by Regional Centres in the affected areas in liaison with Headquarters on any action taken.

### **RES. 256/5/GC 17/2533 (1990)**

The Unity and Solidarity Committee made the following proposals and they were unanimously adopted by the Second Plenary Session:

#### **Proposal : 1**

The WFB should play an active role in promoting friendship and understanding among member Regional Centres. It is suggested and requested that WFB Regional Centres organize regular exchange visits amongst each other to enhance cultural, social and academic activities and such exchange of visits would be appropriate in years between WFB General Conferences. The host Regional Centres may wish to provide for food and accommodation as well as

transportation for a mutually agreed number of participants but all participating Regional Centre delegates should pay for their own roundtrip air tickets.

**Proposal : 2**

The WFB and all Regional Centres should be actively involved in Social Service Work especially amongst the needy and not so fortunate, in the field of Education and the report of and on such activities should be tabled during every WFB General Conference for the benefit of the members.

**Proposal : 3**

Wishing to promote appropriate action on the part of Buddhist women during the forthcoming decade and thereafter, in conformity with the theme of this conference, “Buddhist Challenges into the Next Decade”:

1. Decides to establish forthwith a Standing Committee on Women, in accordance with the provision of Article 11.4 of the WFB Constitution; and,
2. Requests that the 17<sup>th</sup> WFB General Conference inaugurate the above mentioned Standing Committee in memory of HSH Princess Poon, the distinguished President and Honorary President of WFB from B.E. 2506 - 2533 (1963 - 1990).