

Page Number: Page 1 of 2

Agency: GCOM

Title of Report: Report and Recommendation on the World Service Special Gifts Program

Financial Implications: None

Report No. 3

Petition Number:

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ON THE WORLD SERVICE SPECIAL GIFTS PROGRAM

Background and Mandate

The 2000 General Conference approved Calendar Item 1425 as a consent agenda item to continue the World Service Special Gifts Program for the 2001-2004 quadrennium as stated in ¶813 and ¶907.6 in *The Book of Discipline, 2000*.

The General Council on Ministries (GCOM) determined there was a need for expanding designated giving channels to general agencies to make appeals to constituencies for specific projects. It was agreed that the General Advance program was successful in supporting mission work and should not be expanded to include other kinds of general church programming. Therefore, the GCOM and the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) presented legislation to the 1984 General Conference to allow donor-designated gifts for specific general agency projects, other than General Advance Specials, to be classified as World Service Special Gifts when approved by the GCOM.

Twelve projects were approved during the 1985-88 quadrennium, five during the 1989-92 quadrennium, two during the 1993-96 quadrennium, and three in the 1997-2000 quadrennium.

Process and Implementation

Three projects were approved for World Service Special Gift designation during 2001-2004:

The National Anti-Gambling Project, through the General Board of Church and Society, provides expertise to annual conferences and grassroots groups fighting the expansion of gambling in their states and communities and produces educational resources.

The Leonard M. Perryman Communications Scholarship for Ethnic Minority Students, sponsored by the General Commission on Communication, offers two awards each year in recognition of Leonard M. Perryman, a United Methodist journalist for nearly 30 years. These scholarships assist U.S. ethnic minority undergraduate students in their junior or senior years to pursue studies in religious journalism or mass communication and to promote excellence in communication (e.g. audio-visual, electronic, and print journalism).

The Africa University Endowment Fund, administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, will move the university towards financial self-sufficiency. This bold, important mission produces graduates in theology, agriculture, education, and business. They are making a substantial contribution to the future of Africa.

Page Number: Page 2 of 2

Agency: GCOM

Title of Report: Report and Recommendation on the World Service Special Gifts Program

Financial Implications: None

As of June 2003, The National Anti-Gambling Project received \$100, the Leonard Perryman Ethnic Minority Scholarships in Communication received \$1,941 and Africa University Endowment Fund received \$1,465,527.

The administration of the World Service Special Gifts Program was accomplished in harmony with the criteria and process as stated in the GCOM *Design for World Service Special Gifts, 2001-2004 Quadrennium*. The GCOM and the GCFA worked cooperatively in the administration of this funding channel. The procedures and guidelines for both councils in the administration of World Service Special Gifts programs and funds are printed on page H-1-26 in the 1988 *Advance Daily Christian Advocate* as approved by the 1988 General Conference.

Recommendation

The General Council on Ministries recommends the continuation of the World Service Special Gifts Program for the 2005-2008 quadrennium.

Signed _____
Bishop Edward W. Paup, President

Signed _____
Daniel K. Church, General Secretary